

## Diary Dates

June 10	County AGM	Sutton DHQ 8pm
12	Cub Athlete Badge testing	Raynes Park Playing Fields 6pm
14	Beaver Bike Ride	Morden Hall Park 2pm
15	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
20-21	Scouts Camping Assessment weekend	Park Farm
20	Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
21	Fellowship summer meal	
July 4	Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
8	Cub Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
11	District Sports	Wimbledon Park
12	Scouts Raft Race	Ravensbury Park
11-12	Gilwell 24	
15	Beaver Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
18	Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
25	Fellowship BBQ	

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### **Links Editor**

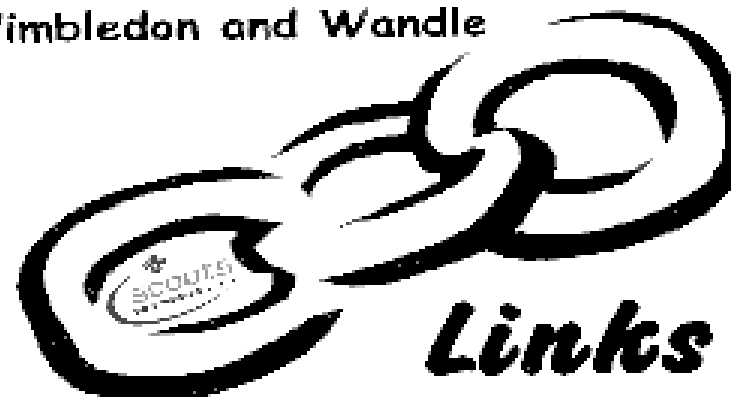
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## Wimbledon and Wandle



June 2009

Issue 54

### **District Commissioner Wimbledon & Wandle District**

I am pleased to be able to announce that **Joe Rogerson** has accepted my invitation to become the next District Commissioner for Wimbledon & Wandle District.

He will spend the next few months working alongside Bob Prescott to ensure that there is an effective hand over at the District Conference in the autumn.

A former youth member in the north of England, he gained the Explorer Belt whilst in Venture Scouting. Married with 3 children, Joe has lived in Merton for 25 years. After a number of years in teaching he now works as a General Manager for a Ceramic and Stone Tiling sub-contractor.

Joe is currently the Explorer Scout Leader with the Mitcham ESU and was formerly a leader in the Scout section of the 11th Mitcham, which he still regularly helps with.

Many of you will know him from his involvement with the County's Jamboree Units to the 2007 World Jamboree in Essex.

I hope that you will all join with me in welcoming Joe into the new role and I look forward to working with him in the coming months.

Ian Newbery - County Commissioner

## Training - Alison Edwards

FIRST AID reminder: can I just politely remind all Leaders of the need to keep their first aid training up to date. This doesn't just apply to the need for first aid in a camp setting, but also to the need for first aid/appropriate first aid response at weekly meetings.



Some of you are quite good at getting trained for the purposes of completing your wood badge, but then let it expire after that point! The County does run courses and has recently increased the number of trainers able to deliver courses so please look to see whether your certificate is up to date.

GSLs/ESLs if your whole Group/Unit needs training please do get in touch and we will see what can be done to help you out.

## Training dates

Module No	Name	Date	Time
10	First Aid	06.06.09	9am-5pm
12	Providing a Balanced Programme	07.06.09	9am-1pm
18	Practical skills	07.06.09	2pm-4.30pm
16	Nights away	23.09.09	7.45-10.15pm
11	Administration (Leaders)	27.09.09	10am-11.30am
12	Providing a Balanced Programme	27.09.09	11.45am-4.30pm
16	Nights Away	17/18.10.09	
13	Growing the Movement (Leaders)	25.10.09	10am-1pm
21	Growing the Movement (Managers)	25.10.09	10am-4.30pm
8	Skills of Leadership	21.11.09	9.30am-11.15am
9	Working with Adults	21.11.09	11.30am-1pm
14	Young People Today	21.11.09	2pm-3.15pm
15	Challenging Behaviour	21.11.09	3.30pm-5pm
07	Valuing Diversity	06.12.09	10am-11.15am
19	International	06.12.09	11.30am-1pm
17	Activities Outdoors	06.12.09	2pm-4.30pm

Please check the County website [www.glsWSCouts.org.uk](http://www.glsWSCouts.org.uk) for more details.

## Cubs - Michèle McNamara

**7 Aside Football Competition** - Thanks to all those who took part and put up with the horrid weather in the morning and special thanks to all the referees and team managers. The day went fairly well after a shaky start but I would remind Leaders to emphasise to parents that this is supposed to be a "fun" event. Referees are giving up their time for free and don't need abuse shouted at them by the spectators.



The winners of the event were the 22<sup>nd</sup> Wimbledon, with 5<sup>th</sup> Morden taking 2<sup>nd</sup> place and 13<sup>th</sup> Wimbledon and 22<sup>nd</sup> Wimbledon B team taking joint 3<sup>rd</sup> position. Well done to all the teams.

**Athletes Badge Testing** - This is due to take place on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June at Raynes Park Playing Fields, Grand Drive, London SW20.

The grounds are booked for 18.00 - 21.00 so if Cubs turn up within that time they can take part; we hope to finish earlier than 21.00 though. If Leaders cannot accompany them, parents may bring them along and stay with them if they want. Please make sure they know which Pack they belong to! Cost is £1.00 to cover either 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of the badge and the hire of the venue. Money to be paid on the night. Those that gained the 1<sup>st</sup> stage last year are welcome to try for the higher award.

We would like to see as many Cubs as possible taking part; especially since this is possibly the last time we may be able to use these grounds. There is some parking available. Any questions please contact me.

Next **CSLs' meeting** is 8<sup>th</sup> July, 20.00 at Morden Hall DHQ.

## Scouts - Dave Bixby



Once again we had a great time at the Kart track - so much so that the karting people have said that they are going to charge us twice as much in future if we want to continue on a Saturday! Therefore, if we want another event this year, it will have to be on the Tuesday evening of the October half term and the cost will be £13 approx. The Scouts who have paid their money to me will still get their karting at the old price.

If your Scouts would like to take part in October, please contact me by **22 June** and I will book it.

## District Directory

The printed version of the District Directory for 2009 was first made available at the AGM in May. It can be requested by going to the District website and having it emailed. If any changes are required to the contact details, please get in touch with Sue Southwood, District Secretary, on 0208 946 6984 or by email at [suewimble@aol.com](mailto:suewimble@aol.com).

## Scout Information Centre

Due to staff shortages the Scout Information Centre has had to reduce its hours. It is now open from 9am to 6pm Monday to Friday.

## District Store

The Store will be open on the following Saturdays between 10am and 12 noon:  
6 and 20 June  
4 and 18 July

The last Thursday night store before the summer is Thursday 16 July.

## GLSW Queen's Scout/DofE expedition - 'practice' or 'qualifying'

Date: 21-27 August 2009

Base: Glasbury-on-Wye Scout Hut

Cost: £95 plus hike food and campsite fees

There will be a practice walk in the Yorkshire Dales at the end of June. If you want to know more, contact Chris Dean immediately - the official closing date was the end of May but he tells me this is 'a bit flexible'. Chris's details are phone 01883 723081 or [chris.dean@glsWSCouts.org.uk](mailto:chris.dean@glsWSCouts.org.uk)

## GLSW Expedition Training

Explorers over the age of 16 and Network members who want to get into training for Queen's Scout/DofE Gold expeditions can make a start in the October half term by joining the County course to be held in the Peak District. The course will include navigation and walking skills, campcraft, safety precautions, emergency procedure, overnight camp and costs £65. Contact Chris Dean - 01883 723081 or [chris.dean@glsWSCouts.org.uk](mailto:chris.dean@glsWSCouts.org.uk) for more information.

## Chief Scout

By now, everyone knows that Bear Grylls is the new Chief Scout and that one of his targets for the next few years is to increase adult membership so that more young people can join Scouts. The announcement was made on Monday 18 May. That Monday we had.....

30,386 visits to Scouts.org.uk - this represents an increase on normal daily traffic to the site by over 400% (Normal daily average for 2009 = 6,055)

518 want to join enquiries - This is the highest since records began! (In September 2007) - A 150% increase on the highest recorded of 208 enquires on the 08/09/2008. Over 200 of these enquiries are from adult volunteers!!!

Having checked the data for the Greater London Region from Sunday to today we have received 212 enquiries through the "Want to Join" system, by comparison there were 74 for the same period last year. 33 of these enquiries are from adult volunteers.

Clearly there are some challenges locally in ensuring that we meet the expectations of these new volunteers, if you need any help talk to your ADCs in the first instance.

Congratulations to Sally Milner who appeared on TV and radio alongside the new Chief - Sally is an Explorer in W&W.

## Wimbledon Guild's Sleep Out - Saturday 19 September 2009

Get sponsored to sleep-out in as much or little comfort as you choose, in a 2mx2m space at the Guild's building on Worple Road in Wimbledon. You can sleep out on your own, with friends or as part of a larger team. It's a fun evening, with family style entertainment featuring outgoing **Chief Scout Peter Duncan**, on the Saturday night. And being a sponsored sleeper is a great way of offering community service, in schemes like the Duke of Edinburgh Award. As well as the entertainment we also provide all-night refreshments and hot breakfast the following morning. In case of bad weather we can move everyone into Drake House, our large hall to the rear of Guild House. All monies raised go to the Wimbledon Guild.

## Section reports

### Beavers - Kevin Quigley

I don't know if it's me but we seem to have gone from winter to summer in just a few short weeks. The evenings are now light enough for Colonies to be outside enjoying the air and sun and I hope people are taking advantage of the good weather.



Talking of weather, it was an overcast day the other Saturday when I visited the 5<sup>th</sup> Morden Beaver's sleepover at Bow Lane. However the weather wasn't affecting the Beavers, who were all busy on different bases from treasure hunt and blindfold trail to bug hunting (there weren't too many around - must have been the noise!) and history! They even got to make their own sandwiches for lunch, and all were having a good time. Hopefully they thanked all the Leaders and helpers that had made the sleepover fun.

We had our May Beavers Leader's Meeting the other day, and the assembled company decided not to support Sports Day again this year. The issue seems to be the venue, which is brilliant for actual sports, but lacks any other space (other than the middle of the track) to allow the Beavers to 'do their own thing'. The Leaders still foresaw issues of safe access to and from the toilets etc. as well as a lack of shade in the middle of the track - especially if lots of Beavers and their families came.

One thing definitely 'in the calendar' is the Bike Ride at Morden DHQ - Sunday 14th June 2009, 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. The details have been circulated - hope to see you on the day. And as an added bonus, our new ACC Beavers, Karl Bromley has promised to borrow a bike and join us for the day. We look forward to showing him that Beavers are having fun in Wimbledon & Wandle. But to do so more safely than last year, we could do with a few more Leaders etc. to help.

Finally, as usual Linda Vaudrey has done a wonderful job in producing the minutes of the recent meeting, and they will be out to you soon. If you don't get a copy, please let Linda know and I'm sure she would be pleased to help - her contact details are: e-mail - William.Vaudrey@btinternet.com or 29 Cedars Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5AB. Telephone 020 8542 6200.

## Sports - 11 July, Wimbledon Park from 10am

Sports day is fast approaching and Peter Hutton has emailed the details, including the programme, round to all Cub and Scout Leaders. If you haven't had your copy, please contact him on [peter@brandenergyresearch.co.uk](mailto:peter@brandenergyresearch.co.uk) to make sure you have the information and that he has added you to his mailing list. Details are also available on the District website - click on the link on the front page of [www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org](http://www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org)



This year's event should be even better than last year's - the District Band will be there and there will be side shows and activities to keep your Cubs and Scouts busy between events. Inevitably, Peter would like some more help so if you have any Leaders, Parents or Explorers who could come along, please let him know as soon as possible.

### Can you help?

The following email has been received in the District - can your Group help?

Hello!

We are the clan (boys and girls from 16 to 22 years old) "Orizzonti di Pace" of the scout group Cosenza 3. We are from Cosenza in Calabria (Italy) and we are planning to do a camp in London this summer. We are looking for a place to spend the night in for four days ( 15-16-17-18 August 2009). We found the south London scout center surfing the net, but we don't know the prices and we don't have a lot of money, that is why we are trying to find a group of Scouts who could help us. Is there any group that could borrow us their residence( if so could you please inform us about the price?)? It would be a pleasure for us to meet a group from London (who knows, you could also come and stay by us next year!).

We look forward to hearing from you soon,  
Orizzonti di pace Cosenza 3.

You can contact us by email:

[orizzontidipace@libero.it](mailto:orizzontidipace@libero.it),  
[nuncevogliupensa@yahoo.it](mailto:nuncevogliupensa@yahoo.it), [borntobeclia@live.it](mailto:borntobeclia@live.it)  
or by phone:

(+39)3292776327

thanks for your attention.

## District Commissioner

The process for appointing my successor is now completed and Ian Newbery has made the announcement that he has invited Joe Rogerson to become the new DC for Wimbledon and Wandle.

Many congratulations Joe.

Joe and I will begin to work alongside each other until the formal handover around the end of the year. I will continue to be responsible until that handover but clearly I will be involving Joe as DC Designate in all major decisions.

I would personally like to say that I am delighted Joe has accepted this appointment and I am certain he will be a great success and receive your full support.

Many congratulations to all those who have gained awards this year. The full list is included in this issue of Links.

I am now currently dealing with a third problem within Groups caused by the use or mis- use of email.

Can I make abundantly clear that the use of email to contact parents should be used sparingly and with some care. The principal communication with parents should be letter and face to face meetings. Criticisms or comments of other leaders or parents must not appear in any email under any circumstances and I will not treat lightly any further problems caused by this.

The use of the Nights Away Passport system has also given me some huge concerns. In future all uses of the passport must be referred to me via Keith Daly. You should allow an absolute minimum of 14 days before the event so that I can be satisfied with the arrangements made. Unless a full and detailed risk assessment accompanies the application together with copies of communication with parent I will not even consider it.

I shall be requiring scout leaders to undertake a further short training session to ensure the use of the system satisfies the principal policies of the movement. I am not attempting to restrict the use of a Nights Away Passport; merely to ensure its use fully covers the protection of young people

*Bob*

## Fellowship - Linda Vaudrey



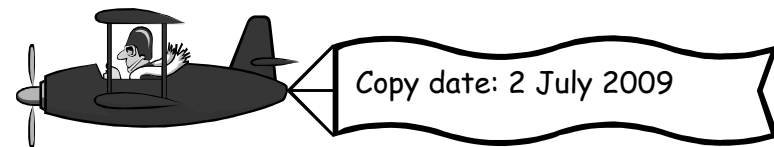
It was good to see so many members, in uniform, at the District A.G.M. You will be pleased to hear that we were complimented again on our new scarves and sweatshirts!

The annual B.B.Q. will be held on Saturday, 25th July in David and Jean Gould's garden. Please let Jean or David know if you would like to attend. Further details to follow.

Following our successful trip to Chatham last year, we are hoping to arrange a trip in October, possibly to a National Trust property or something similar. As soon as details have been finalised we will let you know.

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*"Throughout the ages genius has always been in short supply, so that most achievement in the world has been, and always will be, the work of painstaking, ordinary individuals."*



Please note that copy date is one week later than normal due to holidays. However, Links will be produced as soon as I am home, so any reports that have not been received by this date will not be included - Editor.

**Young Leaders' training** - There has been a lot of discussion lately amongst Troop Scouters about the lack of provision for Young Leader Training. Leaders must make sure that any Explorer age members who are acting as Young Leaders are registered with Dick Hooper, 88 Poplar Court, Gap Road SW19 8JW, 020 8879 0639. We must meet the team half way to stand any chance of getting the training the young people deserve.

**Camping Assessment** - don't forget to register your teams for the camping assessment weekend and any Leaders that are free and would like to come and help would be very welcome. Any adults - from any Section - who would like assessing for a night away permit, or just want to gain experience of quality Scout camping, are also welcome. Please give me a call on 020 8542 2017 or 07889 598 960.

#### Explorers - Neil McLauchlan

Activities fast approaching include:

**District Sports day:** Sat 11<sup>th</sup> July. Explorers & Leaders are needed to help with the running of the day. Please contact Peter Hutton directly with offers of help; [peter@brandenergyresearch.co.uk](mailto:peter@brandenergyresearch.co.uk). The day will run from 9.00am to 5.30pm.



**Gilwell 24:** Sat 11<sup>th</sup> July - Sun 12<sup>th</sup> July, at Gilwell Park. Activities start at 9.00am on the Saturday and carry on non stop until 9.00am on the Sunday. Great fun, follow this link to the website; <http://www.gilwell24.info/>

**Scout/Explorer Scout Link Activity Day:** Sun 13<sup>th</sup> September. This will be an activity day for older Scouts when they will be able to link up with the Explorer Scouts for the day. Full details will follow shortly but please reserve the date in your diaries now.

Plus dates still to be confirmed for: the County remote camp weekend, the County Explorer Scout Night Hike & the County mountaineering weekend in Bethesda.

#### Awards

Many congratulations to everyone who has received an award this year - especially to Bob for his Silver Wolf.

#### Silver Wolf

For services of the most Exceptional Nature  
Bob Prescott DC

#### Bar to the Award of Merit

For further outstanding service  
Evelyn Steele AGSL 1<sup>st</sup> Lower Morden  
Tim Kerridge SL 22<sup>nd</sup> Wimbledon

#### Award of Merit

For Outstanding Service  
Alan Maloney GSL 22<sup>nd</sup> Wimbledon  
John Bennett ASL 5<sup>th</sup> Morden  
Neil Griffin ESL Wimbledon ESU  
Rita Scott BSL 11<sup>th</sup> Mitcham

#### Chief Scouts Commendation

For Good Service  
Paul Miles Chairman 1<sup>st</sup> Morden  
Andy Pinder CSL 13<sup>th</sup> Wimbledon  
David Williams ABSL 1<sup>st</sup> Lower Morden  
Sean Maher SL 9<sup>th</sup> Wimbledon  
Joe Rogerson ESL Mitcham ESU  
Anita Meah-Wilson ACSL 14<sup>th</sup> Wimbledon  
Suzanne Bouchard CSL 2<sup>nd</sup> Morden

