

Greater London North Scout County – Development Conference 2012

Summary of feedback from workshops / presentations

General Comments

- Fairly business like, but not pretentious – well balanced
- session with Charlotte (RDS) was exceptional as she was able to advise me and sort out some worries / concerns
- Nice venue, well co-ordinated, snow a problem!
- Good venue, unfortunate weather conditions – hotel management should have gritted to roads last night!
- Good to hear other people and their points of view
- Already try idea quiet regarding leader recruitment. Do feel presentation a bit condescending.
- Fundraising is a big issue due to poor area. A good day, worthwhile – inspirational again. Gives the motivation to keep going. Any ways to help improve recruitment always appreciated
- Market place very good
- Good ideas about website and leaflets
- Market place not useful
- It was good to hear the results from the pre-conference survey. The food was good. Inviting section leaders to a similar event would help to get buy in (perhaps as a District event).
- Useful to have Wayne Bulpitt with overview.
- Very useful. As a new GSL would have been happy to hear more from experienced GSLs on how they do things
- Useful to have Wayne attend and be able to network with other leaders. 2012 projects look interesting. Would be perhaps useful to have a project for thoughts/options/aims over next 5/10 years
- I think we need to look at link with Scouting + Freemasons closely. There is a price to pay.
- Good facilities, friendly atmosphere.
- It always seems to clash with Barnet (+ others?) Swimming gala – can there be more co-ordination so that I can get a free dinner please?
- County update – website/training, 2012 projects all useful
- Very useful workshops, good to network with other Scouters
- Useful information
- Good lunch!

Adult Training

- Informative and helpful, well presented
- OK
- Good, clear content. Given materials to help my new leaders
- Useful info on where County training is going

Carrying Out Appointment Reviews and the Appointments Process

- Useful information – handouts not available. Lots of good advice
- Confirmed information already known
- Very good information although more AA forms would be nice. Well presented.

External Communications and Social Networking

- Interesting
- Very interesting presentation from Steve Way
- Limited by hotel network. Good advice given

Funds available from Gilwell

- Very useful – HQ website is a nightmare, but now I have the info I need to proceed
- This was very helpful and well presented – a little rushed due to the weather
- Very good – lots of info
- A lot of helpful info that was badly needed
- Good information and useful area to research. Presenter good
- A useful first introduction. ALL new GSLs should get this info as part of their induction
- Incredibly helpful checklist and application form – probably somewhere on a website but not at the forefront of my mind
- Wealth of info + funds available – need to delegate to treasurer / assistant

GiftAid

- Made something I thought was difficult seem easy
- Useful session – answered my queries – handout good

Good Governance (including Policies)

- Ironed out a few worries I had – useful advice
- Again, helpful info to create exec committee and gift aid
- Good
- Well explained, helpful handout
- Now understand the ideal model. Good
- Eye opener
- All a bit daunting to achieve, but realisation that others are in a worse plight!
- Learnt nothing
- Very knowledgeable

Growing your Scout Group

- Well presented
- Well presented, good handouts
- The workshop was useful, some useful ideas to work with. Presenter good.
- Very informative
- Good presenter, well presented. Content very useful.
- Excellent content, advising materials available to support the group

Health & Safety

- Comprehensive
- Well presented, but needed more handouts
- Useful, up-to-date info on risk assessments
- Wake up call!
- Very useful – really needed more time for such a wide-ranging topic

Involving Parents (including The Big Adventure)

- Some good ideas to promote the group
- Good
- Very good, excellent ideas
- Useful parent packs, photo boards etc
- A good, well thought through presentation session that will allow to train others
- Some good ideas + info about resources from RDS

Managing Membership Records

- Useful information RE: Online Scout Manager + data protection, thank you
- Useful introduction to web based group management
- At last! But slightly anxious about passing very personal information to someone in Southampton
- Interesting to learn about Online Scout Manager with handout. Would have liked confirmation of OSM/data protection
- Unofficial accreditation of Online Scout Manager

Safeguarding for GSLs

- Very sensible presentation – direct, understandable
- Informative, good discussion
- Quite interesting for general safeguarding, not specific enough to GSLs
- Held by the CC – very informative
- Very good reminder for myself to do the safeguarding course. Well presented.
- A bit rushed (weather problems) answered several questions

Scout Community Week

- Good
- Good handout. Excellent ideas from Russ. Now understand
- Giving a competent training and advised clear guidelines

Succession Planning

- Very good
- Useful information on succession planning, good discussion in group
- Quite good, but did not wave the magic wand!
- Well presented, good discussion

Thanking People (including the adult awards)

- Saying thank you – good ideas and advice
- Very good, very clear and good selection of options

Working with Young Leaders

- This was a quick run-through as time was limited
- Very good
- Rushed but informative. Highlighted anomalies. Need for YL training in District
- Useful information

Any other suggestions to improve Scouting in your Group / District / County

- Better inter-group linking, good groups acting as “mentors” for inexperienced groups, alternative training sessions as required by individuals e.g. managing bad behaviour.
- Programmes in aa Box would be helpful ongoing
- District – we need to get Explorers going effectively
- I know it’s difficult (or can be) to determine workshop topics but some appear to be quite mundane – although I don’t quite know what to suggest instead – although we are all looking for new leaders – maybe a longer session on how to approach parents etc.. Would like a general session on how to manage awkward Scouters who are too set in their ways etc and how to perhaps re-vitalise them.
- District – need for Explorer Unit / YL unit in SW County/Borough due to distance to travel for nearest Explorer Unit.