

## DC Bit

June arrived and brought with it great scouting weather – hot and sunny!

Well, I've seen some of the troops/groups who support scouting out and about doing great things! I hope the rest are all making the most of the opportunities the good weather brings.

The **All Wales Scout Camp** was supported by the same troops again - Caerleon, 29<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> Sea and Air and Wentwood. These all had a full weekend of scouting and it was a great chance to meet other scouts from across Wales. There were very interesting activities on offer during the weekend and all the Leaders said that they even managed to chill out because it was so well run by the organisers – thanks and well done to the All Wales Scout Camp Team – BRAVO! This is one of the few camps that never seems to sleep! I know the scouts had a great time. Thanks leaders and supporters for ensuring a good time was had by all!

### Area AGM

Thanks to all who, again, found time to support this event and listen to and meet the guest speaker from Gilwell. A good time to speak with old friends and catch up with all the news.

The **Beavers**, not to be left out, joined in with most of the area Beavers during their 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday activity day. The weather was just right and the beavers, who had a space theme, had a great time making things, joining in fun games and activities on offer and some even launched a rocket or two! Again, many thanks Beaver leaders from most parts of Newport, Marshfield, Bassaleg, Malpas, Caerleon and High Cross. You all worked to ensure a great day's Beaver scouting.

### Mayors Parade and Freedom of the City to HMS SEVERN.

The cubs and scouts were a credit to scouting on a very hot morning. The service was in the cathedral, so a rich service with the full power of the cathedral being used to ensure a very special morning of worship. The groups were inspected by the new mayor and the Capain of HMS Severn and a Lieutenant Colonel from the Army and were all thanked for their smart turnout. We were all rewarded with goodie bags and light refreshments afterwards.

I would like to wish all who have been and/or are continuing to have exams all the best and I hope you will all get the grades etc you have been working for. Best Wishes.

## Well done to:

Andrew Tarr on being awarded the Medal of Merit.

Danny Kerr on the Bar-to the Medal of Merit.

Graham Pickering – 15 years service award.

July almost upon us and the programme is still full with a 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Camp for the Cubs and the scouts seem to be planning to get on their bikes and ride!

### **BLOW YOUR TRUMPETS!!!**

Nothing to do with band practice!

So much more to report on and I hope groups who seem to be a bit quiet about their scouting activities will start shouting about what they've been up too? C'mon – let's blow our own trumpets!!!

Remember our web page – just drop it a line and Gareth and his team will turn it into an interesting read for all.

Remember all our members can write in! If the leader's time is full up find an adult to be your PR person.

If you can't do that, let the web/newsletter team know that you're doing an event and they'll try their best to get someone along to take some pics and write a report for you – such is their dedication to spreading news on all that is good in scouting.

### **SPECIAL REQUEST – read on...**

#### **BLOW YOUR TRUMPETS!!!**

As a group, to celebrate the Centenary we are trying to collect 100 name strips to sew on our Bertie Beaver's very own camping blanket. We are attending a huge family camp with thousands of others at Youlbury and would like to do something special with our Bertie Beaver for the Centenary Year in 2007. (If you are coming to Youlbury in Oxford please come and find us to see Bertie's blanket.) Although the original idea was to send the blanket around the country, due to the huge response I am going to keep it here and groups are sending their **name strips** to us and the beavers are going to sew them on to the blanket. It is such an exciting project. Enclosed is a photo of Bertie's blanket with our name strip (Cogges) our District badge (West Oxon) the Centenary badge celebrating 100 years and our first collected name strips. **If you can please help us in our quest by adding your name strip to Bertie Beavers blanket for the centenary campfire and be part of our celebration.** If you would like to send us one of your name strips please do, to the following address: **Simba c/o Cogges Beavers, 60 Blakes Avenue, Witney, Oxon, OX28 3SY.** If you would like to be kept in touch of our progress let me know and I will send you pictures and keep you up dated.

PLEASE NOTE: when you send the name strip, please include your email address so that I can send you pictures of the blanket as the names grow. Thank you for your support and interest and we look forward to hearing from you, and adding your group to Bertie's blanket. If you require any funds to help with the costs let me know and once again thank you so much for your contribution. **4 down only 96 to go.**

**Many thanks for helping an idea come together - Y.I.S Rowena Martin (Ms) Beaver Leader SIMBA**