

# THE DART SCOUT

[www.dartfordscouts.org.uk](http://www.dartfordscouts.org.uk)

Issue 14 November 2014

## WELCOME

Hello, where has the year gone? The clocks have gone back and the nights are closing in.

I'm not going to give you a big update from me this month, mainly because you could read last months and read the same again here. In short we are waiting on Compass to go fully live before we can add training and permits.

I'd like to say how pleased I am that Scouts have appointed our first Youth Commissioner, I'm sure Hannah is going to make a big difference and help lead the association on towards our 2018 vision. Information on Hannah and her team can be found [here](#), I hope in the coming weeks and months we as a District will start to appoint more young adults into key leaders roles ;)

Please read the Compass Update included with this as it contains important information about the new membership system.

**Leigh Villiers**  
District Commissioner

## BEAVER NEWS

### DISTRICT AIR ACTIVITES DAY

Over 90 Beavers and Leaders descended on RAF Hendon on the 19<sup>th</sup> October. A good time was had by all with chance to have a go on the interactive equipment at lunchtime. I would like to say well done to the Beavers for their good behaviour and how well they represented Dartford District and this couldn't have been done without the help from the Leaders, so a big thank you to you all that came.

I will sort out dates for another visit next year for those Colonies that were unable to attend this time at the next BSL Meeting.



## BRONZE AWARDS

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Can all Leaders that have Beavers down for attending PLEASE stress to parents that they are to let Peter know if their child is unable to attend on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. His contact details are on the letter that he sends out. A lot of work is done by Peter to organise the Awards and it would be helpful if he knew in advance who is not attending before he prints lists etc.

If anyone needs Bronze Awards presented or just needs the badges, please let me know.

## SCIENCE DAY

This has been booked for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at Oasis Academy. Full information about the day went out in the Minutes that I emailed the other day, but I will send out further information nearer the time.

Date of next Leaders meeting is Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30 p.m. at Scout House.

Jacqui Wilkinson  
ADC Beavers

## CUB NEWS

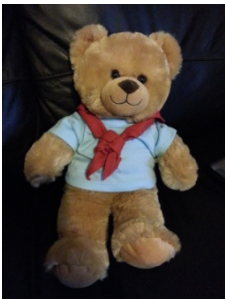
### Remembrance Service – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November

Just a reminder that Cubs are invited to attend the annual remembrance service in Dartford Park with their Scout groups. I look forward to seeing many of you there

### Swimming Gala – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November

The joint Cub and Scout swimming gala will take place in the evening of 29<sup>th</sup> November. A letter with details of the event will be sent out in the next week.

### Cub Bear



Say hello to the new District Cub bear. County have issued each District with a bear and the idea is that the bear will spend the next two years participating in brilliant Pack/District activities. We will need to take plenty of photos along the way!

Our big problem at the moment is that this furry friend needs a name. Please can I ask Packs to come up with some suggestions and bring them along to the next Cub Leaders' meeting, where we will pick a name at random.

If your Pack is up to something exciting, let me know and I will send the bear your way.

### Date of Next Cub Leaders' Meeting

The next Cub leaders' meeting will take place on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 8pm. We will meet at 8pm upstairs in Scout House. All leaders, assistant leaders and anyone involved with Cubs are very welcome. I look forward to seeing you all then.

Andrea Head  
ADC Cubs

## SCOUT NEWS

This month's news is dominated by the results of the Nocturnal Adventure. Wayne and I continue to visit troops to present Gold Awards. Well done to all the Scouts who are achieving the top award available to the section and thank you to all the leaders helping the young people to do so.

### Nocturnal Adventure

The Nocturnal Adventure took place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The event consisted of a hike around Sutton at Hone with short activities at Checkpoints. It was a dry night ( a welcome change to the previous year!).

In the fastest team category 5th Burne A came 1st, followed by Sutton at Hone A in second and Wilmington C in third.

Overall it was the same top three but in a different order with Sutton at Hone A first, Wilmington C second and 5th Burne A third.

The results were very close between the top three. Trophies and certificates will be awarded for the top 3 overall results and certificates for the top 3 fastest teams at the Quiz / Challenge night.

The Scout hopefully learnt one or two important lessons from the evening. Team work is important as is reading the instructions! When Leigh and I "rescued" lost teams it was amazing the number of teams that didn't have their written instructions to hand that described the route. At least one team went the wrong way around the course! Also - grave yards are not a scary place! That said they all did really well. Map reading skills could be improved and we hope to offer an event next year that will help in this area!

Finally, I'd like to say thank you to a number of different groups of amazing people: to everyone at Sutton at Hone for hosting this event; to the World Jamboree Team for keeping everyone fed and watered; to all the leaders than manned checkpoints and supported teams, to the parents of the scouts for allowing them to take part, to Jessica, Wayne, Kim, Andy and Martin for supporting the event, to Andy for all the printing and laminating, and to the scouts themselves - who did brilliantly.

### Quiz / Challenge Night – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November

Full details and poster for this event being organised by 5<sup>th</sup> Dartford have been circulated. A good number of teams have entered. If you haven't already entered get in touch ASAP before it is too late (the official entry deadline has already passed).

### Swimming Gala – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Final information for this event will be sent out in Early November. All troops encouraged to take part, As always we will need leaders to help on the night.

### Autumn term dates

A reminder of the following events coming up over the next few months

#### **November**

Saturday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Adventure, County Event
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Sunday
Fri-Sun	21 <sup>st</sup> to 23 <sup>rd</sup>	County Extreme Survival
Saturday	29 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming Gala, White Oak Swanley

#### **December**

Saturday	6 <sup>th</sup>	County CSA Gold Presentation
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Gavin Jessup  
ADC Scouts

## ADULT TRAINING

Once again there is lots going on in the cluster, the main opportunity to complete a large amount of training would be the multi module day, anything from one module to 8 over the whole weekend.

Contact me direct on [training@dartfordscouts.org.uk](mailto:training@dartfordscouts.org.uk)

### First Aid

#### **British Red Cross First Aid Courses**

22nd November – Thanet

29th November - Sevenoaks

30th November – Gillingham

14th December - Sevenoaks

Please send me a training form requesting the date you require.

### Getting Started

23rd November                      Dartford

This already has 6 people booked so will be running.

### Multi Module Weekend

15/16th November 2014

A chance to complete the training required for several modules in the adult training scheme. Please complete an application form and send to your Local Training Manager.

The day is free, tea and coffee provided please bring a packed lunch. This is at Holmesdale Technology College, Malling Road, Snodland, ME6 5HS

Please see attached for details and booking form.

As usual please contact me for any training queries.

Sue Martin  
Local Training Manager

## COMPASS UPDATE

Over October I have had access to Compass, the new Scout membership system, we've had a few bugs and some data that still needs to be cleaned up before leaders have full access and we upload our youth data. As it stands I am still unable to update training or issue permits as these need to be recorded on Compass before they are valid.

We should also note that the existing Adult Application, Change of Role and Occasional Helper forms have now been replaced with the Adult Information Form, this can be downloaded on [scouts.org.uk](http://scouts.org.uk)

The CRB/DBS process has also changed for new and existing members. The association has now moved to a new eCRB (Electronic version of the CRB/DBS forms) – Once registered with Compass applications are referred to the eCRB process. I will provide more details as we move forward.

As Compass is a new system, there is also a new youth data form, this replaces the existing personal information forms that many groups used in the past as it contains the data that is required to upload new members to Compass, once the final version of the form is released we will order a supply for the District and add links on the District website.

We also need to start collecting our youth data to be ready to upload it to Compass. There is a youth data spreadsheet that needs to be completed for each section within each group, please see the information on the page <http://compassuserguide.scouts.org.uk/?p=4513>, I would advise you to start to collect the data ASAP to prepare for our upload window once it is confirmed. For users of OSM there will be a one off export/upload which should make the process a little easier for each of you, see the link above for more information.

Finally, once we have confirmed dates for our upload we will be in touch. If you have issues preparing your youth data for upload, please please please contact me in the first instance as I may be able to help.

Leigh

## REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE & PARADE

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Please find attached a letter from the District Team regarding the arrangement for the Dartford Remembrance Day Service & Parade this weekend. Please pass this around your groups.

## COMPETITION TIME

For all Beaver Colonies and Cub Packs - please meet the latest members of the Beaver and Cub Team!

The competition is for the Bears to be named - so could all Colonies and Packs get their thinking caps on and come up with suitable names please. Could BSL's email Jacqui and CSL's email Andrea the Colonies/Packs chosen names as soon as possible. Names will go into a hat (one for Beavers and one for Cubs), first one pulled out is the name of the Bears.

The Bears have come from County and are waiting for their adventures to begin with Beavers and Cubs. Please let Jacqui or Andrea know when you have an event so the Bear can join in (lots of photos need to be taken so they can be sent on to County).

Further details will be given at the next Leaders meeting.

Jacqui and Andrea

## CHRISTMAS PANTO

I work with the Walk Tall Repertory Company, who have been commissioned by the Mick Jagger Centre to perform a Christmas pantomime.

The Orchard Centre pantomime has become a little to expensive for most groups and the Walk Tall performance of Dick Whittington (shows 5th, 7th, 20th, 22nd of Dec) could provide a more cost effective alternative (adults £10 Children £7 - 10 children 2 adults go free).

All profits support the Walk Tall young people counseling services and tickets can be purchased from [http://www.themickjaggercentre.com/current\\_events.aspx](http://www.themickjaggercentre.com/current_events.aspx)

David Mote