



Scouting East



The Journal of East Belfast Scouting

No. 234

OCTOBER 2002

From the Editor



Many thanks to Stephen for his report on 73rd Troop's camp in County Wicklow; at a time when the number of Troops holding an annual summer camp seems to be in decline, it's great to see that at least some of East's Scouts had the opportunity to be under canvas this summer. Unfortunately, I had to draft the October issue before many of you had received your copy of September's Scouting East so I would appeal once more to any other Groups and Sections that it is still not too late to send in news of the various camps and activities that your members took part in during the summer. I'd especially ask you to encourage our younger members in the Colonies, Packs and Troops to send in copy for Scouting East and am waiting eagerly to see which of the new Explorer Units will be the first to feature in our District Magazine?

All of our Beaver, Cub and Scout Sections should now finally have started back again after the summer break, and plans are well underway for the new Explorer and Network Sections. Let's try to get behind the District Team and make this a year when we enthusiastically embrace all of the challenges and changes associated with implementing the new programme. 30th have already been getting to grips with some of the new activity badges including the Air and Water Activities Badges, and I've been busy trawling through my records and dusting down my abacus trying to establish which Cub is entitled to which stage of the Nights Away Badge! I'd encourage the Leaders of all of our Packs to discuss the letter sent out during the summer by our ADCs, John and Suzi, with our Cubs and let's see if we can have a go this year at revamping some of our District competitions and coming up with a few new ones as well. Have YOU sent your reply back yet?

Best wishes for the future from us all to *Mr and Mrs Stronge* (ACSLs) 10th Belfast, as they return from honeymoon! Thanks for letting your friends in East share your special day- it was great to see the 10th Pack out in force at the Church, and armed with an ample supply of confetti, and also to catch up with some old friends, Andrew Totten and Dougie Black, former Leaders with 10th, and Karen Shearer, former Akela at 111th, afterwards at the reception. It's very good news indeed to learn too that Pat Gordon is continuing to make steady progress after her recent illness and we want to assure Pat that we are all thinking about her and hope to have her back with us soon. Perhaps some of the other BSLs in East might consider lifting the 'phone and offering Pat's assistants in 9th some help with the Colony or even arrange a joint programme night in her absence? Keep in touch,

David



From the District Commissioner

I hope that all Groups and Sections are now up and fully running after the summer break and have scheduled their year's activities to include all of the District events put together for the year. I apologise for the "hurried" copy of the District Year Planner sent in September but all should now have received a "revamped" copy.

My very best wishes for a speedy recovery to 9th BSL Pat Gordon. We look forward to having Pat back into the District after her illness. My very best wishes also on behalf of East to our own Deirdre Kissock as she starts her new position as Belfast County Development Officer. I have already met with Deirdre and know that she will do a very thorough job in her new position.

At a recent District Team meeting our new Explorer Commissioner, Ian McLachlan, gave a report on the movement in establishing the new section in East and I am delighted at the progress which has been made. We wish to date the new Units at Stormont, Gilnahirk, Belmont and Strandtown very best wishes for the future and look forward to welcoming Units at Knock and Dundonald in the future. The Explorers at District level have a number of events planned and we hope that all Explorers and their Units will take part in these activities with enthusiasm. If your Group is unsure what to do about Explorer Scouting in the District please contact Ian or myself. The new District Explorer Administrator is Trevor Dunbar (dad of Angela CSL 33rd) and the District will get the opportunity to meet and get to know Trevor throughout the year. We welcome Trevor to this new position and wish him the very best as he works alongside Ian in establishing Explorers in East District.

Our District PR, Alex Henry, is keen to build on last years PR successes and I would appeal to all Leaders and their Groups to send information to Alex on activities as we try to "up" our image in East.

The District will hold three Scouters' meetings during the year (see year-planner) and I hope these will be well attended by all East Scouters and helpers. I would particularly encourage young and new Leaders to attend. Please ensure that new or non-warranted helpers who may not as yet be on the H.Q mailing list are informed of the dates and encouraged to get involved with all aspects of the District.

Alan and I have set a number of District objectives for the year (enclosed in this issue) and I would encourage ALL in East to help the District Team, the Deputy DC and I to meet these objectives this year.

Paula Bryson (County Change Manager) will be running meetings to help implement the new programme. These are for all Sections and it would be worth -while sending representatives from your Section to these. Why not arrange to send a young Assistant Leader or Helper or even a Patrol Leader or an Explorer who may be helping with your Section along and listen to what might be a help to the Section or Group. The evenings are all to be held at Ardnalvalley on:

23rd October and 19th November

I hope to make an appointment during the year of a "Recruitment Team' Leader who will carry on the work that Alan has started and will work with Alex in all aspects of recruitment of Adult Leaders and helpers and members of all ages within the District. To start this I am issuing a challenge to ALL Groups in the District to increase their total census figure from last year by 10. I have detailed out the total figures from last year below and would ask that EVERY Group in East looks closely at this and makes every effort to meet this challenge. Why not as a Group organise a "recruiting" drive within your area, or produce posters or leaflets advertising your Sections in the nearest Library or other public area? If we can successfully achieve this along with work done at District level we may well meet or surpass the "challenge"

Group Census Totals 2001-2002	
3 rd Belfast	33
4 th Belfast	55
7 th Belfast	78
9 th Belfast	38
10 th Belfast	90
24 th Belfast	54
27 th Belfast	70
28 th Belfast	20
30 th Belfast	98
33 rd Belfast	103
73 rd Belfast	33
99 th Belfast	110

I hope that all Groups will meet this challenge. Have a good month and I hope to see as many of you as possible as we start the new Scout year

Ian



The East District Fellowship invite all
Scouters in East to join with them in

“A Mourne Ramble”

on Sunday 6th October
meeting at Donard Park car Park at 11.00am.

A packed lunch should be brought

Further details are available from Roy Lamont and George Jackson, or any Fellowship Member.



East Belfast District Scout Council

DISTRICT OBJECTIVES 2002-2003

1. FINALISE AND ESTABLISH WITHIN THE DISTRICT.
 - A. THE NEW UNIFORM CHANGE
 - B. SET-UP OF EXPLORER SECTION
 - C. SET-UP OF NETWORK SECTION
 - D. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PROGRAMME IN ALL SECTIONS

2. THE SETTING UP OF A "RECRUITMENT" TEAM WITHIN THE DISTRICT TO WORK ALONGSIDE PR AND ADULT RECRUITMENT FOR RECRUITING ADULT LEADERS AND MEMBERS FOR ALL SECTIONS

3. TO CHALLENGE EACH DISTRICT GROUP TO INCREASE ITS LAST CENSUS FIGURE BY 10

4. CONTINUE THE PROGRESS OF 28TH GROUP AND DEVELOPMENT OF TAMAR STREET SCOUT CENTRE AND TO LOOK AT DEVELOPMENT OF TULLYCARNET AND KNOCKNAGONEY AREAS

5. TO WORK AT AND HELP CURRENT GROUPS WITH LEADER AND MEMBER PROBLEMS IE. 3RD, 4TH, 9TH AND 73RD GROUPS AND LOOK AT THE POSSIBILITY OF THESE GROUPS WORKING TOGETHER OR AMMALGAMATION

6. TO ENCOURAGE GROUPS/SECTIONS TO CO-OPERATE FOR JOINT PROJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND SOCIAL GATHERINGS.



Final Reminder

All Leaders are invited to the District BIG Laugh at K.O.E.C.

18th –20th October 2002

After the Big Camp in May some Leaders expressed an interest in having an Adults only camp at K.O.E.C. so: -

Come and enjoy the fun and adventure of: -



Sailing, Canoeing, Bouldering, Power Boating Plus ???

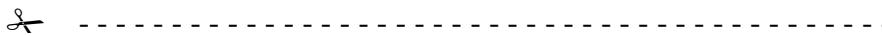
All specialized equipment and tuition plus all food will be supplied by Killyleagh Outdoor Education Centre.

COST of the camp is £30 per person cheques to be made out to EAST BELFAST DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Complete the application below and return by 2nd October 2002 to: -

Alan A. Campbell 3 Dorwood Park, Newtownards, BT23 7BE
028 9181 4424 or 07779 841883

Numbers *are limited to 14* so get your application form in quickly if interested!



APPLICATION FORM

Group.....Section - Beavers/Cubs/Scout/Explorer Leader

Name.....

Address.....

Phone No.....

Signed.....



73rd (St Donard's) Scout Troop Summer Camp



Friday 9th - Monday 12th August saw the Troop enjoy a long weekend camp at the Powerscourt Estate in Co Wicklow. 7 scouts and 6 leaders/adults left the church at 12 noon on the Friday and eventually, after a few wrong turns, arrived at the picturesque village of Enniskerry, later than expected!

After entering the Estate, we found our campsite beside the banks of the river Dargle, and tents were quickly erected and fires lit. Various activities took place on Saturday morning round the campsite, after which the afternoon was spent exploring Dublin city centre. On Sunday morning we attended morning service at St Patrick's Church in the village of Enniskerry (the congregation included a famous Irish pop star!). On Sunday afternoon we hiked through the Deer Park to the waterfall - the highest in Ireland, and indeed one of the highest in the British Isles. Other activities included erecting a rope bridge over the river; however, not many scouts could remain on it, getting rather wet in the process!

The excellent weather and the scenic surroundings (some of the trees are well over 9ft in diameter, 200 ft high and over 200 yrs old), added to the enjoyment of the camp. The Troop has visited Powerscourt 6 times in the last 23 years and is looking forward to returning soon.

Stephen Anderson, GSL 73rd

Events in October

6 th	District Fellowship Mourne Ramble Contact: Roy Lamont or George Jackson
18 th -20 th	Leaders' Weekend at Killyleagh Contact: Alan Campbell
23 rd	New Programme Implementation Workshop Contact: Paula Bryson



News & Views, Letters & Comments, Reports & Announcements to the Editor:



e.mail: d.bell @ qub.ac.uk or eastbelfast @ yahoo.com

not later than 6th October for the November Issue please!