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Registered charity number 278679

REACH SCOTTISH BRANCH

THE ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN WITH HAND OR ARM DEFICIENCY

August 2006

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Hello to you all. Welcome to the summer newsletter of 2006. I would like to welcome the Carr family as new members; this newsletter is aimed at providing information of all the events and assistance the Reach Scottish Branch can provide. If anyone has anything they would like to be added to the newsletter contact Carl (see contact details)

Family Weekend

Well, we all managed to survive another family weekend. Like last year it was held at the Abernethy Trust centre, Ardeonaig, just outside Aberfeldy in Perthshire. The weather for the whole weekend was ideal with rain arriving just as we were all heading home. The staff were amazing and were extremely helpful and made this year's stay even better than last year.

There were plenty of activities with canoeing, raft building, orienteering, high ropes and low ropes and a fairy treasure hunt. Not to mention a very highly competitive game of rounders between adults and children. The weekend started with a highland game style activity on

Calendar of Events

Below is a list of the forth-coming events, in the near future, for REACH members.

Christmas Party

If you have any suggestions or are interested in any of these events please let me know on carlroulston@loveable.com

Friday night to get everyone introduced and into the swing of things. The next morning after a hearty breakfast it was off to the not-so-warm Loch Tay for Raft building and canoeing. After lunch the groups returned to the water whilst the small adventures did orienteering and painting.

It was during the afternoon's adventures that things turned nasty. Whilst the highly professional and competent canoeists were taking in the beautiful surroundings - tragedy struck. For around the rocks came a sight so ridiculous it was hard to believe it was man made. What I was told afterwards - as it was hard to identify at the time - was that this was a raft built by Douglas (mechanic) and Michael (Risk Assessor). Douglas was half submerged on barrels pointing in all different directions. This raft was so badly built that the other members of their group (the ones with sense) refused to go out on the water on "That Thing".



The doomed raft thrashed its way amongst the canoeists, harassing and splashing small children. It wasn't long before - you guessed it - it broke apart leaving its four occupants very wet.

After dinner it was time for Rounders. There were two teams, adults against children. Again this was a highly competitive match with one Mother (don't worry Alice, I wont mention you're name) caught her own daughter Becky "out" only to be later

caught "out" by her own sister, Thora. But this family's loyalty would be tested even further the following day.

There is one last thing to say about the rounders and that is "I am very sorry Liam (4), I wasn't aiming at you."

That night, exhausted, I went to bed. I have no idea what time the kids went to bed, maybe they were still excited about thrashing the parents at rounders. The next morning was high ropes, low ropes, painting, orienteering and a fairy treasure hunt. Becky, Thora and Craig were naturals on the high ropes showing no fear as they walked along the narrow poles. Now some people mistook my pale complexion and shaking whilst I was up on the ropes, as fear. This was not so, it was just to build the tension. I do appreciate all the words of encouragement that were shouted from the ground, most helpful. Now back to the family without loyalty. Craig, Thora, and Becky are balancing on a wooden platform 12 inches wide on top of a telegraph pole. The mother of the girls, Alice then climbs the pole to show her support of her brave daughters. As she struggles with the nerve-racking climb she hears the shouts of "You're making the pole wobble!" "There is no room for you!" "Get down!" Despite this, she carries on. As her tired arms struggle to drag her onto the platform, the children try to kick her off. Despite this she clambers on - knocking all 3 children off the pole.

I have booked the Nethybridge, Invernesshire centre for next summer. This will be limited to the first 40 people who apply. The cost again will be £50 per family as the Scottish branch is doing so well with its funding at present.

Upcoming Events

At present the only planned

activity is the Christmas party. Michael Moran is arranging this event. Again this will be free and the whole family is welcome to attend. I am pretty sure that Santa will be there.

Scottish Branch T-shirts

We now have Reach Scottish Branch T-shirts. These are free to any one who is doing a sponsored event for REACH. However if you don't want to miss out on the latest fashion craze sweeping over Scotland they will cost £5.00. They are in various sizes from 2 years of age up to large adults. If you need a t-shirt for an event please give me a call and I can post them out straight away.

I am hoping that some Reach members might have a go at designing a new t-shirt for the Scottish Branch. I am not looking for an off the shoulder number or anything with sequins. It needs to be one or two colours on a white t-shirt and include the 3 items below.

1. www.reach.org.uk
2. 0845 1306225
3. www.reachscottishbranch.co.uk

*The person whose design is used will receive a t-shirt for each member of there family. Closing date for this once in a life time opportunity is the 30th of September 2007.

*This offer is open to reach members, their families, relatives or any one who works for Reach.

Website

The Reach website is now complete. Once again I would like members to have a look at the site. If you have any suggestions or ides that you feel would be beneficial to other members please get in touch. Those who have requested the newsletter by email will

receive an email telling them to contact the site for the latest newsletter. This will help keep down the admin costs.



What an Honour

Mr. McDougal has been a constant fund raiser for the Scottish Branch of Reach for the last couple of years. He also has been very involved in the Scottish Football association. It is for this work that he is to receive an OBE. On behalf of the Scottish Branch I would like to congratulate him and Thank him for his constant support.

Thank You

This section is to say Thank You to all that have assisted the Scottish Branch of Reach recently.

- Karen Moran for taking part in a sponsored 10k run.
- Jane Weir for a taking part in a sponsored 10k run.
- Ciara Roulston who took part in the great wee Scottish walk.
- Gareth James and Brian Robertson for taking part in the Dundee half marathon.
- Dundee airport catering for their donation from a collection tin.

Kids Corner

The Pirate ship below is especially for Liam to colour in, as I know he loves Pirates.

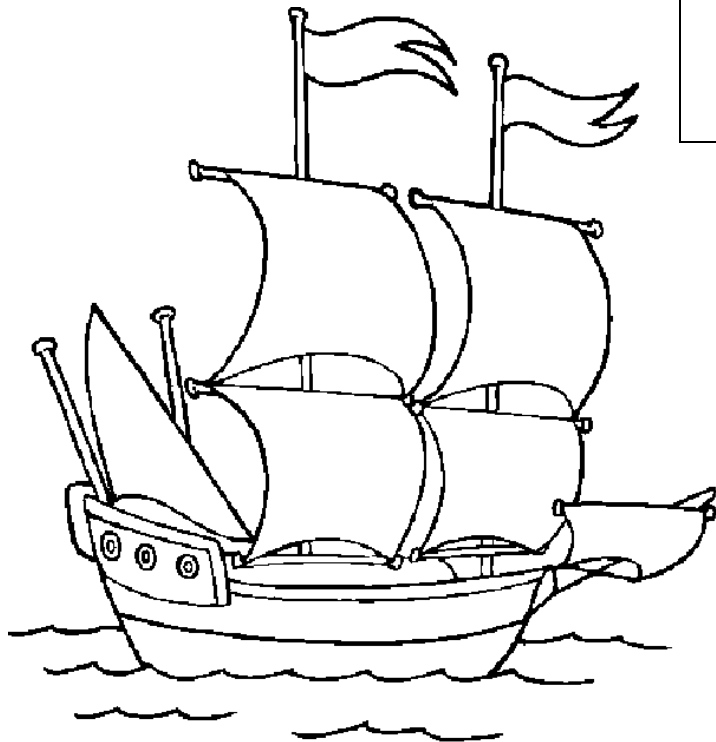
JOKES

Why did the cowboy die with his boots on ?

Because he didn't want to stub his toe when he kicked the bucket !

Did you hear about the fool you keeps going around saying "no"?

No
Oh, so it's you !



Contacting the Scottish Branch

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