

# ...press release

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009



## Shouting For Scouting!

This coming Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> April, hundreds of Scouts from North and West Hull will come together to celebrate the most important day in the Scouting calendar on behalf of their Patron Saint, St George, to remember the range of exciting and community based activities that the young people have undertaken in the last year.

Joe Hunter, a Leader aged 18 explains, "St George is our Patron Saint because of his faith and courage in the presence of a danger or difficulty – even a dragon. So, Scouts from all over the world will be celebrating in some form to reaffirm their Promise and acknowledge what it means to be a Scout. And as well as this, St George's Day is a great opportunity for adults in Scouting to be recognised for their commitment towards youth work to the local community."

The 100,000 adults across the UK who volunteer their services to support Scouting play their part in helping with the development of young people. These volunteers are to be valued because without them, Scouting and the adventure it offers simply would not happen. However, there are those who make an extra special contribution. The Scout Association recognises their dedication and commitment with around 3,000 awards for good service each year.

John Damms, from West Hull, is just one leader from the area to receive an award from the Chief Scout. He said, "Scouting has given me a social life with a purpose. I have had great fun in helping young people to develop as a Scout and give them the opportunity to experience loads of activities that they would not normally get a chance to do. I feel fortunate to be working with such a great bunch of people and I am honoured to receive this award for something that I love doing."

Former Blue Peter presenter and Chief Scout, Peter Duncan, added, "I'm always pleased when adults are recognised for their good work in Scouting. As a volunteer myself, I know the challenges involved in trying to balance work, family and Scouting. The huge contribution given by volunteers helps ensure Scouting is enjoyed by thousands of young people everywhere. Thanks to these adults we can continue to provide them with real friendship and a sense of purpose through adventure."

The annual event is always held on the Sunday nearest to April 23<sup>rd</sup>. All ages will be represented, from the young Beaver Scouts right through to the leaders and this year's festivities are looking to be even bigger and better.

The Scouts will parade from Pearson Park and head along Princess Avenue with a marching band and police escort to that Scouting is still alive and active.

Megan, a Scout aged 14 can't wait, "I'm looking forward to marching through the city and sharing my Scouting experiences. Every year the event makes me remember all the fun things we do at Scouts such as kayaking and archery, helping people out as well as learning about the environment."

If you are around Hull on Sunday and you see a group of Scouts dashing past give them a wave and cheer them on, they are literally asking people to start Shouting for Scouting! Better still get involved yourself by volunteering or joining up at your local group. Check out [www.scouts.org.uk/join](http://www.scouts.org.uk/join) for details of how you can join the adventure.

-ENDS-

#### **Editor's Notes**

- Scouting is the world's largest co-educational youth organisation with over 28 million members, boys and girls, across 216 countries and territories.
- The aim of Scouting is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential through the provision of exciting and adventurous activities.

#### **More Information**

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**Photo:**

