



... press release

Date: 15 April 2008

Top Scouting Volunteers Recognised by London Entrepreneurs

Jack Petchey OBE and Terry Chimes announced as London's first "Scouting Ambassadors"

LONDON, 15 APRIL: 24 of the top Scouting volunteers in London were recognised last night for the thousands of hours of their time they give to young people, at a special awards event in Docklands, London.

The award winners were chosen from over 7,800 adult volunteers involved in London Scouting in order to thank them for their outstanding service to young people.

Among them is Russell Vaughan, a 33 year old volunteer Explorer Scout Leader from Greater London North East. Over the last 10 years, Russell has enabled hundreds of London Scouts to experience the thrill of outdoor activities such as mountaineering, rock-climbing and canoeing.

On receiving his award, Russell said: "Young people join Scouting for adventure and that's always what I've tried to offer them - from assault courses for Beavers to international expeditions for Explorer Scouts."

Russell's next project is organising this year's Explorer Scout expedition to Uganda, where a group of 12 young people will be helping to extend and renovate the school at Kamutuuza with the Just Care charity.

The awards were presented at the Sunborn Yacht Hotel in Docklands by two of London's top entrepreneurs – Jack Petchey OBE, former East End office boy and now highly successful property tycoon; and Terry Chimes, founding drummer with The Clash and now chiropractor and owner of one of Europe's most successful practices and the leading chiropractic consultancy in Europe. Both Jack and Terry were Scouts in their youth and have now been announced as London's first "Scouting Ambassadors".

Commenting on his new role, Jack Petchey said: "I learnt so much through Scouting, including to always have a positive attitude to life. Now I want to help today's young people have the same opportunities I had."

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The Scout Association

Gilwell Park Chingford London E4 7QW Tel + 44 (0)20 8433 7100 Fax + 44 (0)20 8433 7103 email scout.association@scout.org.uk www.scouts.org.uk

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

Incorporated by Royal Charter Charity No. 306101

“Growing up in London I wanted outdoor adventure and excitement”, added Terry Chimes. “Scouting gave me that opportunity. We need more adult volunteers in Scouting so that every young person gets that chance in life.”

Figures by The Scout Association show, that despite the increasing popularity of the Movement, The Scout Association faces the ongoing challenge of recruiting adult volunteers. At present there are nearly 1,800 young people on waiting lists in London, all of whom wish to take advantage of the adventure and excitement Scouting can offer.

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About Scouting

- **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.
- **In January 2008, The Scout Association introduced 40 new badges**, including Snow Sports and Health and Fitness badges, bringing the **total number of badges available to over 200**. No other youth organisation offers such a range of challenging or exciting activities, available in a safe, supervised environment.
- **Over 200 activities are offered by Scouting 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 32,000 young people on waiting lists.**
- Adults working in Scouting contribute in excess of 295 million hours of voluntary work each year to their local communities.
- **Worldwide Scouting has 28 million members both male and female** and operates in nearly every country in the world.
- The **World Scout Jamboree**, held in Essex in August 2007, was **attended by 40,000 Scouts from over 200 countries**, demonstrating the opportunities for young people to travel and experience adventure abroad as well as closer to home.