

*"The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits."*  
Unknown

There is no edition of Links in August.  
Whatever you are doing – be it Scouting, at home or abroad, or with your families - have a great time.  
Create memories.

Copy date for the next Links is Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August.



## Links

July/August 2014 - Issue no. 105

July 9	Cub Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
12	District Sports	Wimbledon Park
16	Beaver Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
19	Last Store before holidays	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
Aug 10	SAS Summer Meal	Kingswood Golf Club
tbc	SAS BBQ	Dave and Jean Gould's
Sept 16	SAS Formal Meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 7.30pm
17	Beaver Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
18	Store re-opens	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
20-21	Scouts' Canal Boat Experience	Grand Union Canal
20	Store open	Mg 10am
22	Troop Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
28	Cubs' cyclist badge day	
Oct 4	Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
6	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
8	Scout Quiz Night	St John Fisher Church Hall
13	Key Managers' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
19	Beavers' activity day	1 <sup>st</sup> Lower Morden HQ

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### Links Editor

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### District Commissioner

Recently, I had the honour and privilege to advise **Jack Atkins**, our President, that the Movement had awarded him its highest decoration, the **Silver Wolf**. Jack was first warranted on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1944, mainland Europe was still under the Nazi yoke and D-Day was still five weeks away. What a commitment to the Movement! I am sure that you will take the opportunity of congratulating Jack, particularly if you bump into him at DHQ on Thursdays.

When we plan for the future of our groups; when we try to recruit adult help or youth members; when we are sitting scratching our heads trying to put a programme in place, it's worth reflecting on both what has made Scouting so enduring and on what has made it able to bind young and old together with a common bond for so long.

It is then that we get to the core of what Scouting is about. It's about enjoying adventure in the great outdoors; about enjoying challenge; about learning self-reliance; about acquiring self-discipline; about giving service to others; about honour. In short, it's about making the world a better place (however clichéd that may sound). It's a wonderfully utopian endeavour that will only pall if we lose sight of B-P's unique vision, a vision that we need to keep at the forefront of our minds whatever role we play in this great Movement of ours (and particularly when the rain is pouring down mid-way through summer camp!).

Talking of Summer Camp, may the sun always shine on yours!

Joe

Nearly 70 scouts seemed to have a good afternoon building and racing their rafts.

Thanks to all the leaders who helped to make the event a success, especially Andy Sloan and Richard Frewin who spent most of the afternoon in the river marshalling wayward rafts.

Our next **Scout Section** meeting is on Monday 22nd September, Morden Hall DHQ 8.00 pm where we will be deciding on what, if any, District events your Scouts would like.

It has been suggested that we might resurrect the "Patrol in Camp" week-end as a natural follow on from the training camps that we ran this year and last. Any items for the Bran Tub?

I hope you all have happy summer camps and activities.

### Scout Active Support Unit – Linda Vaudrey

Please note our BBQ date has been changed to **late August/early September** – the date is still to be confirmed. This will be held at Jean and David's new address, 29 Hermitage Road, Kenley, CR8 5EA – time 3.00 p.m. Please let Jean know as soon as possible if you are able to attend. Their new telephone number, after 1st July, will be 020 3715 4441.



Our formal meeting will be held on **Tuesday 16th September**, at Morden Hall, when a talk will be given by a Mr Gordon Gillett, entitled 'Pigs, Polytunnels and PYO'. The cost of the evening will be £2.00 per head; light refreshments will be provided.

We are hoping to attend a performance of the Gang Show, in late October. If you are interested please let Carol or Allan Woolsey in order that they can secure tickets.

Wishing you all a pleasant summer, see you in September.

There is no **Chatter** from our Chairman this month as there has not been an Executive meeting since our last edition.

## Sports Day – 12 July

We hope to see more Groups at this excellent event this year – all the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who attend really enjoy it so make sure your members have a chance to take part.

As always, Peter Hutton is still looking for extra adult help so please contact him, even if you can't be there all day.

## District Store

The last Thursday of the Store will be 17 July and Brian will be at Morden Hall DHQ on Saturday 19 July.

The Store will re-open at 7.45pm on Thursday 18 September.

There is smart new belt available that is slightly thinner and therefore will go through belt loops more easily. £13.

## Dartford Crossing

From October you will no longer be able to pay the toll at the Dartford crossing at the barrier, instead you must pay online, by text, at selected retail outlets or by phone. You can pay in advance or by midnight the following day. So if you are off to camp in Essex during the half term holiday – be prepared!

## Section Reports

### Scout Report – Dave Bixby

**Canal boat experience:** If you're considering bringing your Scouts or just coming yourself for a taster, don't delay as several Groups are making enquiries and places are limited.



**District quiz:** If you promised Tim Kerridge some questions for the District Quiz, please let him have them asap so that he can co-ordinate them.

Don't forget that we need you to register for the quiz before the event – I'll remind you in September Links.

**Raft event in Ravensbury Park:** Another very successful event. The weather didn't quite live up to its promise – it was nice and sunny to start with but the temperature dropped which made wading in the Wandle a little chilly after a while.

## Summer Nights Away

As we approach the peak of the Nights Away Season, please remember to submit your NAN Form in good time and in any case at least 2 weeks before your event starts.

A few key reminders about Nights Away:-

- Your Nights Away Notification (NAN) Form must be submitted online via the web site at <http://www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org/nan.htm>. You will receive an automated acknowledgement.
- The stated Nights Away Permit (NAP) holder remains responsible for the event at all times & must be present for at least the overnight parts of the activity.
- A Nights Away Passport may only be issued to a person under the age of 18, they may not be issued to an adult.
- Details of the Host District Commissioner are required for events at non-scouting managed venues and can be obtained from the Info Centre on 0845 300 1818
- At least two adults must be in attendance overnight.
- Guideline minimum ratios for children to adults are
  - o Beavers - 6:1 plus the leader in charge
  - o Cubs - 8:1 plus the leader in charge
  - o Scouts - 12:1 plus the leader in charge
  - o Explorers - no ratio

If you have any questions about the Nights Away process, please email Paul Atkins at [nan@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org](mailto:nan@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org)

## Win a Watersports Weekend for up to 50 people

Make a splash at the Kingswood centre of your choice on a watersports weekend. Try an array of fun sessions and team building activities on the water. £55 per child for two nights.

For more information, find out how to win a free break for your group or to make a booking, telephone 0800 288 9990, or email [groups@kingswood.co.uk](mailto:groups@kingswood.co.uk) quoting GROUP EM 55.

## Practical Navigation Training Day – Headley Heath, 21 September 2014

All adults from all Sections are invited to this practical training day. You will meet at Boidier Hurst Camp Site at 9am and will be split into small groups led by an instructor. The event will end at 5pm.

Wear suitable clothing including boots and bring waterproofs, a flask and snacks.

The cost is £5 (which you should be able to claim back through your Development Plan) and a barbecue lunch will be provided.

Please send your cheque made payable to GLSW to Chris Dean, 12 East Hill Road, Oxted RH8 9HZ by 10 September to book your place.

## Appointments Advisory Committee

### Appointments agreed at meeting held on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2014

Florence Miles ABSL - 1<sup>st</sup> Morden  
Jessica Baggaley ABSL - 13<sup>th</sup> Wimbledon

And the following were agreed subject to Training being undertaken

Kirk Sharpe AESL - 1<sup>st</sup> Merton Park  
Darian Hibbitt ABSL - 6/12 Mitcham

### Occasional Helpers Noted

Delroy Richards 1<sup>st</sup> Merton Park Scout Group  
Jameela Lone 1<sup>st</sup> Morden  
Matthew Garner 13<sup>th</sup> Wimbledon  
Mohammed Khan 13<sup>th</sup> Wimbledon

### 5 year Review

Maria Moore - BSL 22<sup>nd</sup> Wimbledon

The Committee agreed and recommended renewal of Maria's appointment for a further 5 years.

Our congratulations and thanks to them for their support.

Muriel Treagust Appointments Secretary

## Morden Hall DHQ grounds

The road side buffer zone has been cleared of rubbish and can be used for section activities. There is a gate in the fence to allow access but leaders MUST check the area for hazards before the area is used. The park side buffer zone is now a conservation area and must not be used for activities.

## Compass and DBS checks

Hopefully you will all have seen the information that has been circulated by HQ and the District that no DBS checks can be entered after 14 July and that the current membership database will be shut off from 28 July. It is hoped that Compass will be live from mid-August.

If you need any DBS checks done, please get them processed before 14 July and ensure that all your information is up to date NOW!

## Training Dates

Date	Module	Title	Time
21 Sept	16	Introduction to residential experiences	10.00 – 13.00
21 Sept	38A	Skills for residential experiences	14.00 – 17.00
11/12 Oct	38B	Skills for residential experiences weekend camp	tbc
26 Oct	12	Providing a balanced programme	09.30 – 13.30
26 Oct	19	International	14.30 – 16.00
16 Nov	15	Challenging behaviour	10.00 – 12.30
16 Nov	17	Activities outdoors	13.00 – 16.30
30 Nov	13	Growing the Movement (Leaders)	10.00 – 13.00
30 Nov	21	Growing the Movement (Managers)	10.00 – 16.30

All Modules will be at the 1<sup>st</sup> Lower Morden Scout Headquarters unless stated  
Cost per Module is £4.00

Application forms from

Mrs J Condon 34 Arundel Avenue, Morden SM4 4DX

e.mail [joan.glswtraining@btinternet.com](mailto:joan.glswtraining@btinternet.com) or download from the County web site  
[www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/applicationforms](http://www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/applicationforms).

## First Aid Dates

Contact Mrs Janet Drinkall 020 8669 4774 e.mail [jdrinkall@sky.com](mailto:jdrinkall@sky.com)