



# HOLIDAY ACTION

Winter 2009

## Newsletter of the Scout Holiday Homes Trust

# 40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED IN STYLE and some good news for the future

We were blessed with perfect weather for our 40th Birthday Celebrations at the Gilwell Reunion. Forty years of giving a unique service providing holidays for families who have a member with disabilities or, in some way disadvantaged. We have received many letters over the years from families who tell us that without the Trust they would not have been able to take a holiday, often something which they really needed. A service well worth celebrating with grateful thanks for the diligence and hard work of so many people who have made it worth while.

But of course it is also a time for looking to the future and as Lynda tells us in her news from the Trust office, we have received a wonderful legacy which will help towards the urgent need for new caravans. This, however, is an ongoing requirement and as the Chairman tells us in his annual report on page four, the National Executive Committee have engaged professional fundraisers to help us meet these future high costs which is the only way we will be able to continue to provide this service.



### At Gilwell Reunion...

- 1 Barry (in clown outfit), Colin and Susie (their renovated fairground organ) attracted many visitors.
- 2 The Three Valleys Choir in full voice entertaining our visitors.
- 3 Leslie Roberts, Lynda, Margaret Ling, John Le Warne, David Roberts and Les Ling.
- 4 Our own special corner of Gilwell.
- 5 Visitors learning about Scout Holiday Homes.



The Scout Holiday Homes Trust is a registered charity, founded in 1969, by former Scouts to provide suitable self-catering holiday accommodation in a welcoming family environment for any family or group who has a member with special needs, families with elderly or frail members, people with any special needs with their carers, single parent families and low income families – in fact any family in which the quality of life is diminished by disability, infirmity or misfortune.

There is no requirement to be a Member of either the Scout or Guide Movements. The Trust owns 12 caravans and 1 chalet on 11 fully commercial seaside holiday parks (eg Haven Holidays, Hoburne Holidays, Park Resorts).

The Scout Holiday Homes Trust is managed locally and nationally by volunteers dedicated to the tradition that 'Scouts Help Others'.

Its income depends on Members' subscriptions, voluntary donations, legacies and fundraising by Members and Supporters.

Foreign postage stamps, small change, church collections, badges, savings stamps, bequests and so on all help to provide the much-needed income to continue and, hopefully, expand the work of the Trust to help those who benefit from the Trust's facilities.

### The Scout Holiday Homes Trust

Gilwell Park, Chingford, London E4 7QW

Tel: 020 8433 7290 Fax 020 8433 7184

E-mail: scout.holiday.homes@scout.org.uk

or lynda.peters@scout.org.uk

Website: www.scouts.org.uk/holidayhomes

Trust Administrator - Lynda Peters

Charity Registration Number 269946

### SPREAD THE WORD

Help us to get more people to know about the Trust, not only those who may become supporters but also prospective users of our facilities. We have some pocket sized leaflets covering holidays and donations. A phone call or e-mail to the office will make sure some are in the post.

The Scout Holiday Homes Trust  
**Affordable Family Holidays**  
 at popular holiday sites...  
 Specially Reduced Prices!  
 Holidays start from under £150 per week  
 These holidays are available to families, carers or groups who have a member with a disability, physical or mental, or age related illness and to low income and lone parent families  
 No Scouting connection required.  
 Phone 0208 433 7290  
 for a FREE colour brochure or visit  
 www.scouts.org.uk/holidayhomes  
 Email scout.holiday.homes@scout.org.uk  
 The Scout Holiday Homes Trust  
 Gilwell Park, Chingford, London E4 7QW  
 ...for all families with a special need

There are many ways you can help the Trust...  
 Foreign or British postage stamps, small change, church collections, savings stamps, bequests and so on all help to continue and expand the work of the Trust's facilities.

**SPREAD THE WORD**  
 Help us to get more people to know about the Trust, not only to those who may become supporters but also to prospective users of our facilities. We have three different leaflets, one for holidaymakers, one for donors and one for Scout Holiday Homes Trust Association.  
 Please see over for our contact details.

**...and don't forget, these facilities are available to you and your family.**

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 Berkshire Scout  
 Enterprises Ltd  
 Edited by Dick Sawdon Smith



## 40th Anniversary Celebrations an excellent showcase to the Movement says our Chairman

Our 40th Anniversary celebrations were held at the Gilwell Reunion on Saturday, 5th September 2009. The festivities started at 10am with a large audience of supporters to be entertained by the Three Valleys Male Voice Choir - who were excellent. We then served Bucks Fizz and nibbles followed by a superb 40th Anniversary

birthday cake made by Gunns of Sandy, Bedfordshire, a very long established family firm. Whilst all the eating was taking place our own Moorland fundraisers, Colin Sheldon and Barry Bevington played their fairground organ.

These celebrations were an excellent PR exercise to show the Scout movement the asset it has in the Holiday Homes Trust. Here I must thank Lynda Peters who planned the day, and without her these celebrations would not have been possible. I would like to thank our team on the day, David and Lesley Roberts, Les and

Margaret Ling and Dave Mowbray, whose help was needed to make the event happen.

I am writing this message mid October, another year has nearly elapsed as we have only one more week of the holiday season left. It is then inspection time in November, and Christmas is just around the corner, so I would like to take the opportunity of wishing all our supporters a Happy Christmas before we start again in the New Year.

John Le Warne

# LYNDA'S JOTTINGS - News from the Trust Office

## Welcome to our new national committee member

A warm welcome to Danny Jones onto the National Executive Committee. Danny has been a great supporter of the Trust in the past, and we are very much looking forward to his input into the Committee and hearing his views on the future direction of the Trust.

The Trustees are always looking for more members, and I would be pleased to send you details if you are interested in joining this Committee. We meet at Gilwell Park about six times a year.

## 2009 Holidays affected by weather and economic situation

I'm writing this during the October half term week, and the beautiful autumn leaves are glowing in the sunshine at Gilwell Park - our holidaymakers certainly would have had wonderful weather if they had chosen this week to go away. We finished this season a little below last year's bookings - though with the caravan at Prestatyn being no longer viable we have had one less caravan. The summer weather not being very good hasn't helped, nor, of course, the current economic situation. We had about the same number of families taking our holidays, but many took one week instead of two. The Committee are going to try to publicise our holidays much more in 2010 in the hope that this will increase the number of weeks booked. We still get members of Scouting saying they have never heard of us, as well as outside families thinking that our holidays are for Scouting families only!

## Our thanks to the Management Teams

As always I am so very grateful to our Local Management Teams - especially the Secretaries - for all their help with the units - and a huge thank you to them for helping deal with the emergencies that have to be sorted out quickly on the Saturday changeover days. I have received many thank you letters during the season saying how much they are appreciated.

## The most amazing event of the year

The ramp to our chalet at Kidwelly was stolen during the night of 30 June/1 July 2009 - it was there when our holidaymakers went to bed and gone by the time they got up in the morning. Magically disappearing from the Park unnoticed by the Security Guards!

## 2009 Maintenance and Inspections with renovations at Kidwelly for 2010

With the end of the 2009 season, we are arranging the inspections and maintenance of the units so that this work can be carried out before March 2010. We are hoping that we will completely renovate the chalet at Kidwelly - hopefully being able to have a wet room shower in the bathroom, renew the double glazing, lay a tiled floor throughout, and put in new kitchen cupboards. There are restrictions on what we can do to a chalet, but I will update you on what has been achieved in the Spring 2010 issue of this Magazine.

We will also be assessing the caravans at St Austell and Skipsea as they are getting towards the end of their lives.

I really enjoy taking this opportunity of meeting up with the Local Teams to personally thank them for all their help, and hearing from them first hand about all the wonderful holidaymakers they have had.

## Bookings already being taken 2010 Holidays

Ann and I started taking bookings for the 2010 holidays at the beginning of October. We are offering £10 vouchers to all the 2009 holidaymakers, £20 off two-week holidays and a 3% discount for holidays paid for in full before 31 December 2009. If you, or if you know of any family or group with special needs or low income that would benefit from one of the Trust's holidays, please do contact us in the Office as we would be delighted to send our 2010 brochure out to them. Please ring on 020 8433 7290 or e-mail me at lynda.peters@scout.org.uk.

## Last minute special deals

We will also continue to offer last minute special deals approximately 10 days before the holiday start date - and these can be seen on the Trust's website, or you can phone or e-mail me for the latest price and availability.

## The Trust's 40th Anniversary Celebrations

We had a truly great day on Saturday 5 September 2009 as you will see from the photographs. The day was a magnificent success - the weather was good to us, the Three

Valleys Male Voice Choir was excellent and Colin and Barry's fairground organ was a great attraction. We decorated the marquee with bunting, banners and balloons - it all looked wonderful. It was a superb opportunity to promote the Trust at this high profile Scouting event.

I'm immensely grateful to Lesley & David Roberts, Margaret & Les Ling, John Le Warne and Dave Mowbray who helped me so much - as well as Ann without whom I would not have been able to get so much ready on Friday. We struggled to get everything from the Office to the marquee in The Orchard - pushing and pulling the trolley back and forth so many times that I think you can probably still see the marks in the grass!

## A most kind 40th Wedding Anniversary Gift at our 40th Anniversary

Barbara and Dennis Gover, who look after our Caravan at Exmouth, surprised us with a visit during the day to very generously present the Trust with a cheque for £395 from donations they received instead of presents for their 40th Wedding Anniversary. It was their first visit to Gilwell - and I hope they enjoyed everything that was on offer at "Reunion".

## Scout Holiday Homes Trust Association - come and join us

This is a very early reminder that the 2010 annual subscription donations will be due on 1 April 2010 - £10 for Individual Members and £30 for Corporate Units. Ann will be sending the formal letters to all members in the New Year.

I would be delighted if you would like to become a member in order to support the work of the Trust. Please do not hesitate to contact me in the Office.

## Colin and Barry our fundraising champs

Colin Sheldon and Barry Bevington have continued to raise funds for the Trust throughout the year, and arranged another mini prom concert which was held on 26 September 2009 at St Luke's Church in Leek. They had a good attendance, though slightly down on last year as they were competing with Strictly Come Dancing & X Factor on TV! We will have to wait and see whether they beat their 2008 record of raising more than £4,000 - look out for the Spring 2010 issue.

## Thanks for all donations large and small

The Trust receives many regular donations - large and small - from our supporters who are mainly from Scouting. We appreciate each and every one of them, and I'm only sorry that there is not space to print them all - however they are all recorded in the Trust's records. Without your support, we would be unable to continue our service to provide our holidays.

If your County is deciding on which charity to send their collections made at their Scout St George's Day Services and Parades - please think about our Trust!

## Wonderful legacy gift

In July 2009 the Trust received just over £100,000 from a legacy made by Mr Thomas Anthony Gane which was referred to us by his nephew, Mr Bill Stephenson. With new caravans costing over £40,000, perhaps this is a wonderful opportunity for a renewal or extension of our fleet.

## In Memoriam

I would sincerely like to thank the family and friends for sending the Trust donations in memory of their loved ones. It is so generous of them to agree to these donations being made when their lives are devastated. I always regard these funds as very special indeed.

I can arrange for special plaques to be put into our units. One of these was put in our caravan at Clacton at the start of the 2009 holiday season, and I have arranged for eight members of the Bean family to visit the caravan on 8 November 2009 to see the plaque in memory of Mrs Joan May Bean. I'm looking forward to meeting the family for this special occasion, and Carol Kerridge - our local team secretary - has agreed to make a cake and provide tea and coffee.

## Christmas & New Year

The members of the National Executive Committee and Ann and I would like to wish all our volunteers and supporters a very Merry Christmas and good health, peace and happiness in 2010.



## HOLIDAYMAKERS COMMENTS

Here are just a few of the comments we have received from holidaymakers. First one telling of a good deed.

*'Thank you for very much for our holiday at Berwick. The caravan and site were first class but unfortunately, my husband had a fall and was unable to drive back home. A big thank you to Dave Mowbray. Nothing was too much trouble, he came to the park, drove our car back to Harrogate, so cheerful, the nicest person I've ever met. I wish there were more like him. When he dropped us off, he had to make his way back to Cramlington. I had to write to make sure you know how much we appreciated his help.*

**Sylvia & Roy Temple-Evans'**

Dave Mowbray is the Management Team Secretary at Berwick and a member of the National Executive committee.

*'My brother-in-law has not been too well lately, so as a surprise I decided to give him a little holiday in your lovely caravan at Clacton. The caravan was super; the site had everything we needed to make our holiday. George and I enjoyed our break very much. Our thanks to the Trust for making it possible.*

**Shirley Davies.'**

*'I am writing to say how much we enjoyed our week at Devon Cliffs. I put a Pyrex jug whisk and non-stick fish slice in the kitchen The frying pan's coating had been scratched so I thought it would be better to have a non-stick slice to help preserve. Thank you to your committee for the time you all give to the upkeep of the caravans.*

**Barbara Sansom.'**

Thank you Barbara for your thoughtfulness.

*'Thank you so much for all your involvement in arranging this holiday break at Kidwelly for this couple who are presently going through a very difficult time. Your help is much appreciated.*

**Rosalind Deyes - Social Worker**

## Leek Lions Generous Gift



• Colin Sheldon receives a cheque for £500 from the President of Leek Lions Club, Les Critchlow and Secretary Lynda Damaid-Jones.

## GRAHAM PERRY

Colin also accepted a cheque for £500 on behalf of the Trust from Mrs Marie Perry in memory of her husband Graham Perry. Graham had been a Scouter for over fifty years and worked tirelessly for Scouting all his life. He was a Scout with 27th City Cobredge and became Assistant and then Scout Leader. Later he became District Scout Leader then ADC Scouts for Burslem District which became Potteries Central District, a position he held for 25 years. He then held the post of Chairman of Potteries Central District Scout Fellowship until his death. He was awarded the fifty year service medal just before he passed away. He is greatly missed by all his friends especially in the Scout Fellowship and we thank Marie for thinking of us at this time.



## Mayor attends Poole Annual fundraising coffee morning

The Poole Scout Fellowship held their annual coffee morning to raise money for the Trust in July at Len and Julia Terry's House. The Mayor of Poole, Councillor Meachin attended and was pleased to present a bouquet of flowers to Marguerite Dunningham in whose garden the coffee mornings had previously been held. A very successful day raised £300 for the Trust funds.



• The Mayor and Poole Scout Fellowship Chairman Basil Read present Marguerite with a bouquet of flowers.



• Plenty of old times to share.

# UP THE WALL WITH EASTLEIGH SCOUTS

Eastleigh Scout District is celebrating their centenary this year and has kindly nominated Scout Holiday Homes Trust as their charity.

They held a Scout awareness day in Eastleigh town centre and took the opportunity of raising £131.54 for the Trust when people donated money to have a go at their climbing wall which was manned by the District Explorer and Network. It was also very successful for them as they had over forty enquiries from young people and five adults interested in becoming leaders.

'Eastleigh Scout District also organised an evening of music by 14th Eastleigh Scout and Guide Band, with proceeds going to the Trust. Our grateful thanks to Eastleigh Scouts not only for their welcome donations but also for publicising the Trust.



## Colin and Barry spent the wet summer raising funds

Colin Sheldon and Barry Bevington have been working hard all summer to beat their target of funds raised for the Trust. The weather has not helped and they had to cancel one event, the Manifold Show as they couldn't get on the showground because it was too wet. At least the Concert which they organised with the Macclesfield Youth Brass Band was indoors.



• Teddy Bears' Picnic Churnet Valley Railway - Consall Station. Teddy Bear - John Wilshaw (Churnet Valley Railway), Bepo the Clown - Barry, and Colin.

## FUNDS RAISED AT FLEA MARKET

Pat Lord, ADC Scout Fellowship Hyndbuth District ran a charity stand at the local Flea Market advertising the Trust, which he says certainly fulfils a real need. He raised £40 for our funds. Pat sends best wishes to David and Lesley Roberts who he met at the Deep Sea Scout Fellowship reunion. Our thanks and best wishes to you Pat.

# THE SCOUT HOLIDAY HOMES TRUST TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (ABRIDGED)

The Trustees present their annual report  
for the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008.

In 2008 the Trust was able to achieve the same level of letting as in 2007 but has not been able to recover to the level of income achieved in 2006. A further reduction in letting income is possible in 2009 due to the closure of another unit (at Prestatyn) which had reached the end of its useful life.

Efficient bookings management has been maintained by the Trust's Administrator and her assistant. Their ability to manage the hundreds of bookings and cancellations, throughout the year and still maintain their good humour is exceptional. The Trust Administrator also ensures that regular holiday makers are contacted each year and seeks suitable methods of advertising the Trust. At the end of the 2008 season 252 holiday weeks had been booked for 198 families.

The following single, large sum, donations were received in 2008:

- £5,215 from St Andrew's Country Fayre Biggleswade
- £5,213 as a bequest from Freda Taylor
- £3,000 from Colin Sheldon and Barry Bevington
- £1,500 from John Le Warne
- £500 from the Gwyneth Moxon Charitable Trust
- £500 from the Freemason's Grand Charity: Pinewood Lodge
- £450 from the Sawbridge Scout Group 100 Year Celebrations
- £400 from the Scout Lodge 9814
- £400 from the Cheltenham and District Scout 2007 Fete
- £150 from the Claude and Margaret Pike Charity.

The trust also received the funds held by the Millicent Bailey Trust which transferred from the Scout Association as the terms of the Millicent Bailey Trust were to support the Trust.

The Trust has received donations in memory of Kathleen Green, Cis Tucker and John Poole. Our thoughts and gratitude are with the families for remembering the Trust.

As a result of the above donations, plus many others of less than £500, the level of donations in 2008 exceeded the amount in 2007 by almost £20,000. It is financial support like this that enables the Trust to continue. Many donations are from regular givers and this support is greatly appreciated as it does provide some security of income. The use of Gift Aid is encouraged and allows the Trust to recover money from the 'taxman' to increase the donations.

If the non-cash item of depreciation is ignored, the Trust has managed to reduce actual expenditure by over £10,000. The precarious cash position in December 2007 has now been greatly improved although part of this is the allowance by Bourne Leisure of monthly payments towards site fees enabling the Trust to slightly delay these payments.

The Trust will need to renew the remainder of the holiday home caravans over the next 12 years requiring funding of at least £50,000 each year in excess of the Trust's general running costs. Donations and other income must be increased and to aid this, the Trust has appointed professional fundraisers to identify and encourage new funding sources.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees  
**John LE WARNE**  
Honorary Chairman

## SUMMARY ACCOUNTS

	2008	2007
	£	£
Statement of Financial Activities		
<b>Income resources</b>		
Donations received	44,473	25,736
Rents received	66,280	66,092
Bank interest	1,170	1,654
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>111,923</b>	<b>93,482</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>127,157</b>	<b>129,804</b>
<b>Net outgoing resources</b>		
	<b>15,234</b>	<b>36,322</b>
<b>Balance Sheet</b>		
Tangible Fixed Assets	92,149	108,713
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Stock	533	1,179
Debtors	16,263	38,358
Cash in hand/bank	27,410	397
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>44,207</b>	<b>39,934</b>
<b>Creditors: amount falling due within one year</b>	<b>(8,923)</b>	<b>(5,980)</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>127,433</b>	<b>142,667</b>

The above figures have been extracted from the full Financial Statements which have been independently examined. A copy of the full Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2007 has been filed with the Charity Commission and is available on request from the Trust Office.

**Martin Payne FCCA MInstLM**  
Trustee / Hon Treasurer

## BASIL PIDGEON REMEMBERS THE WESTWARD HO! CHALET

So the Scout Holiday Homes Trust is celebrating its 40th anniversary! Well that certainly takes me back! It all began of course with Charles Porter and his wishing well at Exmouth when coins would be thrown into the well. When it was suggested that a unit might be purchased at Westward Ho! a meeting was held with Joan Bond and the members of the Torridge B-P Scout Guild. It was agreed that we would look after a unit and the first chalet was purchased. Joan looked at me and said "I've seen you before." she was quite right, for I had called into her office in London and purchased a tie.

The official opening of our chalet took place on 29th July 1971. Charles Porter was present with members of the Exmouth Guild who had taken over the running of his Exmouth caravans and we received a telegram of congratulations from Joan Bond. The photos of that day and the telegram still hang in 2nd Bideford Headquarters. It was good to see the article by Eileen Walton and I trust she is well.

Onward now to the 50th anniversary.

## LOCAL MANAGEMENT TEAMS

Our Local Management Team Secretaries are:

<b>Berwick-on-Tweed</b>	Dave Mowbray
<b>Burnham-on-Sea</b>	* vacant – overseen by Colina & Terry Hine
<b>Clacton</b>	Carol Kerridge
<b>Exmouth</b>	Barbara Gover
<b>Great Yarmouth</b>	Gillian Mays
<b>Kidwelly</b>	Mary Davies (cleaning/overseeing)
<b>New Milton</b>	Ted Terry
<b>Paignton</b>	David Roberts
<b>Poole</b>	Brian Leaver
<b>St Austell</b>	Ann Gibson
<b>Skipsea</b>	Derick Wilson

\* arrangements being made by the Trust Office but with Colina & Terry Hine checking the caravans at various times during 2009

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<b>Trustees</b>	Bob Panton Martin Payne - Treasurer John Le Warne
<b>Chairman</b>	John Le Warne
<b>Committee</b>	Val Drew Roger Hurrion Danny Jones Dave Mowbray Bruce Murdoch Rex Stevens
<b>Special Needs Rep</b>	Melissa Green
<b>National Special Needs</b>	
<b>Support Team</b>	Rex Stevens
<b>Scout Fellowship</b>	Glenn Walker
<b>Office</b>	Lynda Peters - Administrator Ann Standing - Assistant

## DANNY JONES – A PROFILE OF OUR NEWEST COMMITTEE MEMBER

I have been married to Lynda for 44-years. We have two sons, one a solicitor and one a marketing executive.

As a volunteer in Scouting I have held appointments as a Cub Scout Leader, Group Scout Leader and District Commissioner and in 1994, following my early retirement as a building services consulting engineer, I became HQ Field Commissioner for the north east of England, covering the Scout Counties of Cleveland, Durham, North Yorkshire & Northumberland.

In 2007 I retired as a member of Headquarters staff (though not as a Scouting volunteer) and now serve on County Executive Committees' in County Durham and North Yorkshire.

After almost 33 years in the Movement I thought I knew all about SHHT, but I confess that it was only when Lynda Peters invited me to join the national executive committee that I realised the full extent of the Trust's work and that 'family in need' meant so much more than having a family member with a mental or physical disability, and includes any family in which life is diminished by disability, infirmity or misfortune.

If I did not know this, then I am sure there must be others as ignorant as I was and I am keen to remedy this by helping spread the word and increase Membership and income of the Trust by raising its profile to as wide an audience as possible.

## Stamps still required

Both Pat Lord and Basil Pidgeon enclosed packages of stamps with their letters. We are still pleased to receive stamps, commemorative or foreign only please, which we can sell for Trust funds. Please send to Lynda in the Trust office.

