SCOUTING IRELAND

Annual Report 2005

Scouting Ireland is a voluntary, non-formal educational movement for young people.

It is non-political, open to all without distinction of origin, race, creed or gender, in accordance with the purpose, principles and methods conceived by the Founder,

Robert Baden-Powell and as stated by the World organisation of the Scout Movement.

Scouting Ireland encourages the physical, intellectual, social, spiritual and cultural development of young people so that they may achieve their full potential and, as responsible citizens, improve society.

Scouting Ireland achieves its aim through a system of progressive self-education, known as the Scout Method, the principal elements of which are:

- Voluntary membership of a group which, guided by adults, is increasingly self-governing in its successive age groups.
- Commitment to a code of living as expressed in the Promise & Law, the meaning of which is expanded as the member grows towards maturity.
- The provision of a wide range of attractive, constructive and challenging activities, including opportunities for adventure and exploration both indoors and outdoors.
- The provision of opportunities for leadership and responsibility. Learning by doing. Encouragement of activity in small groups.
- An award scheme, which encourages participation in its full range of activities and provides recognition of individual and group achievements.

The Scout Law.

A Scout is to be trusted.

A Scout is loyal.

A Scout is helpful and considerate to all.

A Scout has courage in all difficulties.

A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property.

A Scout has respect for self and others.

A Scout respects nature and the environment.

Scouting Ireland wish to acknowledge the support and assistance received from the Department of Education and Sciences - Youth Affairs Section under the National Development Plan 2002 - 2006

The association would also like to acknowledge the support it received from the irish Youth Foundation.

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Foreword from the Chief Scout

Martin Burbridge
Chief Scout

There is no doubt that 2005 was an important year in the ongoing development of Scouting Ireland. The introduction of a new uniform for all members was a milestone and will certainly contribute to the development of a new image for our great movement. Indeed the success of the new uniform is underpinned by the huge take up by members and this has given rise to some supply problems. Please be patient as we try to deal with this as soon as is practicable.

It is clear to me that 2005 was another year of outstanding efforts on the part of Scout Groups, Scout Counties, Provincial and National Teams in ensuring that Scouting Ireland continues to grow and develop to better suit the needs of Ireland's young people. It is thanks to the tireless efforts of so many dedicated people that we are looking forward to an ever brighter future for Scouting in Ireland.

There were many highlights including the launch of the Code of Good Practice which incorporates our Child Protection Policy, the presentation of many Chief Scout Awards throughout the country, the Phoenix Challenge, the Explorer Belt and Scouting Ireland's involvement in the European Jamboree in England to name but a few.

However, for me as Chief Scout the most important item that we have been dealing with is the development of a new Youth Programme for Scouting Ireland. A lot of progress has been made to date and I want to congratulate all the people who have been involved in this project for their efforts and dedication. We have received a lot of feedback from the various consultation meetings and the Programme Development Team and the National Management Committee will be taking special note of your thoughts, ideas, queries and criticisms. There will be opportunities for a lot more debate and consultation on this issue before the new programme is finalised and I look forward to receiving further feedback from around the country over the coming months.

As we look to the rest of 2006 and the Centenary of World Scouting in 2007 I would ask that everyone in our Association embraces the Scouting Ireland Gifts of Peace Projects. Helping others is part of what we in Scouting are and I believe that these particular projects can help us achieve our mission of helping young people to develop themselves and can also demonstrate the relevance of Scouting to a wider audience throughout the island of Ireland.

It is also important to realise that by working together using the Scout Method ordinary people can achieve extraordinary things. So don't be afraid to think and dream big and with the support of others in your Scout Group, Scout County or Scout Province you will be surprised what you will achieve. Every effort will be made to continue to ensure that the resources at National Level are deployed in support of Scout Provinces, Scout Counties and Scout Groups.

Thank you all for you loyalty and service to Scouting Ireland. Long may it continue as together we do our best to be true to our Scout Promise and try to live by the Scout Law.

Martin Burbridge
Chief Scout

Scouting Ireland

Members of National Management Committee

Martin Burbridge, Michael Devins, Brendan McNicholas, Kiernan Gildea, Niall Walsh, Fr. Peter Kehoe, Joseph Marken, Christy McCann, Julie Malone, John Meikleham, Michael J Shinnick, Billy Gaynor, Garrett Flynn, Brendan Lynch, Pat Murphy, Ann Foley, Stephen Carey, Paul Falvey.

National Team for Policy Implementation & Co-Ordination

Martin Burbridge Chief Scout, Michael Devins National Secretary, Niall Walsh National Treasurer, Kiernan Gildea Chief Commissioner – Youth Programme, Brendan McNicholas Chief Commissioner – Adult Resources, Fr. Peter Kehoe Chairperson National Spiritual / Religious Advisory Panel.

Members of the Scout Foundation

Joe McLoughlin, Aidan Brennan, Jim Hally (deceased), Donal O'Sullivan (deceased) (and National Officers ex offico.)

Provincial Commissioners

Joseph Marken, Christy McCann, Julie Malone, John Meikleham, Michael J Shinnick, Billy Gaynor.

Staff

Eamonn Lynch	CEO,
Colm Kavanagh,	Programme Development Officer Research/Publications
Neil Collins	Programme Development Officer
Sean Farrell	SQS,AIS, Provinical and National Co-ordinator
Neil Mahony	PR, Information/Communications Officer
Philomena Stapleton	Child Protection Officer/Risk Management
Oladoyin Durojaiye	Legal Governance/Property Administration Officer
Damien O'Sullivan	Warden manager Larch Hill National Campsite
Bridie O'Sullivan	Administrative Officer
Marie Dalton	Registrar
Margaret Moore Lewey	Administrative Assistant Provincial Support/Insurance
Rose Doyle	Adminisrative Assistant National Secretary
Gillian Keogh	Receptionist

Provincial Support Officers

Sinclair Trotter	Northern Province
Jim Goulding	Southern Province
Joe Doherty	Western Province
Justin Maher	South Eastern Province
Gerry Hickey	North Eastern Province
Geraldine Smith	Dublin Metropolitan Province

Finance

Fionan Lawlor	Financial Controller
Barbara Hughes	Accounts assistance

Castle Saunderson

Marry Farrell	Director of Development

Overview by Chief Executive Officer

Eamonn Lynch CEO

In 2005, further incremental progress was achieved in the establishment of Scouting Ireland, as a vibrant, relevant and exciting Youth Organisation for young people in Ireland. The achievements in the first year of operations, in 2004, were consolidated as Scouters and Leaders, at all levels in the Association, became familiar with their roles and responsibilities.

The NMC had 6 meetings in 2005 and the NTPIC strived to meet monthly throughout the year to maintain continuity in the management and leadership of the Association.

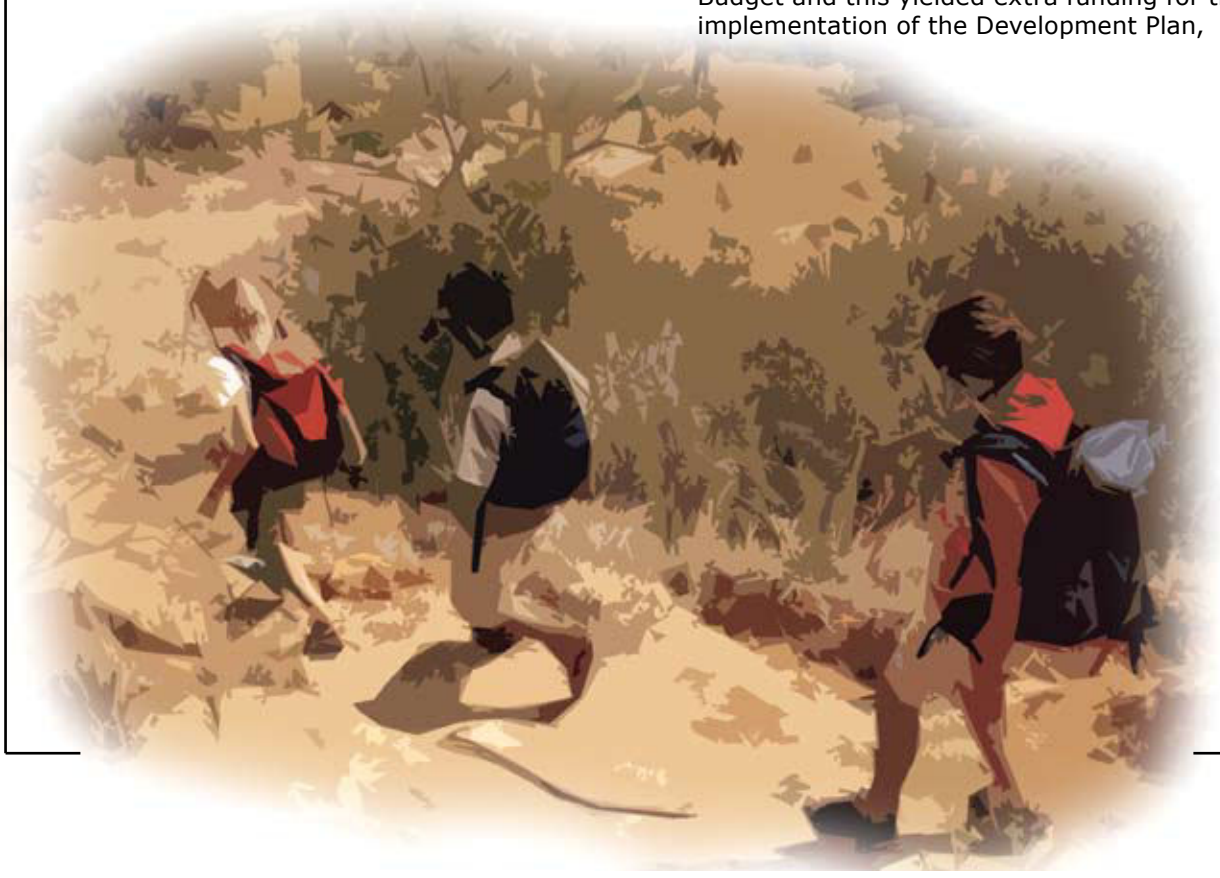
The benefits of the Provincial Structure in the 6 Provinces became more apparent as members in the respective Provinces became familiar with the identity and culture of their respective Provinces. A significant and much lauded benefit of the Provincial Structure is the training of Scouters locally in the Provinces and, in 2005, a total 1632 Scouters underwent their training in their respective Provinces.

Strategy Implementation

The Strategic Vision for the Association, outlined by the Chief Scout, was gradually implemented throughout the Association with many of Strategy's Objectives being included in the Development Plans of the Provinces. An overview of the implementation of the Strategic Plan, in Sept. '05, indicated that many of the Objectives and verifiable indications were being pursued in all of the Provincial Plans.

National Youth Work Advisory Committee

The work of the National Youth Work Advisory Committee (NYWAC), which met 6 times in 2005, in advising on the implementation of the National Youth Work Development Plan, continued throughout 2005. Eamonn Lynch and Joan McKevitt are Scouting Ireland's/ NYCI representatives on NYWAC. A significant extra 18% funding was received through the efforts of NYWAC and NYCI in the 2005 Budget and this yielded extra funding for the implementation of the Development Plan,



extra core funding for Organisations in the Youth Sector, (S.I. received €80,104 extra funding) and funding was allocated for the employment of Youth Work Development Officers in the VEC's, to enable VEC's to fulfill, the responsibilities under the Terms of the Youth Work Act 2001. A review of the Youth Service Grant Scheme was also conducted by external consultants, McIver Consultancy, and the findings in the Review may have significant implications for the manner and quantum of funding received by the Association in future years.

Membership figures 2005

For a second consecutive year, the new Association has experienced a very positive growth of 5% in membership. The growth consisted of a very positive increase of 2015 youth members (7.6%) but was tempered somewhat by a decline of 396 adult members (6.4%). Overall, the trends in membership growth is rising, with 5 of the 6 Provinces experiencing positive growth in 2005.

Professional staff

There were a number of retirements and resignations amongst the Professional Staff in 2005.

Terry Kiely and Rosemary Reid retired in early 2005, after many years of devoted service to Scouting, later in the year, Alison Hayden and Miriam Murphy resigned in the latter end of the year, Brendan Bohan availed of early retirement, due to ill health. The thanks of the Association and of their work colleagues is extended to all Staff who departed in 2005, for their loyalty, hard work, diligence and commitment to Scouting, regardless of their duration as staff in Scouting Ireland and in the two former Associations.

Towards the end of the year, two new staff were recruited, as follows:

Mrs Philomena Stapleton – as Child Protection Officer / Risk Management

Mrs Oladoyin Durojaiye – as Support Officer for Legal, Property,Governance and Administration.

Finances

The Youth Service Grant Scheme, which is administered by the Youth Affairs Section of the Dept. of Education and Science, awarded an additional €80k to the Association as a consequence of the extra funding allocated to the Youth Sector in 2005. The Association, in addition, received once-off Grants for the following:

€35,000 for the Association's new Data Base

€15,000 to improve the Association's I.T. capacity

€7,000 to help defray the costs of fulfilling the duties and obligations, in 2006, of the Vice-Chairman of WOSM, Ms Thérèse Bermingham.

The Association also received a further Annual Grant of €15,000 from the Irish Youth Foundation to assist it in the further process of integrating the two former Scout Associations in the new single Association, Scouting Ireland.

The Financial Statements for 2005 indicated that a creditable surplus was generated in 2005 and though this positive surplus is laudable and hugely encouraging, it has to be put in context by the need to invest in deferred expenditure on the Scout Programme and also future expenditure in Campsites facilities and in deferred liabilities. The Association will still need to expand its income base to fund the requirements and needs of an evolving and burgeoning Youth Organisation as it changes and adapts to society in the early part of the 21st Century.

Castle Saunderson

In 2005, the Castle Saunderson Project did not achieve its anticipated progress in obtaining significant matching funding to ensure the financial viability of the Project, despite the assiduous and determined efforts of the Board of Directors, the Fundraising Committee and the Director of Development, Ms. Mary Farrell.

At the time of writing this report, a decision had been made to discontinue the Project and sell the Estate in order to discharge any outstanding debts and offer reimbursement of donations to Donors.

All personnel who were involved in the Project over the past 8 years were saddened at its demise and the Association owes a debt of gratitude to the Directors and the Fundraising Committee, especially to the Chairman, Mr. Jack Casey, who gave unselfishly of his time and expertise over the duration of the Project.

Incorporation of Scouting Ireland

Scouting Ireland was incorporated as a Limited Company on the 1st February 2005.
This measure will safeguard the Association and its assets for future generations of personnel, who partake in and manage the Association through the Scout Programme for the benefit of all the youth in Ireland.

Acknowledgements

It would be remiss of me not to thank all of the people who unselfishly devoted their time, energies and commitments to ensuring that the Scout Programme was effectively delivered and promulgated to the youth of Ireland.

I would especially like to thank all of my work colleagues, whose diligent work, commitment and enthusiasm provided an excellent and comprehensive support service to the membership throughout the country.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to the Chief Scout and his fellow National Officers for their support and commitment in enabling me to carry out my duties and obligations, in providing a service support to the membership throughout the country.

I would also like to particularly acknowledge the enormous contribution made to Scouting Ireland by the former National Secretary, Mark O'Callaghan, who resigned in October 2005, after many years of exemplary service to both Scouting Ireland and Scouting Ireland SAI.

On behalf of the Association I would further like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the staff of the Youth Affairs Section of the Department of Education and Science for their sustained support throughout the year.

The future

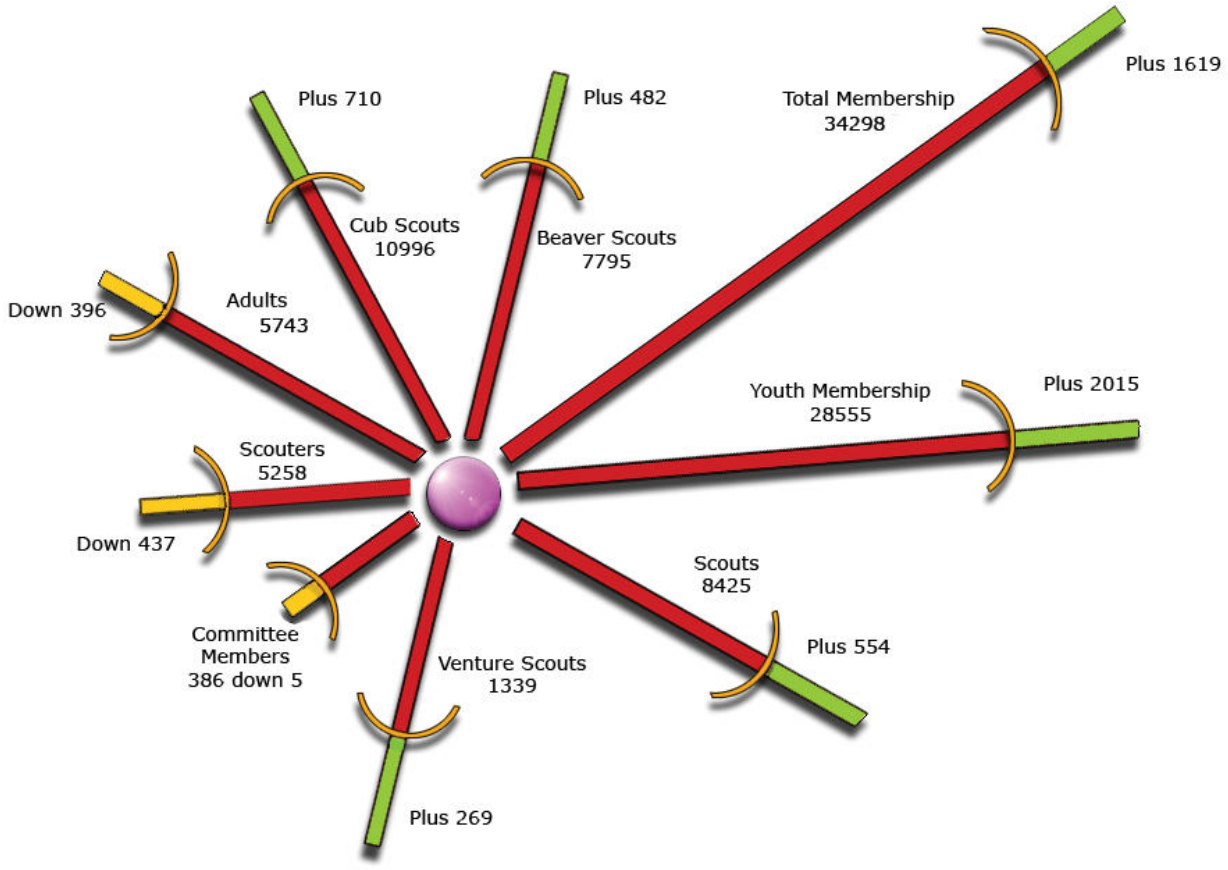
Scouting Ireland, after two years in existence, and having achieved so much in that short space of time, is poised, I believe, to grow and prosper into a relevant and vibrant Youth Organisation, especially when the new Scout Programme is brought to fruition.

The momentum created by the formation of the new Association has yielded significant and tangible benefits to-date and a dynamic and exciting future is in prospect, if the vision and Strategy outlined for the youth of Ireland is implemented fully, using the tried and tested Scouting Principles in a contemporary milieu.

Eamonn Lynch
Chief Executive Officer

Association Membership Figures

Province	Beaver Scout	Cub Scout	Scout	Venture Scout	Total Young People	Scouter	Comm.	Direct Reg.	Adults	Total
Dublin Met.	1202	2267	2227	466	6162	1203	70		1273	7435
North Eastern	1375	1980	1581	295	5231	870	61		931	6162
Western	752	1032	690	79	2553	506	34		540	3093
Southern	1795	2265	1617	228	5905	1041	86		1127	7032
Northern	1053	1239	741	90	3123	604	53		657	3780
South Eastern	1618	2213	1569	181	5581	1034	82		1116	6697
Dir. Reg. 2005								99	99	99
Total 2005	7795	10996	8425	1339	28555	5258	386	99	5743	34298
Dir.Reg.2004								53	53	53
Totals 2004	7313	10286	7871	1070	26540	5695	391	53	6139	32679
Difference	+482	+710	+554	+269	+2015	-437	-5	46	-396	1619

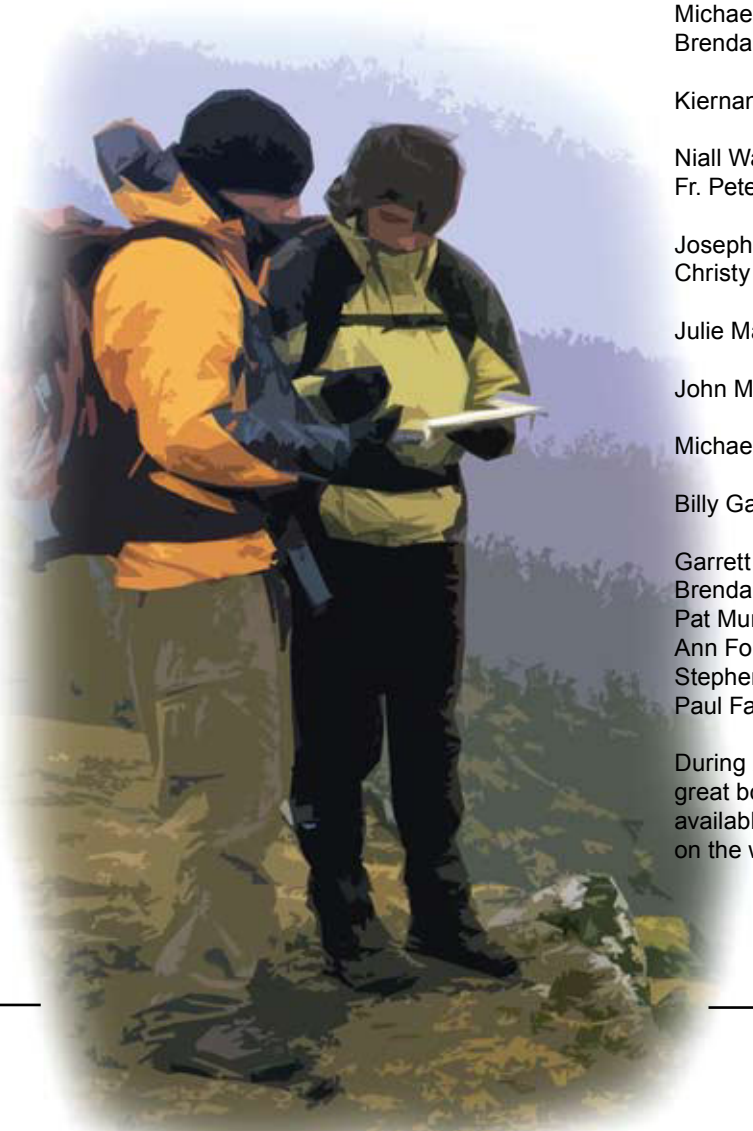


Report of the National Secretary

Michael Devins
National Secretary

The year 2005 saw a number of changes to the NMC and the National Officer team however the momentum of the early months of 2004 was still evident in the work that was achieved throughout the year. In October our first National Secretary Mark O'Callaghan resigned and coinciding with his resignation we also automatically had the resignations of Orla McCarthy as International Commissioner and Garrett Flynn as Communication Commissioner.

I was elected as an Interim National Secretary by the NMC in Oct 2005, Garrett was re-elected again in Oct 2005, Orla decided not to stand again for election and was replaced by Brendan Lynch. Even after 6 months I am still striving to make the transition from County to National. I have tried as best as I could to continue on where Mark left off.



I would like to take this opportunity on my own behalf and of that of the Association to thank Mark O Callaghan for his tremendous work on behalf of Scouting Ireland and we still continue to experience the benefits of his early infrastructural work. We also remember Orla McCarthy our first International Commissioner, who is currently working in Ethiopia, and we thank her for her work. Our thanks is also conveyed to Mandy Merriman, who was one of our 3 representatives in the under 26 category on the National Management Committee, who also resigned due to her work re-location.

At National Council last year Stephen Carey was elected to represent the under 26 panel on the National Management Committee. The current members of the NMC are as follows

Martin Burbridge	Chief Scout,
Michael Devins	National Secretary
Brendan McNicholas	Chief Commissioner Adult Resources,
Kiernan Gildea	Chief Commissioner Youth Programme
Niall Walsh	National Treasurer
Fr. Peter Kehoe	National Spiritual/ Religious Adviser
Joseph Marken	Provisional Commissioner DMP
Christy McCann	Provisional Commissioner North Eastern
Julie Malone	Provisional Commissioner Western
John Meikleham	Provisional Commissioner North
Michael J Shinnick	Provisional Commissioner Southern
Billy Gaynor	Provisional Commissioner South Eastern
Garrett Flynn	Communications Commissioner
Brendan Lynch	International Commissioner
Pat Murphy	
Ann Foley	
Stephen Carey	
Paul Falvey	

During 2005 there were 6 meetings of the NMC a great body of work was completed all of which is available from the management bulletin which is put on the web.

Some of the important issues which were discussed at the NMC in 2005 were the development and launch of a Scouting Ireland **Code of Good Practise** incorporating a Child Protection document, the adoption of the **Strategic Vision** document. A revised policy for the involvement of non members on Scouting activities and a thorough review of county structure and campsites throughout Ireland.

It was also agreed that resources would be provided for Provinical magazines and that a sub – committee would research and produce recommendations for a new emblem for the Association.

Sadly during 2005 we lost some very valued members of our scouting community and on behalf of the NMC I would like to express our sympathy to their families and fellow scouter's.

I would encourage any group or county who has issues which they would like to see discussed at the NMC to please forward them through their Provincial Commissioner.

As for 2006 some of the issues which I hope to be tackling include:

- Travel Insurance for groups leaving the country will be available from Scouts.ie
- Greater communication with individual members of Scouting Ireland who are not members of groups, allowing us to harness some of the talent which is available to us from this element of the Association's membership.
- Increase communication with the National Team.
- New data base and IT infrastructure allowing PSOs access to the data base at meetings and events locally.
- Greater Communication with other Bodies outside Scouting.

Communications Report

The Communications Team have had an intensive and productive year. I'm grateful to my colleagues for the volume and standard of work that is gradually helping to establish a strong ethos of communication in Scouting Ireland and is slowly building our profile to keep Scouting Ireland in the consciousness of the Nation

Scouts.ie continues to draw large numbers of our membership and is rapidly becoming the 'one stop' location for information and support documentation within the association, with an average of 40,000 hits per month.

The Scouting Ireland chat forum has become an established channel of communication and regularly hosts interesting and robust debate, together with lighter discussions on topics relevant to its 700 strong membership.

Scouting Ireland continues to feature in the news and in the consciousness of the general public with regular appearances on RTE's Den TV, a key route to a large chunk of our target market, a strong presence at the recent Outdoor Adventure Show in the RDS and great coverage in the printed media and on radio of events and activities countrywide.

A great range of support materials have been developed to help publicise Scouting in communities – brochures, posters and a range of sticker designs suitable for car windscreens, homework journals, i-pods and a host of other uses, designed to help everyone play their part in promoting Scouting Ireland.

Signage is being developed and mounted at key Scouting Ireland locations around the country with new signage now in place at Larch hill, Killaloe and Lough Dan, projecting a professional and consistent image to the public and giving prominence to our name and visual identity.

The Communications team are working with colleagues at National level to share expertise and help where required including close working relationships with the Events, Training, Programme Review and Water Activities Teams.

On the World Stage

Scouting Ireland member Therese Bermingham has been elected to the influential and prestigious World Scout Committee. Therese not only joins the twelve member committee, which implements policy for millions of Scouts Worldwide, but does so as the committee's vice chairperson and is the first ever Irish female to join the committee.
John Lawlor jr. a member of the 35th Donore Avenue was also elected to the World Scout Youth Forum which is an advisory committee to the World Scout Committee.

Youth for Development Prize 2005 - Winner!

The Donnybrook Venturer Group where awarded the International Youth Development Prize 2005 by the United Nations and WOSM for their development work in Peru. Congratulations to all the Leaders and Venturers who participated on these projects

Irish Contingent to Eurojam

A number of groups attended the European Jamboree which was held in 2005 as a precursor to the World Jamboree to be held in 2007 in Hylands Park, Essex. Information will be circulated later in 2006 on Scouting Irelands projected involvement in the World Jamboree.

At the world Jamboree a team of 30 people under the guidance of Orla McCarthy ran a number of bases at the World Village in Eurojam promoting the culture of Ireland. This proved to be a great success and a bigger and better version is planned for the World Jamboree in 2007.

International Camps

It's heartening to see the number of groups who organised and ran an International camp and have afforded their youth members with the opportunity to travel and appreciate the Scouting programme in other countries.

Michael Devins
National Secretary

Report from the National Spiritual/ Religious Advisory Panel

The Members of NSRAP are Fr.Peter Kehoe, R.C.,Rev. Gillian Wharton, C of I, Donald Poole, Society of Friends, Gerry Glynn, ICCS , Brian Meyer C of I and Collie Kavanagh PDO.

The Committee have met on six occasions during the past year. Having meetings with all the team has been difficult due to the amount of work pressure on some of the members.

The work of the committee has focused on a number of aspects, the first being the prayers for opening of meetings. We will shortly make available a small prayer card/leaflet with a number of prayers to all members that can be used for various occasions, such as meetings or gatherings of Groups

The panel also undertook extensive research of how other Associations in the World approached the spiritual aspect of their programme and discovered that the Scout Prayer was the most popular prayer - the prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola. That prayer is familiar to the members and can be changed to using the words "Dearest Lord, teach me to be ...."

The second item we looked at was the Religious and Spiritual Policy of Scouting Ireland, with the assistance of the NMC. This is now completed, and is available via the web.

We are presently looking at ceremonies such as investitures and protocols for funerals,

Fr.Peter Kehoe

as different denominations have regulations and requirements for the use of places of Worship, it is incumbent on us to follow the proper protocols.

The highlight of the year has to be the Peace Light of Bethlehem. It was lit at the Church of the Nativity by the Scouts of Lebanon and Israel. It was carried across the world by air, land and sea. Gerry Glynn through the International Catholic Conference of Scouting organised the event. It was an Ecumenical occasion and many of the world faiths took part. Gerry collected the light at the Dublin Port and brought it to the Church of the Visitation, Fairview where a large number of Scouts gathered for an Ecumenical Service before taking the light to the four corners of Ireland.

I was present at the Carol Service in Carlow Cathedral where the 5th Carlow had pride of place carrying the Light in procession to be the beacon of hope and peace for the coming year. Rev Gillian Wharton was present in her Parishes with Brian Meyer looking after the South County Dublin Parishes of Dalkey, Glasthule and Dun Laoghaire. Many other Scouters were present to bring the light to their dens, halls, and Churches and places of Worship.

Next Christmas the Light will be brought to the Church of the Visitation, Fairview on Saturday 16th December and we hope many more will make the journey.

It is hoped that in the coming year many of the other Denominations will become members of NSRAP and thus giving the fruit of expertise and knowledge of our brothers and sisters in the different faiths.

Fr.Peter Kehoe
Chairperson,
NSRAP.

Report of the Chief Commissioner - Youth Programme

Is mór an taoibhneas dhom, a leagann amach thíos, an tuarascáil bliantúil don rannóg Priomh Cóimisionéir (Clár na nÓg) don blian 2005.

It is a pleasure for me to set out hereunder the Annual Report for the Chief Commissioner (Youth Programme) for the year 2005.

Kiernan Gildea - Chief Commissioner Youth Programme

In January 2005, the National Management Committee (NMC) appointed the following Programme Commissioners to the National Youth Programme Committee (NYPC):

Camping & the Out of Doors	Pat McCartin
National Events	Ian Davy
Over 11's	Pat O'Connor
Participation (Resigned November 2005)	Neil Ledwith
Programme Development	Dominic Byrne
Under 11's	Pauline Lucas
Water Activities	Brian O'Daly

In November 2005, the NMC also decided to establish the position of Programme Commissioner (Campsites) and the professional position of Campsites Manager.

National Youth Programme Committee

The NYPC met on six occasions during the year – usually coinciding with weekend meetings of the Programme Development Team.

Some items dealt with by the National Youth Programme Committee during the year –

- National County Programme Commissioner's (CPC's) Conference held in January 2005. Was found to be very worthwhile. The Commissioners Conference in October 2005 decided to extend attendance at that Conference to CPC's also.
- Policy document on 'Camping & the Out of Doors was approved by the NMC but rejected by National Council as being too bureaucratic. A revised document was signed off by the NYPC in November 2005 for approval by NMC in January 2006. Due to the interim age ranges currently in use, a policy document on sleeping arrangements for youth members under and over eighteen years of age was approved by the NMC.
- A National Venturer Task Force meeting took place in October 2005 in Larch Hill. Attendance was excellent and findings were very helpful. Cian Timmons produced a report and recommendations in December 2005.

- Peter Sheehan produced a colourful badge chart on where to wear the old Association badges on the new uniform.
- The South-East Province was without representation for most of the year.
- Western representative (Margaret Fagan) resigned at the end of 2005. Margaret had been a very enthusiastic and conscientious member of the Committee and will be missed.
- Promise & Law charts and bookmarks were produced for display in Scout Dens. These were very well received.
- Ian Davy produced a comprehensive National Events calendar and wall-planner in June 2005. An enormous amount of work has taken place in this area. New events have been tried and tested. Special mention must be made of the Venture Scout Triathlon and Sluaiocht na Sléibhte.
- Pat McCartin, with the active assistance of Collie Kavanagh, PDO, launched the 'Get Out' Awards. There was a disappointing response but a very good start.
- 'Notions, Motions & Potions' Seminars were successfully organised by Pauline Lucas.
- The Programme Development Team under Dominic Byrne carried out a considerable amount of work. Five stages of RAP were completed by year end -

  1. Educational Proposal
  2. Areas of personal growth
  3. General educational objectives
  4. Stages of development and age sections
  5. Sectional educational objectives

Camping

The 'Get Out' Challenge was launched to put the 'OUT' back in Scouting. The Award could be achieved by doing a small number of outdoor activities whilst at the same time having a lot of fun. Participation certificates, badges and cash prizes accompanied the initiative.

A Lone Patrol weekend took place in Larch Hill in June 2005. A programme was provided for the weekend and Troop Scouters could rest assured that their Scouts were safe and secure. Four locations (Larch Hill, Mount Melleray, Killaloe and Kilcully will be used in 2006).

A pocket-sized card 'Guide to Campsites' was launched and this will be further expanded in 2006.

Following consultation with every Scout Group a revised 'Camping Policy' document was approved by the NMC in late 2005.

Over 11s

The team consists of a small but dedicated band of people, Mealla Barry, Paul Lynch and Pat O' Connor. To date most of our work has been centered on the Programme development using the RAP tool. It has been a major change from how previous teams operated, as most teams would have been very event orientated.

Mealla and Richard Scriven completed a new syllabus for Leadership training in September. During the autumn it was decided that the Scouting Trail and Former CSI Badge Book would remain as the principal progressive scheme manuals until RAP delivers a new Programme and all the resources that go with that. We also submitted a review of the Scout Troop SQS requirements.

As mentioned above the Venture Task Force will try and address some of the major problems we have in Venturing between now and the summer of 2007. This will tie in with the new programme. This section needs the greatest amount of resources. Much work needs to be completed and hopefully we can grow the numbers of ventures by 40% over the next 2 years. In the coming months people will be invited and welcomed to participate in this initiative.

Under 11'S

The Under 11 team is small but active. It consists of Pauline Lucas, Declan Mc Cann, Anne Marie Millar, Jill Mulholland, Barbara Ross, James O'Toole, Barbara Mulcahy and Kieran Cody (for programme review) During the year they had great support and advice from Marion Bridgeman in developing and implementing a FETAC accredited course for leaders dealing with Children with Special Needs.

The CPC meeting at the early part of the year made key decisions on the programme material that was to be used while waiting for the new programme in 2007. Those decisions were: the Paw print book and the Orange PBS book along with both sets of paw print badges for the Beavers. Kubuk and HOW 2 Kubuk (in published form) with the Discovery Trail being available on CD for the Cub / Macaoimh Section. All former badges, unless common to both systems i.e., Sixer, Seconder are being used (as the printed version of 'How 2' has not been available for many years it has taken a lot of work to S.I. it), but it will be available in the Scout Shops and at all training courses in early 2006.

During 2005 the concept of Notions Motions and Potions was born. The event allowed Scouters to come along and perhaps pick up a few new ideas (Notions) to share thoughts and ideas on burning issues directly to the team (Motions) and some more programme opportunities through Science and Cooking (Potions). The team was really happy with the response and decided to 'hit the road' giving Scouters all over the country a chance to participate in a 'hands on' programme event. The response overall has been fantastic and several hundred Scouters have participated. Further events are planned for all of the Provinces for 2006. We continue to liaise with the National Events team with Programme content and to support Training, Camping, Water Activities and particularly the Programme Review.

Water Activities

The Water Activities Team was established and comprises members of varied interests, skills and geographical spread. Fourteen meetings were held at National venues during the year. Provincial Commissioners were contacted with a view to establishing their support for Water Activities in the Provinces. Scouter Training courses were supported by Trainers where required and requested. Marine Skills Training courses were organised for the benefit of Scouters and older Scouts. Each of these courses was a recognised certificate course. Many open days were hosted by Sea Scouting and by counties.

An experimental land / water activities camp was held in Kerry. Programme Training scholarships were set up. Investment was arranged for the provision of Training equipment for Water Activities.

And finally…

Other commitments….

As well as commitments arising from involvement in the National Youth Programme Committee I attended meetings of, and contributed to the work of, the following Committees during the year:

National Team for Policy Implementation & Coordination (NTPIC)
Child Protection Management Committee
SQS Review Group
Awards Committee
Scout Foundation
Scout Foundation (Northern Ireland)
Heritage Group

I also attended a number of National, Provincial, County and Group events during the year.

'In a changing society, as soon as we stop changing, we start to go backwards.'

Kiernan Gildea
Chief Commissioner

Report of Chief Commissioner - Adult Resources

Brendan McNicholas.
Chief Commissioner
Adult Resources.

It is my honour once again to report to you on all activities concerning the ways in which Scouting Ireland supports adults in delivering a quality Scouting programme to our young members.

During the past year, the National Adult Resources Committee, with representatives from each Province, has worked hard to progress many issues.

Training

The Training Commissioner, Sheila Haskins, is pleased to report ongoing success in the Provincial delivery of Woodbadge Training. 1594 adults attended 78 courses during 2005. Your County and Provincial Training coordinators will be happy to provide details of courses in 2006.

The pathway to your Woodbadge is;

Welcome to Scouting.
Scouting Fundamentals.
Scouting Essentials.
Section Overnights.
First Aid Certificate.
Scouting Leadership.

The Training Team have worked hard to standardize the content, handouts, presentations, certificates and evaluation sheets for all courses, and will continue to develop support material for Scouters. The Skills Acquisition system is near completion and will be delivered within the Provinces by February 2006. The Validators Training Course will enable this process to be implemented.

Group Leader Training is completed and is being delivered to Group Leaders, whilst the training package for all Commissioners and those in other Management positions is being developed, and will be ready for delivery during 2006.

All Scouter training material is being reviewed in conjunction with the Programme Development Team.
We are continuing to add to our complement of Trainers. A database of Trainers in all Provinces has been compiled and will be updated and revised on an ongoing basis. Criteria for obtaining a third and fourth Woodbadge bead are being revised and will be submitted for approval during 2006. Training for Trainers is a National event, held under the auspices of the Training Commissioner.

We are doing our best to ensure that Woodbadge Awards outstanding from previous Associations are presented where appropriate. Please contact the Training Commissioner if you are in this category.

Accreditation and recognition of Scouter training achievements is being negotiated with FETAC and other sources. We hope to make good progress on this during 2006. In Northern Ireland the Open College Network currently recognises Scouter training. Some Scouters, County Commissioners, Provincial Training Commissioners and Provincial Support Officers have completed the 'Keeping Safe' programme. In addition, the NMC expect an enthusiastic attendance at Code of Good Practice briefing sessions which will be held during the early part of 2006.

Awards

I am happy to report that almost all Scout Counties have nominated adults for various awards. Some 513 Service awards, 488 Meritorious awards and 26 Community awards were made during 2006. A number of Cú Chulainn awards were approved, and will be presented during 2006.

Awards are a good way of giving recognition and thanks to adults. Honour awards can also be made to young members.

System of Quality Scouting

The SQS Chairman, Tony Sweeney, and his team have worked hard during 2005, and have some substantial proposals to make in early 2006. SQS is a simple tool to assist Group Leaders and County Commissioners in managing the support that adults need to provide quality Scouting to young people. Groups can use SQS to make plans, assess them regularly, and review their progress annually with their County Commissioner.

Undoubtedly the ability of Scout Groups to self assess, and the avoidance of delay in receiving certification has been a huge benefit.

Code of Good Practice

Every adult member will have received a copy of the new Code of Good Practice. The document was published after extensive co-operation with Scouters, parents and experts in the field of childcare, and reflects current best practice. It is important that we all make it our business to attend one of the Briefing sessions.

Recruitment

Membership figures show a drop in adult membership in 2005. Whilst this is disappointing, I am not yet overly concerned. What is important is that we attract the right adults, and have procedures in place to train and resource them appropriately.

The National Adult Resources Committee is conscious of this and is working to get to a position where such training and resources are available upon appointment.

Scouting Ireland strives to ensure that it makes every attempt to vet adults who wish to work with our young members. Over 500 adults have successfully applied for new Appointments during 2005. The NMC has also approved a policy for the involvement of non-member adults. Our young members are our most important asset; it is important that we all apply this policy to ensure their safety.

Group Leaders should ensure that all references are checked, and that they agree roles and expectations with each new adult. Job specifications are available for almost all roles. The National Adult Resources Committee will complete the set in early 2006.

Members in Northern Ireland comply with POCVA legislation. The Association are continuing to press Government in the Republic of Ireland for assistance through a statutory vetting system.

Fellowship

There are a number of ways in which we provided activities and opportunities for adults during 2005.

Founders Day ceremonies were held at all levels, and proved to be a very popular way

to thank adults for their enthusiasm and commitment.

Many adults came together to form Fellowship Patrols, some of whom attended the Fellowship Moot held in May.

Efforts were made to ensure that 'time out' areas were available at our campsites for Scouters to relax and enjoy the company of other adults.

We encourage the use of 'Huddles' at events, where Scouters can meet and discuss issues in an informal atmosphere, whilst our young members enjoy the event/activity.
We are actively working to introduce a 'Scouters Challenge' during 2006. Further details will be available shortly.

Some funding is available under the AR budget for 'County Projects'. There were no applications during 2005.

Young Leaders Forum

Scouters under 26 came together in March for the Young Leaders Forum. A number of issues were discussed in an atmosphere of fun, and views were forwarded to the NMC for their perusal.

Heritage

A group of interested adults continue to assist in the preservation of memorabilia, archives and other important historical items. It is important that members from both founding Associations work together to preserve the heritage of Scouting Ireland.

Parents and Friends Support Groups

Despite our hopes, the National Adult Resources Committee made no progress in providing support material for PFSGs. It seems that there are many views on what such groups should do! More consultation is required.

Commissioners' Conference

It was disappointing that only slightly over half of our Commissioners were able to attend this important conference. Those who did attend were brought up to date on developments which included SQS, Child Protection and Programme Development, as well as the opportunity to meet with others who fulfil the same role. Thanks to the Western Province for hosting this conference.

Some other issues

We are constantly monitoring social issues which might affect our adult members, and hope during 2006 to address such issues as suicide prevention, safer driving, subsidised volunteerism, special leave, continuity of service, taxation and social welfare benefits.

I would like to finish by thanking all members of the National Adult Resources Committee, particularly David Rogers who is secretary to the committee, and Sean Farrell, Adult Resources Officer.

Most importantly, thanks to all of you for your time, energy and commitment. You are all much valued by the young members under your care.

Bainigí taitneamh as bhúr nGasógaíocht,

Brendan McNicholas.
Chief Commissioner
Adult Resources.

North Eastern Province

If you start off on the M50 and head north to the Border or west to Mullingar and Athlone, then all points in between make up the North Eastern Province. That assumes, obviously, that you can get on the M50 in the first place!

In all there are 68 Scout Groups, 7 Scout Counties but only 1 Scout Province in 1 Scouting Movement! But that's only the beginning. In all, during 2005, Scout Troops and Venture Units undertook 9,330 Summer Camp camping nights which was an enormous success for the Province. When you consider the variety of venues visited on summer camps then it gives you a flavour of the imagination and ingenuity that Scouts, Ventures and Leaders employ in their everyday Scouting. This year's summer camp venues included Kandersteg, Belgium, Eurojam, Lilliput, The Share Centre, Greece, Czech Republic, Lough Gowna, Portlick, Limerick, Hungary, France, Carlingford, Wales, Kilfinnan and Estonia.

Not to be outdone, Cub Packs within the Province are also expanding their horizons with more and more Packs undertaking Pack Holidays far afield. Every corner of the Country was visited by Cub Packs from the Province and some visited the UK also. We were also encouraged by the number of Beaver Colonies who undertook slumber nights and in particular the number of Leaders who undertook slumber night training.

Training during 2005 continued on the momentum set during 2004. There were 6 Scouting Fundamentals Courses, 6 Beaver, Cub, Scout & Venture Essentials. Incidentally, the Province hosted Scouting Ireland's first Venture Essentials Course in Howth during the year. There were also 6 Beaver, Cub & Scout Overnight courses and 3 Beaver, Cub & Scout Skills Courses along with our first Scouting Leadership course held in the Cavan Centre in May. Group Leader Training also took place with 21 GL's & DGL's taking part. In all 329 Leaders had a training experience during 2005. First aid training was also undertaken by many Groups in the Province with many choosing to participate in rescue & emergency care courses. The Province also piloted the new Child Protection Module in the Scouting Fundamentals course and were able to feed back to the National Training Team on the outcome of the course.

None of all of this would be possible without the hard work and dedication of the Scout Counties within the Province and in particular the County Commissioners who represent their Counties so well. I would like to acknowledge the work of Ollie Mills in Lakelands, Eoin Cooney in Cavan / Monaghan and Mick Devins in Gleann na Boinne who all stepped down as County Commissioners during the year. They have given so much since the beginning of Scouting Ireland to establish their respective Counties and for that we are grateful. I would also like to welcome Willie O'Connor, Eoin O'Mathuna and Greg Boyd who have taken up the mantle as new County Commissioners.

They have each gotten off to a great start with continuing the work set out in the Provincial and County development plans.

The Province keeps its development plan at the centre of everything that we do and it helps us keep an eye on where we are going in the future. We also look to the future in developing new Scout Groups and we would like to welcome the Groups in Clogherhead, Co. Louth and Mt. Nugent, Co. Cavan who both opened during the year. The development of new Groups doesn't stop there and we hope to see more new Groups open in the coming years.

2005 was a great year within the Province and we are looking forward to an even better year in 2006.

Christy McCann
Provincial Commissioner

Northern Province

2005 in the Northern Province has, as always, been an interesting and challenging year. There were some lows and some highs. For half of the year Noel McCartney was Provincial Commissioner and credit and thanks should go to him for his hard work and commitment.

The positive aspects of the year include:-

The full implementation of the New Training Scheme. This has led to an increase in the availability of the number of training courses and of our leaders attending. This will have a very positive effect on Scouting in the future. In the last year over 250 leaders have attended training within the Province. A number of these have said without the new flexibility of the scheme they would not have been able to attend. The Trainers in the Province are to be congratulated for the enormous amount of work they have carried out. Congratulations to all those who completed their Woodbadge during the year.

The year also saw our annual May Provincial Camp, Camp North taking place. This took place over 3 days at the start of May. The event was attended by over 350 Cubs and Scouts. 150 Beavers also visited the camp for a Beaver activity. Activities included climbing, orienteering, archery, arts and crafts, a picnic, a disco and many more. The success of the camp was in no small way attributable to the enthusiasm and hard work of a very dedicated team of Venturers. Though how you can sit all night talking and then run super activities is beyond this Provincial Commissioner!

February last year saw the Province celebrate Founders Day in February. Despite the cold and wet weather this event was attended by 900 young people and leaders. The event took place in Derry City and it was a tremendous opportunity to recognise the commitment and hard work of many of our members. The day was capped off by a reception in the Town Hall, hosted by the Mayor of Derry City.

The Provincial Team, supported by the Provincial Support Officer, continues to meet on a regular basis. The commitment and support of the County Commissioners has been vital to the work that takes place within the Province. Reps from the Province continue to take part in a number of National Committees.

Groups and Counties in the Northern Province continue to engage in SQS. Many find this a beneficial process that helps them focus on what they want to do in the coming year in order to improve how their Group works. Congratulations to all those who took part in SQS in the last year.

Groups from the Province continue to take part in National events and to represent their Groups and Counties in a very positive way. My congratulations to those who take part in the various events from the Quiz to the Phoenix Challenge. Indeed the National Quiz was held in Holywood in 2005. The effort put in by those involved locally was magnificent. A special thanks to the Holywood Group for the use of their premises and their support for the event. In 2006 the Phoenix Challenge will be held in the Northern Province. No doubt the local team involved in that project will do the Province proud.

The Province was visited on a number of occasions by various teams and National Officers. We are grateful for the time they have taken to be with us and to share Scouting in the Northern Province. Perhaps one of the most interesting was the visit by the RAP Team. They provided an interesting and indeed challenging view of the work being carried out on the new Programme. Whilst all acknowledged the hard work and excellent vision of the team, there remains in the Province, concern re the issue of age groupings. We very much look forward to the continuing work and debate.

As Provincial Commissioner I continue to work with the Directors of Scout Foundation Northern Ireland to ensure that our dimensioning grant aid is used in the best possible way to support Scouting in the Province. I am grateful for their continuing support.

The challenging aspects of the year include:-

As always not everyone returned their census on time. Whilst some Groups do have challenges – help is available. Sadly other Groups simply returned it late for no real reason. The same also applies to a very small number of Groups who do not take part in SQS.

The number of occasions that I had to visit Groups or Counties to resolve problems that were predominately about adult members 'falling out' is frustrating.

The decline in membership in the Province is a worry. It does, however, need to be recognised that there are specific issues on the part of the Province in Northern Ireland, which make opening new Groups a little more challenging. Without the strongest support from County Commissioners, the development of new Groups and sections will remain problematic and the decline will continue.

The future

Having reflected on the challenges nonetheless I and the team look forward to the next years challenge. Hopefully this will bring:-

- More Census (maybe all!) in on time
- All Groups taking part in SQS
- New sections and Groups opened
- More good quality Provincial Activities
- Continuing development of our ability to deliver training
- Continuing involvement in National Activities
- Engagement in the wider youth work community, especially our brother and sister Scouts and Guides.

This year also sees us in the run up to the Centenary of Scouting. It will offer us a unique opportunity to celebrate and promote the work that Scouting does. I see a great opportunity for the Groups, Counties and the Province itself, to work with our brother Organisation, The Scout Association in Northern Ireland, to jointly enjoy some aspects of the year's celebrations.

John Meikleheim
Provincial Commissioner

Western Province

During 2005 the Provincial Support Team worked hard to provide support to the 5 Counties in the Province. Despite having a small pool of Scouters to call on, we played our part in the ongoing development of Scouting Ireland.

We achieved a 4% growth in membership. 4 new groups were opened during the year with another 8 – 9 in the pipeline. 5 new sections were opened in existing groups.

In February, a Provincial Conference was held for all County Commissioners, Group Leaders, County Training Co Ordinators and County Programme Co Ordinators. Brendan McNicholas (Chief Commissioner-Adult Resources) addressed the conference. A large number of people attended on the day.

4 new Trainers came on stream bringing the number of trainers in the Province to 10. They have taken the pressure off the other trainers, who had given of their time and energy selflessly to that point.

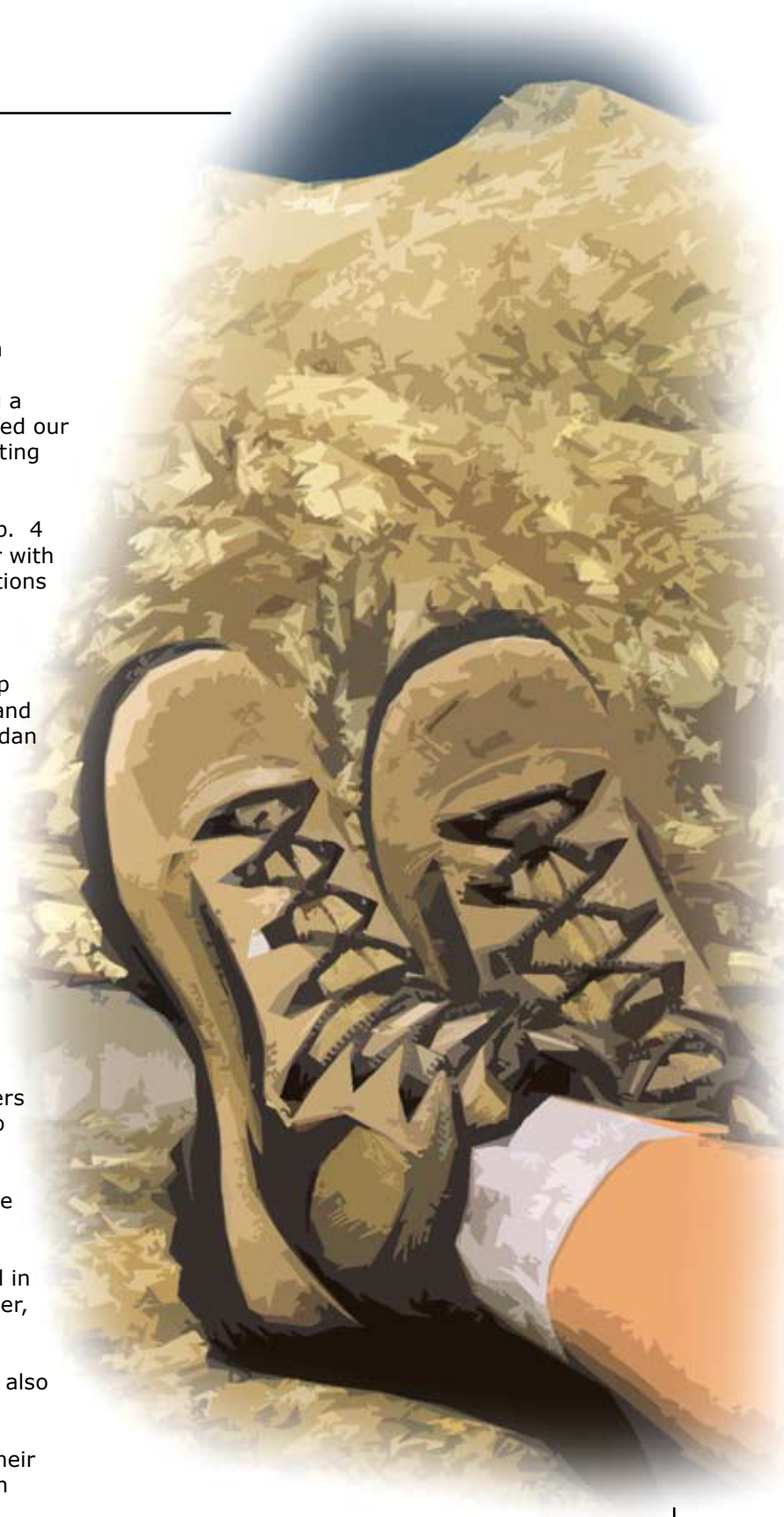
Training itself has gone from strength to strength, seeing a massive rise in Scouters attending courses, this I believe is due to the new system of delivery and making training more accessible to all. 212 Scouters attended courses during the year.

A Provincial Training conference was held in November, National Training Commissioner, Sheila Haskins was guest speaker.

Two of the Provincial Training Team were also presented with 3 Woodbadge Beads.

All 5 Scout Counties worked to achieve their Development plan objectives. This in turn made them eligible for SQS Awards. All Scout Counties provided an active and varied programme for their Groups.

Most County Commissioners and Group Leaders applied for awards for their scouters. The Province applied for a number of awards. To date 2 Gold Medals of Merit have been awarded to Margaret Fagan and Tommy Flaherty. I encourage all Group Leaders and County Commissioners to apply for awards for their Scouters; it's a fitting way to say Thanks.



The Counties in the West also had a number of National Scout Awards presented and I look forward to meeting these youth members at their Chief Scout Award presentations.

The Provincial Youth Representative, Brian Doherty from Sligo represented Scouting Ireland in Paris. He was part of a European Working Group.

The Province was represented at National Events throughout the year. My congratulations to Ian Davy and his team for all their work and providing memorable events to our youth.

The Western Province hosted Scouting Ireland's annual Commissioners Conference in October in Ennis. This was a successful conference and my thanks to J. Doherty PSO and T. Flaherty for taking over the reins in my absence.

Looking to the future, some of our main aims are to develop communications in the Province, to have a full Provincial Support Team in place by the end of March and to promote the OUT in Scouting through the Get Out Challenge.

My thanks to all my colleagues and friends in Scouting for your enthusiasm, support and encouragement to me over the past year. A special thanks goes to my family, who give me the time to play the game of Scouting.

Julie M. Malone
Provincial Commissioner

Southern Province

Woggle Talk

The Southern Provincial Magazine was launches in July 2005 with an edition each month. There have been 8 editions to-date, its success can best be explained when, on a Fundamentals Training Course, I saw all editions on the notice board in Caherdavin Scout Hall in Limerick and they were well read by the look of them. These can be found on the provincial web site in S.I Thanks in particular to Pat O' Mahony & David P. Barry. Read all about it.

Training

A band of 7 trainers took up the task of Wood badge training across the Province and from Jan16th – Dec 5th a total of 41 courses took place.

Fundamentals	14 courses
Essentials Beaver	7 courses
Essentials Cub / Macaoimh	7
Essentials Scout	3
Essentials Venturer	1
G.L Administration	4
Training of Trainers	3
Skills Validators	2

With a total of 529 attendees who would have thought that this was possible two years ago. There is a lesson in there for all of us involved in Scouting Ireland, Decentralise more to the Provinces. During the months of Oct, Nov, Dec. The Southern Province ran the 1st Training of Trainers to be completed in Scouting Ireland with 22 trainers completing the course, 20 from the Southern Province. Thanks to John Brennan & Enda Downey for their commitment to this. Enda Downey took up the role of Provincial Training Co-ordinator in Dec 05. A 4th bead was presented to Jim Goulding & a 3rd bead to Enda Downey, Neil Collins & Michael J. Shinnick.

New Groups Opened

Ballybricken 46th Limerick
Kinsale 26th Cork
Feathard 27th Tipp

Provincials Scouters Conference

Held in Mallow on 18thSept the theme "A Corporate Scouting Mind", the Chief Scout opened the conference and special guest Nat. Commissioner Youth Programme attended as did in excess of 100 scouters. This was our 2nd conference. Shellagh Broderick of H.S.E gave a presentation on child protection.

Ventact South

300 Venturers spent the weekend on Sept2-4th at Kilcully Campsite Cork; activities included Aerial Runway, horse riding, fishing and sailing.

Phoenix Challenge

Hosted by Limerick Scout County (a job well done) in Palliskenry and attended by 17 patrols from the Southern Province, all 17 patrols did the province proud.

S.Q.S

The dreaded 3 letters; Limerick, North Cork, Kerry, Tipperary South completed SQS in all the Groups in their County. There was an overall completion rate of 74% within the Province. With the introduction of the new

Support for Quality Scouting Packs I would expect 100% completion in 2006, and then lets see the support required based on the results being delivered where it is required.

Chief Scout Awards

During the year the following received Chief Scout Awards in the Province.

Lance O Meara 1/4/22/32 Tipperary
Tadhg Fitzgerald 2nd Kerry
Laura Cronin 1/4/22/32 Tipperary
David Shalloo 55 Cork
Christina Walsh 105 Cork
Jason Coughlan 45 Limerick

The year ahead 2006

- Training to move to Leadership Weekends
- Overnights and First Aid
- Scout Counties to hold Youth Fora in all Counties
- Mail Woggle Talk to all scout Groups
- Develop Provinical Web Site
- Support Scout Groups in obtaining grants.
- Develop Adult Resources
- Look closer at development in the Province
- Produce the Provincial badge
- News page in Woggle Talk
- Set up resource material we have developed on the web site.

The Provincial management Team

County Commissioners.
Paul Falvey, David P Barry, Sally Simpson, Richard Humphrey, Sheila Power, Patrick Roche, Jimmy O'Donnell, JohnAlymar, Bernie Keane.John Brennan (P.A.C) Enda Downey (P,T.C) Tim Calvert (P.S) Mary O'Regan (P.T.) Morgan O'Sullivan (P.P.C) Sue Thomas (P.I.C) Martin Thompson (S.Q.S.C) Denis Kirby(P.D.C) Jim Goulding (PSO) and Neil Collins (PDO)

Support

I am very conscious of the support required for Groups & Counties, for Programme and Development and S.I must endeavour to strengthen and deliver this support . To all who supported me many thanks.

Michael John Shinnick

Extract from" Woggle Talk" Southern Provincial Magazine

As we arrived Palliskenry the grounds of the collage was swarming with buzzing, hyper active scouts going to and fro lugging timber and heavy boxes down to their sub camps.

During those first six and a half hours the patrol had numerous inspections ranging from the Patrol Leaders ability to guide the Patrol, how safely the Patrol is putting up the site, the Patrol spirit, how the food is put away and many other inspections.

At six thirty we were all summoned to our sub-camp base, we were heading off on a 24-hour overnight hike! Luckily we came well prepared (Scout motto- Bi Ullamh) When we got to the woods we were told, "Right, so pick a site and settle down for the night!" Our Patrol Leader Kieran picked a really good place, which was level and had lots of room to build our shelter

Our first base was to build a floating bridge! Sounds impossible doesn't it! But we did it. our bridge was the best, it was the only one that actually floated! Our next base was a great laugh! We had to fill a pipe with several holes in it with water so that we could get out a tennis ball, but this was no easy task - the pipe was at the top of the hill and there was a long sheet of plastic and it was covered in washing up liquid and they kept spilling water down it.

For our test meal we were having Cajun Chicken with boiled rice carrots, sweet corn and naam breads and for dessert we had chocolate mouse with a little cream and strawberries. Everything went smoothly except that the carrots and the rice wouldn't boil!

The campfire was warming up while we were at the Science Fair and as soon as it was finished everyone went over to the campfire were we all enjoyed many campfire songs The campfire was a great way to end a busy day.

Kieran our Patrol Leader got an award for being a good Patrol Leader. Before we left Pallaskenry we had a few things to do, we all had to say our good byes to our many new friends and hopefully we will see them all next year

Caitríona Howard (Patrol Leader)
82nd Cork, Rathcormac Scouts
Southern Province Scouting Ireland

Dublin Metropolitan Province

The past year was a good year for the Province and culminated with a Scouters Conference, which was attended by close to a 100 Scouters in Drumcondra.

Training

Training is crucial to the success of Scouting in the Province.

Last Year 488 Scouters at different levels attended 25 different training courses within the Province. The courses were held at all levels.

32 Group Leaders completed their GL Training. I would encourage all Group Leaders experienced and those who are new to the job to do this course. The feed back from all attendees has been very positive.

7 Scouters completed their Training of Trainers course

2 Counties have held Child Protection courses and these courses will be rolled out throughout the Province.

The success of these courses is due to the hard work of the DMP team lead by Gay Davoren. I would like to thank the venue providers, attendees and especially those Scouters who made themselves available to train other Scouters.

In the Groups.

Scouting within the Groups has been growing at a very steady rate. Two new groups were formed within the past year:

83rd Dublin Irish Muslim Scout Group
42nd Dolphins Barn reopened.

Many Groups have opened new Sections at all age ranges. Well done to all these Groups and good luck to all new Groups and their Scouters.

Last year 45 Groups had annual camps or expeditions abroad to a wide range of countries including:

Poland	**UK**
Scotland	**Germany**
Austria	**Switzerland**
Czech Republic	**France**

4 Groups had representatives who were involved in the Tall Ships Race.
Well done to Dollymount, 8th Port Dunlaoighre and 26th Sandycove who took part in the International Liffey Descent

More than 10 Groups from the Province took part in the Phoenix last August in Limerick. Well done to all those who took part, especially the following Scouts who finished in the top ten:

35th Donore Avenue
45th Mt Argus
103rd Willington

The Explorer belt was held in the USA last year and the DMP had Venturers take part in this fabulous event. Congratulations to all participants, and a special thank you to all the staff for their hard work in making this expedition a very successful event.

Awards

Congratulations to the following groups who were presented with awards:

Donnybrook Venturers:
The UN Youth for Development Prize 2005

Venturers Aughrim St:
Young Citizens Award

Mt Argus Scouts Group:
Young Citizens Award

General

With the introduction of the new uniform the Association is now beginning to develop an identity. Although each County now has their own County Badge we are without three County Commissioners. The difficulty in filling these vacancies needs to be addressed. One solution might be to increase the support staff within the Province so as to remove the administrative problems within the job.

SQS

The new SQS documentation has been delivered to all Groups. I would encourage all Groups to engage fully with SQS. The Province would be delighted to support all Groups in putting together Development Plans.

Programme Review

The new programme findings to date have been rolled out and I would encourage all Groups to participate and get involved. This could be done by becoming a pilot group or by consulting with the Programme Development Team.

Looking Forward

2006 – 2008
The future for the DMP looks very busy

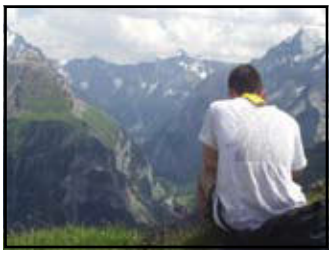
Dublinia County have 8 Scouts & 3 leaders heading to Colorado being lead by Stephen Carey to do some climbing in the Rockies and White Water rafting.

Aughrim St Venturers go to Vietnam to paint an orphanage

The DMP will have a very large contingent heading to the World Jamboree, this is a once in a lifetime opportunity for young people to experience what World Scouting is all about.

I would like to thank all Scouters, Committee members, staff and in particular young people who allow us be Leaders in their Youth Movement.

Joe Marken
Provincial Commissioner



South Eastern Province

The South-East Province consists of Wicklow, Wexford, Waterford, Carlow/ Kilkenny, Slieve Bloom, Cill Dara and South Kildare Scout Counties.

The Commissioners are Tony May, Ollie Kehoe, Tom O'Neill, Aidan Brennan, Francis Minogue, Damien Scanlon and Anthony Corcoran.

The Provincial Team is made up of all the Commissioners plus John Wallace (treasurer), Conor Buckley (N.A.R.C. rep), and Simon Lang (Y.P.C. rep). Ollie Kehoe has recently taken on the role of Provincial Training Co-ordinator and Francis Minogue is acting Provincial Secretary.

I would like to thank all the Commissioners for the support they have given me, and also for the amount of hard work (above and beyond the call) the results of which has been a seven percent increase in the membership of S.E. Province. This past year has been a difficult one for all, but discussion, respect and hard work won through, and we have become stronger because of it.

Derrick Watson deserves a special mention as he had to stand down as Provincial Commissioner, having done a fantastic job. On behalf of the Provincial Management Support Team. I again thank him for all his huge efforts and wish him all the best in the future.

Our Provincial Support Officer is Justin Meagher who has done, and continues to do, a brilliant job, and has been a great support to me and the South-East and deserves a special thanks, as does John Culbert for his work as Provincial Training Co-Ordinator.

Each County supported and actively took part in the S.Q.S. Congratulations to all.

The Training Team have been great throughout a difficult period, ensuring that training was delivered to a high standard to our Scouters. These Trainers deserve a special vote of thanks for the huge amount of work that they did, and continue to do under the leadership of Ollie.

It would be unfair to pick any County for special mention as each has performed magnificently. We had 80% of our Scouts go on summer camps with 40% of those camping abroad. Cub Pack holidays were a great success and the Beaver Section enjoyed their sleep-overs.
The 'Get-Out' challenge was taken up by most Groups. Each County held County events for all sections and most have taken part in national events. Scouter Training is on going and the enthusiasm of the Scouters was shown at our Provincial R.A.P. information day where we had the largest turnout, and possibly the biggest discussion in the country.

The Scouters of our Province deserve the biggest accolade of all for the commitment and time they give so willingly to ensure that our young people enjoy a high level of Scouting thru fun and adventure.

Billy Gaynor
Provincial Commissioner

Youth Programme Development

Youth Programme is the **totality** of **what** young people do in Scouting (the activities), **how** it is done (the Scout method) and the reason **why** it is done (the purpose)

Totality: Youth Programme covers the complete span of a young person's experience in the Movement. It is a progressive process of education and personal development.

What: Youth Programme encompasses all activities in which young people in Scouting take part. They must be attractive and challenging to young people.

How: Youth Programme, fundamentally, uses the Scout method in carrying out its activities.

Why: Youth Programme is the means of achieving the purpose of Scouting, based on its fundamental principles.

World Programme Policy, WOSM

The National Youth Programme Committee are currently developing a Youth Programme for Scouting Ireland. The process commenced at the beginning of 2004 and there is a target date of completion by Summer 2007. The Programme Development Team are facilitating and guiding this process. In addition over twenty additional volunteers are involved in Working Groups – that's a total of more than fifty volunteers working on the development of the new Youth programme and growing.

The overall objective is to create the best possible programme for Scouting Ireland which will be current and relevant to young people today and include all the best methods and educational objectives that Scouting has to offer. The 'Renewed Approach to Programme' methodology, developed by WOSM is being used to guide us through the process.

The entire Youth Programme from start age to finish age is being developed as a single Progressive Programme. The work being done will cover all aspects of Youth Programme including Objectives, Methods, Activities, Progressive Scheme, Adult Training, Awareness, Resources and Supports.

Work completed in 2005

Scouting Ireland's Educational Proposal encompassing the Aim and goals of Youth programme approved in September 2004. Work on Stages of Development was completed in April 2005. The Educational Objectives were finalised in October 2005. Examination of the Scout Method commenced in August 2005 and is due for completion in March 2006. Coordination with the National Training Team and Communication Team is on-going for the purpose of developing Training courses and Resource materials.

A round of Provincial consultations commenced in November 2005 for conclusion in January 2006. The findings from these consultations will be compiled for presentation to the National Management Committee.

It is planned to produce a presentation for delivery at County and other meetings. It is also planned to have another round of Provincial consultations later in 2006.

All of the work being done is subject to a continual review process to ensure consistency and enable revision as necessary.

What's Next

The Scout Method is due for completion in March 2006. At this point work on Activities and the Personal Progressive Scheme will commence with a view to completion in time for the commencement of the pilot scheme in September 2006.

A six-month Pilot Scheme will commence in September 2006. The purpose of the scheme is to assess any issues that may arise with implementing the proposed Programme and to identify any adjustments that might be needed. Application Forms for participation in the scheme will issue to all groups in early 2006. As it is only possible to cater for a limited number of groups in the pilot phase, there will be a selection process to choose a number of diverse groups to be representative of the association at large.

The development of Scouting Ireland's Youth Programme is a huge undertaking and the number of tasks to be carried out have mushroomed in the latter half of 2005. There are over 50 volunteers who have taken on these various tasks and are working hard to meet the various deadlines which have

been set in order that we can meet our delivery target. We are confident that by Summer 2007, with the input and help of the membership of Scouting Ireland, our association will have a current and relevant Youth Programme that it can be proud of.

Programme Development Team

Diane Dignam; Dominic Byrne; Mary Nugent; Peter Sheehan; Stephen Oakes: Alan Waters

The Aim of Scouting Ireland

To encourage the physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual development of young people so that they may achieve their full potential and, as responsible citizens, improve society.

Physical Intellectual Emotional Social Spiritual Character

PROGRAMME 2007

Bí Ullamh!
2007