

Wimbledon and Wandloe



May 2017 – Issue 132

May 7	Cub Adventure Day	Frylands wood
8	SAS Mexican Train evening	Morden Hall DHQ 7.30pm
10	District Executive meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
15	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
16	Troop Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
17	Beaver Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
20	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
20	District Sports	Wimbledon Park
22	Key managers' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
June 1	No Store – half term	
7	Explorer Leaders' meeting	
10	Beavers' Fun Day	Gilwell
14	Annual General Meeting	1st Lower Morden
17	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
July 1	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
2	Cub Football	
7-9	Gilwell 24	Gilwell
8	SAS BBQ	
9	Rafting	Ravensbury Park

District Commissioner

First of all, a big thank you to Richard Marus and his team, the SAS and of course the band for organising and facilitating our St Georges Day Parade. Special thanks go to Anna Hurst and all those at the 11th Mitcham for picking some great songs and readings and very well done to their young readers for doing such a tremendous job. It was great to see so many Leaders, Scouts and Guides from across the District come together with over 750 members present to renew their promise in the Church and reaffirm that we are a family bound by common values.

More thanks need to go to Dave and Lesley Bixby with their team of volunteers from across the district who organised a very popular display of scouting at the recent Windmill celebrations on Easter Monday, ranging from a monkey bridge and knotting, to rockets and paracord bracelets. Many families dropped by and it's events such as this that allow us to dispel the misconceptions of the public such as girls don't do scouting!

It is perhaps all too easy for those of us involved in the movement, particularly when our families and many of our friends are too, for us to believe that everyone knows what we do but this is not the case. This is why seeing the Movement out in public at community celebrations and waving flags and smiling in such numbers as seen at St Georges Day cannot be under estimated as these occasions show that we are proud of our Movement.

Last, but not least, congratulations to our photo competition winners and also to Eoin Ford, Oliver Redford, Riccardo D'Andrea and Alex Swain for completing their Chief Scout Platinum award and to Emma Drinkwater for gaining the Diamond Award.

Deborah

Chairman's Chatter

Seems odd that after I introduced "Chairman's Chatter" to "Links", seven years ago, this will be my last Report!

Indeed, having already drafted my content for the Annual Report and the 2016 Accounts, my mutterings are definitely coming to an end!

Time now to Move On!

Having experienced, as a uniformed leader, decisions being made behind closed doors, by Executive's apparently appointed to do the DC's bidding, I have always tried to seek opinion, explain decisions and to be as open as possible. Whether that has been successful I do not know, because sometimes the lack of response to my "Chatter" has been "deafening"!

Anyway, we are where we are and at least my successor will be able to access all the information he or she needs to understand why decisions have been made and what outcomes are expected from agreed expenditure and also our plans for Reserves.

I was told by the DC that "I was difficult to get money from"! To my mind, and indeed that of the Law, it is the role of Charity Trustees to be "Critical Friends". It is very important that this continues!

As someone born in St Helier Hospital, "educated" in Mitcham / Pollards Hill, a Scout since 1970 and living locally all my life, I have Done my Duty and I leave with no regrets and the satisfaction of having Done my Best!

I have no idea what is happening or planned after next month (not that I have had any idea about either for the last 12 months!). It is vital that the DC and the Chair have an open "line" for regular communication. In the absence of such, it has been impossible to represent our District at County Executive level over the last year.

The date of the District AGM and venue has been well publicised (8pm: 14th June at 1st Lower Morden) and I hope for a good turnout.

It's Your District and the only meeting each year of our District Scout Council!

Windmill Bi-Centenary – Dave Bixby

I think B-P would have been proud to see the reaction of the public to our display at the Wimbledon Windmill on Easter Monday. It is not an exaggeration to say that they could not get enough of us.

We put on a variety of “Scouting” experiences: a monkey bridge, plaster casts, paracord bracelets, rope making. Peter Hutton’s set up showing basic knots was packed all day. The water rockets supplied by Michèle McNamara and organised by her and three Scouts from 23rd Mitcham went down, or up depending on how you look at it, a bomb.

Our display of tents through the ages was also well received as they ranged from original bell tents through patrol tents to pop ups and a tunnel tent. They almost brought a nostalgic tear to the eyes as people remembered their past experiences of Scouting and Guiding. One gentleman was relating his visit to the 6th World Jamboree as a Scout in 1947 and we even had a visit from Peter Duncan, ex-Chief Scout and Blue Peter Presenter.

The trustees of the Windmill were overwhelmed by our efforts.

Thanks go to the 22nd Wimbledon; 23rd Mitcham; Michele McNamara; Peter Hutton; Alex Swain; Caroline from Royal Kingston District who gave up the day to help us; 1st Morden for the loan of the bell tents and the 1st Lower Morden for the loan of their trek cart to help set the scene.

Do you remember these people. . . .?

We have received an email from **Norman Bryant** who was a member of the 2nd Mitcham Group as a boy. He is asking if anybody has any memory of the group, where in Colliers Wood it met and when it closed.

If anybody can provide any details on the 2nd Mitcham or remembers Norman, please contact Paul Atkins.

We have also been contacted by **John Winch** who belonged to a group between 1949 & 1954 which met in a church hall around Martin Way or Whatley Avenue.

The Scoutmaster was Buff Phillips.

If this jogs any memories, please contact Paul Atkins.

Appointments agreed in April 2017

Mrs. Viera Hamid	ABSL	5 th Morden
James Taylor	Section Assistant	19th Wimbledon
Josh Lambert	ASL	9th Wimbledon
Zac Lambert	ASL	9th Wimbledon

Thank you for taking on the commitment and we hope you enjoy your Scouting.

Disclosure Applications - New and Renewals

A valid Disclosure is an essential part of your role in our District. Please don't ignore the reminders sent out from HQ. These are sent out at 90, 60 and 30 days prior to Expiry of existing Disclosures. New members have a 30 day window in which to complete a Disclosure application.

Muriel Treagust, Appointments' Secretary

County Training Courses

Date	No	Module name	Time	Venue
20 May	12	Delivering and Planning a Programme	09.45-16.30	Richmond
30 Sept	12	Delivering and Planning a Programme	09.45-16.30	1 st Hook
8 Oct	16	Introduction to Residential Experiences	09.45-13.00	LoMo
8 Oct	38a	Skills for Residential Experiences	13.45-16.30	LoMo
21-22 Oct	38b	Skills for Residential Experiences	weekend	Croydon
4 Nov	19	International	10.00-12.30	LoMo
4 Nov	17	Running Safe Activities	13.00-16.30	LoMo
19 Nov	12	Delivering and Planning a Programme	09.45-16.30	Coulsdon
3 Dec	15	Promoting Positive Behaviour	10.00-13.00	5 Sutton
3 Dec	13	Growing the Section	13.45-16.30	5 Sutton

For more information regarding venues and to book, please visit the GLSW website http://www.glsWSCOUTS.org.uk/spage-adult_training-training_diary

First aid training

There are still some spaces left on the 13 May and 17 June courses for any new leaders needing to do first aid (module 10 of the adult training scheme), for section assistants and Young Leaders

- 13 May 3rd Mitcham HQ, 51 Woodland Way, Mitcham, CR4 2DZ
- 17 June 19th Wimbledon HQ , 106 Cottenham Park Road, West Wimbledon, SW20 0SZ

Both courses start at 9am and finish 4.45pm approx. and are free to attend. Places can be booked through Alison Edwards Alison.edwards@local.gov.uk.

District Skills Day 7 October 2017

Wimbledon and Wandle and Sutton Districts are holding a skills day on 7 October 2017. The day is aimed at anyone and everyone:

- Leaders in training are encouraged to come and try out some new skills and complete Module 18 of the Adult Training Scheme in the
- process.
- Those of you who have been around a little longer, come and take the part and refresh your knowledge.
- Young Leaders come and try some new things and take them back to your section.

It is free to attend and you don't have to come for the full time. So why not drop in and see what there is?

Please could anyone wanting more information email me on

Alison.edwards@local.gov.uk

Bookings for the day can be made via the Eventbrite link below

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/practical-skills-day-module-18-tickets-32006577535>

Photographic Competition

Congratulations to the winners of our photographic competition:

Beavers:	Ella Bateman-King	22nd Wimbledon
Cubs:	Mathew Roux	22nd Wimbledon
Scouts:	Oliver Brierly	5th Morden
Explorers:	Oliver Redford	Flying Penguins
Adults:	Peter Hutton	13th Wimbledon

You can view the winning entries at

www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org/photocompresults.htm

Is email a dying form of communication?

In the early days of mobile phones one often heard “I only switch it on when I want to use it” in reply to the remark that “I tried to phone you but your phone was not on”.

In recent months, it seems increasingly that people will use email to send a message but not check to see if there is a reply or if someone has tried to contact them.

At the last Key Managers’ meeting, there appeared to be definite interest in the Windmill bicentenary day and they asked for further information. This was duly sent round to all Groups with a follow-up shortly afterwards. Out of the 18 Groups, only one GSL replied. Subsequent discussions with several Groups revealed that they had heard about the day but none of the other GSLs had responded, even to say they were not available.

Before the Advanced Party Report that modernised Scouting in 1967 we had 10 Scout Laws and number 5 was “A Scout is courteous”.

In modern times, it would be great to remember our roots sometimes.

Jack Petchey – Lesley Bixby

I am still looking for 4 nominations for JP awards for the current round. Doesn’t anyone need £250? I can’t believe that there aren’t any deserving Scouts/Explorers in the District.

Possible Grant – can you help?

The 22nd Wimbledon have been successful in being nominated as one of the charities who customers can vote for during May and June for their blue token scheme. They could be in with a chance of getting a grant up to £4000 to purchase some new tentage! If you shop at any of the following Tesco stores, then please vote for them!

London Rd Mitcham Express CR4 3NB

Mitcham Streatham Rd Express CR4 2AJ

New Malden Extra KT3 4PJ

Tooting London Rd Express SW17 9HP

Wimbledon Chase Express SW20 8JX

Wimbledon Express SW19 1EQ

Wimbledon Hill Express SW19 7QU

Wimbledon Metro SW19 8YA

Wimbledon Morden Rd Express SW19 3BH

District Store

As you know Scout Shops increased their prices in February and we have held them back until now.

The increased charges will apply from **Thursday 4 May**

Plaited and embossed Woggles	£1.50
Uniform Buckle and Belt	£16.00
Adult S/S blouse / shirt	£23.00
Adult L/S blouse / shirt	£24.00
Explorer Air/Sea Scout Shirt	£24.00
Adult Polo	£18.00
Beaver Polo	£12.50
Cub Polo	£13.50
Beaver Sweatshirt	£14.00
Cub Sweatshirt	£14.50
Youth Activity Trouser	£18.00
Men's & Ladies' Activity Trousers	£29.00

Record Cards, Pack of 10	£3.00
Chief Scouts Award certificates, Pack of 10	£4.00
Beaver & Cub Investiture Certificates	£4.00
Beaver, Cub & Scout Badges & Award Books	£4.50

Badge prices will remain at the current rate for the time being due to discount being offered by Scout Shops.

Please note that the Store will be closed for half term on Thursday 1 June.

District Sports

Peter Hutton has sent out all the details of the Sports at Wimbledon Park on 20th May.

Can we have a good turn out this year?

Can you be there to help, for all or part of the day? If so, please contact Peter.

Section Reports

Beaver Scouts – John Tweedley



It was great to see the Beavers on St. George's Day Parade looking very smart and so well behaved.

We have 6 colonies going to the Beaver and Cub Fun Day at Gilwell Park on June 10th.

The next scheduled event for Beavers is the District Sports Day 20th May, with the next District Beaver Leaders meeting 4 days before on the 17th. I know I mention it in every report but it would be nice to see all Colonies represented by either a leader, assistant leader or an adult who can report back to your Colony. You can pick up useful information at these meetings and can offer ideas to others. Out of 17 colonies we only had only 6 represented at the last meeting, so come on please make an effort to be there on the 17th May.

Cub Scouts – Michèle McNamara



Adventure Day – This is due to take place on May 7th at Frylands Wood, I have had a few offers of help for the day but only a very few, we need more leaders to volunteer to run bases and also offers of help as tutors on the day.

Football – this is scheduled on our diary for July 2nd if I am to book a venue I need to know a.s.a.p. which venue you would prefer, as you aware last year we changed from Raynes Pk High School to Goals due to unforeseen circumstances, whichever one we choose I need to make a booking shortly to get the date required.

Programmes – Thank you to the few packs that have already forwarded their programmes for the summer term to me, can the remainder send them a.s.a.p. thank you.

Scout Report – Dave Bixby



Thriftwood Training Camp

The weather was extremely kind to us for our weekend at Thriftwood and with all the trees and bushes sprouting spring leaves it was a very pleasant place to be. We had a good mix of Scouts, Leaders and Young Leaders updating their skills and the Warden was very impressed when he called by to see us.

There was a last-minute challenge when the coach company went bust but Edward Thomas Coaches stepped into the breach to save the day. The weekend ended with a surprise when the coach suffered a mechanical fault but all's well that ends well.

Thanks to all the adults that helped to make the weekend a success.

Raft Event 9 July Ravensbury Park

Don't forget if your Troop intends to enter the raft event you need to register by 23 June at the latest. It doesn't matter how many Scouts wish to come but we divide up the equipment equally between the Troop.

I need a couple of volunteers to act as marshals in the river on the day – please get in touch if you can help.

Troop Scouters' meeting: Our next section leaders' meeting is on Tuesday 16 May at Morden Hall DHQ 8pm. Please try to have your Troop represented.

Job Opportunity

We are looking to recruit 2 more District Scout Leaders. These roles do not necessarily require a fixed regular commitment but do require reliability ie if you agree to undertake a task it has to be completed.

Knowledge of the Scout Section is not essential just a positive attitude to improving the Scouting experience for the 10 to 14½ years age group. It would be possible to do this role alongside another provided the candidates are organised and therefore anyone over the age of 18 is welcome to apply.

For further details or to discuss options, just get in touch.

Dave Bixby - 07889 598960 or

adcscouts@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org

Explorer Scouts – Neil McLauchlan

EXPLORERS 

St George's Day Parade: Very well done to everyone who came to the parade. You were a credit to yourselves as well as getting ourselves in the public eye en-route to the service.

Spring Expedition: This will have taken place by the time you read this! I hope that we had fun in the middle of the Brecon Beacons.

Gilwell 24: This is Fri 7th – Sun 9th July this year. Bookings are now open: <https://www.gilwell24.info/> We hope to be able to arrange a coach as we did last year for a small fee per head.

Scout Active Support – Linda Vaudrey



Thank you to all members who came to St George's Day. Once again, our help was much appreciated. Congratulations to Brian who was at Windsor to celebrate his award.

Our next event is a 'Mexican Train' evening on Monday 8th May, 7.30 p.m. at the Morden Hall HQ. Please bring your own liquid refreshment.

Don't forget our Away Day on Saturday 20th May, when we are going to the Weald and Downland Museum. If you have not already done so, please let Robert know if you are coming.

Reminder – District AGM on Wednesday 14th June 1st Lower Morden H.Q., full uniform to be worn.

6/12th Mitcham Sea Scouts, will be holding a quiz night on Friday 26th May, doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start.

Cost is £2 per person.

Please could anyone that would like to attend contact Steve Little on 07850047147 to confirm numbers?

It will be held at their hall in Glebe Court.

Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.

Albert Einstein



**Copy date for the June edition of Links is
Thursday, 25th May 2017**

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