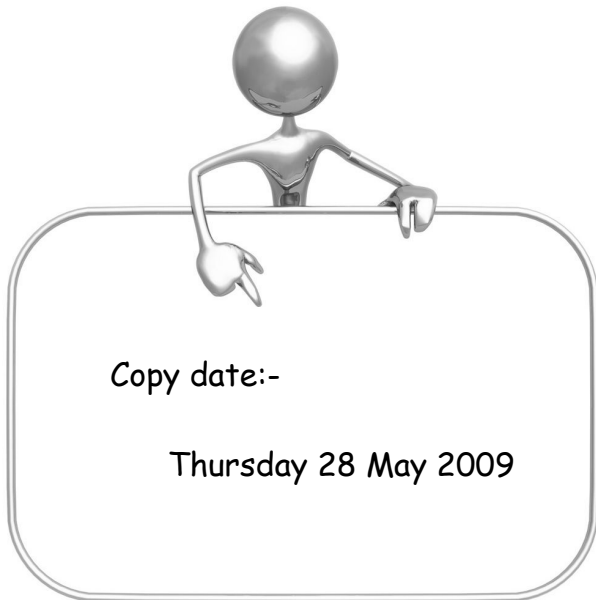
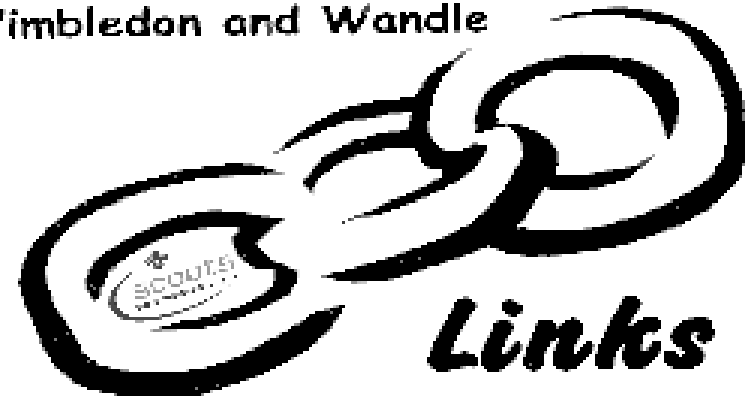


It's not what happens to you in life that matters, it's how you choose to deal with it.



Wimbledon and Wandle



May 2009
Issue 53

May 6	Cub Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
11	Troop Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
13	District Annual General Meeting	Kenneth Black DHQ
16	Scout karting	Playscape, Streatham
17	Cub 7-a-side football	Raynes Park High School
20	Beaver Leaders' Meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
June 12	Cub Athlete's badge testing	Raynes Park Playing Fields
15	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
20-21	Scouts Camping Assessment Weekend	Park Farm
21	Fellowship summer meal	
July 8	Cub Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
11	District Sports	Wimbledon Park
12	Scout raft race	Ravensbury Park

Links Editor: Lesley Bixby

1 Springfield Avenue, Merton Park, SW20 9JR

020 8542 2017 07713 154 317 thebixbys@talktalk.net

District Commissioner

Many congratulations to Evelyn Steele and Tim Kerridge on being awarded The Bar to the Award of Merit for further Outstanding services.

It is with regret that I have received the resignations of our Treasurer John Young and President and Chairman of the Property and Finance Committee Keith Angliss. I would like to thank them for all their very hard work in trying to pull our accounts together.

Amongst a number of reasons for their respective decisions was the lack of any determination by many to comply with basic accounting rules and Policy Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association.

Classic amongst this is the practice of single signature cheques. Not only is this against the rules of the association but more seriously of the Charity Commission. I will make this perfectly clear: this practice must cease immediately. I can assure you it is for your own protection! It is also quite wrong to have blank cheques signed before use.

Also the requirement for the simple provision of receipts for expenditure is sadly lacking as is ensuring the best interest rate available is being used for money sitting in accounts.

I would assess that all monies in District, Group and Explorer Scout accounts add up to in excess of some £400,000 and we are obliged as Trustees to ensure this money attracts the best interest rate we can find.

So, not only are we searching for a new DC but also a Treasurer and Chair of the Property and Finance Committee. If you know anyone that might be suitable please let Eric or myself know.

The District Development Conference is intended be on Saturday 3rd October in a hotel. It will be for one day and ending with a dinner and dance. No overnight stop will be included but it is envisaged that some will stop overnight. Partners will be welcome to come for the evening programme. This appears to be the best compromise and fully supported by the District Team.

The Explorer Scouts also enrolled in the D of E scheme had their workbooks signed off.

A big thank you goes to Dave Suckling for helping during the weekend and throughout the year.

Finally, a huge plea goes out to all GSLs, if we are to make YL training in W&W a success then the District needs full details of all the YLs in their sections and their membership fees paid; otherwise the consequences with regard to lack of insurance could be disastrous.

Dave Suckling and I are trying to get the YLs together, possibly monthly on Tuesdays at the Morden Hall DHQ so watch this space!

Scout Fellowship - Linda Vaudrey

Our recent Beetle Drive was its usual success.

Thank you to Jean.



Thank you also to all members who turned out for the St George's Day service. For once the weather was kind and it all seemed to go smoothly. The schedule was very tight, however, in that the morning Church Service finished at about the same time as the parade reached the gates!

The 'stroll' planned for Sunday 10th May has been cancelled, due to lack of interest.

The Summer Meal, however, is still going ahead. This is on 21st June at the National Surrey Golf Club. I believe Rob has been in touch, separately, about this event. If you are planning to go and have not yet confirmed your booking, please let Rob or Jean know, (tel 020 8330 7466) a.s.a.p. or by the latest 31st May. Many thanks.

Please note that Bob Prescott has a new email address
r_prescott1@sky.com

assessing for a Nights Away permit, or would just like to gain experience of good Scout camping practice, please give me a call on 020 8542 2017.

Next Troop Scouters' meeting is on 11 May at 8pm at the Morden Hall DHQ.

Explorer Scouts - Neil McLauchlan

Thanks to all who attended St George's Day Parade. We had an excellent turnout of Leaders and members.



I understand that plans are going well for the Merton Park Expedition to Kenya this summer. Will all Units please let me have their summer plans for expeditions with dates etc. for my records.

Many thanks to Alison for sorting out loads of our Leader Training. There is a Nights Away course this Autumn for those who need to do this.

Young Leaders - Liz Laverick

In September 2008 DESCs and ESL(YL)s across the County started to meet to plan a GLSW training weekend for YLs and by December we had a programme, venue, date and cost and this was distributed to all DES's and Units across all 5 Districts of the County. This was advertised in the form of a flier to pass on to all YLs. Application, consent and health forms were completed and sent back by Districts.



The closing date for applications for the training weekend passed with only 3 from W&W and none being received from the other Districts. This was a real low. A lot of hard work and time had gone into planning this training weekend. The programme and cost had been devised on 40 participants, 8 from each of the 5 districts; if we could not get 25 then it would not be financially viable to run!

The date was extended and in the end the weekend ran from 20th to 22nd February 2009 with 13 participants from W&W. The weekend was a total success with all modules from A to J covered (only module K - First Aid, was not covered). There was even time for bowling and a formal 4 course dinner with Andy Harris as the after dinner speaker. It is intended that this County YL training weekend will be repeated.

I understand St George's Day Parade and Service went very well and was made so much more pleasant by the lovely weather. My thanks to Paul Atkins and Mike Edwards GSL 1st Morden for their huge contributions to the success of the event. My thanks also to the Band, the Fellowship, and a number of others who helped and made this a success.

The collection raised £244.10 for Woodlarks Camp Site Trust for the Disabled.

It is a pity that not every Group decided to attend for whatever reason, but the fact remains that this is the most suitable location in the District and provides a reasonable march and an appropriate venue for the service. I would like to know from each Group who didn't attend what arrangements are in place to ensure young people took part in a Promise renewal ceremony.

My apologies for not being there with you but I had a wonderful day at Windsor.

I hope to see many at the District AGM on the 13th May at Kenneth Black DHQ.

Bob

Congratulations

to

Joshua Bryant

a Cub in the 23rd Mitcham
who raised £204 for the Group Van Fund
by having his head shaved.

Well done!

Section Reports

Beavers - Kevin Quigley

Firstly a big thank you to all the Beavers and their Leaders (and parents too) who came to the St Georges Day Parade on Sunday 26th April. Lucky for us the sun did shine and the rain kept away, and the only casualty as far as I know was one of the Metropolitan Police cyclists who were accompanying the march, who fell off his bike and buckled his gear set! Hopefully everybody enjoyed the march through the streets of Wimbledon Village, and heard the applause from some of the bystanders who were watching us.



We seem to be well into the light evenings and even some late sunshine now, so hopefully the Colonies are 'out and about' doing some fun things in different places. If you're off to somewhere different, please let me know and I'll do my best to join you.

I've also able to attend the Beaver Sleepover that the 22nd Wimbledon held at their own Headquarters. It was stage to see Beavers sleeping in tents inside - Not what I'm used to I'm afraid! Again if you're 'sleeping over' please let me know.

Finally some Beaver dates for the diary: -

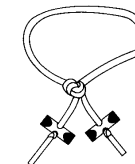
District AGM on 13th May at Kenneth Black DHQ at 8.00pm.

Next Beaver Leaders' Meeting - Wednesday 20th May 2009 at 8.00pm at Morden DHQ - please can each colony send a member as we are 'sorting out' the activity bases for the Activity Day in September to give people plenty of time to organise themselves. (The Activity Day will be held on 27th September 2009 - further details to follow.)

Bike Ride - Morden Hall DHQ - Sunday 14th June 2009 from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Further details to follow.

The latest District Directory is available - and (as I understand it) is to be circulated via your GSL or Scouter in Charge. If you have a problem getting hold of a copy, please let me know and I see if I can help.

Congratulations should also go to Francis Corrigan, Sean Maher and Catriona Maher who have all completed their wood badges in the last month. I think that takes the total into double figures for 2009!



Finally we are also aware that there are some Leaders working in Groups whose CRB approvals have run out! So could all of you check the date of your disclosures and if in doubt contact either myself or Joan Burgess as Appointment Secretary.

Training Dates

Module No	Name	Date	Time
7	Valuing Diversity	17.05.09	10am-11.15am
9	Working with Adults	17.05.09	11.45am-1pm
17	Activities Outdoors	17.05.09	2pm-4.30pm
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
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 for more details.

Appointments Committee - Joan Burgess (Sept 2008 - March 2009)

Congratulations to the following Leaders who have now had their full warrants approved:

Martin Chick - AESL, Merton Park Unit;
Stephen Turner - AESL, Mitcham Unit;
Louise Ephgrave - ABSL, and Peter Mead - CSL, 1 Lower Morden;
Matthew Craughwell ASL and Matthias Edwards - ASL, 1 Morden;
John Culley - ACSL, Tracey Galonis - BSL and Shuile Syeda - GSA, 1 Wimbledon;
Corinne Garrod - ACSL, 3 Mitcham;
Tracey Sterlini - BSL and Brendan Walsh - ASL - 5 Morden;
Kerry-Ann Inwood - CSL and Dianne Mundy - ASL, 6/12 Mitcham;
Matthew Hunt ASL, 8 Wimbledon;
Sharon Clack - ABSL and Michelle Young - ABSL, 8 Morden;
Thomas Causton - ASL, 9 Wimbledon;
Andy Sloane - ASL, 16 Morden;
James Wilkins - ASL, 19 Wimbledon;
Martin Higgs ACSL and Sharon Rowe - ABSL, 20 Mitcham;
James Hannam - ASL 22 Wimbledon.

Apologies to Leaders who have not yet have received their Warrant Certificates. There has been a problem at Gilwell - I am still awaiting certificates from February. However, I have followed this up and have been assured that they are on the way. Do contact me if you have any queries.

Training - Alison Edwards

Well done to the 4 Leaders who undertook module 16 at Bears Wood at the end of March. I hope you found it useful and fun. Would all GSLs and ESLs please try to encourage the Leaders who are undergoing training to take up the opportunity to do this course as it only runs twice a year? The cost can be claimed back from District for all agreed module training, so please don't let this put you off. We hope to have a good attendance from the District at the next course in October and I do know certain training advisers are working with their trainees on this.

Cubs - Michèle McNamara

Football - This competition is due to take place on Sunday May 17th at Raynes Park High School. Although I need to know numbers for teams taking part by May 1st, I have not asked for the money which is £16 per team to be paid until the date of the next CSL meeting which is **Wednesday 6th May**. I would be grateful if participating teams could make sure I receive the money by then as I don't want the same situation that happened with the activity day where I ended up making umpteen trips to the bank, as the money trickled in. The draw for the football will be made at the same meeting and a timetable will be sent to you prior to the event.



Athletes Badge Testing - This has been booked for Friday evening June 12th from 18.00 - 21.00 at Raynes Park Playing fields which are located in Grand Drive, London SW20. We will need to discuss this at the next CSL meeting since the grounds men have not been able to mark the field as they normally do and we need to work out how to compensate for this. This is a good opportunity for those Packs without resource to sports grounds etc to let their Cubs try for these badges, meet other Cubs and with all the Leaders working together is much more time effective. Hopefully this year the weather will be kinder.

Camps - Finally with summer approaching don't forget that your Nights Away Notification should be sent to Keith Daly in plenty of time.

Scouts - Dave Bixby

Karting: this year the take up for this event has been so good that it was fully booked long before the closing date - last year I struggled to fill the places and we made a loss! I have a waiting list of Scouts keen to take part, so if anyone with a booking is unable to come, please let me know as soon as possible.



Camping Assessment Weekend 20-21 June at Park Farm: The closing date for entries is 7 June.

This event is open to the inexperienced as well as competent campers and experienced Leaders will give guidance to Scouts new at camping. Full details are in the Red Book. If any Leaders, from any Section, would like

Appointments Process

The Appointments process is changing to try and make it more manageable and easier for new applicants to understand. Training sessions have been held during April and if you have any questions about the procedures, please contact your Local Training Manager, Alison Edwards. The new process will be introduced across GLSW in the next couple of months.

District Store

The Store will be open on Saturdays 16 May, 6 and 20 June and will be closed for half term on 28 May.

First Aid Course

There are still a few vacancies on the First Aid course to be held at Bow Lane on 6 June.

County AGM

The County AGM will be held on Wednesday 10 June at 8pm in the Sutton DHQ, Wallington. All District officials are invited and anyone who has an interest in what our County is doing is also welcome to attend.

Nights Away

Don't forget to get your NAN forms off to Keith Daly in plenty of time. You should allow at least two weeks between submitting your form and the start of your camp etc.

It may be worth reminding you again that if you have not submitted your form and you have a problem, Scout HQ may not be able to support you.



Circus Skills

Would you like something different for your weekly meeting or camp programme? Bezerkaz Circus are experienced performers who have much experience of working with members of the Movement. Have a look on www.bezerkaz.co.uk .

You are cordially invited to attend
the Wimbledon and Wandle District Scout Council's

Annual General Meeting

on Wednesday 13 May 2009
in the Wimbledon DHQ,
Kenneth Black Memorial Hall, Worple Road,
Wimbledon SW19 4EY

7.45pm for an 8pm start

Uniform to be worn if appropriate.

