

GSL Report May 2008

I am pleased to report that, as in my six previous years as GSL, KD9 continues to thrive and provide excellent Scouting facilities in the Spennells area – the past year has been exceptional.

We continue to attract high numbers of young people to Scouting and more importantly, hold onto them from their start in Beavers right through to Scouts. Some of Scouts are completing nearly 8 years of Scouting in all three sections – a tremendous effort. We continue to attract more girls to all our sections as well.

Our 2008 census figures show a net increase of 11 over the previous year, with 69 young people and Leaders forming our Group. Once again, I am pleased to report that the numbers have increased again during the first part of 2008 since the census was completed and we are now at record numbers in all 3 sections. We also have more warranted leaders than we have had for many years.

We continue to run a very effective support to our sections, with a small but dedicated and focused committee, who work well with our Leader team. Bev Priest holds the Chairman roles and Carolyn Roberts has completed her first year as Secretary – my thanks to both for their continued support and hard work.

Our Leaders continue to be an enthusiastic team. Their resilience and dedication has no bounds and I am proud to be part of their team. They muck in together and are able to multi task with all sections – at times some Leaders have attended all three section meetings during an evening to help out. I do hope that tonight will see a reward for their services.

Some of our young people have had more than 4 opportunities to camp over the past year, with over 13 nights being available under canvas. All 3 sections have camped. We look forward to our Group camp in June, when once again, all 3 sections will join together at Kinver.

My thanks go to Melanie, Jane, Rachel, Nicki, Rachel, Paul, Julie, Emily, Fran, Mark & Steve for all their hard work – along with a very willing band of helpers who also give up their time to support our young people.

As a Group we ensure that funds are available to support events and for the sixth year running, we are able to keep our fees pegged at £30 per term. This is partly due to our fundraising events and the help given by parents and members at those events. Please continue to support us – the events themselves are not often but your commitment when they happen is valued and appreciated. Remember, it helps keep the costs down for you as well!!

2007 was the Centenary of Scouting. Last August when we were part of the celebrations seems a long way gone, but the memories linger on. Only last week I asked Scouts what they most liked and almost all commented that being part of that camp and festivities was uppermost in their thoughts. But we look forward and already we have 21 of our Group saying they want to head to Belgium for a weeks camp in 2009 and have committed to paying a deposit.

Over the next few months we will let you know of several fund raising events so that we can try and help parents meet some of the cost of the trip. Those that are willing to help and support the events could find their total cost come down considerably.

We will continue to offer quality Scouting time to youngsters in our area, with properly trained Leaders and helpers. We are committed to ensuring our youngsters have fun and follow Scouting traditions – a welcome distraction from the pressures our young people face these days.

Thank you for your support – if you would like some details of how you can be part of our team, please feel free to call me.

Ian Setchell Group Scout Leader 9th Kidderminster (Spennells)

Treasurers Report – KD9 Scout Group 2008

For the fourth year running, I have combined my role as Group Scout Leader with that of Treasurer. Whilst this is not the ideal solution, in the absence of any volunteers this is the way it has to be.

Although the balance sheet points to a hefty expenditure over income, the past financial year for our Group has been an exceptional one. We explained during several meetings last year, that a good majority of our surplus reported in 2007 was either pre payments or money held in reserve for our Jamboree Camp in August 2007.

The committee are happy that we have met all of our targets and that the Group accounts remain in a good state.

Points of note from the Accounts are:

- During the past year, the Leaders took on a considerable workload to complete paperwork for Gift Aid. This funding now provides a significant part of the Groups funding.
- Our aim last year was to subsidise each Jamboree participant. We managed to achieve our aim with 50%, on average, of each participant cost being met from Group funds. This relates to approx £60 for each person that camped with us.
- We spent over £1200 on new tents, tables and chairs and lighting to meet the demand for our campers at Jamboree and this equipment will be used many more times for our long term benefit.

We find that the Insurance we have in place fully covers the stock of tents and equipment we have. The cheque for the 2008 renewal was not cashed when the books closed. At £104, there is a reduction in cost to reflect the amount of equipment held and the storage area.

At the present, it is the Group's intention to maintain the capitation level for youngsters at £30 per term. You will see that your support of Gift Aid is helping us tremendously so please ensure you have completed you Gift Aid form – without that help our fees would undoubtedly have to rise.

Additionally, it is the Committee's aim to have at least 3 years cost for the Group and Section in reserve and I am happy to report that this still remains the case.

Last years accounts were audited as promised but again, this years accounts are currently un audited. I will endeavour to get the accounts checked independently as soon as possible.

Ian Setchell
Group Scout Leader
April 2008

Income & Expenditure Account for 9th Kidderminster Scout Group
Year Ended 31st March 2008

Income			Expenditure		
2007	Item	2008	2007	Item	2008
1510.00	Subs paid by members	1816.00	246.15	Pledge Plod Loss	75.00
894.14	Bag Packing	744.27	137.19	Training	0.00
250.00	Royal Bank of Scotland Donation	250.00	0.00	Meeting refreshments	15.00
337.75	Net Carnival Programmes	247.80	0.00	Family Camp 2007 (net)	312.66
1000.00	Donation	50.00	0.00	Xmas Post	24.40
2297.73	Gift Aid	1038.15	758.50	Tents & Repairs & Equipment	1,151.72
75.00	Carnival Prize	0.00	173.99	Leaders Uniform	0.00
118.71	Interest on Deposit accounts	168.90	221.90	Cost for Carnival	0.00
0.00	Jamboree 2007 Fees Paid	2230.00	19.99	Gifts	38.00
94.25	Net Xmas Post 2006 v 2007	0.00	15.00	Rhydd Covert fee	150.00
16.00	Kidderminster carnival Income	0.00	1,360.10	Capitation Payment	1,536.50
25.42	Band Night	0.00	0.00	Internet fee	43.02
26.00	Barbeque Income over Expenditure	0.00	120.12	Scout Insurance services	0.00
			46.80	Xmas meal costs	0.00
			150.00	Beavers	0.00
	Excess Expenditure over Income	1027.10	47.47	Prize	0.00
			50.00	District Loan	0.00
			25.00	Group 2008 Camp	0.00
			266.50	Cubs	0.00
			722.55	Jamboree	4,219.80
			38.80	Postage & Printing	6.12
			49.25	Quiz Evening	0.00
			17.60	Trophy & Engraving	0.00
			107.86	Badges	0.00
			2070.23	Excess of Income over Expenditure	0.00
£6,645.00 Total		£7,572.22	£6,645.00 Total		£7,572.22

Balance Sheet for 9th Kidderminster Scout Group

Year Ended 31st March 2008

Opening Balance

Item

Bank Current Account	2335.44
Deposit Account	4110.45
Jamboree Account	1007.91
Cash In Hand	47.02
Cash owed	50.00

Total 7550.82

Closing balance

Item

Bank Current Account	1197.45
Deposit Account	4706.60
Jamboree Account	515.67
Expenditure over Income	1027.10
Uncashed Cheque	104.00

Total 7550.82

Monies held and spent by the Sections at 31st March 2008

	Bank Balance and or Cash held
Scouts	448.76
Cubs	611.50
Beavers	53.09
Total	1,113.35

Income	Expenditure
1,784.64	1,556.33
1,267.28	1,041.21
2,186.42	2,162.13
5,238.34	4,759.67