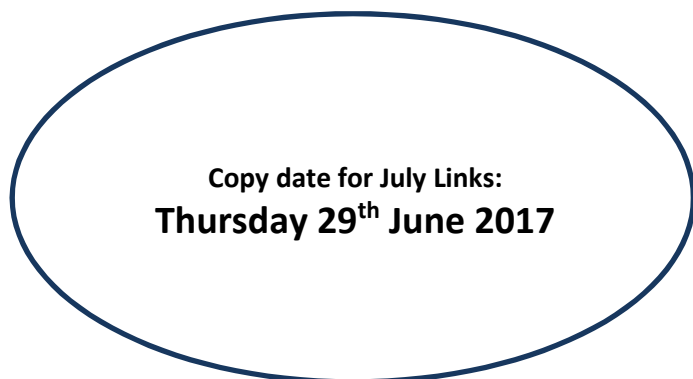
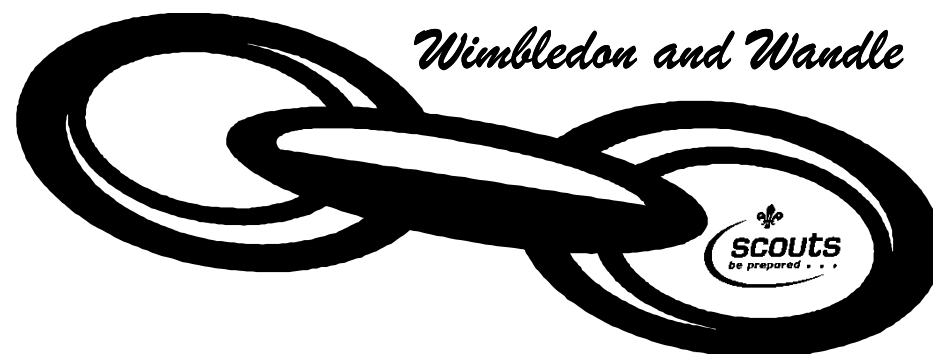


“Don't be afraid of change.
You may lose something good but you could end up with something better”



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Links

June 2017 – Issue no. 133

| | | |
|----------|--|---------------------------------|
| June 10 | Beaver Fun Day | Gilwell Park |
| 14 | District AGM | 1 st Lower Morden HQ |
| 17 | District Store open | Morden Hall DHQ 10am |
| July 1 | District Store open | Morden Hall DHQ 10am |
| 2 | Cub Football | Raynes Park High School |
| 7/9 | Gilwell 24 (Explorers) | Gilwell Park |
| 8 | SAS BBQ | |
| 9 | Scouts' Rafting | Ravensbury Park |
| 12 | Cub Scout Leaders' meeting | 1 st Lower Morden |
| 12 | District Executive meeting | Morden Hall DHQ 8pm |
| 13 | Last Thursday night of Store for summer term | |
| 15 | Last Saturday Store of summer term | |
| Aug 5-13 | Explorers' summer expedition | Kandersteg |
| 6 | SAS summer meal | Kingswood Golf Club |

Scout Active Support – Linda Vaudrey



Our Games Evening, held on Monday 8th May, was another success. I don't know about 'Mexican Train', we certainly had a relative of the 'Flying Scotsman' a.k.a. Muriel, on our team

Although the weather could have been a little kinder to us, we all enjoyed our Away Day to the Weald and Downland Museum. Many thanks to Jean and Robert for organising. Look forward to our next trip.

Reminder – District A.G.M., 14th June at 1st Lower Morden H.Q. All members to attend, in uniform, please.



Gilwell 24: This is Fri 7th – Sun 9th July this year. Bookings are now open: <https://www.gilwell24.info/>. We have booked a coach for the journey to and from Gilwell Park.

Kandersteg: Final preparations are taking place now for the Summer Expedition to Switzerland. This will be the highlight of the year for all those taking part.

For those not going on this trip, please will you let me know where your Units are going this summer.

Duke of Edinburgh: I was very fortunate in being invited to attend the presentation of a Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award to Robbie McLauchlan ESL of Raynes Park ESU. Here we are at Buckingham Palace flying the flag for Wimbledon and Wandle. Robbie is one of the few members ever to get both this award and the Queen Scouts Award, very well done!



District Commissioner

Thanks to Peter Hutton and his many leaders and helpers that came together to make Sports Day such a success again this year, especially with the last minute notification about the fire damage at the track. It was great to see that we had teams from groups that don't normally attend and I hope they enjoyed the day enough so that they come back and join in again next year.

It always surprises me when leaders don't take advantage of participating in district events as it's such an easy way to add variety to any programme with minimal effort!

Sports Day is one of the very few events of the year when all the sections come together and it's important for every one of our members to see that they are part of something bigger than their own colony, pack or troop. They can't do this if we don't give them the chance to get involved in district, national or international scouting events. You only have to speak to a scout who's been involved in such events as the Beaver trip to Gilwell fun day, Cubs' Adventure day, the Scout skills weekend or a trip to Kandersteg to know how positive such experiences can be.

Deborah

Well done Matthew

Matthew Coverdale, a Scout in the 13th Wimbledon, got the taste for archery at Scouts and has now appeared on the Dermot O'Leary Breakfast Show having a pep talk from Patrick Huston, our Olympic men's recurve archer at Rio 2016, prior to his first inter club archery competition.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbgkGuvtwEs&feature=youtu.be>

Chairman's Chatter – Andy Edmonds

At the meeting of the District Executive in May, the Annual Report & Accounts were approved. These are on the Agenda to be adopted at the AGM on 14th June. The Report fully complies with legal requirements.

Pages 3 and 4 provide an enhanced explanation of our Reserves Policy and to the future (next 8 years).

A shortened one page version, showing just income and expenditure under the direct control of the Executive, will be provided at the AGM.

Particular thanks are due to Keith Angliss, who has helped bring everything together and has undertaken the independent examination.

A copy of the Report and Accounts is available via the web site. In order to save costs, paper copies will not be provided at the AGM.

We are now undertaking referencing for potential new tenants for the KBH flat. It is hoped they will be in occupation by 1st July, which will ensure our financial plans for the year are not too wide of the mark.

I am meeting with the "Chairman Elect" at the beginning of June, to begin the handover process. It is not my place to name names, other than to say that I am delighted by the decision and will do all in my power to ensure the incumbent receives all necessary support!

We are also looking to set up a meeting with two potential treasurers, both retired Accountants. which might provide an exciting opportunity to share the responsibilities of the role.

Anyway, hopefully by the time of the AGM; things will have become clearer and we can then report more fully.

Looking back to seven years ago, the District then had income from rentals of £16,000 and from this sum £4,300 (26%) was spent on District Activities and Development. The contrast, with expected income currently of £40,000 per annum and £32,000 (80%) being allocated for the same, is a testament to what has been achieved over that time!

This would not have been possible without the support of all those who have served on the District Executive since 2010 and stands as a testament to all concerned. Thank You!

leaders/helpers/young leaders, who made this such a successful day and to Andrew Pinder (formerly of the 13th) who ran the tree climbing base. Sorry the distribution of tea to bases was spasmodic, I'm afraid my knees aren't up to so much walking.

Football – As discussed at the last CSL meeting this has now been booked at Raynes Park High school for Sunday 2nd July from 09.00- 15.00 . Full details will be issued shortly and I do ask leaders to adhere to the deadline for entries and payment.

Programmes – I am still waiting for a couple of programmes!

CSL Meeting – Next meeting is 12th July. Traditionally, at this meeting we plan our calendar for the coming year so if you want to have any input into the planning please make sure you attend. Please note this meeting will take place at the 1st Lower Morden H.Q.

Scouts – Dave Bixby



Scout Explorer Paintball Day 2018: The next Paintball Day has been booked for Saturday 20 January 2018 at Campaign. The cost has yet to be confirmed but is likely to be the same at this year - £30.

Thriftwood Training Camp: This camp did highlight the condition of equipment that some Groups issue to their Scouts. Please ensure that, as the camping season progresses, all gear that your Group issues is clean and fit for purpose.

If you need any advice or help in cleaning or preparing equipment, just get in touch.

Rafting: 9 July: Don't forget to register your Troop by 23 June if you intend to take part in the raft event, otherwise we can't guarantee to have sufficient equipment available for you.

Our next Scout Section meeting in Monday 11 September at Morden Hall DHQ, 8pm

Explorers – Neil McLauchlan



Spring Expedition: We had 3 units taking part this year, 21 Explorer Scouts and 8 leaders. We camped in the heart of the Brecon Beacons. We climbed Pen-y-Fan on Saturday and then circumnavigated the Ystradgynlais waterfalls on the Sunday.

Section Reports

Beavers – John Tweedley



Hi All Beaver Leaders and A.B.S.L.s

We had 4 colonies turn up to the **District Sports Day**, and, although there were only a few Beavers taking part, they all seemed to have a great deal of fun. My thanks go out to the leaders and parents who helped out on the day, at least it did not rain when we started.

Unfortunately, we could not let the Beavers run on the track this year as the Cub and Scout events seemed to be running behind schedule. I know that the Beavers were most disappointed so I will ask if a slot could be put in within the afternoon events, providing the Colonies attend again next year.

Gilwell Cub and Beaver Fun Day

I have submitted all the names to Gilwell and hopefully when we arrive it will mean I can just go and pick up the passes for the day. Groups going should have had the information about meeting times drop off and pick up venue etc. Please remember to bring your Beavers' health form with you for you to keep on you while we are at Gilwell park, and make sure you have a home contact.

I hope to put on a second fun day on 1st October 2017, please look at the minutes that Linda has sent out. I will need some ideas from you to tell me what your Beavers would like to do.

I hope to see some of you at the District A.G.M. on the 14th June.

Unfortunately, I am to losing one of my District Beaver Leaders, Julia Doolan, as she and her husband Bob will be moving away up to Oxfordshire to be near their son and his wife. Although I did say it was only one and a half hours drive away she has declined my offer to stay on. Julia has been a A.B.S.L. for some 20 years with the 3rd Mitcham and a District Beaver Leader for some 6 years and I am sure she will be greatly missed by all.

Cub – Michel McNamara



Adventure Day – 87 cubs attended this event, which meant we had rather large groups of cubs visiting each base but thanks to the leaders running the bases: they managed to make this work (just) - this shows why it is important for packs to provide accurate estimates when asked for the numbers due to attend. However, in spite of indifferent weather, all the cubs appeared to be having a good time and my thanks goes out to all those

As to the future, the District can look forward to income of over £200,000 over the next 5 years, of which £160,000 is likely to be available for District Activities and Development!

Very helpfully, the Charities Commission recently issued a booklet "GUIDANCE: It's your decision: charity trustees and decision making" (CC27); which clearly sets out the way trustees should act and record their decisions.

We are in a very fortunate position!

It is now essential that decisions are made with clear outcomes in mind and mechanisms agreed for review and evaluation.

The DC sought nominations last month to serve on the Executive for the next year. These are exciting times in that opportunities far exceed problems, so please do come forward! If you want things to change (and can contribute), now is your time!

A final thought.....

It is my opinion that we should consider appointing a Deputy DC, to oversee "Development"; in conjunction with the DC, District Team, District Executive, Group Key Managers and Group Executives. Our current vertical reporting structures are restricted by the inability to act horizontally across all reporting lines and as such are predicated to miss the "Helicopter View"!

Anyway, these are really my Last Words!

I wish Wimbledon & Wandle and all who "Sail with Her", nothing but The Best!

Andy

Appointments– Muriel Treagust, Appointments Secretary

Appointments agreed in May

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Anna Suszynska | Beaver Section Assistant | 1st Wimbledon |
| Michal Suszynski | Beaver Section Assistant | 1st Wimbledon |
| Daniel Stone | ABSL | 1st Lower Morden |
| Daniele Peake | ABSL | 8th Wimbledon |

We thank them for taking on these roles.

As this will be our District Chairman's last Links before he finishes with our District I would like to thank Andy for his past help and support.

Sports – Peter Hutton

With only one significant shower that delayed the start of our afternoon events, conditions were nearly ideal for this year's Sports Day at Wimbledon Park Sports Arena. Twenty-three teams competed from 12 Groups and three ESUs including 11 scout troops (a record), 9 cub packs and 3 explorer units. Three beaver colonies also ran their own special event during the afternoon.

It was good to see the 1st Merton Park scouts competing for the first time and to see the 9th Wimbledon scouts entering after a break of three years to win the competition for the first time with some outstanding athletic performances.

The inclusion of medals made the event a bit more special this year and it was great to see the vast majority of medal winners, and their supporters, staying on for the morning and afternoon presentations.

Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all those who helped to ensure everything ran smoothly on the day and to all participants who gave their all, no matter what position they finished in, and to all their leaders who made their participation possible.

The overall results this year were as follows:

| | GROUP | | EXPLORERS | |
|------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | Overall Trophy | Group Relay | Sports | |
| 1ST | 22nd Wimbledon | 22nd Wimbledon | Flying Penguins | |
| 2ND | 5th Morden | 5th Morden | Sharks | |
| 3RD | 13th Wimbledon | 1st Lower Morden | St Saviour's | |
| | | | | |
| | SCOUTS | | CUBS | |
| | Sports | Tug o war | Sports | Tug o war |
| 1ST | 9th Wimbledon | 13th Wimbledon | 22nd Wimbledon | 13th Wimbledon |
| 2ND | 22nd Wimbledon | 22nd Wimbledon | 5th Morden | 5th Morden |
| 3RD | 5th Morden & 14th Wimbledon | | 13th Wimbledon | |

County Training Courses

| Date | No | Module name | Time | Venue |
|-----------|-----|---|-------------|----------------------|
| 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

Wimbledon and Wandle District Annual General Meeting

You are invited to join us for a celebration
of our achievements and activities

Wednesday 14 June 2017
at 1st Lower Morden HQ
8pm

Map reading and navigation

– beginners and intermediates one day training –
17 September 2017, Broadstone Warren, East Sussex

GLSW and Surrey hillwalking team would like to welcome you to further develop your navigation skills (this could support progress to hillwalking assessment) in the beautiful surroundings of the Ashdown Forest.

We guarantee you will enjoy the experience in a fun and team building environment

Where? Broadstone Warren Scout Site and activity centre, field study centre building. Lewes Rd, Forest Row RH18 5JS

When? Sunday 17 September, 9.30am-4.30pm

What do I need to bring? OS map number 135 and a compass (preferably a minimum spec Silva classic). Day walking clothes and footwear including waterproofs and small day sac

Will lunch be included? Yes, lunch and refreshments during the day included in price

How much does it cost? £5 please to cover venue hire and refreshments. Do lift share if you can.

How do I apply? Email this form: to ian.tombleson@moorfields.nhs.uk and/or call for further details. Mb:07789886634.

Send this form to reserve a place and further details will be issued

I accept this will be a fun day involving lots of navigation practical in the open air, meeting like-minded people and generally enjoying the outdoors!

Name: _____

Contact mobile: _____

Sports cont . . .

For those interested in the history of the event, I have compiled a list of all the winning teams over the past 11 years. Can anyone fill in the gaps please?

| DISTRICT SPORTS WINNERS | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------|---------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| | GROUP | | SCOUTS | | CUBS | | EXPLORERS | |
| | Overall Trophy | Group relay | Sports | Tug o war | Sports | Tug o war | | |
| 2007 | 6/12th | 11Mc | 8Md | 8Md | 5Md | 5Md | | |
| 2008 | 5Md | 5Md | 5Md | 5Md | 22W | 23Mc | | |
| 2009 | 13th | 5Md | 13th | 23Mc | 5Md | 5Md | | |
| 2010 | 13th | 2md | 13th | 2Md | 13th | 5Md | | |
| 2011 | 5Md | 13th | 13W/5Md | ? | 5Md | 5Md | | |
| 2012 | 5Md | 5Md | 5Md | 5md | 5Md | 5Md | | 5thMd |
| 2013 | 5Md | 5Md | 5md | 13th | 1W | 22W | | 13th |
| 2014 | 5Md | 5Md | 13th | 13th | 22W | ? | | 1stW |
| 2015 | 22W | 5Md | 5M | 13th | 22W | 1LM | | Fl Pen |
| 2016 | 5Md | 5Md | 5M | 13th | 5Md | 1W | | Fl Pen |
| 2017 | 5Md | 22w | 9th | 13th | 22w | 13th | | Fl Pen |

Canoe course

Peter Treagust is organising a 2* canoe course for those warranted leaders who would like to work towards getting an activity permit. Cost will be covered out of the District additional training (activity) budget and it would be good to get people from across the District not just from one or two groups. Around 16 places are available. YLs who have exemplified commitment to regular helping may be considered for a place but adults have first option.

Dates: 10/11 June based on the Wey Navigation and 8/9 July based on the Thames. Both weekends are needed to complete the course and there is a possibility of a couple of extra evenings for any that may require extra work to get up to standard. Further details of the course can be obtained from Peter, treagustpt@aol.com. Please contact him asap.

How do you read your copy of Links?

At present, we produce about 60 paper copies of Links which are sent out to leaders old and new. The vast majority of people receive a link to the newsletter each month so that they can read it on line.

However, recently several people have reported that they never get around to reading it properly on line and have asked for paper copies, which we are happy to provide.

This newsletter is designed partly to report on recent events but mainly to give you news and information about what is happening around the District. As such, we want to make it easy for you to access.

If you would prefer a paper copy, please let the editor know.

Equally, if you no longer want a paper copy and prefer to be notified each month when it is published on line, please let us know.

Super hero scarves

There are a dozen super-hero scarves left over from last month's District Scout camp. If you can use them, please contact Dave Bixby, adscouts@wimbledonandwandlecouts.org

District Scout Store

There was discussion at the RAG event and a recent Key Manager's meeting about the cost of uniform. Of course, the Store does not set the prices but charges the recommended retail price set by Scout Shops Ltd, but all profits are passed on to the Groups pro rata.

A number of Groups offer a service to their parents by buying uniform from the store and selling it on. Some charge for this service but if the cost of uniform is an issue in your group, you could sell it at a discount, knowing that the group will recoup the difference in due course.

Worth thinking about?

The store will be open on Saturday 15 July then close until Thursday 14 September when it will re-open at 7.45pm.

Training – Alison Edwards

First aid

We have a couple of spaces left on the 17 June first aid course running at 19th Wimbledon HQ, 106 Cottenham Park Road, West Wimbledon, SW20 0SZ

The course starts at 9am and finishes 4.45pm approx. and is free to attend. Places can be booked through me on Alison.edwards@local.gov.uk

We will be arranging for more courses in the autumn. A note to GSLs! If whilst doing appointment reviews for your leaders you have suddenly realised that you have lots of people needing first aid please do contact me because we might be able to run a course for you if you have sufficient numbers. Or indeed you can join forces with another group in the same situation.

Safeguarding

There will be a safeguarding training at the 22nd Wimbledon on Thursday 29th June. 7.30pm

This is for any adult leader/supporter/helper or young leader needing to do the training or to be 'refreshed'.

Again, this is free to attend. I just need numbers by 28 June so I can buy enough biscuits!

Skills day

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 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 contact Alison Edwards. Bookings for the day can be made via the Eventbrite link below.

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/practical-skills-day-module-18-tickets-32006577535