



Welcome!

Welcome to the fourth edition of Beaver Scout eNews. We hope that Colonies in your County/Area are getting used to the recent refinements to the Balanced Programme and are starting to include them in their meetings. We have had many positive comments since the beginning of the year on the changes and on the new resources.

Some Leaders may be concerned about awarding the Chief's Scout Bronze Award to Beavers who are ready to move on to Cubs in the next few months but have not completed all the Challenges introduced under the new scheme. In these circumstances the old scheme can still be used until March 2009. If Leaders have already completely changed over to the new scheme then, as always, personal judgement should be used.

If you have any comments on the amendments to the Programme or the new resources, either positive or negative, please do get in contact with us using the contact details below. Please pass on this eNews to adults you support so that we can keep everyone informed of progress and other topics of interest.

Beaver Scout Working Group

Since the last eNews the UK Beaver Scout Working Group has met for the first time. The current group is small but will grow over time. The current members are:

Karen Jameson UK Adviser (Beaver Scouts)

Jennifer Winn - P & D Adviser (Beaver Scouts)

Alison Chapman - AAC (BS) for Snowdonia and Anglesey.

Clare Thompson - ACC (BS) for Cornwall.

Simon Hickling - DC for Northallerton in North Yorkshire and also a Leader in a Hospital Group in the same area.

We also liaise regularly with colleagues in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The role of the UK Beaver Scout Working Group is to continuously look at ways in which we can help Beaver Scout Leaders deliver fun and exciting programmes, in their Colonies. The Working Group

also reviews other issues relevant to the section where necessary, and provides direct support to ACC/AACs.

Please feel free to write to us about any Beaver Scout issue using the contact details below.

Green Footprint Award

Following on from the success of Challenge 100 in the Scout Section, the Green Footprint Award has been launched as a new, web-based resource for all Sections to use to prove their green credentials. The award, which has three stages (Bronze, Silver and Green!), allows Groups, Sections or small groups of Beaver Scouts to follow a progressive programme of activities and challenges designed to promote awareness of climate change issues and make a difference in local communities. The award has been made possible through funding from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA), and you can register online at www.scouts.org.uk/climatechange

Ancient Tree Hunt

As well as the Green Footprint Award we are also working with the Woodland Trust again this year following our successful partnership in 2007 to plant woods and trees across the country.

The current project is the Ancient Tree Hunt and we are asking members of The Scout Association to track down and hug the biggest tree in your area. The age of trees can be worked out from the circumference of the trunk, and counting the number of people it takes to hug the tree is an easy way to work this out. If the locations of these ancient trees are known then steps can be taken to protect them. Some of our oldest trees were around when William the Conqueror was king in 1066.

There are programme ideas available on Programmes Online at www.scouts.org.uk/pol and lots more information on the project can be found at www.ancienttreehunt.org.uk

Programmes Online

In the past few months we have heard of a couple of ACC/AAC BS who produce packs of programmes for Leaders in their County/Area. We would like to

encourage any ACC/AACs who have similar material or good ideas to add them to Programmes Online to share with Leaders across the UK.

ACC/AAC Good Practice

The UK Beaver Scout Working Group is currently updating the information on good practice for ACC/AAC (BS), which has been available for some time. This can be found at:

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/6to25/beaver/howdoi/index.htm>

Please take time to have a look at this page for more support. It can be used as a guidance tool to help you understand your role better if you have been newly appointed, or for confirmation that you are on the right track and doing well!

Your Programme, Your Voice

The first pilot survey of this online direct survey to Cub Scout Leaders has been very successful. Over 370 respondents answered questions relating to Cub Pack management, the Programme and Moving-on. This has provided the Cub Scout Working Group with a great deal of information which will inform and support their work over the coming months and years. The second pilot survey in the Cub Scout Section will ask some more focussed and detailed questions. This survey will take place in May, with a view to rolling the scheme out to other Sections later in the year.

Out and About

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 Jenny Winn at:

beaver.scout@scout.org.uk

Beaver Scout and Cub Scout Fundays

This year's Beaver Scout and Cub Scout Fundays take place on 21st and 22nd June at Gilwell Park. Both Sectional project teams will be there and looking to talk with as many leaders as possible. Remind those attending from your County/Area to pay us a visit in the Gidney Cabin for a chat and refreshments.

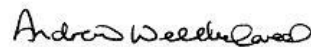
Activity eNews

If you want the latest information from the Activities team at UKHQ, please visit

www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/activities/news/enews/apr08.pdf and view their latest e-Newsletter.

Finally...

Thank you for reading the fourth edition of Beaver Scout eNews. 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



Karen Jameson
UK Adviser for Beaver Scouts



Jenny Winn
Programme & Development Adviser