



Welcome!

Welcome to the 6th edition of eNews. The UK Advisor (Beaver Scouts) Working Group has now met on three occasions and some areas of work from the Programme Team's Work Plan have been identified and project leaders appointed. The five main areas of work are: Waiting lists, Youth Participation, Tool kits for Leaders, the Sleepover review and Moving In, Moving On (including clarification regarding the under 8's rule).

We aim to keep you informed of the progress of these areas of work in the coming months through eNews.

We have also been out and about during the past 12 Months around the UK. It is great to meet with you, and in some places, with ADCs and Beaver Scout Leaders. Please remember to pass on eNews to them and keep everyone informed of any progress and other topics of interest.

New Resources

The activities with templates from Colony Programme Plus are now all available on Programmes Online: www.scouts.org.uk/pol Please enter in the keyword box on the search page the words 'Colony Programme Plus' and Programmes Online will bring up the list of activities.

Please pass this information on to the Leaders involved in Beaver Scouting in your County/Area. If there is anything else you, or the Leaders would like to see on Programmes Online please let us know and we can investigate the possibility of putting it on.

Factsheets

A review of all fact sheets that relate to the Beaver Scout section has now been completed. Many of them have been enhanced and made more relevant to Beaver Scouting today. The updated versions are available at:

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/6to25/beaver/resources/factsheets.htm>

There are also 3 new factsheets which you may find useful: Good practice AAC/ACC, Good Practice ADC and Youth Participation in the Beaver Scout Colony.

Youth participation in the Beaver Scout Colony is a factsheet that has been created as a result of feedback received from you, through eNews and Scouting Magazine regarding Colony Log Chews. The factsheet explains why it is important to hold Forums, or Log Chews, and some examples of good practice. Please take the time to look at the new factsheets and share them with your leaders.

Regional Workshops

The Programme Team Regional Development Advice and Support Workshops will be starting soon and we are looking forward to meeting with you again and some of you for the first time. The workshops will be both informative and relaxing, with opportunities to meet with other AAC/ACC's and Leaders as well as members of the Beaver Scout Working Group. Here is a reminder of the dates for each region:

South West - 11 Oct 08
West Midlands - 11 Oct 08
North East - 8 Nov 08
South East - 15 Nov 08
Greater London - 16 Nov 08
East Midlands - 29 Nov 08
North West - 8 Feb 09
East of England - 29 Mar 09

We are currently working with colleagues in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales to identify the best way to offer a similar experience to Section supporters in those Countries.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Moving on, Moving in

At District and County/Area level, good co-operation between role holders is essential for successful development and growth.

Moving on from Beaver Scouts to Cub Scouts is only successful where the Leaders in both sections plan and work together to make the experience of change as exciting as any other part of the programme. How many of the Beavers who move on from your Districts Colonies are still in the Cub pack 12 months later? What can you do to help a Beaver Scout Leader and Cub Scout Leader work together to improve the retention rate?

Home Contact

As you have probably seen in a previous issue of Beaver Scout eNews, we are currently conducting a review of the Home Contact system. Following the responses we received, the review group have put together a consultation document. This consultation document is available for all to view, and we would welcome comments on this from anyone who wishes to contribute..

www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/activities/homecontact.pdf

Explorer Scout Young Leaders' Scheme

Many Beaver Scout Leaders now have Young Leaders helping out with their Colony. It is a great idea – many leaders find that Young Leaders are a great help both in planning, and running the Balanced Programme.

There are a few important things to remember about Young Leaders. First and foremost they are Explorer Scouts. They *must* be registered with your District Young Leaders' Unit, and have access to the support offered by the Explorer Scout Leader with responsibility for Young Leaders (ESL(YL)). That way they will get to know about the wider Explorer Scout programme – even if they choose not to take part, they should at least have the chance. With a few very specific exceptions (essentially young people undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh's Award and members of GirlGuiding UK) they have to take the promise as an Explorer Scout, wear an Explorer Scout uniform, and are recorded on the census as Explorer Scouts.

Secondly, they *must* complete Module A of the Young Leaders' Training Scheme within 3 months of becoming a Young Leader. This is the equivalent (for adult leaders) of Essential Information in the Adult Training Scheme.

Finally, for the Young Leader to get the most out of the experience of leadership in the section, they should be involved as much as possible in the planning and running of the Colony. A Young Leader who is motivated and given a useful role will keep on coming week after week.

Factsheets FS155059 and FS155060 available from Scoutbase provide more information about the Young Leaders' Scheme and how to get the best out of it.

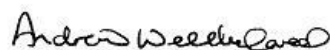
Age Range Flexibility

Many of you will have seen the piece in Scouting Magazine, briefly outlining the clarification we have received from the Department for Children, Schools and Families regarding the Children Act. Essentially, young people can now join the Cub Scout Section from the age of seven and a half. The core age ranges of the Beaver Scout and Cub Scout Sections has not changed. The question of when a young person transitions between the two Sections should, as ever, be governed by what is best for that particular young person, bearing in mind their level of maturity and other external factors such as a desire to "move up" with others in a peer group.

Finally...

We hope you have had a relaxing summer break and are fully refreshed ready for the hectic new term. For many Leaders the autumn term is one of the busiest, lots of meetings, trying to make the most of what's left of the summer with outdoor activities, then Halloween or Bonfire night, and before we know it's time to organising the annual Christmas/end of term party!

As ever, if you have suggestions for content that you would like to see in eNews, please contact us using the information that can be found below.



Andrew Wellbeloved
UK Commissioner for Programme



Karen Jameson
UK Adviser for Beaver Scouts



Jenny Winn
Programme & Development Adviser