

"It is great fun to live in the glorious open air, fragrant with the smell of the woods and flowers; it is fun to swim and fish and hike over the hills; it is fun to sit about the open fire and spin yarns, or watch in silence the glowing embers; but the greatest fun of all is to win the love and confidence of some boy who has been a trouble to himself and everybody else, and help him to become a man."

H M Burr



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Wimbledon and Wandle

Links

April 2012 - Issue no. 82

Apr 17	District Executive	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
19	Store re-opens	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
21	Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
22	St George's Day parade and service	Wimbledon
May 4-7	District Jubilee Camp	Blackland Farm
16	District AGM	1 st Lower Morden HQ
19	Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
21	Troop Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
23	Cub Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ (tbc) 8pm
23	Beaver Scout Leaders' meeting	1 st Lower Morden HQ 8pm
27	Cub 7-a-side football	Raynes Park High School
June 2	Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
7	Store closed for half term	
16-17	Scouts' camping assessment weekend	Park Farm
23	District Sports	Sutton arena

District Commissioner

The recent backwoods camp enjoyed by Explorer Scouts of the Merton Park Unit, where the Explorers were away for two nights at Paches, on their own, crystallises what we all strive to provide for our scouts whatever their age.

These Explorer Scouts organised their own adventure, used skills that they had learned when scouts with the 23rd Mitcham, passed these skills on to others who were with them for whom this was the first camp of this kind and they were enabled to do this by their leadership team who ensured that things were organised properly and in line with POR.

The experience that these Explorers had gained and the skills they had learned through their years in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts came to fruition in this adventure in which they were independent, self-sufficient and self-regulating. In the midst of a society that is risk averse, it is extremely important that through the programme that we offer we give our scouts, consistent with their age and ability, the opportunity to be independent, self-sufficient and self-regulating.

Congratulations to everyone who has received awards this year (the full list is below), but particular congratulations to Jim Anning on being awarded the Silver Wolf, our highest honour.

As we come to the end of Lent may I take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy Easter and I look forward to seeing you at the St George's Day Parade on 22nd April.

Joe

There is no Chairman's Chatter this month as Andy and his team are busy working on all the issues he outlined in March - he promises there will be much to report after the Executive in the middle of April.

Scout Active Support - Linda Vaudrey

It was good to see so many members at our recent AGM and to hear from the DC that our efforts, assisting the District, are appreciated.

We have a few events coming up over the summer months. We start with our Beetle Drive/Fish 'n Chips on **Wednesday 18th April**. Please let me know (8542 6200) whether you will be attending and let me have your supper order by Monday 16th April please.

Sunday 22nd April - St George's Day - please contact Robert if you are able to attend. (8330 7466) We hope to see all members there.

Saturday 26th May - away day to Portsmouth. Contact Robert if you would like to come a.s.a.p. as transport numbers are limited.

Don't forget the District Camp 4-7 May.

We also have a few dates which you may like to make a note of:

Saturday 30th June - Armed Forces Day - help needed with traffic marshalling - please contact David on 8395 1885

Sunday 1st July - Summer Meal - tba

Saturday 21st July - annual BBQ at Jean and David Gould's

Tuesday 11th September - formal meeting - speaker telling of his experiences as 'Doorkeeper at the House of Lords' - should be interesting.

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Folders

Neil McLauchlan has a supply of oversize A4 ring binders. They are blue with a 25mm 2-D ring mechanism. Please let him know in the next few days if you would like to go and collect some as he will give the remainder away to a local school. They are free!

Pioneering

In preparation for the Monkeying Around zone at the Jubilee camp, we will be building the 9 A frames needed in the week or so before the event.

If anyone is interested in helping or would like to learn how it is done, please contact Dave Bixby on 07889 598960 or thebixbys@talktalk.net

posted on the district website. Please make sure you read them carefully and if you cannot receive them by e-mail, telephone me a.s.a.p. The draw will be made at the next CSL meeting on 23rd May so I will need to know by that date which packs are entering teams.

CSL Meeting - this will be held on 23rd May and as the beaver leaders are now meeting at 1st Lower Morden, it appears we can hold ours at the Morden DHQ (although I have been unable to confirm this yet.) Please note the change of date and if the venue does have to change I shall let you all know.

Scouts - Dave Bixby

Patrol Leaders' Training Course: We held another very successful training course at the 1st Lower Morden last month. All the Scouts taking part seemed to have enjoyed themselves although - judging by the feedback sheets that have been returned - some seem to have too much experience to get as much out of the course as others.

My sincere thanks to all the leaders that gave up their weekend to run the course, the 1st Lower Morden for their hospitality and the SASU for the magnificent job they did feeding us all.

County Night Experience: Once again Wimbledon and Wandle gave sterling support to this brilliant County event. This year there were 8 teams entered from Troops in our District with Tim Kerridge of the 22nd Wimbledon heading up the organising crew. Very well done to all.

Congratulations go to the team from the 8th Wimbledon who gained 1st place followed by the 13th Wimbledon in 2nd.

Camping Assessment weekend 16-17 June at Park Farm: Entries for this event need to be with me by **3 June**.

If any troop is thinking of sending a team along but are unsure of what it entails or need help with training or preparation, just send me an email or give me a call. A small amount of the right training/preparation can make all the difference but don't leave it to the last moment.

Anyone from any section across the District is welcome to come along to help with assessing, gain experience or to be assessed for a nights away permit - just get in touch.

Our next **Scout Section Leaders' meeting** is on Monday 21 May, 8pm at Morden Hall DHQ. Anyone with a positive interest in improving Scout activities in Wimbledon and Wandle is very welcome.



St George's Day Awards

Many congratulations to everyone who has received an award this year:

Silver Wolf:

awarded by the Chief Scout for service of a most exceptional nature

Jim Anning

Bar to the Silver Acorn:

Paul Atkins
David Gould
Peter Hutton
John Tweedley



Silver Acorn

Peggy Holdstock
Michael Mayhew
Michèle McNamara

Bar to the Award for Merit

William Smith

Award for Merit

Julia Doolan
Alison Edwards
Andrew Pearson
Clare Tweedley

Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Service

James Hannam
Andrew Larkum
Elizabeth Maloney
Andrew Sims
Joanna Watson

More congratulations . . .

Lynette Craughwell and Florence Miles - both of the 1st Morden - were nominated for "volunteer of the year"; they attended the Merton partnership awards last month and were shortlisted. They were both given certificates at the ceremony.

District Directory

An updated edition of the District Directory will be issued in May. Please review your group's page in the current, December 2011, edition and advise any additions, deletions & changes to directory@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org by the end of April.

Postage

With the cost of postage rising significantly at the end of April, we would like, if possible, to cut the number of copies of Links that are sent out by mail.

Could you receive your copy electronically?

If so please contact links@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org and we will put you on our email list.

If you would still like a paper copy, please do not worry, we will continue to send these out until you tell us otherwise.

Groups who have paper copies: please ensure that you arrange for them to be collected from the Store on the first Thursday of each month or contact Lesley to make alternative arrangements (thebixbys@talktalk.net)

Activities

If you are hoping to offer new and exciting activities to your members, you **must** ensure that you abide by the rules laid down by the Scout Association and also ensure that, if you are using an outside provider, they have the necessary insurance and qualifications, as well as being members of the appropriate associations for their sport.

All this information is on fact sheet number FS120086 Commercially Led Activities Index to be found in the Information Centre catalogue on <http://www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/facts/pdfs/fs120086.pdf>.

Additional specific details for all activities can be checked against the A-Z index of activities.

Section reports

Beavers - Andrew Hayward

A big thank you to Clare & Julia and the team for organising the recent Beaver Bike & Scooter ride. A glorious day and a good time was had by all!



Programmes - Many thanks for sending the programmes in. I was only missing a couple for this term. Hopefully it's will be 100% success rate next term. There's been a great range of styles of programmes that has been interesting to see. It's encouraging to see some new and challenging ideas too that I hope to share over the coming months.

District Camp NAN Forms - Please remember that any Beavers attending the day visit must still be included a NAN Form. They can be included on the Group form rather than on a separate one.

District Meetings - I'm a bit concerned at the low attendance of recent meeting. These meetings are put on for your benefit where we can share ideas, discuss concerns and sort any problems that may occur. Please try to attend if you can. If you can't then why not send another representative from your colony . . . or at least please pass on your apologies.

Enjoy the summer term - it's going to be a busy one!

Cubs - Michèle McNamara

Adventure Day - On Sunday 25th March 103 cubs attended our annual Adventure Day at Frylands Wood camp site. We were very fortunate with the weather although it was quite chilly first thing. The cubs had a total of 9 bases to get around during the day and they all seemed to be enjoying themselves.



Unfortunately we had an accident towards the end of the day which necessitated us calling an ambulance but happily the injury didn't warrant a trip to the hospital in the end. This did delay the departure of the cubs and I apologise to all the leaders, parents and cubs that got home a little later than anticipated.

Thanks as usual to Bill, Martin & Mia for organising and running the event. Thanks too, to all the leaders who helped on the day in various capacities, it couldn't be done without you! This event will be discussed at the next leaders' meeting as a few things need to be addressed so if you were there please try and make the next meeting.

7 A Side Football Competition - This is scheduled for 27th May at Raynes Park High School. I will be issuing details via e-mail since the increase in postal charges will make sending out the information by post prohibitive, details will also be

Training

9 May	19	International	19.45-10.15	MH
23 May	9	Working with Adults	19.45-20.30	MH
23 May	14	Young people today	20.30-22.15	MH
6 Jun	17	Activities outdoors	19.45-22.15	MH
20 Jun	15	Challenging behaviour	19.45-22.15	MH
22 Sep	12	Planning a balanced programme	09.30-13.30	1 st LM
29 Sep	16	Introduction to residential experiences	10.00-13.00	1 st LM
20 Oct	11	Administration	10.00-11.15	1 st LM
20 Oct	19	International	11.30-13.00	1 st LM
20 Oct	17	Activities outdoors	14.00-16.30	1 st LM
17 Nov	15	Challenging Behaviour	10.00-12.00	1 st LM
17 Nov	14	Young people today	12.00-13.00	1 st LM
17 Nov	9	Working with Adults	14.00-15.00	1 st LM
17 Nov	8	Skills of Leadership	15.15-16.30	1 st LM
24 Nov	13	Growing the Movement: Section Leaders	10.00-13.00	MH
24 Nov	21	Growing the Movement: Managers	10.00-16.30	MH

1st LM 1st Lower Morden HQ, Bow Lane, off Lower Morden Lane, Morden
SM4 4SJ

MH Wimbledon and Wandle District HQ, Morden Road, Mitcham CR4 4DD

BW Bears Wood Campsite, Forestdale, New Addington, Croydon CR0 9JH

S Southwood Activity Centre, Elm Close, Tolworth, KT5 9NA

Application forms for all Modules can be downloaded from the County website
www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/support or contact Joan Condon on 020 8540 5115 or
joan.glsWtraining@btinternet.com

Cost for each Training Module £3.00

Cost for Module 38 - Skills for Residential Experiences £40.00

Cost for Camp Fire Leaders Course £15.00

Cheques made payable to GLSW TRAINING ACCOUNT

See February Links for details of Safeguarding and First Aid Training.

Safeguarding training

28 April venue to be advised Sutton District

To attend Safeguarding Training you must apply via Alison Edwards.

For further dates visit the County website www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/support

First Aid training

13 May 1st Whitton Scout H.Q. Richmond upon Thames District

Application Forms for Module 10 First Aid can be downloaded from the County web
site www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/support

or

contact Janet Drinkall tel: 020 8660 4774

e mail janet.drinkall@glsWSCouts.org.uk

Cost for Module 10 £15.00

Cheques made payable to GLSW TRAINING ACCOUNT

The Marsden March Update - Andrew Hayward

Following on from my piece in last month's Links I thought I'd let you know how it
went:

You'll be pleased to hear that I completed the 14 mile walk from the Royal
Marsden in Chelsea to the Royal Marsden in Sutton. I managed to complete it in 4
hours, 34 minutes. I was very happy with that time as I think the last time I
walked a similar distance was when I was a Venture Scout - and that was a LONG
time ago!

It was a very memorable and humbling experience. To walk with people who have
and are continuing to fight cancer was an amazing experience. Their strength and
positive attitude spurred me on and kept me going especially in the last 2 miles
when it was all up hill and the weather started to get a lot warmer. I was also
escorted home on the last half hour by my parents and that made the completing
the walk all worthwhile. It was such a moving gesture.

My purpose was to raise what I could to say thank you to the Royal Marsden for
treating my father, Eric Hayward (former W & W Chairman) and also in memory of
Laurence Barham (former Wandle DC) who lost his fight late last year. So far my
total is a little over £1500 which is an amazing figure! Many, many thanks to those
who have made donations and have sponsored me. I'm very grateful to you and I
can assure you that this money will go to a very worthy cause.

Thank you once again.

St George's Day Parade and Service - Sunday 22nd April

The parade will assemble in the Causeway at 1.30pm and will move off
at 1.50pm to walk to Sacred Heart Church. Full details are on the
website and we hope to have a really good turn-out again this year.



Jubilee Camp

Hi all,

Well we are almost there! A huge thanks to all who have helped and supported so far. I am sure that between us we can make this an extremely memorable camp for all our members.

We should have the final numbers in now and we will be planning the activity groups etc.

If you did not know cheques should be made payable to: **Wimbledon and Wandle DSC**

A final plea for all leaders who will be at camp and who have not got a role yet to please contact Peter Hutton so that everyone will play their part in the weekend.

As always please contact me with any questions etc.

Thanks

Neil...

07815 925116

020 8542 6850

neil.mclauchlan@glswscouts.org.uk



Paches - firelighting

Just a reminder - if you plan to use Paches to do fire lighting, it is essential that you let Gary Baker know at least 7 days before the event.

Gary will notify the duty Rangers so that they are aware that Scouts are on site and therefore won't call out the fire brigade if smoke is reported to them.

Gary Baker - SL 23rd Mitcham 07850 512215; gb.skip23@gmail.com

Mini census

I understand that we will again be asked to provide Region with figures of the total number of members in our Sections. Details are not yet available but please co-operate when your ADCs ask for the number in your colony, pack, troop or unit.

Wimbledon Village Fair - 23rd June

The organisers of the Wimbledon Village Fair are looking for volunteers to help with some of the dozens of jobs which arise when undertaking an event like this. While a number of leaders and supporters will be at the District Sports that day, if you are not involved in the sports and would like to help at the Fair, please call the Wimbledon Guild on 020 8946 0735.

Queen's Scout and DofE Gold expeditions

The County is again planning for those over 16 who are working on these awards to undertake an expedition this summer, between July 21 and 27, probably on Dartmoor. The cost will be £110 which includes all travel, base accommodation and food, and assessment fees. It does not include hike food or campsites.

If you would like to take part, or would like further details, please contact Chris Dean tinkerscorner@aol.com as soon as possible

You are invited to the District's

Annual General Meeting

1st Lower Morden Scout HQ, Bow Lane

8pm

16th May 2012