



Harlow Scout District Annual Report 2010/11

District Chairman & District Commissioner's Report

We all thoroughly enjoyed the Centenary celebrations and from this event we now have a very active Events Team (as you can see from their report). So, where now as we start on our next hundred year of Scouting in Harlow?

June 2011

Peter and I have both been very busy this year, one of the key areas we have worked on was the review of building leases. We are delighted to report that following discussions with Harlow Council a new 25 year lease will be issued to Snow Farm with no "get out" clause for Harlow Council. This is currently with our solicitors. We are relinquishing the vacant site at Pytt Field. The District Executive has had extensive repairs carried out at The Barn with help from the Essex Building Fund. Other Groups are in separate negotiations with Harlow Council. Bill McKenzie has been carrying out risk assessments for all District buildings and is happy to help the other Groups if required.

Our thanks go to Colin Gilder who has continued to support the District as Local Training Manager, despite difficult personal circumstances. He has worked closely with Royal Forest to deliver local courses. This year we have had eight people successfully complete their Wood Badge:- Tim Beach, Lynn Curtis, Paul Gosnell, Sharon Hedger, Lin Sams, Steve Siney, Rachel Thompson and Faye Wheeler. I also have completed my Wood Badge and have first-hand knowledge of the amount of work each person has had to do.

While we are mentioning achievements Toni Mitchell, Nigel Apps and Pete Longville received Civic Awards from Harlow Council and Lynn Curtis attended the Queen's Garden Party, all for their services to Scouting. Kirstie Wright (our District Media Manager and former Explorer and 2nd Great Parndon Scout) gained her Queen's Scout Award.

A few years ago, someone suggested a car park at Risdens. Well, although not quite a car park, we have received substantial funding from the ECC Community initiative Fund to lay heavy weight matting (eco-friendly) which should ease the parking problems. From the same pot of money we have also built a "District Drying Room" at Snow Farm.

Developing for the future, we are investigating building a new scout hall. To help achieve this we have appointed two Scouting Ambassadors for Harlow: Robert Halfon, our MP, and Sue Livings, Chair of Harlow Council. They will act as advocates on our behalf, look for funding opportunities and explain the working of local and national government funding. While attending a recent DC meeting we were able to find a surveyor, a solicitor and a quantity surveyor from within Scouting and all willing to help us with this venture. Watch this slot for further information and how you can become involved.

Finally Peter and I would like to say a big **Thank You** to everyone that has helped make 2010/11 such a successful year for Scouting in Harlow and enabled so many young people to find their own potential.

Inside:

District Report	2
Group Reports	3
Our Finances	7



Ann Nutt
District Commissioner

Pete Longville
District Chairman

District Report

Events

We have had another busy and successful year.

The major event of our year was a District camp to celebrate our centenary year. 300 young people camped at Ridsen Park Scout Campsite in Harlow over the first weekend in July. Activities included; archery, rifle shooting, crafts, It's a Knockout, a campfire, disco and many more. We were also visited by Wayne Bulpitt (UK Chief Commissioner) and Lord Petre (President, Essex Scout Council).



Harlow District enjoying a campfire during their Centenary Camp

evening at LaserQuest.

In February we held a Quiz Night at Snow Farm. The event raised more than £200 to support members of the District attending the World Scout Jamboree this summer in Sweden.

In January a number of leaders from a variety of Groups put themselves forward to form an Events Committee. They got off to a flying start with an Activity Badge Day where over 90 Cub Scouts each completed 4 badges. A Sing Song Supper enabled around 60 Beaver Scouts to enjoy singing round the campfire, eating hot dogs and toasted marshmallows.

Badges

In the course of this year the Badge Secretary supplied 20 Bronze Chief Scout awards, 28 Silver Chief Scout awards and 6 Gold Chief Scout awards.

7 of the 12 Beaver activity badges on offer were supplied. Only 4 of the 33 Cub badges on offer were not ordered. Whilst 16 of the 69 Scout activity badges were supplied.

4 members of 16th Harlow gained the Scout Entrepreneur badge, these were amongst the first in the country to receive this new badge.



Birthday cake shared at Centenary Camp

Toni Mitchell, Deputy District Commissioner said, "It was a wonderful weekend and thoroughly enjoyed by all ages, the best way to celebrate a wonderful 100 years."

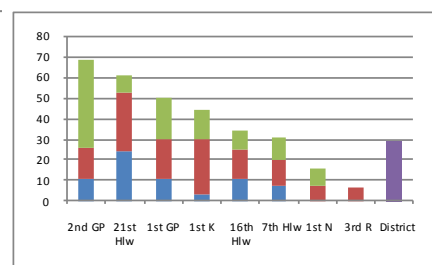
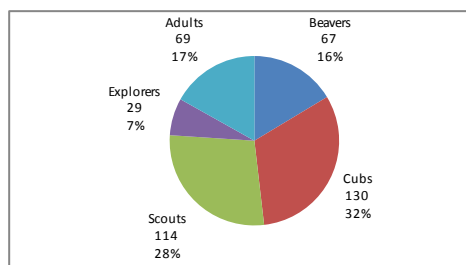
In November, several Groups joined the British Legion on Remembrance Sunday at their service on School Lane. We were complimented on our turnout and thanked for our help. A cold November evening also saw a Centenary Reunion for current and former members of the District.

The Carol Service in December saw us in St Paul's Church. The collection raised money for the Baby Unit at PAH.

The Scouts and Explorers enjoyed an

Membership

In January 2011, Harlow District had 409 members (340 young people and 69 adults). This is an overall increase of 3% in 2010, mirroring the increasing popularity of Scouting nationally.



The Explorer Scout (14-18 year olds) numbers have increased by 12% and Scouts (10-14 year olds) by 21%. There was a slight fall in the number of Cub Scouts. 21st Harlow increased its numbers by 17% through recruiting more Beaver Scouts. Whilst 2nd Great Parndon achieved 13% growth by growing their numbers in Beavers and Scouts.

Group Reports

21st Harlow

We held a Group family camp, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. We also had a Group bonfire night where the theme was based around Guy Fawkes.

All sections had a visit from the police to talk about policing in the community.

The Beavers have been getting involved in doing a Good Turn Tree to raise money for charities. They have also visited Pets At Home, been rafting and pitching tents.

Cubs have been to PGL and ESSA where they did sailing and rafting. They also enjoyed climbing, canoeing, and kayaking at the Harlow Outdoor Centre. They participated in the Jamboree On The Air (JOTA), which gave them the opportunity to talk to other Cub packs across the world.

The Beavers and Cubs have also had visits from the Chinese community who spoke to them about their culture and the Chinese New Year.

Two of our Beavers have gained their Bronze Chief Scouts Award and one Cub has earned their Silver Award.

Scouts is proving very successful. We have been working on environmental issues. We went on winter camp which the Scouts said they really enjoyed and they are now looking forward to the next one. We have done a charity car park for the Alpine Garden Society, which raised much needed funds. We have also been on hikes and camps.

All sections plan to continue to work closely together to make sure everyone in the group gets the most out of Scouting.



RENEWING OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY
**OUR 50,000 GIRLS
MIGHT HAVE
SOMETHING
TO SAY IF YOU
CALL US
'BOY SCOUTS.'**

3rd Roydon

It has been an up and down year for 3rd Roydon. We enjoyed Centenary Camp in July. In the autumn our numbers fell but we are back on track and looking forward to another camping season!

7th Harlow

There has been an increase in Beaver numbers within the Group this side of Christmas with Arnold and Lisa putting a great deal of effort into creating wonderful activity programmes for the section.

Thanks goes to those members within the Group who have helped out during the recent Leader transition stage especially Jackie.

Where does the year go, the Cubs have been involved in most District activities and the recent bunker trip was a great new experience, the feedback from the Cubs was that this and the recent badge day were well organised and brilliant events.

The Cub pack have constant numbers with only a couple on the

waiting list.

There is an organised trip into London for June with a camp planned for September.

The Troop's numbers are steady but it has been found that not all members are either moving or staying the course in the section. The upside is that a number of ex-members are returning for Network/Explorers/Young Leaders so all in all it must be working

Congratulations to Sam Clay for being presented with the Ted White trophy for showing the True Spirit of Scouting. On behalf of all the Group, thanks Sam for your continued support and hard work as our Treasurer.

2nd Great Parndon

As usual, the past year has been very busy for the Group. We have endeavoured to provide an active programme in all sections with our dedicated leadership team.

The **Beavers** have gradually increased in numbers and have worked on several badges during their meetings. They attended the District Pantomime and all of the Group Camps.

The **Cubs** have worked on the Global Promise and Fitness Challenges which have included visits to Harlow Football Club, the Police Station, the District Pantomime, cooking, canoeing and climbing. They also had a water activities day at ESSA with the Scouts. Numbers have dropped slightly as 10 have transferred to Scouts.

Scouts have maintained their numbers with at least 35 regularly attending and a waiting list. They have worked on the Creative Challenge, Promise Challenge, Adventure Challenge and the Outdoor Plus. There have been several camps including a churchyard sleepover, summer camp



at Thorrington and our Winter Camp at Belchamps. 5 Scouts have moved on to Explorers and all of them gained their Chief Scout Gold Awards.

There have been 3 **Group** camps and it is good to see how well all sections get along. We had our AGM Camp and Bonfire Night Sleepover but the highlight was Centenary Camp for which I would like to say a big thank you to the Organising Committee.

As a Group it is difficult to see how we can develop further without more adult help. In some ways we have too many Scouts and it makes it difficult to run programmes efficiently. All of the

Rebecca Earl has been selected to be part of the Essex contingent to the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden in 2011. Kirstie Wright, Rachel Thompson and Mark Hughes will also be representing the District as part of the International Service Team for the event.

leaders are committed to all of the other sections which does help with the continuity between sections.

I am hoping that the new Explorer Unit will meet at Risdens providing more availability to Scouts from the Troop who can then become Young Leaders with our Scout Troop



16th Harlow & 2nd Great Parndon Beavers having fun on their sleepover

16th Harlow

We had 3 successful camping weekends for the Cubs and a fun sleepover for the Beavers (which we shared with 2nd Great Parndon Beavers).

Our Cubs and Beavers completed a charity walk for Essex Air Ambulance, we walked from Harlow Mill to Harlow Town Park, and we raised over £200.

8 Cubs gained their cooking badges

by preparing a two course meal for their parents. It was a great success and the children were really proud of what they achieved and there were some very surprised parents!

We also had a successful bid from Grass Roots which has gone towards equipment, the cost of the Beavers and Cubs to attend the Panto in Harlow and to pay for 3 leaders to

take the archery training course.

Many of our Cubs have moved on but numbers are building again. Our Beaver numbers have grown by 25% in the last 2 months.



1st Great Parndon

We at 1st Great Parndon are doing well with numbers with each section at full capacity. Scouts are a little low on girls but there are a few very able young ladies coming through the sections.

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are working their way through the Scouting programme and are gaining their badges and awards. We have had arts and crafts, global awareness, science badge and sections enjoying international themed evenings to name but a few.

All sections really enjoyed the Centenary camp with nearly a full turn out of young people and leaders attending. We at 1st G.P would really like to thank the District team who helped with this event by making it a most memorable week end. Skip (Neil Curtis) enjoyed meeting up with his old Cub Leader (Dot Lock) and she was really impressed and very happy that he was continuing the good work at keeping the Group running with (in her words) such impressive numbers and good looking leaders !!!!!!! This

made Skip's day as he has been associated with our Group for over 40 years.

All sections have had sleepovers, camps in the grounds of Snow Farm and camps at various camp sites throughout England this year. We have had close links between each section with leaders working together having, joint meetings and feeding other with their young people and a very successful moving on programme.

Leaders also have a good team work ethos, with all of us having team building training and we also have had a camp for leaders and their families, which was great fun.

We have had a major set back this year with our grounds being broke into and lots of our equipment being stolen along with the containers it was in. But we think this has brought us closer as a group with offers of help throughout District (thank you) and donations from Barclay's Bank and

a donation of equipment from the 22nd Harlow who closed years ago . We also had a successful grant bid from Grass Roots (thank you Ann for your help here) which has really helped to get a lawn mower and strimmer (to keep the grounds tidy) and money for training and equipment for which we were very grateful.

A big thank you goes out to our wonderful leaders and helpers and our precious young people without their help and participation we would be no more.

**WHEN SCOUTING
BEGAN, THE
YOUNG PEOPLE
DECIDED WHAT
THEY WANTED TO
DO. THIS IS STILL
TRUE TODAY.**

1st Kingsmoor

This year has seen 1st Kingsmoor held its first Family Camp which was such a great success that we are going to make this an annual event.

Another year has passed and again each section has grown, so much so that the Beavers and Cubs now have waiting lists.

The Cubs and Scouts had their Annual Camp back to back at Thorringtons which worked well with the Cubs setting up camp and the Scouts taking it all down.

Rachel, Paul and Tim have now completed their Wood Badge and are a great assets to the Group.



Young Leader Unit

The Young Leader Unit has continued to

grow. By January there were 20 members, all Explorer Scouts who give up their time to help with Beavers, Cubs or Scouts.

Young Leader training and time spent helping at Section Meetings is counting towards Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

One of the Young Leaders completed the training modules by attending a weekend at Thriftwood and are now working on their Missions. Arnold Worton became the second person in Harlow to complete all the Young Leader Modules and Missions. He was

awarded his Young Leader Belt (top award) in December. In February Arnold moved on to become an adult leader with 7th Harlow. It is good to see these young adults so willing to put their time back into Scouting.

The Unit continues to be supported by the District so the Young Leaders do not have to pay towards their training.



1st Nazeing

Four years ago I was asked to take over as Group Scout Leader of the 1st Nazeing Scout Group. To say that I jumped from the frying pan into the fire may well be an understatement. I was rather hoping by now to have a much larger group but for whatever reason it seems a long time in coming. We still do not have a Beaver Colony and the numbers are very low both in Cubs and Scouts. We need to recruit new members.

In the summer we all enjoyed the Centenary Camp—a memorable weekend for everyone. Both Cubs and Scouts have taken part in a full programme and supported District whenever we were able to.

We have continued to update the HQ. We ran two quiz evenings and did our annual carol singing. Both events bring in a fair share of our income.



District Explorer Scout Unit

"Too much fun and not enough time" as true this year as any other. As usual James somehow managed to land his pancake on the floor behind him not in his frying pan during our annual pancake race, Connor was disappointed that he did not have a part as a Christmas fairy in the carol concert

The last 12 months has seen Harlow Explorers enter two teams in the County Marathon in the New Forest, out of the 3 locations it suited us well as it is the kindest for new competitors of which we entered a number. Next was WINTAC '10 though a good time was had by all didn't meet up with the high expectations after WINTAC '09. The cold weather played havoc with our Christmas Camp, not because the Explorers were too wimpy but because Danemead closed the site as the pipes were frozen. We decamped

to Risden for a fun filled day topped off with a Christmas dinner. We attended Belchamps Winter Camp with 7th Scouts; the rain we could cope with but the mud was everywhere!

We have also gained a new leader, Mark, who would surely win admin leader of the year if such an award existed, as among his many Scouting skills he is a wiz with the paper work.

Harlow Explorers as a unit has become full and so talks are underway to start a second Explorer unit in the town.

As I said at the start "too much fun and not enough time", I cannot pretend that what is written is even a tenth of the fun and games we have been up to this year but I hope it give a flavour of the fun to be had at Explorers.



STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 31ST MARCH 2011

	This Year 2010/2011	Previous Yr 2009/2010
<u>Investment Assets</u>		
N.I.S.B	£ 55,000	£ 55,000
 <u>Current Assets</u>		
Cash at Bank - Community A/C	£ 3,567	£ 6,443
- Premium Bus A/C	£ 4,358	£ 1,289
- Business Reserve A/C	£ -	£ 6,053
- District Explorers A/C	£ 1,481	£ 487
- District Cub Scouts A/C	£ -	£ 943
	<u>£ 9,406</u>	<u>£ 15,214</u>
Cash at Hand - Risdens Park	£ 102	£ 87
- Badge	£ 290	£ 127
- Explorers	£ 145	£ 259
	<u>£ 537</u>	<u>£ 473</u>
	<u><u>£ 64,943</u></u>	<u><u>£ 70,687</u></u>
 Gift Aid Claim for Explorers	 £ 278	 £ -
Stocks - badges	£ 1613	£ 1,387
	<u>£ 1,891</u>	<u>£ 1,387</u>
 <u>Non-Monetary Assets</u>		
Risdens Park Campsite	£ 50,000	£ 50,000
Toilet Block	£ 8,259	£ 9,176
Container	£ 412	£ 462
Heaters	£ 335	£ 373
Cooker and Fridge	£ 642	£ 713
Fire Extinguishers	£ 231	£ 257
District Equipment	£ 2,368	£ 2,631
	<u>£ 62,250</u>	<u>£ 63,611</u>

Figures are provisional, Trustees will approve final figures once independent examination has been completed
Full financial statement available on request



Essex Community Initiative Fund—for the grant that helped us put up a drying room at Snow Farm.

Stansted Airport Community Trust, CJ Pryor, Harlow Lions, Harlow Masonic Lodge for money towards Centenary Camp and also to Tom Seal, Edwards Waste Management, Great Parndon Community Association and Chelmsford Scout Fellowship who all helped with the camp.

Jonathon Clark and Attwater Solicitors who are helping with the preparation of new lease for Snow Farm.

To all of the following organisations for supporting Scouting in Harlow over the past year:

- Gordon Weemes
- Perrin Construction
- Essex Youth Opportunity Fund
- Glaxosmithkline
- Grass Roots Fund

What Scouting is All About

- S** is for SHOUTING.
Shouting about Scouting
- C** is for CAMPING
Starting the day on the high wire
Ending it by the camp fire
- O** is for OUTDOOR,
where we can learn much much more
- U** is for UNIFORM
All scarves are unique,
Working on badges every week
- T** is for TEAMWORK,
Having lots of fun together,
whatever the weather
- I** is for IMAGINATION
Bursting inside everyone,
Finding new ways to have lots of fun
- N** is for NEVER ending laughter
Getting muddy and having a bath after
- G** is for GROWING
From young to old
All in Scouting getting involved

Written for our Centenary Sunrise Ceremony
by Millie, 16th Harlow Cub Scout



Ann Nutt
(District Commissioner)

Phone: 01279 319273
harlow@essexscouts.org.uk

Peter Longville
(District Commissioner)

Phone: 01279 834625