



# SSAGO

*Student Scout and  
Guide Organisation*

# NEWS

## SSAGO News - Summer 2008

### **SSAGO Members achieve their Explorer Belts in Tunisia**

As I put together my first SSAGO news I decided that just this once I'd steal the first page. Over the Easter Holidays Mary Hall (ex- Aber SSAGO) and myself completed our Explorer Belt expedition in Tunisia. It was a fantastic experience and we came home complete with henna tattoos and hundreds of memories.

We discovered Tunisian maps were useless but Tunisian people very welcoming. Women are highly valued in the country meaning we were not only well looked after but got ourselves invited to a wedding, dressed in traditional dress and we learnt how to cook cous cous Tunisian style, it's not only spicy it also takes 2 hours to cook!

We also managed to get a camel ride in before returning to the UK!



**Em - SSAGO Secretary**

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## So what have clubs been up to over the last term?

Two LUUSAG members, Stu Malcolm and Jon 'the Scone' Oxtby took part in a jailbreak, managing to get from Leeds to France on an epic 400 mile journey for charity.

One of the highlights of DUSAGG's term was their 'almost midsummer social' where they went to the beach, played Frisbee and went paddling at three o'clock in the morning, then watched the sunrise over the ocean. *'It was a truly spectacular and beautiful event'* - Jessica Beck, DUSAG

Bath Spa decided to set their 'guys' against their 'girls' in a Ready Steady Cook evening. Unfortunately the night ended in disaster when the *'guys apparently forgot how to cook, producing some awful nachos and only just finishing in time'* - Joe Aukett, Bath Spa SSAGO

Some of Scogui took part in a Brownie Camp in May and ran a Night hike for local Scouts. They've also had their 'Scogui Summer Fun Week' which included going to the zoo, going to Alton Towers and Go ape where many club members got over their fear of heights by going on a 50 ft Tarzan Swing!!



**Becky Broughall (Senior Section Advisor for Programme) provides us with an update of what's going on in Senior Section at headquarters**

The Senior Section CD and revised Programme has been well received and we are pleased to have sold over 12000 copies! Bookings are being taken for Innovate Dalguise (24th to 26th October) in Perthshire (download June's Hotline from GGUK website for more information) and places are still available. The weekend will be fun packed and opinions of Senior Section members from the weekend are really taken on board by projects at CHQ level. We had a recent Queen's Guide presentation in Gibson Hall, London, where Kate Silverton, BBC Newsreader presented the awards to Senior Section members. My next project is 'Moving On' looking at why we lose so many members between Sections. My focus is on Guides to Senior Section and Senior Section to Adult Leaders, if anyone has any suggestions or ideas please get in touch on [becky.sensec@btinternet.com](mailto:becky.sensec@btinternet.com).

**Thanks for all the work that you all do for Girlguiding UK**



**QUEEN'S GUIDE AND SCOUT AWARDS IN**

**SOUTHAMPTON SSAGO**



Southampton SSAGO has seen a drive to gain Queen's Guide and Scout Awards with one Scout and one Guide gaining their awards this term and two more working hard to get their own Queen's Guide Awards. Lizzie Clack was awarded her Queen's Guide Badge at a ceremony in her home District with SSAGO members in attendance at the end of the Easter Holidays after much hard work including being the University Guide Liaison Officer. At the other end of the term Mark Bourne held his presentation evening with SSAGO in attendance to round off his Queen's Scout Award allowing him to follow other SSAGO members to Windsor Parade next April. While all this is going on Kirsty Beckett and Becca Pannell are preparing to lead the Southampton SSAGO summer camp this year in order to get their Senior Section Camping Permit which will allow them to count the forth coming Explorer Belt Expedition towards their Queen's Guide Award. More about Southampton's adventures in Croatia next issue! **Matt Bolt - Southampton SSAGO**

It's that time of year again....a new exec has been voted in. I thought I'd turn from SSAGO secretary to reporter to find out a little about each member....



Unfortunately Daz declined to answer my questions. I asked how long this year's AGM would be and I wonder whether he is concerned at giving too much away too early on! He also would not disclose his height which is a great shame, we'll just have to continue to bug him

about it, but we should remember that males have a tendency to exaggerate!

So we start with Mat...over the next year he promises to send out merchandise quickly and ensure that all stock is saleable and not looking too old. He doesn't have xray glasses and isn't on the 'blue tinted diet' but wears his blue lens glasses due to a medical condition and without them he gets bad headaches and can not see. Food is the best way to keep him quiet and the most valued thing he's spent money on is his car as he likes to be able to escape from his home (not sure why as his Mum is a great cook!).



I think I was lucky....no one turned reporter on me. I've thoroughly enjoyed putting together my first SSAGO News and just to let you know the Monday immediately after Disney Rally will be my birthday!

As Members' Officer Paul knows the ins and outs of each club so



I wondered which club he'd join if he could....he declared his love of sheep and nudity so would choose Cardiff. However we all know he loves those CRB forms so would like to join a Scottish club to fully understand their DS forms (perhaps that is a little sad!). To keep him happy this

year he'd love you all to complete CRB/DS forms, pay membership fees and accurately fill in all membership forms....on top of that he wouldn't mind some pimm's, pizza and hugs! His favourite acrobatic stunt is a round turn and two half twists (sounds like a variation on a knot) but it has to be completed by landing onto a spinal board! As he knows all of your secrets I wanted to find out one of his....he replied carrots....anyone got any ideas!?!?!)

As for Heather, being a busy teacher she lacked the time for my questioning. She enjoyed her first ever SSAGO ball but I think we might be able to keep up the powers of persuasion to get her back next year. You might catch her this weekend with a camcorder as she's aiming to update the SSAGO publicity video and she'll be nagging for some good photos to update those used for publicity.



**Remember if you have any SSAGO queries then drop any of us an email, if you're not sure which one to email then try all of us at [exec@ssago.org.uk](mailto:exec@ssago.org.uk)**

## SSWIGS have been warming up for Rally

The SSWIGS Rally Committee has been extremely busy recently preparing for what we hope is going to be an absolutely fabulous Rally. A lot of fundraising has taken place, with one of the main events being a Quiz Night held in a local Scout Hall. This event was a huge success and a lot of help was received from a local Scout Leader, Julian Morgans.

Due to the support that Julian had given us not only for the Quiz Night, but also throughout our Rally preparations we wanted to lend a hand in return as a way of expressing our thanks. So on the weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> May, the SSWIGS Rally Committee attended Area Camp here in Swansea armed with smiles and helping hands.

On arrival we were immediately challenged to a game of Unihoc by a few members of Glamorgan West Network. The result wasn't good...we may have lost quite badly, but we did put up a mightily good fight!

To save any further humiliation we then went to set up our bases for the day's activities. Unfortunately we didn't have the most exciting bases...one involved throwing ping pong balls into glass jars and the other throwing excessively sized darts into rings on the ground.

However, in true SSWIGS fashion we were determined to have a good time and provided some quality entertainment to the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who came along to have a go.

Later on at the BBQ we even had a chance to prove our burger flipping skills and sausage turning talents, but the highlight of the weekend was most definitely the campfire later on. It was a time for us to remember all of those songs we sang when we attended campfires at a young age... with no rudeness whatsoever...quite an achievement for SSWIGS J

Overall we had a thoroughly enjoyable weekend and even though we all came away exhausted it was clear that our help had been appreciated, making it all worthwhile. It was also the perfect opportunity for us to prepare ourselves mentally for our big weekend! Surely SSAGO members will be easier to organise than children...



**Heather Ellingham and Kate Stacey - SSWIGS Rally Committee**

A few pictures from Bath Spa from a pub-crawl, their Xmas meal, D of E Gold Expedition and crate stacking at camp



A huge thank you to Claire, Dan and Becky for making Bath Spa SSAGO so awesome this year, we wish them well - and welcome to the new 2008 committee! - Joe Aukett - Bath Spa Secretary

Congratulations to Matt Rawlings who won **'Best Society Member'** at Cardiff University's Society Awards night.

Not only has Matt been SSAGO Members' Officer for 2 years he was freshers' rep in his first year of SSAGS, has been an assistant Beaver Leader throughout his time in Cardiff and been involved with Network. He's won many a fancy dress at rally and his Cecil the Caterpillar will be sorely missed from SSAGO campfires.



**Disney  
Rally**

**Slainte mhath!**

**14th-16th November 2008**

**The Craigs Campsite**

**Edinburgh**

COLOURING PENCILS NOT INCLUDED