

## AGSL Chat – July 2010

Another Scouting year draws to a close. I know this may sound a bit strange, but my Scouts background tells me that summer camp is the end, and high spot, of the year and the new programme starts again in September.

Whatever your view of the Scouting year, I would like to thank you for all your hard work this session with the young people of our Group.

During the last couple of weeks Beavers have moved to Cubs, Cubs to Scouts and Scouts to Explorers, making the next programme especially challenging and exciting for them.

Also some of our Leaders are moving on.

**Peter Cheney** has been appointed Assistant District Commissioner for the Biggleswade District with general responsibilities. These will include working with the team at Boyd Field to improve the provision and facilities of our local camp site. Peter will be taking up his appointment at the end of August and will therefore be stepping down as our Group Scout Leader at this time.

Peter has been Group Scout Leader in Stotfold for nine years, taking over from Ray Kilby. Many thanks Peter for all you have done for us over the years.

Jan Brooker, the District Commissioner, has asked me take over as GSL and my appointment will begin on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

**Steve Davis** has also been appointed Assistant District Commissioner with general responsibilities. As you know Steve has been working closely with the Bedfordshire contingent attending the World Jamboree in Sweden in 2011. He will continue to support these Explorers and will be attending the World Jamboree himself. He is also joining the Boyd Field team.

Steve joined our group as Assistant Explorer Scout Leader in 2001 and took over as Explorer Scout Leader when Andy Brember retired. Steve has tirelessly promoted the Explorer Scouts during this time and the success of the unit, including a Queen Scout award, is a testament to his dedication and commitment. Many thanks for all you have done and good luck with your work in the Biggleswade District.

Jim Dent has agreed to take over as Explorer Scout Leader after the Explorers' summer camp.

**Clare Kilby** is standing down as Beaver Scout Leader for the Chickasaw Colony. While I described Clare as "being in Scouting since Baden-Powell was in short trousers", she has in fact been running the Chickasaw Colony for eight and a half years. It is a sobering thought that James Jackman, one of our Young Leaders who is helping with Chickasaws, was one of Clare's first Beavers.

Clare has been involved with our Scout Group for over thirty years in various capacities and intends to keep her warrant at this time. She has reached the time when the Scout Association does not levy an annual capitation on her leaders warrant. I'll leave you to decide what age this must be!! Many thanks Clare for all your hard work and dedication ... and I'm sure there is at least one more Scouting position you can take on!!!

Sarah Stevens and Richard Daniells have recently been invested as Assistant Beaver Scout Leaders and will be running the Colony between them.

**Tammy Evans** is standing down as Beaver Scout Leader for the Cheyenne Colony. She has been involved with Colony for nearly five years now and took over as BSL when Victoria Evans left to go to university.

Since I started as AGSL I have spent quite a lot of time with the Beavers and I am amazed at the skill and patience that is necessary to keep 24 six year olds occupied and safe. Tammy has run the Colony with an interesting and exciting programme which has engaged the Beavers in lots of activities.

Many thanks Tammy for all your hard work over the years. I know that Tammy does not really want to give up Beavers, but needs some "Tammy Time" in her life at the moment.

Tina McCann has agreed to take over as Beaver Scout Leader for the Cheyenne Colony.

Good luck to the Scouts and Explorers on their summer camp. Have a good break and don't forget to send me your programme when you have sorted it out.

Add these events to your programme please.

Nick