

Every great dream begins with a dreamer.
Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience and the
passion to reach for the stars to change the world.

Harlett Tubmann

**Copy date for October Links:
Thursday 28 September 2017**

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Links

September 2017: Issue no. 135

Sept 6	Cub Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
9-10	Wandle Fortnight PR days	Morden Hall DHQ
9	Leaders' BBQ	Morden Hall DHQ 7pm
11	Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
13	SASU social evening	Morden Hall DHQ 7.30pm
14	District Store re-opens	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
16	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
17	Map Reading training day	Broadstone Warren 9.30am
20	Beaver Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
Oct 1	Beaver Fun Afternoon	1 st Lower Morden
4	Scout quiz	St John Fisher Church Hall 7.45pm
4	District Executive meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
7	District Skills Day	4 th Worcester Park
7	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am
9	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
16	Key Managers' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
17	Explorer Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 7.30pm
18	SASU Beetle Drive	Morden Hall DHQ 7.30pm
21	District Store open	Morden Hall DHQ 10am

Network – Josh Carter

The District Executive are supporting the relaunch of Network Scouts in our area and we will be meeting in the next month to discuss possible activities and a calendar of events for the coming year. Likely venue will be a rugby club house or local hostelry and refreshments will be available to help discussions.

If you are a Scout aged between 18-25 you are automatically a member and are welcome to come along and find out more, this is a great chance to keep doing the things you enjoy, there is no obligation to be a leader or even an occasional helper.

If you know of any Explorers/Young Leaders who are 17+ please pass on their details to me as we'd like to include them in our plans.

Scout Active Support – Linda Vaudrey



We hope you have all had an enjoyable summer.

We have a few events coming up over the next couple of months.

We start off with a social get together evening, at the Morden Hall DHQ, on **Wednesday 13th September** at 7.30 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided at a cost of £2 per head. It would be good to catch up with all members on that evening. Please let Jean Gould know if you are able to attend.

We are holding a Beetle Drive/Fish 'n Chip supper on **Wednesday 18th October**. Further details to follow.

We will need help with an Incident Hike, which is taking place in Wimbledon, on **19th November**. Again, times and further details to be notified. If you think you may be able to help, Robert would be pleased to hear from you.

Don't forget our Quiz Night, which again is being organised by Maggie Pooley. This is to be held on **Tuesday 28th October**, 7.30 p.m. start, at the Morden HQ, at £2.50 per head. Nibbles will be provided but please bring your own liquid refreshment. Again, please let Robert know if you are interested in attending.

Scout Quiz Night

Our next District Scout event is the quiz on **Wednesday 4th October** at St John Fisher Church Hall at 7.45pm.

Please do not arrive early - we need to let the Cubs and their parents to clear the hall and car park before we take over.

A team consists of up to 6 Scouts but Troops may enter as many teams as they wish. Entry fee is £3 per team but you need to let me know if your Troop intend taking part by 30 September at the latest.

Definite Scout numbers are not required.

Scout Incident Hike

As stated before this will be based in the Wimbledon Windmill and we really would like every Troop represented in some way to celebrate this 110th Anniversary of Scouting.

At the end of the hike there will be a BBQ for all participants and their Leaders. Entries must be with me by **5th November** with numbers of adults attending for catering purposes.

Our next Scout Section meeting is on **Monday 11th September at 8.00 pm** when we will be setting the programme of events for 2018. Please try to have your troop represented or, if that's not possible, let me have your views on what your Scouts would like beforehand.

Anyone with a positive attitude to scouting in Wimbledon and Wandle is very welcome.

Explorers – Neil McLauchlan



I trust that everyone had a great summer. The report back from the Expedition to Kandersteg was that everyone had had a fantastic time. The weather was a little wet and cold at times but that is why we are 'Explorer Scouts'! Very well done to Dan Fellowes and his band of leaders and helpers who made this trip work and gave an unforgettable experience to so many Explorer Scouts.

There are two very important dates this term:

- Tuesday 17th October: Explorer Scout Leaders & Helpers Meeting. DHQ 7:30pm. Will every unit please ensure that they have leaders at this meeting as we will be planning next year's activities. If it is your meeting night then please consider asking other leaders to run your meeting that night or even change your meeting night for that week!
- Sunday 12th November: Remembrance Day Parades. Wimbledon & Mitcham venues as usual. Followed by the District Dodgeball Competition at the Raynes Park ESU HQ (19th Wimbledon).

District Commissioner

A big thank you to each and every leader and helper who has given up precious holiday entitlement and weekends to ensure that our scouts have been given an opportunity to take part in a nights away activity. We all know from talking to adults that the memories we create on camp last a lifetime.

I hope that everyone has had a chance of a good break at some point over the summer and are refreshed ready for another challenging but hopefully exciting new term.

I know many of us are now in the midst of planning programmes and thinking of updating development plans whether within a Group or across the District. In addition to this many of you will be aware that Scout Association HQ have now made available their draft 2018-2023 strategy plan for consultation and this will be the main focus at the County Conference 14-15 October. This is an important opportunity for us to have our views heard and help shape the future of Scouting, and if we don't make the time to tell HQ and County what our members would like to see then we can't complain later. Please take the time to look at the draft, discuss it amongst your Groups and get feedback as appropriate, if you can, from your youth members so we can help to keep our Movement relevant to the young people we devote so much time to. If you would like any materials to help you with this please let me know.

Deborah

Mini Census – Paul Atkins

It is time again for a Mini Census so GSLs & Administrators have received an email from me asking for their group's numbers by Friday 22nd September.

The information required is fairly basic this time in that I will just need:-

- Total Number of Beavers
- Total Cubs
- Total Scouts
- Total warranted leaders

Rob's Ramblings

I trust everybody has had a summer break and has managed to get little bit of 'me' time before returning to 'scout' time although I suspect, during the summer, it has still been 'scout' time.

Where has the summer gone? It doesn't seem that two months have passed since the last Executive meeting and my first one as Chair, my hands are still shaking...

As we have such an able team on the Executive the day to day 'stuff' is carried out quietly and professionally behind the scenes. Those of you know who you are and I thank you.

Just two items for your attention: -

- Annual Reports and Accounts
Can I please remind all Group Chairs and Key Managers that under POR your Executive must present an Annual Report and Accounts and file a copy of with the District Executive Committee.
For those who have already done so, thank you. For those who haven't please do so as soon as possible.
- Japanese Knotweed
In July, I sent out a letter to Groups requesting that they check for Japanese Knotweed at their headquarters, the uncontrolled existence of which can have expensive ramifications for the Group's Trustees if not properly identified and dealt with correctly and professionally.
For those who have replied, some of you very expediently, thank you.
For those who haven't please check and let me know the outcome.

Many thanks.

Rob

Section Reports

Beavers – John Tweedley



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

I hope you have all had a good R&R over the School Summer Holidays.

Just a reminder that the District Beaver leaders will be holding a Beaver Fun Afternoon on Sunday 1st October at the 1st Lower Morden H.Q. By the time you get this you should have had an e-mail from me with the invitations to give out to your Beavers, together with the programme. I will need to know numbers of the Beavers attending two weeks before the event as some catering is required.

Cubs – Michèle MacNamara



CSL Meeting – The next meeting is September 6th at Morden Hall DHQ, please make an effort to send a representative from your pack.

Paintballing – September 17th for those of you attending please make sure you get there on time and if you have any problems or queries please let Graham know about them in plenty of time.

Skills Day – this is to be held on October 7th at Worcester Park, we have been asked to provide some ideas for games and need some leaders to be at the event throughout the day (not necessarily all day) if you are able to help please let me or Alison Edwards know a.s.a.p. - not football games.

I hope all the packs who went on a pack holiday had a good time, judging by the photos on Facebook that I have seen, you all seemed to be having fun.

Programmes – finally once again can you please let me have this term's programmes a.s.a.p.

Scouts – Dave Bixby



I hope you've all had a good summer break and that any camps / expeditions or activities your Troop took part in were successful. With the arrival of September, we can all look forward to the start of, hopefully, an exciting new Scout year especially with the build up to the next World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia.

Last term went out with a bang at the raft event in Ravensbury Park as over 100 Scouts took part. Virtually every bit of raft equipment we possess was in use. It was great to see so many Scouts, their families and leaders enjoying the sun filled day.

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?

If you would like more information please 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

Nights Away & First Aid

Whilst First Aid training is designated as a mandatory requirement to be renewed every 3 years, it is not necessary for a Nights Away Permit Holder to have current First Aid training as a pre-requisite for holding or renewing a Permit.

If the Permit Holder does not have First Aid then another leader attending the event who does have it should be designated as First Aider on your NAN Form.

If you have any queries, please contact Paul Atkins

Membership fees

The Scout Association has announced that the 2018 membership fee will be £27 a head for all young people under the age of 18 but, as always, they are offering a 50p discount for prompt payment.

I know you will all get your fees in on time so you will be paying £26.50.

County and District will confirm their fees in due course.

Appointments – Muriel Treagust

July Appointments agreed

Richard Sheehy ASL, 5th Morden
Alixé Lewis, BSL, 9th Wimbledon

We appreciate them supporting our District

DBS Checks

It is important that these checks are completed. HQ send out 90, 60 and 30 days warning when existing DBS checks are due for renewal. If no renewal check has been undertaken by the end of the 30 day warning, HQ will send our DC an email requiring the person in question be suspended due to none renewal of a DBS.

New members logged on Compass also have a 3 week window in which to complete a DBS check. It is best to do a check when a person is logged on Compass.

Adult Information Forms

Please email/send me copies of all new members being logged on Compass. This means I will be able track the correct processes are carried through to ensure we are following the rules of the Appointment Process.

This also applies to all members of your Group Executive Committee.

Warrant Reviews

To those GSLs who have completed and returned their Group Warrant Reviews, thank you. To those who still have to return their Group's outstanding Warrant Reviews please try and complete them by end of September.

Training – Alison Edwards

Scouting Essentials- 5 November 2017

As part of the changes to how training for adult leaders undertaking wood badge training is delivered in GLSW, Wimbledon and Wandle now deliver a course called Scouting Essentials along with Royal Kingston and Richmond districts. The next of these courses takes place in November in Richmond. This is a training for section leaders and assistant leaders undertaking their wood badge training, providing the key elements of administration, leadership, and the development of young people through effective programmes. It looks at the needs of young people in your section and how, through good admin and programmes, scouting can be undertaken in a safe and positive manner.

There is also an optional 'hands on' session on Compass and other online tools included in the day. The course is free to attend (you just need to bring your lunch) and provides networking opportunities to work with other leaders. Booking is done through the Eventbrite link below

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scouting-essentials-adult-leader-training-registration-34461576503>

Location-1st Whitton Scout HQ
Kerswell Hall
Wills Crescent
Hounslow
TW3 2JF

This has the advantage of enabling you to cover several of the key modules of leadership training in one day. If you have any questions about content or format do email me on Alison.edwards@local.gov.uk

Safety training

There will be 2 safety training sessions taking place this term for those needing to do their ongoing learning or indeed needing to get to grips with safety and risk assessment issues in scouting. The training will be

- 3 October at DHQ
- 15 November at the 22nd Wimbledon HQ

8pm start. Duration 90 minutes.

Free to attend and refreshments are provided. However, I would appreciate names in advance please. But if you suddenly do think... I wonder if there are spaces on ... the answer is yes so please do just turn up!

First aid

There are 2 courses available this term for anyone needing to do, redo or renew their first aid. The course is open to leaders, assistants, managers and young leaders working in groups and units and can be booked via me on Alison.edwards@local.gov.uk

Spaces are available on both courses

22 October – 3rd Mitcham, Woodland Way Mitcham CR4 2DZ

26 November – 22nd Wimbledon. Arthur Rd Motspur Park

Courses run 9am-5pm

Courses are free to attend but must be booked in advance due to numbers.

Safeguarding

To be confirmed for W+W district.

County Training Dates

Date	No	Module name	Time	Venue
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	Lo Mo
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