

# ...press release

Date: 22nd June 2009



## Get Out Of Jail Free – The Scout Way!

This Saturday (27th June 2009) teams of Scouts, aged 12 to 18, from across the region will take over Hull's City Centre as they are challenged to play a real-life version of the popular board game, Monopoly.

After leaving 'GO', situated at the KC stadium, the teams will navigate their way around the city centre, stopping at various locations marked on the game board, and are faced with challenges to earn themselves points towards a range of fantastic prizes, donated by a number of supportive local businesses.

This is only the second time that Humberside Scouts have organised such an event and it promises to be an action packed and rewarding day for all those involved. Many of the teams taking part will not be familiar with Hull as they are travelling from as far afield as Cleethorpes, Scunthorpe and Bridlington to enter - meaning that finding some of the locations will be an adventure in itself.

This year Scouting in Humberside has increased its membership by over 6% and that's double the national average. The Monopoly Run is just one example of the varied programme of activities the Scouts take part in, and goes against popular belief that Scouting is mainly a rural organisation.

The teams need to be extra careful not to draw a GO TO JAIL card, or they will get more than they bargained for in this version of the game as they will be detained in a portable prison indefinitely. Organisers will hold the players under lock and key until they have completed a challenge sufficiently well enough to convince the Leaders that they deserve to be let out again.

Kate, 14, is one of the many Scouts attending this year's event. She says, "Everyone is really excited for the Monopoly Run. In 2008 when I did it, it was absolutely brilliant and I've heard this year is going to be even cooler, plus I get to go camping." Challenges throughout the day include circus skills, physical running tasks and puzzle solving throughout the city centre.

Jodie, 17, youngest of the hardworking team putting this event together, reckons this event could be a fantastic opportunity for Scouting. She says, "Many people in the area believe that they are unable to access some of the great events that Scouting has to offer, so we wanted to put something together for people to show them what we are really about; trying new things, having fun and working together for a fantastic experience, and not just in rural areas. It is important for me to show people that Scouting in the 21st Century is just as relevant and even more popular than it was the first time Lord Baden Powell said those infamous words 'be prepared!'."

During the Monopoly Run the Scout teams will be wearing their distinctive coloured Neckerchiefs and are asking members of the public who see them out and about in the city to give them a wave as they pass by. Joe Hunter, aged 18, thinks input from the general public would be fantastic. He had this to say: "It would be great to show

members of the public what a good time Scouts have. Loads of them think that we are all about hiking and knots, but that is just a tiny aspect of Scouting. Today there are hundreds of activities available for Scouts, such as kayaking, climbing, street dancing as well as the more traditional but equally enjoyable camping. It was brilliant to find out people were interested in what we were up to last year, so I hope everyone will give this year's participants a shout or a wave!"

If you are out and about on Saturday 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. There are hundreds of young people waiting to get involved, and your help could make a real difference! Check out Scouting online at [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk) or call 0845 300 1818 for details of how you can join in with the everyday adventure these Scouts are experiencing.

**-ENDS-**

#### **Further Information:**

- Young people who are Members of The Scout Association are available for media interviews.
- There will also be opportunities for the media to take photos or video footage. However, if you prefer, you can request to use the photos which we will be taking during the activity.
- For further information please contact myself, Joe Hunter, via email ([joehunter14@yahoo.com](mailto:joehunter14@yahoo.com)) or by giving me a call on 07903195772.

#### **About Scouting:**

- The Scout Association was founded on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1907.
- Adventure is at the core of Scouting, and the Association passionately believes in helping their members fulfil their full physical, intellectual social and spiritual potentials by working in teams, learning by doing and thinking for themselves.
- Scouting in the UK today has Buddhist, Sikh, Muslim, Jewish, Hindu and Christian members.
- Over 200 activities are offered by Scouting around the UK, made possible by the efforts of 100,000 voluntary adult leaders. This has helped make Scouting the largest co-educational youth Movement in the country (half a million young people are involved) and no other organisation offers such a range of challenging or exciting activities.
- One of the challenges that the Scout Movement faces is finding more volunteers to plug the current gap. At present there are around 33,000 young people on waiting lists.
- Worldwide, Scouting has over 28 million members (both boys and girls) across 216 countries and territories.

**Photos:**

