

FEBRUARY 2009

The Spur

The Newsletter of Torbay Scouts Est. 1953
(Registered Charity No: 1027059) www.torbay-scouts.com

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Niki will be the face of Scouting on new TV show

Torquay based adventurer Niki Bailiss is about to become a television presenter. The 16 year old, an explorer scout with the 11th Torbay unit, will be fronting the fifth edition of Community Channel's new series Scout TV.

A delighted Niki was nominated by her team leaders after taking part in a media presentation training exercise. She will front the fifth Devon edition of a new series of monthly programmes entitled Everyday Adventure, which is to be broadcast around mid-April.

Niki said "This is a great opportunity to show people what Scouting is really about and show the adventures which are available to them. She was surprised to be chosen. "TV presenting is something I really didn't expect to be doing when I joined the Explorer Scouts," said Niki, a pupil at Torquay Community College.

Andrew Thorp of the Scout Association said, "We chose her for many reasons. She's a young, innovative, dynamic individual who loves Scouting." Andrew revealed Devon was one of a number of locations to be featured in the nationwide TV programme. "We wanted the county to be involved because of its exciting, rural



background," he explained. He added "Our aim is to dispel the myths of Scouting and encourage particularly young adults to get involved." Scouting now has 28 million members worldwide.

The broadcasting of the Scout TV series is on the Community Channel in partnership with the Scout Association. The series will be broadcast on Freeview, Sky 539 and Virgin TV 233 and will be available for download from I-Tunes.

This article was first published in the Herald Express of January 22nd and is reproduced here with the permission of the Editor. To access the original article and other local news, visit the Herald Express website at www.thisissouthdevon.co.uk. Photograph provided by Paul Bailiss.

FROM THE BOROUGH COMMISSIONER

I hope you have all had a good New Year and numbers in the sections have recovered to an all time high with the census well under way.

With an excess of time consuming jobs over the last two months I have been unable to dedicate as much time to my Vision and it is a little behind schedule but it will recover.

As last year, I know some of you are stretching out to Dartmoor and the Ten Tors competition and I want to wish you all the best in your training and adventurous activities around the moor. There is nothing greater than helping all those young people to achieve their very best in everything they do.

Please don't forget that with the Explorer Young Leader system they are trying to gain experience helping in the younger sections (are you short of help?), and can be assigned to your section for any period from 3 months upwards after they have completed their first module in training. This is to your advantage as well as theirs and if you want help please contact Paul Bailiss, DESC or myself.

I know there are still surprises in store for me but with everyone's help 2009 will be a year of greater achievements for all.
Tony

BEAVER SCOUT NEWS

Saturday July 11th is to be Beavers' 999 Day. Details later, but please put the date in your diary.

SCOUT/EXPLORER NEWS

Cathie Hewitt writes: I have been in contact with a local fishing boat owner who is willing to help out with a Mackerel fishing

competition. We can enter either teams of up to 12 or individuals. The idea would be for the boat to go out for approx 2 hours and whatever is caught is weighed as either team or individual catch on the harbour side. Fishing rods will be provided. The winning team or individual would either win a prize or trophy. The boat owner has advised that he will only charge half his normal cost (although I will still negotiate on this!) and the competition would be run on a Sat in September or if there is enough interest the Sunday as well. The boat must have a minimum of 2 adults supervising.

I would appreciate some feedback if you think this a good/bad idea and whether your Scouts/Explorers would be interested. I will only go ahead with this if there is enough interest.

Cathie also informs us that the Scout and Explorer Cooking Competition will take place on Saturday the 19th of September, so get cracking on your menus and practising with your woks etc. Further details nearer the time.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

At the December meeting of the Scout Fellowship, John Hampton was elected as the new chairman.

Most of the present members of the Fellowship are connected to groups or have other positions in the borough (did I hear someone say 'If you want something done, ask a busy person?') and it was thought that a recruitment drive to get unattached people could be fruitful. Any Ideas anyone?

A lot of help will be needed over the Spring bank holiday weekend for the Devon Mini Jamboree. If you can help you should contact John Hampton or Paul Bailiss (DESC)

The last quiz night was a great success and it has been decided that it should become an annual event. The next one will be held on Saturday March 28th. A flyer about this is attached to this Spur. The next Fellowship meeting will be Wednesday 11th March at 7.30pm at 5 Maple Court, Grange Rd., Goodrington. Please come along to the meeting with a view to joining us.

FIRST AID TRAINING

Dave Parnell writes: For personal reasons I find it necessary to step down as Borough First Aid Trainer/Advisor, with immediate effect. I have enjoyed the many years I have been doing training, but the time has come for me to hand the job over to someone else.

The new Trainer/Advisor is *John Hampton(Jordy)* who is also the new chairman of Torbay Scout Fellowship. Many of you know

him as he has years of experience as a first aid trainer and assessor and he has been involved with first aid training in the borough for many years. I wish him well in his new job. John can be contacted at: john@tq10.wanadoo.co.uk.

I will still be organising the Torbay Cub Scout First aid Competition in conjunction with Jordy. This will be held at Watcombe Campsite on 4th July 2009. Full details will be in a later Spur.

DIRECTORY AMENDMENTS

Please notify any additions or changes to the directory to Roger Avenall at roger.avenall@blueyonder.co.uk

SCOUT SHOP NEWS

TORBAY SCOUT SHOP NOW ONLINE

www.torbayscoutshop.co.uk

The new website, is now up and running. It can be used by both leaders and parents so why not log on and follow the links. Leaders will need to have their account upgraded before they can view the restricted badges on-line.

Also I have in stock at the shop the new scout handbook at £8.00. With 300 pages of practical skills, advice and ideas for adventure. Well worth a read. No scout should be without it!

Please keep supporting your scout shop and make sure your parents support us or you could end up like the guide leaders having to go to Newton Abbot for your badge & uniform requirements.

A flyer is being sent out with this Spur, please print it out and display it in your HQ. Better still; give one to all your parents. Thank you. *Christine Price*, scout shop manager. 01803 201270
Christine@christineprice7.wanadoo.co.uk

Support Your Scout Shop

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

6th to 8th February 2009 – Dulverton Training Weekend

13th February – 15th Torbay Bingo 7pm.

11th March – Scout Fellowship meeting, 7.30pm

26th April – St George's Day Parade.

22nd to 25th May 2009 – Devon mini Jamboree

4th July – Cub Scout First Aid Competition

July 11th – Beavers' 999 day
19th September 2009 – Scout and Explorer Cooking Competition

15TH TORBAY NEWS

The 15th Torbay are holding a Valentine's Bingo at their HQ behind Torre School on Friday 13th February at 7 o'clock. Everyone is welcome. See flyer attached.

Send Your
Group News to
The Spur

SPUR DISTRIBUTION

If you know of anyone in your group - Leader, older scout/explorer, helper, committee member or parent - who would like the 'Spur' by Email, please send me addresses. The more people who read 'The Spur' the more interest may be generated for Scouting in the Torbay District. *David Johnson*, editor.

All twelve issues of the 2008 'Spur' are available on CD. If you would like a copy, please send a recordable CD disc and a stamped addressed envelope to the editor.

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Footnote from the Editor

Closing date for contributions to the **March 2009** issue of

The Spur is **Saturday 21st February 2009**

Contributions can be e-mailed **in Word please** to:

dhjohnson@blueyonder.co.uk or can be posted to

David Johnson, 11, Boundary Road Chelston, Torquay. TQ2 6LR
or by telephone (evenings 8 to 9.30) on 01803 605417