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## Introduction

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Welcome to this first Beaver Scout eNews from the Programme Team at Gilwell Park. It is designed to inform you about what is going on with Beaver Scouting across the United Kingdom as well as provide information that is relevant to the leadership and management of the Beaver Scout Section.

Firstly, Karen Jameson has been appointed as the UK Adviser (Beaver Scouts). Karen is from North Yorkshire where she was Assistant County Commissioner (Beaver Scouts) and was recently a member of the National Beaver Scout Support Team.

Over the coming months, Karen will be putting together a plan for supporting the Section in conjunction with her fellow UK Advisers. The plan will be developed with the UK Commissioner for Programme, the new Regional Advisers and staff at Gilwell Park. If you would like to speak to her or one of the Beaver Scout Team please make contact using the details at the foot of the page.

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## Regional Advisers

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Now that Karen has been appointed, the next task is to find volunteer Regional and Country Advisers for each of the eight English Regions and Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. These people will be appointed by United Kingdom Headquarters primarily to support Assistant County/Area Commissioners (and equivalent roles).

Full details of the volunteer roles and the application process (for the eight Regions in England) can be found at...

[www.scouts.org.uk/noticeboard/2007/March07/090307.html](http://www.scouts.org.uk/noticeboard/2007/March07/090307.html)

Information for the Country Adviser roles in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will be available shortly.

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## Staged Activity Badges

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The Hikes Away Staged Activity Badge has been designed in a way that is similar to the Nights Away Staged Activity Badge. Its introduction is in response to requests from the Movement (identified

through the Checkout the Programme process) and the emphasis placed on the outdoors in the 6 to 25 Programme.

The support material available for this Staged Activity Badge provides suggestions on appropriate hikes for each Section. For example, going on a walk with Beaver Scouts doesn't have to be far (and of course it should be fun for young people), this could be a walk in the countryside with a picnic, a walk to the park for a few games, etc. There are of course endless ways in which a walk can be incorporated into Beaver Scout programmes.

The key emphasis is placed on getting Beaver Scouts outside, walking and active. Don't forget – it is always helpful to remind Leaders that Beaver Scouts must be dressed and equipped appropriately for the prevailing conditions and terrain. For example there is a need to wear sensible footwear and perhaps carry a small backpack with some simple refreshments.

The full requirements for the Hikes Away Staged Activity Badge can be found at...

[www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/badges/staged-hiaw.htm](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/badges/staged-hiaw.htm)

In addition, the Emergency Aid Staged Activity Badge has also been introduced. The Staged Activity Badge has been developed with support from the British Red Cross. It has been designed in such a way that stage one is aimed at the Beaver Scout Section, stage two is aimed at the Cub Scout Section, etc. The requirements for stage one are very simple and serve as an introduction to emergency aid and first aid.

To help Leaders with the delivery of these Staged Activity Badges, material is available on Programmes Online for the first three stages. There are two or three specific activities relating to each of the requirements for the Staged Activity Badges.

The full requirements for the Emergency Aid Staged Activity Badge can be found at...

[www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/badges/staged-emai.htm](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/badges/staged-emai.htm)

Access to Programmes Online can be found at...

[www.scouts.org.uk/pol](http://www.scouts.org.uk/pol)

Enter the search criteria "emergency aid" in the keywords field to find material.



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## Programmes Online

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Programmes Online celebrates its first birthday this month. Over the last twelve months, this programme planning tool has grown into a comprehensive library of over 1500 activities that will help Leaders plan Beaver Scout programmes. Programmes Online is different to any other online library of programme ideas in that it provides all the necessary resources to support the delivery of the programme. For example, if the activity is making lion masks with Beaver Scouts, a lion mask template is provided. This hopefully reduces the time a Leader spends sourcing appropriate material.

It is pleasing that Programmes Online won the Voluntary Sector Project of the Year category at the 2006 Computing Awards. In addition it was Highly Commended in the Knowledge Management Project Award category at the British Computer Society Information Management Awards.

Programmes Online is also enabling the United Kingdom Programme Team to deliver support material on specific subjects and with the delivery of Award and Badge requirements (such as the two new Staged Activity Badges and the recently launched Join in Centenary material).

There is always a need for new content on Programmes Online. We are encouraging our Leaders who have many years experience in running programmes to submit their excellent ideas to Programmes Online and share them with fellow Leaders.

It would be of help if you could continue to publicise Programmes Online in your Counties/Areas and Districts. Both in terms of Leaders using the system to plan programmes and to submit tried and tested ideas that work well with young people.

If you would like support with publicising Programmes Online a member of the Programme Team from Gilwell Park would be happy to help with an interactive presentation. If you feel this would be of benefit please contact Jenny Winn in the Programme Team at Gilwell Park (using the details at the foot of the page).

To access Programmes Online visit...

[www.scouts.org.uk/pol](http://www.scouts.org.uk/pol)

The user guide can be found at...

[www.scouts.org.uk/pol/userguide.do](http://www.scouts.org.uk/pol/userguide.do)

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## Join in Centenary

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Join in Centenary packs were sent out to all Scout Groups in September 2006. All Beaver Scout Colonies should now have their Join in Centenary pack and we hope that they are of use to Leaders. If Colonies have not received the pack, Leaders should contact their Group Scout Leader in the first instance. If further assistance is required in order to obtain a copy, please contact the Scout Information Centre on 0845 300 1818.

To date positive comments have been received from Leaders throughout the United Kingdom about the pack. A number of Leaders have also been letting us know what activities they have planned for the centenary year.

Further resource material is available to support the delivery of the activities in the Join in Centenary from Programmes Online at...

[www.scouts.org.uk/pol](http://www.scouts.org.uk/pol)

Enter the search criteria "centenary" in the keywords field to find material.

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## Sainsbury's Active Kids

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You may be aware that The Scout Association has entered a partnership with the Sainsbury's Active Kids programme. Scout Groups can register to receive programme support material (that can be used in Section meetings) and can collect vouchers that can be redeemed for equipment and materials from the Active Kids catalogue. Please do publicise this opportunity as widely as possible.

Full information can be found at...

[www.scouts.org.uk/scoutingplus/301106/301106.htm](http://www.scouts.org.uk/scoutingplus/301106/301106.htm)

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## Ratios

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New rules on the adult to Beaver Scout ratio were introduced last year. As a reminder of the changes: for outdoor activities and sleepovers, the ratio is one adult to six Beaver Scouts, plus the Leader in charge; for indoor activities there is no minimum ratio, but there must be two adults present; Leaders should always arrange for sufficient adults to be present to ensure a safe meeting environment for the operation of the Colony.



The rules relating to indoor activities have been written in such a way to be flexible to the needs of the individual Colony and situation. This allows more adults to be present when required, which can be on a case-by-case basis. Leaders know their Beaver Scouts and how they react in different situations and as such are in a position to make an informed decision on the level of cover required.

The full detail of the rules relating to ratios is available at...

[www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/por/2006/3\\_7.htm](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/por/2006/3_7.htm)

would make future issues even more helpful, please do not hesitate to let me know.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew".

Andrew Wellbeloved  
UK Commissioner for Programme

Email. [programme@scout.org.uk](mailto:programme@scout.org.uk)

April 2007

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## Supporting ACC/AACs

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Due to the already incredibly busy year for the Movement in 2007, we have decided not to offer the Assistant County/Area Commissioner Information Day as in previous years. However, if you are a new ACC/AAC Beaver Scouts and feel you would benefit from an informal induction, Jenny Winn in the Programme Team at Gilwell Park (who can be contacted using the details at the foot of the page) is happy to arrange this for you and to discuss your role and needs, any plans you might have and national initiatives that can support the work you do.

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## Beaver Scout Website

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You may be aware that the Beaver Scout website at [scouts.org.uk](http://scouts.org.uk) has not been updated regularly. In the coming weeks there should be a process of updating material so that it proves useful and relevant to Beaver Scouts, Leaders and parents. This will be an ongoing process over the coming months, and we thank you for your continued patience. In the meantime if you have or are aware of any suggestions for improving the site, please email the Corporate Communications Team at Gilwell Park at [web.team@scout.org.uk](mailto:web.team@scout.org.uk).

The Beaver Scout website can be found at...

[www.scouts.org.uk/beavers](http://www.scouts.org.uk/beavers)

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## Finally...

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Thank you for reading the first edition of Beaver Scout eNews. If you have any ideas that you feel