

THE DART SCOUT

www.dartfordscouts.org.uk

Issue 3 November 2013

WELCOME

Welcome to the November edition of The Dart Scout. It has been a busy month in the district, but we are pleased to announce that the new district website is now live. For those that haven't seen it yet, it has had a complete overhaul and will be a key source of information for news, pictures, information and dates! This will work alongside TheDartScout and section email lists.

BEAVER SECTION NEWS

Nature Day

Saturday 26th saw 80 eager Beavers descend on the barn for a day of nature activities. The weather held out for them to run around the site and surrounding woods where various bases including an animal hunt, pond dipping, a mega string trail and mini-beast safari. Any bugs found were taken to the barn and put under an electric microscope. A hairy caterpillar projected onto a big screen had the Beavers fascinated, especially when it started to crawl. They even managed to make Christmas stockings to hang on the tree when it goes up next month.

We also built a mini-beast hotel which will remain on site and, with the large amount of daffodil bulbs we planted, you now have an excuse to take your Beavers back next spring to see what's living in and growing up.

The day finished with hot chocolate, a hot dog and singing around a proper campfire. My thanks goes out to Angela, Nigel and Elaine who were there early to help set up and sorted all the refreshments. Nigel and Steve Longhurst who controlled the traffic flow and supervised the building of the mini beast hotel. Liam and Lucy from Hiltonia for getting the campfire started. Thanks also to the Mums who did all the washing up for us.

Christmas Meal

If you haven't booked your place for the BSL Christmas meal on Dec 4th, please let me now ASAP. I will be taking deposits soon for those who have.

Cavan Slingo
ADC Beavers

CUB SECTION NEWS

Older Cub Training Weekend – 16th/17th November

Thank you to the Cub leaders for advertising this event. We have had a fantastic response and booking is now closed. A programme for the weekend will be distributed shortly. If anyone has any questions or suggestions in the meantime, please just get in touch.

Cyclopark 2014

Following discussion at our last Leaders' Meeting, we have booked some BMX and mountain bike sessions at the Cyclopark in Gravesend. The date has been confirmed as Sunday 8th June; pop the date in your diary.

Next Cub Leaders' Meeting

The next Cub leaders' meeting will take place on Monday 25th November at 8pm. Beth Peal, the Assistant County Commissioner for Cubs, will be joining us for the meeting. 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
mrshead@yahoo.com

SCOUT SECTION NEWS

When I got the reminder that it was time to provide my input to the November Dart Scout it felt like only yesterday that I had written last month's entry. October has flown by but been very productive with a Scout Leaders meeting, World Jamboree selection weekend, Nocturnal Adventure and the events and dates for 2014 diary into the District Calendar that will be circulated shortly. Thank you to all the leaders in the district for their support as I try to work out what being an ADC means and what I should be doing. I would particularly like to thank Wayne, Martin and Andy for making up the Scout Support Team making my job much easier than it could be.

Dartford Scouts Champion Chefs

A team of four Scouts from the 6th Dartford Warrior troop turned up champions on Saturday (19th) when they won the county wide cooking competition and gained their Chef's badge in a four hour test held at Rainham open to all hundred troops in the County.

The teams of four had a maximum of £20 to spend on a full three course meal and needed to provide costings of ingredients and the selected menu of their choice and were judged on their ideas and originality, presentation, execution and taste.



The Scout County Commissioner Dean Harding said, "The choice and standard of the cooking was outstanding and were worthy of any good restaurant"

Nocturnal Adventure

Thank you to all the Dartford Scouts and Leaders who made the Nocturnal Adventure such a success. Despite the constant rain 15 teams took part and there were lots of happy faces all around the course. Only a few teams needed to be pointed in the right direction and most successfully completed the course. Thanks to all the leaders for supporting the event in testing conditions - in particular the fantastic team from Wilmington looking after everyone at the finish. However - the people that impressed me most were the Scouts from around the district - you were brilliant and can be very proud of yourselves - it wasn't very nice weather but you all turned up and did your best - we can't ask for more than that. The full lists of results have been sent to Scout leaders. In first place were 6th Warrior A, in 2nd place 8th Dartford B and in third place 3rd Dartford A. Trophies and certificates should be presented at the challenge evening. Well done everyone.

Challenge Night

This event will go ahead as planned on 21st November with a mix of challenges and quizzes for the competing Scouts. Full details have been sent out to Scout leaders – please shout if you haven't seen them.

Gold Award Presentations

The Next County Presentation Evening is on 7th December and applications are now open on the County Website. If you would like someone from the District team to present your Gold Awards please let me know giving as much notice as possible.

Gavin Jessup
ADC Scouts

ADULT TRAINING

I will be at scout house on these dates from 7.30-8.30 I am happy to sign off modules, book training, talk through problems. If other T.A's would like to join me please let me know when you can attend or if you could run another date.

2nd December

27th January

24th February

Training Dates

Getting Started

16th November –Gillingham

15th December-Dartford

First aid

16th November-Tunbridge Wells

16th November-Gillingham

17th November-Gillingham

Training Advisors

Are you receiving the training advisor E-news? This has details of updates and courses to keep you up to date. Register for it by going on to www.scouts.org.uk in your backpack under mailings.

If you attended the meeting you should have a new trainers manual, updates are available! From July 2013 for modules 1, 5 and 11 please download from www.scouts.org.uk

4th November - Training Advisors meeting in Sevenoaks. Venue to be confirmed.

17th November - Module 25 Assessing Learning, held at Sevenoaks, 10am-2pm. This is for all G.S.L.'s (who have not yet completed the course) and anyone else who would like to be a training advisor

Sue Martin
Local Training Manager

WORLD JAMBOREE 2015

The 23rd World Scout Jamboree will be held in Japan during the summer of 2015. Over the weekend of 4th to 6th October, 24 young people from Dartford attended a selection weekend at Lower Grange Farm. The young people all had a great time taking part in a wide range of land, water and air activities with young people from 5 other districts. After the weekend the selection panel had the difficult task of reducing the candidates from 24 to 12. The selected 12 will now attend a final selection day on 9th November when those attending the Jamboree will be announced. Our successful candidates will be named in next month's Dart Scout. All the young people that applied to attend the World Jamboree really impressed the selection panel and we can be very proud of the young people Scouting in Dartford.

Japanese Scouts are keen to make contact with groups around the world whether or not they are attending the Jamboree. Perhaps you could incorporate some Japanese evenings in your programme in the build up to the Jamboree. For more information on the Jamboree please visit www.23wsj.jp.

Gavin Jessup

APPOINTMENTS

The Appointments Committee met on 24th September and were pleased to confirm the following appointments:

Claire Johnson	Group Sectional Assistant (Beavers)	Brent (6 th Dartford)
Christopher Clark	Group Sectional Assistant (Scouts)	9 th Dartford
David White	Assistant Cub Scout Leader	8 th Dartford

And the following change of Appointments:

John Atkins	Cub Scout Leader	9 th Dartford
Peter Randall	Group Scout Leader	1 st Dartford
Michael Slingo	Assistant Beaver Scout Leader	1 st Dartford

Peter McLean
Appointments Secretary

SAFEGUARDING

At the safeguarding awareness course in October, I mentioned the Beat Bullying activity packs. These have now been uploaded onto the website and can be downloaded [here](#).

Angela Rainey
Safeguarding Awareness

DASCO

We continue to walk once a month usually alternating between a Saturday and Sunday. This is due to Margaret Stephen kindly doing the organising. Dates can be found on the District Website. If anyone would like to join the walks to improve their map reading skills or merely to get out in the countryside then please contact Margaret on margaret6166@aol.com

SAS (Scout Active Support)

We continue to meet on the first Wednesday of the month except this month (November) when some members will be serving refreshments at the Cub's Silver Awards in the Council Chamber. We are therefore meeting at Sutton at Hone Scout hall on the second Wednesday (13th) to play short mat bowls. We will also be in attendance at the Beaver Bronze awards on Sunday the 17th organising the event and helping with the refreshments.

Last month's meeting was devoted to trying to learn some knots under the instruction of Wendy Mclean with rather mixed success! We also had a visit on Saturday 5th October to Gravesend's Gurdwara (Sikh Temple), which is the biggest in Europe. We had a fascinating tour with many facts and the huge building is amazing both in size and decoration. We were then able to join in the mid-day meal, which is prepared for worshipers every day. Thanks again to Margaret for organising the visit.

Ashley Hambridge

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Remembrance Service

The remembrance service will take place on the morning of Sunday 10th November in Central Park, Dartford. Please see the attached letter for details.

St. Georges Day 2014

Sunday 27th April

THE DART SCOUT NEWSLETTER

The copy date for inclusion in the December Edition of TheDartScout will be the 25th November. Please get your articles to matthew.gibson@kentscouts.org.uk.

We are still looking for further content and views to build on the usefulness of this newsletter. Get in touch if there is something you want to see included!

DARTFORD
DISTRICT
SCOUTS

Scout House – Broomhill Rd, Dartford, DA1 3HT
Acting DC – Paul Abel
ADC's – Gavin Jessup (S), Andrea Head
(C), Cavan Slingo (B), Matt Gibson



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE AND PARADE SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2013

We have been invited to attend the Service of Remembrance at the War Memorial, Central Park, Dartford, on Sunday 10th November 2013 at 10.40am.

We have been asked to be in place by 10.20am but to ensure that we are all together, it is advisable that groups form up as soon as they arrive, leaving perhaps one leader in Market Street to direct their members.

The service will be followed by the march past. The parade will form up outside Boots in the High St. and proceed via Market Street to the War Memorial, where the Mayor will take the salute.

Please ensure that all young people are wearing SMART Scout uniform, with plenty of warm clothes underneath. It might be a good idea to remind them to have breakfast first.

The Royal British Legion have said that it is appreciated that the Memorial Gardens do not allow a complete view of the proceedings for any of those attending and they and their members will do their best to ensure that the youngsters present are accorded as good a view of the Service as can be afforded in the circumstances.

After the March Past, refreshments will be served at **Holy Trinity Cafe**, and the Mayor will be pleased if your Officers/Committee/Representatives would join her there; and the RAF Association have once again kindly offered to welcome guests to their club-house after the refreshments.

The Royal British Legion have advised us that you are entitled to wear service medals earned by friends or relatives who have died or cannot attend the event. These should be worn on the right hand side of the shirt/jacket

Stone will carry the District Standard.

The District Team