



CHAIRMAN'S - Welcome

First of all I thank Liz for the first newsletter November 2013 sent to all members, together with our Membership Renewal Form and Quiz Sheet.

What happened to the Quiz Sheet? - we have only received 3 completed sheets – were the questions too hard?

The closing date has been extended to 1 May 2014.

The year to date has been taken up by the excellent response we have had for the Fellowship Toy Project. We have now collected over 10,000 toys for the children in the Refugee Camp at Za'atari, Jordan.

In May, I look forward to welcoming you all to our 2nd Annual Gathering at Shepherds Dene.

In October Peter Short and I will be attending, as delegates, the 27th ISGF – AISG World Conference, 'Fellowship beneath the Southern skies', which is being held at the Olympic Park, Sydney, Australia, 11 – 15 October 2014. We will be joined by Sue and Allan Page from the BP Guild of Great Britain, together with some other of our members.

Best wishes and looking forward to meeting you in May.

Alan K B Beavis OBE

Annual Gathering – May 2014

As we approach the 2nd Anniversary of our Formation, I do hope as many members as possible will join us at Shepherds Dene in May. We have an ideal venue and a full weekend of activities, starting with Dinner on Friday evening.

On Saturday we journey to "The Hearth", an Art Centre and Café in Horsley village near Newcastle. Here we will be participating in our Annual General Meeting, together with that of the National Scout and Guide Fellowship, followed by activities, exhibitions and talks throughout the day. Lunch and the afternoon will be at The Hearth. We will then return to Shepherds Dene for Dinner with members, guests and friends.

Dinner will be followed by a talk from Colin Walker who is recognised as the leading Scout Historian in the United Kingdom.

Since retiring as a Head Teacher he has found time to start a website called 'Scouting Milestones'. This brought Colin in touch with the general public, whose comments and contributions led him to start writing books on various aspects of the Scout Movement. At the moment he is working on his eleventh book "Scouts and World War Volume 1 – The Great War".

Colin is known world-wide and has lectured not only in the UK but in the USA, Finland, South Africa, Kenya and on cruise ships. He was invited to work in the Boy Scouts of America Archives Department, Irving, Dallas, Texas, where he examined and photographed BP's actual diaries and created a database. He is the only person ever able to do that. Colin has also worked in the museum at Mafeking and was a Consultant for the re-activated camp at Brownsea Island during the 2007 World Jamboree.

His current appointment in the Scout Movement is Manager of the Pontefract and Castleford Scout Active Support Unit and is also an active Rover Scout.

The theme of Colin's talk is "Scouts at War".

On Sunday, there will be an opportunity for those staying a further day to visit one of the many attractions of Northumberland. For the more energetic a walk to the Cairn erected at the site of the first Scout Camp in 1908.

'LEST WE FORGET'

Former Central Group members may remember the presentation and visit to the National Arboretum during the 2010 Burton on Trent meeting. We were all a little surprised that Scouting did not have a memorial or dedicated planting. This notable omission is being remedied by Birmingham Scouts, who have commissioned a design and launched an appeal for funds. This coincides with the commemoration of the beginning of the First World War. As part of their awareness and fund-raising effort, they have issued a cloth uniform badge and pin.



For further information and orders see www.tsmg.org.uk Please give this appeal your full support.

60TH ANNIVERSARY – FELLOWSHIP TOY

We have continued collecting toys following the success of our Phase 1 dispatch of over 2,500 toys that arrived for the children on Christmas Eve 2013. By March 2014 we had a further 5,000 toys, including those from the members of the Baden Powell Guild of Great Britain. These were air freighted from the UK on 9 March. They were held up at Amman Airport awaiting release and collection by the UNHCR. Having completed that shipment, we received advice of other collections:

We now have over 5,000 toys pending freight arrangements.

Our friends in Newcastle have been holding toy collections and these will form part of the final shipment for the Fellowship Toy Project. The full list of Donations will be placed on our web site shortly

Cottage to Let... Take advantage of the offer of one of our members for the renting of her cottage in Airton, North Yorkshire, near the Pennine Way, at £25 per night? Full details were published in our last Newsletter or are available from the Secretary.

National Scout and Guide Fellowship

The latest Newsletter No. 6 NSGF UK News is now available either from the website or by contacting the Secretary.

Why not help us develop the Scout and Guide Fellowship

Your Committee is keen to develop our membership from within the Scout Association and Trefoil Guild.

Request for assistance ,... we need your help.... particularly as Editor for our Newsletter and Information Sheet and, if you or a friend has the skills, as our Webmaster? Currently, we are having to pay for this service and I am sure you or someone would be prepared to help. Please let us know.

Committee **Contact Details:** Email: enquiries@sagf.org.uk Website: www.sagf.org.uk

DONATE TO US THROUGH "MY DONATE"

The Scout and Guide Fellowship UK is a Charitable Company registered with the HMRC and able to claim Gift Aid on monies received. To simplify the process we have joined the 'My Donate' scheme operated by BT and is now available on our website. Please help us utilise this tax efficient way of raising more funds

Fund Raising...

Thank you to those who have already sent Quiz money and completed sheets. The Quiz Sheet is available from our Secretary, Liz Aveston – the closing date being extended to 1 May 2014

ISGF World Conference – Australia

It is not too late to join other members in attending the 27th World Conference with your Delegates on the 10 – 16 October 2014.

26th Western Europe Gathering, Belgium – 7 – 11 September 2015

9th Europe Region Conference, France 2016.

