

Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men! Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers. Pray for powers equal to your tasks!

Phillips Brooks

Special deal for those wishing to go to the Women's FA Cup Final at Wembley on 1 August. £7.50 Adults, £2.50 Concessions – say you're a Scout! You must apply by midday 13 July – email thebixbys@talktalk.net for the booking form.

**Copy date for September Links:
Tuesday 1 September 2015**

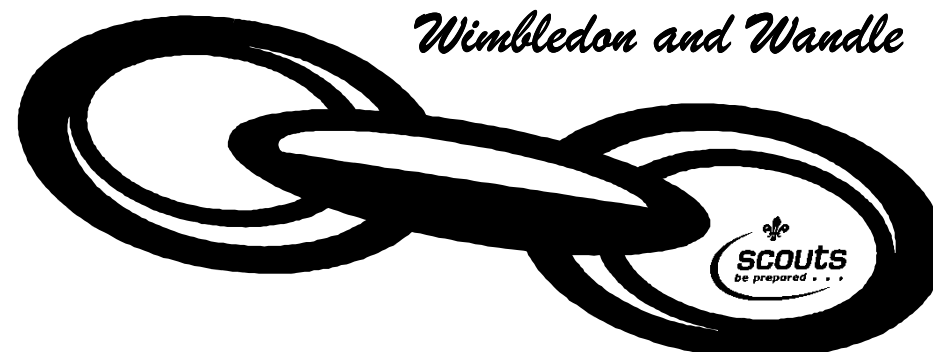
PLEASE NOTE DATE

Links Editor

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Links

July/August 2015 – Issue no. 114

July 3	Cubs Athlete Badge testing	David Weir Centre
4	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
9	Last night of Store	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
10-12	Gilwell 24	
12	Scouts' rafting event	Ravensbury Park
15	BSLs' meeting	Tbc
15	CSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
Aug 1	Women's FA Cup Final	Wembley
9	SASU Meal	Kingswood Golf Course
Sept 10	District Store re-opens	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
15	SASU meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 7.30pm
16	BSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
19	Executive workshop	Antoinette Hotel
19	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
22	Scout Leader's meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
26-27	Explorers' Night Hike	North Downs

It would be nice to receive a few more Troop programmes this coming term instead of the usual 25%.

Explorer Scouts – Neil McLauchlan

I do hope that everyone has a great and safe summer. A gentle reminder for you to ensure you have completed a NAN form for your Summer trips and also for the District Night Hike & Mountain weekend as below. The Night Hike base is The Village Hall in North Holmwood.



Reminder of future dates for your diaries:

District Night Hike: Sat 26th to Sun 27th September

Leaders Meeting: Tues 20th October

Mountain Weekend: Fri 30th October to Sunday 1st November

Scout Active Support Unit – Linda Vaudrey

Thank you to all who attended Sports Day in different capacities. Special thanks to Robert.



Ten of us had a very enjoyable day at Dover Castle on Saturday 20th June. We have a couple of budding thespians in our midst! David and Allen were roped into joining in with a re-enactment within the Castle! Next stop Caesar's Palace?!!

Don't forget the BBQ on **Saturday 18th July**, at John and Deirdre's. Let Jean Gould know if you are going or contact John directly on 01342 811258. It starts at around 2.00 p.m., cost £7.50 per head.

Tuesday, 15th September – our formal meeting at Morden Hall Park H.Q. when our speaker will be 'Harry the Wheelbarrow Man'.

We hope that everyone has a good summer.

District Commissioner

Thanks to Peter Hutton and the myriad leaders and helpers that made Sports Day such a success again this year, with representation from all four youth sections on the day. One of the important aspects of Scouting is the concept of "brotherhood" (which is not so well rendered by the term "family"), something much in evidence on Sports Day (despite the keen competition), as it is on other major Scouting occasions. One such is the Beaver Fun Day at Gilwell, where the Beavers get the adventure of a "long" trip in a coach; meet Beavers from elsewhere in the District and see that Beavers come from all over the country too. Thanks to John and the leaders/helpers who took three coach loads to Gilwell this year; everyone had a great time.

Getting involved in District, national or international Scouting events is important for each and every one of our youth members. They need to experience "brotherhood" in order to understand it and they can't do this if we keep our colonies, packs, troops and units away from such opportunities. You only have to speak to a scout that's been involved in, to name but a few, the Beaver Bike Ride, the Cub Adventure Day, the Scout Skills Weekend, trips to Kandersteg or a Jamboree to know that the experience had is always positive in this respect.

It's our duty, as leaders, to ensure that our scouts are able to experience the many opportunities that are on offer and, as Summer Camp approaches, I'm sure that they will...

#JustOneMore

Joe

Chairman's Chatter

No meetings of County or District Executives since my last Report. Both are due to meet in the first part of July, so I will have more to say in September.

Therefore, no news is good news in that it is a short Report this month!

I should like to thank and welcome Richard Marus who has taken over as District Treasurer on 1st July. Updated contact details have been made available via the web site.

We are indebted to Keith Angliss who stepped in after Christmas and has held everything together for the first six months of the year.

Before everyone settles down for their well-deserved summer breaks, could I please remind all Groups that have not yet done so, that, after your AGM, to please email or post me a copy of your Annual Report and Income and Expenditure statements. This is a mandatory requirement of POR and is in addition to the legal requirements of the Charities Commission.

Finally, a reminder about the County Training Day for Executive Members on Saturday 19th September. Details are still on the web site.

Andy Edmonds

Appointments – Muriel Treagust

The following attended Appointment interviews during June:

Olly Self	AESL, Raynes Park Unit.
Robbie McLauchlan	AESL, Raynes Park Unit.
Sam Busby	Sectional Assistant, 14th Wimbledon
Rose O'Grady	GSL, 5th Morden
Thomas Keenan	ESL, Empire Unit.
Liam Hogan	ACSL, 5th Morden.
Peter Wraight	AGSL, (additional role), 6/12th Mitcham Sea Scouts.

The following were discussed and approved:

Matt Price	AESL, (from Mitcham Unit) now at Raynes Park Unit.
Kieran Eales	ASL 1st Lower Morden
Janet Smith	ACSL, 8th Morden

We thank them for supporting our District and wish them success in their roles.

Chief Scout Silver award celebration— in order to finalise the details of this, I need to know how many cubs have earned this award to date or will have earned it during the period January to September 2015. Please e-mail me with this information a.s.a.p.

July 15th – Last CSL meeting of this term, at Morden DHQ, diary for September 2015 – August 2016 to be discussed, please make an effort to be there. If you aren't present we will have to make decisions on events and dates without your input.

I hope everyone who is camping over the summer period has a safe and happy time and has remembered to get their NAN forms into Paul Atkins in time.

I will hopefully, finally be having my knee operation in August so with a bit of luck will be back for the first CSL meeting in September but I will have to wait and see, how mobile I am by then!

Scouts – Dave Bixby

Nights Away: A gentle reminder about making sure that you submit NAN forms for any nights away event that you're planning during the summer, even if it's "only a short sleep over" before or after a day activity.

If you are not sure whether you have sent one in, you can check on the District website under Info/NAN submitted.

Please also check that your nights away permit is still in date.

As the date for renewal approaches you will receive an email from Paul Atkins but the onus is on you to approach your section ADC to be re-assessed.

I'm aware of a few Scout section Leaders whose permits have expired but have not been in touch as yet.

Our next scout section meeting is on Tuesday 22 September 20.00 at Morden Hall DHQ when we will be setting dates for the District events that your scouts would like us to arrange during 2016 so please try give it a thought during the summer.

Whatever you have planned, enjoy the rest of the summer even though the days are already getting shorter. I hope your camps, activities and holidays go well so that you can start the September term refreshed.



Section Reports

Beavers – John Tweedley

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

Firstly I was very disappointed that only two Beaver Colonies turned up at the District Sports Day. I had e-mailed all leaders saying that due to unforeseen circumstances neither myself or Clare would be able to go to the sports. I had put out requests for a leader or two to run / organise the set up and encourage other colonies to run the normal fun events that we have had over the past two years. I know some colonies voiced their concerns at our Beaver Leaders' Meetings, that on the following week we were going to the Cub & Beaver Fun Day at Gilwell Park, and it meant two consecutive Saturdays of Beaver activities. We have 17 colonies and only 5 colonies attended the fun day. My thanks to the 5th Morden and the 13th Wimbledon who put on some extra events and made it a fun afternoon for their Beavers. Where were the other 10 colonies?

On a much more upbeat note Some 93 Beavers some Cubs and 30 Adults went to the annual Gilwell Park Cub & Beaver Fun Day. What I saw was that all the Beavers had such a good day out and the weather was very kind to us as it was forecast heavy rain most of the day. We had a little light shower for 30 minutes, but nothing more than an overcast day although it was still warm. We had only just left Gilwell when the heavens opened and we had a torrential downpour. The M25 looked like a river was running down it, but it had all cleared by the time we arrived back in Morden.

It would be nice to see more colonies attend our Beaver Leaders Meetings and then things like sports day and any other events can be talked about and you can have a chance to voice your opinions, so please come and join us.

Cub Report – Michèle McNamara

July 3rd – Athletes Badge Testing – David Weir Centre, Carshalton, opposite St. Helier Hospital. Cubs can arrive any time between 6.00 – 8.00, event finishes at 9.00. Cubs to wear suitable clothing for the tests (no spikes) and arrive wearing their pack scarf for identification purposes. Leaders please be there as promptly as possible if not a little beforehand so that the various events can be set up as quickly as possible. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A CHANGE OF DATE FROM THE ORIGINAL DIARY DATE.



Awards

Many congratulations to the following who have been awarded the Chief Scouts Commendation for Good service:

Charline Baker	ACSL	6/12th Mitcham Sea Scouts
Jean-Claire Flanagan	GSL	8th Wimbledon
Rebecca Gregg	CSL	19th Wimbledon
Duncan Hold	ASL	23rd Mitcham
Kerry Ann Inwood	ACSL	6/12th Mitcham Sea Scouts
Brenda Phillips	BSL	1st Morden
Daniel Sanders	BSL	13th Wimbledon
Elizabeth Strutt	BSL	19th Wimbledon

District Store

The Store will close for the summer after business on 9 July and will reopen at 7.45pm on Thursday 10 September. If you need anything urgently during the summer, don't hesitate to contact Brian Whalebone.

Badges – Lesley Bixby

Thank you to everyone for being understanding when I have not had badges in stock recently – I have been doing my best to run down all the badges that will become obsolete at the end of term to minimise the amount of stock that will have to be written off.

From September I will keep a stock of all the new Challenge badges and the 1st and 2nd stages of the new staged activity badges until I see how popular they are. It will still be worthwhile emailing me with your requirements if you want to ensure that I have them available when you come to the Store, especially if you need large numbers. I put in my order when I get home from the Store on a Thursday and they usually arrive by the following week.

I have asked Scout Shops if the old badges will still be available to order from September but they do not know yet. Hopefully I will have an answer for you by the next Links.



Training Dates

Sep 26	16	Intro. To residential experiences	10.00-13.00	1LM
Sep 26	38a	Skills for residential experiences	14.00-17.00	1LM
Oct 4	12a/22	Delivering a quality programme	10.00-12.30	1LM
Oct 4	12b	Programme planning	13.30 -17.00	1LM
Oct 10/11	38b	Skills for residential experiences	Weekend	B W
Nov 8	19	International	10.00-12.30	1LM
Nov 8	17/23	Running safe activities	13.30-16.30	1LM
Nov 29	15	Challenging behaviour	10.00-12.30	1LM
Nov 29	13/21	Growing the Movement	13.30-17.00	1LM

SDHQ Sutton District Headquarters, Woodcote Road, Wallington SM6 0LY
1LM 1st Lower Morden HQ, Bow Lane, off Lower Morden Lane SM4 4SJ
B W Bears Wood campsite, Oswald, Croydon CR09HJ

Cost per module is £4 except Modules 38a and b which is £40

Download applications forms from the County website

www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/applicationform

or contact Mrs J Condon joan.glsWtraining@btinternet.com

Safeguarding dates can be obtained from Alison Edwards (District Training Manager)

First Aid

Application forms can be downloaded from the County web site

www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/support or contact Mrs Janet Drinkall

jdrinkall@sky.com

Cost for module 10 £18.00

For information about other modules, which are District-run, contact Alison Edwards on alison.edwards@local.gov.uk

Skills Day

After the success of the last joint Skills Day which we ran with Sutton District, another one is planned for **16 April 2016**. Please put the date in your diaries and encourage all your leaders to come along – even the more experience ones can pick up new ideas and tips. More information nearer the time.

Bob Prescott

Bob will be going into hospital on 19th July and his 1st operation will be on 21 July. He will be at UCHL, the national hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery and will be having brain surgery called "deep brain stimulation".

His daughter will let us know how he gets on – best wishes from the District, Bob.

Gilwell Reunion - Chris Dean, Deputy CC (Programme)

The Gilwell Reunion takes place over the weekend of September 4th - 6th at Gilwell Park, Chingford, and I am sure a sizeable number of adults from GLSW will be attending. It is also become traditional for the various District-based Networks to camp there together not far from the refreshment tent near Essex Chase !

On previous occasions we have arranged an informal tea for all from GLSW on the Saturday afternoon. We shall be repeating this again - meet outside the CIC at 4pm - bring some cake and a mug !

We are looking to seeing as many of you as possible.

Wildlife Reporting

The Living Wandle Landscape Partnership Scheme have launched a new website at <http://www.gigl.org.uk/online/wandle-watchers.aspx>

This project aims to collect details about what is in the Wandle Valley and enthuse people about wildlife. On the web link are some family friendly identification tools for the public to use, and they can provide wildlife booklets for those who want to get involved too.

Some of the projects could also be used to contribute towards badges.

For more information, contact the Project Officer, Louise Crothall at the Old Book Shop in Morden Hall Park. Tel 07500 073162