Notes from GSL meeting on Tuesday 5th Feb 2013 at DHQ

Apologies received from Derek Holt 34th Lanc, Martyn Browitt and Steve Landles of 33rd Lanc, Carol Holmes Cent with Westgate, Velma Keating 5th Lanc, John Nelson 1st Forton, Martin Yates 2nd Bolton le Sands, and Darren Phillips 23rd Lanc.

Present, Kieron, Ryan 35th Lanc, Alan Hague 16th Morecambe, Paul Sargent 53rd Lanc, Val Vose 11th More, Andrew Holland 16th Lanc, Geoff Trimnell SL 1st Forton, Terry Bond 1st Silverdale, John Elliott SL Halton, Helen Plumb Caton, Janet Bradshaw 1st Warton and Barbara Hughes CDO, Craig Dewar DDC and Pat Griffin DC.

We welcomed Andrew Holland as new GSL at 16th Lancaster, Geoff Trimnell who was standing in for John Nelson and to John Elliott who was representing Halton group.

We revisited the October minutes regarding CRB renewals - HQ advise Pat every month of any un-renewed CRBs 2 months old with a view to suspension of warrant if paperwork not done at that date, only 2 on this list which took us up to 12th Dec 2012.

Email addresses and records on Backpack – it is still important to make sure all members supply and put on their backpack correct and up to date email address, if you are in records to check for training needs or review do look at front page and see if any updates needed. **Stop press** Kris Preddy has advised if you have members who get married or change name it must be done by HQ – you send Kris kris.buster@gmail.com the info re new name, and she advises HQ (we cannot alter surnames but we can alter all other info addresses, emails, phones etc.

First aid and training – Pat asked if all now satisfied with provision of courses? A long list of updated certificates had been sent to admin and are now going on to backpack, and another course is arranged for 6th April (venue TBA) **GSLS note – lots of training certificates in pigeonholes for collection and distribution please.**

**A full list** of Safeguarding courses (2nd date in each Getting started course) is on Lonsdale website and also on noticeboard at DHQ. There is one every month so get stragglers booked on NOW please with Carolyn Blyth at blythcarolyn@gmail.com the next Getting started is 26th Feb pt 1 and 6th March pt 2 – you must book on to get a place and check re venue. Safeguarding must be done every 5 years by every leader.

**DISTRICT DIARY** – now completed with dates from all sections and will be online on website shortly and paper copies for those not connected. Please make sure you look at it and see what events are arranged or planned for each section so you can encourage or help leaders to support where possible.

**St Georges Day** – 23rd April is Tuesday, and as Lancaster is likely to be chaotic with road and sewage works in April, and with the difficulty in finding a large enough venue (400 seater plus car parking) we have agreed to return to The **Platform at Morecambe**. Same set up as last year (6.30 start to 8 p.m. but possibly a different Flag route for procession. Flyer to come out shortly with other details.

**Skills and Chills** – date for this event 14th – 16th June and venue is Littledale. Flyer is to be issued to all members to encourage everyone to take part if possible. Limited indoor accommodation so it will be first come first served, but hopefully other will be keen to camp or day visit. Various proposed prices, indoor with meals £26, camping with meals £16, camping self catering £6, and day visitors with meals £10 are suggested. Watch out for the flyer and let’s have a super weekend learning a new skill and exchanging good ideas, and getting to know some of our newer leaders.

**Bear in the air** – likely visit by Bear to North West to County rally (Scouts) and GT @ GT day (for cubs and beavers). These events will go ahead even if he does not come and if you want your kids to have a good day out then do get your sections to support these events. More info re the GT @ GT day to be advised at next cub section meeting, and to beavers too.

**Swimming Gala – it has been decided to** move this event from autumn to the summer term. We have booked Saturday 13th July for all sections 4.30 – 6.30 for Beavers and Cubs and 7 – 9 for Scouts and Explorers. Put date in your diaries and I apologise to those groups where it clashes with summer camp.

**Commissioners challenge** – the info re this is on West Lancs Website for each section – it is a valuable tool and a full years programme for your leaders so anyone struggling for ideas or for a programme for 2013 should use it. Lovely badge (75p) to award which you should order in advance when you register. This is a free resource from County so do use their expertise and planning.

**Appointments update** – we have been concerned that many leaders of over 5 months still show pre provisional or provisional and we are working through them. So, if you get a list there is work to do. Pre provisional means they have not been interviewed so where is the missing paperwork/references, or have they missed their appointment? If you are advised that your leader is up for appointment interview, then please do make sure they know where to go – we might know where DHQ is but they will not and some people get lost – they have volunteered to help you please make sure they start off well! Provisional means they are interviewed but have not done modules 1,2 3 and safe or have done it but not been validated. It is important we watch this, as we should close appointments down if training not completed in first 5 months, you have been warned! If a person has moved from one role to another say cub leader to scout leader and are fully trained in original role, they do not need to do 1,2,3, or 5 – 9 again, they may need to do safe if 5 years since done, and they should book on section essential training to complete their woodbeads for the new role.

**Communications** update Craig asked how the new Lonsdale e/newsletter had been received, another one in preparation. Again important to know we are reaching all members.

**District vacancies** – Adverts are now on website for District Secretary, DESCOMM, ADC Activities, Media Manager, and now also for District Appointment secretary. All these vacancies are due to the current holders moving into other roles or moving away from Lonsdale. You can self nominate or nominate someone who you feel wants a change of role or needs to develop in Scouting.

**Development update** from Barbara – she told us of really useful parental skills which were disclosed at the recent parents evening at Carnforth, and of further meetings at Hornby to consider group development to include a beaver section. We also discussed round the table needs for each group re Execs, and discussed a training event for treasurers, chairs and secretaries.

**District Round up** – Caton – lots of new members, good programme, 35th Lanc GSL and leader changes being planned, some new members recently, 11th More new ACSL and YL to become ASL, both teachers/leaders at Morecambe Rd school will be having time out re pregnancy so that section may have to close as runs in school and special needs of children, but discussions re some cubs going to packs nearer to own homes. Halton – beavers OK but ABSL needed cub numbers low, scouts ok but want to do recruitment night/programme. 1st Warton 30 scouts, lots of SSAs but would like more to be in uniform and trained. Cubs ok leader wants to complete training, Beavers will close at Easter unless leadership found. 1st Forton waiting lists, all sections full, need leaders meeting with GSL. 16th Lancaster – good recent all section activity, bowling followed by cub and scout sleepover and church flag parade with new GSL invested. Some leaders booked on training, short of cub leaders for 1 pack. 53rd Lancaster good help from ASLs, numbers up, need to recruit more younger section leaders for cubs and beavers. 16th Morecambe – beavers ok and just done 1st sleepover, a few spaces in cubs packs, 5 recent silver awards with good parent evening, scouts 28 new ASL and 2 YLs and a new zany website. Silverdale, leaflets gone round village for help, numbers, support, HQ building needs replacing soon, SL returned from abroad experience.

A.O.B. Census – Pat asked how it had been – all round the table had submitted and found it ok. 3 still o/s so Pat would again try to contact groups and see what was problem. Not yet known if numbers up or down on last year. Results will be published when we have them.

Meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

Notes/Minutes by Pat Griffin DC.

**Date of next meeting 21st March 2013 – DHQ**

**Some training dates for you to push**

Cub Leader training is in April 5-7th – cub leaders to book on?

Beaver leader training – 1 day 23rd March followed by weekend 12-14 April – beavers leader informed?

Scout leaders 8-10 March + 1 day international Mod 19, **or** if full 5-7th Sept + 1 day international Mod 19 – get your scout leaders booked in now as these fill up well in advance!

Remember to check the County website to make sure dates are correct and to check venues. Application forms are on Lonsdale website and go direct to Carolyn Blyth and then you send her the cheque for the money.