

Scouting

APRIL 2015

SOUTH EAST SCOTLAND REGION SCOUTS

scouts
be prepared . . .
sesscouts.org.uk

2015 CENSUS

Thank you to all of you who completed the 2015 census during February and March.

It is very pleasing that for the 8th year in a row we have seen growth in the Region and our total membership across South east Region is now over 8000 members.

This year we grew by another 365 (4.7%) , one of the largest growth percentages for a Region or County in the UK and our youth membership went up in all sections (except Network) by 345.

Pentland and Craigmmond Districts increased by over 11% and there were good signs of growth in a number of other Districts including again a growth of over 10% in East Lothian.

GANG SHOW

AUDITIONS

Please see the attachment to this newsletter which gives details of the audition process for this year's Show. Please pass this on to young people you know through Scouting and encourage their involvement.

MARCH MADNESS

This event was held over the weekend of 28th – 29th March at Bonaly and nearly 80 Explorer

Scouts (supported by over 20 leaders) from across the Region took part in 24 hours of activity as well as contributing to a forum discussing issues relating to the section and Scouting in its widest context. Thanks are due to funding through 'Youth in the Lead' Fund at SHQ which contributed towards the costs of the event.

WANT TO SEE A GREAT SHOW AND HELP SCOUTING AT THE SAME TIME?

Adult Recruitment at the National Museum of Flight Airshow: 25th July 2015

The National Museum of Flight has once again invited the Scout Association to be present at their Airshow this year on Saturday 25th July. We are planning on using this opportunity to promote Scouting and hopefully gain some new adult volunteers! We'll be taking the SHQ Mobile Display Trailer and have some activities for young people to try out. We are now looking to gather a team of people who could give some time to man the display alongside Scott Burton, our Local Development Officer. There will also be the opportunity to see the flying display for free for those that get involved! Spaces are limited, so sign up fast.

Email development@sesscouts.org.uk to register your availability.

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CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 17th May 2015

www.sesscouts.org.uk

CUB SCOUT LEADERS

It is early notice but adults who have been leaders in the Cub Section will receive an invitation to an afternoon of celebration on **Saturday 4th June 2016** at Penicuik House. A small planning team will be set up shortly but meanwhile please keep the date free.

ST GEORGES DAY AWARDS

A number of leaders and adult supporters from across the Region have had their very distinguished service recognised in this year's Awards. Collectively the service they have given and continue to give is immeasurable. Congratulations to the very worthy award recipients and to all those who have contributed to them receiving the award.

Silver Wolf

Isabel McNab,
Regional Commissioner

Bar to the Silver Acorn

Hugh Bain,
District Chairman, Borders

Hamish Leal,
Group Chairman, 31st Pentland (Juniper Green) and ASU Member

Robin Salvesen,
Regional President

Alan Willoughby,
Regional Manager

Silver Acorn

Brian Donoghue,
Assistant District
Commissioner Adult
Training, Craigmmond and
ASU Member

Michael Grainger,
Assistant Scout Leader, 3rd
Portobello (St James Church),
Edinburgh North & ASU Member

Mark Hesketh,
District ASU Member,
Craigmmond, Regional
Executive Member

Eric Nicol,
District Explorer Scout
Commissioner, Borders

Diane Ross,
Assistant District Commissioner
(General Duties) & ASU
Member, Craigmmond

Robert Whitelaw,
Group Scout Leader, 101st
Edinburgh North East (St
Margaret's Restalrig),
Assistant District
Commissioner, Edinburgh
North East

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

Once again Bonaly is collecting these vouchers which can be used to enhance the equipment available at the site. Please send any vouchers you may get to Bonaly so they can redeem them for sporting and other equipment

DO YOU WANT HELP WITH DEVELOPMENT OF YOUR SCOUT GROUP?

**Individual development
planning workshops now
available**

We are offering Groups the opportunity to have individually tailored workshops with the Local Development Officer. Each workshop would last about 2.5 hours and enable you to have a clear plan about how you will develop your Scout Group. Evening and weekend times are available. To find out more, or book a workshop for your Group, please contact Scott on development@sesscouts.org.uk or via the Regional Office

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACHIEVEMENTS

This year we will again, at Regional level, celebrate the achievements of those in the Explorer Scout and Scout Network section who have gained the highest level awards by holding an Achievement Event in June.

To ensure that all who are eligible are invited to attend please send details of those who have gained

any or all of these awards:- Explorer Belt, Young Leader Belt, Duke of Edinburgh Award (any level), Platinum and Diamond Chief Scouts Awards.

Please send these names and addresses to the Regional Scout Centre, 15 Valleyfield St, Edinburgh EH3 9LP or email the Regional Secretary at regionalsecretary@sesscouts.org.uk

STAFFING

Welcome to Kirsty-Ann Slater who has been appointed as the Regional operations Controller and will be based at Bonaly. She can be contacted

kirstyannslater@sesscouts.org.uk

Or on 0131 441 1878

UPCOMING EVENTS

#Scotshape an event for young people in Scottish Scouting is being held in Perth on May 2nd.

Details from

youthinvolvement@scouts.scot

Roverway – details on the UK Scout website

www.scouts.org.uk

Zonal Qualifiers for the Scout Camping competition – details have been sent to DCs and ADC Scouts. Who will represent your district in the zonal qualifiers for the Scottish Scout camping Competition? It will be held at Auchengillan and Templers Park on 20th 21st June (the final will be at Meggernie in September).

Opportunities for 18 – 30 year olds

Look out for a series of interesting and unusual opportunities which will be communicated to those aged 18 – 30 towards the end of April. It could be a chance for you to do something different and valued in Scouting, Service with a new twist.....keep your eyes on your in box

Congratulations to Liz Wilson,

District Commissioner in East Lothian, for winning a Lifetime Achievement Award at YouthLink Scotland's Youth Worker of the Year Awards 2015.

Isabel McNab, the Regional Commissioner, nominated Liz under the Uniformed Youth Worker of the Year category, but the panel of judges were so impressed by Liz's work and dedication to Scouting that they decided she deserved even greater recognition, and awarded her a Lifetime Achievement Award.

On making the nomination, Isabel said:

"Liz Wilson has been committed to Scouting since her own youth. She came along to do the service as part of her Duke of Edinburgh's award and just never left!

"In 2008 Liz undertook her current role as District Commissioner and has built a happy, successful team of Leaders; ensured the District provides a programme of supportive activities for young people; and that the underpinning business aspects of the District are well founded.

"Scouting in East Lothian is fun, exciting and adventurous under the leadership of Liz.

"Liz is an inspirational, down to earth Leader who has given her life to ensuring that young people enjoy Scouting to the full. She has made a real difference to thousands of young people's lives. One of her young nominees commented that 'even when we move on we are still important to her and she is interested in all that we do.'

"It is a privilege and a very great pleasure to share Scouting with Liz."

SHQ enews asked Liz how she felt about being given the award and what she loves about Scouting:

"I have to say I was incredibly honoured and a bit unbelieving to hear the news from Isabel that I'd won. I also became quite

emotional; why me, when there are hundreds of people I know personally in Scouting who do exactly the same?

"I have made many great friends through Scouting over the years from all walks of life. Their dedication and huge commitment to the young people in their charge is quite humbling. It's also fantastic to see the development of young people who have come through Scouting as really well rounded and inspiring members of society with much to offer their community.

"I have had so many incredible moments in Scouting, but I think my favourites are the small ones - when a Cub comes up to thank me; or seeing a young person achieving something he/she thought they couldn't do."

As Liz was unable to attend the awards ceremony, her son, Bruce, had the privilege of accepting the award on her behalf, which he said he was extremely proud to do.

Huge congratulations to Liz – such an incredible achievement! Make sure you watch this space to find out when nominations open for next year's awards



BIG NATURE FESTIVAL 2015

Scotland's BIG nature festival is back 23-24 May, Levenhall Links, Musselburgh! There's loads to keep wildlife lovers and families entertained all weekend. This award-winning festival has gone from strength to strength - boasting a packed programme covering everything from specialist wildlife talks, walks and demos, to

loads children's activities like story telling, puppet shows, bug bioblitz, pond dipping, willow weaving and loads more ways to give your intrepid wildlife explorers a really wild day out!

This year RSPB has teamed up with East Lothian Council and have a fantastic new venue, renown for its open spaces and wildlife, overlooking the Firth of Forth and part of the John Muir Way. Over 100 exhibitors offer something for everybody, from the latest wildlife technology, fantastic science, art, books, and much more.

Visitors can enjoy great locally sourced artisan food and drink, and a farmers market in association with Scotland Year of Food and Drink, and live entertainment. For more information or to buy tickets please visit www.bignaturefestival.org.uk (adults £12 Children £2- under 5's free).

NEW TEAM TO SUPPORT GROWTH OF SCOUTING AFTER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The current Development Project finishes at the end of August 2015 and we are exploring how we will continue to support the development of Scouting beyond that point.

One avenue is the launch of a new Active Support Unit called "The Local Growth Support Team". This will be made up of small teams of 3-5 individuals who work to start up 2 sections per academic year within the Region. The more small teams we have, the more sections can be started. We are in the pilot process for this model.

We have already identified one "Team Leader" for our first small team and are now looking for "Team Members" to work alongside her. These are people who would give occasional help during the start-up of a new section, for example, helping to deliver a "taster evening" or help during the start-up phase of a new section. This might involve a 2 hour commitment on an infrequent basis, with the

possibility of a 6-8 week block of regular involvement once or twice a year.

We are also looking for someone to take on a "Co-ordinator" role for the Local Growth Support Team. This individual would co-ordinate the Team Leaders of the small teams and liaise with DCs and Regional volunteers about new opportunities. This person would need to have good management skills/experience and give about 1-2 hours per week to the role.

For all roles, training and support would be given by the Local Development Officer prior to the Development Project finishing.

If you would be interested in finding out more about being the Team Member or Co-ordinator roles, or would like to be considered for them, please contact Scott Burton on development@sesscouts.org.uk

arrival for those that need it. More weeks may be added depending on demand.

Activities are run by our skilled instructors and will be based around the group's age, ability and interests. We run a large number of activities at Bonaly, but typically participants will participate in, rock climbing, high ropes, archery, orienteering and bushcrafts. The programme is very student centred and we are looking to take a flexible approach, with the focus being about acquiring new experiences and skills in an outdoor setting. As long as the Scottish weather plays ball!

Prices are £30 per day with a 10% discount for a full week. This will cover all activities and a snack, but not lunch.

Multiple day participants will benefit greatly from being able to take a progressive approach to their activities and we would highly recommend having them come along for a full week. If you would like more information regarding the holiday programme contact us at: activities@bonaly.org.uk with your email address so we can send you out further details and enrolment package.



HIGH ROPES

There are spaces on the Bonaly High Ropes Instructor training course on Saturday 23rd May, please contact activities@bonaly.org.uk if you are interested or have previously expressed an interest but did not receive notification of the training date.

BONALY HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Holidays means young scouts with free time! We've got just the ticket at Bonaly Outdoor Centre. Our summer programmes have been designed for youngsters looking to spend their time doing what they do best: enjoying the outdoors.

We are currently in the process of finalising a programme for youngsters, including non-scouts, aged 6-14 who are looking to spend some of their holidays in the outdoors. The programme will be available during weekend days on the week of the 27th July and the 3rd August and run from 9-5 with an option of a late pick up and early