

... press release



Date: 12 October 2011

Scouts Climb Everest

Tynemouth Scouts helped get this year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal off to a start on Sunday 9th of October when they climbed the height of Everest in a sponsored event at Collingwood's monument.

The young people, who's ages ranged from the youngest 6 year old Beaver Scout to the older 14 to 18 year old Explorer Scouts, all worked with other members of their age sections to climb the monument steps a total of 1500 times, which equates to the height of Everest.

The money they raise in sponsorship will be split equally between the Poppy Appeal and their own Groups. Money is still being collected but in an event last year the Scouts raised almost £1500 for the Poppy Appeal.

Lorraine Brown, Scout Leader at the 5th Tynemouth said "it's important we support the annual Poppy Appeal. Our young people are well aware of the casualties in Afghanistan but don't always realise the Poppy Appeal will help them or the people involved in other recent conflicts. Quite often people think it's just about the two world wars but it's not".

The annual Poppy Appeal run's from October to October every year. It raises money for the Royal British Legion who are the UK's leading charity providing financial, social and emotional support to millions who have served or are currently serving in the Armed Forces, and their dependants.

The money raised during the year is used in many ways such as providing direct grants in emergency situations, or through more indirect ways such as paying for staff at rehabilitation centres, providing medical equipment in homes, giving careers or legal advice and providing Poppy break centres for those recovering from an illness or bereavement, to name but a few.

Mervyn Lisher, Poppy Appeal Coordinator for the North Shields and Whitley Bay branch of the Royal British Legion said "It's great to see the Scouts getting involved in the appeal again this year, not only through events like this but also by taking part in the remembrance parade as well". He went on "All of the money raised is really appreciated, it helps so many people and I am very grateful not only to the Scouts but to all of our volunteer collectors both in our branch and in the various youth organisations that help us".

This year is the 90th anniversary of the Poppy Appeal and to mark the occasion the Royal British Legion is trying to raise £90 million.

... page 1 of 2

Tynemouth District Scout Council

www.tynemouthscouts.org.uk

Tynemouth Scout Centre, Regents Terrace, North Shields, NE29 0QG

President: Colin McKay MBE

District Chairman: Ian Henderson

District Commissioner: Julia Stenhouse

Patron HM The Queen **President** HRH The Duke of Kent **Founder** Robert Baden-Powell OM **Chief Scout** Bear Grylls

Incorporated by Royal Charter Charity no. 504767

Michael Dale MBE, Scout Leader with the 3rd Tynemouth said “Over the past few years the Royal British Legion is trying new ways to raise money, ways that will appeal to younger generations such as our Scouts. Now you can go on the Poppy Appeal website and download poppies for your mobile phone, or buy wristbands, charms for Pandora style bracelets, crystal poppy brooches. There are more ways than ever we can help”.

All of the Scout Sections in Tynemouth District are open to boys and girls aged between 6 and 25; the adult section is open from 25 to 60 plus. If you would like to join the worlds largest co-educational youth organisation, at any level, you can call the Northumberland Scout's County Office on 0191 2668822, visit www.tynemouthscouts.org.uk or the national site at www.scouts.org.uk or e-mail media@tynemouthscouts.org.uk for more information.

Notes for Editors:

- Tynemouth District has 15 Scout Groups and 3 Explorer Scout Units which are spread across North Tyneside covering Tynemouth, North Shields, Wallsend, Battle Hill and Howden.
- For more information on the poppy appeal visit the website at <http://www.poppy.org.uk/>
- Mr Mervyn Lisher is the Poppy Appeal Co-ordinator for the Whitley Bay branch of the Royal British Legion. He can be contacted on Tuesdays and Thursdays on 2513557.
- Three of the Scout Groups in Tynemouth District are currently under threat of closure due to proposed increases in the ground rent by North Tyneside Council. The ground rents are currently under review however any large increase will force groups to close. More information can be found at http://www.tynemouthscouts.org.uk/Latest_event/rent.htm
- Scouting is the UK's biggest co-educational youth movement offering young people aged 6 to 25 and adults the experience of a lifetime.
- Worldwide it boasts nearly 30 million members in 216 countries.
- Each night of the week 100,000 people take part in Scouting activities. That's more than the Millennium Stadium can hold!
- Famous former Scouts include, Sir Bobby Robson, David Beckham, Michael Owen, John Nichol (former RAF Navigator, POW, Author), Norman Cook (Fat Boy Slim) and Harrison Ford.