



SSAGO Members Get Innovative!



Six SSAGO members were among 150 Senior Section members who recently attended Innovate York, Girlguiding UK's youth forum event, held from 30th March-2nd April 2007, in the picturesque location of the University of York.

Helen Foy, a member of UEA's SSAGO group, said: "It was great to meet other Senior Section members from around the country and hear their opinions. I made loads of friends and I'll definitely be going back!"

AberSSAGO member, Rebecca Elliot, agrees; "Innovate York really made me feel a part of Girlguiding UK as a whole. It made me realise that I could have a say in countrywide issues and not just those affecting my unit or district. I was able to express my opinions and ideas freely and in a comfortable environment".

For Rosie Greaves, a member of BUGS in Bangor, Innovate even gave her the chance to catch up with some old friends and maintain Guiding links whilst

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Summer 2007

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Meet the New Exec



From left: Matthew Stanley-Rawlins, Micheal Walters, Ilona Murray, Darren Clowes, Paul Thompson

Daz (Chair)

Hi my name is Daz. I'm doing an engineering doctorate in computer science and systems engineering with BAE Systems at Loughborough University. I've been in scouting since the age of eight as a cub and have now been in scouting 17 years. I'm an assistant scout leader and a network scout, as well as being a member of Jamboree Delivery Team (JDT), and in my spare time I'm a member of the national Network Project group and a campsite warden at the Oaks in Charnwood campsite. As Chair I hope to make it easier for clubs/indies to understand the rules and regulations that they should be following.

Paul (Secretary)

Hi I'm Paul, This is my fourth year in SSAGO and I'm currently studying to become a Design and Technology Teacher at Nottingham Trent University. I've been in scouting since I was an ickle beaver when I was six and now that I'm all grown up I'm a County Scout

Leader in Humberside as well as an Assistant Explorer Scout Leader in Quorn. As secretary I hope to keep on top of all the minute writing and SSAGO News, which should be fun as I can't spell for toffee. I also want to look at the possibility of running an International Rally some time in the future.

Ilona (Treasurer)

I am in my 2nd year studying Legal Studies and Politics at Aberdeen Uni. I have been involved in SSAGO for 3 years now and in that time have served as treasurer and SSAGO Rep in AUSSAGS. Over the years I have been a rosebud, brownie, guide, scout, venture, explorer and now I am involved in network and help run the Young Leadership Scheme in Aberdeen.

In my time as SSAGO Treasurer my main aim is not to bankrupt SSAGO with a secondary aim of slightly improving the organisation's financial situation.

Matt (Members Officer)

I study Electrical and Electronic Engineering (you know the stuff that runs stuff) at Cardiff University, and somehow I have managed to make it to my third and final year. I have already been your members officer for the last year and have been lucky enough to be able to do it for another. I have been in scouts since I was 6 when I joined as a beaver. I'm now in network at uni and at home (which is Bournemouth but Poole network). I'm also an assistant beaver leader in Cardiff. In my role of Members Officer I hope to keep good records of clubs and members. And hope that I'm always there for anyone who wants to talk or needs help.

Mike (Publicity Officer)

This is my second time around. I would like to think that my near unanimous vote was because I was doing a good job and not because noone else ran! I haven't done much this year as I have been finishing off my degree. The two big things that I have been working on are the World Scout Jamboree preparations and the 2007 banners. The WSJ badges and T-shirts should be available now - the banners you've either seen already or are about to see!

Remember, you can write about your Scout and Guide experiences on the SSAGO website and if you're lucky they'll make it to the next SSAGO News! I'm also open to any ideas for SSAGO publicity you might have.

SSAGO Members Get Innovative

continued

studying abroad in France. She flew back to the UK to attend the "immense" weekend and particularly enjoyed "Yomping around York" on Saturday afternoon, visiting York Minster and a sweet shop!

Innovate is a weekend residential event that is held approximately every eight months and is open to any female member of SSAGO aged 16-25. The next event will be held in March 2008 - to find out more check out the Senior Section pages on www.girlguiding.org.uk or email innovate@girlguiding.org.uk



**Booking opens
9th October**

The Safari Rally
Leicester
16-18th November 2007

SSAGO Club Reports

SSAGO in the Community

Manchester, whilst on their EXPO camp, went to Brownsea and carried out conservation work clearing a section of woodland;

Manchester also managed to to felt a roof during a committee action day at Seven Springs Guide Site;

Aberystwyth took part in the Relay for Life, keeping at least one member of their club on a runing track for 24 hours and in doing so raised over £300 for charity;

Durham took the collection at the Durham Scout County Centenary Service at Durham Cathedral;

Sheffield nearly rennovated a community centre and nearly painted a school mural

Birmingham helped out at the city's St Georges Day celebrations and also supplied marshals for two Race for Life events

From the club reports every club appears to have many members helping out with groups, troops and units across the country as well as many SSAGO members attending the World Scout Jamboree as staff - the only problem is there are too many of you to mention you all. (You know who you are - keep up the good work!).

SSAGO out Camping

Durham went to Dilston for their summer camp where they got friendly with highland cows;

Swansea held an Easter camp in Somerset with activities including Wokey Hole caves, crazy golf and a cider farm;

Loughborough spent a week in Norfolk for their summer camp enjoying 'go ape' and canoeing along the way;

There doesn't seem to have been that much camping over all across SSAGO. Either people aren't putting it in their club reports or there has been too much rain and everyones camp-site is under water.

The Best of the Rest

Aber won best society at their union awards (Well Done Guys!);

Durham took up a new activity this term of Extreme Ironing;

Southampton took part in a tea and coffee crawl;

Paddington from London has made it to both the Queen Scout Presentations and the Explorer Belt Presentations;

Bangor found a fun centre and spent a great day playing in ball pits;

Loughborough went bombing down a wet dry-ski slope in rubber rings also known as sno-tubing;

Cardiff went gorge walking, with a few of the braver soles choosing to plunge from a hanging rock into a pool of water;

The Exec attended Pub Scouts Festival where they pimped a tent, which involved a large tent containing a double bed, roulette wheel, poker table, full bar, TV, Xbox, Stereo, Generator and a lot of fairy lights. If anyone thinks they can beat the Exec for the best use of a tent send it in for the next issue of SSAGO news.

Loughborough Rally



Well what can be said about the Down Under Rally except that it wasn't quite the Australian weather we had been hoping for - although most people managed to keep them selves warm with a beer jacket or two.

The weekend started with a mad rush to get the food which, after a certain supermarket decided to cancel the shopping order, had to be done by three people and a train of shopping trolleys. Once we were all settled down and tents were up it was time for the fun to begin - namely a rather muddy campfire circle, a couple of drinks and lots of singing (so nothing new there then).

Saturday morning dawned with nice hot filled baguets and the now infamous trading post game where the teams had to make as much money as possible by completeing different challenges which included bush tucker trials - unlucky for those people who ate the

dog food. Congratulations team Timmons on cheating more then any other team to win the game.

Saturday afternoon brought about a number of different activities, from the traditional pub crawls to mountain boarding and the Great Central Railway to crafts. From the feedback recived the people who went on the brewery trip got the best value for money -"here's a keg enjoy!"

The barndance was enjoyable from what us staff can remember due to there being 15 of us asleep in the corner for the majority of it, however we were wide awake in time for the world's fastest set of cheesy tunes (30 seconds each of the cheesiest tunes ever made).

The Sunday of the rally was as usual filled up with an AGM (please see minutes for details) and then it was time to de-camp, head home and sleep for a week.

SSWIGS' Success of 2007



On the 16th May, SSWIGS were awarded with Swansea University's highest society award – Best Society 2007. After only running for 3 years, SSWIGS has grown to more than 20 members and participated in many activities locally and nationally.

The awards ceremony celebrated the success of many university societies. Awards were given in honour of a wide variety of achievements, from web design and best single event to community involvement. Taking place at the Marriot Hotel in Swansea, SSWIGS received not only the award for Best Society but also Best Variety of Events. Individuals such as Emma Dean (SSWIGS president) and Kate Stacey (SSWIGS treasurer) were also recognised by receiving outstanding achievement awards.

The evening involved performances by the dance society and speeches by members of the universities Student Sabbatical Team. Even the SSWIGS mascot – Derek, had a good go at partying throughout the night. Celebrating the success of the society in true SSWIGS style, the members of the society took over the dance floor and showed they were definitely the best society at celebrating!!! The evening finished with trip to Time nightclub in Swansea with a set by Coolio.

This well deserved success could never have been possible without the strong dedication of the society's committee members who have built SSIWGS into the University of Wales Swansea's best Society 2007!!!

Liverpool SSAGO Ball



On the 10th March 2007 the Students of Liverpool Association of Guides and Scouts hosted the National SSAGO Ball at The Suites Hotel, Knowsley. The event was to celebrate many birthdays but mainly the 40th Anniversary of SSAGO and the 800th Birthday of Liverpool.

Planning the event had a shaky start and many hours were spent pouring over details and problems that could have been solved easily. After much consultation and deliberation things began to come together and by the time booking opened things started to improve.

The day arrived and SLAGS were a buzz of nerves and energy. The previous evening had been spent celebrating a member's birthday so we were all bright eyed and bushy tailed

(ha!) However, cake and chocolate fountain preparations were in place so we were ready to face the masses. As people began to arrive and settle into their rooms, disbelief set in that we might actually be able to pull this off. Problems arose, tempers flared but we still carried on.

Seeing everyone dressed so smartly and looking so different was a real treat and I'm sure the photos prove it. Also to see the mascots in all their glory was fabulous. Stanette certainly had a few adventures but made it back home safe and sound. We'd like to say a huge thank you to our guest speakers, the hotels and especially those who attended the ball and supported throughout the process.

S.L.A.G.S.

P.S. Good luck to Sheffield for 2008.

SSAGS 10th Birthday Celebrations

To celebrate we held a 10th Birthday Party for graduates as well as current members.

We had a wicked time even though the bouncy castle broke down on the way!

There were party games, cheese and pineapple and beer cooling in the paddling pool

before the evening ended in a typical SSAGS campfire.

It was great to meet our founders and put faces to bizarre stories. Let's hope 18 years goes just as well.

SSAGO NEEDS YOU!

SSAGO News needs articles for future editions. Articles can be submitted by e-mail to the secretary or online at www.ssago.org.uk - it's as easy something very easy!

For the next edition we are looking for articles about SSAGO at the World Scout Jamboree as well as the Summer of Love Reunion Event and any other interesting stuff you or your club have been up to.

Thanks