

"Listen to the mustn'ts, child,
 Listen to the don'ts.
 Listen to the shouldn'ts, the impossibles, the won'ts.
 Listen to the never haves . . .
 Then listen close to me . . . anything can happen child, anything can be,"
 Shel Silverstein



Links

September 2015 – Issue no. 116

Copy date for next Links: Thursday 24 September 2015

Sept 9	Cub Scout Leaders' meeting	Cancelled
10	District Store re-opens	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
15	SAS meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 7.30pm
16	Beaver Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
19	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
22	Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
26-27	Explorers' Night Hike	North Downs
Oct 3	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
5	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
7	Scouts' Quiz night	22 nd Wimbledon HQ
12	Key Manager's meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
14	District Executive	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
17	Swimming Gala	Morden Park Baths
17	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
20	Explorer Leaders' meeting	Tbc
29	No Store – half term	
30-1 Nov	Explorers' Mountain weekend	Bethesda

Links Editor

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District Commissioner

To date this year Beavers and Cubs from most colonies and 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 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, which will inevitably involve the recruitment both of youth members and adults, as we all need the next Census to show the growth that we all want for the Movement. This will be something that the Key Managers will be focussing on at their next meeting, as indeed, the District Executive will continue to do at theirs.

Finally, please remember in your prayers two long-serving Scouters who died recently, each after a life-time of dedicated service to the Movement: Eric Hayward and Ted Mayhew.

Joe



Ted Mayhew

It is with profound sadness that we report the passing of Edward (Ted) Mayhew at age 89. Ted has been a Scout Leader since 1952 and has volunteered freely his time during those 63 years to guide generations of boys and girls in the joys of Scouting.

Ted absolutely loved Scouting and 3 generations of his family followed him into the Movement, including Mike Mayhew the present Cub Scout Leader at the 19th Wimbledon Scout Group.

Ted's funeral will be at the Sacred Heart Church, Edge Hill Wimbledon SW20 4LU on Tuesday 15th September at 11:00am. Scouters are invited to wear full uniform. This will be followed by some refreshments at the 19th Wimbledon Scout Hut Cottenham Park Rd SW20 0SZ. All are welcome to come plus anybody who knew him. His scouting is a legend.

Eric Hayward

The loss of Eric has already been mentioned in this newsletter and there was a good representation from the District at his funeral in July. Another life-long Scouter, he was a Scout Leader for many years and more recently was Chairman of Wimbledon and Wandle District. Our thoughts are with Sylvia, Andrew, Jon, Kate and their families.

Our next event is our **social evening on Tuesday, 15th September** when our speaker will be 'Harry the Wheelbarrow Man'. Light refreshment will be provided. Please let Jean Gould know if you are coming. The cost of the evening will be £2 per head.

Date for your diary – Please keep **Saturday 14th November** free as Maggie Pooley will be organising another Quiz Night, for us at 1st Lower Morden H.Q. More details later.

Chairman's Chatter – Andy Edmonds

From January 2016, all adults on Executive Committees will be required to become Members or Associate Members of the Scout Association. Those who are not so willing, will be unable to continue in their role or to take on the role! From an Executive Committee's first AGM after the New Year, it is a mandatory requirement for all members to be either a Member or Associate Member of the Association.

These changes will come in to effect for each individual Executive Committee from your first Annual General Meeting (AGM) after the 1st January 2016, when the Executive Committee for the coming year is appointed.

This will enable those volunteers with important responsibilities for Scouting to benefit from the resources, training, record of service, guidance, advice and support which comes with being a Member, without causing any increase in cost to you, as a Membership Fee will not need to be paid for them.

Executive Committee Members are still required to complete the relevant Criminal Record Disclosure Check. Any Executive Members who do not have a valid Disclosure Check will need to obtain one.

Additionally, from an Executive Committee's first AGM after the 1st January 2016; all Executive Committee Members will be required to complete Module 1 training within 5 months of your AGM (or appointment if later). A version of Module 1 specifically for Executive Committee Members will be launched in January 2016 and will include all essential information that new Executive Committee members will need to know. This will include a new e-learning package.

In addition, non-mandatory training for Executive Committee members, focusing on the responsibilities of the role, trusteeship, effectiveness, working together and charity finance will be available locally.

The County Training Event; originally planned for a Saturday in February and then re-scheduled to September, has now been cancelled due to lack of interest, which I find hard to understand? Details have been on the landing page of our web site for months, have been emailed to Chairs and Key Managers, as well as in my Reports for June and July "Links"!

In another attempt to help; County will be trying to roll information out District by District. The DC will advise Key Managers, I will advise those Group Chair's whose details I have (if you haven't been receiving emails from me,

then despite my best efforts; I don't know about you!) The same information will also be on the web site.

There is nothing else I can do. Please understand and let your people know.....this is not going away!

It is the largest such change in my 35 years as an adult in Scouting, but I can't see that it is anything to worry about (in fact the opposite!)

I must urge all Key Managers and Group Chairs to please make sure you and your people will be legal & compliant after your AGM next year! I am sure we all know, that AGM's are not optional?

Everyone should already be aware that the protection offered by being a Member of the Scout Association, does not extend to Groups or individuals who fail to follow the Rules; knowingly or not!

On the subject of Executive Committee responsibilities, I have received full or partial Annual Reports and Accounts from the following Groups for 2014: thank you to 1st Lower Morden, 1st Merton Park, 1st Morden, 2nd Morden, 6/12th Mitcham, 9th Wimbledon, 13th Wimbledon, 16th Morden, 19th Wimbledon, 22nd Wimbledon and 23rd Mitcham. After your AGM copies of your Reports should be filed with me please.

We have been approached by the Bridge Club to extend their Lease on KBH beyond the current term to March 2026. Having not been personally involved in the discussions for the current Lease and after extensive investigation into the legal issues, I have replied advising that we are not in a position to consider such a request until 2024. I only say this now, so that the one David who has been helping me, and the other David who raises the question (quite rightly) at most District AGM's, make a note to ensure whoever is in my job then; finds the notes I have stored!

We are also now moving towards putting the rental Agreement on the flat at KBH to an annual review basis at market rental, with effect from the New Year.

Finally, I would like to express my sadness at the passing of my predecessor Eric Hayward, whilst I was on holiday in July. Eric was District Chairman for a few years before he resigned in 2010. I didn't know Eric before I met him at that AGM and still make use of the filing system I inherited from him. Eric helped to establish the foundations of the newly merged District, which forms the base from which we have endeavored to move forward since.

District Scout Quiz – 7th October 7.30pm 22nd Wimbledon H.Q.

A new venue this year. Please don't forget that Troops need to register for entry with me by 1st October so that we can organise question sheets, catering etc.

Refreshments will be provided. Anyone who promised to do a round of questions please get them to Tim Kerridge as soon as possible.

Training Module 38

Anyone who would like to be assessed for a nights away permit will need to have completed a module 38 training week-end. Generally only one of these is run each year and the next one is 10-11th October 2015 at Bears Wood Activity Centre. Details from Joan Condon.

Incident Hike – Sunday 15th November Boidierhurst Campsite, Box Hill.

A gentle reminder that Troops who wish to enter teams in the District Scout Incident Hike will need to get their entries to me by 1st November at the very latest. It should be remembered also that any Troop entering is responsible for transporting their teams to the starting point after checking in. Each Troop needs to provide at least one adult to assist with the event during the day.

Our next **Scout Section meeting** is on Tuesday 22nd September at Morden Hall DHQ. The main item on the agenda will be the setting of the District Scout events for 2016.

Please try to make sure your Troop is represented or send in any comments on events past or for the future beforehand.

Can you all please bring along copies of your Troop programme for the coming term with you? There are some Troops that I have never received programmes from and going on what I've seen on visits, a couple don't actually plan any part of their evenings so hopefully we can improve that situation.

If anyone could use some help with planning or anything else, just get in touch.

Scout Active Support – Linda Vaudrey

We hope you have enjoyed the summer break and didn't get too wet!

Firstly a big thank you to John and Deidre for hosting the BBQ on 18th July. Everyone had a great time. Thanks also go to Jean B for organising the Summer Meal at the Kingswood Golf Club in August.



Section reports

Beavers report – John Tweedley

I hope you have all had a nice summer break and are looking forward to getting back to Scouting. I have nothing much to say this month as we have all had holidays. I know we had to change the date of our last meeting to the 22nd July and I know that some leaders were away on holiday, but we only had two groups turn up for this meeting so nothing was put forward or discussed for the coming months.



Our next meeting is scheduled for the 23rd September at the D.H.Q. at 8.00pm. We have a lot of things to discuss and I hope we have every colony represented at this meeting. I do not mind if you, your Assistant, Young Leader, G.S.L. or Parent comes along and represents your Colony and has an input in what the District Beavers do over the next year. So, no excuses please, send someone along to this meeting. Looking forward to seeing you all.

Cub report – Michèle McNamara

Scooter Rally – It is hoped to discuss this event at the coming meeting, so if you have anything you want to say about this event, please make sure you are represented.



Cub Centenary: Start planning your Cubs 100 programme by using the 'Our Journey' resource pack online! bit.ly/1RJnIQg

Scout report – Dave Bixby

Hope everyone had a good summer, any camps / expeditions went well and you are all refreshed for another challenging but hopefully exciting new term.



Raft Day: Another great day. We had teams from 10 Troops enjoying getting wet and the standard of raft building has improved immeasurably since we introduced this event. Even the large increase in the number of nesting Coots and Moorhens didn't detract from the experience enjoyed by our Scouts.

My thanks to the 13th and 22nd Wimbledon Troops for providing changing tents / toilets respectively and Richard Frewin, Andy Sloan and Tony O'Boyle for spending all day standing in the Wandle organising the rafts.

District Store – Brian Whalebone

Please ensure that you give your parents the correct opening times for the Store – Thursday evenings it is 7.45pm to 9.15pm and Saturdays it is 10am to noon. Lots of people have either been turning up very early and having to wait or appearing just as everything has been put away!

Current uniform prices:

Beavers:	Polo Shirts	£10.50	Sweatshirts	£12.00
Cubs:	Polo Shirt	£11.50	Sweatshirt	£12.50
Scouts:	Shirts	£17.00		
Trousers:	Age 5/6, 7/8, 9/10, 11/12 and 13	£16.		
Explorers:				
Shirts	Short Sleeve	£20.00	Long sleeve	£21.00
Leaders:				
Blouses/Shirts	Short Sleeve	£20.00	Long sleeve	£21.00
Leather Belts		£16.00		
Woggles	plastic	20p	Leather	£1.25
District Scarves		£5.30		

Badges – Lesley Bixby

I now have all the new Challenge badges in stock and most of the new activity badges. I still recommend that you let me know in advance what you need, especially if you are doing a badge with all your Section, so I can make sure that I have enough. I place my order after the Store on a Thursday evening and badges are normally available for the following Thursday.

The new Cub centenary badge is being launched at the Gilwell reunion and I shall obtain these to order only. They can be worn on the uniform and are £1 each. Please let me know your requirements as soon as possible.



Swimming Gala – Michèle McNamara

This has been booked for October 17th same times as last year. All the details will be the same as last year and I hope to get all the paperwork out shortly but I am a little preoccupied at the moment with physiotherapy etc. following my knee operation, so please bear with me.

Census 2016

From 2016, the UK Headquarters membership fee will be calculated based on the number of Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts and Explorer Scouts.

Adult volunteers and Network members will no longer pay a UKHQ membership fee.

The census will be collected using the same system as has been in place for the last 10 years but the membership fee will be based on the number of under18s.

The Headquarters membership fee will be £25.50 (£25 if paid promptly). This has been calculated to ensure there isn't an increase in the total money collected by Scout HQ.

County Badge Competition

Joe circulated the details about the badge competition to celebrate 50 years of GLSW at the beginning of July. Have you put it on your programme to encourage your members to enter? Entries to Joe by 24 September, please.

Jack Petchey

A request has just gone out for the next round of Jack Petchey Award nominations. Please consider which of your Scouts/Explorers deserves an award – while there is a grant of £200 which can be spent on anything the nominee wishes, it is not just about money but an acknowledgement that you consider that a young person in your Troop or Unit deserves recognition. Please get nominations to Lesley (thebixbys@talktalk.net) by 9 October please.

Compass

The last update from Compass came through mid-August and, providing all the testing is successful, they hope it will go live next January.

Bob Prescott

We are pleased to report that Bob's operation was successful and he's doing fine!

Training Dates

Sep 26	16	Intro. To residential experiences	10.00-13.00	1LM
Sep 26	38a	Skills for residential experiences	14.00-17.00	1LM
Oct 4	12a/22	Delivering a quality programme	10.00-12.30	1LM
Oct 4	12b	Programme planning	13.30 -17.00	1LM
Oct 10/11	38b	Skills for residential experiences	Weekend	B W
Nov 8	19	International	10.00-12.30	1LM
Nov 8	17/23	Running safe activities	13.30-16.30	1LM
Nov 29	15	Challenging behaviour	10.00-12.30	1LM
Nov 29	13/21	Growing the Movement	13.30-17.00	1LM

1LM 1st Lower Morden HQ, Bow Lane, off Lower Morden Lane SM4 4SJ
B W Bears Wood campsite, Oswald, Croydon CR09HJ

Cost per module is £4 except Modules 38a and b which is £40

Download applications forms from the County website

www.glsWSCOUTS.org.uk/applicationform

or contact Mrs J Condon joan.glsWtraining@btinternet.com

Safeguarding dates can be obtained from Alison Edwards (District Training Manager) alison.edwards@local.gov.uk

First Aid

20th September 2015

6th Croydon HQ

25th October 2015

1st North Sutton HQ

14th November 2015

3rd Kingston HQ

6th December 2015

1st Richmond HQ

Application forms can be downloaded from the County web site

www.glsWSCOUTS.org.uk/support

or contact Mrs Janet Drinkall jdrinkall@sky.com

Cost for module 10 £18.00

For information about other modules, which are District-run, contact Alison Edwards on alison.edwards@local.gov.uk