

"Section meetings are the bread and butter of Scouting. Camping is the cake. Everything humanly possible should be done to ensure our Scouts are not deprived of cake."

Colin McKay, Canny Crack
(Scouting Magazine) 1989



Links Editor
Lesley Bixby
1 Springfield Avenue, London, SW20 9JR
07713 154317
thebixbys@talktalk.net



Links

June 2012 - Issue no. 84

June 13	Key Managers' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
16-17	Scouts' camping assessment weekend	Park Farm
16	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
23	District Sports	Sutton Arena
July 1	Scouts' rafting event	Ravensbury Park
1	SASU Summer meal	
4	District Executive	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
7	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
11	CSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
18	BSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
18	Scout Progressive Programme review	22 nd Wimbledon HQ 7.30pm
21	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
21	SASU BBQ	Buckleigh Avenue

District Commissioner

The marvellous spirit of Scouting that we all saw in action at our Jubilee Camp, under the most difficult of circumstances, together with the increase in our numbers previously covered in Links, indicate that, as a District, we are definitely moving in the right direction. If we add to that our improving financial position, we can see quite clearly that the hard work done by everyone over the last few years is bearing tangible fruit.

That we still have challenges to face goes without saying, be they at Section, Group or District level. What we can be proud of, however, is our demonstrable capacity to deal with challenges head-on and our shared desire to provide the best quality Scouting possible to all our Scouts.

As we continue to try and improve, please look out for revised processes for Nights Away Permit Assessments and Section Leader role applications, which should be confirmed after discussion at Key Managers and District Team meetings and circulated by mid-June.

Finally, Explorer Scouting is expanding apace with one new Unit already in place (St Saviour's) and at least two others close to opening. A big thank you to all those who are working so hard on this exciting initiative, which is enabling Scouting to be enjoyed by even more of our members aged 14+.

Joe

come and go at any time but please, if they are not going to have a leader with them, could you let me know in advance.

Summer Camps: If, as I suspect, you are currently chasing around checking equipment, buying food and training scouts, please try to find a few minutes to submit your NAN form and check that your Nights Away permit hasn't expired. If you wish to be assessed for a permit, please contact me soon as possible as you will only be covered once the assessment is done, you have submitted your application to Paul Atkins and he has issued your permit.

If you are using an outside body to provide activities for your camp, please remember to check the headquarters fact sheet for the qualifications required of such organisations. The responsibility is on the camp leader to ensure that they comply and if they cannot supply the correct certification - **don't use them.**

I often get invitations to visit Troops in camp and I like to come but please ensure that you let me have the site details and a copy of your programme so I can pick a day when you will be on site. I need a couple of weeks' notice to book the time off work.

Scout Active Support - Linda Vaudrey

A very big thank you to everyone who turned out for the District Camp. Some stalwarts even stayed the whole weekend! Still, they do say mud is good for the complexion.



Saturday 26th May - Very sorry for those who didn't make the trip - we had a great day - weather/food/company good and we even managed a trip up the Spinnaker. Thanks to Rob for organising and special thanks to Allan for driving us all there.

Don't forget Armed Forces Day, help needed on 30th June and also the BBQ on 21st July. Please contact David or Jean Gould a.s.a.p. if you can help on the 30th June or you want to go to the BBQ on 21st July.

Diary Date - formal meeting, with speaker, on Tuesday 11th September.

Section Reports

Cub report - Michèle McNamara



Football - we were blessed with great weather for this competition. The event ran very smoothly from my point of view; however we could have done with having more referees as the packs that did provide referees had to cover a great number of matches. I would like to thank all those who did referee and ask cub leaders if they can pass on our thanks. The final was between the 5th Morden B and 11th Mitcham, with the 5th finally winning, 3rd place was the 5th Morden A team and 4th the 16th Morden. Well done to all the cubs that took part and played and made this a very friendly tournament. It was a pity that only 7 packs took part.

CSLs' Meeting - the next meeting will be on July 11th back at Morden Hall DHQ, it is at this meeting that we plan the district events for the coming year, so we need as many of you there as possible.

Scout report - Dave Bixby



Scout Progressive Programme review - 22nd Wimbledon HQ, Arthur Road, Motspur Park, New Malden KT3 6LX at 7.30pm.

We don't often have the opportunity to influence the future format of the Scout Training programme. Now is the time to have your say directly to the people from the Scout Association.

It's no good grumbling at local meetings and then continuing to run the programme as you always have. Our membership fees go towards the development of the training scheme so let's get our money's worth. If the meeting clashes with your Troop meeting (HQ set the date), let your assistants run the Troop, send one along to the programme review or even get your GSL to look after the Scouts for an evening.

If all else fails, let Tim Kerridge or me have your views and we will see them passed on.

Rafting - Ravensbury Park, 1st July from 12 noon

Please make sure that if your Scouts are coming to this fun event you have told me so I can allocate equipment to them. We are there from 12 noon until 4.30pm on the River Wandle just above the main bridge. Troops can

Chairman's Chatter - Andy Edmonds

Two years into my appointment, I hope that what we have achieved together is not viewed in the same way as most seem to view the achievements of the Coalition Government over the same timescale?

It was pleasing to see so many people at our AGM last month and to have such a positive meeting. At heart we all share the same objectives and it is great to see everyone coming together to celebrate our achievements and share our future dreams.

As is the way in my role, things continue to change! Potential income next year might not be as much as I hoped last month, but you can be assured that everything is being done to ensure that the assets of Wimbledon and Wandle are maximised to provide for Scouting in LB Merton. As I write, matters as regards the flat at Kenneth Black are being concluded (will be 26 months in so doing!).

The challenge for the future is to identify and agree on what the District can do best to support Groups at the "front end". Inevitably there are some things we do best together and others that are better dealt with locally. I am always conscious that as Trustees of a Charity we need to do what is best to enable the individual Charities (Group / District / County) we represent to prosper. Rest assured that not a penny is spent (or levied from you), without such consideration and all efforts are taken to ensure that we maximise the incoming pennies from the assets we collectively own!

Now that the priority of focus is moving from "putting out fires and preventing their spread", we are looking at how the District can best support Scouting in Merton. This may well focus on wider plans for the Explorer Section, which is a District responsibility. Any knock down support could filter to other Sections, but will be part of an updated District Plan. As I've said before, the DC and I will be visiting Groups to see how we can help you in meeting your priorities and these too could be part of our updated Plan.

I will be doing some "Real Scouting" at the District Sports, so if anyone wants to "bend my ear", I'll be at the High Jump in the morning!!

In the meantime, 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!).

Jubilee Camp 2012

Hi all,

Well we did it! It was wet, it was muddy but I guess that you all remember that! Hopefully everyone has fond memories about the whole camp. As the tents dry and the kit gets cleaned I am sure that everyone will remember a great time.

Many thanks again to everyone involved. We all played our part contributing to the execution of a very special event for all our members.

Thanks
Neil...

Lost property

All the lost property from District Camp is festering at DHQ and parents/leaders are welcome to come and rummage on a Thursday evening when the Store is open.

Everything will be disposed of at the end of term.

Photos

Graham Fairclough (22nd Wimbledon) is collating all the photos from the Jubilee camp and they will be out on CD in due course. But for now a small sample are available with this issue of Links - mostly taken by Peter Hutton. Many thanks to David Gould for arranging the colour printing.

Inflatables

The Titanic Slide used at the camp was provided by Surrey Inflatables. Visit their website www.surreyinflatables.co.uk and use them at your Group events.

Training

6 Jun	17	Activities outdoors	19.45-22.15	MH
20 Jun	15	Challenging behaviour	19.45-22.15	MH
22 Sep	12	Planning a balanced programme	09.30-13.30	1 st LM
29 Sep	16	Introduction to residential experiences	10.00-13.00	1 st LM
20 Oct	11	Administration	10.00-11.15	1 st LM
20 Oct	19	International	11.30-13.00	1 st LM
20 Oct	17	Activities outdoors	14.00-16.30	1 st LM
17 Nov	15	Challenging Behaviour	10.00-12.00	1 st LM
17 Nov	14	Young people today	12.00-13.00	1 st LM
17 Nov	9	Working with Adults	14.00-15.00	1 st LM
17 Nov	8	Skills of Leadership	15.15-16.30	1 st LM
24 Nov	13	Growing the Movement: Section Leaders	10.00-13.00	MH
24 Nov	21	Growing the Movement: Managers	10.00-16.30	MH

1st LM 1st Lower Morden HQ, Bow Lane, off Lower Morden Lane, Morden SM4 4SJ

MH Wimbledon & Wandle District HQ, Morden Road, Mitcham CR4 4DD

Application forms for all Modules can be downloaded from the County website www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/support or contact Joan Condon on 020 8540 5115 or 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. The next planned course is 20th September at 4th Worcester Park.

First Aid training contact Janet Drinkall tel: 020 8660 4774

Olympic Uniform Badge and Scarf - Lesley Bixby

Scout HQ have introduced an Olympic uniform badge (to be worn on the left chest 'in the proximity of the Jubilee badge') to recognise the individual involvement of both young people and adults.

It can be earned by anyone who has completed an Olympic themed event as a Scout eg

- Our Scouting Adventure
- Participating in the torch relay (either carrying or cheering on the torch)
- Participating in an Olympic-themed Scouting event or
- Participating in a local community event of celebration.

I will not be keeping these in stock but you can order them from me either at the store or by email - thebixbys@talktalk.net. They will be available at the end of June but I will accept orders now. Cost - £1 each.

The yellow Olympic scarf can be ordered through me or Brian Whalebone. The adult size costs £5.60 and the youth scarf is £5.

District Store - Brian Whalebone

There have been a number of price changes recently which I will have to pass on from the beginning of July:

Beaver Log Book	£2.75
Cub Power Pack	£4.00
Cub Power Membership Pack	£5.50
Scout Record Book	£2.25
Beaver, Cub & Scout investiture Certificates	£3.50
Certificates	£3.50 for packets of 10
Beaver Polo Shirt	£10
Cub Polo shirt	£11
Scout Polo Shirt	£12
Explorer Polo Shirt	£15
Adult Leaders Polo Shirt	£15.

One only: XL Uniform Fleece going cheap £30.00 - they went up in May.

The Store closes on the 19 July and reopens for the Autumn Term on the 13th of September

District Sports

Date 23 June 2012
Place Sutton Arena (approach from Middleton Road)

This year, as well as all the usual events, there will be some for Explorer Scouts and Young Leaders who may enter as Units or as individuals.

Peter Hutton is Organiser-in-Chief and would welcome offers of help - even at the last minute!

It would be great to see a few different Groups joining in this year and even if your section cannot muster a full team, please encourage those who would like to take part to come along and join in.

All details are on line at <http://wimbledonandwandlescouts.org/sports11.htm> and they are also available in the Scout Leaders' Red Book.

District Directory

The latest version of the District Directory was published during May. If you would like a copy it can be requested by following this link: <http://www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org/directory.htm>

Updates for the next edition can be emailed at any time to directory@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org

Annual Report

If you were unable to get to the AGM but would like to see a copy of the Annual Report, it is available on the District website.



Race Night

14th July 7pm to 10pm

6/12th Mitcham Scout Hall, Glebe Court, Mitcham

Contact Peter Treagust for more information