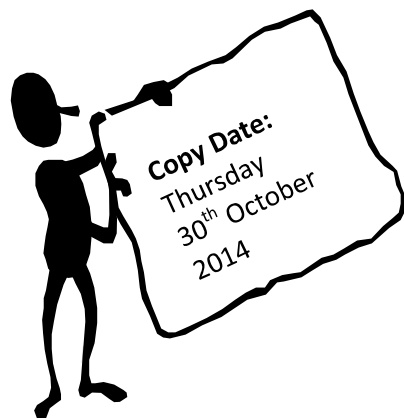


"The real way to gain happiness is to give it to others."

Robert Baden Powell



## Links

October 2014 - Issue no. 107

Oct 1	District Executive	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
4	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
6	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
8	Troop Quiz Night	St John Fisher Church Hall 7.45pm
11	Skills Day	4 <sup>th</sup> Worcester Park 10am
13	Key Managers' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
18	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
18	Swimming Gala	Morden Park Baths 5.30pm
19	Beaver Activity Day - cancelled	
19	Canoe Club session	Wimbledon College 1pm
30	No Store – half term	
31/2 Nov	Explorers' Mountain weekend	Bethesda
Nov 1	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
9	Remembrance Day Parades	Mitcham/Wimbledon
11	Troop Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
12	CSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
15	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
15	SAS Quiz	1 <sup>st</sup> Lower Morden 7.30

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Lesley Bixby  
1 Springfield Avenue, Merton Park, SW20 9JR  
07713 154 317  
thebixbys@talktalk.net

## District Commissioner

As we all return from our summer breaks and get back into the swing of things, there are three challenges that will face us over the coming months.

Firstly, by the time that you read this, Compass, the new membership database, should have gone live. Whereas major use of the previous database affected relatively few people, the new database (at least initially) will involve all of us in some way. Not only will the database hold adult details, but it will also hold youth member details. So the former will need to be checked to ensure that it is accurate and the latter will need uploading. Uploading of youth member information will be able to be done in a variety of ways depending on how it is held at the moment. Over the coming months, explanations/training about the revised database will be given throughout the District. As with any major database change of this size, there will be issues that present themselves, which will need to be sorted out and we will just have to bear with things until any such wrinkles are ironed out.

Secondly, as part of the focus provided by Vision 2018, we will need to plan carefully to grow the Movement locally by the 3.5% needed to meet the national target of 500,000 youth members by 2018. This implies that we will need to consolidate where we are finding recruitment tough and, where the opposite is the case, that we are able to provide the resources to meet the wishes of children who want to join. This neatly brings us on to the third challenge.

Adult volunteers are the foundation on which the success of the Movement is based. Apart from the volunteers that come through the national Want to Join scheme and from the great work of our County Adult Recruitment Officer (our own Louise Preedy of 3<sup>rd</sup> Mitcham), we will need to find ways of recruiting more and more volunteers if we are to grow the Movement. As has been mentioned before in these pages, the best recruiter is an adult who is already a volunteer. As long as each one of us makes every effort to recruit others then the challenge will lessen as time goes on.

Scouting has always been about challenge, so, as the French have it, plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose...

Joe

Very well done to everyone who took part and a huge thanks to all the Leaders, Network and adults that helped. It was also very competitive as there was only 20 minutes separating the 1<sup>st</sup> three teams!

We will look forward to the next event next year.

## Mountaineering Weekend

By now you should have booked your places on this weekend with Jo Lynch. Outline details below with full details as per her emails:

Booking deadline: Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September  
Pre-meet: Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October 11:00 – 14:00  
11th Mitcham HQ, Mitcham Park CR4 4EN  
Weekend: Afternoon / Evening of Friday 31st October – Sunday  
2nd November

## Next Leaders Meeting

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2014 at 8.00pm. venue TBC

Please ensure that every unit is represented as we will be deciding on the District Calendar of events for 2015

## Scout Active Support – Linda Vaudrey

It was good to see so many members, and friends, turning up for the meeting in September, when we had an interesting speaker telling us all about the ups and downs of farm life.



We have a fairly quiet time coming up at the moment but we are planning to go to the Gang Show on Friday, 31st October. If you would like further details and tickets please contact Jean Gould at [jeangould1951@hotmail.com](mailto:jeangould1951@hotmail.com) or tel. no. 020 3715 4441.

On Saturday, 15th November, we are all looking forward to Maggie Pooley's Quiz Night, to be held at 1st Lower Morden HQ in Bow Lane, 7.30 p.m. start. Please come, on your own, or with a party, the more the merrier. Please let Jean or Rob know if you would like to come. You can contact them either by telephone 020 8330 7466 or at [brumwells@btinternet.com](mailto:brumwells@btinternet.com). Cost of the evening will be £4 a head. Please bring your own liquid refreshment, but nibbles will be provided. Open to all Sections – see you there.

They are the South Herts Narrowboat Project

([www.swhertsnarrowboat.org.uk](http://www.swhertsnarrowboat.org.uk)) Bookings Janet White 01923 22 44 11.

This year was the first time that we filled all the available places but as only 4 Troops out of 20 actually took part I have decided to drop this activity from the calendar.

Any Troop that would like to try canal boating can always contact the project directly and arrange it themselves.

**Red Book 2015:** At the time of writing, most of the events planned for 2015 have had venues confirmed.

The paintball activity for January should be an exciting addition.

Troops will need to move swiftly on that as we expect to have 100 plus participants and given that we need to work around Christmas.

We will send out details as soon as possible, even before our November meeting.

All things being equal the Red Book will be issued at our **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November** meeting.

### **Incident Hike 30<sup>th</sup> November Bentley Copse**

Entries to me by **16<sup>th</sup> November** please.

Details as in the current Red Book and please remember that, if using parents for transport, your Scouts will need to be taken to their start point once they have checked in at Bentley Copse.

Tim Kerridge will be co-ordinating activities to avoid duplication so please let us know what you are planning. If you need us to provide something give me a ring/email asap.

### **Explorer Scouts – Neil McLauchlan**

#### **Night Hike**

We had a very successful night hike on Sat 20<sup>th</sup> – Sun 21<sup>st</sup> September. 5 units took part walking around the West Horsley area. The results were as follows:

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Place: | St Saviours Team 2      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place: | St Saviours Team 1      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place: | Raynes Park             |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Place: | Wimbledon [Edge Hill] 2 |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Place: | West Barnes             |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Place: | Merton Park             |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Place: | Wimbledon [Edge Hill] 1 |



### **Chairman's Chatter**

The Chairman is not chattering this month as he has nothing new to say until after the next Executive. We'll hear from him next month.

### **Nan Forms**

The majority of NAN Forms received in recent weeks have not complied with the minimum notice period required by the process which is 14 days before the event starts. Please do your NAN form as part of your event planning rather than a last minute add-on.

A few other reminders about Nights Away:-

- \* Your Nights Away Notification (NAN) Form must be submitted online via the web site at <http://www.wimbledonandwandlescouts.org/nan.htm>. You will receive an automated acknowledgement.
- \* The stated Nights Away Permit (NAP) holder remains responsible for the event at all times & must be present for at least the overnight parts of the activity.
- \* At least two adults must be in attendance overnight.
- \* A Nights Away Passport may only be issued to a person under the age of 18, they may not be issued to an adult.
- \* Details of the Host District Commissioner are required for events at non-scouting managed venues and can be obtained from the Info Centre on 0845 300 1818
- \* Guideline minimum ratios for children to adults are
  - o Beavers - 6:1 plus the leader in charge
  - o Cubs - 8:1 plus the leader in charge
  - o Scouts - 12:1 plus the leader in charge
  - o Explorers - no ratio

If you have any questions about the Nights Away process, please email Paul Atkins at [nan@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org](mailto:nan@wimbledonandwandlescouts.org)

## Compass – Paul Atkins

There has been a slight delay to the launch of Compass but the current status is that the system will be available to all those with administration roles on or before 29th September. This is to allow a restart of all the processes that have been on hold since MMS was switched off in July.

GLS will be the first county for full access by everybody. They will be providing feedback to the Compass team as a final sanity-check before the country-wide roll-out.

The planned “training phase” seems to have fallen by the wayside but the system is accessed through any web browser and is a fairly simple menu-driven interface that should present no problems to most people once they become familiar with it.

GLSW members will be able to register to login from "October" when they will receive an email inviting them to register.

When leaders are logged in they will be able to check & amend the data that has been transferred across from MMS and to upload the details of their young members, this is likely to be the first real experience with Compass and it is mandatory that this is done.

The Excel Template for doing this upload is still being finalised although there is a current version available on the Compass web site

<http://compassuserguide.scouts.org.uk/?p=4513>

Full details about Compass can be found in the User Guides here

<http://compassuserguide.scouts.org.uk/>

## District Store

New: iScout Men's, Ladies' and Youth print Onesie  
Purple and green polyester cotton Men's' and Ladies' £30  
Youth's £25  
Sizes from small to xxl

Presentation Gifts:

Kit Heath Log and Axe Sterling Silver Cufflinks £45  
Kit Heath Scout Emblem Sterling Silver Necklace & Earing Set £45.

Please ensure that the parents who come to the Store know the opening times (7.45 – 9.15pm Thursdays and 10am – noon Saturdays) and also know that we can only accept cash or cheques. Thank you.

## Section Reports

### Beaver Scouts – John Tweedley



We have had to cancel the Beaver activity day on 19<sup>th</sup> October due to lack of Colonies attending, which is a shame as I feel the Beavers could have had a lot of fun and learnt new skills at this event.

There is to be a Beaver Leaders and assistants Christmas meal to be held on the 15th January instead of the usual leaders meeting. If you wish to come please contact Jane Ginty of the 16<sup>th</sup> Morden group, with numbers, her e-mail is [jginty@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jginty@hotmail.co.uk).

At last week's meeting it was agreed that we take the Beavers to the Gilwell Park Cub & Beaver fun day. The date for this is the 20<sup>th</sup> June and tickets for this event will be on sale very soon, H.Q. said that this year's event sold out very quickly and I suggest that if you wish your Beavers to attend that you get your numbers to me as soon as possible as it will be on a first come first go allocation. The cost for the day is £15.00 per Beaver and £4.00 per leader/helper, I will also have to add the cost of coaches on top of this but the more that go the cheaper it will be.

As last month's report I am now coming to visit the colonies that I have not visited yet so I might well turn up one evening. Also there are a number of programmes that have not come through this term, please send them through to me as soon as possible.

### Cub Scouts – Michèle McNamara



**Programmes:** I have only had programmes from about 50% of the packs so far, we are 3 meetings at least into a new term, so you should have something in place by now, please forward a.s.a.p.

The next CSL Meeting is 12<sup>th</sup> November: please put this date in your diary and make an effort to have at least one of your team at the meeting; attendance has been very poor lately. We need to discuss our plans to celebrate the centenary of cubs in 2016 so if you want to have some input, please attend.

### Scouts – Dave Bixby



**Canal Boat Experience:** We had a very good week-end on the Grand Union canal and can recommend the boat project that we tried for the first time.

## Swimming Gala – Michèle McNamara

This has been booked for **October 18<sup>th</sup>** for cubs and scouts only.

Information has gone out by post to each cub and scout section leader. If you haven't received yours please let me know.

The deadline to enter a team (not actual names) is **9<sup>th</sup>**

**October** entries after that date will not be allowed. So far I have had very little response.



## Safer Merton

Every year Safer Merton conduct a survey of residents and visitors to find out about their crime and anti-social behaviour concerns so they can be better informed on what they need to do to make people feel safer.

They are trying to get it publicised as widely as possible to give as many young people (aged 13+) the opportunity to give them their views.

Could you please tell your older Scouts/Explorers about this?

The survey can be completed online at <http://www.merton.gov.uk/safermertonconsultation> or paper forms are available from the Civic Centre in Morden. The survey is open until Friday 31st October 2014.

## Jack Petchey Awards – Lesley Bixby

I have been in touch with all the Group Scout Leaders/Explorer Scout Leaders due to apply for an award for one of their members in the current round.

Please get your nominations back to me as soon as possible. If you do not have a suitable candidate, please let me know so I can offer another Group/Unit the opportunity. ⅇ

Thank you.

## Appointments

Appointments agreed at meetings held in September 2014

Eleni (Ellie) Delacour	Cub Section Assistant	13 <sup>th</sup> Wimbledon
Joshua Carter	ASL	5 <sup>th</sup> Morden
Charlon (Charlie) Roberts	Cub Section Assistant	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mitcham
Marcia Valadac Missi Buttaci	ABSL	5 <sup>th</sup> Morden

Discussed and approved:

Louise Preedy                      AESL (Vikings Explorers)  
This is an additional role for Louise.

Richard Frewin                      District Scout Leader  
This is an additional role for Richard.

Occasional Helper Disclosures cleared over the summer break:-

William Ellis	1 <sup>st</sup> Wimbledon
Anne Moran	1 <sup>st</sup> Wimbledon
Oliver Foster	22 <sup>nd</sup> Wimbledon
Michael Rogerson	District
John Rogerson	Mitcham Explorer Unit

5 year Reviews

Robert Voller	ASL	1 <sup>st</sup> Merton Park,
Jane Clark	ACSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Merton Park

The Committee agreed and recommended renewal of Robert's and Jane's appointments for a further 5 years.

Carol Martin – Carol has decided to step down from ABSL but wishes to continue to be involved with 1<sup>st</sup> Merton Park as an Occasional Helper.

Our thanks are extended to them all for their support.

Muriel Treagust  
Appointments Secretary

## Training

Date	Module	Title	Time
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 1<sup>st</sup> Lower Morden Scout Headquarters unless stated  
Cost per Module is £4.00 except module 38 which is £40

Application forms from

Mrs J Condon 34 Arundel Avenue, Morden SM4 4DX

e.mail [joan.glswtraining@btinternet.com](mailto:joan.glswtraining@btinternet.com) or download from the County web site [www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/applicationforms](http://www.glsWSCouts.org.uk/applicationforms).

## First Aid

5 <sup>th</sup> October	61 <sup>st</sup> Croydon
25 <sup>th</sup> October	Richmond District
16 <sup>th</sup> November	22 <sup>nd</sup> Wimbledon
7 <sup>th</sup> December	1 <sup>st</sup> Wallington

Application forms can be downloaded from County web site or contact Mrs Janet Drinkall 020 8669 4774 email [jdrinkall@sky.com](mailto:jdrinkall@sky.com)

Cost per Module 10 £18.00 cheques payable to GLSW TRAINING A/C

## Safeguarding Training

11 <sup>th</sup> October	Polyapes Royal Kingston District	2.30pm
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Sutton District HQ	10am
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Wimbledon & Wandle District	8pm
27 <sup>th</sup> November	Croydon District	8pm

Applications to Alison Edwards [alison.edwards@local.gov.uk](mailto:alison.edwards@local.gov.uk)

# NOW IT'S YOUR TURN.

[scouts.org.uk/join](http://scouts.org.uk/join)

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## Module 18 - Practical Skills (and ongoing learning)

11th October 2014  
10am to 4pm

Come along and learn some new skills, refresh the old skills and meet new leaders. With bases aimed at every section the day is suitable for all and lunch is even included.

Venue:

4th Worcester Park HQ  
Braemar Road  
Worcester Park, KT4 8SW

Call Lynn Williams on 020 8395 7116 to book a place or email

[Lynn.Williams@suttonscouts.org.uk](mailto:Lynn.Williams@suttonscouts.org.uk)

[www.suttondistrictscouts.org](http://www.suttondistrictscouts.org)

Closing date for applications is 5<sup>th</sup> October