

“Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others.”

Jack Welch

Copy date for March Links:

Thursday 23rd February 2017

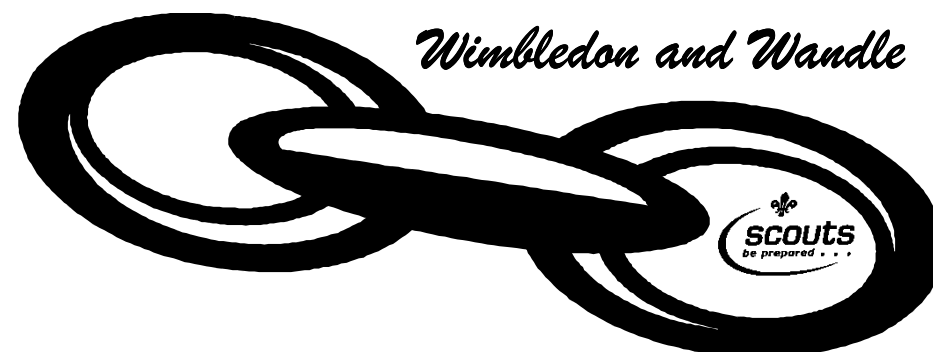
Contributors are asked to note this date,
which is also recorded on the District Website.

Links Editor

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Links

February 2017 – Issue no. 129

Feb 4	District Store	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
5	County Scout Cooking competition	1 st Hook
6	SLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
15	District Executive meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
16	No store – half term	
20	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
21	SAS Rummikub evening	Morden Hall DHQ 7.30pm
23	ESLs' meeting	
27	Key Managers' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
26	Cubs' Chess competition	19 th Wimbledon HQ
26	Scouts' Football competition	Powerleague
Mar 4-5	Operation Red Flare	
4	District Store	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
8	CSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
11-12	County Night Exercise	
15	BSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
17-19	Explorers' practice expeditions	North & South Downs
18	District Store	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
19	Beaver Bike ride	Morden Hall Park
22	SAS Annual meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
31	Revised deadline for Photo competition entries	

Mountain Leader Training: The details of the County Weekends for this have been circulated. The 1st weekend is almost full but there are places on the 2nd weekend at the moment.

Scout Active Support – Linda Vaudrey

We wish all members a Happy New Year and hope to see as many of you as possible at both our District and social events during the forthcoming year.



Thank you to Jean and Robert for organising the New Year Meal which we all enjoyed. It was good to see so many members there.

We hope to see you all at our 'Rummikub' games evening on Tuesday 21st February, 7.30 p.m. Start. Nibbles will be provided but please remember to bring your own liquid refreshment. Names to Robert a.s.a.p.

Reminder that our Annual Meeting will be held at Morden Hall HQ on Wednesday 22nd March, 7.30 for 8.00 p.m. start. All members to attend please.

R.I.P.

We are sorry to report that Brenda Dawson died recently.

She was a Cub Scout Leader in Morden and St Helier and her family are now involved in Sutton Scouting.

Our thoughts are with them.

Photographic competition



“The Spirit of Scouting”

Take a new photo or select one from a recent activity and email it to photos@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org

Tell us your name, group and section as at the closing date.
Photos should be in .jpeg format of less than 2Mb.
A maximum of 3 entries per person is permitted.

5 age groups – 5 prizes

Beavers	Waterproof digital camera
Cubs	Waterproof digital camera
Scouts	Go-Pro
Explorers	Go-Pro
Adults 18+	Go-Pro

Please note revised closing date – 31st March 2017.

Winners to be announced at St George’s Day Parade

For further information, please visit the District website

www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org

It is the intention that shortlisted photographs will be displayed at St Georges Day and other Scouting events and publications; by entering the competition each entrant or their guardian has consented to such use. Where appropriate, confirmation that the required permissions are in place will be requested.

District Commissioner

A belated happy New Year to everyone!

Before Christmas I joined Dave and Lesley Bixby, along with two scouts at Bentley Copse to collect the International Peace Light, a Scout project that shows that when ordinary individuals work together they can accomplish great things. The Peace Light is a flame which begins its journey at Bethlehem with a Muslim and a Jewish Scout and is then passed from Scout to Scout around the world, similar to the Olympic flame.

We shared the light with St Saviour's and St John Fisher Churches for their Christmas services and the Scouts also asked to take the light into their School for the end of term celebrations. I managed to attend a few of these events and witness first-hand the inspiration that the light brought to these occasions. This was our first time in taking part and hopefully next time we will be able to pass the light to many more.

This year the diary is already filling up with events: some have already been and gone such as the Paintballing event where well over 180 Scouts and Explorers enjoyed taking part in the ultimate wide game. It was a classic example of the Scout family in action with Explorers and Scouts from different groups and units working together. It was also a chance for leaders to catch up with each other and exchange ideas and plan further events!

A big thank you to Dave Bixby for arranging it all. This is the third time the event has been held and now seems to be well established in the calendar.

With the "You shape " month beginning on the 1st February it is worth remembering that the paintballing event began with a request from some of the scouts (now Explorers and YLs). Dan Fellowes is our Youth Commissioner so if any of you need ideas in how to get your youngsters thinking then you only need ask.

Thank you to all who managed to get the figures to Muriel in good time but most of all our thanks goes to Muriel for her hard work in chasing and checking those who needed it! By the time this is published we should have some idea of the census figures and I'll pass them on for discussion as they are a key indicator of where we are getting things right and where we need to improve.

Deborah

we tried to balance the teams so that there were no all Explorer/leader teams. Initial reports indicate that all went pretty well and all those who took part seemed to have had a great day.

Football - Don't forget to get your entries in for the Scout football to me by 12th February at the very latest. There is no prize for being the last to enter. Peter Hutton will be organising us on the day, he does it so well, but we really do need volunteers to referee on the day. This event only works if we have referees. It doesn't matter if your Scouts don't want to enter you can still ref. The 23rd Mitcham will be there with their pop-up café, and judging by the recent weather, the burgers and hot chocolate should sell well.

Please make sure that you draw your Leaders' and parents' attention to the "polite notice" in the Red Book regarding spectator behaviour. Last year we had a couple of unpleasant instances of inappropriate behaviour and a repeat will put the existence of this event in doubt.

Training Camp 28th -30th April - Places for the camp are limited to 50 Scouts. There is no limit for Leaders and other adults.

Please make sure that you register your Troops participation as soon as possible but at the very latest by the 12th February.

We are aiming to run a coach and a mini bus for personnel transport. I've just got to arrange a suitable safe meeting point as there is now a height restriction on Morden Baths car park. Any suggestions will be very welcome.

Our next Scout Section meeting is on **Tuesday 16th May** at 8.00pm in Morden Hall DHQ. Anyone with a positive attitude to Scouting in Wimbledon and Wandle is very welcome.

Explorers – Neil McLauchlan

EXPLORERS

Paintball: I understand that everyone had a great day at the paintball. Thanks again to Dave Bixby for organising this.

All Leaders Meeting: Thurs 23rd Feb, venue to be confirmed.

Award Hikes: These are happening as usual again this year for CSPA, CSDA, DofE Bronze and Silver. Details have already been circulated to everyone.

Spring Expedition: This will be taking place from Fri 28th April – Mon 1st May this year. We will be based in the middle of the Brecon Beacons. I do need to know now who wants to take part asap.

Lastly, I am going to run another District Beaver Outing to the Cub & Beaver Fun Day at Gilwell Park this year. The date is the 10th June the cost is £18.00 per young person entrance fee plus an amount for the coach journey. Leaders go in free so they only pay an amount for the coach, but at the moment I do not know how much this will be. Please tell your Beavers and their parents about this trip. I will be sending out the invitation letters within the next two weeks so that Gilwell can have our numbers, and so that I will know how many coaches to book.

Cubs – Michèle McNamara

Badge Day – 197 cubs attended the scientist badge at the 19th Wimbledon HQ last Sunday taking part in many varied activities, thanks to all the Leaders who gave up their time to run this event. Hopefully all the cubs enjoyed themselves.



Chess competition – February 26th at 19th Wimbledon HQ, details to be sent out shortly, though information will probably be same as last year. Cost will remain at £2.00 per team.

CSL Meeting – The next meeting is March 8th we need to finalise details of adventure day so please make an effort to attend.

Programmes – I am still waiting for programmes from a number of packs, as we are now well into the new year and I don't know of any packs who are not meeting I would expect you all to have your programmes planned, please let me have details a.s.a.p.

Scouts – Dave Bixby

I hope you all had a great Christmas break and have recharged your batteries ready for another exciting and challenging year.



2017 is the 110th anniversary of the start of Scouting and to that end we will be holding our **incident hike** in November based around Wimbledon Windmill, which celebrates its 200th birthday this year. How cool would it be to have every Troop in the District enter this event just this once? Go on, you know you want to. (It'll give Tim a headache ☺).

Paintball - It was another bright but chilly day that saw nearly 200 Scouts, Explorers and Leaders descend on Campaign Paintball in Cobham. This year

Chairman's Chatter – Andy Edmonds

The old year ended and the new one has begun with further problems at the KBH Flat! The route of these continued costs remains the type of post-war (low grade) construction and advice is that we will have to continue to patch it, until such time as we can consider removing the original grey asbestos roof, the later steel sheet roof and the Finlock concrete gutters! The logical time to do all of this is as part of the Review before the Bridge Club's current 20 year Lease expires in 9 years time. I have already indicated in my AGM Report of 2015, the kind of issues that will then need to be considered and addressed.

Without the dedication and considerable time commitment offered by Rob Brumwell, we would probably have given up on the flat a long time ago! We have now commissioned a full Damp Survey and this has highlighted a number of areas that need addressing and we are currently seeking cost indications. In addition to the additional expenses, our income is now reduced and we cannot anticipate what our income will be after the existing flat Agreement expires at the beginning of May.

The Executive has asked for additional information in order to conduct a detailed evaluation of the DC's financial Plans for 2017 and we hope to be able to come to a more informed decision when we next meet on 15th February. In order that a valued Event was not cancelled; we have as an exception, agreed to cover the expected £3000 cost of the Scout Section training weekend planned for Thriftwood in May.

Alan Green is working on updating our Asset Register to ensure that we comply with the requirements now detailed in the Insurance Act 2015. ADC's and others will be contacted for updated information - please return in a timely fashion to that we are able to meet the deadline for renewal of our Contents Policy.

This is also a very busy time for the District Secretary with the Census and the District Treasurer with the Annual Accounts. Both Muriel and Richard have other commitments to balance with the extra time now required, so please, if you have been asked to do something, please do it without the need to be chased.

Thank you!

Andy

Nights Away – Paul Atkins

Whilst it is true that the Nights Away Process does help to fill the long winter evenings of a Deputy DC, it more usefully exists to provide a checkpoint that arrangements for overnight activities are compliant with Scout Association guidelines to ensure that events are safe & properly run for our members. Please submit your NAN forms at least two weeks before your event to ensure that necessary checks can be done in time.

In recent months NANs have highlighted issues where:-

- The designated Nights Away Permit Holder stated on the form no longer actually has a valid permit or it will have expired before the event starts.
- The stated Adventurous Activity Permit Holder doesn't actually have a valid permit.
- Adult to Child ratios do not meet SA guidelines.

It takes time to make alternative arrangements to mitigate these problems if an event is not to be cancelled so the two week leadtime is there for that reason.

You can check the expiry date of your Permits on Compass and for NAPs a renewal reminder is sent out one month before expiry advising what you need to do. If you don't respond or do nothing then your NAP will expire and you aren't covered for your next event.

A reminder of the Child : Adult Ratios:-

- Beavers – 6 : 1 plus the leader in charge
- Cubs – 8 : 1 plus the leader in charge
- Scouts – 12 : 1 plus the leader in charge
- Explorers - no ratio

At least two adults must be in attendance overnight, one of them being the Permit Holder

HQ Nights Away FAQs can be found here

<https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/3636/nights-away-faqs?cat=26,358,575&moduleID=10>

The NAN form to be used must be the Wimbledon & Wandle version here

<http://www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org/nan.htm>

The list of upcoming events that have successfully completed the NAN process is shown here <http://www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org/nanlist/>

Appointments – Muriel Treagust

Since the last newsletter was published, the following have had their appointments confirmed by the committee. Congratulations to you all and thank you for the commitment you are taking on.

Rebecca Sheead	Section Assistant	22nd Wimbledon Scouts
Claire Said	Assistant Explorer Leader	Raynes Park Unit
Lucy Pasfield	Assistant Beaver Scout Leader	1st Merton Park
Joe Nolan	Section Assistant	11th Mitcham Beaver
Jason Rivers	Beaver Scout Leader	3rd Mitcham

Jack Petchey Nominations

The next round of Jack Petchey nominations is now underway so please get your forms in to Lesley Bixby thebixbys@talktalk.net as soon as possible. We have a month to get them submitted.

Section Reports

Beavers – John Tweedley



Hi All Beaver Leaders and A.B.S.L.s

A belated Happy New Year to you all.

We started off this year with our New Year's meal at the George Morden and we all had a very lovely evening.

You all should have had the invitations for the International Badge Day to be held at the 1st Lower Morden's hall on the 26th February. Please make sure that either Linda or I have your numbers by 10th February so that we can make sure we have enough food to go around on the day and enough badges as well. We will need extra help on the day to run the bases so if you have any Young Leaders or parent helpers who could come along that would be great.

Our next meeting at D.H.Q is on Wednesday 15th March, but we have our annual Bike & Scooter ride 4 days later so I will send out the event forms towards the end of February. We seem to have some leaders moving on or moving to another section, please make sure that Linda and I have contact details of anybody who is taking over or running your colony, i.e. names and at least one e-mail address so that we can get in contact with them and send out any forms or information.

Applications and appointments

A plea on behalf of Alison Edwards (ADC Training) and Muriel Treagust (Appointment Secretary) ...

If you enter people on compass whether they are leaders, assistants or occasional helpers could you let Alison and/or Muriel know? Especially if you then don't ask for the references.

When a GSL etc enters someone onto compass the system does not notify either Alison or Muriel. Alison cannot sort out their training if she doesn't know about them; if we don't get the references in they can't be appointed.

Additionally, when you put someone on they probably need to be DBS'd. If that doesn't happen within a month they drop off the end again and get cancelled. All of this is most frustrating and whilst technology and electronic advances in admin have their advantages, because it is electronic, systems kick in and we can't always stop it.

IF IN DOUBT contact Muriel or Alison and they will cheerfully assist. A kind gesture on their part? No... because they spend a lot of time unscrambling things that have gone a bit haywire. So if you ask for help it actually saves them work....honest!

District Store and Badges

Scouts Shops Ltd have announced a substantial price rise for badges, uniforms and publications from the beginning of February.

As we hold reasonable stocks, we are planning to maintain our prices until 1 May but regretfully must pass on the increases after this date.

A full price list will be published in May so you can give your parents an idea of how much money they need to bring with them when buying uniforms. Just a reminder --- we cannot accept card payments.

Explorer Leaders – have you got sufficient scarves? Brian has a few in stock and will order others as requested but they take 6-8 weeks to arrive.

Awards

A number of members of W&W have received awards from the Scout Association in recent months and we would like to congratulate all of them and thank them for everything that they do for Scouting:

Bar to the Awards for Merit

Muriel Treagust	District Secretary/Appointments Secretary/6/12th
Linda Vaudrey	Scout Active Support/Beaver Secretary

Award for Merit

Gary Baker	SL	23 rd Mitcham
Anna Hurst	GSL	11 th Mitcham
Colin Pullen	ACSL	23 rd Mitcham
David Williams	ESL/SL	Sharks ESU/1 st Lower Morden

Chief Scouts' Commendation for Good Service

Claire Churchill	GSL	8 th Morden
Pauline Godden	BSL	19 th Wimbledon
Laura Hold	CSL	23 rd Mitcham
Denise Wilkins	ACSL	19 th Wimbledon

Census

By the time you read this the census should be complete and the District Team will be beginning to mull over the results. Once the returns are all in and the District figures finalised, the Treasurer will notify Groups and Units of the amount of fees to be paid and when he needs payment by.

A very **BIG thank you to Muriel Treagust** who has pulled this all together and to all GSLs and ESLs for getting their numbers in.

The figures will be published next month.

Programme Ideas

We have been approached by **Wimbledon Beekeepers** who are willing to come and talk to our members.

Please contact Dave Charnley on 07867 433 777 – he comes very well recommended.

Brooklands Go Karts are offering substantial discounts – contact the manager, Ben, on 07867 762 106

Training – Alison Edwards

Woodbadge training modules

Below are a list of the GLSW county training modules available so far this year. The booking process for undertaking the modules has changed from January 2017. Booking is now through an electronic process known as Eventbrite.

To access the training diary and the Eventbrite links for each module please go to

http://www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/spage-adult_training-training_diary.html

or

<http://www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org>

where you will find the link to the modules. Apart from module 38 (skills for residential experiences) which is a weekend course, all modules are free to attend. However, booking does still need to be done no less than a week before the module takes place. Arrangements for paying for module 38 are still a work in progress.

Please also note that training does take place in a variety of locations across the county (rather than just in W+W).

First Aid

There are 2 courses available this term for anyone needing to do, redo or renew their first aid. The course is open to leaders, assistants, managers and young leaders working in groups and units and can be booked via me on Alison.edwards@local.gov.uk

Spaces are available on both courses

18 February – at the 19th Wimbledon HQ Cottenham Park Rd SW20

5 March – 3rd Mitcham, Woodland Way Mitcham CR4 2DZ

Courses run 9am-5pm

Courses are free to attend but must be booked in advance.

Safeguarding

22 February at Bow Lane. 7.30 for an 8pm start.

Please again could I have names in advance

Open to new leaders, assistant leaders, section assistants, managers, occasional helpers, executive members and young leaders.

Free to attend... refreshments included

Safety training

Details to follow shortly

County Training Courses

Date	No	Module name	Time	Venue
18 Feb	12	Delivering and Planning a Programme	09.45-16.30	Sutton
4 Mar	15	Promoting Positive Behaviour	10.00-12.00	LoMo
4 Mar	13	Growing the Section	13.00-16.30	LoMo
11 Mar	16	Introduction to Residential Experiences	09.45-13.00	1 st Hook
11 Mar	38a	Skills for Residential Experiences	13.45-16.30	1 st Hook
23 Mar	19	International	20.00-22.00	Cheam
1-2 Apr	38b	Skills for Residential experiences	weekend	W. Firs
20 May	12	Delivering and Planning a Programme	09.45-16.30	Richmond
30 Sept	12	Delivering and Planning a Programme	09.45-16.30	1 st Hook
8 Oct	16	Introduction to Residential Experiences	09.45-13.00	LoMo
8 Oct	38a	Skills for Residential Experiences	13.45-16.30	LoMo
21-22 Oct	38b	Skills for Residential Experiences	weekend	Croydon
4 Nov	19	International	10.00-12.30	LoMo
4 Nov	17	Running Safe Activities	13.00-16.30	LoMo
19 Nov	12	Delivering and Planning a Programme	09.45-16.30	Coulsdon
3 Dec	15	Promoting Positive Behaviour	10.00-13.00	5 Sutton
3 Dec	13	Growing the Section	13.45-16.30	5 Sutton

For more information regarding venues and to book, please visit the GLSW website

http://www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/spage-adult_training-training_diary.html