



## 1<sup>st</sup> Sevenoaks (Braeside Pack) do the Double

The Braeside Pack have done it again and won the Trophy for the Cubs Football Tournament for the second year running.

Unfortunately none of the Newslink reporters (me) could be at the tournament but in the absence of actual facts and in the best tradition of British tabloids I have made up this report.

Please pick out the bits you would like to be true.

Eight teams attended the Tournament at Bradbourne School in May and at first played in two groups with each team playing three qualifying matches.

Andy Ginno who organised the event, Bertie Downard and a balding postman from Tonbridge,- sorry mate don't know your name but I heard you did a great job - took on the job as referees and worked tirelessly throughout the event.

One team, Halstead, broke the record for goals and in their three matches scored an incredible 24.

*What? Scored against them? Oh, Sorry. I'll start again*

One team, Halstead, broke the record for goals and in their three matches **conceded** 24 and I was told that the opposing team's goalies went on to the pitch with a hammock that they strung between the goal posts. Halstead actually had possession of the ball for 90% of the game unfortunately for them most of that time it was in the back of their net - never mind they took part and threw themselves into it and that's cub footy.

After the group stage the qualifying teams, all from Sevenoaks, had exciting semi – finals, third place play off and cup final with as I have mentioned Braeside finishing in 1<sup>st</sup> place and lifting the trophy for the second year running.



*This is not actually Braeside after the tournament but a Library picture of some team or another found on the internet.*

***Joking apart, I know that this is not actually the best and truest report that has ever appeared in Newslink but you can help by just sending me a few facts next time you are at an event or putting on an activity. Newslink does actually get read by many people not directly connected to Scouting and all your stories show the public what Scouting is about.***

**Well done to Andy, all the teams, all the players and all that helped on the day.**

## Mag 7 Equipment

Just a reminder that equipment left over from the Mag 7 Camp is available to any Groups wanting to borrow them. We have

Toy cross bows, Spacehoppers Monster feet 3 x Grass sledges 4 Kart kits 4x Trebuchets  
basic gazebos Goal posts and nets .

These are at various places around the district at the moment but contact me and I will forward the name of the person who can help

The District team are invited to a post camp meeting to discuss Mag7 and the future of this event, if you haven't yet had a chance to pass any thoughts on then please do this through your GSL or section ADC .

## The Zorb Story

Anyone out and about in and around Sevenoaks on the 26<sup>th</sup> June may see some strange goings on.

The 7<sup>th</sup> have taken on a fundraising challenge whereby they have to find and escort a family of Zorbs, actually three fitness balls, back to their headquarters in Halstead.

Allegedly the Zorbs left the 7<sup>th</sup> HQ in the harsh winter of 2009/2010 to seek warmer premises elsewhere. They are said to be in Weald, Knole Park and Shoreham.

Beavers Cubs and Scouts are taking part in this activity which will end with a one night Group camp at their HQ. They are also seeking sponsorship for the event to help make the hut warmer for the Zorbs this coming winter.



If you do catch a glimpse of them on the day please give them a shout and some encouragement (in the form of a fiver)

Do you have Zorbs living in your Scout Hut?

Would they like a trip out one weekend to visit a Scout Hut elsewhere?

Could you design a means of transport for them?

Could this become an all section District Challenge?

Please stop me **Now!** **Don't** let me go any further! Just say **NO!**

## District AGM

This is the season for AGM's and the District AGM is on

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June at St Johns Scout HQ Mill Lane Sevenoaks**

**Refreshments from 7.30 Business from 8pm**  
**Followed by Quick and I mean Quick presentation of Mag7**  
**Be there or be square.**

**The District AGM reports are below**



SEVENOAKS DISTRICT  
SCOUT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT  
2009 – 2010

and

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2010  
(accompanying document)

Sevenoaks District Scout Council  
Registered Charity No: 303435  
Scout Association registered No: 12717

# **SEVENOAKS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

For the year ending 31 March, 2010

(Attached Financial Accounts for the year ending 28 February, 2010)

### **PRESIDENT**

Dudley Barrow MBE

### **VICE-PRESIDENT**

Mr Michael Fallon, MP

### **THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

#### **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

Jeanette Schwarz - District Commissioner

John Scholey - District Chairman

Michael Schwarz - District Secretary

Caroline Penollar - District Treasurer

Kate Shuttleworth - District Explorer Scout Commissioner

#### **ELECTED MEMBERS**

Richard Parry, Kevin Crawley, Rose Mears, John Botley, David Reburn

#### **DC's NOMINATED MEMBERS**

Chris Barrow, John Talbot, Simon Corrigan, Lesley Grant, Hugh Field

#### **APPOINTMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

Rose Mears (Chairman), John Botley (Secretary)

#### **FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Caroline Penollar (Chairman), Kevin Crawley, David Reburn

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR: Carole Hills  
DISTRICT FELLOWSHIP: David Reburn (Chairman), Pat Crawley (Secretary)  
DISTRICT SCOUT SHOP: Jeanette Schwarz  
DISTRICT BADGE SECRETARY: Gwen Cooley  
DISTRICT COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE: Graham Still  
DISTRICT SCOUT QUARTERMASTER: David Hitchings  
YOUNG PERSON REPRESENTATIVE: Paul Bailey

## **SEVENOAKS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2009–2010**

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

In a World where “change”, for better or worse, is a major theme I am pleased to report that scouting in Sevenoaks District has maintained its successful trajectory of providing enjoyable activities for an increasing number of young people. This year we have continued the gains of the past few years (2009-10 – 11.9%; 2008-09 – 0.2%; 2007-08 – 7.3%; 2006-07 – 10.6%; 2005-06 – 7.3%). The re-opened 9<sup>th</sup> (Seal) Group has continued to thrive. The additional support the District Executive Committee has given to 7<sup>th</sup> (Halstead) Group has begun to bear fruit although the dispute with a neighbour concerning the boundary of the site is still outstanding. Other Groups have had advice and financial support from the DEC to deal with their needs to renew and extend physical assets. We have been delighted to help.

The increase in scouting in the District could only happen by dint of a huge amount of effort from adult volunteers who provide support and supervision for our groups of scouts. In addition to the above, the District Executive Committee provides a variety of behind-the-scenes help to scouting. The Treasurer with the help of the Finance sub-Committee has kept the money side of the District under control. The District Administrator has continued to keep what used to be called “paperwork”, but is now probably better named “information flow”, under control. Others have been involved in Appointments and Record Keeping, Training, and Health and Safety matters, to name but a few. We are very grateful to all of them.

Our Badge Secretary for many years, Gwen Cooley, will retire at the AGM. It is only recently that I appreciated the complexity of the task which she has mastered for all of this time. Providing for the needs of all the sections of all our groups when the variety of badges has grown continuously has been a mammoth achievement. Thank you, Gwen.

Members of the Scout Fellowship have continued to provide their experience and expertise to many activities, between their social events. The combined knowledge and experience of this group is an enormous asset to scouting in Sevenoaks. We are all very grateful for their contributions.

2009-10 has been a year of two tenures of District Commissioner; unusually this has involved only one person. A year ago our Jeanette decided to relinquish her role. Fortunately, following massive expressions of support from the local scouting community, she was persuaded to change her decision and continue in this demanding role. In previous annual reports I have described the excellent service she gives to Sevenoaks scouting and I do not intend to repeat myself again, enough to say a big welcome back!

Details of scouting activities during the past year are described in the following sections of this annual report.

Finally I wish to thank all of the officers and members of the District Executive Team who have given their time, knowledge, enthusiasm and experience for the support they have given to the District Commissioner and her team. They have ensured the un-glamorous but essential background tasks are kept on track and under control.

- *John Scholey, District Chairman*

## DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

My report commences with "CONGRATULATIONS" to every Leader and adult supporter of Sevenoaks Scouting as your enthusiasm at Section, Group and District level throughout the year has grown youth membership by 14.8% - from 750 to 861 (January 2009 to January 2010). Your committed service and active encouragement toward our youth membership, facilitating enjoyable and effective programmes, builds on life skills which these young people will develop and carry long into the future.

Whilst Sevenoaks Census for 31<sup>st</sup> January 2010 shows youth membership growth, in fact the overall membership – youth and adult volunteers – has grown to 1018, an increase of 11.9%. However, this points towards a slight decline within adult membership, from 160 to 157 within the year. But as previously stated, youth membership growth of 14.8% indicates young people want to and continue to participate in the Game of Scouting throughout all sections. Youth membership for each section at January 2010 is as follows:

- ◆ Beaver Scouts – 236 (19.2% increase);
- ◆ Cub Scouts – 323 (6.6% increase);
- ◆ Scouts – 251 (20.1% increase);
- ◆ Explorer Scouts – 51 (27.5% increase);
- ◆ Adults – 157 (1.9% decline).

Without a doubt, every Group Scout Leader, sectional Leadership team and Group Management team must be delighted to see increases across these Sections and an encouraging sign for the Scouting year ahead. Again, congratulations and well done to everyone involved in Scouting!

The Sectional reports that follow give a flavour of the exciting activities and events our young people are experiencing within the District, particularly as we plan and move towards the 'MAG7' District Camp at the start of May 2010. Furthermore, in places they mention key Leaders that steer certain events; however, may I thank every Section Leader who actively participates at the planning and management stages in order to make these events happen. Your inspiration and service continues to drive us forward in doing our duty and, by working together, achieving the best of Scouting for our young people.

I wish to thank the Scout Fellowship members for their continued support at many sectional activities, including the District Scout Shop and the forthcoming MAG7 District Camp. Their vast experience, knowledge and expertise being a true asset to Scouting and I, like all uniformed Leaders, are very grateful for their assistance.

During the year the District Executive and its sub-Committees have supported and actively encouraged the development within District and at Group level; their knowledge and experience are invaluable to the District and, in turn, to Groups as they ensure essential administrative tasks are maintained and kept in order. Whilst Scouting maybe a 'game' it must also manage like a 'business' with constant legislative demands, for example, filing annual accounts with the Charities Commission, membership administration, adult appointments, disputes, annual asbestos checks, fire and safety audits, etc.. Therefore, the District Executive provides invaluable support to all Groups at various levels whilst managing and progressing legal matters relating to District premises at Seal, land at Halstead and Sundridge; essential maintenance of District equipment and Kayak store; endorsing the support for our four young people joining the Kent Contingent that will attend the 2011 World Scout Jamboree in Sweden; approve the development and economic support of Groups for the benefit of young people across the District. Finally, they support the continuation of the Scout Shop which provides a valuable resource for all Sections and Groups within the District whilst supporting Scouting for young people too.

As we strive to provide Scouting for more young people, it is important that we remain focused on

- ❖ providing a safe environment for our young people;
- ❖ delivering the best possible Scouting for our young people;
- ❖ encouraging and supporting volunteers in leadership teams;
- ❖ creating new and developing existing communication links;
- ❖ exchanging ideas and interaction with others at Section, Group, District and County levels.

Last year I relinquished my role as your District Commissioner because I believed the time was right for the District to take a new direction. However, I was overwhelmed by the support which many of you expressed to Kelvin Holford, our County Commissioner, and persuaded to remain in situ for a further period (one and counting!). Needless to say, I am honoured by your support and privileged to remain your District Commissioner, particularly as I witness first-hand the young people achieving their best in the safe environment that Scouting provides whilst observing volunteers joining and strengthening leadership teams across all sections too. Furthermore, I am captivated by the amplification of silent supporters in Scouting who work behind the scenes facilitating numerous events to flourish - the unity and harmony that Scouting extends is truly superb and unrivalled. Therefore, it is my aspiration that these qualities will continue in the membership of the new Active Support Section which we launch at the District AGM on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

During the year Sevenoaks Scouting said goodbye to several friends but also said hello to many new Leaders and Helpers. I would particularly like to welcome all these new friends to the game of Scouting – may you have fun, develop new skills and foster new friendships along the way as you join others on the path of Scouting.

My sincere thanks to all Leaders, Helpers, Executive members and Fellowship members that give their time unreservedly supporting our young people – your devotion to Scouting is truly appreciated throughout the District and County too.

- *Jeanette Schwarz, District Commissioner*

## **BEAVER SCOUT SECTION**

The last year has been an interesting year for the Beavers in the Sevenoaks District. It started with a Fun Day in September which was attended by most of the colonies within the District. All the young people were entertained by BOBO the clown at some point during the day. The day continued in much the same way with lots of side shows for everyone to visit using their passport along with sack races, and egg spoon races to participate in! All in all a great success.

We are planning to start the next year with a 2 day visit to MAG7 and aim to offer here two visitors - the Animal Factory and a Potter - plus the opportunity to take part in many other activities such as pedal car racing or making juggling balls! More next year.

Most colonies are attending Kaleidoscope in July 2010 in Snodland, a County Run day! Will report next year.

I am pleased to say that at the moment every Colony is at its capacity. However that does mean that there are a number of young people in the Sevenoaks area that are sat on a waiting list! Perhaps room for another colony if volunteers could be found!!!

Going forward it would be great if we could have one event where every Colony in the District attended and it would also be good to see everyone attending District Meetings.

However my thanks go to everyone who has supported, lead or helped the Beavers in any way over the last year!

- *Caroline O'Mahony, District Beaver Scout Leader*

## CUB SCOUT SECTION REPORT

This has been a very busy year again for the Cub Section with several events taking place and lots of activity in the Packs. Since my last report these District events have taken place:

- Scientist Badge Day with 90 Cub Scouts attending, a thank you to Liz Hindley and her team at 10<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks (Weald) for putting that together.
- The District sent two coach loads to a County Day at Howletts Zoo.
- The annual Challenge Quiz to decide who would represent us in the County event, this turned out to be a team from 4<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks (St Johns) who eventually came a credible 6<sup>th</sup> place out of 30 in the County.
- The District Football Tournament at Bradbourne School with 1<sup>st</sup> Sevenoaks (Braeside) lifting the trophy. Thanks to Andy Ginno of the 10<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks (Weald) for putting this together and finding a nice warm day to run the event.
- Two coaches full of Cub Scouts went to Chatham Dockyards for another successful County event.
- The Pinewood Rally took part in Wildernesse School and was immensely popular with 7<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks (Halstead) winning the overall trophy. Many thanks to Ali Miller of 1<sup>st</sup> Sevenoaks (Braeside) and Dudley Barrow of 16<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks (Ide Hill) for the efforts they put in for this to happen.
- A chess tournament at Riverhead organised by Rose Mears of 3<sup>rd</sup> Sevenoaks (Riverhead & Dunton Green) was a quiet but very interesting event with over 40 Cub Scouts taking part.
- The Annual Gala was run by Pat Crawley of the Fellowship and her loyal team of gala stalwarts, a big thank you to them for this very popular event.

Apart from these events there were the swimming badge testing evenings, again organised by Pat, and The Silver Awards Ceremony which had Jeanette the DC, Dudley our President and the Town Mayor in attendance.

Unfortunately we had to cancel the Athletes Badge again - this badge is doomed but we keep trying - because of the heaviest rainfall of the year on the evening we planned to run it. Nick Roberts had an amazing 120 Cub Scouts interested in participating for this event and, thankfully, has promised he will try again for 2010. Don't book a BBQ for any date that you see this advertised!

This all comes out as at least one District or County action per month alongside various activities outside of usual pack meetings which makes you wonder how Cub Leaders manage it all in the two hours a week they signed up for!

This year we said goodbye to June Johnson at the 7<sup>th</sup> and the Pack is being run by me and Rose Mears for the time being with Darren Bee assisting. Several Assistant Leaders and Helpers have joined the District over the last year and we wish them well in the adventure which is Scouting.

There are many people to thank as always but I will put them together in one collective and say Thank you, Thank you, Thank you for giving Cub Scouts such a brilliant time.

*- Chris Mears, Assistant District Commissioner (Cub Scouts)*



## SCOUT SECTION

The Scout section has had a good year with numbers increasing across the District and it is really good to see a Scout Troop back in Weald again after several years without one. In addition, numbers at the 1<sup>st</sup> Sevenoaks have increased so much that they have started a second Scout Troop and, as a result, there are now three Groups that have two Scout Troops in District – 1<sup>st</sup> Sevenoaks, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sevenoaks and 16<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks. In general, numbers in other Troops across the District are growing but, it is a shame when youngsters from the Cub Pack have to be turned away as there is no space in the Troop, particularly as additional Troop Sections could be supported if volunteers could be found to come and join the fun of Scouting.

During the year Troops around the District have taken part in many activities:

- ◆ The ever popular Kayak sessions run by Peter Frankl, Nick Johnson and the team.
- ◆ The Plender Hike resurrected this year after an absence from the District programme for about five years. The hike is a semi overnight hike with an incidence every so often and was well attended. Thanks go to Sheila Burgin and her team for running the event and all the Leaders that assisted on checkpoints. Thanks also to the Fellowship for providing the breakfast.
- ◆ Scouts have been on international camps with WINGS, KIJ and the District Intercamp and many others holding their own camps in the UK. Scouts have also camped in the snow and of course the wet – they are keen to participate in the MAG7 camp scheduled for the first weekend in May 2010.

Currently the MAG7 District Camp has interest from all but two Troops and activities planned are power kites, laser clay shooting, archery, grass sledges, climbing, inflatable Olympics, sumo wrestling to name a few. I am confident the team will ensure sufficient support for all the activities so that every youngster enjoys the experience.

County activities are also being well attended by District Scouts. These have included Survival Challenge weekends, Mountain Boarding, Martial Arts Badge days and Tree Park Hop on the high ropes course at the Hop Farm in Paddock Wood to name but a few.

Thanks go to all the Leaders, young and not so young, who have continued to provide Scouting to many young people across the District. Also, welcome and thank you to those who have joined the Scout Leadership teams this year, joining in the fun of the Scout Section and offering the youngsters the opportunity to enjoy Scouting around Sevenoaks.

We now look forward to the challenges and adventure in the forthcoming year.

*- Chris McCann, Assistant District Commissioner (Scouts)*

## **EXPLORER SCOUT SECTION**

This has been another successful year for the Explorers in the District. We have seen new members joining and the request to start a 4th Unit at Ide Hill as several of their older Scouts are now Explorer age.

All of the Units have been working towards the Sectional Awards and we had several people start to participate in the County run Duke of Edinburgh Expedition weekends.

The District camp was very successful with representatives from Holmsdale and Beaufighters and most of Guzzlebrook on camp. The Explorers enjoyed the microlighting, orienteering and Beaver activities such as the bouncy castle and pottery but the highlight for most was the landrover driving. All of the Explorers were able to drive the landrover around a field, doing hill starts and changing gears. They then progressed to an obstacle course - the only catch was that the steering was reversed so turning the wheel left meant the car went right! They then got a trip around the true off-road course to really out the landrover through its paces. I think my ears have just about recovered from the screaming in the back!

I would like to thank all of the Explorer Leadership Team for the effort they have put in this year. We have had a busy time with each of the Units putting on a full programme of evenings and trips away. At present, the Explorer Units do need more adult leaders, however, at this age the members are reluctant to want their parents as helpers which does leave the current team struggling to cope! If anyone out there knows of someone who would be willing to help on a Tuesday or Wednesday evening please let me know!

*- Kate Shuttleworth, District Explorer Scout Commissioner (DESC)*

### **Holmesdale Explorer Scout Unit:**

Holmsdale have had a successful year with numbers growing once again and members taking part in more and more activities.

This has included working towards the Duke of Edinburgh awards, taking part in the ongoing Shelter Box challenge and joining with District and County activities including Scorcher, Masterchef - the team achieving 2nd place in the County, Bogseat Camps, Gilwell 24, District Camp and more.

This year two teams took part in the Winter Survival, a 40 mile winter hike which is widely considered the toughest event on the Explorer calendar. They did exceptionally well despite getting a little lost and ranked well on the leader-board. Hopefully they will be back next year to better their time.

Meetings have included costume making, potato cannon firing, ice skating, a meal, film making, igloo building, magistrate courtroom simulation as well as traditional Scouting skills.

*- Simon Corrigan, Explorer Scout Leader*

### **Guzzlebrook Explorer Scout Unit:**

Unit numbers peaked at 10 during the latter part of the year.

Badge work has been a focus throughout the year with the Unit working towards the Navigation Badge, consisting of 7 stages including

- Orienteering – 3 courses in one day during the Christmas Holidays – generating considerable competition - won by Alex Davies.
- Navigating with a non-OS map – the unit used a Harvey map to walk to District Camp which proved to be quite tricky and highlighted how good OS maps are!

Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) awards are also becoming a focus with Richard Vigis attaining his Bronze Award and a further 3 Explorers completing their Bronze Expeditions under challenging weather conditions in May this year. Special mentions for former Explorers – Dougal Harper who completed his Queens Scout Award and Nigel Burgin who is closing in on his DofE Gold Award and also undertook his Explorer Belt expedition earlier this year.

There was a very interesting talk on “Mystery Animals in Kent” given by Neil Arnold, evidently there have been a number of sightings of big cats in the Sevenoaks area!

Young Leader training was again an ongoing theme throughout the year, with a number of Explorers completing the modules, as a result one of the ex-Explorers has become a Young Leader.

Other activities included archery, indoor bowls, kayaking, snow tubing / toboganing and laserquest. On district camp the Explorers were given the opportunity to drive a Land Rover and fly in a microlight, both activities greatly enjoyed.

Once again four of the Guzzlebrook ~~Hobbits~~ Explorers volunteered for the annual Winter Survival Challenge in February. The course was slightly shorter this year at 40.2 miles. The team consisting of three experienced competitors and a novice, did not complete the course although finishing in a very creditable 9<sup>th</sup> place out of 40 starters. They covered a particularly impressive 30.5 miles in 12:49 minutes, a very fast time.

Camps included the District Camp in April, attended by all but one Explorer and the option to attend various summer camps.

Community activities included helping marshal the Knole Park 10K fun run, many thanks to Alex Davies’s dad who helped boost the numbers; helping the Kemsing Scout Jumble sale and delivering jumble sale slips door to door in advance of the sale. A number of Explorers also volunteered to help at a Motorcycle Grass Track event which gained them free entry to a spectacular and messy, clods of earth flying everywhere, show.

*- Duncan and Alison Harper, Explorer Scout Leaders*

**Beaufighters Explorer Scout Unit:** No report received.

**NETWORK SCOUT SECTION** No report.

**SPECIAL NEEDS REPORT** No report.

## DISTRICT SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

This will be the last report under the heading of 'District Scout Fellowship' and therefore I have extended it by one month to the end of April instead of March.

Over the past year the District Scout Fellowship has continued with its important and necessary support to Scouting in the District, and occasionally to the County. The Fellowship has also enjoyed a varied social programme regularly each month. But the year will be remembered for the ominous pending shadow of uncertain change in the organization.

The level of the membership has been fairly constant over the years, with just the occasional change to the list of names. Unfortunately the average age continues to increase, with the vast majority of members aged over 65. Recruiting younger and fitter members to share the rewarding experience of the Scout Fellowship/Active Support should be an important aim.

By extending this report by one month we are able to express our great sadness at the sudden and unexpected death of our dear friend Jean Casey on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2010. We all send our deep sympathy to Sean; Sean and Jean have had a close husband and wife relationship for as long as most of us can remember, and their service to Scouting goes back a long way. Jean was born on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1930 and in her youth she was a Girl Guide and a Ranger. At the age of just 18 years, in 1948, she was exceptionally appointed CSL (Wolf Cub Mistress) of a second Pack in the 15<sup>th</sup> Edgware (St Andrew's Church) and ran the Pack, helped by a friend, on a new estate in Edgware. Sean started Scouting with the 12<sup>th</sup> Edgware Group but it was some considerable time later that he met Jean and they were married in St Andrew's Church in 1971. Together they worked at schools with young people with special needs. Their first interview was with Swaylands School for the Educational Sub-Normal (run by Barnet CC) at Peshurst, which had the 16<sup>th</sup> Tonbridge Scouts, and they remained there for almost four years, having set up a home in Crown Road, Edenbridge. In Sevenoaks Jean will be remembered, in association with Sean, for the leadership of the 26<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks (Valence School) Scout Group, near Westerham. She was warranted as ASL in July 1975 and during the 1980s, she was awarded the Medal of Merit and later a Bar to the Medal of Merit. The Jean/Sean team ran the Valence School Scouts as normally as possible, with meetings and camps, until their retirement, and changes at the school caused the Group to close. Jean, with Sean, then became founder members of the District Scout Fellowship.

Further sadness comes with news of the death of Brenda Liley on 2nd May 2010. Brenda was born on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 1927 and had a very long service as a leader in Scouting. Her first appointment, when she was aged 18, was ACSL with the 1<sup>st</sup> Southall (St George's) Pack, and eight years later, in 1953, she was appointed CSL until 1971. In parallel she was also District CSL (Southall, Middx) for 10 years. She then moved to Alderbourne where she was immediately appointed CSL of the 1<sup>st</sup> Iver (Iver & Langley) Pack until 1986. In 1988 and 1992 she was awarded the Medal of Merit and the Silver Acorn. After a couple of years as ASL with the 1<sup>st</sup> Uxbridge (GLNE), she came to Sevenoaks in 1989 with her husband Derek. Derek became Sevenoaks District Commissioner by 1990 for a few years while Brenda joined the 12<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks (Edenbridge) Pack as ACSL (skills). She was very active with Cub Scout Training and was an ALT with Buckinghamshire, GLSE and Kent. She was also an active member with Sevenoaks Scout Fellowship. After the loss of Derek she moved from Sevenoaks to be close to her son at a place near Reading, but has always kept in touch with members of the Sevenoaks Fellowship.

As in previous years members have provided administrative and infrastructure support to keep the District running smoothly. This has included support for St George's Day Service and the District AGM. John Botley, our Fellowship treasurer, continues as Secretary of the Appointments Sub-

committee; this job includes administering all the CRB Forms in the District and maintaining application records. Rose Mears is extremely busy as a GSL plus being very much involved with reviewing all new adult application and training. Chris Mears is ADC(Cubs) and is standing in to run a Cub Pack plus editing Newslink. One member is a Group Chairman, and our Membership Secretary, David Hitchings, undertakes the duties of District Quartermaster. Gwen Cooley continued with many years of devoted service as the District Badge Secretary until her well earned recent retirement. Additionally, five members serve on the District Executive Committee and Sub-committees.

On the more practical side the Fellowship regularly maintains the District Scout HQ at Seal. This year the work has included fitting new handrails to the front steps and painting doors. Gradually some of the tasks are being shared with the 9<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks (Seal) Group, particularly for the back hall and grass cutting.

Coordinating the support of the members for general and special events is often quite a task for our Secretary, Pat Crawley. It included running the Cub Scout Swimming Gala at Combe Bank School in October, very early help with breakfast at the District Scout Hike in Knowle Park, County Skills Day, Cub model car racing, and significant help with the District St George's Day Parade and Service, etc.

As usual the Fellowship had a full programme of monthly meetings and outings throughout the year. Successful meetings included a visit to Maidstone Gang Show last April 2009, a talk by Tony Grogan on his trip to Nepal, a Beetle evening organised by Ray, and earlier this year a talk by Ken and Clare Fowler on their visit to Tanzania. The playing of hand bells has featured at the start of several evenings (more practice and less merriment may help the tunes to be recognised!). A second Craft Work evening with Rose at her studio was most interesting, and tested the painting skills of the members – thanks again Rose.

On a sunny day last October the Fellowship visited the Faversham Brewery in the morning and the Bogdale Orchards after a special lunch together, all organised thanks to David Hitchings. Early July was the annual BBQ, August was the Walk and Pub Lunch and September was the Wey and Arun Canal Trip with Skipper Kevin. Turning to the festive season the December 2009 Christmas Party was hosted by Kevin and Pat, for which we were most grateful for again making full use of their home. This was followed by the New Year Dinner at Four Elms in January this year.

We now look forward to the future in Active Support, but sometimes wonder what it is actually achieving, apart from more paperwork, changes of nomenclature and titles! and the expense of changing. We enjoy providing support to Scouting as much as we enjoy the monthly social events, and Sevenoaks Fellowship is possibly well placed to accommodate much of the new changes. The name 'Active Support' may be aimed at creating a new image to attract younger people, but the downside will probably be new badges and uniform parts, new bank account details and signatures, and new headed paper. We have a need to recruit and CRB clearance is certainly necessary and readily acceptable, but the new requirements for Adult Application Forms and Initial Training may not assist with attracting those willing to give limited time to supporting Scouting. The new management structure has yet to be tried and tested, and the new 'Service Agreement' should test their planning skills. It has been quoted that BP said Scouting is a Movement and this is certainly movement! He also said there is a danger of Scouting becoming an organisation; so is this increased organisation? Many people make quotes out of context to suit their needs, politicians do it, religious leaders do it, the Active Support planners at HQ did it with the Fellowship Review Report, and so why shouldn't I do it? Shakespeare said "a rose by any other name would smell just as sweet", I wonder about "the Fellowship by any other name"? With our members it must be just as sweet!

Finally, many thanks to all members of the District Scout Fellowship/Active Support for supporting Scouting and participating in the social programme throughout the year.

*- David Reburn, Chairman of Sevenoaks District Scout Fellowship*

## **APPOINTMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Appointments Committee have again been busy this year and have interviewed 23 new leaders this year for the various sections. We wish all these leaders well with their Scouting and look forward to seeing them achieve their wood badge.

5 leaders have been interviewed for change of appointments and 1 Leader with training requirements.

Several leader reviews have taken place to continue their current roles or move onto another role.

Including the appointments of adults the committee have been involved in the reconciliation of leadership disagreements and relevant cancellations of appointments.

4 members of the appointments committee have attended and validated module 37 for their role.

This Year brings with it the new Adult Application Forms which will include the relevant information for CRB clearance and registration on the Vetting and barring system. This will be up and running by July 2010.

*- Rose Mears, Chair Appointments Advisory Committee*

## **TRAINING REPORT**

Training continues to be delivered within the County and the take up by leaders in the District has increased this year. Feedback from leaders attending the modular courses are positive and the progression of differing programmes around the District who have attended these training modules is testament to the value of attending.

New Leaders coming into the movement are completing their 'Getting Started' training at a faster rate than previously with the access to online modules which makes this process quicker for leaders to achieve their full appointments.

Wood Beads this year have been achieved by Stevo Durbaba (ABSL 3<sup>rd</sup>), Caroline Durbaba (BSL 3<sup>rd</sup>), Scott Pullen (SL 3<sup>rd</sup>), Caroline O'Mahony (ABSL 4<sup>th</sup>), Richard Everest (CSL 4<sup>th</sup>) and Rose Mears (LTM).

Many leaders have attended modules for their training but have not taken the step to validate the module. Contact me to get these modules validated and take that step closer to achieving your wood beads.

*- Rose Mears, Acting Local Training Manager (Sevenoaks District)*

## **DISTRICT BADGE REPORT**

No Report -

The District Badge Secretary, Gwen Cooley, stands down at the District AGM in June 2010 and the District Executive, on behalf of Sevenoaks District, are grateful to Gwen for giving her free time to manage the role and supply of Badges for over 30 years. We are fully aware of the increasing number of badges and awards that everyone achieves every year and these may, by the sheer number, overwhelm one at times. Nevertheless, Gwen has done her best to keep up with all the orders and we are truly thankful for all the hard work this has entailed too.

*- Jeanette Schwarz, Acting District Badge Secretary*

## ***DISTRICT SCOUT SHOP***

During the accounting year that this report covers, the District Scout Shop maintained basic stock levels of uniform across all sections whilst passing trading profits in excess of £1,000 to the District Treasurer. It has been well supported by Leaders and most Groups – some utilizing their 10% discount to sustain Group funds – accordingly, most of their Group Treasurers are relatively prompt at settling these purchases too.

Sevenoaks Scout Shop has served the District for over 35 years and although it has seen several changes in location, management, purchasing methods and opening times, it continues to be dependant on Leaders in Groups informing parents of the shop address and opening times – Jubilee Rise, Seal, 10am to 12noon on the first, second and third Saturdays in the month except for school holidays and bank holiday weeks. During the year the Shop opening day and timings changed from Wednesday evenings to Saturday mornings; in addition to this, every Group now allocated a month, published in the monthly Newslink, in order to assist staffing the Shop with support from both Chris Mears and myself. The support from Groups during the latter period of 2009/10 has, on the whole, been relatively successful – thank you to those Groups who remembered your slot in the rota and supported us!

On a final note, anyone who may be able to spare a few hours to assist in the Shop or try their hand at managing this resource for the District are most welcome to drop by the Shop for a chat and refreshments - 'No experience necessary, training given' or so the advert goes...

*- Jeanette Schwarz, Acting Scout Shop Manager*

## **CAMP PERMITS**

All camping and residential experiences within the United Kingdom are subject to Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR 9.55 – 9.63); this includes all events where it is intended that young people will sleep overnight and arrangements are put in place for this purpose, i.e., sleepovers, camps, Pack Holidays and expeditions. A Leader or other adults leading a camp or residential experience involving young people under 18 years old must hold a valid Nights Away Permit and ensure the relevant notification is made.

For a Nights Away Permit the applicant must apply to the Nights Away Adviser and, on the recommendation of the Nights Away Adviser, the District Commissioner will issue the Nights Away Permit in accordance with POR (9.55-9.63). A Nights Away Permit has a maximum validity of 5 years and the renewal is separate to an Appointment Review. Therefore, a permit expires at its expiry date and the holder fully responsible for the renewal of their Permit. Furthermore, permits will expire automatically if they are not renewed and the candidate will need to reapply via the Nights Away Adviser.

Detailed below are current permits held in Sevenoaks District (*please note forthcoming renewal dates*)

<b>INDOOR</b>	<b>REF. No.</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> ISSUED</b>	<b>RENEWAL</b>
<u>Catherine Willson</u>	HQ.00231761	25 Apr 2005	25 Apr 2015
<u>Caroline Durbaba</u>	HQ.00287708	16 Jul 2008	16 Jul 2012
<u>Stevo Durbaba</u>	HQ.00287709	16 Jul 2008	16 Jul 2012
<b>CAMPSITE</b>	<b>REF. No.</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> ISSUED</b>	<b>RENEWAL</b>
<u>Lynn Rutherford</u>	HQ.00249279	01 Mar 2005	01 Mar 2015
<u>Alison Miller</u>	HQ.00245630	01 Mar 2005	01 Mar 2015
<u>Graham Still</u>	HQ.00109329	01 Mar 2005	01 Mar 2015
<u>(Joyce) Ann Bishop</u>	HQ.0035766	01 Apr 2005	01 Apr 2015
<u>Bernie Wright</u>	HQ.00221810	01 Apr 2005	01 Apr 2015
<u>Caroline Carey (O'Mahony)</u>	HQ.00158051	25 Apr 2005	25 Apr 2015
<u>Graham White</u>	HQ.00244290	01 May 2005	01 May 2015
<u>Ian Crothall</u>	HQ.00193264	01 Aug 2005	01 Aug 2015
<u>Julie Madden</u>	HQ.00224369	Aug 2005	28 Aug 2012
<u>Lotte Wynder</u>	HQ.00274182	Mar 2006	Mar 2013
<u>Robert Downard (Bertie)</u>	HQ.00071023	Mar 2006	Mar 2013
<u>Robin Mills</u>	HQ.00274183	Jun 2006	May 2013
<u>Duncan Harper</u>	HQ.00274823	Jul 2006	Jul 2013
<u>Alison Harper</u>	HQ.00274824	Sep 2006	Jul 2013
<u>Garry Norris</u>	HQ.00271541	Sep 2006	Sep 2013
<u>Scott Pullen</u>	HQ.00264137	Nov 2006	Nov 2013
<u>Elizabeth Sharp</u>	HQ.00249276	Jun 2007	Jun 2011
<u>Robin Mooney</u>	HQ.00045975	21 Jan 2008	21 Jan 2015
<u>Andy King</u>	HQ.00180778	03 Oct 2008	03 Oct 2012
<u>Mandy Barrow</u>	HQ.00026742	03 Oct 2008	03 Oct 2012
<u>Peter Haylock</u>	HQ.00073076	08 May 2009	08 May 2013
<b>GREENFIELD</b>	<b>REF. No.</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> ISSUED</b>	<b>RENEWAL</b>
<u>Rose Mears</u>	HQ.00181280	23 Feb 2004	23 Feb 2014
<u>Chris McCann</u>	HQ.00116433	16 Apr 2004	16 Apr 2014
<u>Andrew Taylor</u>	HQ.00181666	01 Apr 2004	01 Apr 2014
<u>Kate Shuttleworth</u>	HQ.00085518	Mar 2004	Mar 2012
<u>Hugh Field</u>	HQ.00214163	Mar 2004	Mar 2012
<u>Elizabeth Field</u>	HQ.00249274	Mar 2004	Mar 2012
<u>Anthony Hitchings</u>	HQ.00217144	01 May 2004	01 May 2010
<u>Ian Killner</u>	HQ.00109264	01 May 2004	01 May 2014
<u>Thomas Crittenden</u>	HQ.00061211	01 May 2004	01 May 2014
<u>Sheila Burgin</u>	HQ.00175316	01 May 2004	01 May 2014
<u>Chris Arnold</u>	HQ.00254469	01 Jun 2004	01 Jun 2014
<u>Chris Mears</u>	HQ.00123645	23 Feb 2005	23 Feb 2015
<u>Simon Corrigan</u>	HQ.00274190	30 Jun 2006	31 May 2014
<u>Nick Johnson</u>	HQ.00294216	03 Oct 2008	03 Oct 2012
<u>Lesley Grant</u>	HQ.00239752	30 Apr 2010	30 Apr 2015
<u>Peter Frankl</u>	HQ.00274979	30 Apr 2010	30 Apr 2015
<b>LIGHTWEIGHT EXPEDITIONS</b>	<b>REF. No.</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> ISSUED</b>	<b>RENEWAL</b>
<u>Nick Johnson</u>	HQ.00294216	03 Oct 2008	03 Oct 2012
<u>Simon Corrigan</u>	HQ.00274190	01 Jun 2009	31 May 2014



<b>ACTIVITY PERMIT HOLDERS (Kent):</b>			
<b>Prusiking Permit</b>	Sheila Burgin	Date Trained: 07.02.2009	
<b>Hill Walking (Summer) Permit</b>	Scott Pullen	Permit Expiry: 28.02.2014	T12; T21
<b>Climbing – Walls Permit</b>	Peter Frankl	Permit Expiry: 31.05.2012	C1; A1
<b>Climbing – Rocks Permit</b>	Peter Frankl	Permit Expiry: 31.05.2012	S1
<b>Archer Leader</b>	Johnathon Chang	Date gained: 16.11.2008	
	Jeanette Schwarz	Date gained: 14.02.2010	
<b>Canoe Permit</b>	Peter Frankl	Permit Expiry: 31.08.2014	L-B1; L-B2; Ngb Award 3*K, L2 K, Coach
<b>Kayak Permit</b>	Sheila Burgin	Permit Expiry: 31.05.2011	B2
	Christopher McCann	Permit Expiry: 31.05.2011	B2
	Hugh Field	Permit Expiry: 30.06.2011	B2t
	Peter Frankl	Permit Expiry: 31.08.2014	L-B1; L-B2; NgbAward 3*K, L2 K, Coach

Name	Groups	Districts	Counties	Beaver Scouts		Cub Scouts		Scouts		Venture Scouts		Explorer Scouts		Scout Network		YOUTH TOTAL		
				m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f			
Sevenoaks District	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	12	0	0	39	12	51
1st Sevenoaks (Hicks Own & Braeside)	1	0	0	47	3	45	1	44	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	136	6	142
3rd Sevenoaks (Riverhead & Dunton Green)	1	0	0	33	10	53	7	66	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	152	31	183
15th Sevenoaks (Otford)	1	0	0	0	0	32	5	23	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	9	64
12th Sevenoaks (Edenbridge)	1	0	0	22	1	21	2	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	5	54
10th Sevenoaks (Weald)	1	0	0	12	2	22	2	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	4	48
7th Sevenoaks (Halstead)	1	0	0	4	2	10	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	3	22
16th Sevenoaks (Ide Hill)	1	0	0	0	0	30	18	20	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	29	79
6th Sevenoaks (Kemsing)	1	0	0	22	0	25	3	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	5	62
4th Sevenoaks (St John's)	1	0	0	22	8	8	4	12	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	18	60
17th Sevenoaks (Westerham)	1	0	0	19	10	12	2	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	12	57
9th Sevenoaks (Seal)	1	0	0	11	8	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	18	39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>861</b>

Name	Leaders		Sec.Ass.		Scout F'ship		Other Adults		Scouters		Inst'rs/Advisors		Commissioners		Officers		Administrators		ADULT TOTAL			TOTAL		
	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f		m	f	
Sevenoaks	3	2	0	0	12	9	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	1	1	2	23	16	39	62	28	90
1st	9	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	6	15	145	12	157
3rd	12	10	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	12	25	165	43	208
15th	8	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	2	11	64	11	75
12th	5	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	10	55	9	64
10th	2	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	6	46	8	54
7th	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	20	4	24
16th	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	8	13	55	37	92
6th	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	8	62	8	70
4th	7	5	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	6	16	52	24	76
17th	2	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	9	47	19	66
9th	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	21	21	42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>1018</b>



