

In this issue:

- ◆ **Editorial**
- ◆ **News from the Groups**
- ◆ **Blast from the Past**
- ◆ **Adult Training**
- ◆ **Cub Scout Corner**
- ◆ **Asbestos**
- ◆ **Explorer scouting in BGA**
- ◆ **Welcome, Farewell and Congratulations**

Betty Clay – 16th April 1917 – 24th April 2004

It is with deep regret that The Scout Association and Girlguiding UK announces the death of their Vice President, the Hon Mrs Betty Clay, CBE, and youngest daughter of our Founder, Lord Baden-Powell. She died peacefully in her sleep in a nursing home alongside her home in Somerset, on Saturday morning 24th April 2004, just a few days after she and Gervas, her husband had celebrated their joint birthday - her 87th and his 97th. In 1997 her unique services to Scouting and Guiding were recognised with the award of the CBE in Her Majesty the Queen's New Year's Honours List.

Camping, events, meetings, Jamborees - Scouting and Guiding were Betty's life. She was at ease chatting with the King of Sweden as she was with the youngest Cub Scout or Brownie Guide.

Betty continued that completely unselfish, warm-hearted sharing all her life and through the link with her parents kept them 'alive' for millions of young people and adults who had never seen them.

Today the Scout Association is the largest coeducational youth Movement operating in the United Kingdom with 500,000 Members. GirlGuiding UK is the largest voluntary organisation for girls and young women in the United Kingdom with 620,000 Members.

Editorial

Our team here at BGA is both expanding and decreasing at the same time.

Firstly we would like to welcome two new members of the team. Astrid Roberts has taken on the role of ACC Cub Scouts and has, I know, already been in contact with some of you (email: astridroberts@aol.com). There is a contribution from her later in this issue which I hope will become a regular feature. I am sure she will be only too happy to help with any Cub related queries you might have.

Taking on the role of ACC Beaver Scouts is Marcus Cox (email: marcus_cox1981@yahoo.co.uk) and I am sure that similarly he will be of great assistance to all you Beaver Scout Leaders. Hopefully by the next issue we can have a Beaver section as a regular thing. We welcome both of them.

On a sad note we are losing David McKee as he takes up the role of Regional Director for Europe to the World Organisation of the Scout Movement. We offer him our many congratulations but we will miss him very much. David has been our Headquarters person and the assistance and guidance he has given over the years has been invaluable. I know many of you have had direct contact with David over the years and will join us in wishing him well in his new job in Geneva.

News from the Groups

3rd Dubai

As the Scout Leader of the 3rd Dubai Scout Troop I am very proud to send you this article written by one of our younger Scouts on his return from his first camp with us. Whilst most were dreaming of a shower and soft bed, Callum was busy writing down his experiences, bless him! I hope you all enjoy what he has to say as much as we did.

Happy Scouting
Gil Salway

3rd Dubai Scout Camp - Sharjah
17-19 March 2004

The Scouts and Cubs went to the Scout campsite in **Sharjah**.

We first had to set up our tents and canopies, which took a while because there were so many

to put up. Once we had set everything up we ate our dinner, which was Pizzas.

When we had finished eating we went around the campfire to sing some songs, which was fun. After we played a wide game called fox and geese, which meant that the Cubs had to come and attack us. We were then sent to bed but no one really went to sleep until 1 am. The following morning everyone was up and ready to start the day. Then some of the new boys were cooking breakfast. We then had tent inspection, which went OK. After this we had to make a bin with a couple of pieces of wood, string and a black bag.

When we had finished making bins we dug holes for a grill to go over the top, for lunch. Some of us cooked Hot Dogs and Pancakes. After Lunch we had 'chill' time because everyone was boiling. Once we all had cooled down we were doing activities such as Orienteering with John, First Aid with Gil (Scout Leader) and building Go-carts with Richard and David. We were building the go-carts for a big race the next day.

When we had finished our activities the U.A.E scouts came and we played some games. When they were leaving the Beavers arrived to stay the last night. Some more Scouts were cooking dinner, which was Chicken Stew. We then had another fire but this time the Beavers were there. We sang even more songs and some of the Scouts did a small performance then the Cubs sang a song. After the fire everyone went to bed except for the Scouts who stayed up and played Capture the flag we then went to bed.

The next morning bright and early we had Breakfast, which were bacon, sausage and cereal. After that everyone got ready for the big race. A little later the 3rd Dubai Kart rally began – the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers were divided into 4 teams and completed a relay race round the circuit around the campsite in about 38 minutes. It was great fun – there were obstacles to dodge including water cannons! There was a prize giving ceremony at the end and we all went home tired but very happy! It was a great camp.

By Callum Evans, 3rd Dubai Scouts

3rd Dubai

Scouts are coming along quite well, I can't believe how the numbers change from term to term, unlike a section that has been up and running for years, when you just start a new Troop the teething troubles are a big surprise. I also think this part of the world has a 'try and see' Community who don't always know the value of Scouts and so its just somewhere 'else' to send their kids to! We all know it isn't

everyone's cup of tea but the parents don't look at it that way. Anyway, I think we have our steady 27 now and that's not a bad number, I could make it the full 32 but have decided to keep it at 27 for now.

On another completely different topic, The British Business Group organised their bi-annual Great British Day Charity event last Friday and I always put a show on or 'something' for our Manx Society (of course). Well this year I thought it a good idea to include the boys as it was a BRITISH event, (hence the pictures) we had three games on our stand and the boys ran them for the full day. 18 Scouts turned up on a 2hour rota and I believe enjoyed every minute of it, even though it was really hot with next to no wind.



At 1Dh and 5Dh a go they worked hard to get Dh1003.75 for the Noah's Ark children's hospital charity. I was so proud of their efforts that I gave them all a Manx key ring and bottle opener, which they seemed to like. I think this kind of community participation is good for the Scouts, there is little of it here so what a great chance to show our colours!



1st Jamestown Scout Group St Helena *(Sorry this was missed from the last issue-Ed)*

At the Harvest Festival Parade on Sunday October 26th 2003 several awards were presented to Scouters of the 1st Jamestown Scout Group at St John's Church.

Governor David Hollanby carried out the honours of presenting the awards and certificates.

The Medal of Merit for outstanding service to Scouting on St Helena was presented to Terrence Fredrick Richards. The Bar to the

Medal of Merit was presented to Assistant Group Scout Leader Robert Edward Essex, Assistant Scout Leader Gavin Eric George and Group Scout Leader Raymond Douglas Hudson. Nigel B A Entwistle was presented with his Scouters warrant allowing him to take part in Scouting on the island. During the presentation he also renewed his Promise.



The service ended with a parade march past with H.E the Governor taking the salute.

Ray Hudson

1st Ascension

Easter camp

4 days up the Mountain at Garden Cottage and the Red Lion. 42 of us - Leaders, Cubs and Scouts. "Wee Danders", Monkey Rock Cemetery Service Clean Up, Wide Games, Swimming, Campfire & Fireworks, Pioneering, Games etc.... A good time had by all.

N.J.



Group turned out on Sunday 22nd for Founder`s Day Church Parade - Scouts and Cubs took part in the service along with Guides and Brownies. Paddy up front leading the parade!



Blast from the Past

1st Oslo (St George's), Norway

The 1st Oslo, Norway was originally registered on 18th Dec 1959 as number 34817. Cubs were originally a compulsory part of the school programme. The Troop was started in June 1960, but was short-lived, reopening in 1965. The Group restarted again in January 1971 under the same registration number. During this time the Group was part of BSWE, but even then, was a directly administered Group.

Most of the children were dependents of servicemen working at HQ AFNorth, the sizeable NATO HQ at Kolsaas near Oslo. The Group was sponsored by St George's RAF School at Bekkestua, Oslo, so St George was included the Group title. The 1st Oslo issued a distinctive Group badge depicted here.



It shows a Norseman bearing the shield of St George on RAF blue, thus cleverly representing Norway, Britain and the military. Two varieties of the badge exist. Their scarf colours were yellow halved green.

By 1981, 1st Oslo had 24 Cubs and about 10 Scouts, two instructors and six Scouters. In 1985 The Scout Association carried out a review of the support given by HQ to Lone Groups and the isolated units around the world. They decided that some of the Groups operating in Western Europe (Norway, Portugal and Italy) would be better administered and supported directly from London by the Overseas Department, with effect from 1st April 1986. Nick Higgins from the Overseas Department visited Stavanger and Oslo to meet the Groups in the first weekend of November 1985. The two Groups became part of BGA from the census on 31 March 1986.

In August 1986, GSL Brian Horlock asked about boys from other countries joining the Pack and the Troop and if there was a proficiency badge for Cross-Country and Downhill ski-ing, in which many of the Cubs were proficient. The Cub Sportman badge was suggested. The Beaver

Colony was launched on 5th May 1987 and by the beginning of 1988 a Venture unit was being considered with literature and books ordered. At the same time, David Dixon applied for a Form M to lead parties hill-walking, as he had had experience in UK and the Jotenheim. HQ felt that it was better that practical advice was sought from the Norwegian Scouts, as the Form M was unsuitable, being designed for UK.

The Troop held their spring camp at Dronningen (a Norwegian Scout site near Drobakk), in May 1988 with 13-15 Scouts. The same month, three Scouts Jonathan Dixon, (15) Anand Law (15) and Christopher Dixon (14) surveyed local waters, producing a photographic record for the possibility of a canoe expedition when in Venture Scouts. A total of 74km was travelled, roughly 18km per day. This was for their Chief Scouts Challenge, which they successfully completed.

In Sept 1988 the Beavers were busy making Christmas Presents for parents and a Christmas Concert. They had two joint nights with the Cubs, and a Halloween party in fancy dress. A sports afternoon followed and also a good turn, clearing rubbish at the NATO School. By now there were 24 Beavers, plus ten on the waiting list.

January 1987 saw 6 Cubs, 10 Scouts and 4 Venture Scouts and 3 leaders at the Norwegian campsite of Leikvinjar, at Honefoss. This weekend camp was held jointly with American Scouts. A camp was held at the end of May 1988 at the Scout camp of Inglesrud, 100km north of Oslo. With a backdrop of mountains, pine trees and an abundance of waterfalls, it was the scene for a perfect camp. A week later, the Group provided the main contribution towards the St George's School Summer Fayre. All funds raised on the day, mainly through Cub and Scout run stalls, were divided equally between the Norwegian and British Guide Dogs for the Blind. The Beavers and Cubs fared extremely well at the Kalvoya Island (5km west of Oslo) International Scout Jamboree. Many competition and games were held, both sections doing well enough to gain top ten places.

On Monday 21st March 1994 the 1st Oslo (St George's) ceased to operate. The Group had flourished due to the existence of the large NATO HQ (HQ AFNorth), located 10 miles west of Oslo. Within this large multi-national environment, there were 150 British servicemen and their families. The local school of St George's supported this large British community and was run by the Forces. It had always been the focal point of community life, of which the Scout Group formed but a part.

The previous three years saw dramatic changes on the world stage, most notably the end of the

Cold War and an easing of relations with the Soviet bloc. In response to these changes, NATO introduced a major restructuring programme and part of this resulted in the closure of HQ AFNorth on the 1st July 1994 and with it, the subsequent closure of St George's School on the 8th July 1994.

A smaller NATO HQ was formed at Stavanger. Discussions had already taken place to ensure that service children from Oslo could join the existing 1st Stavanger BGA, including some leaders. The 1st Stavanger as we know, continues as a BGA to this day.

Tony Dunn, BGA Historian

Adult Training

All new Leaders from now on will be issued with a Provisional Appointment. I will then assign them a Training Adviser. There are already one or two Leaders who have started the new scheme and it is going well so far. However, I desperately need more people to be Training Advisers so if you think you could do this please contact me.

Those of you who have already agreed to be Training Advisers should have received an email from me with the attachments to enable you to do Module 25, Assessing Learning. I need you to return your completed workbooks to me so that I can start using you with new Leaders. If by any chance you have not received this material please let me know. Leaders cannot have their full warrant until they have completed the first three Modules so it is important we get them started as soon as possible.

For those of you who have not done your training we can also accommodate you, please let me know if you wish to get started. It will be useful to have done it if you ever return to the UK. Training is about providing the best quality Scouting for our young people.

Heather Elliott, County Training Manager.

Cub Scout Corner

In early April I tried to send every CSL, ACSL and Cub helper an e-mail introducing myself as the new ACC (Cubs). I told a bit about myself and explained that the pack I help was working towards the Global Challenge. I then attached, in word 6/95, a programme on leprosy. Since then I've had some reaction. Apart from the 'returned with address unknown', 'returned post box full' or 'please can you send this in another format', I've had some notes telling me about

your Cub packs. Thank you. I have also had a request for the paper-recycling programme I mentioned in my letter of introduction. I'm happy to publish it here.

Please let me know if you use it and how it went. I know that just because a programme works for one pack it doesn't necessarily mean that it will work for another. I do, however, view your evaluation as a bit of quality control.

Astrid Roberts ACC (Cubs)

The programme is included at the back of this issue.

Asbestos *(for information)*

Asbestos awareness and implications for premises housing scouting activities

Recent amendments to the legislation relating to the control of asbestos will have an implication on all County, District and individual Group premises where asbestos may have been used in the construction of the building. The possibility of exposure to any asbestos fibres and subsequent lung cancers can be very emotive.

A new factsheet, *Managing Asbestos FS320002*, is now available to the Movement and is aimed at helping Groups, Districts, Counties and Areas with responsibility for premises. It has been put together with the help of health and safety professionals and approved by Epping Forest District Council with whom The Scout Association has a Lead Authority Partnership.

The new regulations (paraphrased) require those persons in charge of the non-domestic premises to make an assessment of the possibility of the presence of asbestos. This in effect means that we have to assume that asbestos is present unless we have had a survey carried out to prove that there is no asbestos.

Dependent upon any answers, the worst case is that the asbestos containing material (ACM) can only be removed by an HSE licensed contractor and alternative modern safe materials will then have to be installed. Lesser options may include covering the ACM with a safe material but leaving it in place but safely sealed.

In many cases the ACM can be left alone. When asbestos exists and cannot be damaged or disturbed, it is considered to be a perfectly safe material.

It is the responsibility of the owners of the premises to take on such costs. If you are finding it difficult to find the funds to pay for the initial survey or subsequent removal of asbestos, please contact Fundraising and Sponsorship

Department at Gilwell Park for advice. Whilst there are no Headquarters Funds to cover these areas there is a possibility of some external funding from grant making trusts etc.

The Community Fund (National Lottery) may also help in certain circumstances but please contact Fundraising and Sponsorship Department in the first instance as different conditions apply in different parts of the country.

Not only are we legally obliged but we are morally obliged to protect all those persons using our premises.

Clues to the possible presence of asbestos containing materials (ACM's) are:

- the use of corrugated roofing sheets
- external wall cladding sheets
- internal ceiling tiles
- internal wall cladding sheets
- lagging or insulation on heating pipework
- old boiler flue (chimney) pipes

It is recommended that those hiring church halls, school premises and the like, ask the trustees or persons in charge of the premises what action they have taken to determine whether any asbestos is present in their building.

If, based on the information listed above, there is a suspicion that asbestos may be present, then an assessment should be made of the risk of exposure to asbestos and, ultimately, the continued safe use of the building.

Headquarters is investigating a number of leads to see what bulk purchasing possibilities there are in the way of a national or regional agreement price for carrying out surveys.

We know that many Counties and Areas are starting to get questions about the Asbestos Regulations and hope that this information will prove helpful.

Stuart Carter
Assistant to The Secretary

Explorer Scouting in BGA

Well, Venture Scouting has gone and we now have Explorer Scouting. This age range has always been limited within BGA, as many young people of this age return to the UK for their education. Despite this, we now have Explorer Scouts in St Helena, the Falklands, Ascension Island, Abu Dhabi, Dhahran and Fuengirola. totalling around 50 in all. Three of these are Explorer Scout Units in their own right, as they are strong enough to run independently.

For the other areas, we have set up Compass ESU. The name comes from the design of the BGA County badge and shows its membership comes from across BGA. This world-wide Explorer Unit (probably the only one of its kind) is administered by the BGA Team with Tony Dunn as ESL, and run with a local leader acting as the mentor and AESL for any Explorer Scouts within their area. Numbers can vary from individuals to half a dozen.

There are a number of initiatives in the pipeline to draw these Units together to enable them to get the most out of Explorer Scouting. If you have anyone in the 14-18 age range not included in an Explorer Scout Unit, then email Tony at tonydunn@supacom.net NOW.

Welcome, Farewell – and Congratulations

We welcome the following Leaders and Section Assistants who have joined us in BGA since 15th January 2004.

Boyd Fichardt	ABSL	3 rd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Kim Fichardt	ABSL	3 rd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Judith Gibson	ABSL	2 nd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Jackie Hewitt-Jones	BSL	1 st Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
David Needham	ACSL (Provisional)	1 st Manama, Bahrain
Jayne Needham	CSL & GC (Provisional)	1 st Manama, Bahrain
Gertrud Pokolyne' Garay	ACSL	1 st Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Vera Reynolds	ABSL	2 nd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Astrid Roberts	ACC(CS)	British Groups Abroad
Ilse Wyngaard	ASL	1 st Fuengirola (The Ark), Spain

Jayne and David Needham are the first applicants to receive provisional appointments under The Scout Association's new Leader Appointment scheme, implemented in BGA from 1st April, and outlined in February's *Far And Wide*.

Farewell, and many thanks to the following Leaders and Section Assistants who have left BGA:

Kevin Atkinson	Chairman	British School Scout Group Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Peter Antao	ASL	1 st Manama, Bahrain
Tim Austin	SL	1 st Stavanger, Norway
Karen Beggs	ABSL	1 st Stavanger, Norway
Marshalee Brayman	CSL	St Catherine's Attica, Greece
Valerie Britcliffe	BSL	1 st Dhahran, Saudi Arabia (Eastern Province)
Linda Burgess	ASL	3 rd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Raymond Caldwell	ACSL	3 rd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Andrew Colegate	CS Helper	1 st Dhahran, Saudi Arabia (Eastern Province)
Kathleen Dawson	CS Helper	1 st Fuengirola (The Ark), Spain
Sümmer Degazon	ABSL	3 rd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Terrence Eeckelaers	ACSL	1 st Dhahran, Saudi Arabia (Eastern Province)
Gareth Ellis	ACSL	1 st Stavanger, Norway
Margaret Gilbert	CSL	5 th Oman, Oman
Janette Gladstone-Watts	ACSL	3 rd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Denise Hardstaff	ABSL	St Catherine's Attica, Greece
Joanne Loder	SL	1 st Manama, Bahrain
Farzaneh Majed	ABSL	3 rd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Chris Martyn	Treasurer	British School Scout Group Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Patrick Miller	BSL	2 nd Oman, Oman
Ian Mockett	SL	1 st Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Alan Murphy	ASL	1 st Manama, Bahrain
Helen Noble	Pack Assistant	St Catherine's Attica, Greece
Heather Orange	ABSL	3 rd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
George Penman	CSL	1 st Dhahran, Saudi Arabia (Eastern Province)
Catherine Pickles	ABSL	British School Scout Group Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Debbie Rausch	BSL	British School Scout Group Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Melanie Redstone	ACSL	1 st Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Graham Revie	SL	British School Scout Group Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Gillian Rollo	BS Helper	1 st Dhahran, Saudi Arabia (Eastern Province)
Melissa Simmons	Colony Assistant	St Catherine's Attica, Greece
Ricky Smith	ASL	1 st Fuengirola (The Ark), Spain
Michael Thomson	CSL	1 st Stavanger, Norway
Cheryl Willcox	CSL	1 st Beijing, People's Republic of China
Barbara Ward	BS Helper	1 st Dhahran, Saudi Arabia (Eastern Province)
Paul Willingham	ACSL	1 st Stavanger, Norway
Marjorie Wright	ACSL	3 rd Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Congratulations to the following Leaders who have received Service Awards:

5 Years

<i>Pauline Bodie</i>	CSL & Gp Contact	2 nd Dubai, United Arab Emirates
<i>Scott McDonald</i>	ACSL	British School Scout Group Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
<i>Mark Yon</i>	CSL	1 st Jamestown, St Helena

Long Service Award (15 years)

<i>Carol Wright</i>	GSL	1 st Fuengirola (The Ark), Spain
---------------------	-----	---

Bar to Long Service Award (25 years)

<i>Lenny Duncan</i>	SL	1 st Jamestown, St Helena
---------------------	----	--------------------------------------

Best wishes to you all

Bob Spargo, County Secretary

Time	Activity	Zone	Method	Instructions
7.00	Football	N/A	Games	Cubs play Join-in football while the leaders get the meeting room ready.
7.10 10 minutes	Grand Howl	Attitudes	Theme	Grand Howl. Inspection Subs.
7.20 10 min	Talk on Paper recycling	Global	Theme	Rikki told Cubs about the theme for the evening – Recycling paper. How many Cubs do this at home, school? Why should we recycle paper? What sorts of paper can be recycled and into what? New white paper, packaging paper, egg boxes.
7.25 10 min	Tearing paper	Discovering the World	Making things	Cubs are given newspaper to tear. They find that one way the paper tears in a straight strip easily while the other way it doesn't. This is because of the way the long fibres lie in the paper. In recycling it is the long fibres that are valuable. Cubs take a tissue apart to see how the long fibres of each layer are placed at right angles to the previous layer. So tearing a tissue is almost impossible.
7.35 10 minutes	In a Corner 1-2-3	Fitness	Game	Cubs are divided into the 4 corners of the room. 1 is for the long distance between corners represent the long fibres. 2 is the short distance for the short fibres. 3 is the criss-cross distance for the mush. On the commands 1 or 2 or 3 all the Cubs change corners. .
7.45 10 minutes	Make a paper cup	Creativity	Making things	Cubs make a paper cup from an A4 piece of paper and have a drink.
7.55 15 min	Paper gliders	Creativity	Making things	With an A4 piece of paper Cubs make a paper glider and have a competition to see who can make the best flight.
8.10 15 minutes	Snowball fight	Fitness	Try something New	Cubs, in sixes, scrunch newspaper and sellotape the ball to make 'snowballs'. From each side of the room Cubs throw the snowballs and may pick up the ones landing in their area. When a truce is called more snowballs may be collected.
8.25	Closing	Global	N/A	Closing Cubs were reminded to bring stamps for the Leprosy Mission.