

Please note,
Copy date is a week earlier than usual.

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Wimbledon and Wandle



December 2008 - January 2009
Issue 49

Dec 6	1 st Lower Morden's Quiz Night	Bow Lane 7.45pm
11	Last night of District Store	
13	Morden Park Choral Society Carols	St John the Devine
Jan 7	Cub Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
9	Cub Scout Leaders' meal	TBC
9	GLSW Volleyball Tournament	Overton Grange School
10	Fellowship new year meal	Prince of Wales
10	Wimbledon Unit's 50s night	Sacred Heart Parish Hall
15	District Store re-opens	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
19	GSLs' Census meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
25	District Cubs' Badge day	Bow Lane
28	All Leaders' meeting	Kenneth Black Hall 8pm
Feb 1	District Scouts' Handball competition	Garden Primary
3	District Executive	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
8	GLSW Scouts' Cooking competition	1 st Hook
11	Troop Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
20-22	GLSW Young Leaders' training course	TBC
28-29	Patrol Leaders' training course	Bow Lane

Census and membership fees

The census will be out in a week or so; could Section Leaders please make sure that they get their figures in to their GSLs as promptly as possible and will GSLs please keep to the deadlines set by the District. This is a mammoth job for District Secretaries and Sue Southwood would really appreciate your co-operation.

Don't forget to send in your Group cheque for your membership fees by (or at) the GSLs' meeting on 19th January 2009. The District figure is remaining the same as last year but the County element has increased by £1 per head.

Congratulations

Many congratulations to Billy Wyatt, who missed an activity with his Scout Troop, 14th Wimbledon, recently because he was busy . . .

Billy took part in, **and won**, Junior Master Chef on Children in Need last month - well done!

Volleyball Tournament

The 3rd annual GLSW volleyball tournament will be held at Overton Grange School, Stanley Road, Sutton SM2 6TQ on Friday 9th January from 7.00pm to 10.00pm.

Teams of 6 (squad of 10) can enter, minimum age is 18 but there is no maximum age so the oldies get a chance to show how good they are.

Please let Chris Dean know if you wish to enter by 3rd January at the very latest. The cost per team is £10 and a cheque payable to Greater London SW Scouts should be sent to him at 13 East Hill Road, Oxted, RH8 9HZ.



All Leaders' Meeting

We look forward to seeing as many members of the District as possible at the **All Leaders' meeting on Wednesday 28th January** at the Kenneth Black DHQ in Worple Road. 7.45 for an 8pm start.

Christmas wishes

'Was there ever a wider and more loving conspiracy than that which keeps the venerable figure of Santa Claus from slipping away, with all the other old time myths, into the forsaken wonderland of the past?'

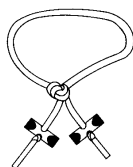
Colin McKay - Canny Crack



Best wishes to you all for a wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy and, we hope, prosperous New Year.

Training

This month has again been very successful training wise.



We have had a number of Leaders doing training courses and congratulations should also go to Deborah Carter and Tracy Sterlini of the 5th Morden, Steve Little of the 6/12th Mitcham and Duncan Hold of the 23rd Mitcham on completing their wood badges.

For those of you who are in the process of doing your training as Leaders, you might like to make it your New Year's Resolution to get in touch with your Training Advisers to arrange to update your learning.

If you think it has taken you a little while to complete your wood badge, you might have to go some way to beat the new District record set by Ted Mayhew of the 19th Wimbledon who, after over 50 years, has finally been awarded his wood badge. Ted, who also holds a Silver Wolf had never been awarded a wood badge, so it was my great pleasure to arrange this for him (at the request of his friends and relatives in the 19th) and this was presented to him at an event on the 11th November.

We have a lot of Leaders in training in the District, and lots more coming through. However if you have now finished your training, and are wondering what to do with that adult training file you worked through the modules on, in the interests of 'recycling' I would be happy to receive any back so we can reuse them. They cost £5 a copy and so, unless you wish to keep them as a souvenir, we can reuse them sensibly! Please let me know if you have any to return...

Please note: As from 1st January 2009, the County will not be giving refunds to anyone who does not turn up for a training module, unless they have had a prior reason. Lately they have been experiencing an increase in absenteeism from module courses, without the courtesy of a phone call to explain why.

Training Dates 2008: All Modules will be held at Bow Lane

Module 7	Valuing Diversity	07.12.08	10am - 11.15am
19	International	07.12.08	11.30am - 1pm
17	Activities Outdoors	07.12.08	2pm - 4.30pm

Thanks to Alex & Ian for the presentation on the County Explorer Belt Expedition to Italy 2009. If anyone else is interested in this expedition please contact Alex direct or me for further information.

An early reminder that all units need to prepare various items for the Census meeting in the New Year. These are as follows:

- Full accounts for 1st Jan - 31st Dec 2008
- Current list of Members & Leaders
- Membership payment cheque for all members & leaders

These will need to be presented at the Morden Park DHQ at 7.45pm on 19th January. Please let me know if this causes any problems for anyone.

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

Young Leader Explorer Scouts - Liz Laverick

A GLSW County Training weekend is being organized for the weekend of 20th to the 22nd February 2009 for YLs across all 5 districts. There are only 8 YL places per District. To qualify for a place all YLs need to be paid up members of the Scout Association.



Interested YL should inform the ESL(YL), DESC or DESA and the 8 places will be decided by the District.

If the YL is not on this year's census, or has started helping with the Section since the last census, then their Section Leader needs to inform the GSL and Group Treasurer, so that they can register the YL with W & W District Secretary and pay the Scout Membership fee. If the Group has not paid the YL membership fee and this ES is not a member of a Unit and they are 14 or over then they are not covered by the Scout Association's insurance. **If there is an accident you may be liable and personally sued!**

You also have a duty to inform the Explorer Scout Leader (Young Leader) as it is mandatory that Module A is completed within 3 months of the YL working with the Section. The training can be performed by any warranted Leader but must be validated by the DESC or ESL(YL) especially if they are registered with the D of E scheme.

Leaders' Christmas meal - This is planned for January 9th at the Harvester, at the George Inn, Morden. I will be shortly sending out a menu for you to peruse and would be grateful if you could let me know if you intend to come before December 12th so that I can confirm our booking. The venue seats about 30-40 so it will be first come first booked.

Badge Day - We will be covering the communicator badge. It will be held at Bow Lane Scout Centre on January 25th. If you didn't tell us at the CSL meeting that your pack was attending, can you please let me have approx. numbers a.s.a.p. and also advise if you are able to help run a base. There will be 2 sessions, morning & afternoon. Cost per cub: £2.00 to include badge. Further details to be issued shortly.

Scouts - Dave Bixby

Red Book: the Activity Book for 2009 was distributed at our last Troop Scouters' meeting.

If your Troop was not represented at that meeting, I will drop your copies in to you as soon as I can. If you need one urgently, give me a call or download it from the District website.



Patrol Leaders Training Course: the details for this major event were not included in the Red Book as we met to organise it after the publication date, but they have now been emailed out to all Scout Leaders. Any questions, please call me on 020 8542 2017 or email thebixbys@talktalk.net.

Handball - 1st February 2009: this is the first Scout Section event of 2009. Don't forget to get your entries to me by 17th January.

That just leaves me to wish you and your families a happy Christmas and a peaceful but exciting New Year.

Explorer Scouts - Neil McLauchlan

Thanks to everyone who attended the Remembrance Day parade. We had a great turn out.



Module 16 - Nights Away training

During 2009, Module 16 will have a different format. There will be a pre-planning/organising evening held mid-week about two weeks before the weekend part of the course. The weekend will then start first thing Saturday morning and run through to Sunday afternoon. Candidates will have to attend both parts of the same course.

At present the course starts on a Friday evening. The change will avoid people having to rush there on a Friday evening after a week's work and makes an overnight stay of just one night.

Module 10 - First Aid training

First Aid courses will be held on:

25th January 2009, 15th February 2009,
29th March 2009, 2nd May 2009

The application form is on the GLSW website.

British Red Cross Trainers

GLSW is looking for 2 people to join their highly successful team of 1st Aid trainers.

You will be trained by the British Red Cross at Gilwell Park from 18th to 21st April and will stay in the White House with all accommodation and travelling expenses paid.

In return we will ask that you commit to give the County 1st Aid Training team a minimum of 6 full days per year for 3 years.

A Criminal Record Bureau Check will be required.

If you think that you would like to be considered, please contact Roger Hurrion, County Training Manager on 020 8654 3576 or Roger.Hurrion@btinternet.com for more details.

In your section, if your YL is a Unit member their fee should have been paid and their ESL or AESL may have done Module A with them, just ask them. It's better to be sure than sorry!

Scout Fellowship - Linda Vaudrey

Our very popular Beetle Drive was again a successful evening on the 19th November. It never ceases to amaze me how such a simple game can generate so much fun and noise. Thanks to Jean and David.

We are returning to the 'Prince of Wales' for our New Year Meal on Saturday 10th January 2009. Please let David (8395 1885) or Rob (8330 7466) know if you wish to attend. Menus will be sent out before the event.

The Spring seems to be a fairly quiet period, at the moment, for us. Please note that the Fellowship AGM will be held on Tuesday 10th March at the Wandle D.H.Q. All members are asked to come and bring along some new ideas.

We wish all members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy 2009.



District Store 2009

Brian has decided to continue with the Saturday opening during 2009. The Store will be open between 10am and 12 noon on the following Saturdays:

17 January	7 February	7 and 21 March
2 and 16 May	6 and 20 June	4 and 18 July
19 September	3 and 17 October	7 and 21 November
5 December.		

Sorry - badges won't be available on these dates.

Wimbledon Explorer Scouts fund raising evening

10th January the Wimbledon Unit will be having a **50s Night** to raise money for their expedition to Nepal in 2010.

For £10 you get dance tuition and food with a cash bar to provide drinks. It will take place at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Edge Hill, Wimbledon, SW19 4LU and will commence at 7 for 7.30.

For tickets please contact Neil Griffin on 020 8942 2256 or 07956 671 727.

1st Lower Morden

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 6th December 2008

7.30pm for an 8.00pm start

£3 per person.

Max teams of 7 people

Raffle and Refreshments

Please feel free to bring your own refreshments

All proceeds to Troop funds

Jack Petchey Award Presentations 2009

GLSW has been searching for a new venue for next year's Award Presentation but to date has been unsuccessful. In 2008 the presentations were made at the Ashcroft Theatre in Croydon and it may be that this event will have to return there for 2009, unless someone can suggest a location elsewhere in the County that seats 650 people and costs approx. £3,000.

If you have any suggestions, please contact Martin Whiting on 020 8543 3173, martin.whiting@glswsouts.org.uk.

Band News

The band has been busy with two important events during November.

Firstly, on Sunday 9th we once again lead the Royal British Legion Remembrance parade through Mitcham. Although it was generally a wet weekend we were lucky in that the rain held off for the period of the parade, and for the outdoor service at the Cricket Green.

The second event was our formal band inspection evening, which took place on Monday 17th November. We were pleased to welcome the County Commissioner Ian Newbery, District Commissioner Bob Prescott, Deputy District Commissioner Keith Daly and County Band Advisor Dave Gould as our special guests. It was also great to have so many parents, friends and supporters join us for the evening.

As well as being inspected, the band firstly played while giving a marching display, and for the second half of the evening they played a selection of tunes while seated. At the end of the evening we received some very kind comments from the CC and DC, and we were pleased to be presented with our 'certificate of roadworthiness'.

The event marked a special evening for me in that it was my last event as Bandmaster. Due to other commitments I have decided to stand down, though as agreed with the DC I will remain as ADC (Band). I would like to thank all those who have supported me during my period as Bandmaster, and in my ADC role will continue to pay a visit to the band on occasions. I am told they may even invite me to dust the sousaphone off and join them on a parade once in a while.

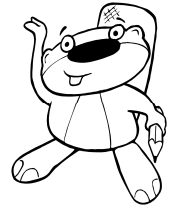
I am pleased to announce that Richard Thorpe has agreed to take on the position of Bandmaster. Richard has much experience having been with the band for many years. He will therefore make a fine Bandmaster and I would like to wish him and the band every success for the future.

John Smith ADC (Band)

Section Reports

Beaver Scouts - Kevin Quigley

Although I wasn't able to attend on the day as I was having fun at Module 16 - Nights Away, I've heard that the Activity Day a success and the Beavers who attended did enjoy themselves. I would like to thank those who put in the considerable time and effort in arranging the day, and those who helped 'man the bases'. My only disappointment is that relatively few colonies were represented.



Our Beaver Leaders' meeting took place on 26th November and whilst we had representatives from a number of Colonies, again some were not represented. The meeting is an opportunity to hear what's new in the Movement and especially in the Beaver section; to plan and discuss future Beaver events, or Beavers' involvement in District Events, and to exchange ideas regarding Programme etc. Our meetings for next year are as follows (with the January one to be a meal - more details later), and at the moment are set to be held at Wandle DHQ at 8.00pm :-

21 st January,	18 th March,	20 th May,
15 th July,	16 th September and	18 th November, 2009.

Please put the dates in your Colonies programme and your own diary so we can have at least one representative from each Colony.

Finally, with Christmas now very near I'd like to wish you and your families all a happy and joyous time, and please pass on my best wishes to your Beavers. My thanks for the time you've given to the young people in your care, and here's to a successful and fun filled 2009!

Cub Scouts - Michèle McNamara

Handicraft - 9 teams entered this event and apart from giving all the Leaders a headache with their enthusiastic hammering, I think everyone had a good time and some interesting items were made. Thanks to all the Leaders/helpers who assisted in any way and congratulations to the 6/12th Mitcham pack for winning. Full results are on the website.

