

Dear Parent

I hope you had an enjoyable Christmas and that you will have a prosperous New Year – because by golly you'll need it!!

## Centenary of Scouting

As you will know by now, it is 100 years since Robert Baden-Powell first took a couple of dozen boys camping on Brownsea Island. Out of that small acorn has sprung an organisation which spans the World. Scouting is in every country on the planet bar 6. There are currently 28 million Scouts in the organisation. It is estimated that one out of every three males in the UK has been in Scouting at some stage in their lives.

In celebration of 1907, Scouting worldwide has organised a whole host of activities, including the World Jamboree at Hylands Park, near Chelmsford in Essex [to which Ben is going].

## Centenary Camps

Nationally, Centenary Camps are being organised the length and breadth of Britain. I'm the Camp Leader of our district's which will be at Bradley Wood over the Spring Bank weekend. It is the aim that every 'Scout' in the country be at a Centenary Camp. A booking form is enclosed. [As it falls in the middle of GCSE's, AS, & A-levels, an 'Exam Break' Special – Saturday to Sunday - has been put together for those Explorer Scouts who cannot attend the whole camp.]

## Balloon Launch

Celebrations kick off in January with a 'Balloon Launch'. Biodegradable Balloons will be launched from Royds Hall and Castle Hill on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January. Balloons cost £1, and there is a prize for the one flying the furthest.

## Curry Night

We have another Curry Night on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January. Eat all you want/can for a tenner. Why not sell some tickets to your friends and relatives?

## Summer Camp

In July, an American Troop is flying over to camp with us at Great Tower in the Lake District. We shall need a dozen families to provide Home Hospitality for a couple of days.

## Group/Family/Reunion Camp

In September we are having a Group/Family/Reunion Camp. This is for current members, all family members, and past members of the Group. We really do want you to attend – whether you want to or not!! On the Saturday evening there will be a dance & buffet.

## Payment

There are various booking forms enclosed – and the one for Kettlewell will follow later. Please fill them in and return. Costly? Yes, but not compared to school trips. You can send an amount each month for depositing in our 'Camp Bank'. In addition, almost everyone has had a pack of letters explaining how to raise money for these events. Please let me know if you have not had one.

## Gift Aid

As previously mentioned and discussed, we will be applying for Gift Aid for your contributions to the Group [letter enclosed].

## e-mail

This, for me, is the easiest and most efficient way to keep you informed – and for you to tell me things so that I don't forget!! So please complete the enclosed form and return it. It is also available online at

<http://www.9thhuddersfieldscouts.org.uk/Admin/e-mail%20Survey.html>.

Due to a variety of reasons, our current numbers – both youngsters and adults - are low. Consequently we shall be having an Open/Recruitment Evening at the end of January or early February. Every pupil at the local junior and infant schools, and Moor End will be invited. In addition, flyers will go to every house in the area. Your help on that evening will be very much appreciated. To find out when it will be...

...Stay Informed...

...by regularly visiting our website, [www.9thHuddersfieldScouts.org.uk](http://www.9thHuddersfieldScouts.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

*Dave*

and

*Diane*

[Group Chairperson]