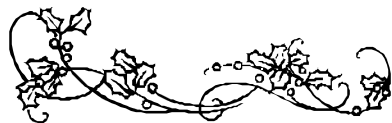
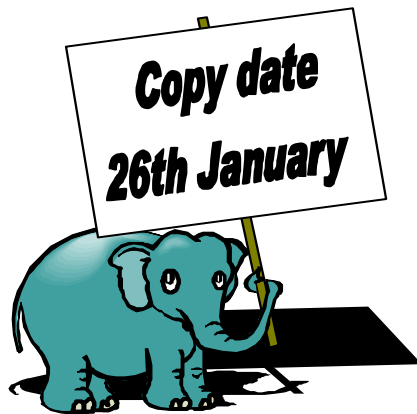


Merry Christmas



As the festive season approaches, and we celebrate with parties and presents, let us also find time to enjoy the carols and to remember the Christmas story. We wish you all - members, Leaders and supporters - a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

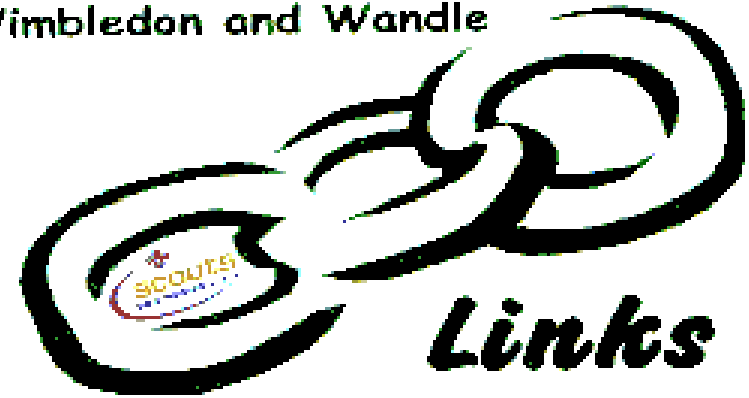


Mrs Lesley Bixby

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Wimbledon and Wandle



December 2005 and January 2006
Issue No. 19

Dec 3	Fellowship Christmas Party	Morden Hall DHQ
4	Cubs' Handicraft Competition	Bow Lane
8	Last night of District Store	
9	Rock and Roll Night	Parish Hall, Edge Hill
20	Troop Scouters' Christmas meal	Park Place
Jan 6	Cub Scouters' Christmas Meal	Park Place
9	Troop Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
11	Cub Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
12	District Store re-opens 7.45 - 9.15pm	Morden Hall DHQ
16	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
18	Beaver Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
21	Fellowship New Year meal	
22	Cub Communicator Badge	22 Wimbledon
25	All Leaders' meeting	Kenneth Black DHQ
Feb 1	GSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
5	County Scout cooking competition	
5	Fellowship bowling	David Lloyd

DC's Notes

I was delighted to see such a wonderful turn out for the **Remembrance Sunday** parade and service at Wimbledon War memorial. There were about 60 Explorers and Leaders there and they were exceptionally smart and a real credit to Scouting. The band was also on duty at the Mitcham remembrance parade.

I am pleased to report that the County Commissioner has agreed, subject to final confirmation, that Keith Daly and Paul Atkins will be appointed as Deputy District Commissioners. Many congratulations to them both. This completes the team structure changes that I have put into place over the last couple of months.

I have selected a team to represent the District on the Adult Recruitment Day on 18th March next year. They are a cross section of ages, experience and warrants and will be working together over the coming weeks to ensure we can present Scouting in the best possible way.

A couple of important reminders

Please put 25th January 2006 in your diaries when we shall have our **All Leaders Meeting**; 7.45 for 8.00pm start at Kenneth Black DHQ in Wimbledon. It promises to be an interesting evening.

Please get applications in to me for participation in the **World Scout Jamboree** as soon as possible. I have had four to date and would like at least 8 to represent the District. I can email application forms to anyone who needs them.

If you are interested in a Leadership role at the Jamboree, speak to Roy Bromley ACC International.

The **District Centenary Camp** committee has met and will be making a presentation at the All Leaders meeting outlining the current plans. It is important that the whole District comes together over that weekend; 4th-7th May 2007; so I would ask you to ensure your programmes reflect your participation in this important celebration. It promises to be a very special event and some great ideas are already being considered. If you have any ideas of your own to contribute, then direct them through your respective ADC or direct to Neil McLauchlan or myself.

Bob Prescott



Hilda Creasey

Sadly we have to report the death of Mrs Hilda Creasey who will be known to many of her Scouting friends in Wimbledon following a lifetime of service in the District.

Much of her service was carried out many years ago and detailed information is hard to come by, however it is believed that she started her association with the District as a Cub Leader with the 4th Group.

Later it was decided to start a Group, the 24th Wimbledon, which was for some time at Camp Road and subsequently at the United Reform Church in Mansel Road. Hilda agreed to be the new 'Wolf Cub' Leader and later Group Scout Leader.

For some years she was also District Cub Scout Leader and made many friends with her ability to help new Scouters.

On her retirement from 'active service' she became 'Warrants secretary' (now, of course, 'Appointments Secretary') a position she held for many years.

As recently as two years ago we were still most grateful for Hilda's hospitality as she continued to allow us the use of her home in which to hold our appointment sub-committee meetings, which were always accompanied by coffee and biscuits. Many Leaders in Wimbledon will remember Hilda with great affection as she chatted to them and put them at their ease before going into their first appointments committee.

Hilda was honoured with a Bar to the Medal of Merit in 2002 which she always wore with deserved pride.

Swimming Gala - Michèle McNamara

Apologies for the late cancellation of the gala, this was due to problems with the pool and building at Morden. The Boiler had failed leaving the building with no heating and the pool temperature was below normal. In the circumstances it was felt that holding the gala in these conditions would not be acceptable.

Please note that this has now been re-arranged for **11th February**, ages will count as of that day. We are assured that the works required to the baths will commence in the first week of December and that they will be completed by the above date. Revised rules will be issued and could you please confirm your intention to participate by Friday February 3rd to me by either phone, e-mail or letter.



I would be grateful if all the adults who had volunteered to help would confirm that they are still available and, if anyone who was not free on 19th November but is on 11th February would like to help, I am sure we can find you a job!

SM4 Directory

A new publication will be distributed monthly throughout the Morden area and the producers are happy to include details of Scout events free of charge. If you want to advertise your jumble sale or Group Fair, this could be the place to do it. They will also advertise local businesses at exceptionally good rates. Contact phone number is 020 8540 6951.

Trophies

Thank you to the Groups who have returned trophies for engraving. There are at least five still outstanding. If you have a trophy, please get it to Cliff Condon as soon as possible or deliver it to Morden Hall DHQ on a Thursday evening when the store is open.

Wanted:

... a good home for a fridge freezer and dishwasher. Neither item is new but they are both presentable and in good working order. They would be ideal for active service in Scout HQs or training centres. Contact Paul Atkins for details on 07730 908725.

Map work, route finding, kit & route planning

Thurs 12th Jan - Raynes Park ESU HQ

Wed 8th Feb - Wimbledon ESU HQ

Wed 22nd /Thurs 23rd Feb - Venue to be confirmed

Practice hikes for CSP&D Awards - D of E Bronze & Silver

Sat 4th - Sun 5th March - North Downs area

Sat 25th - Sun 26th March

Assessment hikes for CSP&D Awards - D of E Bronze & Silver

Sat 29th, Sun 30th April & 1st May - New Forest area

May I wish all a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Scout Network - Chris Dean

NETWORK

The most recent Queen's Scout and Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition assessment, held in the Peak District during October half-term, was a great success despite atrocious weather on two of the four days. The next venture will take place in South Wales from April 8-14, and anyone interested should contact me as soon as possible, preferably by completing the online booking form www.glsWSCOUTS.org.uk/network.

The County had four representatives in the Queen's Scout Guard of Honour at The Cenotaph, Whitehall, on Remembrance Sunday, namely Emma Wilson and Mark Wilding from The Romans (aka Croydon SNet) and Ed Hackett and Duncan Walker from The Saxons (Royal Kingston SNet). The County Scout Network flag was paraded at Teddington this year. Hannah Watts, our new CSNL responsible for State Duties, is to be congratulated for ensuring GLSW was so well represented.

The Mystery Investiture (November 19) went ahead although we had to change plans due to security issues at RMA Sandhurst. Accordingly, the group met at Waterloo station mid-morning, then walked the short distance to the Imperial War Museum before heading by tube and train to Chingford thence on foot to Gilwell Park. Having pitched tents we made an informal tour of the site and new members were invested under the Gilwell Oak in temperatures of -6 degrees celsius! A meal at Gennaros pizza restaurant was followed by two hours propping up the bar in the White House. The party left early on Sunday morning so that the undersigned could attend the County All Sections Day at Bow Lane.

The most recent Scout Network Committee meeting was held at the 3rd Hampton Hill HQ; and a new Committee elected, namely Ed Wilson (chairman), Sean Weston (vice-chair), Martin Hossell (secretary), and Robert Hiscocks (treasurer). We are

looking to strengthen the committee by co-opting new members, so if you wish to volunteer or know of someone else who would please let me know. It has been decided that all future Committee meetings will be held at Bow Lane, Morden.

Fifteen Queen's Scouts have been invited to receive their badges and/or certificates at the County Presentation on Friday December 9 at Carshalton House Water Tower, Carshalton. Kate Hoey MP will be our special guest on this prestigious occasion.

Finally, County Scout Network membership registration and renewal forms will be hitting the mat during December. Please complete and return them as soon as possible. The subscription for 2006 is £25, and this must be paid by 31 January at the latest.

A Happy Christmas to All.

Scout Fellowship – Linda Vaudrey



Recent Events:

Wednesday 2nd November - another very successful Beetle Drive/Fish supper. Thanks to Jean Gould for organising and Jean & Rob for refreshments.

Sunday, 20th November - a small number spent an enjoyable evening Ten Pin Bowling - don't forget our next visit to David Lloyd Centre will be on Sunday 5th February.

Forthcoming Events:

Carol Concert at Christ Church Hall, Colliers Wood on Saturday 10th December. Help is needed urgently, from 7.00 p.m. onwards, for the evening performance. Please contact Brian Whalebone on 8330 2088 as soon as possible if you can help.

Saturday, 21st January 2006 - New Year Meal. This time we hope to go to the Topo Gigio Restaurant, Kingston Road, Ewell. Names, together with a £10 deposit to David Gould, 48 Buckleigh Avenue, Merton Park, SW20 9JZ, by Friday, 9th December at the latest.

Best wishes to all Fellowship members and their families for a very Happy Christmas and Healthy and Happy New Year.

Census – Bob Prescott

GSLs should already have a letter regarding census this year from our District Secretary John Young. Can I remind you that all young people between the ages of 14-18 working in your Group, who are not already in an Explorer Unit, **must not** be put on Group census figures? They must be notified to District, who will ensure their membership subscription is paid. This particularly refers to young people who are fulfilling the role of "Young Leader". I am very anxious to ensure that this year no one falls through the net, not only for the numbers but, more importantly, that they are covered by Insurance and I can fulfill my responsibility to ensure that every Young Leader has completed Module 1 of their training, which covers child protection issues.

The names of these young people should be notified to John Young, Neil McLauchlan or Dick Hooper. This should be done as soon as possible and prior to the formal census return to allow the District time to complete their administration.

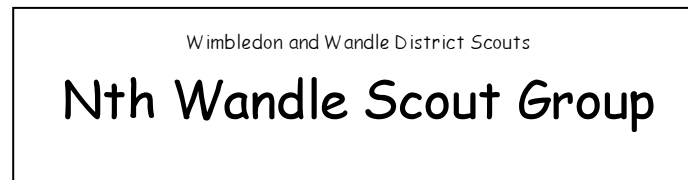
The forms will be distributed to GSLs as soon as they are available from Headquarters and should be returned to John Young, hopefully before Christmas.

Membership fees are £24 per person shown on the census. This includes the discount for early payment. Please send your cheque with your census form. If you require an invoice, contact John and he will arrange for one to be sent to you.

Lottery Licence

The District is registered under the Lotteries and Amusements Act 1976 : Section 5; London Borough of Merton Registration No 355.

This means that any Group who wishes to hold a lottery may do so, provided they ensure that the District name is included on the tickets or other paperwork concerning the event. For example it could say:



A return must be made to the District within three months of the lottery being held - contact Eric Hayward on haywarderic@yahoo.co.uk for details.

The Gang Show - Andrew Hayward

When we start rehearsing the show we always promise the cast, especially the young ones, that we would give them the best week of their lives...and this year we certainly didn't disappoint!



We put on a varied and fast paced show...and did it VERY professionally. We made them laugh and we made them cry. Our Wartime Memories item really did bring a tear to the eyes of those who remembered World War II and the cast AND the audience shed tears when we played tribute to Adam Smith (a Sutton Explorer Scout who was also a cast member) who passed away during the Summer after contracting meningitis.

The cast also pulled out all the stops on Saturday evening after the theatre received a bomb scare call. We had to evacuate and the cast and crew were magnificent during the evacuation. The saying is the show must go on and boy did it! Saturday night was something special...something I have never experienced before!

It was great to see so many of you supporting us but we can always do with more! It's a great event to watch and even better if you are a cast member!

Please do what you can to help us...it's an event like no other in the County and something that Groups & Districts can't provide. It gives a chance for the young and older people to do something completely different, where they can grow in confidence, where they can make lifelong friends and mix with others from the County and guiding movement and to also have the time of their life - who are we to deny them that?!

If you want to know more I am more than happy to come down to your sectional meetings and talk about the show. More details can also be found on the County Website www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/gangshow, by emailing me on andrew.hayward@virgin.net or just call me on 020 8542 4829!

Trailer

The 1st Morden had their boat trailer stolen whilst a party of Scouts was out on the Thames a few weeks ago. It was hitched to a vehicle that was parked briefly alongside the river while the Scout Leader took some photos of the Scouts coming through a lock. Thank you to Erica Bishop who was able to help them recover the boat to their HQ.

If anyone hears of a trailer suitable for a 4m boat, please let the 1st know as they are now looking to buy a good second hand one.

Wanted



NEW MEMBERS FOR THE

WIMBLEDON & WANDLE DISTRICT SCOUT BAND

Would you like us to visit your Pack, Troop or Unit meeting? We would like to tell you about the band, let you try the instruments and also provide something a little different for your programme. At the same time we would like to see if any young people from your section would like to join the band.

If you would like to book a visit please contact me:

John Smith - Bandmaster

020 8395 1850

a12jcs@hotmail.com

Section Reports

Cubs - Michèle McNamara



Leaders Meal - This will take place on 6th January at Park Place, Mitcham (near the Canons Sports centre), the cost is £15 per head and if you would like to attend please call Brian Beckley and let him know as soon as possible.

Badge Day (Communicator) - this has been arranged for 22nd January 2006 at Bow Lane. If you intend to bring your pack or would like to man a base, please let me know as soon as possible. There will be 2 sessions 9.30 - 12.30 and 13.30 - 16.30 so we need to know how many cubs are expected at each session. Please let us know numbers by the next CSL meeting.

CSL Meeting - Next meeting is 11th January at Morden Hall Park HQ, ideas needed at that meeting for the proposed 2006 County Beaver & Cub fun day at Walton Firs on 2nd July 2006 and for the 2007 District Camp.

Finally on behalf of the District Cub Scout Leaders, and myself may I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Happy Christmas.

Explorers - Neil McLauchlan

Firstly a couple of reminders.



Capitation, List of Members & Accounts

I need the following very early in January:

1. A set of years accounts from 01.01.05 - 31.12.05
2. A cheque for capitation at £24.00/head, payable to Wimbledon & Wandle District Scouts
3. A full list of members to mirror the quantity of members you have paid capitation for (this list needs: name, date of birth, gender, address & phone no's)

We are planning a District provision for the Award hikes. These are open to all Explorer Scouts and Young Leader Explorer Scouts (Network members are also welcome). By approaching these as a District we can combine the transport etc. and make best use of time etc. The dates are as below. Will all Explorer Scouts inform their ESL if they are attending and will any Young Leader Explorer Scouts contact me, please.

District Store

The District Store will close after business on Thursday 8th December for the Christmas Holidays and Stocktaking and will reopen on 12th January 2006.

Mower and Strimmer

Cliff Condon reports that he has a Victa mower and Still Strimmer. They don't work but apparently are repairable, it is just not commercially viable to pay for their repairs. If you have a use for them and you, or a member of your Group, can fix them, please contact Cliff on 020 8540 5115.

Tree Planting

The 1st Lower Morden and the 19th Wimbledon Groups went tree planting in Morden Park at the site of the New Trafalgar Wood to celebrate the 200 Years of the Battle of Trafalgar.



Scout Shops UK

Scout Shops have a large variety of new items available. Have a look on the website at clothing, woggles and gifts - everything from teddy bears to engraved Edinburgh crystal glasses - plus a large selection of centenary items. All these items can be ordered through the District Store as well as on line.

Correspondence

Please note that all correspondence for the 1st Morden should be sent to

Mike Edwards
3 Chalgrove Avenue, Morden SM4 5RB
Email: edwardsmg@aol.com