

Newsletter

Issue 1 Jan 2003



Network Update

The Scout Network in East Sussex continues to grow, and since its introduction in September 2002 we have seen eight Network Groups form throughout the County, each with its own Co-ordinator (equivalent to the old Unit Chairperson). These are based in the towns of Seaford, Peacehaven, Hailsham, Plumpton, Hastings, Eastbourne, Bexhill and Brighton. Four of the five Area Leaders for the county have been appointed and wait the call of the County Appointments Committee. The fifth (from the west) has yet to be identified. The Network Committee (all Leaders Commissioners and Co-ordinators) has met regularly (every 2 months) and has so far vetted and approved 5 of these new Network Groups. The remainder are expected to be approved in the near future. Each of the Groups have produced their own programme of events (available for viewing on the County Network website) and all reports are of the various groups getting off to a cracking start.

We have also made appointments of three other roles in the County Network structure, those of Network Leader (Awards), Camping Advisor, and 18 – 25 advisor. A further appointment of Activities advisor has yet to be filled. These roles are explained elsewhere in this newsletter.

As for the future, we have many plans already being discussed, including an overall county programme structure, training courses for various activity approvals and Network provision at all of the Counties major campsites.

Oh. And by the way... as of the beginning of this year, we have 80 registered Network members across the county!!

Network Who's Who

County Scout Network Commissioner (CSNC)

Del Smith. 01424 852389
Delsmith@pinewoodway.freeserve.co.uk

County Scout Network Leader (CSNL)

Phil Collins 01323 504334
philmag75@hotmail.com

County Scout Network Administrator (CSNA)

Steve Sims 01323 723003
stevesims301@hotmail.com

County Scout Network Leader (Awards) (CSNL-Aw)

Vicki Clare 01424 210838

County Scout Network Camping Advisor

Becci Marchant 01424 424322

18-25 Advisor

Paul Bolland

County Scout Network Leaders (Area) (CSNL-A)

Malcolm Watson (North)
Becci Marchant (East)
Mel Jones (South)
Graham Henshaw (Central)
TBA (West)

Co-ordinators

Scott Feltham (Hastings)
Dean Layen (Seaford)
James Henley (Bexhill)
Dale Shepherd (Peacehaven)
Richard Watson (Plumpton)
Liz Cole (Brighton)
Gavin Sweetman (Hailsham)

County Scout Network Website

www.esnetwork.co.uk
Webmaster Steve Sims

County Network Scarves

The County Network Scarf is available from Del at a cost of £6.00 each. For bulk orders (5 or more) please allow 3 -4 weeks delivery.



Programme Reviews

Please remember that all programmes need to be reviewed by your Network Group (including an independent guest) and a written report produced and sent to Phil Collins. A form is available for this report (at the back of your Network Essentials pack) or you may produce your own. If you have any problems with your programme reviews, contact your Area Leader.

Network Committee Dates

The East Sussex Scout Network Committee will be meeting at the May Garland (Horam) on the following dates. All Network Leaders and Co-ordinators are invited to attend

Wednesday 12th Feb
Thursday 17th March
Thursday 12th June
Wednesday 13th August
Thursday 23rd October
Wednesday 10th December

Monopoly Run

Anybody wanna play a game of Monopoly?? Why not take a trip to London and see how quickly you can visit all the sites on the monopoly board?? We are going to set up a league table for all the Network groups in East Sussex. That way you can challenge the others at your convenience. Why stop at London. Why not try the Paris version.. or Amsterdam. If your Network Group is interested.. Let us know.

Website



Network in East Sussex has its own Website at <http://www.esnetwork.co.uk>. Most new information is added to the Website first, and appears in other forms later! Network Programmes, Headquarters News, F.A.Q page, Registration Form, Network details, Awards details, Roles and a picture gallery all appear. If you have something you'd like to see, then

contact Steve mailto:stevesims301@hotmail.com or his private email if you're a member.

Coming soon will be a membership list and 'dynamic programme pages' where selecting a few options from 'drop-down' lists will give the reader a personalised extract from the programmes of all of the County Networks. Date range, specific activity Zones and of course locations will be able to be specified for example. Coordinators will also be able to amend their programmes using secure forms on the site.

Network Ball

Each year in the past we have celebrated the achievements of our Queens Scouts by holding a dinner for the current Queens Scouts and their families and friends. It has always seemed a pity to me that we have not extended the invitation to all Venture Scouts in the County. Now that Network Scouting has arrived, maybe it is time for a change and it has been suggested that we hold a 'Network Ball' for all Network Scouts, Leaders Family and Friends to mark the achievements of our Queens Scouts and also include those in our section that have gained the Chief Scouts Award. A Network Summer Ball has proved to be very successful in other parts of the county (see West Lancs. website page for example) and I cannot think of any other event in our calendar where we get a chance to dress up in our finest. Thoughts and suggestions please to your co-ordinator for discussion at the next Network Committee meeting.

CRB Forms

All network members over the age of 18 will be required to complete and submit a CRB form. This will clear everyone for normal Network activities where some members, and Explorer Scouts taking part prior to moving on will be under 18. Clearance will of course give assurance to Leaders of all other Sections when joint activities are to take place, or where Network members offer assistance.

Area Leaders will shortly have a seminar on completing the forms, and will be the responsible person conducting one-to-one interviews and countersigning to confirm sight of proofs of identity documents.

Until Network members are cleared they may assist and meet with young people, but only under supervision at all times by a cleared Leader.

Steve

D of E, Queens Scout and other Awards

Please remember.... Any Network Scout who is either considering starting, or is part way through either of the Chief Scouts Awards or the Queens Scout Award must register with Vicki Clare in order for your Award to be recognised and signed off. If you have already completed part of any of the awards under the old system, don't worry. They will still count and remain accepted. The individual sections not completed however, are no longer signed off by your own Unit/Group, but by the County. For this reason we have set up an Awards panel consisting of representation from Explorer Scouts, Network Scouts and D of E. They will ensure that levels of achievement are maintained across the county. Likewise, the Queens Scout Award for Network Scouts is now approved by the County Scout Network Commissioner and for Explorer Scouts by the District Explorer Scout Commissioner and not as before by the District Commissioner.

Please note that ALL applications and achievements for Duke of Edinburgh's Award are to be approved by Derek Cleaver (County Duke of Edinburgh Award Advisor)

Windsor Parade

This year, the annual St Georges Day Windsor Parade is to be held on Sunday 27th April. We have a small contingent of Queens Scouts going from our County, and as in previous years with the Venture Scout section, Del & Phil will be organising a 'Day Out' at Windsor including an East Sussex Tea Party at the Crooked House. This year we are opening the invitation to any Network Scout who wishes to join us for the day. For those of you who have not attended a St Georges Day at Windsor, this is an ideal opportunity to see Windsor on a St Georges Day and witness one of the few times when Scouts outnumber the Japanese tourists. If you are not a Queens Scout you will not be able to see the actual parade in the courtyard, but you will get into Windsor Castle to see the march past and take part in the service. Apart from a nominal charge for transport, the day will cost you nothing other than your food and drink. If you require any further details, please contact Phil Collins.

Camping & Activity Authorisations

Please note that ALL authorisations for nights away and or activity authorisations for Network activities are now to be approved by the Network Commissioner and not the District Commissioner. That means that if you wish to take a group of Network Scouts away camping, even for a single night, or if you hold an activity form and wish to take a group away for that particular activity, then approval MUST be sought through the County Scout Network Commissioner.

Camping

For all camping authorisations, this task has been delegated to **Becci Marchant** who is the Area Leader for the East of the County. If you are planning a camp then get in touch with her NOW and ensure that you are approved. This may mean that you will need to refer her to someone in your District, say a GSL or DC who can reassure Becci that you are competent to take people away, or Becci may need to meet you personally or see your camping skills first hand. Either way, do not leave it until the last minute. You may not get authorisation.

Other Activities

For activities such as Hill walking Canoeing Caving etc. If you hold the applicable form you will still require authorisation for a Network Activity, Again, this may be done by supplying the name of someone who can vouch for you. We are currently seeking someone to fill this post. In the mean time please refer ALL authorisation requests to the CSNC Del Smith.

The Network Gathering

It's not all Knots!!

The West Lancashire Scout Network Gathering, open to the entire country, is the first opportunity for the new network section to meet for a national event.

The camp is based over the Easter weekend at Great Tower Camp Site within the Lake District National Park. Activities are available from both "in-house" staff as well as the opportunity to explore what the local area has to offer outside of Scouting based activities.

The Gathering will offer the main traditional outdoor activities as well as the more unusual adventurous ones. From climbing and hill walking, to Ghyll Scrambling and caving on land, and the water activities like Sailing and canoeing as well as power boating on the famous and spectacular Windermere Lake. There are also other local activities available to the general public which the "on site Tourist Information Point" will help you with like Off Road Driving, Spectacular sight seeing, horse riding, and mountain bike trails on local forest tracks or mountain roads.

Don't like adventurous activities? No problem! The lakes has far more to offer than just the outdoor pursuits. From Lakeland tours and cruises to shopping in picturesque towns and villages and educational visits, the lakes can entertain whatever the British weather may throw at you. West Lancashire Scouts can also offer you none adventurous activities and you can always bring your own, as you are not forced to do anything!

Of course, in the 18 - 25 Age range, it's not all about the daytime. During the evening every night there will be entertainment, a fully licensed bar and a food take away. Entertainment will be laid on but participation is always welcome. On the Sunday there will also be an "It's a Knock Out" style competition, your chance to prove that you are the best Network in the country :-)

• To help you get to and from the camp site if you use the train network, there will be a FREE pick up and drop off service. Please contact in advance to advise on times etc.

• There is an onsite information service, plus West Lancs. staff to help the camp and your visit run smoothly and help with any queries.

• It's the first opportunity to gather as network nationally. This can allow a chance to swap ideas with other Networks and on the Monday with National Network staff.

• There is a Network Gathering Web Site to keep up to date with the latest offerings, as well as a message board, which you can use to keep in touch or arrange lifts to and from the Gathering. See <http://networkgathering.westlancshirescouts.org.uk> for details.

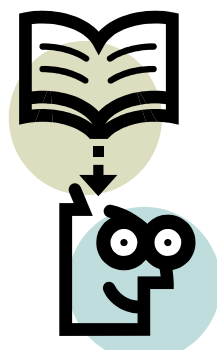
• The event is also open to SSAGO, the Student's Scouts and Guides Organisation, which can take advantage of this opportunity to "network with Network" swap ideas etc. This is also why the event is in the Easter Holidays.

What else? The long weekend will cost only £10. This fee covers camp fees, site services and entertainment. As activities are opt in (and you can do your own) these are at extra cost. Activities run by West Lancs. staff will be at County Scout discount rates to make your money goes further; typical cost for a ½ day activity including instructor and equipment hire is £4.

What's not included: The shuttle bus to and from the train station and our Moor Crag waterside facility is free, but this is the only free transport available. You will also need to buy your own food (local shopping directions available), but there is the "Trough 'n' Off" food outlet and a licensed bar available on site, as well as the site shop.

East Sussex will be organising a county contingent (at a nominal cost) to 'The Gathering' if there is enough interest. If your Network Group would like to take part. Contact Del (01424 852389) with approx No's BEFORE March 1st 2003.

Your Newsletter



This is your Newsletter and needs your input. Is there anything you would like included?? Small ads, Help for activities.

If you have any suggestions articles ads please let me have them by March 31st for inclusion in the next issue

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