



Scouts Scotland South West Region

South by Southwest



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Notes from the Regional Commissioner

In a few weeks time now at the end of June the Region expedition to Kenya, “Jambo Makobe”, will be under way. Around 40 adults and young people from across the Region are off to help provide better conditions for schooling and relaxation at the Makobe School for disadvantaged children near Mombasa and afterwards to take part in a wildlife safari in Kenya and a mountain expedition in Tanzania.

A few weeks later our 11 representatives to the 22nd World Jamboree will be on their way to join around 38000 Scouts from around the world at the Jamboree site near the city of Kristianstad in southern Sweden.

Between these two major events there will be a number of Explorer Scouts off on a Scottish Explorer Belt expedition to Poland. *(Advance notice – look out for a Region Explorer Belt in 2012)*

These are just a few examples of international scouting opportunities available to our young people – and leaders – which all add to the overall Scouting experience.

There are also of course, as always, camps abroad planned by various groups around the Region to such places as the International Scout Centre at Kandersteg in the Swiss Alps and to other international events and destinations which are always there if you take the time to look for them and join in.

Then there are the Groups and Units who set out on summer camps and expeditions at home in various parts of Scotland and the rest of the UK and Ireland and while maybe not as glamorous as some of the “big” events are every bit as important and as much fun for those who take part. Such camps are certainly more available, cost wise, in these “tight” money days and should be encouraged at every opportunity so that as many of our membership as possible enjoy the camping experience which is core

to Scouting. It doesn't have to be one or two weeks in camp to get into the camp scene. It can just as easily be a long week-end , or two, or three, over the course of the summer and sometimes this is the best way to introduce new campers, both young and old to some of the camping skills. All a leader needs is a “Nights Away Permit” and if you don't already have one see your Nights Away Adviser about correcting the omission before the summer is gone.

“Greenfield” camping requires some established experience but there are many National, Regional and District campsites which the less experienced leader can access , some of which have indoor accommodation, and many of which have on-site activities and instructors to take the load off the leaders. It is just a matter of looking to see where they are and what they offer and then placing a booking, the earlier the better or you may be disappointed as most sites book up quickly over the holiday months in particular.

Close to home the South West has a number of campsites and centres within the Region. Some are District sites and some are Region sites and details with all the information you might require about them can be found on the Region website. These might just be the answer to what you are looking for.

Duncan

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Kenya—Here they come

A party 40 Explorer Scouts, Networkers and Leaders head for Kenya on 25th June for a two week Expedition. The aim to help a school in Makobe, a village near Mombassa, which handles disadvantaged kids.

The party will be travelling by train to London on the Saturday and fly out to Nairobi and then an internal flight to Mombassa where they will be based for the first week or so the expedition living in a hotel.



They will travel daily to Makobe by minibus from the Monday to Saturday where they will carry out the following projects:

Relaxation Area: there is a great need for an area where the disabled youngsters could gather to have their lunch and for other social times.

Volley Ball/Football Field: the ground should be leveled off before we arrive so we need to plan how we will measure and layout the playing areas and equipment required.

Benches: we need to plan exactly the type/s of desk we will construct. Both classrooms need approx 20 desks.

Classroom Decoration: the 2 classrooms need painting including the blackboard being painted with special blackboard paint.



New Workshop: there would be an opportunity to do a mural on the wall which is 18' long by 9' high '.

The Party Leader, Iain Matheson, who is also ADC (Adult Support in Kyle and Carrick), paid a flying visit to Makobe in February of this year to meet the staff of the school and to discuss the hotel accommodation.

After they complete their six days working at Makobe, the party leave Mombassa and go to separate ways. One group go to climb Mount Meru in Tanzania and the



other group head 6 day / 5 night safari in Tsavo East and Amboseli.



At the end of their respective tours the groups meet up again at Nairobi on Friday 8th July for the flight back to London and the

train journey home on Saturday morning.

With a bit of lucky, if the IT works, you will be able to follow their experiences on the Kenya Blog which can be found on the Regional Web Site. See P12 for some pictures of their latest week-end together before they leave.

Regional Training



Training Dates for your Diary

Module 38 May 13th & 15th at Galloway Sailing Centre , Loch Ken

Please note the venue for Module 38 has changed but it is still in Galloway.

Safeguarding Awareness Course—18th June— a session in the morning and another in the afternoon—See page 6 for details.

Module 17,18,19 September 3rd in Galloway Violet Service

Module 17,18,19 September 4th at Culzean

Module 17,18,19 September 2/3/4 St Ann's

Modules 5,6,16 September 25th Gatehouse Scout Hall

Modules 20 – 24,26 September 24-25th Venue to be confirmed ton

- 11 Modules October 28 – 30th Venue to be confirmed

This is a full weekend course. During the weekend we will be covering 11 of the modules, modules 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 19. The venue has to be confirmed but is likely to be in the south of the region. A similar course has just been completed on Arran and was well received by those who attended.

Modules 7,14,15 November 20th at Loans Scout Hall

Modules 8,9,11,13 December 4th at 57th Scout Hall, Dumfries

2012

Modules 5,6,16 January 29th at Loans Scout Hall

Modules 7,14,15 February 26th in Galloway

Modules 8,9,11,13 March 25th at Loans Scout Hall

Module 38 June 1st – 3rd at Culzean

Margaret Craik



Our Secretary moves south

Kevin Whitfield, our Regional Secretary since the formation of the Region, has resigned the position and moved back to England.

Pictures with Kevin and his wife (seated) are Eric Moffat, Duncan Riddell, Margaret Craik and Duncan Clark.

George Ling has now taken on the role of Regional Secretary.

St George's Days Awards 2011

You will be delighted to know that the following St Georges Day Awards have been awarded by the Chief Scout to a member of South West Region

SILVER ACORN -



Jim Laird—Jim has been involved in Scouting for some 22 years mainly with the 37th Ayrshire (Henderson Church) in Ayrshire East where he was AGSL. Today Jim is a member of the Ayrshire East Scout Active Support Unit.



Award of Merit

The following Regional leaders have received the Award for Merit over the last 12 months.

Audrey Gray—Audrey is currently BSL with the 37th Ayrshire (Henderson Church) in Ayrshire East, where she initially joined as the ABSL.

Rosaline McCluskey— Rosalie started off as the BSL in the newly formed 104th Ayrshire (Drongan) Group, where she is now GSL. She is also a District BSL in Ayrshire East.

Our congratulations to all

Any Leader can put forward a nomination to their DC for an Award to be made. However for awards of Silver Acorn, Bar to Silver Acorn and Silver Wolf this has to be approved by the Regional Commissioner and DC's have to have this in the hands of Duncan in early August so that he can approve and forward the Citation to our Scottish Chief Commissioner who has to read and approve all citations and sometimes asks for additional information prior to forwarding to UKHQ. The closing date for nominations at UKHQ is 1st September 2011.

Please note that Award for Merit and Commendation for Good Service can be applied for at any time of year and is not part of the above process.

Any Cub Scout Packs looking for a Pen-pal Pack in Helsinki?

We have been contacted by an ex Lockerbie Scout, Jason Togneri, who has lived and worked in Helsinki for eight years. He recently contacted his old Scout Leader, Drew Young, to see if it would be possible to arrange an exchange with a Scottish Group.

Cubs are a bit young for this and we suggested that a Pen-Pal link would be more appropriate and Jason and his fellow leaders in Helsinki think this is a great idea.

Jason has become involved with the first, and only, English speaking group in Finland. While Cubs in Finland are aged between 7 and 10 and Adventures are aged between 10 and 12, most of their members are aged between 8 and 11.

If any Packs are interested in setting this up, contact Jason direct at jason@togneri.net and do let us know how it progresses— you never know it could possibly grown to a Scout exchange in future years.



Kyle and Carrick



Kyle and Carrick Scouts held an archery competition in Tarbolton Scout Hall with participants from the 14th, 18th, 48th, 69th and 100th taking part – the winners being the team from Alloway.

The 100th Ayrshire (Alloway) Scouts headed for Belgium last summer where they visited Brussels, Bruges and Leuven. They also enjoyed activities like water rafting, off-road mountain biking and a Theme Park. On their way out to Belgium, they met up with the Japanese contingent of Scouts heading for the Blair Atholl Jamborette.



Scouts took part in the recent Beach Spring Clean in South Ayrshire with youngsters from Girvan, the 3rd, 12th, 14th, 18th and 28th took part in the day's activity which was co-ordinated by local Rotary Clubs and supported by South Ayrshire Council

The District Scouts have also held their annual quiz recently which was won by Alloway



The Cub Scouts held their annual 5-a-side tournament at Mossblown with some 80 youngsters taking part, with the 28th Troon winning and 69th runners up.



The annual Margaret McCluskie Memorial Shield for Cub Scouts in the old Carrick District took place in March and took the form of a Mastermind Competition with some interesting questions—where to look for a reef knot on a Cub uniform? Do you know which national flag isn't included in the UK's union flag? . The winners were 3rd Ayrshire from Girvan, by 1 point from runners up 2nd Ayrshire (Ballantrae).



The District has launched a major adult recruitment campaign across South Ayrshire. South Ayrshire Council have been very co-operative in distributing flyers and leaflets to all the schools. Community centres, libraries, surgeries, chemists in their area as well as electronically distributing all the information to their employees. West Sound also assisted by putting an entry on their web site and running an advert (at a cost) for a week as well as running an interview with two young leaders.



Kirsty and Bill in the West Sound Studio

SAFEGUARDING AWARENESS COURSES—Saturday 18th June 2011

There will be two sessions of this course held in Kilmarnock. The morning session will be at the **Henderson Church Hall**, adjacent to the Scout Hall, from 10 a.m. to 12.30 and the second session at **St Joseph's Church Hall, Hill Street**, from 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Courses in the south of the Region (Dumfriesshire and Galloway) have still to be arranged.

The course is for all Leaders including Region and District teams. Everyone has to undertake this and it has to be renewed every 5 years. If anyone would prefer to do the NSPCC course this is also acceptable. I am sure that this can be done on-line. Details of the NSPCC course can be found at

<https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/2929/keeping-children-safe?cat=299,304&moduleID=10>

At the moment we are trying to identify Leaders whose warrant is due to be renewed within the next six months. From the beginning of July this year these Leaders must have a certificate showing they have completed the training. The Church of Scotland training does NOT count.

Please register for this course as soon as possible by contacting Ruth Nicol

Her email address is rnicol31@aol.com

Ayrshire East



Young Scot Awards for two Explorers.

Two Young Explorer Scouts from East Ayrshire have been awarded the 'Young Scots' Volunteer Award which was sponsored by 'A Games Legacy for Scotland'.

Liam and brother Shaun McCluskey, of the 104th Ayrshire (Drongan), received their awards at a presentation held in Glasgow on 7th April.

This Award is in recognition of someone who gives up their time and energy free of charge to help other people. This little bit of effort can make a huge difference to many causes.

As well as being Explorer Scout Young Leaders in their Group, the two brothers are active members of the East Ayrshire Southern Youth Forum,, they run guitar tutor groups and workshops on multi-media subjects ,including making of films and editing, as well as DJing for local young people in Drongan.

Shaun also is involved with the 22nd Ayrshire Scout Group which operates in the Children's ward at Crosshouse Hospital near Kilmarnock.

Liam and Shaun, received their awards at a presentation held in Glasgow on 7th April.



L to R -Jean Johanssen, Shaun McCluskey, Liam McCluskey and Val Mitchell from the category sponsor, 'A Games Legacy for Scotland'. Picture Courtesy of Daily Record

As part of the Centenary celebrations of the 33rd Ayrshire, the Group have created a memorial garden on ground donated by the Craigenkillan Estate just outside Dalmellington. As well as the Garden, the local Lodge donated a sundial to recognise the occasion.



Date for your Diary

There will be a Leaders Day, for all Southwest Region leaders, at the Park Hotel, Kilmarnock on Sunday 6th November. It will be a full day with lots on offer, including a buffet lunch—watch for more information shortly.

FUNDING and DEVELOPMENT

There are not many Scout Groups that are not looking for ways of raising funds for equipment or the like. And there are plenty of sources that can be looked at to help with this.

Our ARC (Development has been digging into some of these resources to give you a pointer of where to look.

The five districts within the Region fall within four local authorities, and three of these authorities actually have support web pages within their sites where organisations can carry out a search for possible sources of funding, depending on the aims you have.

The three authorities in the north of the Region all support the same search engine, but with different front pages, which may have differences relating to the local authority. To use the open4community sites, you require to register with the respective council—it's free so why not go and have a look

Ayrshire East www.open4community.info/eastayrshire1

For further information on possible funding contact the External Funding Officer (Tel: 01563 503230)

North Ayrshire www.open4community.info/northayrshire1

South Ayrshire www.open4community.info/southayrshire

For further information on possible funding contact the External Funding Officer on external.funding2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk.

In Dumfries and Galloway, the nearest that Anne could find is a similar search engine www.turn2us.org.uk This site is open to anyone to search, regardless of their location. For further local information on possible funding contact Voluntary Sector Funding Co-ordinator on 01387 273894

South Ayrshire also issue newsletters on fundraising and I have loaded these to the Regional Library, under Development, and these can be referred to, although there may be some sources that are unique to South Ayrshire.

CashBank for Communities

This is a Scottish Government initiative that uses funds recovered from criminal activity to support positive activities for young people

The Cashback for Communities Small Grants Scheme is aimed at units and youth groups that predominantly work with young people aged between 8 and 19 years.

Details can be found on the SHQ Site under Development

<http://www.scouts-scotland.org.uk/development/funding/cashback-for-communities>

And our own SHQ Development Fund

The Scottish Development Fund exists to provide financial support to projects that will extend, develop and enhance the quality of Scouting provided to young people and adults across Scotland.

The fund is open to all Sections, Groups, Districts and Regions in Scotland.

What can be funded?

- The start-up costs of a Section (Start Up Grant)
- Training and Assessment of Adults (Small Grant)
- Development Initiatives (Standard Grant)
- Support for additional Needs (Special Needs Grant)

Restrictions

The fund does not set any particular restrictions for which funding may be provided but it is unlikely that funding will be provided for:

- Maintenance of Buildings
- Modular Training for Individuals
- Group Applications for Activity Training and Assessment
- International Camps/Expeditions

When to apply?

The deadlines for applications each year will be:

- 1 February
- 1 May
- 1 September
- 1 November

Applications must be received in advance of all projects and no retrospective costs can be funded.

Full information on the SHQ Development Grant system can be found on the SHQ site at <http://www.scouts-scotland.org.uk/development/funding/scottish-development-fund>

Where the application forms can also be found.

Development Plans

The Region and all of the Districts have development plans and each Group should also have one—A good starting point if you don't have one is to do a Group Health Check—the documents can be found on the SHQ web site under Development and Adult Support.

NEW Scottish Scouts Web Site

The new web site for Scouts Scotland was launched on 26th April—a nice fresh look. There are a few teething problems with it which they are working at fixing, but once it all up and running it will be good.

Additional Funding Opportunity : Glenmore Lodge Courses

Over the last year anyone wanting to take part in a course at Glenmore Lodge has been eligible to receive part funding through the Scottish Development Fund at Scottish Scout HQ. This was to the value of one third of the total cost.

Glenmore lodge are now offering additional funding through the Grangers Volunteer Fund to anyone in Scouting who wishes to take part in one of their courses.

The amount payable will depend on the reasons for taking part in the training and priority will be given to anyone taking part in a course for the running of the DofE scheme.

Accessing Scout Permits will also be seen as an appropriate reason for funding and between 20 and 50% of the full cost of the course may be met by the Grangers fund.

This means that with the combined contribution of the Grangers Fund and the Scottish Development Fund a total of up to 80% of any course may be covered, resulting in Groups and Districts only having to pay for 20% of the cost.

More details on this can be found on the SHQ Site
www.scouts-scotland.org.uk/default.asp?page=13

22nd World Scout Jamboree – Sweden 2011

Regional members of the Saltire Jamboree Unit have been meeting regularly over the last few months in preparation for their trip to Sweden in July. They have had a 'Burns experience' through a Burns Supper and a visit to Alloway to learn something of the history of our national bard as well as an Apprentice-style week-end at Bishopton where they had to complete many challenges around Glasgow. After the Jamboree the contingent will be having home hospitality in the Netherlands.

Blair Atholl 2012

Plans for the next Blair Atholl Jamborette are now well in hand, and the cost and dates are now available on the Jamborette web site www.jamborette.org.uk Already there have been a number of applications from Scouts out with the UK and the Scottish Regions will receive details later on this year.

Districts will receive an allocation of places as normal and will be arranging selections camps later this year. The camp is open **only** to Scouts/Explorer Scouts over 13 years of age and under 18 years of age on 14th July 2012. The cost of the camp is £200 per head.

Explorer Belt 2012

The Region is looking at running an Explorer Belt into Europe in 2012. There are no dates as yet. Explorer Belt Expeditions are open to Explorer Scouts/Networkers between the ages of 16 and 25 at the time of the Expedition. Details on the requirements of the Explorer Belt can be found at www.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/369/explorer-belt

Details will be distributed to Explorer Units and Networkers when they are available.



Dumfriesshire

The annual Scout Craigshiels challenge in October last year was won by a team from Langholm



Dumfries Scouts held a joint camp with a German group from Waldshut in Germany at St. Ann's campsite from 5th August - 13th August. Various activities were undertaken during their stay with an exchange of games etc. The German Scouts had never done backwoods cooking so there was an afternoon spent cooking by various methods. An exchange of knot tying and games, there was a tour of both Dumfries and Moffat and it is planned for the South West Scouts from the 57th and 10th

Dumfriesshire to go to Waldshut on the Rhine next summer for 2 weeks. Waldshut is in the Baden Wurttemberg region of German and sits on the Rhine and is roughly 28 miles east of Basel in Switzerland.

Cubs Unihoc The 8th won for the first time defeating 57th in final. The 10th won plate event.

Cubs Quiz won by 57th WINNERS: The 57th Dumfriesshire team which won the quiz teddy in an inter club quiz competition held in Annan recently. The winning team members are pictured receiving their prize from district commissioner Jean Hawes.

Kirkconnel Cubs have been busy throughout March. The boys visited ATH Opencast Kirkconnel on Saturday the 12th of March where the Cubs were shown the enormous diggers and had a guided tour of the opencast, the boys really enjoyed there mucky day at the Opencast.



They also took part in Litter picking on the Saturday 19th of March the boys were disgusted with the amount of litter that they had picked in the small amount of time.



And finally the boys also planted trees in partnership with the local brighten up group the trees were obtained from the Woodland Trust this happened on Saturday 26th of March.

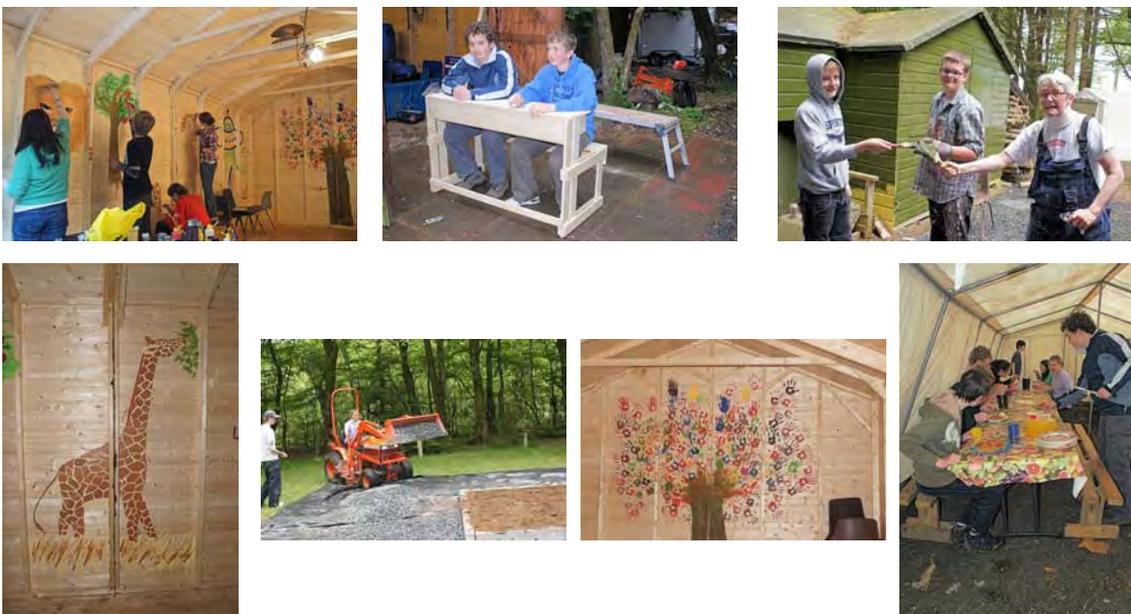


Dumfriesshire Cubs held their annual Athletics meeting at the David Keswick Centre in Dumfries recently. There was a great turnout of youngsters from all over the District as can be seen in the pictures.



The **Kenya Makobe Project Team** met at Culzean on the first week-end of May to discuss the final arrangements for the expedition (see Page 2).

The week-end gave them the opportunity to try their hands at some of the projects that they will be doing at the school such as painting of murals, wall painting, desk making and some hard graft at preparing land. As well as a trial for Kenya, some of the work also benefitted the Region's camp site as work was started on a new Camp Fire Circle for the site.



Left– the gathering being briefed and above some of the activities undertaken during the week-end

Communications

Not receiving emails from the Region?
Send your name and email address to
arc-communications@scouts-southwestscotland.org.uk