

Scout Active Support – Linda Vaudrey

A very big Thank You to everyone who helped at the St George's Day Parade and Service!

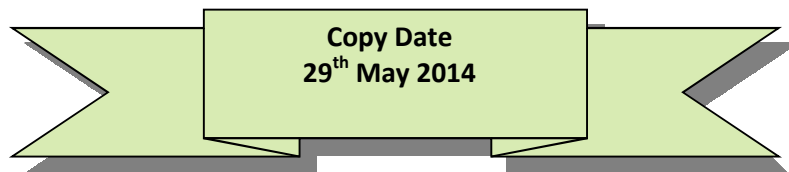


Reminder District AGM at 1st Lower Morden HQ on Wednesday 7th May – everyone there in uniform please. We shall be providing the catering so any help would be appreciated.

Away Day visit – The consensus of opinion is that we will visit the National Trust property of Hughenden Manor on Sunday 22nd June. If you have not already given your name to Robert please ensure that you do so, a.s.a.p. Further information re times and costing will be available at a later date.'

“If you make listening and observation your occupation you will gain much more than you can by talk.”

Robert Baden-Powell



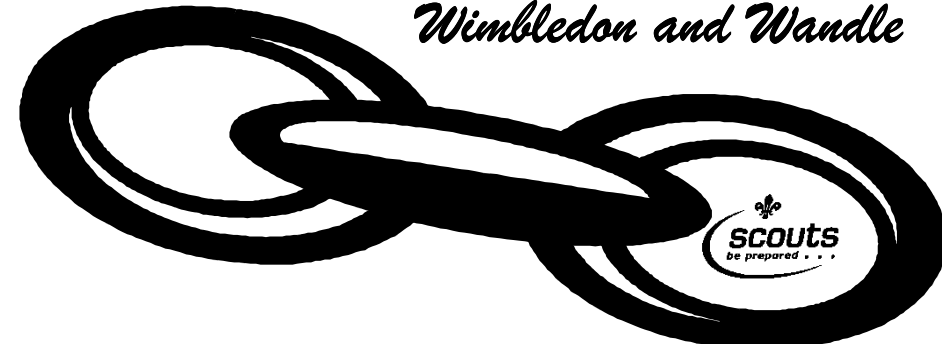
Links Editor

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Wimbledon and Wandle



Links

May 2014 - Issue 103

May 3-4	Scouts' Backwoods Camp	Broadstone Warren
7	District AGM	1 st Lower Morden HQ
12	District Team Meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
13	Troop Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
14	CSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
17	Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
18	Cubs' football competition	Raynes Park High School
20	Key Managers' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
21	Beaver Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
29	No Store (half term)	
June 7	Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
11	County AGM	Sutton DHQ 8pm
21	Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
22	Cubs' Adventure Day	Frylands Wood
29	Scouts' rafting	Ravensbury Park

District Commissioner

First of all, a big thank-you everyone involved in organising and facilitating our St George's Day Parade. It was great to see so many Leaders, Scouts and Guides from throughout the District enjoying the afternoon.

A special thanks, however, to Paul Atkins who has masterminded the parade for Wandle and then for Wimbledon and Wandle Districts, since he has decided that it is the right time to pass the baton to someone else. Whoever takes up the baton will not only benefit from the organisational template that Paul has perfected over the years, but also from the streamlined links we now have with the Council and the Police, which took time, effort and considerable diplomacy to put in place. Most of all, though, has been Paul's ability to book the weather!

The effect on the local community of seeing the Movement out in public in such numbers cannot be underestimated, which is one of the reasons why it is so important that we continue to parade in large numbers on St George's Day and Remembrance Sunday. Our participation in parades on occasions such as these also shows that we are proud of our Movement and the value that we place on our role as Scouts in our community, key aims of Scouting's Vision 2018, which we are clearly meeting well ahead of time.

Joe

Congratulations

Scouting was well represented at the Merton Civic Awards ceremony in April and our congratulations go to **Dave Bixby** (ADC(Scouts)) who won the Volunteer of the Year Award and to **Luke Meah-Wilson** (14th Wimbledon) who received the Young Person's Achievement Award.

District Raft Event – 29th June Any Troop aiming to take part in the rafting in Ravensbury Park needs to register the fact by 15th June. I don't need numbers of Scouts, just whether your Troop will be there to help us organise enough equipment.

Canal Boat Experience – 20th and 21st September Although this event is still some way away, please don't lose track of the dates over the summer holidays. Book early!

Anglers Badge course – Following the taster day, the fishing people have now offered to run a course for the Anglers badge. It would consist of a couple of training classes in May followed by 3 coached sessions at Cannon Hill in June. They are offering 20 places at £10 a head. Any takers?

Events for 2015 – I know that it's a long way off, but it would be good if Troops can start thinking over the summer about what to suggest at our September meeting.

You could even take a radical approach and ask your Scouts!

After our recent training weekends, is it time to resurrect our Patrol in Camp assessment weekend?

Given the low turnout for the football, should this be given a rest?

Please give it some thought.

Our next Section meeting is on Tuesday 13th May at 8pm in Morden Hall DHQ. If anyone has any items for the Bran Tub, please let me know or bring them to the meeting.

Explorer Scouts – Neil McLauchlan

Several units took part in the Assessment Weekend for our Award Hikes. We had Explorer Scouts completing Chief Scouts Platinum and Diamond Award hikes as well as Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze and Silver Awards. Very well done to all those who took part and many thanks to all the leaders who supported these hikes.



Our next event is the Survival Weekend on Sat 9th – Sun 10th May. Full details have been circulated by Vicky who is co-ordinating this event.

Will all units remember to keep the date Sat 20th – Sun 21st September free for our District Night Hike. This date has already been circulated but we do need every unit taking part in our own event. More details nearer the time.

Chairman's Chatter

April's meeting of the District Executive Committee was reasonably uneventful; a further sign that issues are being dealt with or that the DC is only one man and needs more help!

A great deal of discussion surrounded the future District Development Plan and Vision 2014-2018. Clearly some Groups in the District are finding it difficult "on the ground" and maybe the time has come for some radical thinking moving forward? I did ask a couple of months ago if anyone was interested in joining the Executive to help formulate and then implement future plans? I am pleased that subject to confirmation at the AGM, a new face will be joining our Team.

On the subject of "Team", we are all blessed that everyone on the Executive has agreed to stand for another year and (subject to confirmation at the AGM), to continue the fantastic, mainly unseen, work they do in supporting Scouting across LB Merton. So "thank you" to everyone on the Executive for your service and support over the last 12 months and (assuming the DC nominates me again and we all get voted back in!), I look forward to more of the same over the next 12 months!

For anyone who does not get to the AGM on 7th May, copies of the Report and Accounts will be available via the District web site and the Charities Commission web site.

Andy Edmonds

Store – Brian Whalebone

Scout Headquarters have increased prices and they will be effective at the District Store from the beginning of June.

- Beaver and Cub polo and sweatshirts up 50p
- Scout shirts and blouses up 50p
- Air/Sea Scout shirts, Explorer and Adult long sleeved shirts up £1.00
- Short sleeve versions up 50p
- Scout uniform Belt and Buckle up £1.00
- Leather woggles – plain, embossed and plaited now £1.25 each
- Scarves - all scarves up by 10p each
- New Beaver And Cub Catalogues due out in May

Section Reports

Beavers – John Tweedley



Nothing much to report this month.

Please remember that we have a Beavers leaders' meeting on Wednesday 21st May. Could you send me your colony reports as Linda is away in New Zealand?

It would be nice to see some more Beaver colonies turn up for the meetings, if not a leader maybe a representative from your group. Also can you please make sure you send me your colony programmes, as some programmes seem to not reach me?

Cubs – Michèle McNamara



CSL Meeting – May 14th 2014, if you are unable to attend

please let me know, however it would be nice to see some of the packs who haven't attended for some time represented!

Football – Last date for entry Monday May 10th - no entries accepted after this date. Details have been posted to each pack and details will also be on the district web site.

Adventure Day – June 22nd, if you intend to attend this event and haven't yet volunteered to help, please contact Mia Patterson or Martin Neal.

Programmes – Please let me have your programmes for the summer term as soon as possible please. 4 packs have yet to send me any programmes to date for the previous 2 terms, please make sure that this term's programmes reach me without delay. Thanks.

Scouts - Dave Bixby



County All Sections meeting – on 18th May we have the County all sections meeting so if there are any matters you would like me to raise with the ACC Scouts, just let me know, particularly feedback on the recent County activities.

County Splash Down weekend – don't forget that if your Troop is taking part in Splash Down you will need to submit a NAN form. I've seen a couple already and any more need to be submitted a minimum of 2 weeks before the event.

St George's Day Parade and Service – Paul Atkins

Despite the ominous threat from the weather there was a good turn-out for our annual parade and service with an estimated 750 people in the church. The majority of the District took the opportunity to renew their Promises together although two Groups and four Explorer units were not represented. Thank you to all those who contributed to the service in the church from the 6/12th Mitcham, 11th Mitcham Guides, 9th Wimbledon and Mitcham ESU. As usual the band did us proud leading the parade.

My thanks also to the army of people from across the District who make the event possible each year whether by assisting with the advance preparations or taking on a job on the day.

The collection has not yet been counted at the time of writing but we will once again be making a contribution to the Walton Firs Foundation.

Badges – Lesley Bixby

I am sure most of you will be aware that a number of new activity badges have been introduced and should be available to buy from mid-May. I will get in stocks of the new Beaver and Cub badges but would appreciate notice from Scout and Explorer Scout Leaders if they require their new badges and I will order them to suit.

I will also hold stocks of all the low number Nights Away and Hikes Away badges.

Please note: I am keeping stocks of Challenge Badges for all Sections to a minimum as they will be changing next year and I do not want to be left with large numbers of badges that will not be used. Please give me due warning of the challenge badges you require. Orders go in after the Store on a Thursday and are normally received within a week.

Gang Show

“Join the Gang” sessions (auditions) will be held at 22nd Wimbledon HQ in Motspur Park on 11th and 18th May at 1.30pm.

Rehearsals take place at weekends from June to October that the show goes from 28th October to 1 November at the Secombe Theatre in Sutton.

Anyone over the age of 9 is welcome to come along to one of the Join the Gang sessions and more information is on the website www.souwest.net.

Training Dates

Date	Module	Title	Time
7 June	13	Growing the Movement (Leaders)	10.00 – 13.00
7 June	21	Growing the Movement (Managers)	10.00 - 16.30
21 Sept	16	Introduction to residential experiences	10.00 – 13.00
21 Sept	38A	Skills for residential experiences	14.00 – 17.00
11/12 Oct	38B	Skills for residential experiences weekend camp	tbc
26 Oct	12	Providing a balanced programme	09.30 – 13.30
26 Oct	19	International	14.30 – 16.00
16 Nov	15	Challenging behaviour	10.00 – 12.30
16 Nov	17	Activities outdoors	13.00 – 16.30
30 Nov	13	Growing the Movement (Leaders)	10.00 – 13.00
30 Nov	21	Growing the Movement (Managers)	10.00 – 16.30

All Modules will be at the 1st Lower Morden Scout Headquarters unless stated
Cost per Module is £4.00

Application forms from

Mrs J Condon 34 Arundel Avenue, Morden SM4 4DX

e.mail joan.glswtraining@btinternet.com or download from the County web site www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/applicationforms.

First Aid Dates

17th May 1st Whitton Richmond

Contact Mrs Janet Drinkall 020 8669 4774 e.mail jdrinkall@sky.com

Project Compass

By now you should be well underway with updating your personal information and that of your members on the database ready for the introduction of Compass in September. If you have any queries, please contact Paul Atkins. While it may be a nuisance at the moment, in the long run it WILL be worth it!