



## THE FUTURE OF BERKSHIRE SCOUT ENTERPRISES

Those who were able to attend our recent Annual General Meeting would have heard the talk about the change in climate in funding for the type of services we have been able to provide over the last 25 years.

Our Annual Accounts for 2009 show that we have not enjoyed the prosperity of previous years and, in fact, both in 2008 and 2009 our expenditure has exceeded income. Sadly, I see a similar situation in 2010.

It was interesting to note that Youth Unemployment has risen to over 977,000 young people – 18 to 24 year olds – not in education, training or employment. This news has, therefore, brought to a head as to what the future direction of the company should be.

You may recall that through the Grant from the Modernization Fund we looked at the possibilities of collaboration with other charities, but the noticeable difficulty for all, was that there are no Bids for funding opportunities in the foreseeable future.

So quite simply, it is time for us to say “where do we go in the future?”

In the short term, we are taking steps to reduce our expenses and overheads and, regrettably, we are re-locating into the original offices at Barn 9 to provide accommodation for Berkshire Scouts – County Development Office and Administration. This change will affect staffing and no doubt there will be some redundancies. We will also be cutting back the services we are able to offer to Scouting locally, nationally and internationally.

But, as one of the Founders said, “we provided at the time the services required, and should now let others look to the future”.

**Alan K B Beavis** OBE  
Chairman

### FUTURE JOBS FUND

The Future Jobs Fund Grant we received in January, once again enabled us to help young people, by employing them and giving them useful, worthwhile tasks to do in the community.

We are no longer recruiting employees. The present 26 employees will be completing their six months with us and then leave, some into employment and other training, but regrettably the majority back to Job Seekers' Allowance.



Future Jobs Fund employee working at a local allotment.

### BERKSHIRE YOUNG PEOPLES PROJECT

Berkshire Young People's Project has been a successful way of providing opportunities for unemployed people. The participants have developed a number of skills such as leadership, teamwork and confidence. The team have helped a number of local charities completing a wide range of conservation projects to improve the environment.

We have successfully engaged over 40 young people in carrying out work in the community for 2 days a week. We are particularly grateful to Nick Goulding and Nathan Bray for the support and encouragement they have given to engage these young people in a variety of projects in and around Reading and West Berkshire.

Funding from the Hardship Fund stops at the end of September 2010. It is our hope that we can continue this activity subject to funding.



Berkshire Young People's Project volunteers.

### TRAIN TO GAIN

We successfully completed the contract to the 31st July 2010 and have secured funding for a further year, enabling us to recruit further Scout and Guide Leaders and those in the community to achieve an NVQ Qualification by July 2011.

We are still running with 10 assessors including Michele Riley, our Internal Verifier. Eric Goulding, Mick Stocks and Nathan Bray now have their A1 certificates and Dave Turner and Lynne Kay have been registered for the award and have almost completed their portfolios. Since we started T2G we have put 266 on and have completed 117 learners. 53 have been carried over to the next contract year.

### RESPONSE TO REDUNDANCY

We have received no news of further funding from Chichester College so as a result this programme has come to completion.

BSEL

Berkshire Scout Enterprises Ltd

# NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2010



## GRAVELLY COURT

In the short term, we are taking steps to reduce our expenses and overheads and, regrettably, have given up our current offices in Barn 9A at Gravelly Court to our neighbours – First Safety Training. Therefore, we are re-locating into the original offices at Barn 9.

This change will affect staffing and we will also be cutting back the services we are able to offer to Scouting locally, nationally and internationally.

## GRAVELLY TRAINING CENTRE

Our purpose built training centre, located adjacent to our offices in Grazeley is available to hire for meetings or training sessions of up to 25 people. For bookings or enquiries call 0118 9884077 or e-mail: [enquiries@bsel.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@bsel.org.uk).



## SUPPORTING SCOUTING



### BERKSHIRE SCOUTS - PROJECT AFRICA

We are delighted to be involved in the Berkshire Scouts 2011 Uganda Expedition, Project Africa. Whilst in Uganda, Berkshire Scouts will be supporting ongoing works by Building Brighter Futures with two special schools, the Kavule School for the Deaf and the Bukeka Children's Centre.



As well as the community work to be carried out by the Scouts taking part in the expedition, it is also hoped to involve other Scouts in the County who will be asked to collect books to provide a library in each of the two schools. There will also be an opportunity to sponsor chickens that are being kept to provide eggs for the children. It is also hoped to find sponsors for the camping equipment to be used by the Berkshire Scouts on the expedition which will be left behind for use by local Scout Groups.

### THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

We have been able to continue the administrative support for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Berkshire thanks to the efforts of Suzanne Stout.

It is hoped that this will be continued by a Volunteer Leader.

For the most up to date information on BSELs activities visit:

[www.bsel.org.uk](http://www.bsel.org.uk)

### BERKSHIRE COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

As well as facilitating the employment of the County's Local Development Officer, Harriet Riley (for which we have obtained an extension of the contract), we also provide facilities for a part time administrator, Jacqueline Meakes, for Berkshire County Scout Council.

### FIRST RESPONSE

We have continued to provide First Response Courses for Scout Leaders, thanks to the co-ordination by Suzanne Stout and our Trainers Andrew Hunter and James Southern.

It is hoped in the future that this will be facilitated through the Berkshire County Scout Administrator.

### MIDAS

We have continued to provide Mini Bus Driving Courses throughout the year, thanks to co-ordination by Jacqueline Meakes and our Trainer, Eric Goulding, who has given up many evenings and weekends for the practical tests for Leaders.



### UK ADULT SCOUT ALLIANCE

We continue to support the work of the UK ASA that encourages those who have been in Scouting in the UK to work and support the International Scout & Guide Fellowship.

### UK AFRICA SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

We continue to give administrative support to the activities of the UK Africa Scout Fellowship and, in particular, the work that is done for the Uganda Network who we have supported since its inauguration in 1985.

### SCOUT HOLIDAY HOMES TRUST

Thanks to Richard Sawdon Smith who edits their Holiday Action Newsletter and Don Honey for providing the graphic design, we have been able to produce two editions a year for the members.



### BAMBANG SUNSHINE PROJECT

We have supported this project which helps disabled children in the village of Bambang in the Philippines since 1999.

### BULANGIRA DISABLES ASSOCIATION

Following the visit of Betty and Peter Scurry to Uganda in 2000, we have been able to give administrative and financial support to their work in building a new Training Centre in Uganda.

### BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES

We have been able to support this charity formed by Eric and Marie Goulding following Uganda 2000.

### MITYANA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

We continue to support the work of this charity which was the result of Alan Beavis' visit to Uganda in 2000 when a plot of land was donated by Mityana Town Council for a new Scout/Community Building.



Two charities emerged from this initiative, Mityana Community Enterprises and Mityana Community Development Foundation. Both of these charities have developed community centres in Mityana and provide support to the community, hospitals and other organisations, including Scouting.

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