

ROWING BOULDER CLIMBING PARASCENDING FORTY...  
AGLIDING PARASCENDING FORTY...  
HALL QUADBIKING GRAFT BUILDING ROWING SAILING...  
ILLING SHOOTING SINGLE PITCH CLIMBING SKIINGS NORKELLINGS SNOW BOULDER...  
REETS SPORTS SUBAQUA SURFING SWIMMING WATERSKIING WHITEWATER RAFTING...  
RFING ZORBING ABSEILING AERIAL RUNWAY ARCHERY BALLOONING BANDS BOULDER...

## PRESS RELEASE...

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### Bishops Stortford and District Scout Network - Scouting beyond 18

Scouting in Bishop's Stortford and District is transforming the lives of young people by providing an inspiring programme of everyday adventure. We offer over 60 activity sessions each week plus adventure camps, climbing, sailing, expeditions, community activities, international expeditions and much more. We have over 1200 local members in Bishop's Stortford, Sawbridgworth and Much Hadham and we are growing.

Part of our local programme offer is the **Scout Network** for adults 18-25. It is for those that want to be involved in Scouting activities but without the commitment of being a leader. Our Network provides opportunities to keep in touch with Scouting, provide personal development through helping the local Community and having serious adventure and fun! Networkers take part in a variety of activities which they organise themselves with the support of volunteer leader. They meet at our Silver Leys, next to the rugby club and currently have around 10 young adults attending. Our meetings are fun, for example games and nights, axe throwing (safely of course), winter walking days and lots of fires!

George Thorpe a Networker said, "Our Unit is a great place to meet other people of our age and do the things we want to do and enjoy the Scouting Adventure" Greg Whelan the Leader said, "I have great times volunteering and helping young adults achieve things they would not normally do. I volunteered to help develop young people and contribute to my local community but I stay because its great fun!"

The UK Chief Scout Bear Grylls commented "One of my big missions is to encourage people across the UK who have the time, enthusiasm and ability, whatever it is, to put something back into their communities. It's about a lot of people doing a little. I don't want to hear any more about kids who can't join because of a lack of leaders. We've got a brilliant, talented nation and I want some of that talent to be used to support young people."

All that is holding the growth of Scout Network Unit in Bishop's Stortford District is willing adult volunteers. We are currently seeking adults over 25 to volunteer to help us and we accept whatever time people can offer. You don't have to have been a Scout and if you are interested in helping, section, visit our website [www.bishopsstortfordscouts.org.uk/scout-network](http://www.bishopsstortfordscouts.org.uk/scout-network) or ring Greg Stewart District Commissioner on 07889 130802.

**ENDS**

Suitable photos to use are attached and permission have been sought.

For further information please contact Greg Stewart 07889 130802 [district.team@bishops-stortford-scouting.co.uk](mailto:district.team@bishops-stortford-scouting.co.uk)

#### 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.

- Over 200 activities are offered to the half a million Scouts 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.
- One of the challenges that the Scout Movement faces is finding more volunteers to plug the current gap. At present there are nearly 38,000 young people on waiting lists as more and more young people want to experience the adventure of Scouting.
- Adults working in Scouting contribute in excess of 364 million hours of voluntary work each year to their local communities.
- The number of volunteers working for Scouting is bigger than the combined workforces of the BBC (24,000) and McDonalds (67,000) put together.
- Worldwide Scouting has 30 million members both male and female and operates in nearly every country in the world.
- There are half a million members across the UK (400,000 young people supported by 100,000 adult volunteers). Worldwide Scouting has 28 million members both male and female and operates in nearly every country in the world.
- There are 200 Scout activity and challenge badges. These require participants to achieve a level of understanding and skill determined to be realistic for their agegroup.
- *There are 1000 young people in Bishop's Stortford, Sawbridgeworth and Much Hadham support by 200 adults who support the work of the local Scouting.*