

“Do the best you can until you know better.
Then, when you know better, do better”

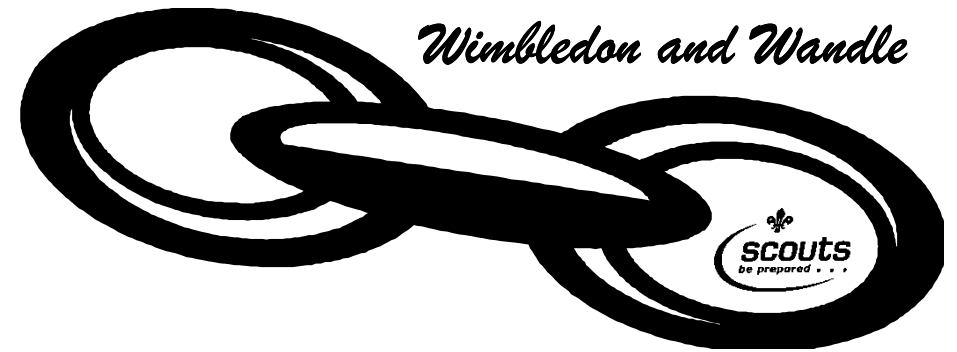
Maya Angelou

Copy date for December/January Links:
Thursday 24th November 2016

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Wimbledon and Wandle

Links

November 2016 – Issue no. 127

Nov 5	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
9	CSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
13	Remembrance Day Parade	Mitcham & Wimbledon
14	SLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
16	BSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
19	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
19	Cubs' Scooterthon	Carshalton College
20	Scouts' Incident Hike	Park Farm
29	SAS Quiz night	Morden Hall DHQ 7.30pm
30	District Executive	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
Dec 3	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
8	Last night of Store before Christmas	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
11	First Aid training	19 th Wimbledon 9am
13	Appointments Committee	Morden Hall DHQ
16	Cub Leaders' meal	Frankie and Benny's

District Commissioner

Congratulations to the 22nd Wimbledon for winning the Group Trophy at the Swimming Gala this year. Our grateful thanks go to Michele McNamara and her ever efficient team of adults and young leaders who made the event such a success.

Our thanks also go to Muriel Treagust and Alison Edwards who have been working so hard recently to try and get everyone's DBS disclosures sorted out.

Unfortunately, despite their best efforts, we are now in the unhappy position that we have several members who have not had a valid DBS disclosure in place for several months and have had to be suspended. Most of these suspensions involve those who have been members for a while but some are new members and suspending new members is not good. Once new members have their details put onto Compass they have only 30 days to get the DBS process underway. Please can we all make every effort to complete the DBS process concurrently with the application process so that we can avoid the embarrassment of suspending those who are so new to Scouting.

The month of November brings with it Remembrance Day and I hope every effort will be made to ensure that Scouts of all ages have the chance to reflect upon the sacrifices that have been made by our servicemen and women. Wherever possible members should attend one of the two parades (in Mitcham and Wimbledon). It is worth remembering that on such occasions as this that the standard of our uniform and behaviour serve as tangible demonstrations of our respect for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

Deborah

Scout Active Support - Linda Vaudrey

Thank you to everyone who came to the Beetle Drive and Fish supper. For a very simple game, we certainly made a lot of noise!



Our next event is '**Maggie's Quiz**' on **Tuesday 29th November**, at Morden Hall Park HQ. 7.00 for 7.30 pm start. The cost is £5 per head. Nibbles will be served, but please bring your own liquid refreshment. Names to Robert a.s.a.p.

Please keep Wednesday 11th January 2017 free. We are hoping to have our New Year Meal on this date. Time and venue to be confirmed.

Want to contact the 1st Lower Morden?

Please feel free to contact us by using the following:

New Updated Website – www.1stlowermorden.org.uk

Facebook – 1st Lower Morden Scout Group

Twitter - @1stLoMo

If you like our website and are interested in updating yours or looking to set one up then please let me know and I can get us both a discount.

Hope to hear from you soon!

Andrew Hayward - GSL

All Sections meeting - At the recent all sections meeting the following were announced:

The next jamboree takes place in West Virginia, USA 22 July to 2 August 2019
Numbers of places for the County have yet to be confirmed.

Selection for Unit Leaders will take place early next year.

Selection for participants will be September to October.

2023 jamboree will be in either Poland or South Korea

The visit abroad process has changed with a new form.

Part A needs to be submitted as soon as you have decided to go and part B needs to be signed off 6 weeks before the date of your trip.

Nights away permits are still required for any overseas trips.

Our next **Scout Section meeting** is on Monday 14th November at Morden Hall DHQ at 8.00 pm. The main item on the agenda is the issue of the Red Book but if anyone has an item or items for the Bran Tub please bring them along.

Explorers – Neil McLauchlan

Programme:

Monopoly Run – This was the 1st time that we have held this event. It was a great success and very well done to the West Barnes ESU who won.

Leaders Meeting – Sadly a couple of units were not represented, however, we are well on the way to organising next year's calendar. Please let me know if anyone has anything else that they want us to look at for next year.

Mountain Weekend – Sadly this had to be cancelled.

Remembrance Day Parades – Sunday 13th November. Usual routines. Details to follow by email.

People:

Very well done to 5 Explorer Scouts from the Raynes Park Unit who have been awarded the covered Explorer Belt. Just a brilliant achievement after a very interesting presentation.



Chairman's Chatter

Have you heard about the Insurance Act 2015? Details were recently published by the Scout Association and its partner insurer Unity. It places responsibilities upon Trustees to ensure that robust procedures are in place. An initial overview indicates that at District level we are already doing what is necessary and we will be detailing our procedures formally at our next meeting. Trustees / Executive Members are collectively responsible, so don't leave yourselves exposed!

On the subject of responsibility, everyone should know by now that all Executive Members / Trustees are required to be registered on Compass, DBS checks must be undertaken and a small amount of training is mandatory. None of this is optional and GSLs are responsible for the Group Chair, who in turn is responsible for the rest of the Executive.

It is a great shame that despite regular reminders, the District Executive has yet to receive Annual Reports and Accounts from some Groups. As I have said before, this is mandatory! The DC will be taking the matter up with individual GSLs, so if you want to save her the extra work, please get your Reports and Accounts to me now.

Urgent repairs have been undertaken to the rear parking area at KBH. Thanks to Rob Brumwell, Peter Treagust and Andy Bunyan for acting so quickly.

Thanks also to Rob Brumwell, who has spent a large part of the summer reviewing how we might repair the gutters over the flat at KBH. A very professional Report has been prepared by Rob and we must face the fact that short of removing both roofs (one is asbestos!), cutting off the gutters, installing insulation, new gutters and downpipes, this is something we will have to budget for over the remaining 9 1/2 years of the Bridge Club's Lease. We have agreed that the Bridge Club can install signage at the front of KBH in order to attract new members. We will have two A4 posters to advertise Scouting in Merton and to acknowledge the story of Kenneth Black.

Finance from the DDP has been agreed to support the DC's "Spirit of Scouting" photography initiative.

If necessary finance has also been agreed to pay a book-keeper to undertake the mandatory quarterly inspection of books and banks statements for the Explorer Section. A Role Description for DESA is being published and any

enquiries should be directed to the District Explorer Commissioner, Neil McLaughlin.

On the subject of the Explorer Section, thanks to Richard Marus and Neil who have been working very hard to ensure that the mandatory requirement for the District Treasurer to be a signatory on all District Accounts, is at last fulfilled.

At our next meeting, we will be discussing Draft Budget and District Development Plan for 2017 and reviewing DDP expenditure for 2016. Budget holders have been asked to prepare Reports for evaluation. The DC and the Team is reviewing priorities for next year and we look forward to agreeing how these Plans can be supported financially going forward and the basis for ongoing evaluation.

District AGM next year will be on Wednesday 14th June, 7:30pm for 8:00pm. Thanks to 1st Lower Morden who have agreed to host.

Appointments Committee – Muriel Treagust

At our October Appointments meeting the following were approved:

Michaela Lewington	ABSL	11th Mitcham
Mark Renton	ASL	1st Merton Park.
Isla Turner	AESL	Raynes Unit.
Guy Rostron	ACSL	13th Wimbledon

Many DBS checks are still outstanding. Please do these as soon as possible. as HQ have started the process of Suspending members with no valid Disclosure.

District Store

The last night of the District Store before Christmas will be Thursday 8 December and it will re-open on 12 January 2017.

Various jigsaws with Scouting themes are now available:

Scouting camp	99 piece	£9.00
	500 piece	£10.50
	1000 Piece	12.50

Mini jigsaws		
Nightmare and The Bridge	210 piece	£8

cub section. I hope to find two new DCSL's and will let you have more information when available.

Scouts – Dave Bixby

Scout Quiz - We had another successful quiz. I would like to thank the 1st Lower Morden for their hospitality, Tim Kerridge and Richard Frewin for pulling it all together and David Williams for asking the questions. Congratulations go to the 13th Wimbledon for retaining the trophy.



New Year's meal - Our New Year's meal is at Park Place, Mitcham on Thursday 5th January and is open to any adult connected to the Scout Section. If you would like to attend, please let me know by 18th December at the latest.

Paintball 2017 - The details and participants form have been sent out by email.

The form and £10 per head non-returnable deposit must be with me by 2nd December at the very latest.

Please remember that this is aimed at a fun Scout/Explorer link day. Leaders and Explorers who take part to win at all costs have lost the plot and need to reconsider their position.

If your members would like to take part but none of the Leader team can make it, please speak to me before denying your group the opportunity. It's a fun day so let's see if we can beat the 200 plus that took part last time.

Scout Section Meetings 2017 - The meeting dates booked for 2017 are Monday 6th February, Tuesday 16th May, Monday 11th September and Tuesday 14th November all at Morden Hall DHQ 8.00 pm. Anyone with a positive interest in the Scout Section is welcome.

Pioneering Competition - As published in last month's Links, the closing date for the pioneering competition Christmas tree competition is 25th November. Please let me know how your design is progressing.

Programme Forum - I've been invited to a programme review forum at Gilwell Park at the end of November. If you have any issues that you would like me to raise, if the opportunity arises, please let me know asap.

Section Reports

Beavers – John Tweedley



We had 94 Beavers attend the fun day on the 2nd October and I think all of them enjoyed themselves. My thanks go out to all the Leaders who helped on the day and to the SAS who once again turned out to help us with signing in and refreshments. Thank you also to Jenny who organised the three very large birthday cakes.

At the next Beaver Leaders' meeting we will discuss the badge day to be held in February.

I did notice that some leaders were missing at the last meeting and some that never seem to make it. If you cannot attend the meetings, please send a representative along to take your place. Your, or their, in-put would be very much appreciated. I hope to see you all at the next meeting.

If you have any new leaders, please make sure Linda & I have their e-mail address.

Cubs – Michèle McNamara



Scooterthon – the next cub event will be the Scooterthon, details have now been sent out by Graham Fairclough, entries to Graham by November 11th, cost £5 per team, maximum number per team 8, no minimum. To be held on 19th November from 15.00 – 17.00 at Pulse Health & Fitness (Carshalton College), Nightingale Road, Carshalton, SM5 2EJ. Any questions please speak to me or Graham.

Christmas Meal – As you will see in the September minutes, it is proposed to have our Christmas Meal at Frankie & Benny's in Merton on December 16th to celebrate the 100 years of cub scouting, we need to make a booking soon, so please if you are interested could you let me know by the date of the next CSL Meeting.

CSL Meeting – next meeting is November 9th. Please make an effort to have someone from your pack attend.

DCSLs – Finally, Martin Neal & Mia Patterson have stepped down as DCSLs within the district, they will continue to help within the district when they are able, in other roles, and I would like to thank them for all their help with the

Remembrance Day Services

Wimbledon:

09.45 Meet in Belvedere Grove adjacent to the Nat West Bank
10.20 March off
10.40 Form up at the War Memorial
11.40 Return to Belvedere Grove for dismissal

Mitcham:

09:45 Meet at **Canons Leisure Centre** – note different venue
10.25 March off
11.40 Return to the Canons for dismissal

Everyone should be in immaculate uniform with warm layers under sweatshirts/shirts. Coats will only be worn if it is very wet. Don't forget your poppy.

Details have been circulated but if you have any queries please contact Neil McLauchlan regarding the Wimbledon parade and Gary Baker/Dave Gould about the Mitcham one.

Mini Census

Thank you to everyone who has completed the mini census so far. At the time of writing we are not in a position to judge if our numbers are increasing or not. Please get your figures in to Paul Atkins as quickly as possible so they can be processed and passed to County/Region before the deadline.

Training – Alison Edwards

Attendance on training courses: A polite reminder from me that if you have booked to attend a county run training course that you do make every effort to attend. On a recent course, we had over half of those who were booked to attend from the district not turn up. This is not only very annoying for the course tutors who give up their time to deliver training but potentially the district could be charged for non-attendance. Also, potentially you could be depriving someone else of a place as numbers are sometimes restricted.

Future trainings: There will be a list of future first aid, safety and safeguarding courses available soon. However, as I have mentioned in previous editions of Links it is important that you check your records and keep things like first aid, safety and safeguarding up to date along with your DBS.

This is a requirement of your continued membership.

So once again I will make the offer to anyone who is STILL having difficulty getting access to their records to let you know when various things expire.

County Training Dates

27 Nov	17	International	09.45-12.30	Le
27 Nov	19	Running safe activities	13.30-17.00	Le
4 Dec	15	Promoting positive behaviour	09.45-12.30	1LM
4 Dec	12	Growing the section	13.30-16.30	1LM

Le Leander Sea Scout HQ, Kingston
1LM 1st Lower Morden, Bow Lane, Morden

Application forms from

Mrs J Condon, 34 Arundel Avenue Email joan.glswtraining@btinternet.com or download from the County web site www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/applicationform

Photographic competition



“The Spirit of Scouting”

Take a new photo or select one from a recent activity and email it to photos@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org

Tell us your name, group and section as at the closing date.

Photos should be in .jpeg format of less than 2Mb.

A maximum of 3 entries per person is permitted.

5 age groups – 5 prizes

Beavers	Waterproof digital camera
Cubs	Waterproof digital camera
Scouts	Go-Pro
Explorers	Go-Pro
Adults 18+	Go-Pro

Closing date: 26th February 2017

Winners to be announced at St George’s Day Parade

For further information, please visit the District website

www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org

It is the intention that shortlisted photographs will be displayed at St Georges Day and other Scouting events and publications; by entering the competition each entrant or their guardian has consented to such use. Where appropriate, confirmation that the required permissions are in place will be requested.