

Farewell from the old Regional Commissioner

Most of you will be aware after three years in the role as Regional Commissioner for the North East the time has come for me to take on a new opportunity as the Deputy Chief Commissioner for England. I have enjoyed the pleasure of working with many of you over the last three years. As you will know I was new to the North East Region when I took on the role and you all made me feel at home and were fast to explain the ways of the North to me. A special thank you to my catering team who have worked tirelessly to meet my challenges. I am very proud of the North East Region, our journey over the last three years has been superb. The Region has achieved so much and I am absolutely certain that it will continue to do so.

The team of county commissioners and all of you in their teams are the reason the Region is so great and for that I thank you all very much. In my new role I will never be far away and still look forward to those invitations to your events and to look in on great scouting in place. I encourage you all to continue with the great work we have undertaken together over the last three years.

Finally I wish all the best to Vicki as my successor, I know she will take the Region to more new and great places and I also look forward to working with Vicki who will now be part of my Regional Commissioner team in England.

God Bless

Mark Tarry

Training updates

Adult Support offices at Gilwell produce a monthly enews with all the latest updates and news from other regions / counties along with some tips and tried and tested good practise. If you haven't seen these why not go to

<http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/support/training>

Hello from the new Regional Commissioner

Like many others across the North East Region, it's been a rather busy time recently preparing for the visit of Bear Grylls. But there again, it's not every day the Chief Scout comes to visit! And what a fantastic visit it was. You just need to read the local press, click onto the internet or just talk to one of the many hundreds of young people who participated in events across our region over the Bank Holiday weekend to see the impact. The smiles on the faces of our young people tell the story far better than the written pen (or typed email!).

We have so much to be proud of in our region - our heritage, our diversity and our Scouting. Bear's visit was the perfect occasion to put these things on show. But it's not just about celebrating what we have: and what happened during one weekend - it's also about reflecting on what we can achieve by working together as one region. The old Kenyan proverb "sticks in a bundle are unbreakable" says it all. We are at our strongest when we are together - creating our vision, making our plans and turning opportunity into reality for the benefit of our youth and adult membership - whatever their background might be. In many respects, our strength is in our diversity - using talent and experience from across the region to shape our future and create opportunity for all. After all, it is the experience of the last 103 years, our collective talent of today and the diversity in our thinking that makes Scouting here in the North East; a progressive and vibrant movement, proud and respectful of its heritage and enthusiastic about its future here in the 21st Century.

It is a real privilege to take on the role as your North East Regional Commissioner. I am proud to represent you all in this way. I look forward to working together to continue the excellent work carried out by Mark over the past three years to develop Scouting in our region. I would also just like to take this opportunity to thank Mark for his support during the transition period and wish him well in his future role of Deputy Chief Commissioner for England. Wherever Mark goes, I am sure that the North East spirit will remain in his heart.

In Scouting
Vicki Pearson

Census

Well done for yet another year of growth in the North East.

In particular, we were really successful in recruiting adults this year, which is great news.

Regionally we recorded an increase of 3.9%, which is the largest increase in the last 10 years in the North East by far!

We really want to continue this success through the year and see another similar increase in the 2011 census. To achieve this all we need is 1 additional adult per Group and we will achieve another record year of growth.

By increasing the number of adults involved in Scouting we are able to offer Everyday Adventures to even more young people.

Remember to make use of Occasional Helpers, The Big Adventure and The Regional Development Service to help your Group/District attract more Adults.

Regional Glider

The Scout Counties of Durham, Northumberland, Central, North, South and West Yorkshire have an arrangement with the Yorkshire Gliding Club at Sutton Bank near Thirsk which allows Scouts to glide on 30 weekends each year at very competitive rates.

The Gliding Club will fly 6 scouts per day (weather permitting) and two leaders (if time permits). The height/weight limits are:- a minimum height of 1.1 metres to the shoulder, a minimum weight of 46 Kg (that is 101 lbs or 7 stone 2 pounds) and a maximum weight of 108 Kg (that is 238 lbs. or 17 st.) - These limits are for safety reasons & will be strictly enforced.

Launch charges are:- Air Tow to 2,000ft., £24.50: or Winch Launch, £6.50, paid to the club on the day.

The Gliding Club has a realistic Flying Simulator which can be used by flying groups when the weather prevents flying. It may also be available to other Groups by prior arrangement. It costs £5.00 per half hour.

By prior arrangement, Club members can instruct flying group members for most "air" badges, whilst they are waiting to fly.

Sutton Bank is on the edge of the North Yorkshire Moors National Park and has a Visitor Centre. Many other activities, including walking & cycling are possible. The Gliding Club has a campsite which gliding groups can use free of charge.

For further details, available dates & to book see <http://www.glider.ne-activities.org.uk>

LOVE - (Learn Optional Validation Essential)

In Scouting, all adult volunteers have an opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge through training. It helps you to undertake your role effectively and with confidence.

The Adult Training Scheme is designed to support you as a volunteer, so the training provided is relevant and tailored to your role.

The Scheme recognizes the learning and skills volunteers have gained through their life experiences, and compliments it with training opportunities to further enhance an individual's skills.

Adult training is accessible to all, regardless of geography, education, personal circumstances or special needs.

The scheme is UK-wide so the training and modules that are completed in one place will be recognised in another. There is also an opportunity to work towards externally recognised awards.

Training also provides you with opportunities to interact and share your experiences with other volunteers.

The training and development opportunities available are dependent on your role but they range from skills-based training such as first aid, risk assessment, safeguarding and public relations through to experience in leadership, management, communication, organisation, practical thinking and experience of working with young people.

How it works

There are two parts to completing each module:

Learning

Learning provides the opportunity to gain or improve the knowledge and skills which you need to develop for your role.

The methods used for learning can involve the more traditional styles, such as learning by doing and small group work, but these are complemented by methods such as courses, workbooks, videos and e



learning. This offers flexibility as you can choose the method most appropriate to you.

Prior learning, knowledge and experience are also recognised as forms of learning and valued within the Adult Training Scheme.

Therefore, you may not need to complete learning for every aspect of your training. This is especially so if you can clearly show that you are able to meet the module objectives by demonstrating your skills in your Scouting role through the validation process

Validation

Validation is the process of demonstrating to a person who supports volunteer, in practice. This can be done through a variety of methods, including the Training Adviser observing you in your Scouting role, providing evidence such as witness statements or discussing the key content of the module with your Training Adviser.

Successful validation is essential for each module relevant to your role.

‘The validation of training should always be something that volunteers do as part of their normal Scouting role, and should not generate extra work’

Be a part of Scouting’s Future - National District Commissioner and Group Scout Leader Day

Sunday 3rd October 2010
MTLC – Middlesbrough

During the Autumn of 2010 and the Spring of 2011, we will be running a series of weekend workshops across the United Kingdom. These events will be aimed at providing targeted support and information to GSLs, DCs and Supporter roles as well as giving us an opportunity to hear your views on where we should be focussing resources.

The day will have two distinct parts:

An opportunity to hear Wayne Bulpitt, UK Chief Commissioner, outlining what The Scout Association is aiming to achieve over the next few years, with our Vision to 2018 and an opportunity to discuss where our priorities should be as we move forward. This will help shape the future of Scouting in the United Kingdom for many years to come. Further details on the vision can be found at <http://www.scouts.org.uk/2018>.

The second part of the programme is a series of

workshop options. You will be able to choose three of the four below.

Engaging with Parents

A lively and creative session providing practical new ideas to encouraging better support from parents / guardians.

Effective Reviews

After years of debating about review – it’s time to get on and do it!

Looking at the issues, and moving forward with the tools to carry out effective role reviews.

DC s & GSLs Working Together

A session looking at the partnership between the two roles. Bring out the benefits of making the roles work effectively.

Role of the Group Scout Leader

Breaking down the role of the Group Scout Leader, making it manageable and achieving better Scouting for young people.

This is a great opportunity to have your say about how Headquarters services should be focussed and the support you get, and influence how we should develop over the next few years. It is part of our commitment to get better at listening to the movement – so please come and join us.

If you want to find out where your nearest event is being held and to make a booking then please go to <http://www.scouts.org.uk/gslanddcdays> (If you do not have internet access, please find a Scouting colleague who can book you on to the event.)

For any other queries email adviceandsupportdays@scouts.org.uk
Uniform is not required at these events.

Northern Lights

Celebrating Scouting Excellence in the North East Region
Sheffield Arena – Saturday July 9th 2011

Northern Lights will be simply the biggest Scouting event to ever hit the North East of England and we want everyone to be touched by it. We aim to celebrate the best of Scouting in the North East by showcasing what we do, why we do it and the fantastic opportunities that we give to young people. WE are planning a cast of 2000 young people. The event will be open to the public and we hope to attract an audience of 16,000.

We want to encourage our members – young and



old alike - to join us to help us deliver the best. We will update our image by showcasing the excellent scouting which is already happening week by week in a spectacular, two and a half hour, interactive extravaganza of competition and fun.

We will soon begin the recruitment of cast members and supporting teams and tickets will be going on sale in September / October this year.

Please think how you can take part in this unforgettable experience – Saturday July 9th 2011 and be part of our regional scouting family. Either join with us in the running of the show or come along and watch. There will be 2 performances starting at 2.00 pm and 7.00 pm. Make a weekend of it by checking into the local campsites, which are offering special Northern Lights Packages.

For details on how to get involved, how to book and all other latest information, please check our web-site regularly.

<http://www.northernlights2011.org.uk/>

