

# Southport Scout News – No.333. 11<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Readers also are referred to: -

[www.southportdistrictscouts.org.uk](http://www.southportdistrictscouts.org.uk)

[www.merseysidescouts.org.uk](http://www.merseysidescouts.org.uk)



## **Alex Carroll Joins the Team as Merseyside's Queen's Scout Award Co-Ordinator**

We are delighted to let you know that Alex Carroll has been appointed as Merseyside's Queen's Scout Award Co-Ordinator. Alex will be working with members of the County Programme Support Team to encourage and support even more young people to achieve this incredible award; and then to help celebrate their achievements when they do.

Alex will be working closely with Alistair Cubbin, our Assistant County Commissioner for Scout Network who commented: "Alex brings a wealth of experience from both Network and Explorers and is ideal to support both sections through their Queen's Scout Award. We are committed to increasing the uptake of the award by our young people as it provides not only valuable Scouting skills, but skills that universities and employers find desirable. We want to ensure that the award is accessible to all and is embedded within Explorer and Network programmes. In order to support our young people, we intend to have mentors within each District to see that registration for the award is turned into completion and then suitably celebrated locally as well as nationally at Windsor."

Our Deputy County Commissioner for Programme Support, Lee Allwood, commented: "The Queen's Scout Award is the highest youth award achievable in Scouting in countries where Scouts operate under the patronage of Queen Elizabeth II. Specifically aimed at Explorers and Scout Network sections, gaining top awards in all sections is really important to recognise the achievements of our members as well as help our leaders structure a varied and adventurous programme. Within Merseyside we want to increase the number of top awards our 8000

young people achieve by targeting support to leaders through our Programme Support Team, Programme Support Days and this appointment of a QSA Co-Ordinator."

Alex said: "I am excited to take on the challenge of the Queen's Scout Award Co-ordinator role across Merseyside. I'm looking forward to supporting both the Explorer Scout and Scout Network sections wherever I can to ensure the success of our young people across the county. I think it is important that all our Young People have the opportunity to achieve our top award, as well as experience all that Scouting has to offer and gain vital skills for life. If you're interested in supporting the Award in your District or across the County, or simply just want more information about the award or how to register then please get in touch."

**Please do get in touch with Alex; drop him an email by [clicking here](#).**

## **Free inclusivity training**

Sport England and the English Federation of Disability Sport (EFDS) are offering free training courses to support inclusive Scouting. The three-hour course provides volunteers with practical tools to support the delivery of inclusive physical games and activities in the section. The course would also be suitable for groups of Young Leaders. More information about the course content is [available here](#).

If you can provide the venue and gather a minimum of 15 participants, qualified tutors will come to you and deliver the training at a time that suits you (weekend and evenings included). This offer is only available until October 2017 so do get in touch soon to request a session by emailing

[diversity.inclusion@scouts.org.uk](mailto:diversity.inclusion@scouts.org.uk).

## Beaver Sleepover & Chief Scout's Bronze Awards

1st Southport Willow Beavers enjoyed a recent sleepover in their Scout hut.

A Two Hour night hike over the dunes to climb trees and look for wildlife was followed by a movie and snacks.



A great time was had by all.

**Laura Reevey (Roo)**  
Beaver Leader

The following morning the Beavers helped prepare breakfast and then made Mother's Day presents.



All the Beavers who attended were presented with a badge blanket (with a sleepover badge on it) for them to start a collection for many years to come and finally, because of the sleepover, three more Beavers were awarded their Chief Scout Bronze Award (seven had been awarded on the previous Wednesday).





*As Scouts we're always looking for ways to bring people and communities together, not to mention have loads of fun. So when we heard about the Great Get Together we knew we wanted to get involved.*

This summer, people around the UK are gathering for the Great Get Together and the Movement is joining in.

### **What is it?**

The Great Get Together is a fun-filled weekend to celebrate all that unites us. Celebrations are being planned for 17 and 18 June. Why not gather your Group to plan a celebration of your own? It could take the form of a neighbourhood picnic, a party, a BBQ, a football game or a ['Tea Prepared' party!](#) It's all about sharing food, fun and conversation with the people around us.

### **What's it for?**

The celebrations are a perfect excuse to connect (or reconnect) with our diverse communities and celebrate our common bonds. The weekend marks the one-year anniversary of the murder of Jo Cox MP, who passionately believed that we have more in common than divides us. As Scouts we know this to be true, and so, we're delighted to take part.

### **How to get involved**

Plan a celebration with your Group or section. Host a party or picnic outside your local headquarters or organise a community event in your city or town. From a family picnic to a community concert, the important thing is coming together and having fun. Through organising a celebration your young people will not only develop teamwork, leadership and planning skills but also strengthen ties in their communities.

This makes the Great Get Together a wonderful opportunity for young people to earn their [Community Impact badges](#). Inclusive celebrations like these can close gaps between generations. They can promote healthy eating and exercise. They can help individuals feel less isolated and more valued by their fellow citizens. By instilling a sense of pride in our communities and creating a platform to communicate, they encourage us to work together to better the world around us.

### **Where to begin**

- Save the date! Celebrations will happen on 17 and 18 June
- Brainstorm ideas and get creative. Your get together should be a reflection of what makes your local area great
- Make a pledge to join in by clicking [here](#) or email [hello@greatgettogether.org](mailto:hello@greatgettogether.org) to let them know if you have any ideas for the kind of events you'd like to plan
- Click [here](#) to get your very own inspiration pack, full of tips and ideas for creating an event of your own
- Spread the word – tweet and share your plans on social media using [#greatgettogether](#)

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### **Scouting's response to terrorist incidents**

No one can fail to be shocked by recent acts of terror.

They are reminders, once again, how terrorism attempts to disrupt and challenge the values by which we live our lives. As Scouts we resist such attempts and stand firm in the face of such senseless violence. All of our thoughts and prayers are with the families of those affected.

It is part of our duty as leaders to help young people make sense of such incidents. Together, we can reinforce the peaceful aims of Scouting and its power to bring people together.

You may wish to support young people during your normal section meetings. To help, we have pulled together some links to existing resources you may find useful.

[Programmes Online \(Search for 'Peace'. There are 15 activities\)](#)  
[In the Face of Terrorism](#)  
[Peace Pack](#)  
[Scouting and Peace](#)

As Scouts, we believe we can help create a better world. We can achieve this by demonstrating Scouting's values of care, respect, belief, integrity and cooperation.

Thank you for supporting our young people during this challenging time.

**Tim Kidd**  
UK Chief Commissioner

# New badges launched

14/04/2014



We've launched an exciting range of new badges for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts. These badges guarantee young people lots of fun and adventure whilst giving them the opportunity to learn a wide variety of skills.

Beavers will be able to gain awards in photography, gardening and camping. Through the new Space Activity Badge, they can learn about the solar system and space missions. Along with Cubs, Beavers can achieve a Disability Awareness Badge, which teaches them how to support young people with disabilities and how to communicate effectively using methods other than speech.

Young people will become charity fundraisers with our new Fundraising Badge. Scouts and Explorer Scouts will learn how to persuade people to donate to a charitable cause and how to promote a fundraising campaign through social media.

Traditional Scouting skills are covered with new badges for Scouts who hike or sleep out under the stars. Badges will be awarded to those who clock up 200 nights away camping throughout their time in Scouting.

The launch of these new badges follows an extensive 10-month consultation with people inside and outside Scouting. We gathered the views of over 12,000 members through focus groups, surveys, social media and events.

**Chief Scout Bear Grylls said: 'Throughout its 107-year history Scouting has continued to evolve: these new badges make sure we are able to keep offering activities that educate and enthuse young people in equal measure.'**

## An exciting opportunity has arisen..!

Spearhead Explorer Scout Unit are looking for extra pairs of hands to help at their weekly meetings. They have an exciting programme of activities, challenging awards to work towards and adventurous camps throughout the year. The group have just been to camp at Yr Haford Scout Activity Centre and are looking forward to the Mersey Moot in September.

If anyone is looking for a change of scene or to try something different then come and see what Explorers is all about. The group meets on a Thursday at Greenbank High School, 7.30pm - 9.30pm.

If you are interested or even just a little intrigued then please contact Andrew Tinsley on 07710483937 or email [andrewtinsley89@gmail.com](mailto:andrewtinsley89@gmail.com)

### **Andrew Tinsley**

Deputy District Commissioner  
Assistant Explorer Scout Leader

## **Merseyside Scouts is one of the top 10 fastest growing locations across the UK.**

Scouting now has the largest number of volunteers than we've had in our entire history. The annual Census figures are out and show us that there's an incredible amount of volunteers in Scouting, but that with a sky-high waiting list for young people, we still need more.

Here's a snapshot of the top facts and figures:

- ➔ Across Merseyside, we now have over 10,000 young people and adults involved in what we do, every week of the year; with a total increase of 11% in the last year
- ➔ Total membership today across the UK is 618,000 - up by 7.8% from last year's total of 573,943
- ➔ UK Scouting now has a staggering 154,000 volunteers – the largest numbers of volunteers in our entire history
- ➔ The waiting list for young people wanting to join has skyrocketed to 51,000 – the highest it's ever been

And; the great news is that Merseyside is one of the top 10 fastest growing locations (by percentage of overall Scouting membership) in the UK.

Our sincere thanks to everyone involved in Scouting across Merseyside for your hard work over the past year and for your adventurous nature and dedication to making Scouting an incredible experience for all young people. These results are a testament to everyone's efforts at growing the Scouting community across Merseyside and the UK