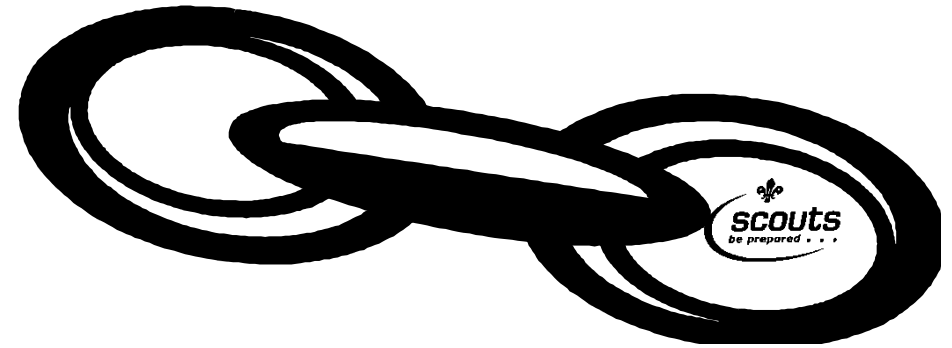


Wimbledon and Wandle



Links

September 2013 Issue 96

Sept 10	SAS formal meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 7.30pm
11	CSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
12	District Store re-opens	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
18	BSLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
21	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
23	SLs' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
27	Explorer Night Hike	North Downs
27-29	County Lightweight Camp	New Forest
28	Explorer Water Sports	Wimbledon Park
Oct 2	District Executive	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
5	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
7	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
9	Scout Quiz	St John Fisher 7.45pm
12	District Swimming Gala	Morden Park Baths
19	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
20	Explorers Mountain w/e pre-meeting	11 th Mitcham HQ 11am
26-30	Explorers Introduction to Wild Country Expeditions	Peak District

Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.
Life is beauty, admire it.
Life is a dream, realize it.
Life is a challenge, meet it.
Life is a duty, complete it.
Life is a game, play it.
Life is a promise, fulfil it.
Life is sorrow, overcome it.
Life is a song, sing it.
Life is a struggle, accept it.
Life is a tragedy, confront it.
Life is an adventure, dare it.
Life is luck, make it.
Life is too precious, do not destroy it.
Life is life, fight for it.

- Mother Teresa

Copy date for October Links: Thursday 26 September

Links Editor
Lesley Bixby
1 Springfield Avenue, London SW20 9JR
thebixbys@talktalk.net

District Commissioner

To date this year Beavers from 10 colonies, Cubs from 15 packs, all Scouts and all Explorers have been given the opportunity to take part in a night's away activity. These have ranged from HQ sleepovers, weekend and summer camps, to expeditions to undertake crucial aid work in foreign parts. In all there were 15 summer camps this year, which means that virtually every scout in the District had the opportunity to have an extended period away.

Not bad, by any standards!

A big thank-you, then, to each and every leader and adult who has given up precious holiday entitlement and weekends to ensure that our scouts benefit from these priceless opportunities, events that they will remember for a lifetime.

A big thank-you also, firstly to Peter Hutton and his team of leaders who put on a very enjoyable Sports Day that not only was blessed with amazing weather, but also with a wide range of participants from all sections who had a great time and secondly to Dave Bixby and his team for an equally enjoyable, and fiercely contested, Raft Day on the Wandle.

I hope that everyone has had the chance of a good break at some point over the summer, as we look forward to a new term of action-packed Scouting.

Joe

Chairman's Chatter

The period leading up to the Autumn Term is traditionally the time to recharge the batteries, review previous Plans and revise Objectives in time for the coming Year. The DC and I will hopefully be sitting down before the next Executive in October to review the District Development Plan in the light of Joe's visits to Groups and update our Financial Plans for the year(s) ahead.

On the subject of "planning", we currently have requests before us, that, if approved, would utilise over half of the total funding available from the Atlasta Fund. Whilst the monies are there to be used, I am conscious that I haven't heard if any other Groups are planning to make applications over the next year or so? If

Wimbledon & Wandle Explorer Mountaineering Weekend



WHEN: Afternoon / Evening of Friday 1st November - Sunday 3rd November

Pre-meet: Sunday 20th October - 11.00 to 14.00 at 11th Mitcham HQ Mitcham Park CR4 4EN

All participants are required to attend this briefing meeting.

WHAT: Hill Walking, Rock Climbing (or use of Indoor Climbing Wall depending on the weather), Abseiling and various other outdoor activities. There may even be a party on the Saturday night(!)

WHO: All Explorers in Wimbledon & Wandle District. If Leaders are unable to attend, there will be Leaders available to cover.

WHERE: GLSW Activity Base, Bethesda, North Wales in the Snowdonia National Park.

KIT: Walking Boots (that you have worn before), Weekend hiking gear (think layers), Waterproof jacket, Waterproof trousers, hat, scarf, gloves, water bottle, torch, small rucksack, spare shoes, light sleeping bag, wash kit, towel and casual wear.

CONSENT: The usual parental consent is required for each Explorer and this will be arranged at Unit level.

COST: Transport and fuel, organised at Unit level.

TRANSPORT: To be arranged by each Unit and confirmed at the pre-meet.

Fuel costs normally work out at about £10 per head.

INTERESTED? E-mail: joegrns@aol.com

Call: 07813 704 493

Write: 9 Mitcham Park, Mitcham CR4 4EN

DEADLINE: Saturday 28th September

Scout Active Support - Linda Vaudrey



We hope you all have enjoyed a great summer especially with our unusual weather!

It seems a long while ago but thank you to Jean and David for hosting our annual **BBQ** and also for taxing our brains with the quiz!

Many thanks to all of you who turned out on the **District Sports Day** - your help was much appreciated.

Our **summer meal** at the Kingswood Golf Club was another success. Good food, pleasant company and lovely surroundings. We were pleased to see Carol Wolsey there, recovering, albeit slowly, from her recent operation. Thanks to Jean and Robert for organising.

Don't forget our meeting on **Tuesday 10th September** at Wandle DHQ, starting at 7.30 p.m. when our speaker should prove to be entertaining. Light refreshments will be provided.

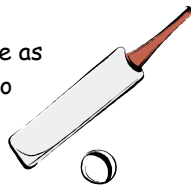
Just a reminder that help is needed at the **Swimming Gala** on Saturday 12th October. Please contact David Gould if you are able to help.

Our best wishes go to Margaret Pooley after her accident and we hope to see her soon.



Cricket

Gavin Reynolds, Surrey Cricket Community Coach, is keen to encourage as many young people as possible aged between 8 and 16 years to start to play cricket. If you have some keen sportsmen in your Pack or Troop, perhaps you would like to get in touch with Gavin on greynolds@surreyccricket.com - the lessons would appear to be free!



this is the case, I would appreciate an informal update as to your likely plans and requirements before the end of September.

At the Executive in July we agreed to support the Explorer Section in its plans for future activities and it was pleasing to hear of the "very positive" vibe coming from the Section across the District.

Thanks to Alan Green for finalising safety documentation at Morden Hall DHQ and to Dave Christmas for his help in undertaking a Risk Assessment at Kenneth Black Hall and Store.

Jim Anning has commenced his role as our Representative on the County Executive and perhaps I should remind everyone that the decision has already been made at County and District levels within GLSW that all financial support for Jamboree is via County and not District.

My thanks to Rob Brumwell for his continued support as Liaison for issues to do with Kenneth Black, Hall, Garages and Flats. In particular, it is great to know that we now have the appropriate certification for the electrical works at the flat.

We do now have two garages available at KBH for rent and unless anyone knows of someone who may want to rent them, we will be advertising commercially after the summer. The Bridge Club has been reminded of its responsibilities to ensure unfettered access to the garages. Thanks to Peter Treagust for his continued works in getting the garages ready for occupation.

It was pleasing to be able to give some help and guidance to the brand new Chairman and Executive at the 5th Morden and thanks to everyone for taking on this increasingly vital and important role. Announcements are now beginning to filter out from Headquarters about the availability of future training for Executive Members. My understanding is that this will be at District level and more information will be provided once the proposed training has been "road tested".

Anyway, now in my 4th year as Chairman and thanks to the Team around me; the Executive has very much moved from the "Forming" to the "Norming" Phase. So probably won't be anything to Report next month, so I'll update everyone in November after the October Executive.

Andy

District Sports – Peter Hutton

After last year's disappointing turnout, I was wondering if the annual sports day had had its day. Not of bit of it. This year saw a record turnout of cub packs, 13, a joint equal record number of scout troops, 9, and explorer units, 5, and a record number of scout groups represented, 15. And of course the beavers, 6 colonies altogether, which means that 16 out of 20 scout groups were represented at the sports day.

It was a magnificent day both in terms of weather and the buzz of activity. Again, it showed that we have some outstanding athletic talent in the district and it is great that we can provide the opportunity for our youngsters to demonstrate this and, in some cases, for them to realise for the first time just how good they are. There was a great spirit all round and it was gratifying to see new teams picking up awards, particularly the 1st Wimbledon cubs who won on their first time of entering the competition.

Pity that Usain Bolt was unable to make a guest appearance, but with the talent we had we really did not need him.

Thanks to everyone who put in teams, showed up and helped in numerous ways to run the show.

The results were as follows:

	Winners	Second	Third
Group trophy	5th Morden	22nd Wim	1st Wim
Cubs	1st Wim	22nd Wim	5th Morden
Scouts	5th Morden	9th Wim	13th Wim
Explorers	St Saviour's	Flying Penguins/ West Barnes	
Tug o' war scouts	13th Wim	5th Morden	
Tug o' war cubs	22nd Wim	5th Morden	

See you next year!

Peter

Scout Quiz Wednesday 9 October at St John Fisher Church Hall

We need sets of questions for the quiz on any subject so please try and come up with a round of 10 questions and get them to Tim Kerridge to collate. If your Troop is aiming to take part it would be greatly appreciated if you could give me an idea of numbers so we know how many answer sheets to print.

Incident Hike Sunday 24 November at Polyapes

This will soon be upon us so don't forget to enter your team. We will need Troops taking part to help in the running of bases and also to have sufficient transport available to get their Scouts to the various start points once they have checked in. In the past some Troops have used parents to drop the Scouts off. They have then left before check-in is completed which causes delays getting Scouts to the starting points.

Skills Day Morden Hall DHQ

This seemed to go well, considering it was a first try and a lot of the feedback has been very encouraging. I was surprised how few members of the Scout Section took part, apart from those running bases of course, as the day was as much about interaction with other Leaders as about catching up with the latest developments in Scouting Skills.

We received very little input on what Leaders would like covered but we did include all that was asked for. There are a lot of new leaders around the District so it would be good to encourage them to come to these events to meet their counterparts and learn new skills.

Contact Details

There have been a couple of Troops that have changed their meeting times or changed location recently and also we have had a lot of new people appear around the District over the last year, so please let me have current contact details for everyone working with your Troop so that I can keep them up to date.

Also, can you please let me know your preferred method of contact – giving me an email address that you don't check or respond to is not very helpful. Thanks.

Jamboree updates

We seem to have had a lot of communications from the very active Jamboree leadership team recently. Please pass this information on to your Scouts, especially about the forthcoming Road Shows on 7/8th September and 14/15th September.

Troop Scouters' Meeting Monday 22 September Morden Hall DHQ

The main item on the agenda will be the events and dates for 2014 so please bring your diaries and, dare I say it, ask your Scouts what they would like us to provide next year. Even if your Section meeting is on that day, please find someone to come along to give us your views (your GSL perhaps) or at least let us have your thoughts regarding events/dates/locations.

Section Reports

Beaver Scouts - John Tweedley



Hi to all Beaver Leaders and A.B.S.L.s

As from 1st September I will be the new ADC Beavers taking over from Andrew Hayward. I hope I can keep up his good work.

For those who do not know me a brief history about myself: I was a Cub / Scout and Venture Scout. After leaving Venture Scouts in 1975 I took the role of A.V.S.L with the 26th Mitcham, then I moved to the role of A.S.L. with the 1st Streatham Common Scout Group. In 1977/8 I became A.C.S.L. with the 3rd Mitcham, where I later became C.S.L. and G.S.L. for a long time, so you can see Beavers are a new challenge for me!!

It is my intention to visit all Beaver Colonies at least once a year to introduce myself and find out about Beavers. I am here to help you where I can and if you need to ask questions I will try to answer them or find the answers for you. I do hope to see a representative from all colonies at the District Beaver Leaders Meetings. Our next one on the 18th September 2013 at District H.Q. at 8.00pm.

Dates of meetings for 2014 are

15th January, 19th March, 21st May, 16th July, 17th September and 19th November

Do not forget the Bike & Scooter ride Sunday 29th September and the visit to R.A.F. Hendon on the 23rd November - more info later.

I can be contacted on 07803618291 or johnsgsl@hotmail.com.

Cub Scouts - Michèle McNamara



Next CSL Meeting is on Wednesday September 11th at 20.00 hrs at Morden Hall Park H.Q. Please make an effort to attend so that as many packs as possible are represented.

Programmes - Hopefully by that date you should all have planned your programmes for the coming term, please let me have copies either by e-mail or by giving them to me at the CSL meeting.

Scouts - Dave Bixby



I hope you all had a great summer and are ready for the challenges of the new Scout year.

If your Troop ran a summer camp or expedition, I hope it was successful and that your Scouts came away feeling that it was both fun and worthwhile.

District Store and Badges

Ever wondered whether the books published by the Scout Association are worth ordering?

From September the following will be on display at the Store so you can browse through them and then order them from Brian (delivery is normally within the week):

Games In, About and Roundabout Pocket Sized, Games for all Occasions £3.20

Pocketful of Programmes over 100 games for Young People £3.20

Panic Ideas 100 Games for Panic Situations £3.00

A Year of Programme Planning 500 Ideas and tips £4.00

Wide Games Incident Hikes and Indoor Alternatives £4.75

Really Wet Games £4.00

Beaver Scout Games £6.00

Cub Scout Games £6.00

Scout Games £6.00

Scout Handbook Practical Guide to Chief Scouts Award £8.00

Essential Camping Cookbook or How to Cook an Egg in an Orange £10

Outdoor Adventure Manual (Haynes) £14.00 rrp 21,99

Knots And Their Uses A selection of cards with descriptions of history £5.00

Don't forget that the Store is open every Thursday during term time from 7.45 - 9.15pm and on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10am to 12 noon at Morden Hall DHQ. Profits go back to the Groups so it is well worth sending your parents to buy their children's uniforms from the Store.

Badges are only available on Thursday evenings. If you need large numbers of badges please email the Badge Secretary with your requirements and they can be ordered in for you - theixbys@talktalk.net.

Swimming Gala - Michèle McNamara

The Gala has been booked for 12 October at Morden Park Baths, same formula as last year. I hope to get details out to everyone by the beginning of September and all the information will also be on the District website.

If you have previously volunteered to help in any capacity on the night and wish to do so again, can you please advise me a.s.a.p.

Thank you.

Training

Date	Module	Title	Time
21 Sep	12	Providing a Balanced Programme	9.30-13.30
28 Sep	16	Residential experiences	10.00-13.00
19 Oct	11	Administration (Leaders)	10.00-11.30
19 Oct	19	International	11.45-13.00
19 Oct	17	Activities Outdoors	14.00-16.30
16 Nov	15	Challenging Behaviour	10.00-12.00
16 Nov	14	Young People today	12.00-13.00
16 Nov	9	Working with Adults	14.00-15.00
16 Nov	8	Skills of Leadership	15.15-16.30
7 Dec	13	Growing the Section	10.00-13.00
7 Dec	21	Growing the Movement	10.00-16.30

All Modules are at the 1st Lower Morden HQ, Bow Lane, off Lower Morden Lane, Morden SM4 4SJ

Each training module costs £4 (wef 1 September).

Applications forms for the main modules and first aid can be downloaded from the County website www.glsWSCouts.org.uk or contact

Mrs Joan Condon, 34 Arundel Avenue, Morden, SM4 4DX

tel: 020 8540 5115 - e mail: joan.glsWtraining@btinternet.com

Modules 20-26 for Line Managers and Commissioners will be run as required. Contact Joan Condon for more information.

For details of First Aid courses contact Janet Drinkall jdrinkall@sky.com

Safeguarding

23 September	1st Richmond
9 October	1 st Lower Morden
7 November	Bears Wood
18 November	Southwood
20 November	Sutton - venue to be confirmed

Please book your Safeguarding course through Alison Edwards
Alison.Edwards@local.gov.uk

County Dates

Gilwell Reunion (September 6th to 8th)

Croydon, Richmond and Sutton Scout Networks are attending this event, and Network members from Royal Kingston and Wimbledon & Wandle are invited to join them. Further information is available 'online' or by contacting Chris Dean, Deputy CC (email tinkerscorner@aol.com).

Lightweight Camping & Navigation Weekend (September 27th to 29th)

Calling all over 18's this is for you, a weekend in the New Forest. You will be practising navigation skills and sharing knowledge of lightweight camping equipment. Based at Harrys Island Scout Campsite near Burley, the cost is £12.50. Self-cater and make your own way - contact Chris Dean if you need help with transport. Details can be found on the County website - www.glsWSCouts.org.uk.

Introduction to Wild Country Expeditions (October 26th to 30th)

This is for Explorer Scouts aged 16 and over, and Scout Network members wishing to undertake their expedition for Queen's Scout and Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award, It will be based at Bells Box near Hathersage in the Derbyshire Peak District. Cost is £80, fully inclusive of transport, accommodation, meals etc. Further information can be found on the County website.

Explorer Belt Training Weekend (November 8th to 10th)

This is obligatory for all those (aged 16 to 25) intending to complete their Explorer Belt in Sweden next summer. It will take place at the City of Westminster District Scout Campsite in Lloyd Park, Croydon. Cost is £20 for the weekend, fully inclusive. Details and booking form from Chris Dean - email tinkerscorner@aol.com

Fire Station Open Day

Wimbledon Fire Station will be having an open day on Saturday 7 Sept. This will be taking place from 10:30 - 15:30.

Blue Watch will be hosting this event.

All members of the public are welcome to come and it is suitable for all ages. Wimbledon fire station, Wimbledon police station will be joined by St John ambulance and a range of other emergency response, community safety and support services.