

What a Summer!

As you'll read elsewhere in this copy of the Durham ePost, it's been a busy summer for our young people up and down the county.



We've had members in Iceland attending the World Scout Moot or helping out as members of the International Service Team, we've had scouts abroad visiting Kandersteg International Centre and we've also had Scouts and Explorer Scouts attending the Kent International Jamboree.

On top of that we've had so many of our beavers on great sleepovers and camps, some great cub pack and scout troop camps and some great district camps as well.

We've run summer schools for young people at Moor House Adventure Centre, the number of sections who continue to meet in some form during the school summer holidays seems to be gradually increasing and we've even had one District who have run 'taster days' for non-members, to give



other young people a taste of what scouting is about.

It was also great to see a good number of our members from across the county at the 91st Gilwell Reunion.



Whatever you've got up to over the summer months we hope you had a great time and hope that you're looking forward to even more great scouting to come.

Dates at a Glance

Here are the key dates between now and the next edition of the **Durham ePost** (Winter Edition – published on 10th December 2017).

- 1 **County Annual General Meeting:** 13th September 2017, 7.30pm @Moor House
- 1 **County Awards Day:** 16th September 2017
- 1 **Explorer Scout / Young Leader / Scout Network Conference:** 28th September 2017
- 1 **Archery Permit Course:** 30th September / 1st October
- 1 **County Team Operations Meeting:** 2nd October 2017
- 1 **District Commissioner's Meeting:** 5th October 2017
- 1 **Confido 2017:** 6th – 8th October 2017
- 1 **Executive Committee Governance Meeting:** 11th October 2017
- 1 **Navigation Skills Day:** 14th October 2017
- 1 **Training Advisor's Meeting:** 19th October 2017
- 1 **County Programme Exchange Workshops:** 21st and 22nd October 2017
- 1 **County Hill Walking Course:** 27th to 29th October 2017
- 1 **Operational Sanctuary:** 11th November 2017
- 1 **Midnight Madness:** 18th / 19th November 2017
- 1 **Moor House Service Day:** 25th November 2017
- 1 **Programme Support Meeting:** 6th December 2017
- 1 **Executive Committee Governance Meeting:** 7th December 2017

Please see page 21-22 for all **Adult Training** dates. Also see <https://www.durhamscouts.org.uk/for-members/adult-training/> to book courses.

Always please remember to check the County Calendar at <https://www.durhamscouts.org.uk/> for full details (locations, time etc.) and for any late changes.

Please note that to allow Districts and Groups to plan their own programmes for the New Year, our 2018 dates are included on pages 24-25 of this edition of the newsletter and these will shortly be added to the on-line county calendar.

To add the County Calendar to your calendar application or view in a web browser use:

ICAL (to add to a calendar app)

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/webdurhamscouts%4ogmail.com/public/basic.ics>

HTTPS (to display in any web browser):

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=webdurhamscouts%4ogmail.com&ctz=Europe/London>

County AGM

A reminder that the Durham Scout County Council Annual General Meeting will be held as follows:

- **Date:** Wednesday September 13th 2017
- **Time:** 7.00pm for 7.30pm start
- **Location:** Moor House, main hall.
- **Invited:** All members of Durham Scout County*

* Note that only members of the County Scout Council are eligible to vote – see <https://www.durhamscouts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Durham-County-Scout-Council-and-County-Executive-Committee-Constitution-Mar-2017.pdf> for details.

We expect to publish the annual report and accounts on the county website and e-mail all members of the county a couple of days before the AGM (note that to save on printing costs, printed copies will NOT be available at the AGM).

As well as the usual business (presentation of the county accounts for 2016-17 and elections), the County Commissioner will also be providing an update on developments in the scout county in the last 12 months, plans for the next year and the process by which the county development plan will be updated.

There will also be an open Q&A session, to provide members with another opportunity to ask any questions they may have or raise any issues.

Please remember that the meeting is open to all members of the scout county and we hope that you'll be able to join us.

Programme Exchange

Workshops

A reminder that on Saturday 21st October and Sunday 22nd October we'll be running two Programme Exchange Workshops.

We had received some bookings prior to the summer holidays but now expect many more



bookings to come in following the holidays, so please *book now to avoid disappointment*.

Remember that this is your chance to meet with fellow section leaders from across the County and:

- Exchange programme ideas to add some sparkle, adventure or more fun to your programmes
- Share evening programmes for meeting nights
- Swap ideas for days out, unusual and interesting activities, sleepover venues and favourite places for nights away
- Find ideas for some fun, unusual and new games
- Discuss the progressive training scheme with leaders from other sections
- Share challenges and opportunities relating to the new (2015) badge and award scheme.



You only need to give up the one day (the workshop is repeated on consecutive days), registration starts at 9.00am for a 9.30am start and we'll finish by 5pm.

The venue is at 4th East Boldon/28th South Shields in East Boldon (South Tyneside) and there's plenty of parking at the venue.

Please remember to bring hard copies of your programme, games, sleepover etc ideas (we'll

scan them after the workshops and make them available on the County website).

You should wear Scout casual (non-uniformed event) and please bring a packed lunch (drinks and snacks available throughout the day).

You can book a place using the link below (select your preferred date and section to start), and once you've found a place you'll be taken to the event booking page to enter your details.

Please note that places are limited to 20 leaders per workshop for Beaver, Cub and Scout Leaders and 10 leaders per workshop for Explorer Scout Leaders (please let us know if you miss out on a place, and if there is demand we'll run these workshops again).

You can book via the County website at <https://www.durhamscouts.org.uk/for-members/programme-support/programme-exchange-workshops/>

County “Summit in a Box” Event

Following the Summit17 event in the spring, the Scout Association has published their “Summit in a Box” resources to be used at district or county level, so that all volunteers can help develop the next strategic plan for scouting, which will launch in 2018.



The overall aim is to engage all our volunteers in discussions about the proposed strategy and to allow everyone to feedback their views to UK Headquarters.

A number of Districts are organising their own events, which can take one of several formats:

- To be used within an existing team meeting that can take around an hour
- One that will fill an evening/half day session
- One that is a full day event (approx. 5 hours)

As not every district may organise their own ‘Summit in a Box’ session, or as you may not be able to attend your own districts session, the county is organising a session which is *open to anyone from across the scout county*.

This is because we want everyone in the county to have the opportunity to feed back on the draft strategy and feed into our organisation’s vision for the next five years.

This is your opportunity to review the Scout Association’s draft strategic plan (see http://scouts.org.uk/media/846499/2018-2023-Strategy-180717_draft.pdf), and input to the strategy that will guide the development of scouting over the next five years (the post ‘Vision 2018’ strategy).

During the session we will review how Vision 2018 has worked (or not) and what we've learned, and we'll look at the role of scouting in society today.

We'll then introduce the new draft strategic plan, review the draft priorities, think about our local priorities and everyone will then have a chance to provide their input and feedback, which will be collated and forwarded to the Scout Association HQ.

The county ‘Summit in a Box’ event will be held as follows:

- **Date:** Sunday September 24th
- **Time:** 1pm – 5pm
- **Location:** [Gateshead District Scout Headquarters](#) (Mitchell House, Gladstone Terrace W, Gateshead NE8 4EA)

You can attend the event by registering for a ticket on Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/summit-in-a-box-tickets-37413099588> (note that you can book between 1 and 4 ‘tickets’ for people in your group)

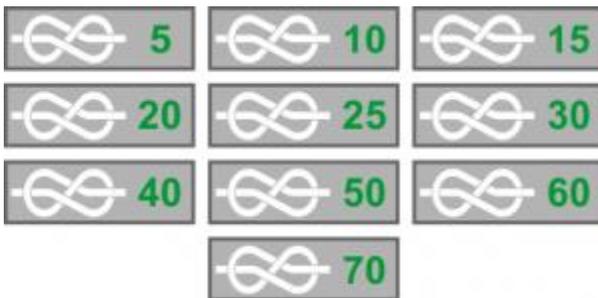
You can also visit

<http://www.scouts.org.uk/beyond2018> to read an overview of the work being done in the lead up to 2018. You can also find briefings on all the research done prior to creating the draft

plan, blogs on the various issues and review some of the presentations from Summit17.

Long Service Awards

We are delighted to say that as reported in the last Durham ePost, adult long service awards have now been sent out to District Commissioners.



If you thought that you were due a long service award and haven't yet received it, please check with your District Commissioner.

Note that these are generated automatically from the Compass membership system and it is the responsibility of every member to ensure that their own service records are complete and up-to-date. If this is not the case please work with your local administrators (District Administrator or District Secretary) to get your records updated.

County Commissioner's

Update



David Stokes
County Commissioner
cc@durhamscouts.org.uk

It's again been a busy few months since the last Durham ePost was published, but I did get the chance to take some time off work, even if one of those breaks was for more scouting!

New Appointments

In the last three months, we've made a few more appointments to the county team. My thanks go to the members of the county Appointments Advisory Committee who have never been so busy as they have been over the last twelve months (seriously – I appreciate all the meetings and interviews you've held).

We can start with some more District Commissioner appointments.

In **Bishop Auckland** District **Claire Bake** has been appointed as **District Commissioner**. Claire will be known to many of you in her previous role as County Diversity Ambassador. Claire is also very well known within Bishop Auckland District as she's held many roles at both Group and District level over the years.

In **Derwentside**, **Jason Wise** will shortly be assuming the role of **District Commissioner**. Jason was previously in scouting as a youth member and has a daughter in 1st Consett group. He joins us with a wealth of leadership and management experience in the education sector and will bring further growth and direction to the District.

My thanks go to the previous incumbents in these roles. Former Bishop Auckland DC Ian Johnson will be taking on the role of ADC (Development) in Bishop Auckland as his main role.

Former DC in Derwentside, **Bryan Johnson** has been appointed as **Deputy County Commissioner**. Bryan will deputise for me when I am not available, will provide added capacity with respect to complaints management and the management of safeguarding cases in the county and will also provide guidance and support to our largely refreshed team of District Commissioners.

Meanwhile, in the scout section we've had a change. Sadly, Paul Atkinson is having to take a break from scouting for personal reasons and this means that he's stood down as ACC(Scouts). I'd like to thank Paul for the energy and enthusiasm he brought to the role and for the work he did supporting troops in the county and getting us started in revamping county scout competitions.

However, prior to Paul standing down I'm pleased to say that **Mike Dodds** had agreed to

also take on the role of **ACC(Scouts)** in a role share with Paul. With Paul and Mike having worked together for a couple of months that means we have some good continuity in the section. Many of you will know Mike as a Scout Leader at 1st Belmont in Durham and City or will have met Mike on county hill walking courses or helping out at county events.

I'm also delighted to share the news that **Jamie Ion** from Blaydon District has agreed to take on the role of **Manager** of the new **County Media Team** (Scout Active Support Unit). The key to making this work really well will be to find other media-savvy volunteers who can share the work and help provide the scout county – and districts – with better coverage in the media.

Finally, I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Justine Torrance** as our new **County Training Manager**. Justine joins us from a Territorial Army / Army Cadets training background, where she has been planning and delivering adult and youth training for the last ten years (read on for a more complete introduction from Justine herself).

My thanks once again to Ian Johnson and Sheila Gibbon for their great work as an interim county training team. Ian and Sheila will now be planning a handover with Justine and you'll be hearing much more about county training in the coming months.

We also have a prospective County Secretary in the wings and have recruited a couple of members for the Finance Management Board. This means that the county team structure is complete and that we now have the right people in place to support districts and groups.

Fun and Adventure

As I intimated above, although I've had another busy three months, I've also made time for some scouting fun.

Most exciting and enjoyable was joining the team who took our scouts and explorer scouts to the Kent International Jamboree early in August. We knew we were in for a great time after a couple of super preparation camps – and after I'd heeded the warning and took my super-soaker water gun to the 1st Framewellgate Moor Friday night scout troop's

end of term water fight when we went over the their HQ to check equipment we were borrowing for the Jamboree.



The Jamboree itself was a fantastic week and although the weather was mixed (some good sun, but very wet and windy at times) it was great to spend time with a really fantastic group of adults and young people and also to exercise my camping skills (tents either side of us blew down, but we were fine!)

As you'll read elsewhere in this issue, the Kent International Jamboree was the first step in providing our young people with more international opportunities and in encouraging more leaders in the county to think about attending international events in this country and abroad.

I've also been taking the opportunity to 'pop-in' and join in with other activities where I've been invited and have now had a couple of opportunities to fling mud at the new round house which 1st Eppleton Scout Group have been masterminding at Moor House Adventure Centre.



It's taken a lot of hard work but it's been great fun and the new round house is looking great (I believe there will be more opportunities to make and throw mud at Confido!).

I can't always promise to be available, but if you've got something fun and adventurous going on I'd love to hear about it – feel free to drop me a line and invite me along.

Beaver Scouts



BEAVERS

Paul Woods
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Beaver Pantomime

It's been relatively quiet since the last newsletter and the only thing this time is to remind everyone again about this year's beaver scout pantomime

The details of the Beaver Pantomime are:

- It's - Robinson Crusoe
- At - 1pm on 3rd December 2017
- At - Gala Theatre, Durham
- It costs £9 per ticket, with 1 free ticket for every 10 booked.
- All Leaders, Helpers, Explorers, Scouts, Cubs, Beavers and their families can attend.

The booking system is open (see <https://www.durhamscouts.org.uk/events/beaver-panto-2017/>) and payments for any bookings made must reach Moor House by close of business on **Thursday 21st September** (this is to allow us enough time to put cheques in the bank and pay the Gala theatre by the 3rd of October.)

If paying by internet bank transfer or BACS, please use:

- Account Name: Durham Scout County
- Sort Code: 40-52-40
- Account Number: 00011421
- Reference: Panto GRPXX - where GRPxx is your group booking reference



Cub Scouts



cubs

Sarah Dodds & Lesley Robinson
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Wot, Still No Photo?

Note from the Editor: If anyone has a photo of Lesley we could use in the newsletter, please let us know...

F W Dunn Photo Competition

After changing the entry requirements with input from those leaders who have been attending our cub programme support meetings, this year we have seen a fantastic increase in the number of entries.

Cubs were asked to make a poster with 5 photographs on the theme of "What Cubs do" This incorporates most of elements of the Cub Photography Badge. We had a variety of entries which were judged anonymously by an independent judge.

Well done to all those who took part, they have all achieved a

lot just by taking part and we've included the top three entries on the following pages.

The theme for 2018 is "Our Adventure", which we hope will support cub packs with the Our adventure Challenge Award.

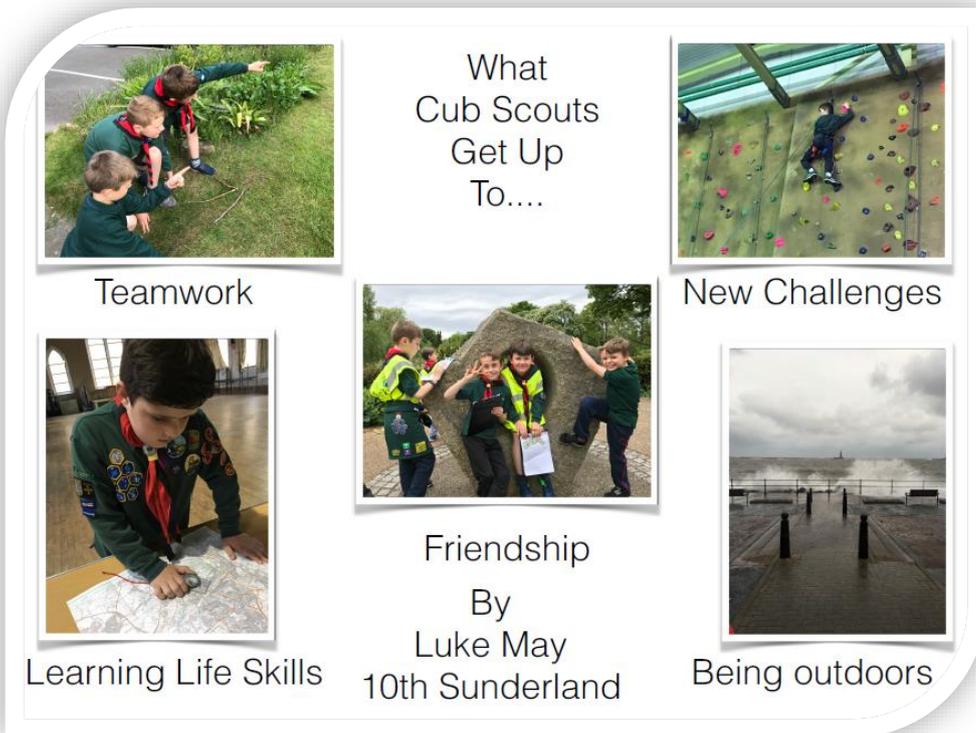
The deadline for entries will be 31st May 2018. We look forward to receiving even more entries next year.



What Cub Scouts Get Up To...



1st Place - James Cottam - 86th Sunderland



2nd Place - Luke May - 10th Sunderland



What Cubs do at the 22nd (brownsea) South Shields Scout group..... have fun
By Zak Thorpe

3rd Place - Zak Thorpe - 22nd South Shields

Programme Support Meetings

Please try to come along to the cub programme support meetings and have your say, and get support from others leaders around the county - it's good to share ideas.

Scouts



SCOUTS 
Mike Dodds
ACC (Scouts)
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Work is well underway with planning new or revamped scout section activities and competitions for 2018.

Go-Karting Weekend

Planning for the scout section go-karting weekend has started, with a number of leaders visiting Wolsingham Show Ground for a look around the site.

The idea is that rather than just a go-karting competition, we'll make a weekend of it with different go-karting competitions spread over a

weekend of camping, with a hike at some point over the weekend. This isn't planned to be a regular event, but a special one-off event for the section.

It's now too late to organise this for 2017 as we need reasonable conditions for the go-kart racing. We're looking to confirm a weekend in July 2018 and as soon as we have a final date for we'll get it in the county calendar.

Dryburn Camping Competition / Vaux Ambulance Shield

Dates for the reintroduction of the rebooted Dryburn Camping Competition and the Vaux Ambulance Shield first aid competition are now fixed.

Both of these events will be based out of Moor House over the weekend of 18th – 20th May 2018.

Although the Dryburn Cup will still be a camping competition, we're going to support a more flexible approach to camping (e.g. no more insisting on patrol tents, which many troops don't use or don't own).

This will also be an opportunity to support scouts and reinforce training in the troop and will be as much about promoting good camping standards as it will be judging them.



During the weekend we're also going to run a rebooted Vaux Ambulance Shield, which will be built into the Dryburn Cup weekend programme.

Rather than just test technical first aid skills in the hall at Moor House, we'll be getting off-site and making the competition a first aid based incident hike, with first aid incidents in both rural and town settings.

It's hoped that these changes will make both of these long-established competitions more enjoyable for our scouts and that we can attract more teams over time.



However, to allow us to get the new format established and working well we will initially be limiting the number of entries in 2018. This will allow us to see how the new format works and how we can then scale-up these competitions to allow all troops in the county to take part.

We'll have more information on these events in the coming months and hope that all scout leaders will come along to our regular programme support meetings to provide input and help plan these reinvigorated competitions.

Explorer Scouts



EXPLORERS

Scott Doughty

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It's been a busy time for explorer scouts across the county with a lot of things going on and a lot of things being planned.

Outward Bound "Skills for Life"

In the last newsletter we told you about the Outward Bound course selection event held back in the spring.

The 7 participants who were selected to go on the Outward Bound "Skills for Life" course spent 3 weeks in Ullswater in late July and early August and all achieved their personal goals.

They all enjoyed themselves immensely and that clearly showed when ACC Activities (Stephen Ramsay) and myself went along for the presentation evening on the last night of the course.

Our seven participants were all part of larger teams who had a life changing experience and the bonds formed between the course participants were fantastic for Stephen and myself to witness.

We've also been working with the Outward Bound Trust to encourage more scout counties to take part so next year we hope to see even more explorer scouts in Ullswater for the course.



Please keep an eye out for the application dates for next years' selection weekend. In 2018 we're hoping to send even more young people from the county to take part in this amazing opportunity and it would be great if we get even more applications.

Please remind your explorer scouts about this life changing personnel development opportunity and if they are interested in applying please suggest that they keep the dates of 23rd July – 10th August 2018 free.

Moor House Working Days

We would also like to thank everyone for their hard work over the summer holidays, taking part in the work party days at Moor House Adventure Centre. This includes a number of explorer scout units from across the county, supported by other sections and groups with a special thanks to 1st Eppleton Scout group and the Kent International Jamboree contingent for helping with the tyre roundhouse project.



County Explorer Conference

As the summer draws to an end I've been working with a few other members of the county team involved with the explorer scout section. The first thing to mention is the first ever County Explorer Scout Conference.



This is on the evening of 28th September at Moor House (7pm for a 7.30pm start)

At the conference we will cover what's available for our young people in explorer scout units across the county including opportunities with:

- The Outward Bound Trust
- The Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- The Queen Scout award
- The Ocean Youth Trust
- Young Leaders
- Moving on to Scout Network

If you're planning on bringing your explorer scouts (which is who the conference is aimed at) at please let us know how many will be coming so that we can plan accordingly

Explorer Scout / Scout Network Camp

We have also started planning the first ever joint explorer scout and scout network county camp.

Watch out for more details on this event at the conference.

Young Leaders

	 Iain Wood ACC (Young Leaders) yl@durhamscouts.org.uk
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We've been asked when we are running the next county young leader training weekend. We're currently in the final stages of organising dates and a location for the next county young leader training.

The dates we are looking at are 8-10th December, with the location to be confirmed. If you have young leaders who would like to attend please let us know so that we can plan on suitable accommodation.

More information on young leader training will be available at the Explorer Scout Conference and we look forward to seeing you all at the conference and subsequent programme support meetings.

Scout Network



network 

David Holmes
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Members of the scout network from across the county have had a busy summer, either as part of their district Scout Network or as part of the UK Scout Network.

- Sunderland scout network members visited the Edinburgh Tattoo, camping at a nearby site and visiting plenty of sights in Scotland's capital city.



- Jack White and Dizzy Peveryly took part in what became a UK Scout Network Explorer Belt expedition in Peru, spending time



exploring the country, meeting people and supporting community projects.

Jack presenting their trip at this year's Gilwell Reunion at the start of September.

- Scout network members from across the scout county have been helping out at Moor House working days, helping improve and refurbish the site.



Explorer / Scout Network Conference

Don't forget that the conference on 28th September is also a scout network conference too.

As scout network members you can come along to find out all about the Outward Bound Trust, the Ocean Youth Trust, find out about completing your Queen's Scout Awards and much more.

It's also a chance to meet prospective members from the explorer scout section and tell them all about what you're getting up to in scout network.

Network Chill Out Camp 2018

Next year's Network Chill Out Camp is planned for 5th – 7th January 2018, at West Hall as usual and we hope to see many of you there from across the county.

We'll have more details about the camp and we'll let you know how to book places in the December newsletter, but for now please be sure to put the date in your network calendars.

Events



Ian Hammond
ACC (Events)
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Confido 2017

Although the Confido 2017 'Haunted House' weekend has an awesome programme, we're sorry to say that due to unprecedented demand, bookings for Confido 2017 closed early in August.

Bookings came in faster than ever during the exclusive Durham Scout County booking period and we were already at 74% capacity before we opened up to non-Durham Scout County bookings.



8 groups booked between midnight and gam on the 5th August - there were groups submitting bookings at 00:06, 00:15, 00:28, 00:32. This meant that non-DSC groups who were sitting ready to make their bookings took some of the remaining spaces.

Over the past few years we have developed our large County events so that they are more popular than ever. As our communications become more effective we are also seeing increasing demand directly from our youth members for all county events.

To ensure that our own members do not miss out, prior to 2016 we brought forward the Confido booking opening date to allow groups to book prior to the end of the summer school term. In 2016, we introduced an exclusive booking period for Durham troops / units, to give booking priority to our own members. This year multiple reminders about the end of the exclusive booking period were sent out via multiple channels to remind Durham Scout County leaders to book before 5th August.

In the longer term we are looking to increase capacity at site as part of the Moor House Development Plan, but this requires significant investment and is not a short term fix.



As a result of this years unprecedented demand from within and outside the Scout County, in 2018 will be looking at what further changes we can make to better meet the needs of our own members and we would be interested to hear your thoughts on how we might improve the booking process.

Please can we emphasise the need for leaders to stay abreast of the booking process and deadlines and to plan accordingly. This means bearing in mind the need for the timely distribution of information to our youth members and the need to book early for popular events.

2018 Event Dates

We have now finalised county event dates for 2018 (see the back of the newsletter). We're currently updating the on-line county calendar and as soon as this is done we'll be e-mailing everyone to let them know.

Please make sure that you take a look at the dates to help you to plan next years' programmes with your sections.

2018 sees the return of the Beaver Picnic and Cubboree as well as our ever popular Climb When Ready climbing competition, the Geoffrey Gordon Cup and Confido.

Adventurous Activities



Stephen Ramsay
 ACC (Activities)
 activities@durhamscouts.org.uk

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Update

Good news and bad news regarding the Duke of Edinburgh's Award...

Bad: I am still getting nearly 90% of the Volunteering section coming through where young people are volunteering as Young Leaders, but with the scouting assessors reports/evidence not showing the participant has completed Module 'A'.

Would all leaders writing these reports kindly get the young person to include a scan of any YL training certificates onto eDofE, or otherwise provide a statement to confirm the date the young person completed Module A (and any other young leader training)

Good: I have been advised of a fantastic 48 expeditions going out this season. This is a 50% increase on last year with 241 explorer scouts / scout network members putting their boots on for DofE expeditions.

A big thank you to our leaders for a massive amount of preparation and getting routes and green form in to me in much better time.

Hillwalking

Course No.110 is on 27th -29th October is virtually full with the next available dates being 12th – 14th January 2018.



Climbing

We have been working hard to get more folk signed off for belaying - thank you everyone for putting yourselves forward.

We will now have enough people with permits to man all the ropes at Confido and provide some great climbing activities over the weekend.

Archery

There's a space on the 5th archery course on 30th Sept - 1st October if you are quick.

Glider

This out of this world activity for young people still has dates available - check the website

<http://glider.ne-activities.org.uk/>

This is also a good place to do a residential experience.

Creative

In particular MUSIC.

For the last two years we have had a member being part of the National Scout & Guide Orchestra and we've received this great report from Ben Dodds, an Explorer Scout in Durham and City District.



"With James Turnbull, another explorer scout from Durham County, I recently attended the National Scout and Guide Symphony Orchestra and Concert band (NSGSO). I used this for my gold DofE residential.

This was a week long event in which over 128 Scouts and Guides from around the UK attended to play a wide variety of music in various locations including the Severn Valley railway, Ruddock Hall and the MACC theatre.

It was a great experience for me as I met lots of people including James who was the other explorer from Durham who I didn't know prior to the event. The NSGSO was an amazing experience and I would recommend it to anyone who is grade 5 and above in any Orchestra or Concert Band instrument"

This is a fabulous residential experience for any budding musician with Grade 5 or above. Applications open in September for 2018 (so around about NOW). See <http://apply.nsgso.com/> to apply.

(DofE leaders might like to spot and encourage any young person playing an instrument for the skill section)

Permits

Each month I email every permit holder who has a permit about to expire by the end of the next month. I send out no other reminders.

It is the leaders' responsibility to check their own Compass record to ensure their permit(s) are still in existence with a relevant scope before using them.

International



Dave Russell

ACC (International)

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Over the summer we have had members from Durham county attending the Moot in Iceland, camping at the International Scout Centre in Kandersteg, carrying out an explorer belt expedition in Peru and a County Unit attending the Kent International Jamboree.

I know that everyone has had a great time, with some already planning their next International adventure for next year.



As a Patrol can only have up to 8 members, we have joined with Northumberland scout county to form 3 patrols between us.



Roverway 2018

We've already had ten explorer scout / scout network members applying to attend Roverway 2018, which is great.

Thanks to Ben Hodgkiss from Durham and City District and a member of the UK Roverway Contingent Management team for leading this for the County.

Therefore, if you are still interested in attending Roverway, we do still have a limited number of places available and applications close 29th September.

Full details and application form is available at <https://www.durhamscouts.org.uk/events/roverway-2018/>



World Scout Jamboree 2019



As we've previously shared, Durham county will be sending 6 patrols (54 young people) to attend the 24th World Scout Jamboree, being held at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia, USA in 2019 (shown below).

➔ Assistant Leaders, Tom Kitchen and Ryan Currah.

- Sarah Dodds is supporting Adam in the joint unit.

All will be working together to ensure that everyone from Durham are fully trained for their jamboree experience.

The selection process for our young people has started, and we have information evenings planned as follows:

- 12th September 2017: 1st Whickham HQ, Gateshead District
- 15th September 2017: 1st Burnmoor HQ, Chester-le-Street District
- 25th September 2017: Elvet Explorers, Durham and City District
- 28th September 2017: Network Conference, Moor House



We have a full unit under the leadership of Ben Hudson and a half unit in partnership with North Yorkshire, with Adam Wilson leading this on our behalf.

The leadership team for both units is now in place, these are

- For the full Durham unit
 - ➔ Deputy Leader - Susan Reece,

These sessions are open to anyone in the county. If you would like one of the team to run a road show in your District please contact them at jamboree2019@durhamscouts.org.uk

More details and application forms for young people can be found at <https://www.durhamscouts.org.uk/events/world-scout-jamboree/>

The selection events are on the 14th and 15th October at Moor House with application forms

needing to be returned by the 6th October 2017.

Explorer belt 2018 Oman

Are you over 16 and under 25 and looking for something different? What about doing your Explorer Belt in Oman in August 2018. Full Details are at

<http://internationalscouts.org.uk/index.php/projects/arabian-peninsula>

Go International in 2018!

Summer may be just over, but it's time to start planning the next adventure and we already know of a number of sections planning international adventures for 2018.

Details of all International Opportunities can be found at

<http://members.scouts.org.uk/documents/International%20Opportunities%20-June2017.pdf>

UK based international camps (Jamborees) are also run each year and attending one of these could be the way of letting your young people have an international experience without actually travelling abroad.

Or what about being part of the International summer camp in the USA? Each year, the Boy Scouts of America invite Scouts aged 18-30 from around the world to come to the United States and spend the summer as an International Camp Staff member of a BSA summer camp or Cub Scout day camp. Details at

<http://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/search/?cat=52,208,398>



Safeguarding



Sheila Gibbon

Safeguarding Coordinator

safeguarding@durhamscouts.org.uk

(Note: Please use the above e-mail address for general safeguarding queries only. Report any safeguarding issues or concerns direct to your DC, not to the above e-mail address)

Resources

The large yellow cards (suitable for notice board display) are now available again. If any districts / Groups would like copies, I'm happy to order.



Parents' Guide to Safeguarding: this new resource is due to be launched this month, so watch this space.

Anti-bullying: a new set of resources is due to be launched in October, ahead of Anti-bullying week. This will take place from 13 - 17th November with a theme of 'All different, All equal'.

Sarahah: (meaning "honesty" in Arabic) is an anonymous service for answering questions and sending messages. Once a user registers, they can share a chat conversation, link, or publish it publicly on the web, and anyone with that link can send anonymous messages or questions to them. The recipient has no way of knowing who the sender is.

Due to its anonymous nature, the main issue is as old as the internet – it can be used to hurt as well as support.

More info and be found at:
<http://tinyurl.com/y7fly3hf>

Stay Safe

Work has begun on two new safeguarding videos, one for Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts and the other for Scouts and Explorer Scouts. The safeguarding department is also looking at the feasibility of a safeguarding app, but this is in the very early stages.

Safer Internet Day

This will be held on Tuesday 6th February 2018 with the theme of "Create, Connect and Share Respect: A better internet starts with you".

This is a call to action for every stakeholder to play their part and engage with others in a respectful way to ensure a better online experience for everyone. More info at

<https://www.saferinternetday.org.uk>

Guide to online services

Insafe have published a guide to online services which aims to provide key information about some of the most popular apps, social networking sites and other platforms which are commonly used by children and young people. Just follow the link:

<https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/web/port al/onlineservices>

Mandatory Safeguarding Training

The closing date for booking on to the mandatory safeguarding training for experienced leaders scheduled for Saturday 23rd September has now passed, but if you need to attend and have not applied, please email me (address above) and I'll check availability.

Adult Training



Justine Torrance

County Training Manager

training@durhamscouts.org.uk

Hello!

Firstly I would like to introduce myself as I have just been appointed as the new County Training Manager. My name is Justine Torrance and here is a brief background of where I have been before joining the scout movement.

I joined the regular Army in 1996 and spent a little over 4 years being an unmanned air vehicle operator for the Royal Regiment of Artillery, based out of 39 Regt, up at Harlow Hill not far from Heddon-on the Wall.

From there I joined the Territorial Army up in the north east at 204 Battery (Tyneside Scottish). I stayed in the north east and I did marry, but it was not the only reason why I stayed in the North-East (and it's not like I'm still married!)

During my time as a regular and territorial soldier, I served two tours of duty in Northern Ireland as a regular and was called up for Iraq. I also got to go on three overseas exercises in Cyprus, Oman and Michigan in the United States.



I put all this to good use and eventually joined the Army Cadet Force in Northumbria for a period of 10 years. I gained the rank of Lieutenant as a company training officer, after being a highly successful detachment commander (a detachment is similar to a scout group).

Whilst there I have conducted many exercises with the cadets and organized overseas trips for them and gained the clearance for wearing uniforms in France, Belgium and Holland. I have also helped organize and run many Potential Officers courses, before they go to Westbury to become a commissioned officer.

Civilian jobs wise, since being out of the army I have worked as a security guard, HGV driver, bus driver, Manager at KFC, a team member at Asda for a while, a driver for a laboratory in Cramlington and currently am a customer service advisor for Worldpay.

Although I don't have a lot of scouting experience, I'm hoping that all of you can help me build my knowledge of scouting and that with my experiences of conducting adult training, we can all help our scout county be the best that it can possibly be.

I'm looking forward to working with you all and please do come and say "Hi" to me when you see me.

Learning is Optional but Validation is Essential!



YOUR TRAINING

New Regional Training Manager

We can also announce the appointment of Chris Watson as Regional Training Manager to support the North East.

Chris has been part of the training fraternity in many different roles for a number of years, more lately in West Yorkshire.

Chris will initially be working with County Training Managers (CTMs) and Ian Chappell (Regional Commissioner) to launch the new Manager and Supporter training within the region. Also as part of her role she will be supporting CTMs to develop training in their counties.

Dates for Manager / Supporter Training

For those looking to attend the new regional Manager and Supporter training, the following dates have been provided by Chris:

- 7/8th October 2017
- 11/12th November 2017
- 24/25th February 2018
- 17/18th March 2018
- 14/15th April 2018
- 12/13th May 2018
- 29/30th September 2018
- 24/25th November 2018

Validation of Training by Training Advisors

All Training Advisors should have received an HQ e-mail stating that they will be able to directly validate modules on Compass from 15th September 2017.

In anticipation of this update, you can view user guides on how to validate a module on Compass at

<https://compasssupport.scouts.org.uk/?quick-start-guide=how-to-add-update-and-validate-a-members-module>

Wood Badge Training Dates

Below are the remaining dates for county Wood Badge training modules in 2017, and dates for 2018

2017

- September 10th 2017: Module 13/21 - Growing the Section / Movement (Leaders)

and Managers/Supporters) at 2nd Wheatley Hill HQ

- September 10th 2017: Module 7 – Scouting for all at 2nd Wheatley Hill HQ
- September 26th 2017: Administration
- October 18th 2017: International

2018

- 7th March 2018: Module 5 - Fundamental Values of Scouting
- 17th March 2018: Module 15 - Promoting Positive Behaviour
- 17th March 2018: Module 12a - Delivering a Quality Programme
- 17th April 2018: Module 17 - Running Safe Activities
- 1st May 2018: Module 9 - Working with Adults
- 16th May 2018: Module 8 - Skills of Leadership
- 13th June 2018: Module 36 - Special Needs
- 20th June 2018: Module 14 - Supporting Young People
- 3rd July 2018: Module 16 - Introduction to Residential Experiences
- 15th September 2018: Module 13/21 - Growing the Section / Movement (Leaders and Managers/Supporters)
- 15th September 2018: Module 7 - Scouting For All
- 24th September 2018: Module 11 – Administration
- 18th October 2018: Module 19 - International

Moor House Adventure Centre



<http://moor-house.org.uk/>
info@moor-house.org.uk

(0191) 584 1703

Open Evenings

Moor House Adventure Centre ran an open evening for those working in the education sector (schools, colleges etc). This has given teachers who have not recently visited the centre the chance to see what's available and another evening is planned for October 3rd.

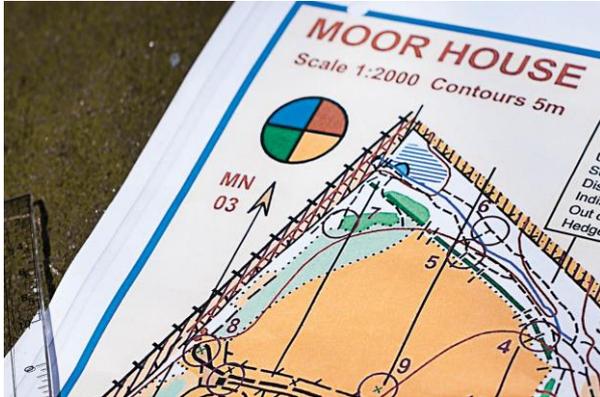
Following this success, we are now holding an open evening for members of the scout county who have not been to Moor House for a while.

- **Date:** Monday 2nd October
- **Time:** 5pm – 8pm
- **Location:** Moor House (where else!)

Come along to meet Stu and the team for an open tour of our newly decorated indoor accommodation in the house and our 15-acre site packed full of activities.



You can also find out more information about our 'Badge in a Box' days (see below) and other exciting developments, such as our new activity - tree climbing!



Due to the expected high volume of attendees, we are restricting each group to 4 delegates, please book at <http://moor-house.org.uk/product/scoutopenevent2017/> or call (0191) 584 1703 by Tuesday 26th September 2017 to guarantee your place.

Badge in a Box

To help busy leaders deliver some of the more challenging and rewarding badges for our younger members, Moor House Adventure Centre are now able to deliver programme days to help our youth members to achieve:

- Beaver Scout My Adventure Challenge Award
- Cub Scout Our Adventure Challenge Award

With a combination of work done in the Colony / Pack and an exciting day out at Moor House Adventure Centre, leaders will be able to deliver these key parts of the Chief Scout's Bronze and Silver Awards.

By using the facilities of Moor House Adventure Centre and the experience of our activities instructors for activities such as orienteering, low ropes, archery, crate stacking, climbing, den building etc, it is hoped that we will all be able to help even more of our beaver and cub scouts achieve their top awards.



Contact Moor House Adventure Centre if you would like to discuss organising a session for your beavers or cubs.



Working Days

Moor House working days go from strength-to-strength and since the last copy of the Durham ePost there have been two working days, one on 17th June one on 2nd September.



On both of these days we've had a growing team with a good mix of explorer scouts, scout network members and adult volunteers turn up and work alongside our Moor House staff team to get a lot of work done. New fences have been installed, the campfire circle has been refurbished, rounds house are being built and Charlies' Cabin has been refurbished.

Why not come along on the open evening and see for yourself what's been accomplished or – better yet – why not come along on 25th November for the last working day of the year, see for yourself and help put the site to bed for the winter.

To find out more about how you can help and to sign up to help out on a working day visit <https://www.durhamscouts.org.uk/for-members/moor-house-management-board/friends-of-moor-house/>.

2018 Dates

Here are the start dates for our 2018 events. Please note that this only gives the start date for events of two or more days. Check the County Calendar for full details (see page two).

What?	Start Date
County Network Chill Out Weekend	05 January 2018
County Team Operations Meeting	09 January 2018
DC's Meeting	11 January 2018
Hill Walking Course	12 January 2018
Finance Sub-Committee Meeting	22 January 2018
Executive Committee (Governance) Meeting	29 January 2018
Moor House Management Board Meeting	30 January 2018
DofE, Q&A Day	04 February 2018
Programme Support (Sections) Meeting	07 February 2018
Climbing belay training/assessment	17 February 2018
Intro to Navigation days	24 February 2018
Climb When Ready	03 March 2018
Moor House Working Weekend	03 March 2018
DC's / County Team Strategic Meeting	05 March 2018
Mandatory Safeguarding Training	06 March 2018
County Scout Council Meeting	07 March 2018
Training Advisors Meeting	13 March 2018
The Geoffrey Gordon Cup	16 March 2018
Moor House Management Board Meeting	29 March 2018
DC's Meeting	02 April 2018
County Team Operations Meeting	04 April 2018
Windsor (TBC, pending confirmation)	21 April 2018
Finance Sub-Committee Meeting	24 April 2018
Executive Committee (Governance) Meeting	01 May 2018
Programme Support (Sections) Meeting	09 May 2018
Moor House Working Weekend	12 May 2018
Pete Swinney Competition	12 May 2018
Dryburn Camping Competition / Vaux Ambulance Shield	18 May 2018
Moor House Management Board Meeting	29 May 2018
Beaver Picnic	09 June 2018
Cubboree 2018	22 June 2018

What?	Start Date
DC's Meeting	03 July 2018
County Team Operations Meeting	05 July 2018
Scout Go Karting Weekend	06 July 2018
Moor House Management Board Meeting	24 July 2018
Finance Sub-Committee Meeting	25 July 2018
Executive Committee (Governance) Meeting	01 August 2018
DC's / County Team Strategic Meeting	04 September 2018
Programme Support (Sections) Meeting	05 September 2018
Moor House Working Weekend	08 September 2018
Cooper Cup Competition	09 September 2018
Annual General Meeting	12 September 2018
Awards 2018	15 September 2018
Moor House Management Board Meeting	26 September 2018
Archery Permit Course	29 September 2018
County Team Operations Meeting	01 October 2018
DC's Meeting	04 October 2018
Confido 2018	05 October 2018
Intro to Navigation day	14 October 2018
Training Advisors Meeting	17 October 2018
Finance Sub-Committee Meeting	25 October 2018
Hill Walking Course	26 October 2018
Executive Committee (Governance) Meeting	01 November 2018
Moor House Working Weekend	03 November 2018
Moor House Management Board Meeting	29 November 2018
Programme Support (Sections) Meeting	05 December 2018