

Gloucestershire Echo, 'Where I Live '

SHURDINGTON Saturday 24th October 2009

- Want to make a big difference? Just a few hours of your time could make all the difference. I am referring to the Cotswold Care Hospice, which supports hundreds of people in our county with life limited illnesses. They need volunteers to help with customer services and on the till at their charity shop in the Bath Road, Leckhampton. Please contact Clare Eccles on 01242 57101 or by e-mail clare.eccles@cotswoldcare.org.uk
- Last Friday some 10 members of our Scout Group took part in the year's JOTI, Jamboree on the Internet. Laptops were networked on the internet in the Millennium Hall and by 7.30pm Scouts and Leaders were in full swing sending and receiving messages and discussing varied topics with Scouts from several countries; amongst there were Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada, Croatia, Bermuda, local Air and Sea Scouts, Malta, Denmark, Sweden and beyond. I was pleased to take part with Louise Slee and Steve Hanks, with the help of John Cummins, Rob Hadley, Marie Brimelow, and my son Joe who came up to help with networking problems. A brilliant evening and part of the night as the last one off the laptops shut down for the night at 5am on Saturday. There are some pictures on the village website and also links to various interesting sites.
- This weekend is Operation Bald Eagle and about 10 of our Scouts will be taking part at Ashton under Hill. This is a 3-day event with an overnight challenge hike.
- Half term seems to have come early for the Primary school as I saw in this week's echo that swine flu has hit some of the staff there. I do hope it passes soon and pupils will be able to get back after half term.
- On Saturday 31st October there will be the annual meeting in the Century hall of the NFRS, the National Fancy Rat Society. This is open to the public so please do call in to see the numerous collections of pet rats.
- Also on Saturday in the Millennium Hall there is a private children's Halloween party. Please note that this is a private party by invitation only.
- Last Monday our Scout Group held its Annual General Meeting in the Millennium Hall. Several parents turned up to watch some entertainment put on by the young members and listen to past and present happenings, and also some aspirations for the future. Amongst the guests were county and district officers Tom Harding, John Priest and Paddy Langham. The Leonard Trainer trophy, presented every term to one of our members for regular attendance and quality of Scouting was presented this term to Scout Lawrence Collins. Lawrence has not been with us long but attends most events with a cheery smile whatever the circumstances.
- Some of our Scouts and Explorers will be at Cranham Scouting Centre this weekend taking part in the Jamboree Selection weekend. Some 100 applicants from Gloucestershire hoping to attend the 2011 World Jamboree in Sweden will be vetted and some 30 will be chosen to take part in this event.
- A reminder that both the ever popular Millennium and Century halls, and the Link Room in between, are available for hire at a very reasonable rate for most occasions and events. Children's parties are more than welcome in either hall but the Millennium Hall also has the benefit of a large secure garden. Please call 07770 480272 to book the hall. Local residents have the benefit of a 50% discount.