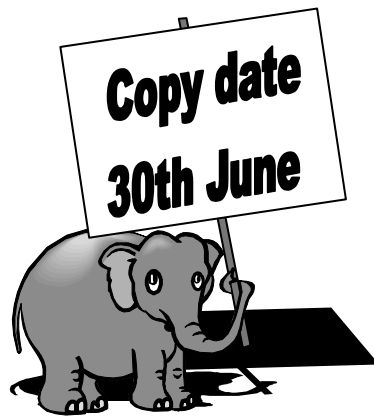


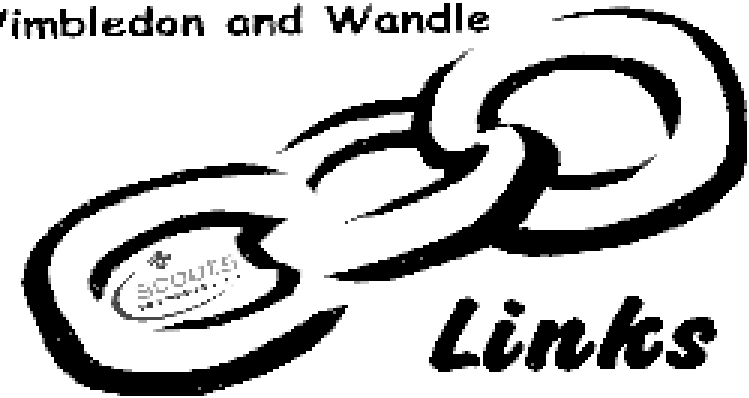
*"--- the only thing that separates successful people from ones who aren't
is the willingness to work very, very hard"*

Helen Gurley Brown



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Wimbledon and Wandle



June 2005
Issue 14

June 10	Edge Hill Unit Quiz Night	Upper Parish Hall
10	Network Barn Dance	Croydon
11/12	Patrol in Camp weekend	Bears Wood
11	Fellowship Meal	Chobham
18/19	Network Isle of Wight Challenge	
20	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
21	Troop Scouters' meeting	1 st Morden HQ
July 5	GSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
6	CSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
8	Sports: field events	Sutton Arena
9	Edge Hill Unit mid-summer ball	
12	District executive meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
16	Sports: track events	Sutton Arena
20	BSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ
21	Last District Store before summer break	
23	Fellowship BBQ	Dave Gould's house
31	Network: Swedish trip	

District Commissioner

The formal announcement of the new **District President** and **Vice Presidents** was made at our recent AGM, but I would like to record here our congratulations to

Keith Angliss who becomes the **District President**
and to

Jean Prior; Ted Aslett and Ray Stanley who become **District Vice-Presidents**

They have all given an enormous amount of their time to Scouting and the honour of serving in these positions is richly deserved.

Please see the notes about **Young Leader Explorers**: this is important information.

The first meeting of the **Development Committee** has taken place. The principal aim of the committee is to support Groups in the recruitment and retention of Leaders and young people. There is much work to be done and one of the first tasks is to co-ordinate the Group Reviews. We have currently completed about 5 and we will schedule a further 6 before the summer.

Current members of the committee are Keith Daly, Colin Stubbs, Paul Atkins, Laurence Barham and Sue Southwood. We also intend to approach two Group Chairs to serve on the Committee. Jo Launchbury and Ian Newbury will offer advice and support.

This completes the committee structure decided at the merger. I would like now to appoint a **Media Development Manager** to work across both the Media Committee and the Development Committee and to oversee how we can present ourselves to the public and promote scouting. Anyone interested should contact me; similarly if you know of anyone who might be interested please also contact me.

We are also looking for a new **District Treasurer** as Mark Edsor will not be returning from his contract in Siberia for another 12 months. Again any names or suggestions should be submitted to John Smith or me.

Bob Prescott

Navigation Days

Silva, the compass people, are holding a series of Navigation Days up in the Lake District. The next one is on 9th July with others in August, September and October. Details from their website www.qpstraining.co.uk.



Situations Vacant!

Do any leaders out there fancy a new challenge?!

The 7th Morden are not only recruiting kids to join the group but adults too! We have vacancies in both the pack and the troop and we need to fill this positions quickly to meet the demand of 2 growing Beaver Colonies now starting to feed upwards.

No experience is necessary as full training will be given and paid for and the group will also provide you with a uniform subsidy! Old or young...we don't mind...if you think you are up for the challenge we would love to hear from you!

As we say in our Group - the future's bright, the future's orange!

Andrew Hayward - 8542 4829 / 0797 129 8686
andrew.hayward@virgin.net or andrew.hayward@landq.com

David Cooper (GSL) - 8542 0165 davidcooper143@aol.com

Best wishes to David Cooper who has not been well lately - glad to hear that he is on the road to recovery.

The Cubs had many activities laid on for them such as archery, shooting, assault course and orienteering to name but a few.

In mid May we held the **District Cub Football Tournament** at Raynes Park High School. Fifteen teams entered the competition that was organised by Michele McNamara and Andrew Hayward. It was a lovely warm day and thankfully the 23rd provided the refreshments that kept us cool and sane! Well done to the 13th Wimbledon who beat the 11th Mitcham in the final, with the 22nd Wimbledon & 3rd Mitcham coming 3rd and 4th respectively. It was just a shame that a few parents spoiled a good day by complaining about rules and school regulations that everyone else was happy to abide by. As a result we are looking into the event now being a closed event with only leaders and helpers (and cubs) present.

Michele has lost property left from both these events. If your Cubs have complained they have lost anything, please contact her by the end of the month or she will dispose of the items.

On a personal note I would just like to say how humble I felt to receive the Medal of Merit. I do my Scouting in teams (be it the Gang Show, District, Group or Pack), and though I was awarded this as an individual it wouldn't have been possible with out 'my teams' and it is on their behalf that I should accept this award. A big thank you to Nicky and my family too! You let me out to do my Scouting!

Scouts - Paul Atkins

The first Wimbledon & Wandle Table Tennis Competition was only entered by two Troops, the 19th Wimbledon and the 22nd Wimbledon, which was a little disappointing after the level of interest expressed when it was suggested. Nevertheless the Troops who entered had an enjoyable afternoon which resulted in the 22nd Wimbledon claiming the trophy. Certificates have been handed to all event winners at their meetings and the trophy will be handed over shortly. Congratulations to all of the event winners and thanks to Peter Hutton for organising the event and to the 22nd Wimbledon for providing the venue.



There are serious issues surrounding the use by Section Leaders of Young Leader Explorers who have not been trained to module A, particularly in the area of child protection.

The District Team is currently trying to identify all young people between the ages of 14 - 18 who have not been registered with the District. Your help is required so please contact either Dick Hooper Dist ES Administrator or Neil McLauchlan DESC or Keith Daly ADC GD if you have any information.

We are also urgently trying to recruit a DESL Young Leaders. Speak to Neil if you have any suggestions/nominations.

The team will arrange for module A training when Young Leaders have been identified.

District Annual General Meeting

There was a good turn out at the AGM last month. Congratulations to everyone who received an award and to the District for a well organised meeting. Thanks, also, for the wonderful food!

If you were unable to attend the meeting and would like a copy of the Annual Report, please contact Tony Webb on 020 8337 7076 or email paw@webbp50.fsnet.co.uk

How are your Group AGMs going - how many of you have hit on a formula that will fill your hall and keep people talking afterwards? Are you prepared to share your secret?

Last September we had a fantastic time at the Gilwell Reunion, where we met the new Chief Scout, Peter Duncan. This year we are going again, and all Network members are eligible for a discount from the regular price. Ed Wilson, our 'Man at Gilwell' is in charge of the group booking - email him on ed.wilson@scout.org.uk if you want to go.

Fellowship - Linda Vaudrey



Recent Events:

Sunday 15th May - the same hardy few took a most enjoyable walk around the Hampton Court, Kingston & Thames Ditton area. Pleased to say that the sun shone on us again and we had a good Sunday lunch. Thank you to Rob and Jean for organising.

Forthcoming Events:

Saturday 11th June - Summer Meal, Four Horseshoes, Chobham, 7.30 p.m. - if you have not already done so please let me know if you will be joining us as numbers are limited. Telephone Linda 8542 6200

Reminders:

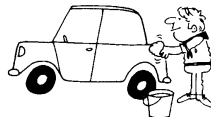
Saturday 16th July - Sports Day - please let Dave Gould know if you can help. Tel. 8395 1885

Saturday, 23rd July - BBQ - at David and Jean Gould's house. Further details to follow.



Car Washing

Vauxhall cars are organising a charity car wash on the fore court of Phoenix Motors, Plough Lane on 11 June. Any Group who would like to go along and wash cars - all materials provided by Vauxhall - will keep the money they raise. Jan Singleton is the lady organising this and she needs to know if we have any takers. Please contact her on 020 7861 3811.



District Directory - Keith Daly

Copies of the new (2005) District Directory have been distributed to Groups and the District Team. A small number of copies are still available and can be obtained from Keith Daly, ADC (GD). Any amendments to the Directory should be forwarded to Lesley Bixby and will be published in 'Links'.

Directory amendments:

ADC(BS), Andrew Elgar: Home telephone no. 8287 9234,
e-mail andy.elgar@merton.gov.uk

GSL 23rd Mitcham, Tracey Drinkwater: Mobile 07733 077064

Iceni Explorer Unit, Carol Gould: now AESL not Helper

5th Morden:

Hilary Mavin: e-mail hil61@hotmail.com; post code SM4 4RS

John Line: cancel land line number

Peter Dobson: e-mail peter.c.dobson@btinternet.com;
mobile no, 079315 62012

Mary Yeats: e-mail mumple@hotmail.com

Richard Marus: mobile no. is 07796 997305

John Bennett: mobile is 07961 334265

Post code of treasurer is SM4 4HD

Water Rocket Challenge

The NPL Water Rocket Challenge takes place on Thursday 23rd June. The open competition runs from 6pm to 9pm. Full details of this, with entry form can be found at <http://www.npl.co.uk/waterrockets>.

If you do have a go, Mark Patrick (ACC Scouts) would like to know how you get on.

Young Leader Explorers

Important information

Since PRI there has been the provision for young people between the ages of 14 - 18 to opt to become Young Leaders instead of /or in addition to, joining an Explorer Scout Unit.

This decision must be made by the young person and not by the Scout Leader or GSL. It can be in consultation with them but must also include the Explorer Scout Administrator or the District Explorer Scout Commissioner (DESC).

All young people between the ages of 14-18 **MUST** be registered with the District and **MUST NOT BE** included in Group census figures. Their membership fee is collected and paid by the District.

All young people of 14-18 not registered with the District are **NOT INSURED and this could have serious consequences.**

Young people who opt to be Young Leaders are required to do the following:

- Join the Young Leader Explorer Unit
- Pay membership fee to the District via their Unit
- Complete module A of their training programme within 3 months. This is mandatory and if not completed will mean that they must cease to be a Young Leader
- On completion of Module A wear a Young Leader badge on the uniform
- Complete modules B to K
- Also one of four missions is to be completed each year. Each mission is designed to build on what is covered by the modules.

Compulsory Module A

- is the responsibility of the YL ESL to arrange.
- covers the following key areas:-
 - The purpose and method of the Scout Association
 - Child Protection
 - Policy Organisation and Rules
 - Activity rules and safety

At the time of writing it is too early to know the level of entries for the Patrol Camping Weekend at Bears Wood on 11th & 12th June. I hope that the event is well supported and that Troops will take the advantage of an opportunity for a night under canvas.

Pressure of work has prevented any further progress on either the Older Scouts Weekend or the Troop Trophy but I hope to be able to do some more on them shortly.

Our next Scouters' meeting is on Tuesday 21st June at the 1st Morden HQ, Central Road, Morden.

Network - Chris Dean

NETWORK

On April 30 history was made when a team representing the Scout Network competed in the preliminary rounds of the Middlesex Sevens for the first time ever. The squad was almost exclusively drawn from Greater London SW. Unfortunately the results did not quite match up to the initial euphoria, and qualification for the finals at Harlequins a week later was not to be. However, we have been invited to play again in 2006 so if anyone reading this is a keen rugby sevens player, please contact the undersigned.

The Network is destined to be suitably 'challenged' during June and July. On June 18/19 at least one GLSW team will be competing in the Trans-Wight Challenge attempting to be the fastest team to cross the Isle of Wight overnight. Then on July 9/10 in a different kind of challenge the Network will attempt to raise sponsorship for the Sutton & Croydon MS Therapy Centre by carrying an MS sufferer in a wheelchair around a 10km cross-country course near Capel Curig in North Wales. We have booked Bethesda for the weekend, so there is plenty of space for all. Ask your Local SNet Co-ordinators for details.

During August a caving trip to South Wales is being organised, and most of the places have already been snapped up. On the water activities front Simon Keen is investigating Network membership of a sailing club, which will become our base for training and dinghy racing.

Appointments Sub Committee - Joan Burgess

New warrants: Paul Drinkwater, BSL - 23RD Mitcham

Provisional certificates: Susan Thornton, BSL - 20th Mitcham

"Working" with group: Certificates have been issued to

Lee Churchill	8 th Morden
Stephen Foot	14 th Wimbledon
Duncan Osborne	23 rd Mitcham
Gianpiero Valli	22 nd Wimbledon
Kevin Watson	8 th Morden

Cancelled warrants: Dennis Pearcey, 22nd Wimbledon - ABSL
(Transferring to "Helper")

Urban Outdoors

Have you had a look at 'Urban outdoors' on Scoutbase? It gives some brilliant ideas for activities for all Sections, offers suggestions for fund raising, tells you who to contact and which rules you need to check out in POR. There are free downloads and a printable version. Well worth a look if you want to plan an outdoor programme near to home.

Days Out

Do Thorpe Park or Chessington World of Adventures appeal to your members? Have a look on a new website recently launched for the use of youth organizations by N&L Scout Events in association with The Tussauds Group and the Scout Association. It offers discounted tickets for some of the best days out in the UK. E mail www.youthfundays.co.uk or phone 0115 952 3617.

Cable drums

Dave Bixby is still on the look-out for cable drums for Eurojam. Have you seen any? If so please phone him on 020 8542 2017 or email lesleyanddave.bixby@btopenworld.com.

Section Reports

Beavers - Andy Elgar

Although it was a few weeks ago now, I feel I must congratulate the Beaver Scout Section for such a wonderful turn out at the District St George's Day Parade/Service. The weather was brilliant! It was great to have nearly all our colonies represented and to see so many of you there.

Do you have Young Leaders (aged 15-18 Yrs) working within your Colony or just want to know more about YL's ???

Then attending the next Beaver Leaders meeting on 20th July will benefit you !!! - Ian Newbery, ACC (ES) will be giving a short presentation on how Young Leaders can help you with the running of your Colony and what responsibilities come with having Young Leaders working with you. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please do try and send a representative and/or your Colony report to Linda Vaudrey or myself before the meeting.

District Outing

By now you should have all received details of the final arrangements for the District Outing to Frylands Woods Fun Day on Sunday 12th June. Coach transport has now been confirmed. Please remember the Leader/Adult to Beaver Scout ratio of 1:4 + 1 "spare" Adult applies !!! Please initially refer to the details sent to you all by email / post; if you have any further queries please do get in touch.

Diary Dates

Finally some dates for your diaries:

20 th July	District Beaver Leaders Meeting	DHQ, Morden
2 nd October	District Beaver Activity Afternoon.	4 th Morden HQ, Bow Lane, Morden.

Cubs - Andy Hayward

It's been another couple of busy months for the Cub Section. In early April the **Cub Adventure Day** was held at Frylands Wood. Another superb day expertly organised by Mia Patterson, Martin Neal & Bill Smith and their team.

