

We hope you all have a good summer and look forward to seeing you all at our formal meeting on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September when our speaker will tell us all about being a Doorman at the House of Lords. Names to Bill Walden, please, on 8643 6699 by 4<sup>th</sup> September.

*"The first axiom of camp is... do not make yourself uncomfortable for want of things for which you have become accustomed."*

From 'The Complete Indian Housekeeper and Cook', 1890

Have a good summer. Be happy, be safe, make memories ...

**Copy date:**

there is no edition of Links in August so the next copy date will be  
**Thursday 30 August 2012**

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**Links Editor**

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# Links

July-August 2012 - Issue no. 85

July 4	District Executive	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
7	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
11	Cub Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
18	Beaver Scout Leaders' meeting	1 <sup>st</sup> Lower Morden 8pm
18	Scout Progressive Programme review	22 <sup>nd</sup> Wimbledon 7.30pm
19	Last night of District Store	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
21	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
21	SASU BBQ	Buckleigh Avenue
Sept 11	SASU meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
13	District Store re-opens	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
15	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
24	Troop Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm

### District Commissioner

It's already July!

Where does the time go?

It's Summer Camp time again!

I hope that after such a busy, eventful and successful last twelve months that everyone has the chance to enjoy a sun filled Summer Camp and a least a few Scout free weeks to re-charge the batteries!

Joe

### Chairman's Chatter - Andy Edmonds

I am writing this a couple of weeks before our next Executive meeting, so not too much to report.

After years of hard work and negotiations, I am pleased to report that the improvements and modernisation of the KBH Flat have now been completed. We are officially Landlords for the flat and the tenant will now be paying an increased rental in recognition of the works. As ever, there are a few new matters to discuss **and it would be helpful to know if we have a qualified domestic electrician within the District who could give us some advice?**

Structural issues have presented themselves at both Kenneth Black and Morden Hall. Both date back decades and as such any insurance claims would be invalid. As required under POR, we are taking professional advice and will then have an idea as to the costs involved to address the problems. **If there are any Structural Engineers in the District, I would love to hear from you!**

Garage number 4 at Kenneth Black will be brought back into use shortly and available for rental at £100 per month. So **if you know anyone who might want additional storage, then please let me know.**

The October meeting of the Executive will see our Annual Budget Review. We have now done what we can to maximise income and reduce outgoings. Hopefully over the summer we will have a better idea of costs to address the structural issues.

### Scouts - Dave Bixby

**Camping Assessment:** It was a real shame to have to cancel the camping assessment weekend but last year we only had 6 entries and the decision was made to insist on a minimum of 8 teams this year. It does not make any sense to involve some 17 leaders to run a weekend for just 5 teams. The whole ethos of the event is to raise the standard of Scout camping around the District but some leaders are more worried about appearing to lose face rather than giving their Scouts the opportunity to learn from some of the most experienced people in the District.

For the way forward, we are looking at how we can give leaders in the Scout Section the confidence to try new things, or indeed old things that are new to them. Included in this might be a District PLs' and older Scouts' camp, based on the feedback from the PLs training course.

**Rafting event:** Another successful event with 10 teams and about 90 Scouts on the water. Thanks to everyone for coming, to those leaders who helped with the organisation and especially to Andy, Richard and James who spent the afternoon in the river ensuring that everyone was safe. The standard of raft building has improved immeasurably over the past few years. Lost property will be at DHQ until the end of term.

**Scout Programme Review - 18 July 7pm for 7.30pm start**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Wimbledon HQ, Arthur Road, Motspur Park KT3 6LX**  
Make sure your views are presented!

**Next meeting:** Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September at Morden Hall DHQ 8pm, This is the meeting where we set the events for next year so please bring your diaries or send your comments if you cannot attend.

### Scout Active Support - Linda Vaudrey

We all enjoyed our day out in Portsmouth on 16<sup>th</sup> May. The weather was kind and company good. Thank you to Allan for our transport and to Rob for arranging the trip.

The weather, however, was not so good when we went to the 'Beating the Retreat' - it was very wet but we managed to enjoy the spectacle, especially watching fireworks in the rain!

Thank you to the members who volunteered to help with the District Sports Day. I am sure your help was greatly appreciated.

Don't forget the BBQ on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July at Jean and David's (48 Buckleigh Avenue), 7.00 p.m. Please let Jean know, asap, whether you are coming. The cost of the evening is £7.00 per head; remember to bring your own drinks.



## District Sports

Many thanks to Peter Hutton and his team of helpers for organising and running this year's sports and congratulations to the 5<sup>th</sup> Morden who won everything! The turn out was not so good this year - was that due to a different venue or an earlier date or is the sports not as popular as it was? Full results are on the District website.

## Fundraising opportunity

We have been approached by a company called Pop Up Screens who run outdoor cinemas in London (they have worked in Morden Hall Park this summer). They have suggested that they could give us some tickets to be sold by Groups. Normally tickets are £8, but they could give them to us for £4 so we could make £4 from each ticket sold. They may also make some donations of tickets to Groups so that our members can go and see some of the movies.

If you are interested, contact Dave on 07788 720839 or via [www.popupscreens.co.uk](http://www.popupscreens.co.uk) - he remembers his Scouting days fondly and is keen to support us.

## Air Ambulance

Running a fundraiser to 'help other people'?  
How about supporting the Air Ambulance?  
Contact them on 020 7943 1302 or send a cheque to The Fundraising Team,  
The Helipad, Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, London, E1 1BB

## For Sale

Awning for motor caravan - free standing and fits most models. Further information from Cliff Condon 020 8540 5115.

## Section Reports

### Cub Scouts - Michèle McNamara

**CSL's' Meeting** - the next meeting will be on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 20.00 hrs back at Morden Hall DHQ. At this meeting we will be planning the district events for the coming year, so if you have any thoughts about the events we normally run or new ideas please do make the effort to come along and express your opinion. It's no use complaining about the events if you do not contribute to the discussion.

**NAN forms** - just to remind you to get the forms to Paul Atkins in plenty of time. For all of you who plan to go away on camps or pack holidays during the Summer I wish you a safe and happy event.



We will need to allow monies for regular maintenance and upkeep of the KBH Flat and Morden Hall DHQ.

County has recently published its proposals for "Financial Support of Overseas Expeditions and Events". In view of this, I would expect that as part of our Budget Review and in order to finance other priorities, we will no longer support overseas expeditions.

The Budget Review will focus on our priorities over the next 3 years and as such **any financial requests or representations from the wider District should please be made available to me by the end of September.**

I attended 16<sup>th</sup> Morden AGM recently and look forward to working with their Executive as they put together an application under the Atlasta Fund scheme.

We still need occasional volunteers to help with property issues at Kenneth Black Hall and Morden Hall, to succeed Joan Burgess as Warrants Secretary and a Treasurer (job share option available!).

With the Summer Camp season approaching, I hope the weather finally takes a turn for the better and everyone has a safe and enjoyable time.

Andy

### Stewards for the Olympic Torch Monday 23 July 2012 - time tbc

Merton Council has approached us to find stewards for the Olympic Torch relay when it travels through the borough.

Stewards must be aged **over 16** but Explorers, Networkers and Leaders are all welcome to apply.

Interested in this once in a lifetime opportunity? Contact David Gould as soon as possible: 020 8395 1885; 07768 381806;  
[baldygouldy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:baldygouldy@hotmail.co.uk)

## Nights Away - Paul Atkins

Plans for summer camps & pack holidays will be well advanced by now so please ensure that your Nights Away Notification (NAN) form is completed as early as possible.

A NAN form is required to be submitted to DDC Paul Atkins at least 14 days before the start of the event. The way to do this is go to the link on the web site <http://www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org/nan.htm>, complete the form and click the Submit button at the bottom of it. You will receive an instant acknowledgement confirming the details you have supplied. The details are then automatically circulated to the relevant ADC, DC, LTM & GSL.

Some reminders:

- If you are acting as the Permit Holder for somebody else as the Event Leader you must attend the event yourself, especially during the overnight part of the activity.
- An Event Passport can only be issued by a Permit Holder to somebody under the age of 18, it cannot be given to an adult.
- POR guideline minimum ratios for nights away activities are:-
  - Beavers - 1 adult to 6 Beavers, plus the leader in charge
  - Cubs - 1 adult to 8 Cubs, plus the leader in charge
  - Scouts - 1 adult to 12 Scouts, at least 2 adults present overnight
  - Explorers - no ratio specified

If you have any difficulties completing your NAN form or have any questions, contact Paul on [deputydc@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org](mailto:deputydc@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org)

If you do not hold a Nights Away Permit and you want one, you must be able to demonstrate either:

- That you have completed Modules 16 and 38 or
- That you are an experienced Scouter who has run camps elsewhere and has the paperwork to back this up

Contact your sectional ADC/DESC for further information and assessment.

## Training

22 Sep	12	Planning a balanced programme	09.30-13.30	1 <sup>st</sup> LM
29 Sep	16	Introduction to residential experiences	10.00-13.00	1 <sup>st</sup> LM
21 Oct	11	Administration	10.00-11.15	1 <sup>st</sup> LM
21 Oct	19	International	11.30-13.00	1 <sup>st</sup> LM
21 Oct	17	Activities outdoors	14.00-16.30	1 <sup>st</sup> LM
17 Nov	15	Challenging Behaviour	10.00-12.00	1 <sup>st</sup> LM
17 Nov	14	Young people today	12.00-13.00	1 <sup>st</sup> LM
17 Nov	9	Working with Adults	14.00-15.00	1 <sup>st</sup> LM
17 Nov	8	Skills of Leadership	15.15-16.30	1 <sup>st</sup> LM
1 Dec	13	Growing the Movement: Section Leaders	10.00-13.00	1 <sup>st</sup> LM
1 Dec	21	Growing the Movement: Managers	10.00-16.30	1 <sup>st</sup> LM

1<sup>st</sup> LM = 1<sup>st</sup> Lower Morden HQ, Bow Lane, off Lower Morden Lane, Morden  
SM4 4SJ

Application forms for all Modules can be downloaded from the County website [www.glsWSCouts.org.uk](http://www.glsWSCouts.org.uk) or contact Joan Condon on 020 8540 5115 or [joan.glsWtraining@btinternet.com](mailto:joan.glsWtraining@btinternet.com)

Cost for each Training Module £3.00  
Cheques made payable to GLSW TRAINING ACCOUNT

### Safeguarding training

To attend Safeguarding Training you must apply via Alison Edwards.  
[Alison.Edwards@local.gov.uk](mailto:Alison.Edwards@local.gov.uk)

**First Aid training** contact Janet Drinkall tel: 020 8660 4774  
[jdrinkall@sky.com](mailto:jdrinkall@sky.com)

**Swimming Gala**  
**Morden Park Baths**  
**20 October 2012**