

GREENOCK



& DISTRICT

News

70th Greenock and District

Oct 10

GSL Report

All sections have got off to a bright start with numbers up and a good variety of indoor and outdoor activities on offer.

The main District activity in this session is Greenock Gang Show and the 70th is well represented with Cubs, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Leaders playing parts on and off stage. Seeing the confidence of youngsters grow as they do a small solo part in these shows gives me great satisfaction and the fun and friendship engendered as being a member of the Gang is something which will be with these young people for the rest of their lives. If you have not seen the show before try to make time to see it - it runs from 23rd to 27th November. Tickets are going fast so book now ! Booking Forms available from Section Leaders.

The district is offering a training weekend at Everton at the end of this month – this is the first of a series of training weekends planned to be run at Everton over the session with specific focus on one Award per weekend.

We are pleased to welcome new leaders to the Group this session – Diane Laing and Sara McCaig to the Beaver Scouts – both enthusiastic young ladies whose Adult Leader Appointments are in process.

We have several youngsters carrying out Duke of Edinburgh service with Cub and Beaver Scout sections. Kenny covers changes in the Scout Section Leadership Team in his comments.

Please encourage your son / daughter to make as much progress as THEY want – if you have any questions about any aspects of the awards schemes do not hesitate to ask the Section Leader or myself. Information about all Challenge Badges and Activity Badges available on Scoutbase at www.scoutbase.org.uk

Vacancies exist in all sections.

Subscriptions

Letters will be going out to remind all non-payers that we need their money! Sadly there are still a few who have not paid up yet. All payments / enquiries about Subscriptions should be addressed to our treasurer Jillian Kretowicz (Tele 711787).

Group Reports

Beaver Scouts

We have welcomed 4 new boys already this session but no girls as yet ! We will be learning about 1st aid this term as well as doing our Global Challenge by becoming involved in the Join In Jamboree programmes in preparation for 2011. We are also joining with the Cubs for our **Hallowe'en Party on 28th October** (NB Beavers will meet on Tuesday 26th as normal). Other dates to note – District Beaver Scout Party on Sunday 5th December at Port Glasgow Town Hall from 1.00pm to 3.00pm and our own Christmas Party on 21st December.

Cub Scouts

The Pack continues to thrive with main badge activity centring round the Scottish Challenge Badge – visits to the Titan Crane and Clydebuilt Museum helping some of the Cubs towards the achievement of this badge. The Pack entered the football competition and a visit to the Glasgow Science Centre is planned next month for an evening of activities offered by them. 1 or 2 helpers may be required. 11 cubs have said they want to go. Beavers and Cubs will be having a joint **Hallowe'en party on 28th October** (6.20pm to 8.00pm) with the usual games, prizes and surprises.

Scouts

The beginning of the new session was a bit of gains and losses. We welcomed four Cubs and a "transfer" from south of the Border into the Troop and "moved on" three Scouts to the Finnart Explorer Unit - as the very maximum

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The Scout Association

Patron HM The Queen : President HRH The Duke of Kent : Founder Robert Baden-Powell :

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Scouts ... cont'd

age of Scouts is 14 years 6 months, a number of Scouts will also be joining the Unit between now and the end of January. On the leader side we have lost Andrew Bennett, who has 'emigrated' to Edinburgh - Andrew has been a tower of strength over the past 5 years as a member of the leadership team, and it's only fair to say a big "thank you" to Andrew for all he has done. On the positive side both Ross McCaig and Peter McGregor have come back to the Troop as Young Leaders, joining Andrew and David Love, and Alison in the Troop Leadership team. Friday nights continue to provide a varied 'bread and butter' diet for the Troop - a "Ready - Steady - Cook" evening and a trip to the Glasgow Climbing Centre (when we invested one of our new Scouts) being simply two examples. At the end of this month some of the younger Scouts will be participating in a District Outdoor Challenge Overnight Camp at Everton. Encourage anyone you might come in contact with whose son or daughter isn't a member of Scouts, particularly at the younger end to come and join us.

Forthcoming Group Events

Car Washes – Unfortunately support for the group Car Washes has been disappointing with too few cars to wash at the August and September events. Information about future car washes will be covered in a separate flier.

Christmas Coffee Morning – This will take place on **Saturday 20th November** in our own HQ from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. Further information and tickets will be issued in November.

Christmas Post – this will be run along similar lines to previous years jointly with St. John's Church Gourock Youth Organisations covering West end of Greenock and Gourock. We shall be responsible for delivery in Greenock West end with streets allocated to families. Last posting date – Saturday 18th December with deliveries on Sunday 19th December.

Forthcoming Scouting Events

Summer 2011

Enquiries are still being made to provide a summer activity for Scouts and Explorer Scouts. To date nothing specific has been finalised but a decision will be made one way or the other by the New Year.

As soon as any dates are confirmed parents will be advised.

World Scout Jamboree 2011

We will be continuing up our fundraising activities in support of the young people from the Group who are lucky enough to be heading off to Sweden in the Summer to take part in the World Jamboree. This event takes place every 4 years and is the main International Scouting event and participation is a major time and financial commitment. Please support as much as you can – hopefully some day it may be your son / daughter attending . 2015 is in Japan ! Attendees are Scott Renfrew, Ross McCaig and Katie McFarlane with Sara McCaig and Martin McIntosh joining the International Service Team.

Vacancies - HELP

Following on from appeals last year we managed to fill the following roles –

Treasurer

Jillian Kretowicz took up this role – thanks !

WEB Site Developer

Mark Taylor helped us to get the Group website in shape and Explorer Scout Ross McCaig has now taken on this role. Ross is a Young Spokesperson and would welcome input to keep the site updated and suggestions to further its use. <http://70thgreenockscouts.co.uk>

Kilt Convener

Mollie Bryce has taken over this role – thanks !

The Group still urgently needs help as follows -

Property Convener

We need an enthusiastic person to be responsible for the day to day upkeep and repair of the 70th HQ. This is not a "doing it" role rather a co-ordinating of maintenance items and perhaps building up a team of skilled volunteers to deal with small repairs and ground upkeep.

Fundraising Co-ordinator

Sharon McDermid is willing to work with other parents on getting some stock together for the Christmas Fete. This could be done while meetings are going on or on another day that suits everyone. Please contact Sharon on p_s.mcdermid@ntlworld.com or 796753

Anyone who feels that they can help with any of the above roles (or can recommend someone else to us) please contact Peter Bennett (630676) or Bill McCaig (791210).