Happy New Year!

Wow! What a great start to the year.

2009 saw a total of

4244

Wood Badges

awarded across the UK.

That's 386 more than 2008.

Well done to you all and the learners you have been supporting.

Training 2009

This year 1402 people answered our Learners Questionnaire, (30% of learners) which is designed to find out from learners their experience of training.

Headlines

Almost equal numbers gained their Wood Badge for the first time, as those who had a change of role.

91% of those who answered said that they felt the training they did should be a requirement for their role.

Comments on Training Advisers:

"A great Advisor that helped me achieve the Wood Badge efficiently without losing sight of the content."

"My training adviser was fantastic. She was not only their for validation but offered practical and sensible advice based on knowledge and past experience on numerous occasions."

"My Training Advisor has been in the movement for a long time but as well as being informative/supportive she is also very practical and helped to widen my ideas"

The National Report on Adult Training, a full report containing information from this questionnaire, the Self Evaluation feedback and good practice gathered over the year, will be available in February.
eNews from other teams

Want to know what else is happening in the world of Scouting?

If you want to find out what the 6 - 25 team, Activities or International are up to, you can find their eNews here:

[link]

Want to know what's happening in Scout Active Support:

[link]

Projects Team Members needed Module 16 phase 2

We are looking for a project team to work on the second phase of the Module 16: Nights Away review.

This will involve writing training material for a new module which will cover an introduction to the practical skills needed for a Nights Away Permit.

For more info or to register interest email:

[link]

Funding for Disabled Volunteering

The Access to Volunteering Fund is open to applications, and could provide Scout Groups with help to enable more disabled people to volunteer.

For more information:

[link]

Gilwell Courses

There are still place available for the following:

Section Leader Training
10th - 16th April 2010

This course covers the learning required for modules 5 - 9 and 11 - 19 of the Adult Training Scheme.

British Red Cross Trainer Training
10th - 3th April 2010

This course is for adults who wish to provide First Aid training to both young people and adults within The Scout Association. The course provides participants with a British Red Cross (BRC) Practical First Aid Certificate and a recognised BRC Trainer and Assessor Award. This allows participants to run and award BRC awards to other Members of The Scout Association and Girlguiding UK, as well as providing adults with the necessary qualifications to run First Response courses.

For further information and booking details:

[link]

Nights Away Adviser Workshops

To help support Nights Away Advisers (NAA) in their role, the UK Activities Team is running two NAA Workshops for all NAAs on 11th April and 9th May 2010.

These days are designed to provide updates and support to NAAs in carrying out assessments for Nights Away Permits, as well as providing opportunities for peer support and networking.

Each day will include: Updates and training in the permit scheme and the role of the NAA within it:

- Updates and training in the skills of assessment
- Practical opportunities to try out assessing techniques
- An opportunity to have any questions answered
- An opportunity to make contact and discuss issues and ideas with other NAAs from around the country.

These workshops also act as the ongoing learning that is a requirement of NAA roles.

For more information

[link] or email

activities@scout.org.uk
We are now ready for the next stage in the work on agreeing Scouting’s Vision Towards 2018 and would like your input. Comments and suggestions from the summer consultations were considered at the National Conference in October, and the outputs from 26 workshops and other sessions are summarised in the report Vision for Scouting in 2018.

You can contribute individually or perhaps by discussing at your meetings. The team are particularly keen to hear the views of young people and would encourage all Leaders to discuss with their Sections and Units wherever possible.

For more information:
http://www.scouts.org.uk/cms.php?pageid=2524&pagenotlive=1

A ‘questions to ask’ document, to support the validation guide in the Training Advisers Guide has been produced. These questions should be read alongside the Module 37 validation guide on page 95 of the Training Adviser’s Guide. These are suggested questions that Training Advisers can ask Learners to check their knowledge and understanding of the topics contained in the module.

You can find it at:

The Adult Training Steering Group is looking for a project co-ordinator to join the group.

The Steering Group is a national volunteer body that supports, develops and maintains the Adult Training Scheme. The role of the project co-ordinator is to co-ordinate and report on the projects that are undertaken by those external to the ATSG.

If you are interested or want more information please email:
adult.support@scout.org.uk
Removing Barriers to volunteering

Barriers to learning come in many shapes and sizes, and often there are hidden barriers to accessing learning for otherwise very willing volunteers.

Childcare is one of these, particularly if you are a single parent, and is something we should give a bit more consideration too. In some counties childcare is becoming an issue for CTMs in ensuring take up of learning opportunities. The e learning has helped a lot as it suits lifestyle, but if people prefer collaborative learning they have to miss out on courses if childcare is a problem - and very often won't say.

Kay Hill, CTM Greater Manchester East, has got one Training Adviser who volunteered to babysit for a husband and wife team who have just taken on a cub pack so they can get to evening modules.

The language managers and trainers use with learners about training is also important and hidden negative messages can go out. Feedback from some younger learners, particularly those with lots of Scouting experience and literacy difficulties, is that they are scared training will be academic. Where does that perception come from and what do we do to allay their fears?

Identifying these 'non-traditional' barriers to learning and developing ways to overcome these barriers are important for the development of training within Scouting.

We want to know your experience. Whether it is encountering the barriers, or overcoming them. It may be that you have identified a need that needs supporting, or found that some barriers to learning are increasing. By sharing your concerns, experiences and your success stories we can get a better picture of how we can support and develop training and adapt to learning needs in Scouting across the UK.

Please email your comments to: adult.support@scout.org.uk