

**NETWORK RUSSIA SCOUT FELLOWSHIP**  
**13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2004**  
**JOHN'S LEE WOOD CAMPSITE, MARKFIELD, LEICESTER**

**1. FLAG BREAK AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Prayers, for Peter and Vera whose youngest son Vladimir has been diagnosed with Leukemia. There were welcome comments from the local district team leader Mr Firman.

**2. REPORTS ON INTERNATIONAL TEAM DAYS - Eric Chapman**

- \$ We provided a decent display but the events were not well attended. Everyone needs to badger their ACC=s to attend in future.
- \$ The European Youth Council were there and it was useful to note that they are expanding their areas of support, as well as providing certificates for participants of exchanges to put in their CV=s.
- \$ David Bull has provided some additional information which should also be read.

**PRESENTATION REPORT ON THE WINTER EXPEDITION - Paul Finlay and Tim Axe**

- \$ The cost of the week was budgeted 18 months prior so they were out by ,45.00 each, the final cost was ,550.00.
- \$ The number of participants kept going up and limits had to be set, there were people coming forward from talking points, jamboree members and people Tim had previously taken to Nepal. We decided to take the explorers as one group with their leader and another was the over 18's. 52 people attended.
- \$ The weather was very cold. The snow was too cold to make snowmen with.
- \$ Flown out on the Friday. Spent the first night in St Petersburg, these arrangements were made by Asla. We walked to Finland Station to catch a train to Losovo.
- \$ In Lsovo we stayed in log cabins, we were provided with water proof mittens, they were very well prepared and very keen on safety, both on the site and while skiing.
- \$ Our hosts must have put a lot of effort to get all the equipment together for the size of the groups. Paul felt the groups were slightly too big.
- \$ One group wanted to spend a night out skiing, which went very well.
- \$ We then went back to St Petersburg, and saw the nutcracker ballet.
- \$ Nick a participant went on the overnight expedition and was surprised at the level of equipment the Russians proposed to take on the 10km expedition on ski=s. We arrived in a clearing, cut down wood for 2 hours, a fire was built, a tent is erected by being strug up between two trees and no poles. 15 people were in a tent and you had to sleep on your side, all squashed up around a wood burning stove. It was hot in the tent and we took it in turn to keep the fire going. We were on our way home, we could see the camp site ahead of us, but they insisted we had to stop and cook food out of tins and the food looked like fatty dog food. We were given vodka and biscuits when we got back (we had carried all these items).
- \$ Plans to get together another trip for explorer leaders on a smaller scale.

**LATEST ON THE STUDY VISIT TO SAMARA PLUS VOLGA REGION - David Hollinshead**

- \$ There was a lack of support and our involvement with this has had to be cancelled

**LATEST ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> NATIONAL RUSSIAN JAMBOREE IN SAMARA - Barry Dale**

- \$ Flying to St Petersburg, 40 hour train journey before camping in Samara and a 40 hour train trip back.
- \$ The plan is to go with a Russian Scout group to Losova.
- \$ The temperature is likely to be 40 degrees above during the day, but freezing at night.
- \$ The trip will be a fortnight and a day.
- \$ 10 people going.
- \$ Nestle may be sending half a wagon of chocolate to the campsite.

**LATEST ON THE SERVICE EXPEDITION TO THE ORPHANAGE NEAR MOSCOW - Eric Chapman**

- \$ Eric wrote to Marjory Pryse Jones to say we would like to assist and wondered what we could do.
- \$ There is an orphanage at Kolichev with 180 children, many with health problems. The orphanage needs to be rewired and they are looking at going next year.
- \$ Jo may go out to teach some of the older ones to teach craft to the younger children.
- \$ The charity is likely to be able to provide the money, its hands on people that are needed.
- \$ There is a plan to get local scouts in Russia to get involved.
- \$ It would be nice to start a scout group within the orphanage.
- \$ There is a plan to stay there for 10 days, before going to Moscow and or St Petersburg.
- \$ The raffle money is now being collected for this project.
- \$ This is being advertised in talking points and there are leaflets to hand out within the districts.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

Jane Waley wrote to David McKee saying 30 scouts from Siberia coming on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2004 to go to a friendship camp at Kibblestone. They need to be met and escorted to BP house, before then being given a tour of London the next day.

Camp staff programme is being run again, Kasakstan Omsk and Georgia have been invited. Firm requests have been received from 2 people in Kasakstan. Bradley Wood were willing to take 2 people and it is likely that they will have the Kasakstan 2. The people coming have to be between 18 to 25 and scout members.

Russia has been suspended from the World Bureau as a result of them not having paid subscriptions for the last 2 years.

Avon Jamboree 2004 in May would wish us to be part of their international marquee, someone needs to attend with all the info.

**3. AGM**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- \$ Everyone was welcomed by Bill.
- \$ Report provided.
- \$ There was reference to the study visit to Omsk, Kemorova and Tomsk, and there was meeting with Sergei Serotkin in Moscow.
- \$ Promotional leaflets and County support packs have been issued and proved very successful.
- \$ May 2003 some members attended St Petersburg for their celebrations.
- \$ Torbay took an expedition in Summer 2003 to Losova, before going on to Perm and experiencing a rafting expedition.
- \$ John and Irene Thorpe went to Ekaterinaburg
- \$ There was a small party that went to Samara for 300 year celebrations.
- \$ The camp staff programme involved 8 people from St Petersburg.

- \$ The Michael Durnam expedition took place again and scouts from St Petersburg came over to England.
- \$ The Gilwell reunion went well and we were thanked by headquarters. Bill thanked Eric for all his hard work setting this up each year.
- \$ In October=s meeting Marjory Pryce Jones of a missionary project helping street children in Russia was our guest speaker. It is hoped to provide practical support to this organisation.
- \$ There was an expedition from Omsk to Much Hadham.
- \$ All this activity has been behind the back drop of ARNSO being suspended from the World Bureau as a result of non payment of subscriptions.
- \$ There is a rival jamboree going ahead in Nizhny Novgorod.
- \$ Thanks to all those that have supported the network.
- \$ Bill resigns as Chairman, feeling the network needs some new impetus and new leadership.

#### **TREASURER=S REPORT**

- \$ The accounts are to be published in the next network magazine.
- \$ With expeditions and study visits there is quite a big turn over.

#### **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY=S REPORT**

- \$ Membership stands at 73.
- \$ Mention of cards needed for fellowship members who do not hold a warrant.
- \$ It was agreed that those that pay their subscriptions through the network should receive these cards.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

- \$ **Chairman: Barry Dale** Proposed by Eric Chapman and seconded by Lesley Forster. Unanimously PASSED.
- \$ **Membership Secretary: Fred Russell**
- \$ **Treasurer and Promotional Material : Eric Chapman**
- \$ **Magazine and Website: Chris Grant**
- \$ **Minutes Secretary: Rachel Strong**
- \$ **Guide Representation: Ann Angell**

All approved by Majority

#### **ANY OTHER MATTERS**

- \$ CRB checks are going to have to be carried out for everyone who is a member, some checks can have been carried out within peoples own districts.
- \$ Network events and trips need to be cleared by the ACCI for anyone under 18.

#### **4. PRESENTATION AND THANKS TO BILL**

- \$ Eric Chapman proposed that as the Network would not have started and come to be what it has become in the last 10 years it was proposed that Bill become the first President of the Network. A plaque was gratefully accepted.
- \$ Janet was also thanked for all her support behind the scenes.

#### **5. DISCUSSION BASES**

##### **Craft**

- \$ 10 ideas but need some direction on format

### **Song and dance:**

### **Food and Drink**

Recipes have been selected and need to be typed.

### **Games**

Ideas still sought. Bill to coordinate.

CD=s to be prepared and Bill will ask if Christ Grant can format for both the website and for printing into a booklet. If Chris can=t assist Graham will volunteer.

## **6. ADMINISTRATION MATTERS**

- \$ Need to look at whether the Russians advice leaflet needs changing, the customs form is to be changed.
- \$ Eric and Paul and Tim have talked about the project to the Orphanage. Although an explorer belt project will run with it it will only be open to over 18's and the cost will be ,550.00. The closing date will be the end of September 2004 (14 days to include 10 days in the Orphanage).
- \$ Gillwell, Eric will rope off an area, but everyone will be left to do their own catering. No activities to be set up just a base with leaflets.
- \$ Next meeting 9<sup>th</sup> October 2004.
- \$ A proposed visit to Urkutsch-Lake Baikal in 2005 but need a contingent leader. Kevin Angell volunteered.
- \$ Can the map for the next meeting venue be not on the back of the return slip.