

Gordanoos May 2009

Welcome to the May edition of Gordanoos.

District AGM

This year the District AGM will be at Glenny Wood, with a BBQ. The event will be held on Wednesday 24th June 2009. It would be great to see you there from 7:30pm with the AGM starting at 8pm.

The County Commissioner will be joining us.

Ten Tors - 90 start 90 complete What a fantastic achievement

This year's Ten Tors event took place over the weekend of May 9 / 10 and saw all the Gordano Ten Tors training group's teams finish, the first time we have had a 100% success rate since 1990.

The event took place in ideal conditions, warm but cloudy weather, a moderate wind, generally excellent visibility, except for a brief period of mist and low cloud early on Sunday morning, and NO rain. These conditions resulted in some early finishes with our first 45 team arriving back just after 11 o'clock followed less than half an hour later by the first 35 and second 45 team. All the 35 and 45 teams had finished by just after 3 o'clock, with the three 55 mile teams finishing between 3.45 and 4.25.

Congratulations to all those who took part in such an amazing event. Your success fully rewards your commitment and dedication throughout the training walks and on the event itself.



This success would not have been possible without the efforts of the training team. After what at times has been a quite difficult training year, with the winter weather in February and March causing the cancellation of one walk and resulting in another taking place in very testing conditions, the 100% success at the event was a definite bonus for all their hard work and dedication.

My thanks to all the team trainers and managers for all their efforts on the hills, the safety team and the safety vehicle drivers who provided such valuable support and to all the Groups across the District who made their vehicles and other resources available throughout the year.

Roll on Ten Tors 2010, which will begin in October with introductory meetings, followed by training walks from November onwards. Provisional training dates are as follows:

Mendips	8 November 2009	Forest of Dean	6 December 2009
Quantocks	10 January 2010	Llangattock 1	7 February 2010
Brecon Beacons	6/7 March 2010 7 March only for 35 milers	Dartmoor 1	27/28 March 2010
Dartmoor 2	17/18 April 2010	Event	8/9 May 2010

Steve Hamey - Ten Tors Training Coordinator



New Chief Scout and Chief Commissioner

New Chief Scout - Bear Grylls will be the new Chief Scout of the UK Scout Association. The famous adventurer takes over when current Chief Scout, former Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan, completes his five year tenure in July. Bear Grylls will be the UK's youngest Chief Scout, aged 34. Whether it is crossing oceans in an open boat, scaling Mount Everest or flying a powered paraglider to 29,000ft in the Himalayas, Bear knows a thing or two about adventure. As an ex Special Forces soldier, he is not only known around the world as the host of the hit TV series *Born Survivor* and *Man Vs Wild*, he is also an inspirational speaker, best selling author of nine books and a fervent supporter of young people getting out there to experience adventure for themselves.

Bear got his taste for the outdoors as a Scout, whilst a young boy. He was taught to climb by his late father on the sea cliffs of the Isle of Wight, and this interest rapidly developed when he left school.

His military service saw him trained in combat survival, parachuting, demolitions, trauma medics and mountain warfare as a trooper with 21 SAS.

When asked why he chose to volunteer for the UK's largest mixed youth movement, Bear said: 'In short, because I love adventure and I love hanging out with good friends. For me this is what Scouting is about.'

Born on 7 June 1974, [Bear Grylls](#) will be the youngest ever Chief Scout.

He first got involved in Scouting aged eight as a Cub Scout. Bear attributes this time as part of the inspiration behind his adult adventures presenting TV shows such as *Born Survivor*: 'So much of who we are as an adult is formed when we are kids,' said Bear. 'What Scouting says to people is: "it's okay to go for it in life".'

'Every child has a right to have an adventure. Life is about grabbing opportunities. The prizes don't always go to the biggest, the best and the strongest – they go to those who persevere. These are simple life lessons that Scouting teaches people.'

UK Chief Commissioner Wayne Bulpitt - A lifetime in Scouting. A member of Scouting since the age of eight, Wayne was appointed UK Chief Commissioner in May 2009, having been Chief Commissioner of England (South) since September 2007, Chairman of the Association's Board of Trustees until that date and an elected Trustee since 2001.

Wayne's Scouting started on his eighth birthday with the 1st Warsash Cub Pack. Since those days, he has been an active member of each section and became an Assistant Scout Leader at the age of 18.

Moving to the Channel Island of Guernsey in 1983, he was quickly made welcome and became Leader of the Northern Venture Scout Unit. After a spell as Treasurer he was appointed Bailiwick Commissioner from 1998 – 2004.



Reminder on Activity and Nights Away Notifications. Deadline for submission.

Can you please ensure all **Activities Notifications and Nights Away Notification requests** for the remainder of June, July and August are with me by **Friday 19th June 2009**.

Please remember all Nights Away notifications must include the Camp Permit holders' details. Camp permit holders must have an in date and valid permit at the time of the event. It is the permit holder's responsibility to ensure permits are kept up to date, and the event leader to ensure the appropriate permits and activities qualifications are held, in date and relevant.

Please remember activities / nights away events must not take place unless I have authorised.

Full details of the permit scheme are at <http://www.freewebs.com/gordanoscouting/nightsaway.htm> and have been covered in previous editions. **Renewal of permits** direct to me, with an updated application form listing details of events undertaken since the initial permit was issued. **New permits once assessed** again direct to me. **These requests again must be with me by Friday 19th June.**

Congratulations

Long Service Awards

50 Year Award – David Watkins - Group President Long Ashton and District Executive member.

30 Year Award – Ian Mitchell – ASL 1st Backwell

20 Year Award – Benda Mogg – BSL 1st Crockerne

20 Year Award – Mike Clark – SL 2nd Clevedon

15 Year Award – Steve Hamey – GSL 1st Nailsea

Medal of Merit – Mike Viney – ESL Clevedon Explorers and District Fellowship.

Fellowship Summer Events

We are going to try a weekly programme for Fellowship - we will trial it over the next few months to see how much support there is for meeting weekly.

Activities planned so far are:

- **Thursday 4th June** - Black Horse 8.00pm
- **Friday 5th June** - Evening Walk 7pm at Shute Shelve - Bob F bobfaragher@btinternet.com .
- **Tuesday 9th June** - Curry night (make and share your own curries) 1st Nailsea Scout Hut - 7.45 - cost £5 - See Shelley for more details - shelley_dixon@hotmail.com
- **Wednesday 17th June** - Botanical Gardens Tour - 7pm - See Sylvia. sylvia.holliman@virgin.net
- **Week beginning 22nd June** – TBA
- **Thursday 2nd July** - Black Horse - 8.00pm
- **Friday 3-5th July** Sun Run - See Mike Daynes MichaelDaynes@aol.com
- **Friday 10th July** - Canoeing at Saltford - See Mike Viney if interested. mikeviney@yvsu.fsnet.co.uk

We still have some weeks that need an activity planned for them so if you are interested in running an evening please email me - I can offer ideas if you need some.

Thanks Shelley - shelley_dixon@hotmail.com

SCOUT SECTION AGE RANGES

Don't forget that there are changes to the age range for the Scout section effective 1st September:

The Operations Sub Committee has agreed that young people in the Scout Section should have a 12 month window in which to move on to the Explorer Scout Section (moving on between 13½ and 14½ years of age). It is important to emphasise that this change does not alter the core age range in either the Scout or Explorer Scout sections.

This is a change to the current ruling, which allows young people an 18 month window to transition between the two Sections (moving on between 13½ and 15 years of age).

The change in flexibility will come into effect on 1 September 2009 and will be reflected in the September edition of POR. This gives time to prepare for the change over.

Further information, including frequently asked questions, at: www.scouts.org.uk/cms.php?pageid=1892

Badges

All Badges will be increased in price as from the 1st. of June 2009 as per Lancing

New Badge Costs from Lancing on 1st. June 2009

Badge	Cost	Badge	Cost
World Membership	£00.52	Group Awards	£00.52
Challenge Awards	£00.52	Participation Badges	£00.35
Activity Badges	£00.45	Staged Activity Badges	£00.45
Leadership Stripes	£00.45	Patrol Badges	£00.56
Name Tapes Order Card 36	£09.00	Laser Etched Thanks Badge	£02.75
Name Tapes Order Card 72	£11.25	Sterling Silver Thanks Badge	£19.00
Name Tapes Order Card 144	£13.50	Presentation Box Only	£02.75
Anne Scott Badge Secretary - anne-scott@blueyonder.co.uk			

Active Lifestyles

I have recently received the message below from Lisa Perryman Active Lifestyles Development Officer, Sport and Active Lifestyles Team which you may be interested in.

As the Active Lifestyles Development Officer for North Somerset Council I am responsible for encouraging the residents of North Somerset to become more active.

In order to achieve this we would like the young people within the Gordano District Scout Association Network to promote the benefits of physical activity and healthy living by encouraging parents/ grandparents/ carers/ friends and anyone else over the age of 16 to make a pledge to become more active and sign up to our free physical activity information service, Go4Life. The benefits of joining the free Go4Life scheme include – Information & advice, raising awareness, providing support and access to funding opportunities.

As a thank you we will support each individual group by **donating £1 per sign up, up to £100**. The only condition is that it must be spent on something physical activity themed, examples include going on a physical activity themed trip, organising a physical activity event, having a sports coach lead sessions or using the money for sports equipment.

Go4Life is a North Somerset initiative which aims to encourage and support inactive adults (aged 16+) to adopt a everyday healthier lifestyle by reducing barriers and developing physical activity opportunities for those who take part in less than 90 minutes of physical activity a week.

The scheme adopts a broad ranging view of physical activity, which is better referred to as active living. This includes sport and exercise, but also dance, active play and everyday activities such as recreational walking and cycling.

I have attached a poster for your information and if you would like more information on how to take advantage of this great opportunity or if there is any thing else you feel we may be able to provide or support then please contact me on the below details.

I look forward to supporting your network








Lisa Perryman Active Lifestyles Development Officer, Sport and Active Lifestyles Team, North Somerset Council

Tel: 01275 812 057

Post: Community Involvement Office, Somerset Square, Nailsea, BS48 1RQ

What's next? Advanced notice for your diaries

Don't forget the following events are being planned for this year and next

-  19th September Beaver Fun day at Glenny Wood
-  20th September Cub Fun day at Glenny Wood
-  October – Brecon Beacons Challenge for older Scouts and Explorers – It's back by popular demand!!
-  5th December – District Dinner
-  25th April – Dragon Slayer – our St Georges Day celebrations
-  12th & 13th June Cooking Competition for all sections, separately over the weekend
-  10th & 11th July – Water days – Canoeing / Sailing etc. Come and try plus competitions for the more proficient.

Full District Diary will be issued with the June Gordanoos edition

Next Edition

The next edition of Gordanoos news will be issued at the end of June. I would welcome any articles, pictures or contributions. Please E mail them through to me on philwoolcock@blueyonder.co.uk

Phil Woolcock - District Commissioner

Home – 01275 851734 Mobile 07762 022225 or E Mail philwoolcock@blueyonder.co.uk