



Scouting East



The Journal of East Belfast Scouting

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From the Editor



Hello everyone,

Welcome to the final edition of the District Newssheet before the summer: and what a glorious summer it is already shaping up to be with an extended heatwave, unbroken sunshine and unprecedented temperatures in the low 30s. My own Unit took the opportunity to cool off last night in the recently opened AquaPark at Carryduff (see later) – I reckon the park will see record visitors this summer if the good weather continues. It certainly won't be our Unit's last visit!

A word of welcome to Karl and Jennifer who are taking on the Leadership at 3rd Belfast. It is great to have a report from them this month for Scouting East and hopefully we will have news of their camp at Ballykinler in July in time for the September issue. I am sure they would be glad of any advice and ideas from more experienced Leaders in the District as they plan their programme for the autumn. It would be great too to hear from any other Groups or Units planning camps this summer, and it is still not too late for Cub and Scout Leaders to write in with reports and some photos from the recent NI Cub Camp or Scout TOE Camp – by all accounts these were a great success. 27th Pack represented East Belfast at the NI Outdoor five-a-side football finals, many thanks to Antonia for writing about this.

I hope to organise another First Response Course in early September. There are still around 50 Leaders in East Belfast who need to do (or renew) this training so if you are one of them and are interested please let me know and I will book you onto the course.

Special thanks to everyone for all the news items and photos that have come in during the year- and what an action-packed year it has been- please do keep the news coming and do encourage your younger members to write in as well. Whatever you are all up to during the summer, I hope that you have a relaxing and enjoyable break and return refreshed and recharged in the autumn.

Best Wishes, *David*



From the District Commissioner

Hi Folks,

Isn't it fantastic to see the sun out and be able to spend so much time outdoors?

I hope that you have all been able to enjoy some outdoor activities with your Sections as we wind down for the summer. For those of you planning Pack Holidays, Troop Camps and Unit Expeditions during July and August please remember do let me know your plans in good time and make sure all of the paperwork is in order- including Nights Away/InTouch for UK-based camps , and Visits Abroad for International Trips (including Republic of Ireland!). Please check with Alan Campbell or me if you are not sure what is needed.

Thank you to Sam Anderson for running Getting Started training and also to Matthew Lambe and Steven Stothers for facilitating Safeguarding training and to 51st Belfast Lagan District for hosting us. I will send out more information about training opportunities in the autumn but don't forget that the online GDPR training needs to be done by everyone too- it would be good to complete this during the summer so that everything is in order for starting back in September. I will be sitting down with the Team during the summer to plan the District calendar of activities for 2018-2019. If you have any suggestions for new competitions and activities please let me or one of the ADCs know.

Our ACC Cubs and CSL 33rd, William Ashenurst, has completed his teacher training and is leaving us to start a new job in England in September. Thanks William for your infectious enthusiasm for Scouting and for the work you have done for East District and Belfast County. You'll be missed. We will be thinking of you as you settle in to your new job (and Scout Group?). A number of stalwarts in the District have also indicated to me that they are stepping back from active leadership at the end of this year although they will still be helping occasionally behind the scenes and with Group and District administration. I will not name them all just now for fear of leaving someone out but they know who they are and I would like to say a big thank you on behalf of us all for their faithful service to the community in East Belfast over many years and our very best wishes for a well-deserved retirement. Finally can I wish everyone else a good holiday whether you are staying at home or venturing further away. I look forward to catching up with you all when we start back in September.

Best Wishes, *Betty*



NI Outdoor Football Finals 2018



On a bright and very sunny day, the 27th (St Dorotheas) Cubs set off to Cookstown by minibus with two teams Sky and Blue, on Saturday 9 June to take part in the Northern Ireland Cub Five a side Football Finals. The teams split into four “drawn” leagues in the morning. The top teams play off for the NI Shield and the other teams are then divvied out into leagues for various trophies “C”, “U”, “B”, or “S”. Not much sleep having been had, due the immense excitement, the morning session saw each team take part in a league and played against teams from as far away as Fermanagh and as close as Jordanstown (a forensic team who went on to win the whole competition). 27TH Sky did well in the morning were in the top teams to play for the NI Shield. This has to be due very much to their captain who as goalie managed to make amazing saves. However the afternoon saw a dramatic goal-line incident and our goalie having to be injured off. Consequently their next match was less favourable. However the team did well coming in round 4th or 5th and won an indoor football. 27th Blue team with an average age of 8 (yes, we did have a 7 year old) were protected somewhat by their excellent goalie (also aged 8). They did find the first match daunting but ended the morning with lost two, draw two. The afternoon trophy for this team was more onerous, having played four teams, this entire league managed to draw all their matches. So with all teams on equal points (and yes it was very warm) 27th Blue had to replay this league. A hard task at this stage of the day for such young legs, but sadly although drawing two, didn’t win any of their games. However, 27th Blue certainly learnt how to work well as a team, by tackling cubs much older and taller than they, and really put “doing your best” into action”.

Antonia, CSL 27th





News from 30th Pack

The glorious weather in recent weeks has provided ample opportunity for games such as Raiders, Smugglers, Jail Break and Generals in our local Tullycarnet Park. The Cubs also helped with the congregation's annual tidy-up of the graveyard and church grounds. In June, we visited the RNLI Station in Bangor. There was a chance to hear about the work of RNLI, try on some gear and then clamber onboard the lifeboat or the special tractor that is used to haul it down to the sea. For our final night we headed to Bryson Watersports on the Ravenhill Road for an action-packed evening of bell-boating, speed-boating and zorbing on the Lagan. With several of the seniors recently moving to the Troop, we appointed some new sixers (Logan, Jamie, Mark and Jake) and seconders (Callum, Tristan, Lewis and Nathan). We also welcomed back ACSL Gareth Thompson from his gap year at Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania. This year, the Cub of the Year Cup was presented to Tristan Hashim- well done Tristan!! 30th won't be taking much of a break during the summer as plans are already in place for summer camp at Lough Dan in County Wicklow in early August.

David, CSL 30th







[It only *looks* as if the Cubs are about to push Bagherra in !!]









News from 3rd Troop



Hi my name is Karl and I took over the 3rd Scout Group in January of this year. We are a small Group at the minute but the boys have run a few sponsored events to enable them to go to a summer camp in July. The boys have worked so hard fundraising with a bag pack, a sponsored walk, filling smartie tubes and also a BBQ. The camp is being run by Pathways and is a five day camp with indoor and outdoor camping, archery, climbing, team building. We have been practicing over the last few months our camp building skills, wood chopping skills and first aid training. For some of the boys this will be their first camp and the excitement is building week after week. I've added a few pictures of the boys on the bag pack and BBQ. I would like to also say a big thank you to all the Squirrel, Beaver, and Cub Leaders for their help with these events and also to the parents and ice cream man who made the events such a success. I hope the boys enjoy the camp and that next year brings lots of new members and 3rd Group will go from strength to strength. Yours in scouting,

Karl, GSL







News from Ballyhanwood Unit

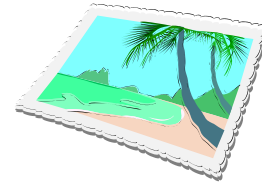
Ballyhanwood Unit and 30th Leaders also took advantage of the heat wave for a post-exam get together at Cable and Wake Carryduff Aquapark. We were joined by David and Janet from 115th and some of our own senior Scouts (and some senior Scouts too from 33rd who hope to restart the Stormont Unit in September). The Aquapark had recently installed some new 'Total Wipeout' style slides and trampolines just that morning and we had the honour of christening these. It is a great facility and Janet and I took the opportunity to 'scout out' the accommodation huts and teepees, catering facilities and the other water activities on offer- a possible District or County Cub Fun Day for next year?

David, ESL





David from 115th experiences Newton's third law of motion (wow - some of us did actually listen when Gareth and Carlos talked about physics in Montenegro!!) with a gravity-defying bounce thanks to Simon a.k.a 'Big Mac'



Don't forget to send the Editor a postcard or report on your Pack, Troop or Unit summer camp. Happy holidays!!

Events in July and August



**News & Views, Letters & Comments,
Reports and Announcements to the Editor:**



David Bell
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The Editor is on holiday!!



not later than **28th August** for the September issue please!