

Scouting for Memories

1st Bishopston Bristol Scout Group will celebrate its centenary next year and is inviting former members to get in touch and share their stories about the Group.

Formerly an amalgamation of the 61st & 104th Bristol Scouts, the 61st Bristol Scout Group was started in 1912.

The 61st Scout Group originally met in 'the Den' at St Michael and All Angels Church, Gloucester Road but moved to their current headquarters in King's Drive after buying the land from the Church for £1.

The Scout Group collected building materials from local companies and eventually raised enough money to build on the land. Most of the work was completed by Group members and their friends and the current Scout Hut was opened in 1982.

The 104th Bristol Scout Group first started in 1961 and consisted of members from St Bonaventure's Church. They used a former classroom from St Bonaventure's School which remains on site at the King's Drive headquarters and is known as the top hut.

The two Scout Groups ran side by side for a while before meeting for joint activities and then merging to become the 61st/104th Bristol Scouts. For some years the 61st/104th Bristol Scouts continued to wear their original Group neckerchiefs with half of the young people in white and the other half in brown neckers with a yellow border.

Finally, in 2005, the two Groups were officially united with a new name and a uniform identity.

The 1st Bishopston Bristol Scout Group was born and all members now wear the blue neckerchief with a gold border.

They will be running a series of events to celebrate their centenary in 2012 and would like to invite former members to join them.

They are looking for Scouting memorabilia, including photos, uniforms, badges and equipment to put together a display as part of their centenary celebrations.

Could former members of the 61st & 104th Bristol Scouts please write to Chloe Harvey at 83 Birchall Road, Redland, Bristol BS6 7TT or telephone: 0117 9246370 or email: chloe.harvey@forzadt.f9.co.uk

