

THE DART SCOUT

www.dartfordscouts.org.uk

Issue 8 April 2014

WELCOME

April is shaping up to be yet another busy month, which complements may which was a month of much celebration of chief scouts awards across all of the sections. For those who haven't seen this month's newsletter from the county, then this is probably why scouting in Kent has grown as everyone continues to put on amazing activities and opportunities for young people! Make sure you check out the county website for lots more news!

BEAVER NEWS

We had 28 Beavers receive their Chief Scout Bronze Award Certificates from Beth Peal on 23rd March. Well done to everyone that received them.

A reminder from Cavan regarding WADE - he has extended the closing date to Thursday 4th May - please could you remind your Beaver parents and let him know numbers as soon as possible.

Photos from the Food fun day have been used a great deal on the Kent Beaver website.

Enjoy the Easter break; see you at St George's day Parade.

Jacqui Wilkinson
DBSL

CUB NEWS

Silver Awards

At the beginning of March, 34 Cubs were presented with their Silver Awards at the Civic Centre in Dartford. I don't think I've ever met such a quiet bunch of Cubs! They all took the occasion very seriously and thoroughly enjoyed being centre of attention. It was also wonderful to see so many families joining us to celebrate their child's achievement.

Thanks, as ever, to Peter and Wendy for organising the awards; to Dave and Margaret who kindly provided refreshments; to Beth Peal and Mick for leading the Cubs in celebration; finally, thanks to Eddie who is always there to capture the moment!



Cyclo Park – 8th June and 29th June

I hope to email the details out to leaders by the end of the Easter holiday. If you have a preference for date, please let me know ASAP.

Date of Next Cub Leaders' Meeting

The next Cub leaders' meeting will take place on Monday 12th May at 8pm. We will meet at 8pm upstairs in Scout House. All leaders, assistant leaders and anyone involved with Cubs are very welcome.

Andrea Head
ADC Cubs

SCOUT NEWS

TuffEnuff – 8th March

On Saturday 8th March, 13 of the 14 Dartford District Scout Troops gathered for the first running of the TuffEnuff Challenge - the idea of Cavan Slingo.

Instead of the normal cross-country race, the Scouts faced a run with about 15 obstacles, cunningly designed by Scout Leaders. It was perfect weather for the race - a warm spring afternoon although perhaps not quite as muddy as some of the leaders hoped for. After a quick safety briefing and instructions the Scouts were set off and they flew around the course.

The following troops took part: 1st Dartford, 3rd Fraser, 5th Burne & Earley, The Brent (6th) Warrior, 8th Dartford, 9th Dartford, 1st Sutton at Hone, 1st Wilmington, Bean, Cambria and Stone Everard & Wise. 56 Scouts took part and appeared to enjoy the new Challenge. 5th Earley were the overall winners in the younger age group with 5th Burne winning the older group.



Scout Climbing Badge – 22nd March

A massive thank you to 5th Dartford for the very successful Scout Climbing Badge Course held on their wall. 30 Scouts from two Districts had a great day and learned a lot about climbing skills and put them into practice.



Johnson Trophy – 17th May

Advance notice that Johnson Trophy will be based at and around Hopehill Scout Campsite. The day will run from approximately 10am to 5pm. The competition, for teams of 4 Scouts, will involve navigation, cooking and team exercises. It will cost £15 per team of 4 to enter to cover campsite fees, activities and a £5 budget for lunch (more on that later!). As with all events we will need plenty of support from leaders and I'd be grateful if you could email me if you are able to help. Final details for the event will not be published until St Georges Day. I hope this information is sufficient for you to sell it to your Scouts – the more teams the merrier! Could be possibly get all 14 troops?

Future events

We have a busy few months ahead. Don't miss out next Scout Leaders Meeting on 19th May at Scout House at 8pm. Look out for details on JOTT (10th May) and our evening tug of war and cricket competitions in June.

Gavin Jessup
ADC Scouts

EXPLORER NEWS

County Bog Seat Challenge

Around 40 Explorer Scouts representing ESU's from all over Kent County attended the 21st annual Golden Bog Seat Challenge at Lower Grange Farm on 1st March.

The Challenge is an archery competition with a difference, where the district with the highest average score win the tournament and the lowest take home the 'Bog Seat' and are also responsible for arranging the next competition.



We at the 5th are exceptionally pleased to announce that the two Explorers representing the 5th Dartford Scout Group's Johnston ESU, Jessica Boreham & James O'Brien, won the competition with the highest average score.

Very Well done to the both of you.

Jason

Young Leaders Training

The young leaders of Rawhide Colony, Stone had their Young Leaders Belts presented by the Group Chairman, in front of other leaders, parents and invited guests. The evening was made special by so many people turning up to congratulate them and managing to keep it a secret.

Sue



ADULT TRAINING

I am struggling to know what Courses and modules to put on in the local area as no one is talking to me! Training Advisors you have a special day at the Hilton, booking details are attached. Please contact me for your local training needs.

First Aid

British Red Cross First Aid Courses:

26th April - Ashford

11th May - Faversham

24th May - Thanet

17th August - Thanet

22nd November – Thanet

Please contact me for booking

Getting Started

Unfortunately the March course ended up being cancelled, I know lots of people need this, anyone who holds Occasional helper and above should attend a getting started course. Please send completed training forms to me; our next course is **on 8th June 9am – 3pm** lunch included.

Safeguarding

30th April 7.30 pm at scout house, still spaces please book if your due for a renewal.

Training Adviser's Workshops 2014

This is an opportunity for TAs from around the County to come together and discuss the latest updates to the Adult Training Scheme, refresh knowledge and ask any questions you may have. Numbers are limited so please book soon to avoid disappointment.

Date: **Saturday 5th April 2014**

Time: **AM session** - 10am to 12pm, **PM session** - 1pm to 3pm (you only need attend one session or the other)

Venue: **Hilton Hotel**, Bearsted Rd, Maidstone ME14 5LG

Agenda:

- Welcome and introductions of the new(ish) County Training Management Team
- Recent updates of the Adult Training Scheme
- Review of the validation process
- Sign posting resources
- Sharing/best practise

For this course you need to book direct at

www.kentscouts.org.uk/adulttraining/notices

Module 15 20th May

Challenging Behaviour, to be held at Dartford Judo Club. 7.30 start.

Sue Martin
Local Training Manager

CHIEF SCOUTS PRESENTATIONS

Beavers Bronze Awards

On Sunday 23rd March, 28 Beavers from 11 Colonies from throughout the District attended a Presentation at St Mary's Church, Greenhithe to receive their Bronze Award Certificates from Beth Peal the Assistant County Commissioner (6 to 10 Years) She congratulated them on completing this award.



Cubs Silver Awards

On Wednesday 12th May 37 Cub Scouts from around the District attended a Presentation at Dartford Civic Centre, where the Mayor of Dartford Councilor Mrs. Patsy Thurlow presented them with their Chief Scout's Silver Award certificates and said that she was proud of the young people for all the hard work that the Cubs had put in to gain this award and she also thanked the Leaders for the dedication that they continue to put in to get the Cubs through this Award. Beth Peal who is the Assistant County Commissioner responsible for the Young people from 8 to 10½ who also congratulated the Cub Scouts also attended the presentation.

Peter McLean

JOTT 17

Jamboree on the Trail

It's nearing that time of the year again when the whole District get to enjoy sharing a walk together along the Darent Valley Path. Please find all of the information including a letter along with the list of start points & times, the registration forms, the route maps and, for those with GPS units, the route GPX files on the website at www.dartfordscouts.org.uk/event-jott__jamboree_on_the_trail_.html. If you want any further information or have any queries, please email me at andy@grayfamily.biz

It would be great to see the usual fantastic turnout again this year so please spread the information far and wide and ensure that all of our young people, their families & friends get to hear about the event and get the opportunity to join us all on the day.

The letter includes an appeal for anyone who can help on the day in any way to come forward. This doesn't have to be instead of taking part but can be after, when more people on the refreshments lines would be a great assistance for example.

I look forward to seeing you all on the day.

Andy Gray
ADC Activities

WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE 2015

The Scouts and Explorers attending the World Jamboree in 2015 will be having a stall after the St Georges Day Parade. Do pop in and say hello, see their display and buy some of their raffle tickets. They are working hard on their fundraising but still have a long way to go.

DISTRICT JAMBOREE 2015

The 2015 District Jamboree will be held over the weekend of 22nd to 25th May 2015. Put the dates in your diary now. We are hoping to have more information in the April edition of Dart Scout. If you would like to be involved with the organising of the Jamboree please let me know.

Gavin Jessup

St. GEORGE'S DAY PARADE

Sunday 27th April

Please find attached to this edition of the DartScout the final instructions for the Parade and Entertainment/Fundraising stalls on the day. Lots of important information to make the most of the day please read and pass it on. If you have an further queries please contact Andrea directly.