

DC's Report to District Exec. 15th March 2012

The census figures show little change from last year. Beavers and scout numbers are up, but cub and explorer numbers are down but only by small amounts. Overall there was a decrease of 1% in our District but the County figures show an increase of over 4%. Hopefully if the Middleton group starts and beavers start at Gainford, we can show an increase next year. Although I know that several sections are struggling for sufficient leaders. We still have children wanting to join when there are places for them at Staindrop and Barnard Castle.

I attended a County meeting in February, when several dates were given to me. Apart from the Chief Scouts awards on Sunday 23rd September at the Gala Theatre in Durham, there is a Jubilee Youth event in South Tyneside on Saturday 29th September. The Big Day Out is open to Beavers and Cubs on 23rd June.

Derwentside District are organising a Gang Show in Stanley November 20th-24th. They are inviting any members from other Districts to take part with them. Newcastle Gang Show is 10th-14th April.

The County Commissioner was upset that several CRBs had not been completed. We had a blitz on them last year so are more or less up to date, but I have one or two to clear.

There was a reminder about the Glider at Sutton Bank. It is available for groups to use and camp nearby.

There is a conference for GSLs on 25th March, which Iain Neill is attending.

The St George's Day Activity afternoon is looking good. TCR will supply all supervision except for archery. We do have 3 leaders trained and Charlie Wilson, who hopefully will supervise this. Other leaders can ensure that the queues are not too long by moving children around. There was a feeling that TCR are making a huge profit, but I'm told that we are being charged less than some other groups.

Development

WE are still keen to start beavers at Gainford, but will wait until Mike is back.

There has been progress on the Middleton section. John Mcatominey has visited twice and met once with the progress group and again on Wednesday 14th March. If possible they will use the UTASS room above the Co-op.