



Welcome to this our first edition of the new look North Circular put together by the new Media team and edited by Derek Chambers. We want this to be your newsletter and welcome any articles of interest for future publications. The County has 2 main means of communicating, this is one and the website will be the other. Keep a close eye on them both.

Have you checked out the County Website yet ??

Mark Darlow has spent months in a darkened padded room constructing the web site. He has made it user friendly (even I can navigate around it) and full of useful information. It is still being developed, but hey, have a little surf and see for yourselves what gems it contains. For instance, check out the International section. You would not believe the amount of International activities that are available to us all. From the Links tab, Campsites, water bases, District sites, activities etc are all accessible, so no more searching for addresses. You can even get a direct link to Scoutbase.



Basically everything you need to know about the County and Scouting generally is contained within the website. [www.gln-scouts.org.uk](http://www.gln-scouts.org.uk)

I suppose my 'Big News Item' is the fact that the County is currently advertising for a full time, employed Development Officer. The plan is to have somebody in place by May, ready for the influx of applications for membership from the centenary celebrations. Funding was finally put in place this February with Grants from various sources to enable us to fund this position for a minimum 3 years. Priorities will be set from District Commissioners development plans, with the emphasis on recruiting and retaining adult leaders.

This comes at a time when the County is showing signs of growth, with six of our Districts reporting increases on the 2007 census return.

Recently, the County has been reviewing District boundaries with a view to bringing them in line with Council boundaries. It has been decided to start with the Enfield Borough boundary and as a result, 5 groups from Edmonton will now join Enfield District. There will be NO change of group name, badges, scarves etc.; they will just be part of a larger Enfield District that can offer the Leaders better support.

May I add my personal congratulations to the ten Queen Scout Award recipients, who have worked so hard to gain one of the highest awards for scout members. Enjoy your day at Windsor and don't forget to curtsy in front of the Queen.

Barry Manley  
County Commissioner - GLN



March 07 - From the GLN communications team [www.gln-scouts.org.uk](http://www.gln-scouts.org.uk)

## London Assembly celebrates 100 years of Scouting and honours Southgate Scouts

Four top bravery awards were presented to members of the 3rd Southgate Scout Group when The London Assembly hosted a special reception at City Hall in the presence of His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent to mark one hundred years of the Scouting movement.

Scouts James Ault, Edward Moulder and Assistant Scout Leader Matt Scrase were awarded The Scout Association's Gilt Cross following a dramatic river rescue of two young males last summer. Group Scout Leader Roger Baker was awarded The Medal of Meritorious Conduct for the part he played. The awards were presented by HRH The Duke of Kent and The Chief Scout, Peter Duncan.



Inside City Hall, representatives from The Scout Association including Chief Scout Peter Duncan and all six London County Commissioners mingled with London Assembly Members and the Lord Lieutenant of Greater London at the event, which was held to recognise the Association's work with young people in the capital.

Brian Coleman, Chairman of the London Assembly said:

"This event was an opportunity to show our appreciation for the huge contribution Scouts make to London's voluntary and youth sectors.

"For one hundred years they have conducted extensive voluntary work, and provided education, skills and enjoyment to thousands of young Londoners, instilling in them values that will shape them throughout their lives."

Chief Scout Peter Duncan said:

"Scouting helps young people develop into future citizens through adventure, international friendship, and opportunities to change the world for good. I would like to thank the London Assembly for recognising the efforts of the thousands of volunteers who make this possible."

The Southgate District Commissioner, Chris Foster, who was also present said:

"These awards came as a complete surprise to these four people. We managed to keep the secret safe right up until the announcement. I was honoured to see all four being presented with their gallantry awards. They learnt their life saving skills through Scouting".



### DSP Open Days

HQTS Lord Amory, 631 Manchester Road,  
London E14 3NU

### Open Days in 2007

We will be holding 4 Open Days this year.

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April**  
**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June— fully booked**  
**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August**  
**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

The water activities will start at 1000hrs and finish at 1600hours. We will come off the water for 1 hour at lunchtime. (You need to bring packed lunches)

#### Activities:

Dinghy Sailing, Kayaking, Canadian Canoeing, Rowing,  
Motorboat trips, Air Rifle shooting.

#### Cost:

**£15-00 per head.** – Leaders who do not go afloat will not be charged.

Places need to be booked in advance, preferably by e-mail to [admin@lordamory.org](mailto:admin@lordamory.org).

For further details concerning Open days, Activity Weekends, RYA and BCU Courses please visit our website at:  
[www.lordamory.org](http://www.lordamory.org)

### Calling all Adults in Scouting.

Southgate District needs some help during this year's Centenary St George's Day event.

Southgate District is taking over Gilwell Activity Centre on Sunday 29th April 2007 for an adventure packed activity day. The aim is to give as many Young People as possible a meaningful and memorable day.

We are looking for adults to come along and take part in the fun by helping out in some way.

If you like the sound of spending a fantastic day with Young People, if you want to see Young People achieving, if you fancy being part of a mass renewal of The Promise, then contact Chris Foster, DC for Southgate, 020 8886 5992, or [chris.foster@scout.org.uk](mailto:chris.foster@scout.org.uk)

### Southern 50 results

In the 30k event the trophy winners were:

<b>WINNERS</b>	Team 63	
	Western Wanderers	5:17
<b>RUNNERS-UP</b>	Team 75	
	Get Boots, Wear Boots, Walk!	5:31

These team are both from Devon.  
The CCI team (Pheonix ESU came 16th in the 30k event.

This was the only finishing GLN team in the 30k. Well done to the Pheonix ESU

See report on page 9

### Like a Gang Show

Hinckley District (Leicestershire) is running a one night centenary Gang Show at the Hinckley Concordia Theatre in September and we are inviting any District Gang Show teams still running to join us for the performance.

If anyone is interested and would like further information please contact our Gang Show organiser

Mrs Elaine Rymscole, 01455 449507

### Comic Relief

March 16th saw two groups from Haringey District (8th and 9th Muswell Hill) hold a supper with race night and raise £437 in aid of Comic Relief

11th Islington from CCI did a hike to Gilwell Park in order to raise funds for comic relief

Well done to the above groups.



### Want to spend the 1st of August on the London Eye?

As part of the Sunrise Ceremony - 32 Scout Groups from the London Region will have the opportunity to remake their promises in Jubilee Gardens in the shadow of the London Eye and then have a free trip on the Eye itself.

All you need to do is ensure that your Group are there for 8am for the remaking of the Promise and then join the queue to get on. We anticipate lots of publicity from this event so please make sure your Group can definitely attend in uniform before trying to book places.

You will need to ensure that you have sufficient adults in attendance to control the Group whilst at the event. We suggest that you have a ratio of 4 adults for the 20 young members that each capsule will take. The places are offered to Groups on a first come basis. All you need to do is to e-mail Philip Andrews (one of the local DC's) and confirm how many places you would like. His e-mail address is philip.andrews7@ntlworld.com.

The free rides run from 8.30-9.30 - you could then take the opportunity to go on other sightseeing/tourist activities in the area, and publicise Scouting at them. Even if you do not get a place you may still want to attend the ceremony and then pay for a ride or go elsewhere.

And finally please remember that only Scouts from the Greater London Region can take part in this opportunity

If you do not fancy this then please contact your Local DC who will have details of what your District is doing for the Sunrise Event

### Maypole 2007

The Maypole returns on Saturday 12th May. For those that have not entered in previous years, The Maypole is a car navigation event in which teams earn points by successfully finding codeboards and checkpoints. Trophies are awarded to the top Explorer, Network, Novice, Female and Veteran teams. The event starts and finishes in Potters Bar and runs from early evening until the early hours of Sunday morning.

For further details visit [www.themaypole.org.uk](http://www.themaypole.org.uk)  
e-mail [info@themaypole.org.uk](mailto:info@themaypole.org.uk)  
phone 01707 661484.



### Thinking of others (and having a good time in the process - the way the GLN Jamboree know how)!

Having spent almost a year raising money for the Greater London North Jamboree Unit it was decided that as Scouts we should look outside our Unit and raise monies for someone else.

The organisation chosen to help was [Children with Leukaemia](#). This charity was chosen as one of the Unit members going to the Jamboree had the disease 12 years ago and was now able to lead a near normal life. The disease also has had an impact on one of the Unit Leaders.

The Unit set off to HMS Belfast to climb up and down the ship's ladders and walkways 26 times and to be sponsored in the process. After a safety briefing from one of the ship's staff and then a slow initial walk around the course the Unit was set.

After the 26 laps of the ship a quick adding up was done and it is estimated that over £500 was raised for the charity. Well done to all.



Hello Greater London North.

Welcome to the new format North Circular. I would like to introduce myself I am the Director of Communications for the county, my name is Mark Darlow and I am like most of you a front line scouter. I have been working hard to put a team in place to do the roles needed to make the communications in the county effective. As you will see we have appointed a new Editor for North Circular. His Name is Derek Chambers also a front line scouter. Derek has been working hard to give the newsletter a facelift and we hope you like the new format. If you have anything you would like to put in the newsletter we have a dedicated e-mail address to send this to which is [northcircular@gln-scouts.org.uk](mailto:northcircular@gln-scouts.org.uk). We particularly want to hear about awards and what the youngsters have been up to around the county. Please start sending in your articles (we do not promise to use every article as some may not be in the interest of everyone but we will advise you by e-mail of this)



We also have another member of the team, Mark Feakes who is the new county Media Development Manager. Mark has been doing a district media managers job for some time so has a lot of experience and has already had some success on some county stories. Mark wants to hear about anything that may be of interest to the papers. If you are in doubt send him the story and he will tell you if he thinks it will get in. He can be contacted on [cmdm@gln-scouts.org.uk](mailto:cmdm@gln-scouts.org.uk).

Lastly we are very happy to announce that the new county website will be online from the 1st April at [www.gln-scouts.org.uk](http://www.gln-scouts.org.uk) it is still being built and there will still be sections to complete and these will be done in due course or when the information comes in. Please be patient with us whilst we finish off the site, but if you have any ideas for improvement or that can be added please drop me a mail and we will see what we can do. Parts of the site like the activities database will need your input and we hope to build this as time goes by and we will have a great resource at our finger tips in the future. We also have a forum you can use via the website and James from Enfield Scout Band will moderate this for us. So please go on and leave your thoughts.

If you would like to have a chat about anything communications or fancy being part of the team attached to your own district, do please get in touch.

That's all for now

I look forward to meeting some of you in the near future

### Mark Darlow

Director Of Communications (ACC)  
Greater London North Scout County  
e. [acccomms@gln-scouts.org.uk](mailto:acccomms@gln-scouts.org.uk)  
w. <http://www.gln-scouts.org.uk>



## **WATER ACTIVITIES**

### **New Permit Scheme.**

On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2007 we all have to change to the new permit scheme for adventurous water activities. There are various fact sheets that explain including <http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/ps/activities/assessment/permit.htm> which states:

#### **Introduction**

This factsheet provides a guide to Applicants wishing to gain an adventurous activity permit. It should be read in conjunction with the factsheet FS120084 Scout Led Activities Index, and Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association. More detailed information on the scheme, for Approved Assessors, responsible commissioners, and for each activity can be found in separate factsheets.

#### **The Permit Scheme**

An adventurous activity permit allows you to lead that activity for young people within Scouting. It shows people in Scouting, the young people and their parents that you have the necessary skills and experience to be able to lead these important activities. Details of which activities are classed as adventurous can be found in POR.

The Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme is a national scheme, so when you have a permit it will allow you to lead the activity for young people from any District or County. Each permit can be tailored to the level that your skills, experience and requirements justify, meaning that restrictions may be placed on such matters as areas, venues or facilities. This ensures that you can lead activities at the right level.

#### **What Will Be Assessed?**

To gain a permit you will be assessed in four areas:

- 1 Technical Competence
- 2 Knowledge of Scout Association Rules for the activity
- 3 Child Protection
- 4 Personal Suitability

The last two will be checked by your responsible Commissioner (see FS120103 Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme - Commissioners' Guide),

Rule Knowledge will be checked by the responsible Commissioner or a County Assessor, and Technical Competence by an Approved Assessor (see FS120104 Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme – Approved Assessors).

During your Technical Competence assessment you will be assessed for your technical skills, knowledge and experience relevant to the activity. This is likely to be through a practical assessment, except where you hold an appropriate National Governing Body award or a renewing an identical permit, and you have recent on-going experience. This assessment is not supposed to trick you or catch you out. It is to assess your level of technical competence.

Full details of the syllabus you will be assessed against can be found in the appropriate Assessment Checklist. If you are unsure about anything to do with the assessment or how it will be run, please talk to your Approved Assessor beforehand.

If the Approved Assessor or responsible Commissioner recommends certain restrictions on your permit they should let you know why this is. They should also be able to tell you what further experience or skills you require to gain a permit with fewer restrictions.

You should be aware that an Approved Assessor may also fail some or all aspects of your assessment, or your responsible Commissioner may consider you unsuitable to lead adventurous activities.

## **Training And Support**

There is no compulsory training scheme that you need to complete before going forward for an assessment. The important aspect is being able to prove you have the skills during the assessment, not where you got them from. However there are a number of places that you can find training and support.

We would always recommend the training courses accredited by National Governing Bodies as some of the best places to learn skills. Alternatively there are a number of Scout Counties, Districts and teams that provide activity training and opportunities to gain experience in an open format. We hope to publish details of courses on the Activities pages of ScoutBase UK.

Also, being a member of a National Governing Body, or similar activity body, and keeping up to date with their publications, may also help maintain your understanding of standards and issues.

Each County also has a local support structure for Activities led by the ACC Activities. This is probably a useful person to contact initially who can then put you in contact with specialist County Activity Advisers or teams.

## **Using Your Permit**

Once you have gained your permit you can use it to run the activity it is for up to the level permitted by any restrictions placed on it. Please remember though that POR requires all activities to have the approval of the responsible Commissioner and that they are operated within the Rules of POR. Please also remember that although there is no requirement to hold a first aid qualification to gain an activity permit, and that your permit will remain valid whether you hold a first aid qualification or not, you are required to have a first aid holder present at every activity to the level laid down in POR.

## **Applying For A Permit**

To get a permit you should apply directly to an Approved Assessor. There are a number of ways that you can find an Approved Assessor, more details on which are detailed below. You can find an application form on the Activities pages of ScoutBase UK that can either be printed off and filled in, or filled in online to enable emailing. Although there is no requirement to get approval from anyone in applying for a permit, it is good practice to let your GSL and responsible Commissioner know of your intentions beforehand. They can often provide valuable guidance and support.

Once you have been assessed by the Approved Assessor, they will fill in a recommendation for the level of permit they believe your skills and experience are capable of fulfilling. This recommendation is not a permit on its own. You must take this recommendation to your responsible Commissioner who will deal with the other areas to be checked before granting you your permit. This should ensure that recommendations are not lost in the post leaving you waiting without a permit. When your permit is granted you will be given a permit card and your permit will be recorded on the Membership Services database.

## **How To Find An Approved Assessor**

There are three ways you can find an Approved Assessor:

1 In Your County – Counties appoint a number of County Assessors for the activities within the permit scheme. It might be that they run assessment courses, or they might deal with individual Applicants as they apply. Speak to your ACC Activities to find out whether your County has a County Assessor and how you can make contact with them.

2 From Another County – The Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme is a national scheme, so it makes no difference which County you are assessed by. We hope to publish open assessment courses on the Activities pages of ScoutBase UK. This can be a very positive way of being assessed as you can get to meet a number of other Approved Assessors and Applicants to share ideas with. Alternatively, if there are no applicable courses running, you may also be able to find contact details of County Assessors from other Counties on ScoutBase UK who might be able to arrange to meet up with you for your assessment.

3 External Assessors – If you cannot find a County Assessor to assess you, it is possible to use an External Assessor such as a commercial provider. To be an External Assessor they must hold the relevant National Governing Body Award for the activity as laid down in the factsheet FS120104 Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme – Approved Assessors.

Please remember when using an External Assessor that they are likely to have little or no knowledge of Scouting and the Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme. You will therefore need to make sure that you explain what is expected of them and supply them with copies of the applicable Activity Checklist and FS120102 Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme – Assessors' Guide.

You can continue to use your current authorisations until their expiry date. You can renew them under the current authorisation scheme until 1<sup>st</sup> September 2007. As from that date only Permits will be issued under the new scheme. You can apply for a Permit now if you wish under the new scheme.

Your County is fortunate to have a large number of assessors/advisers and of course 4 water activity centres. Any type of water activity is available to you from Paddlesports to Tall Ships Races. Do let us know how we can help you provide fun and adventure.

Best wishes

Mike Nadin  
ACC Water Activities  
February 2007



### Census across the County

The Census across the County in general are very encouraging and show there is still a great demand for scouting.

Southgate District Commissioner Chris Foster is absolutely delighted as his census shows an increase for the second year running. Chris Foster . said "More and more girls and boys are keen to join Scouting. It is important that we increase the number of adults in Scouting to cope with the demand. We have worked hard in the past year to recruit and retain twenty new adults who are now getting as much adventure, challenge and fun as the young people".

Haringey district show that the groups have either maintained their numbers or increased.

It has also been reported that HQ has received a record number of inquiries from young people wishing to join the movement in the Month of January and February and it is expected that this will continue

### GLN RAFT RACE Saturday 30th June 10.00 -16.00 To held at ESSA, Broxbourne

This is an invitation to all Scout groups in GLN to come and join us for a raft race. Bring your own barrels, paddles, rope and poles or hire our gear (need to book early if you want to use ours).

The morning is spent building the raft WITHOUT assistance from Leaders, then the rafts are judged. There is time for some lunch whilst Leaders are allowed to make sure the rafts are fit for the purpose, make some adjustments but not complete rebuilds. Teams are then put into heats and the races begin. There will be prizes for best built raft as well as the winners of the races. Please use the Group Application form on the Website diary page. Cost £5.00 per person. Minimum 4, max 6 to a team. Groups can enter more than 1 team.

See <http://www.essa.org.uk/> for details

**FOR ALL THE LATEST  
COUNTY NEWS  
LOG ONTO THE  
COUNTY WEBSITE AT  
[www.gln-scouts.org.uk](http://www.gln-scouts.org.uk)**

## Do you like adventurous activities? Come and help young people experience adventurous activities at the 21st World Scout Jamboree

The off site team extends a warm welcome to instructors and groups who enjoy providing adventurous activities to young people.

abseiling - bouldering - caving - climbing - grass sledging - high ropes - low ropes - mountain biking

open canoeing - dinghy sailing - raft building - pulling - bellboating - kayaking - aqua challenges

Be part of the Centenary World Scout Jamboree With its flexible time commitment options you'll get a valuable experience and the chance to be involved in the biggest ever World Scout Jamboree.

Join Now online - [www.thejamboree.org/ostapply](http://www.thejamboree.org/ostapply)

Get involved in the biggest ever UK youth activities event Volunteers of all ages over 16 and of all skills levels, be it experience, still in training or qualified, or can offer support to the site, all are welcome and you don't need to be a Scout or Guide member if you are over 18.

The ability to offer and provide activity equipment is also very welcomed. Opportunities available for all

Splash! Roles (<http://eng.thejamboree.org/takePart/adult/offsite/splashroles>); at Alton Water, Suffolk Gilwell Adventure Roles <<http://eng.thejamboree.org/takePart/adult/offsite/gilwelladventureroles/>>; at Gilwell Park, Chingford

Bring your friends or come on your own and be part of a new unique activity team

The off site team provides the unique opportunity to get involved as a group of friends or to come on your own. If you can volunteer two weeks the most useful period is Thurs 26th July to Wed 8th August.

### Packages

An exact fee is set by your time available to volunteer and with so many ways to get involved, here are some examples to help you.

### Building the event

(15th - 24th Jul) Splash! Full 17 Days (24 Jul - 9 Aug)  
Gilwell Adventure Full 18 Days (23 Jul - 9 Aug)

Free	£215	£245
	(Under 26)	(26 and over)

Why not get involved and Help Make It Happen.

online - [www.thejamboree.org/ostapply](http://www.thejamboree.org/ostapply)  
phone - Kimberly Harwood on 020 8498 5468

## Help With Recruitment of Adults

Are you like many groups and struggling with Adult support? Then help is at hand to recruit parents.

The No-Nonsense parent's Guide to scouting developed in association with St Ivel, are intended to help leaders with the recruitment of parents either as occasional helpers on a parent rota or Warranted Leaders. Why not purchase some and give them to parents of your new youth members and even to those that are old hands? The guide gives a brief history of Scouting, tells parents what scouting gives young people and then details ways in which parents can help and the benefits of doing so.

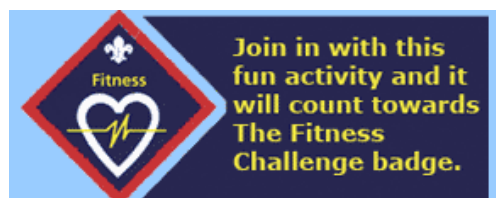
The guides, which can be purchased in packs of eight for £4, are accompanied with a Leaders guide CD. This contains tips and case studies of how to involve parents as well as forms and poster that you can put up in your HQ (or church hall)

The guides are proving to be very popular amongst leaders with around 800 a week being ordered thorough the Scout Information Centre. You can purchase the packs by calling 0845 300 1818 or ordering online at [www.scouts.org.uk/scoutbasee](http://www.scouts.org.uk/scoutbasee) and typing in the code PGUIDE

Don't forget the St Ivel competition which links into the Fitness Badges. There are ten lots of £125 for Colonies and Packs and £250 for troops up for grabs as well as £25 for the individual Beaver ad Cub and £50 for the Scout.

For details go to [omega3.co.uk](http://omega3.co.uk)

Natalie Tomlinson  
Head of Marketing  
020 8433 7233



## A Flyers Eye View of the Southern 50

Has it really come and gone again already - Another years Southern 50 hike ?!

After the glory of winning the 50k event last year it took us all of a minute or so to decide to enter again this year and see if we could defend the title.

Preparation was a serious thing of course, with three practice hikes in the months leading up to the event and lots of "tactical talks". One of our number going off to university and "embracing the student lifestyle" didn't help, although he did lay off the beer the week before! We also have the Flyers Creed to keep to:

- Checkpoints are our enemy
- Straight lines are our friends
- No sitting down
- Eat and drink on the move
- Pain is good for the soul
- Don't eat the sausage rolls!
- First in the pub, last out

Things didn't look that promising when we had to stop twice on the way up on the Friday night for one of the team to be violently sick, but Stephen said he would be fine and seemed to recover during the team meeting in the pub.

As usual the short / fitful sleep was all too soon ended with the glare of lights at "oh my God o'clock", then a healthy breakfast and kit check. The wait after this is always where the nerves kick in, then it's grid references and off into the gloom and, this year, the rain.

This year we started quite a long way down the list of teams and were able to enjoy some early morning team gobbling on the long slow climb up out of Watlington. With the steady rain and melting snow the conditions underfoot off road could be reasonably described as "soggy", with a number of footpaths resembling small rivers.

This made climbing the hills that much more fun, especially an extra steep one that had a mausoleum & church / checkpoint at the top, with Martin falling over near the top and nearly sliding back down again. The scenery in the Chilterns was even better with a topping of snow, and we had a number of Red kite sightings along the way. We also managed to get round Chequers without being arrested or shot!

After the early team gobblings we reached a patch where we knew there were 2 teams ahead and we didn't seem to be getting closer to them, things were starting to hurt and the mood was getting a bit darker. So Paul came out with his secret weapon, some home made bread pudding (I could tell you what was in it but would have to kill you - suffice to say nothing illegal!) and that did the trick. We were off again and came across our old rivals the Undertakers just after a checkpoint at a navigational decision point; we went different ways and didn't see them again till the end.

Then it was just team 23 in front, although we also knew that team 57 would be putting in a good effort and would be chasing us so had to keep pushing on. Martin was struggling with his hamstrings and cramp but kept on plugging away, with lots of encouragement from the rest of the team. Then we saw a team in front on a long slow climb, we went back into gobble mode and were soon away, the leading 50k team with about a third of the route to go.

Checkpoint strategy was maintained with our only stops being at two huts where we could plot grid references in the dry! The checkpoint staff were all wonderful, helpful and supportive as always - damn them - they will slow you down with offers of tea, toasted cheese sandwiches and pasties, but not for us - we have a plan and it doesn't involve comfort!

It was nice of checkpoint 13 (where our own Explorer Scout leader was based) to plant a little booby trap for the walkers - just as you came over the stile to enter the area where the tent was there happened to be a wet muddy area into which we all sank up to our shins - lovely ! We also thought checkpoint 14 was a bit much, hiding it in someone's back garden is a bit unfair - did the owners know about it - or were they out for the day?

Last checkpoint finally found and we were off on the late sprint, well by this stage fast hobble would be more accurate, to the finish. We arrived to have it confirmed that we were the first 50k team back in 9hrs and 37 mins, but then would be the long wait till the morning to see if we had done enough, or if a team behind us had been quicker.

We were very pleased that this year we also had a fledgling team of Explorers in the 30k event for the first time, team 65. Unfortunately they didn't have a lot of luck - one of them had to drop out the week before due to a chest infection and her last minute replacement twisted her ankle on the course. I believe they also broke part of the Flyers Creed and were seduced into spending far too long at some of the checkpoints ! But we were very proud of their determination to finish as a team and in the dark, with a final time of just over 12 hours. They weren't last and I am sure that they will have learnt a lot and will be much better placed for another go next year.

I'm ashamed to say that we also broke the Flyers Creed, as we weren't the first in the pub and certainly weren't the last out, but we had enough liquid painkiller to help us sleep! Then it was the morning after the slog before and the presentation ceremony. It came down to the last two 50K teams, and there was a huge feeling of relief and pride as they called out team 57 as the runners up. We had managed to defend our title and that was a great feeling, as distinct from the feeling of pain from our legs and feet, which wasn't so great! Oh, and Paul won the biggest blister competition this year, also for the second year running.

Finally we would like to say a very big thanks to all the organisers / helpers / checkpoint staff for this great event. Who knows, we may be back next year !?

Team 48  
The Phoenix Flyers

(Mark Thompson, Stephen Stretton, Martin Bugg, Paul Thompson  
201<sup>st</sup> Islington Scout Group)



Team 48— The Phoenix Flyers  
Winners of the 50 KM



Team 8 - The Late Finishers  
Winners of the 50 Miles

### Next Events Are:

Chiltern 20 - 13th October 2007  
Southern 50 - 16th February 2008

Are you up for a challenge?

## DISNEYLAND PARIS GETS INVADED

Disneyland Paris was invaded on the weekend of the 26 – 28 January by the 16<sup>th</sup> Wood Green Scout Troop.

It all started back in June when a member of the troop was reward the Jack Petchey award. It was discussed with Joss what he would like to do. Many ideas were thought of but Joss wanted to do something extra special. So we came up with the idea of taking the Scouts to Disneyland Paris. The leaders then had a meeting to discuss how this would be done. We then began the ball rolling and started fundraising to fund the trip. We run many events from a Quiz Supper to a sponsored Bike ride, and not forgetting our daring skydive. It was a tough 6 months. The trip was then here and it was time to pack our bags and head of to Paris.



The Friday night was a very long night for all as it was a nine hr journey to the Davey Crockett Ranch where we were staying. We eventually arrived at 2:45 in the morning. After very little sleep it was up for breakfast at 7:00am. We then boarded our coach for the short journey to the Disneyland Park. The Scouts (and leaders) were very excited. When arriving at the park on going through the entrance there were characters in the central area to greet the visitors.

The Scouts were so excited running from one character to the next getting autographs and photos. We then made our way along Main Street to see the Princess Castle.

The Scouts then split into two big groups and went wondering around the magical park. The Scouts went on many different rides from Space Mountain to the Big Thunder roller coaster. We then all meet for a very fulfilling lunch, where upon I could not help but notice their excitement about there day so far and it had been only half a day. It was then I thought to myself I've cracked it.

The Scouts then went back of in their groups to continue exploring the park chasing characters for autographs and going on the fun filled rides. At 4:00pm it was time for the Disney princess parade which was a very wonderful persuasion which was enjoyed by all. The cameras were constantly clicking taking lots of photos. After the parade the shops did not know what had hit them 20 kids losing their minds in a Disney shop, I will say no more about the adults.

It was then time to head back to the coach on the journey back to the Davey Crockett Ranch to get ready for the evening Centenary Campfire. The campfire was specially laid on for Scouts from all over England. It was a night filled with traditional campfire songs, live music, parading of the troop flag and funny sketches. The evening held a special surprise for the Scouts and the Big kids (leaders), we were lucky to be graced with a special visit from Pluto, Goofy and Fryer Tuck (Robin Hood). It was then off to bed for the tired Scouts who had a long exciting day.

Sunday morning begun with the packing up and clearing off the log cabins we were staying in. We then boarded the coach back to visit the Disneyland Studios.

When entering the studios the kids made a dash for Daisy who was standing by her Limo. It was the perfect chance for a troop photo with Daisy in the middle of all the Scouts. The rest of the day was filled with more fun rides and character hunting. The Scouts all went together on the amazing studio tour ride which had some good effects from various films. The day was flying by so fast we could not believe it. Upon leaving the park we saw Mickey Mouse standing by his caravan signing autographs. The Scouts and leaders waited to get there photo taken and books signed by Mickey.

### DISNEYLAND PARIS GETS INVADED

It was a great end to a Magical weekend. We then sadly had to depart the park and head home on the 9 hr journey back to London.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive BIG thank you to my Scouts who were exceptionally well behaved over what was a very intense weekend. I would like to say an even BIGGER thank you to my fellow Scout leaders who without their help this weekend would not have been the success it was. Last but by no means least a very Big thank you to the District Exec for all your support (you know who you are).

If you're planning a trip abroad I would strongly recommend using Venture abroad and would recommend this trip to anyone.

Derek Austin  
16<sup>th</sup> Wood Green Scout Troop



Unfortunately, we have run out of room in this edition but you can see the pictures from the Jack Petchey awards day at Holloway School in CCI District on the foundations website <http://www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk/photos/gln-scouts-25-02.07/>

We will run a report in the next edition with the names of the winners.

Greater London North Scout County is very grateful for the continued support of the Jack Petchey Foundation

### You might be taking Scouting too seriously if :

- You decide to lash together the new deck on the back of your house.
- You plan to serve foil meals at your next dinner party.
- You didn't mind losing power to your house for three days.
- You managed to find that 8th day in the week.
- You can start a fire by rubbing two sticks together.
- You gave your wife a mummy bag rated for -15 for Christmas.
- You bought 10,000 shares of Coleman stock on an inside tip they were about to release a microwave accessory for their camp stove line.
- You can't eat eggs anymore unless they are cooked in a zip-locked bag.
- You plan to get rich by writing a best selling Dutch Oven cook book.
- You took a chemistry course at the local college to help you develop a better fire starter.
- You actually own a left-handed smoke shifter.
- The sales operators at Millets call centre recognize your voice.
- The first choice you make for your holiday home is whether or not to storm lash it
- You can tie your shoe laces with a different type of bow for each day of the week
- You put a string fence around the barbecue in your garden
- You store your garden hose in a large turks head woggle
- Your wife tells you to wear your best clothes and you put on your uniform
- You only have one meaning for the word camp
- You take the ink blot test and can only see patrol badges
- You prefer the taste of coffee from a plastic mug
- Your best dinner plates are metal, chipped and made in Poland

Have a great scouting joke then why not submit it to the North Circular— [northcircular@gln-scouts.org.uk](mailto:northcircular@gln-scouts.org.uk)



### Awards

This section has been reserved for Awards. If you know of any awards in your District please send details to the editor so they can be included in the North Circular.



### Note from the editor

Hello, my name is Derek Chambers and like Mark and many of the others I am a front line scouter with the 9th Muswell Hill ([9thmuswellhill.org.uk](http://9thmuswellhill.org.uk)). I hope you like this fresh new format. I have also worked hard to keep the file size down as much as possible for downloading.

If you have any items you would like to added to future North Circulars then please feel free to email me and I will see what I can do .

I am able to accept RTF documents and photo in either GIF or JPEG

**The copy Deadline for the North Circular will be the 15th of each month** anything received after this date will be carried over to the next edition (subject to space)

Email: [northcircular@gln-scouts.org.uk](mailto:northcircular@gln-scouts.org.uk)



Some members of Southgate District who received the Gallantry awards

# Greater London North Jamboree Unit



The Haringey Jamboree Unit is holding  
a  
Prize Bingo Evening  
with Ploughman's Meal

on  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April  
Books on sale at 7.00pm Eyes down at 7.30pm

Price Including Meal are £7 for 3 sets books or  
£10 for 6 sets books  
also Raffle with some great prizes

## Venue

Scout Headquarters  
All Hallows Road / Church Road  
Bruce Grove  
Tottenham N17

Soft Drinks will be on sale  
if anything stronger needed then bring  
your own

All proceeds will go to Jamboree Fund  
Come and support this great event all welcome and  
bring your family & Friends.

Email: Beverley Beckett    [Bevlondon22@aol.com](mailto:Bevlondon22@aol.com)