



Branches Bulletin

Information for Branches of The Scout Association around the world

February 07



The Centenary Badge continues to be available (see a black and white illustration above). The badges are in full colour and we are encouraging all Scouts to wear the badge during this, our centenary year.

Branches are able to set up an account with Scout Shops Limited so that you can obtain your badges, whether World membership badges or activity badges. Or the Centenary Badge!

If you are having trouble setting up an account, please get in touch with the International Office.

BRANCHES REVIEW

The review of the support for our Branches is nearing the final stages. Many thanks for all your contributions.

To summarise our current approach: with the aim of providing Branches with a voice in the running of the Movement, the International Commissioner represents them at Headquarters and is their link and the person they look to for advice and assistance. This publication, *Branches Bulletin*, is published three or four times a year.

Chief Commissioners of Branches have the same rights of attendance at meetings of the Council, etc, as County/Area Commissioners in the United Kingdom

The Governor General or Governor, where appointed, usually serves as the local Chief Scout and will have received a briefing at Gilwell Park on appointment.

Each Branch has a Constitution, in a standard form provided by UK Headquarters. This provides for considerable latitude for Branches in how they operate.

Support is offered to Branches by the International Office and of course they have in theory access to all Headquarters services. Branches in the South Pacific are receiving support additionally from the World Scout

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Join the adventure

The Scout Association

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Bureau, Asia Pacific Office and from New Zealand and Australia. Caribbean Branches receive some support from Executives in the Bureau's Inter American Office (we are currently in discussion with them on ways of improving the support given). Gibraltar has good practical links direct with UK Scouting and also co-operates with Spanish Scouting.

Attempts have been made to develop partnerships between UK Counties/Areas and individual Branches. One of the aims of the International Scout Fellowship (a national Scout Fellowship in the UK) is to help in the support of Branches.

The Scout Association and the World Scout Committee and its Bureau are committed as far as possible to enabling Overseas Branches in independent countries to stand on their own feet and to apply for recognition by the World Scout Conference at the appropriate time. Scouting in British Overseas Territories will of course expect to remain in membership of the UK Association.

The final report will be considered by the Chief Scout's Committee in April and then will be sent to Chief Commissioners for comment.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

With the last edition of the *Bulletin* we provided a note giving advice on Awards and decorations and how to apply for them. Recommendation forms can be downloaded from:

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/forms/index.htm>

Advice is always available from the International Commissioner. Please consider all the Scouters in your Branch and make recommendations for awards where you feel they are deserved.

Please send completed forms to the International Commissioner, care of the International Office.

WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE

We are delighted that Scouts from a number of our Branches are joining the UK Contingent at the World Scout Jamboree. They are very welcome and we are glad that we have been able to help make this happen. Have a good time!

THE DAY VISITOR EXPERIENCE AT THE WORLD JAMBOREE

But the Jamboree is not only for the Participants – we want to encourage family, friends, supporters and other Scouts and Guides to come and take part too. The Jamboree Day Visitors Experience is your chance to sample this unique atmosphere by experiencing a day where world Scouting, cultures, issues, faiths, cuisine and performance combine to create the biggest ever World Scout Jamboree.

You can choose one of eight Experience days to attend and tickets can be bought simply and securely online. Tickets are £20 for Adults (14yrs+) and £15 for Children (3-13yrs), with under 3s free.

For more information and to book tickets visit www.thejamboree.org/dayvisitors, or call +44 845 300 1818

