



# Alderley District Information Bulletin

March 2010

## Alderley First!

Hello everybody! It was good to see many of you at the Forum last week. For those of you who weren't there, I'll repeat a few of my opening remarks.

I am a Scout. I have been a Scout since I was eight years old and passionately believe in the value of Scouting to young people as, I am sure you do! I accepted the challenge of being your District Commissioner as I see a unique opportunity to reshape Alderley District for the next Century. This is our 98<sup>th</sup> year and in two years we will be celebrating our first one hundred years. What an opportunity to stand back, celebrate our successes and build a new District! And that's what we are going to do, starting from first principles.

We don't have a burning platform. We don't need to change anything urgently. We have strong Groups who are delivering excellent Scouting. Now we need to build a District that supports and helps the Groups without distracting from your / their success.

When I was interviewed by Graham Phillips, our new County Commissioner, he made one thing clear to me. There are no District changes or mergers planned. Alderley is Alderley. No Groups are going to move in or out of the District. We are grateful for Martin and the Knutsford Team for helping and supporting us when we were in need. We will continue to work with them as well as other Districts because it makes sense, it's great to see how other people tackle similar problems and it's enjoyable.

But we are Alderley and we are proud to be Alderley Scout District. *Alderley First!\**

So when do we start? Well, we will be holding a District Development Day sometime in the next couple of months. All leaders will be welcome. We need to do some talking and some thinking but we also need to have some fun! Scouting is our hobby and when it stops being enjoyable then that's the time to take up something else. And that reminds me of a quote I heard earlier this week.....

“If you see someone who doesn't have a smile on their face, give them one of yours!”

Enjoy your Scouting and Smile!

“The DC”

\*Whenever I go to a County Event, Districts are always called alphabetically, hence the cry “Alderley First!” and I think it's a good slogan for now!

## District Website

Paul from Alderley Edge reminded me this week how important having a presence on the web is when he passed me an enquiry from a potential new leader. I know some Groups have websites which is great but we need to have a District website. For a website to be appealing it needs photos of young people doing Scouting activities and enjoying themselves. **So have a look on your computer and pick out your best couple of photos and email them to me. Do it now whilst you remember!** (Parents – photos of your own children are quite acceptable ☺ )

Steve Buckley  
District Commissioner

[stephen.p.buckley@cheshirescouts.org.uk](mailto:stephen.p.buckley@cheshirescouts.org.uk)



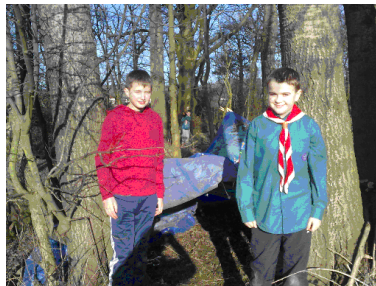
## Frosties 2010

Well the temperature over night dropped to Minus 3. All scouts were under their bivis made from plastic, branches, wood and a couple of traditional ones covered in leaves.

The day kicked off well with all 72 of us from 6 Groups, arriving by 2pm and pitching camps amongst the coppices at Linnet Clough. Bivis were constructed by 5pm. At flag break each group was asked to nominate a Scout to be a Judge for the Event. So off the 6 Scouts went to judge the Bivis. The Army Ration packs were handed out, swopped around and then cooked. We kicked off the night with a Sandan race, Group was raced against Group with Holmes Chapel being the winners, and we then carried the night on with a mixture of wide games.

Sunday morning was a cold start with ice and frost on the ground. Each Group was asked to build a gateway and an outdoor shower. 1<sup>st</sup> Wilmslow was judge the gateway winners, with 5<sup>th</sup> Wilmslow winning the best outdoor shower, which was demonstrated by Harry, see the picture, remember the temperature was minus 2! The bivis were judged with the overall winner, with their traditional leaf covered bivi, 1<sup>st</sup> Chelford.

When the points were added up for the whole event there could only be 1 winner of the Woodford Park Frosties Cup..... That went to 1<sup>st</sup> Wilmslow Scout Group.



1<sup>st</sup> Wilmslow Scout Group receives the Trophy from event leader Mark Toombs.

Mark Toombs, SL  
4<sup>th</sup> Wilmslow

## Survival Skills Badge

Testing session for this badge will take place at Tidnock Wood on Saturday + Sunday 25+26 September 2010.

Leaders should do the training for this badge during their meetings in September and use the weekend as the testing session.

Coordinator: Ian Ross [ian.iross@btinternet.com](mailto:ian.iross@btinternet.com)



On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2010 the District Beaver Challenge took place at Wilmslow URC Church. The Colonies that took part were 1<sup>st</sup> Chelford, 1<sup>st</sup> Handforth, 1<sup>st</sup> Holmes Chapel (Monday's and Tuesday's), 4<sup>th</sup> Wilmslow and 6<sup>th</sup> Wilmslow.

They took on many challenges including a picture puzzle, Kim's game, name the flags of the world, target game, slate the rat, roll a six, jigsaw and a word search.

All the Beavers that took part were well behaved and took on the challenge in true Scouting fashion. It was a very close score with 4<sup>th</sup> Wilmslow just coming through on top.

**Congratulations 4<sup>th</sup> Wilmslow.**

I would like to say a big well done to 1<sup>st</sup> Handforth. They did really well as they had only been open for 4 weeks.

A huge thank you to all the Leaders that helped.



The winners with their trophy

Jackie Toombs  
District Beaver Scout Leader

## 1<sup>st</sup> Handforth Beavers

1st Handforth Beavers has now reopened and the numbers have been rising steadily each week.

It has been a great half term and we are all having lots of fun. We started with 6 Beavers on our first night and now have 14 and more waiting to join when they are old enough.

We have 3 Leaders (including myself). Any Explorers or Young Leaders who would like to come along to join our team would be very welcome. Mondays 6-7.15pm Contact Deborah Robson 07724 067 053

Picture attached is our first Investiture the 2nd week - the boys could not wait!  
P.S. the Orangutan is Rusty!



Deborah Robson, BSL  
1<sup>st</sup> Handforth



I will be pleased to assist anyone who has training needing validating or who needs to discuss their training – just get in touch via ‘phone or email.

Courses: Details of courses available are attached. If you book to attend a course please let me know.

First Aid: The next course will be on 18<sup>th</sup> April in Alderley Edge.  
Please contact me to book a place.

Wendy Macdonald, LTM  
Tel: 01477 533718  
[wendy\\_s\\_macdonald@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wendy_s_macdonald@yahoo.co.uk)

### District Forum

A Big Thank You to all who attended the Forum.

Hope you found it useful.

Derek Wiles  
District Chairman

## Cheshire Network Plus

The latest issue of Cheshire Network Plus is now out. In this issue you'll find a poster that can be printed and pinned up in Scout Huts to help further the growth of Scout Network in our County, updates from all Local Networks and much more.

**Download** <http://www.cheshirenetwork.org.uk/CNPlus/CN-Plus-Issue2.pdf>

(Link also available on [www.cheshire-scouts.org.uk](http://www.cheshire-scouts.org.uk))

### Diary Dates

6 <sup>th</sup> March	5.40pm	Swimming Badge Testing
Saturday	6.20pm	Wilmslow Leisure Centre
	7.00pm	Contact: Ian Ross <a href="mailto:ian.iross@btinternet.com">ian.iross@btinternet.com</a>
7 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am to 12pm	Nights Away Workshop
Sunday		5 <sup>th</sup> Knutsford HQ
20 <sup>th</sup> March		County Beaver Challenge
Saturday		Dee Sea Scouts, Neston
10 <sup>th</sup> /11 <sup>th</sup> April		Cheshire Hike
Saturday/Sunday		
17 <sup>th</sup> April		Camelot – Beavers & Cubs
Saturday		
18 <sup>th</sup> April		First Aid Training
Sunday		Alderley Edge
		Contact: Wendy MacDonald <a href="mailto:wendy_s_macdonald@yahoo.co.uk">wendy_s_macdonald@yahoo.co.uk</a>
25 <sup>th</sup> April		St George's Day Parade
Sunday		
12 <sup>th</sup> May	7.30 pm	Band AGM
Wednesday		
14 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> May		Nights Away Training
Friday – Sunday		Tatton Park Scout Campsite
15 <sup>th</sup> May		Beaver Water Fun Day
Saturday		Chelford Scout Hut
18 <sup>th</sup> May	6.45 pm	6 <sup>th</sup> Wilmslow Scout Group AGM
Tuesday		
19 <sup>th</sup> May		District AGM
Wednesday		
13 <sup>th</sup> June		County Scout Sunday
Sunday		Chester
15th June		County AGM
Tuesday		Wilmslow High School
31st July to 7th		Chamboree
August		Tabley, Knutsford
18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> September		Nights Away Training (Indoors)
Saturday/Sunday		Beeston Outdoor Centre
25 <sup>th</sup> /26 <sup>th</sup> September		Survival Skills Badge
Saturday/Sunday		Tidnock Wood
		Coordinator: Ian Ross <a href="mailto:ian.iross@btinternet.com">ian.iross@btinternet.com</a>
21 <sup>st</sup> November		Chief Scout's Gold Award Presentations
Sunday		
<b>2011</b>		
27th July to 7th		22nd World Scout Jamboree
August		Kristianstad, Sweden