

Best-ever turnout for St George's Day

BEAVERS, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and leaders from across the Sevenoaks district marched through the town high street on Sunday, 28 April, for one of the best attended St George's Day parades on record.

Considered the most important event in the Scouting calendar, the parade processed to a packed St Nicholas' Church for a service conducted by the rector Angus MacLeay.

All 700 young people present repeated the Scout Promise, led by new district commissioner Lesley Grant. Sevenoaks Town Mayor Richard Parry and the chairman of Sevenoaks District Council were there to witness the event.

After a series of funny and inspiring presentations by members of different ages, awards were presented.

Scouters Chris Mears and John Talbot were picked out for special attention, John for his 40 years of service and Chris for showing exemplary dedication to Scouting despite illness.

Chris received both a Chief Scout's Commendation for Meritorious Conduct and a Silver Acorn which is one of Scouting's top awards. He has been and continues to be a major force in Sevenoaks scouting. He has

And special award for Sevenoaks Scouting stalwart Chris Mears

been Riverhead Carnival organiser and continued with his activities despite requiring a kidney transplant.

Chris has written a letter in this month's *Newslink* in which he dedicates his award to the family of the person who died and gave him his new kidney.

Speaking after the service he also said: "I am embarrassed to tell you the truth. I feel there are so many people in the district who deserve this award as much as I do."

The 1st Hicks Own group was also recognised for a huge turn around in membership.



Proud: Chris Mears



Wanted: One PR guru

CALLING all budding newshounds/public relations executives!

Sevenoaks District Scout Executive is looking for someone to act as the focus for publicising some of the things done by Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers in the district.

We want someone to maintain our new Facebook page for the Scouts (see below), and to provide information to the *Sevenoaks Chronicle*. This would be an ideal opportunity for an Explorer/Young leader looking to embellish his/her CV with a view to improving their job prospects in media or public relations.

Please contact Andrew Holland, Deputy Chairman of the District Executive, for more details, at the e-mail address



Find us on
Facebook

WE'RE on /Facebook!

Yes, Scouting in Sevenoaks has joined the social media revolution and now has its own Facebook page:

Otford Scouter Sam Norris has set up the page. Click on the headline above.



On parade (from top, clockwise): ADC Scouts Chris McCann; Cub Scout leaders Paul Heath and Richard Puxty (who was later commended for five years' service) and the 3rd Stanhope; 15th Otford waiting for the off and the 15th Otford Beavers





Smartly turned out: 3rd Sevenoaks Beavers



Grinning on parade: 3rd Sevenoaks Scouts



One of the best turn outs: St Nicholas' church was packed out with many having to stand



Beaver Scouts put on one of the entertaining short shows in for the St George's Day service

What an achievement! John tots up 40 years



Real dedication: ADC Cub Scouts John Talbot was presented with an award for 40 years' service to Scouting. Congatulations, John, and thank you from everyone.



The Dudley Barrow Trophy: Alan Hindley and the 10th Sevenoaks (Weald) Scout Troop



Victorious: The 1st Sevenoaks Scout Group won the District Trophy for being the group that has improved its membership the most with a huge increase in the number of its young members. This was in large part credited to the hard work of Lesley Grant, now District Commissioner



The Mickey Spearey Trophy: Richard Everest and the 4th Sevenoaks (St John's) Cub Pack