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## Welcome!

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Welcome to the fifth edition of Cub Scout eNews.

The project teams have been busy progressing their various key tasks. We've been visiting a number of Areas and Counties too since the last issue and there are more visits planned for the summer. Please keep the invitations coming in, and please tell us about your visits to Districts - how are you getting on with localising some of the growth and development projects?

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## Cub Scout Development

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Overall we've had a remarkable second year of growth. The challenge now is to make that sustainable for the long term and that is only possible with your intervention and action. In particular we should look at what's caused the loss of 812 members in the 35 Areas and Counties that have declined and get some good practice from the 78 which have increased or stayed equal with a growth of more than 4000 Cubs.

During the autumn, the team will be launching a development initiative through the regional District Commissioner meetings all around the country - watch this space for further information.

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## Older Cub Scouts and Moving-on

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Rob and Ian have conducted some initial research and will fine-tune this through discussions with older Cub Scouts at the Gilwell Fun days in mid-June. We're already joining up with the Scout Section to look at improving moving on between the Sections. What's happening in your Counties and Areas?

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## Supporting Cub Scout Leaders

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The local research is now complete and we have validated this through a survey of Cub Scout Leaders in Your Programme, Your Voice. Again the findings of this project are helping to influence a review of the role of ACCs and ADCs in all sections.

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## Communication

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We are looking to you all to help us determine how successful Packs are running useful Pack Leadership Forums. Engagement with the young people in decision-making adds strength to programme planning and offers valuable feedback and evaluation too. Do you know how effective leaders are in your County/Area at such youth participation activities?

After the summer, we'll start to plan the content of the Cub Scout supplement for 2009. Are there any topics or issues that you would wish the team to focus on? Please let us know via the Cub Scout office.

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## Challenging Programme Zones

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It has now been suggested that the recent refinements to the programme may have changed or removed leader concern about the zones they previously struggled with. We need to determine if that is the case though and I would ask for your help in discussing with your ADCs how leaders are doing with running Balanced Programmes. With the summer now approaching, it would be a good opportunity to use the Balanced Programme checker and look back over the past session with leaders by way of a health check.

Please share your findings with us, so that we can get an overview of how this is going.

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## Wiping Out Waiting Lists

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Last issue, we mentioned the launch of a new project to wipe out waiting lists by 2010. Work is now underway, and we are delighted to be working with the Regional Development Service who are determined to assist in this challenge. Look at the waiting list figures for your County and build into your development plans, a mechanism to half the list by January 2009.

In all our discussions on the topic to date, there is a definite appetite to move the waiting list to Districts, removing it from Groups and ensuring that there is a more objective allocation of young people to Cub Packs. If this idea is to gain momentum, there are a

number of practical issues to work through first – Watch this space!

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## Your Programme, Your Voice

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The second pilot survey has been completed with a total of almost 350 respondents.

We are pleased to note that over 90% of respondents feel that programme planning tools such as Programmes Online, The Pack Programme Plus and sponsored badge resources are beneficial to them.

On a more local level, the majority of respondents believe that Districts (92%) and Counties (87%) run appropriate events for the Cub Scout Section. However, 55% thought that Counties should run more events.

Also, while District support was generally viewed positively, areas that could be improved are visits to Pack meetings and Activities support.

The next step will be to invite those that have taken part in the pilot to continue answering the survey for the next couple of years, and roll out to other Sections. The next survey is likely to take place in October this year.

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## Regional Workshops

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Starting in October 2008 and running until the Spring of 2009, the UK Programme Team will be running a series of **Regional Development, Advice and Support Workshops** for adults supporting Sections. You will be contacted directly with further details such as date and venue, and there will be an opportunity for you to invite others from your *County* that support the programme.

All participants will be consulted about the programme of the workshop, which will be devised in consultation with your Regional Commissioner. For more information on the workshops, see:

<http://scoutbase.org.uk/6to25/cub/news/rdaas.htm>

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## Appendices from Pack Essentials

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Recently added to the Cub Scout pages on ScoutBase are the forms that are found in the appendix of Pack Essentials. Please go to:

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/6to25/cub/resources/>

The forms are available as PDFs and as Word versions. The Word versions are locked except for certain parts.

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## Reunion '08

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Reunion '08 will take place over the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> September at Gilwell Park. The weekend is an opportunity for all adult Members of the Movement to come together for a weekend of fun. Throughout the weekend you will have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities, meet old friends, make new ones and share experiences will fellow adults in Scouting. Please come along and say "hello", and tell us what's happening in your County or Area.

To book your place at Reunion '08 go to [www.scouts.org.uk/reunion](http://www.scouts.org.uk/reunion)

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## Welcoming new AAC/ACCs

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New AACs/ACCs will receive a letter as soon as their appointment is processed, and they will be added to the mailing list for eNews. Sometimes there are time delays. If you are a former holder of one of these roles, please pass it on to your successor and ensure that Headquarters are aware of the change.

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## Belfast

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Steve Hoskins, ACC for Belfast County, has a team which organises an annual Cub Scout competition, and Graeme was privileged to join them this year for lunch. 11 teams of Cubs, with no adult intervention, lit fires, cooked fish, apples with raisins and twists, demonstrating their basic Scoutcraft skills in a fantastic way. It's so heartening to know that tomorrow's Scouts in this County will move on to Troops with these skills firmly embedded. Perhaps you have similar success stories in your County to share via the Cub Scout office.

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## Training

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Whilst in Belfast, Graeme also visited a Leaders' training weekend, which focused on very practical programme planning for the Section. It made him wonder how practical skills training is being received in your Counties, and how well it supplements the successful training scheme of modules that Leaders undertake. How much shared planning do you and the County Training Manager do together? What feedback do you get from Section Leaders about training for the role, and what more needs to be done to further enhance the training opportunities for all our Section Leaders in your Counties and Areas?

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## Out and About

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We are starting to get requests to attend different meetings, workshops and events from Counties/Areas and Districts around the UK. To remind you, the topics we can cover include:

- Programmes Online
- Programme Planning
- International ideas in the Programme
- Nights Away
- Young Leaders
- HQ updates

And more... we may also be able to come and build a 'bespoke' Programme session on whatever you need. So if you think we can help – do get in touch.

Just contact Steve Moysey at:  
[cub.scout@scout.org.uk](mailto:cub.scout@scout.org.uk)

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## Activities eNews

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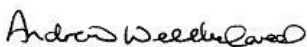
For the latest information from the Activities team at UKHQ, please visit  
[www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/activities/news/enews/jun08.pdf](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/activities/news/enews/jun08.pdf) to view their latest eNews.

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## Finally...

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If you have any ideas that you feel would make future issues even more helpful, please do not hesitate to let us know.



Andrew Wellbeloved **UK Commissioner for Programme**



Graeme Hamilton **UK Adviser for Cub Scouts**



Steve Moysey **Programme and Development Adviser**