

Issue 68. September 2005

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Editorial

On Wednesday 17th. August the County Team held the BGA Annual General Meeting where the annual report was presented. This will soon be available on Scoutbase for all to read. The AGM was followed by our usual County Team meeting and we were pleased to welcome Johnny Hobson and Richard Thomas from Ascension who have just been on their Discovery expedition to Northern Ireland with their Scouts. Hopefully there will be a report of that soon. Also present at the meeting was Paul Gray ex-Stavanger. It was good to meet these Leaders and we welcomed their input to the meeting.



Left to right: Johnny Hobson, Paul Gray, Richard Thomas

If anybody is in the UK at anytime please let us know as we would love the opportunity to meet you and put faces to names.

Far and Wide does not appear to be reaching everybody and there was much discussion on this subject. Although not currently up to date we intend to get every issue put on the website so that all those who have Internet access can download it. Also the Sectional ACCs will be putting more programme ideas on the site in the future. To find all information relating to BGA including latest version of BGA Essentials and Nights Away workbook and permit application forms go to [www.scoutbase.org.uk](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk) then follow the path International/UK Scouting Abroad/BGA or to go direct [www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter/uk/bga/index.htm](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter/uk/bga/index.htm) As you will see from this issue we will have a special piece for each Section with programme ideas etc. If you have any really good programmes that have worked well for you, then send them to me and we can share them throughout BGA. I would also like to hear more news from the Groups, what have you been doing? Pictures are also welcome but please send those separately from the text. I look forward to hearing from you, my email address is [heather.elliott@lineone.net](mailto:heather.elliott@lineone.net).

Farewell to Bob

Earlier this year our County Secretary, Bob Spargo announced that after five years in the post he wished to retire at the County AGM. Bob has worked tirelessly as Secretary for the last five years and at times taken on other roles particularly when we did not have any ACCs in post. He would often advise on all manner of subjects and earned the nickname ACC Everything Else. The majority of you will have had some contact with Bob no matter how short over the time he has been Secretary and a lot of you have built up quite a relationship with him through e-mails and phone calls over the years so will no doubt wish to join the rest of the Team in wishing him well for the future. He has cleared out his office and gained an extra room at home, which no doubt his wife Margaret is very pleased about. At the AGM David Bull presented Bob with two bottles of champagne.



New County Secretary



Martin Payne was appointed as County Secretary for BGA at the Annual General Meeting / County Team meeting held at Gilwell Park on 17 August 2005. Martin currently lives in West Sussex and has been in Scouting since the age of 11 when he was 'dragged along' to a 'Bring a Friend' evening. For some reason, he has not been able to leave since!

Over the past 20 years, Martin's adult uniformed appointments have included stints as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader, a District Leader (General Duties), an Assistant District Commissioner (General Duties) and an ADC (Development). His biggest "claim to fame" happened while he was in the latter role - helping to develop four Districts out of existence (but only because they amalgamated to form a single District)!

On the administrative (or 'uninformed!') side of Scouting, Martin has been a District Appointments Secretary on two occasions but both before the recent change to provisional appointments and 'Getting Started'. He has also held the

offices of City Secretary (to the four Districts in the City of Nottingham pre-amalgamation) and subsequently District Secretary to the amalgamated District, before becoming County Secretary for Nottinghamshire. In 2000, Martin's employer decided he would be better in London rather than Nottingham and, after commuting for various Midlands based meetings and events for almost a year, Martin resigned as Nottinghamshire's County Secretary. Whilst he was still in Nottingham, Martin provided administrative support to the East and West Midlands Regional County Commissioner meetings, the Nottingham Gang Show and a fund-raising joint venture between Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire County Scout Councils, as well as being a member of the Nottinghamshire County Training Team and serving on the General Purposes Committee of the Committee of the Council of The Scout Association.

Since leaving Nottingham, Martin has been elected as District Secretary to his 'home' District in West Sussex as well as serving on the West Sussex County Executive for the past year. He hopes to continue both these roles for the foreseeable future. As well as looking forward to the challenge of the County Secretary role with BGA, Martin is also the Honorary Treasurer of the Scout Holiday Homes Trust.

Of course, while supporting Scouting is important, Martin also manages to find time to provide other support to his local community: he is a School Governor at a local Primary School; a community volunteer with his local Youth Offending Team; and a volunteer steward at Shakespeare's Globe in London.

It is hardly surprising that Sarah Hobbs (International Office) has seen Martin collapse in a heap on a number of occasions - usually with a fair amount of blood involved - but that's not over work, stress, or trying to commit suicide to get out of doing something! It's because Martin also manages to find time to be a 'Professional Murder Weekender' - an actor on murder weekends which are organised in various hotels across the UK and give people the chance to solve 'whodunit'!

In his 'spare time', Martin works for Balfour Beatty plc in London as an accountant, and is a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Martin can be contacted best by email: BGA@MartinWPayne.com or post to 44 Arrancourt, Gilligan Close, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1UA. His Mobile telephone number is +44(0) 7980 541311.

#### New Appointment



Another recent appointment is the ACC Scouts and here he introduces himself;

Hi,  
My name is Mark John and have just been appointed ACC (S) for BGA.  
So where did I come from and how did I get here?  
I started Scouting back in 1986 in Germany in the County of British Scouts Western Europe (BSWE) as a Scout Leader in 1st Bielefeld. From there I moved back to UK and took up the appointment as SL within 1st Uxbridge (GLNW now GLMW). I have held several other SL appointments (including SL of 8th Gibraltar Air Scouts) until I moved into management! I have held the appointment of ADC Scouts as well as having the opportunity to be District Commissioner of 2 Districts (Cirencester in Glos. and Germany in BSWE). I am very much looking forward to the challenges that my new appointment will bring and working with you all.

#### Meet the Team

Our guests at the County team meeting suggested that it would be useful to you to be able to put faces to our names so here are the mug shots of your County Team excluding the two new members already featured (hope they don't give you nightmares!)

David Bull, County Commissioner

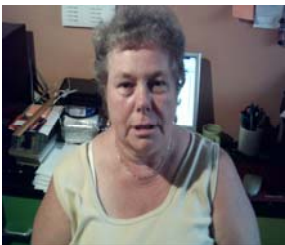
Tony Dunn, ACC Explorers and County Historian



Astrid Roberts, ACC Cub Scouts



Heather Elliott, County Training Manager and editor of Far and Wide



Sarah Hobbs (centre), International Team manager



This picture was sent in by Bob Spargo of the County Team at rest, which was before he retired!



Blast from the Past

## 1<sup>st</sup> Nanjing, CHINA



The initial enquiry came in October 2000 from Jane Harrison, a teacher who had been a CSL in the Midlands as well as Egypt, Kuwait and Moscow BGAs. She and her husband were now posted to the Nanjing International School in China, who were willing to sponsor a new Scout Group.

The School colours were black, grey and yellow so a Group scarf of yellow with a black border was introduced. A Group badge of a British lion within the ancient walls of Nanjing was adopted after a design competition by the Cub Scouts. This was also in the schools colours of black, grey and yellow.

In August 2001, the ACSL Karen Xie's husband moved from Nanjing to Beijing with his job. Happily Karen was able to join the 1<sup>st</sup> Beijing BGA on arrival. The same month, a Beaver Colony started in Nanjing with Vince Mitchell as Beaver Leader, and an Australian, Helen Dowse as ABSL. On 22 Oct 2001, Vince was presented with his warrant and invested by Jane, followed by the investiture of 7 Beavers and 6 Cubs. The official Beaver woggles and Vince's warrant arrived just in time on the same day.

The Cub Pack's first outing was in February 2002 to Nanjing Observatory and later that year was the first camp. Jane reported this in her own words: 'On 1st June 2002, 8 eager Cubs met Akela, Grey Beaver and Baloo (a Chinese Teacher - Ms Lu) for our first ever camp. We had been allowed to use a field in one of the expat compounds. Not very exotic, but the choice was limited. Akela's husband (Paul Harrison) was also there - our cook for the weekend hidden away in the Kindergarten building that we had been allowed to use as a base. The weather was hot and sunny and the boys very excited. We began with the basics, putting up the tents. The boys were



river a small group at a time again. The tide is still coming in, so once the Cubs have all successfully crossed, widen the river again. Continue this until Cubs start to either land on the rope bank or land in the river. Those Cubs are out and help the Leader to move the ropes and supervise. Carry on until only one Cub is left and there is a winner. This game can be made longer or shorter by the amount you widen the 'river' each time.

The third game I call '**Marooned**'.



For this first place one of the ropes on the ground to represent the side of a ship. Next make a circle or square 'island' of the other rope. Place this some small way from the long rope representing the edge of a 'sinking ship'. The challenge is for the Cubs to jump from the side of the 'sinking ship' to the 'island'. After all the Cubs have had a successful jump, drift the side of the 'sinking ship' away from the 'island' so the next jump will be longer. Cubs must jump so they land on the 'island' and stop. They must land with both feet on the 'island' and not step into the shark-infested sea. To make the jump more difficult you can make the 'island' smaller as well as make the 'sinking ship' drift further away from the 'island'. As Cubs try the jump and miss they are out and help the leader manage the ropes and the rest of the Pack. Last Cub to make a successful jump wins.

The forth game is '**Over and Under**'.

\* ~ ~ ~ \* ~ ~ ~ \* ~ ~ ~ \* ~ ~ ~

Take the two ropes you have and hank each of them. Get the Cubs into two teams, Cubs standing behind one another ready for a relay. Give the first Cub in each team the hanked rope. On the word 'go' the first Cub passed the rope overhead to the Cub behind. The second Cub passes the hanked rope 'under' between the legs to the Cub behind. The next Cub passes the rope over, the next under and so on until the end of the line. The last Cub takes the hanked rope and runs to the front of the line and passes the rope overhead to start the exercise again. This continues until the first Cub is in the starting position or until the teams cross the playing area.

Now for the challenge! ? \*

\* ? !

I am sure that there are many other activities you can do with only two ropes that involve all of the Cub Scout Pack. So, here is a challenge to end with. Can you think of any other games to play, or activities to do with only two ropes that involves and keeps the attention of the whole pack? May I remind you that if you suggest tug-of-war you must

know the 'breaking strength' of the ropes you plan to use to avoid any accident.

Please send your ideas for all the Cub Scout Leaders in BGA to share. We will publish them in the next edition of Far and Wide.

Looking forward to your ideas

Astrid Roberts ACC (Cubs)

[astridroberts@aol.com](mailto:astridroberts@aol.com)

Scout Snippets

I have been asked to provide some programme ideas and in the short time span one of the most interesting themes for a camp has been a Christmas Camp in the summer! However you need to plan ahead and ensure that you collect all your old Christmas cards and some cheap Christmas decorations for the camp.

So the Scouts arrive on the Friday (Christmas Eve) and decorate the tented area. You could also write and deliver Christmas cards to any other groups that are sharing your campsite. A wide game could be the old favourite Post Box (will elaborate it needed, just ask). The Sat (Christmas Day) Santa arrives at some point. The scouts could buy each other a small gift (set cost) and Santa could deliver. The rest of the day is left for your imagination but don't forget Christmas dinner. Sunday of course is Boxing Day.

If you are stuck for a theme give it a try the Scouts love it. Of course it can be adapted for all Sections, I have even seen the Scout Fellowship doing it! Good luck and let me have some photos.

On my closing note, my role as ACC is going to be very dull if communication is not 2 way as you have the Scouts and all I have is the PC. Please talk to me (sounds sad eh) and use me to bounce your ideas off or even if you just need to get something off your chest.

Good scouting to you all and will be in touch soon.

Mark John, ACC Scouts

Explorer Navigation

**THINKS . . . Are You a Mentor???**

As a Scouter in BGA, you may be asked to be an Explorer Scout Mentor. There are Explorer Scouts in the Falkland Islands, St Helena, Ascension, Spain, Oman, and soon, Dubai. The role of a Mentor is to help an Explorer Scout get the most out their Scouting by reviewing their progress in the Programme and agreeing their person goals. Every

Explorer Scout has only one Mentor, but a Mentor may look after more than one Explorer Scout.

### **What is a Mentor?**

Mentoring can occur in many different situations. It does not have to be on a one-to-one, long term, or face-to-face basis.

It can take a short amount of time and can use modern communication methods such as email or mobile phone.

Mentors do not have to be 'wise old people'. They just need to be people who can listen, observe and ask the right questions.

Mentors need to be sympathetic, supportive and not judge the young person's views and lifestyle.

Mentoring is most effective when the Explorer Scout seek their own answers with the Mentor's help and support.

### **Who makes a Mentor?**

The Mentor can be any Scouter the young person is happy with. It can be a Unit Leader, another Leader in the District, or an Instructor in a Scout Group. You may have an Explorer Scout working as a Young Leader with your Section. You should bear in mind the 'Young People First' guidelines from Chapter 4 of *Scouting essentials*. Ensure that while mentoring, conversations are kept confidential, and other adults are always within sight or hearing.

### **What is expected of a Mentor?**

The Mentor should meet with the Explorer Scout regularly, perhaps for half an hour. They can chat about what the young person is enjoying in Explorer Scouts, provide information about how to do a particular activity, or just discuss an issue with them.

As a Mentor to an Explorer Scout, you will need to show the following qualities:

Be a good listener. You need to make the Explorer Scout feel comfortable. You will need to be patient and understanding.

Be a source of information. You will need to know where to find out information if there is a problem you cannot deal with. The *essentials* publications can help, and there are factsheets available from the Scout Information Centre and ACC(ES) BGA.

Be a friend and guide. Most Explorer Scouts will be going through considerable changes in their lives, and should feel able to turn to you.

Be a morale booster. You will need to be welcoming and support them in their decisions. If you agree to do anything in support, you must carry it out. If your suggestions are rejected, you should not be offended.

Be trustworthy. Anything that you are told in confidence should be respected. The only exceptions to this are issues to do with the safety and welfare of the young person. For more information see 'Safe from harm', Chapter 4 of *Scouting essentials*.

If you are a Leader in one of the areas with Explorer Scouts and would like to be a mentor, please contact Tony Dunn, ACC(ES) BGA email [tonydunn@supanet.com](mailto:tonydunn@supanet.com)

Tony Dunn, ACC Explorer Scouts

Secretarial Matters

### **Length of Service Decorations**

With effect from May 2005, The Scout Association has introduced two new Long Service Decorations to add to the existing suite of 5, 10, 15, 25 and 40 year decorations. The new decorations are for 50 and 60 years adult service whether it is warranted, unwarranted, uniformed or non-uniformed. These are to be known as the 'Chief Scout's 50 year Long Service Decoration' (blue arrowhead), and the 'Chief Scout's 60 year Long Service Decoration' (gold arrowhead).

Each of the new decorations includes a Certificate, together with either an Emblem for wear with uniform or a Brooch for use at other times.

HQ Records Office has searched the membership database for individuals who may qualify for such awards, and we're pleased to note that Peter Kinton, Honorary Scouter with BGA and former member of the BGA Team, has been awarded the 50 year decoration (and is well on the way towards the 60-year award!)

### **Warrants and Warrant renewals**

With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2005, for new warrants the first warrant review date for all adults in Scouting will be on the anniversary of their appointment to a role. Reviews must be no longer than five years after their appointment. For current warrants the implementation of the more flexible approach is at the discretion of the County Commissioner, and may be retrospective.

This approach eases the burden at 31<sup>st</sup> March, the former date for warrant review.

### **Group Honorary Presidents**

There are new guidelines for the appointment of a Group President. These are given in factsheet FS33080 which, as for all factsheets, can be downloaded free of charge at [www.scoutbase.org.uk](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk)

In essence, the Guidelines advise that the role is honorary and that the individual should have no executive function or role. A Group Honorary President's role could include the promotion of the well being of Scouting in the wider community by assisting in the development of

relationships with other institutions and associations. Activities could include 'ceremonial' duties such as presenting awards, hosting receptions etc.

Presidents should not be appointed for life, it is recommended that appointments should be for a maximum of three to five years. Read the factsheet – it's full of information!

### **Amended Sections of BGA Essentials**

Sections 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 and 9 have been amended. The latest versions are available on our BGA web pages at [www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter/uk/bga/essentials.htm](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/inter/uk/bga/essentials.htm)

A completely updated copy of BGA Essentials with these latest changes has been sent to your GSL or Group Contact, intended for use by all adults in your Group; ask to see this.

### **Amended BGA Nights Away Notification form**

BGA NAN form has been amended to bring it in line with amendments to Scout Association's NAN form. Word and pdf versions to the form can be downloaded from BGA web pages.

### **Nights Away: Camping – and Family Camps**

BGA has now assessed applications for Nights Away Permits, and has awarded 8 permits.

Please remember that all camps and Nights Away events have to be formally approved by the County Commissioner except where the Event Leader holds a NA Permit at the relevant level, in which case the Event Leader need only send in a BGA Nights Away Notification (NAN) form before the event.

All Family Camps also come under these requirements. Although Beaver Scouts do not normally camp (they have 24-hour sleepovers), BS may camp at an authorised Family Camp subject to the requirements of POR Rule 9.62. Please see Factsheet FS120083 – Family Camps, which gives ample details of what's necessary so far as Family Camps are concerned. The Event Leader for a Family Camp must hold a Nights Away Permit, or must provide comprehensive details of the proposed camp as part of the route of getting specific permission for a specific Event.

It's important to note that taking Beaver Scouts to a Cub or Scout Camp when accompanied by their parents does not constitute a Family Camp, and isn't an approved practice!

Bob Spargo, County Secretary

### **Leader Training**

Firstly, Congratulations to David Sims of 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dubai on gaining his Wood Badge. David Bull presented it to him at EuroJam recently. I would very much like to be able to recommend other Leaders for their Wood Badges, many I know have done various bits of training over the years and have a lot of experience which can be taken into account. So please contact me and we can sort out what needs to be done. Every Leader has a right to training to help them do their role.

There are still quite a few leaders who are on Provisional Appointments and their ten months has either expired or is about to expire. These people need to complete the Getting Started modules (1,2 and 3) and let me have evidence to validate them then they can have their full Warrants. There is a rather nice pin badge emblem to wear once you have completed Getting Started and I will shortly be sending them out to those Leaders who have already done this, I hope to be sending out many more in future.



Lastly, please feel free to contact me if you have any queries or concerns about training. My job is to support you in any way I can.

Heather Elliott, County Training Manager

2007

Celebrating the Centenary of Scouting

We have seen EuroJam end – and in many ways this was the opening of the celebrations of the centenary of the birth of Scouting. Of course, there is the World Scout Jamboree in 2007 (we have sent information about this direct to all British Groups Abroad) but that isn't all. Let's have a look at the other ways in which we shall be marking this special anniversary:

Join-in Centenary

This will be a year-long programme of activities linked directly to the Programme Zones for each Section, from Beaver Scouts to the Scout Network. Full information on this will appear in 2006 but a couple of highlights will be:

+26+ May Centenary Camps

The aim is to have everyone in UK Scouting out and about at the same time – focused on 26 May but it could be longer (hence the +26+). Your Group could have a day event, an overnight or even longer: it could be indoors or outdoors. In fact the format is for you to decide – just so long as you seize the chance to have a celebration at the same time as everyone else in UK Scouting.

There will be more ideas and suggestions soon, so that you can plan in good time.

#### Scouting's Sunrise – 1 August

At 0800 local time, Scouts of all ages will be gathering in their localities throughout the world to renew their Scout Promise. This will coincide with two big events in the UK: the World Scout Jamboree and a special world gathering on Brownsea Island with Scouts from all countries camping on the original site of the first camp.

We hope that BGAs will be part of Scouting's Sunrise: again some advice will be issued to give ideas on how to set this up.

#### Sectional Celebrations

We shall be looking at how we can help Sections in BGAs to join in some Centenary-themed activities. Watch this space!

There will be four key Join-in Centenary badges. Everyone will be able to wear them! The badges will be worn in a diamond pattern either on uniform or on a special Centenary scarf that will be available in time for 2007.

You may choose to wear the scarf in addition to the Group scarf (tied in a friendship knot and kept as a souvenir).

The badges will be awarded as follows:

Badge 1: as soon as they participate in, or support, the Join-in Centenary programme from January 2007

Badge 2: as soon as they participate in, or support, a +26+ May Centenary Camp

Badge 3: as soon as they participate in, or support, a Scouting's Sunrise event on 1 August

Badge 4: earned at any time in 2007 and awarded for doing something for others: this could be in connection with Operation One World (helping Scouts to attend the World Scout Jamboree) or it could be linked to Comic Relief, for example. It could be something you do in your community already, just given a 2007 focus.

I hope that this update is helpful. We can all have a great time celebrating our Centenary in our own communities. We'll do all we can to help.

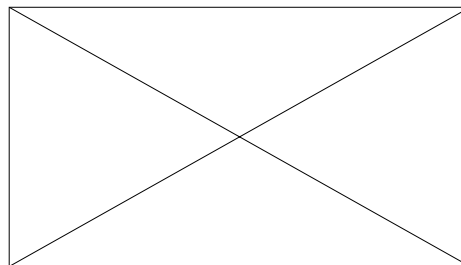
David Bull, County Commissioner

#### News from the Groups

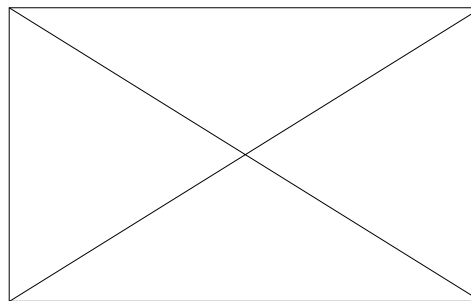
##### 1<sup>st</sup> Falkland Island Cub Scouts:

We often receive information about the activities of the Cub Pack in the Falkland Islands; a significant occasion in the Islands is the annual Liberation Day service and parade; the Scout Group plays its part in this. The Cubs planted the daffodil bulbs in the memorial wood and have an annual hike to the Mount Tumbledown memorial on 13<sup>th</sup> June when they lay a fresh cross at the memorial. Guards' veterans were particularly touched that youngsters should remember their fallen comrades, and there seems to be a strong bond between the veterans who visit the Falkland Islands, and the Cub Pack.

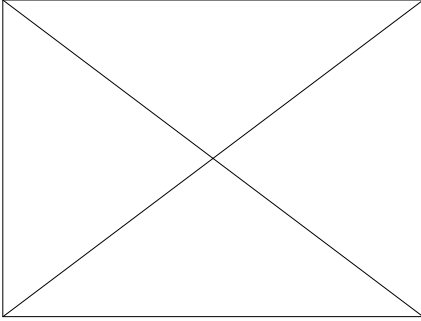
The Falkland Island Cubs took part in the Giant sleepover this year (June 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> – in the depths of the South Atlantic winter, and on one of the coldest nights for years, -6 degrees C!).



One Cub was heard on BBC Children's radio 7, and Jan Miller, CSL, was interviewed on Radio 4 by someone who thought that the Falklands were in Scotland!



The last cub got off to sleep at 5am, the first one woke at 5.30, shortly after which, all prepared for the Liberation Day Cathedral Service at 9.30 am.



Tim Miller, 1<sup>st</sup> Falkland Islands Group President and Pack Assistant, was presented with the Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service by two Guards Veterans who were visiting the Falklands for their Liberation Day celebrations.

#### Ascension Island

As mentioned earlier the Scouts from Ascension have just had their expedition to Northern Ireland and hopefully we will have a report with pictures for the next issue.

#### United Arab Emirates

A group of Scouts and three Leaders from 3<sup>rd</sup> Dubai and 1<sup>st</sup> Abu Dhabi attended EuroJam at the end of July. As they have mostly dispersed throughout the UK for the rest of the summer holidays it will not be until they have resumed their meetings in September that we will receive a report from them. So watch this space.

#### *Welcome, Farewell – and Congratulations*

We welcome the following Leaders who have joined BGA since 15<sup>th</sup> April 2005

John Batty	ABSL (Provisional)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Sarah Booth	ASL (Provisional)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Graham Buksh	Group Contact	1 <sup>st</sup> Stavanger Scout Group, Norway
Hester Coetzee	ABSL (Provisional)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Rathna De Silva	ACSL (Provisional)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Sam Gribble	GSL (from BSL)	1 <sup>st</sup> Doha Scout Group, Qatar
Sumudu Gunuratne	ASL (Provisional)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Claire Hagestadt	CSL (Provisional)	1 <sup>st</sup> Doha Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Haly Harris	ACSL (Provisional)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Sally Lewis	ABSL (Provisional)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
David Mason	ACSL (Provisional)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Louise O'Donnell	ACSL (Provisional)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Katja Oldenburg	ABSL (Provisional)	1 <sup>st</sup> Abu Dhabi Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Kate Phillips	BSL (Provisional)	1 <sup>st</sup> Kuala Lumpur Scout Group, Malaysia
Colin Ross	ACSL (Provisional)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Scout Group, United Arab Emirates
Allison Tasker	ABSL (Provisional)	1 <sup>st</sup> Kuala Lumpur Scout Group, Malaysia
Karl Yon	ASL (Provisional)	1 <sup>st</sup> Ascension Island Scout Group, Ascension Island

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

Marcus Cox	ACC(BS)	British Groups Abroad
Sue Dineen	BSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Stavanger Scout Group, Norway
Michael Hiley	SL	1 <sup>st</sup> Oman Scout Group, Oman
Ray Hudson	GSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Jamestown Scout Group, St Helena
David Needham	ACSL (P)	1 <sup>st</sup> Manama Scout Group, Bahrain
Jayne Needham	CSL (P)	1 <sup>st</sup> Manama Scout Group, Bahrain

***David Bull has appointed Ray Hudson as Honorary Scouter, St Helena, British Groups Abroad.***

I'm sorry to advise that both 1<sup>st</sup> Manama Scout Group (Bahrain) and 1<sup>st</sup> Dhahran Scout Group (Saudi Arabia – Eastern Province) have now closed. These were the sole surviving BGA Groups in their Districts which now, after more than a half-century of British expatriate Scouting, no longer has a presence there.

*Service Awards:*

Congratulations to the following Leaders who have received Service Awards:

Chief Scout's 50 Year Long Service Decoration

Peter Kinton                      Honorary Scouter    British Groups Abroad

Best wishes to you all

Bob Spargo, County Secretary

Time	Activity	Zone	Method	Instructions
10 min	Opening Ceremony	Exploring the world around us.	Follow themes	Introduce the theme for the evening. What is a cube? Where do we see cubes? Building blocks, sugar cubes, ice cubes, dice. Any more?
10 Min	Building Block relay race	Discovering creativity and practical skills	Make things	You will need: lots of cube shaped wooden or plastic children's building blocks. Or you could use sugar cubes. Line the Beavers into relay teams with a pile of cubes in front of each team. On the word 'go' the first Beaver takes one block and races to the far end of the hall and starts to build a team tower. As one Beaver returns to the end of the relay line the next Beaver collects another cube, races up and adds it to the tower. Continue until a tower falls over or when the cubes run out. Tallest tower wins.
10 min	Simple Science: Ice cube melt	Exploring the world around us.	Explore their world	You will need: 5 ice cubes, a paper cup, a plastic cup, a glass, a metal cup, an insulated cup for each Lodge. Place an ice cube in each cup. Which one melts first?
15 Min	Crushed ice drink	Discovering Creativity and Practical Skills	Making things	You will need: ice cubes, a plastic bag, a mallet, some fruit juice and cups. Show the Beavers to put the ice cubes into the plastic bag and hit the cubes with a mallet until you have ice shards or slush. Next, get the Beavers to put some ice slush into a cup and add fruit juice. One per Beaver. Beavers sit and enjoy the drink while they watch the ice melt.
10 min	Simple Science. Floating Sinking	Exploring the world around us.	Follow theme	You will need: a basin of water, some ice cubes, some sugar cubes, some building blocks. Ask the Beavers what will happen as you put each item into water.
10 min	Roll the Dice relay race	Learning About Yourself	Play Games	You will need: either dice per team with coloured stickers Red, Blue, Green, Yellow, Black and White. Or make small wooden cubes and paint each face. Line the Beavers up for another relay. First Beaver rolls the dice and if the colour is Red – jumps across the room. Blue – runs, Green – walks, Yellow – goes sideways, Black – goes backwards, White – does baby steps.
10 Min	Closing Ceremony	Beliefs and attitudes	Follow Themes	Ask Beavers to think of their Promise. Review the activities of the evening. Did they do their best, in all things during this meeting?

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