

BUCKINGHAM & WINSLOW DISTRICT SCOUTING NEWS

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Well Done Everyone

We had a wonderful turn out at Stowe on the morning of 1st August to renew our promises. Every Group was represented and Stowe Church Bells rang out on time to commemorate the historic occasion.

Our Jamboree representatives had a fantastic time at the Centenary Jamboree. The presentation they gave at our District Annual Meeting has already been given again to a couple of Groups. If you would like to hear all what they have to say and see their achievements please contact Tina Flegg to arrange a presentation.

The Explore Scout Expedition to New Zealand was the experience of a life time as their presentation at the District Annual Meeting proved.

Already this autumn we have seen activities across the board Beavers Cubs and Scouts taking part in a range of events.

The District Scouts September weekend at Hathersage in the Peak District gave Scouts from Maids Moreton, Stewkley, Tingewick, and Winslow the opportunity of activities of Walking, Climbing and Mountain Bike. The climbers went to Bamford Edge, climbing a number of different routes to cater for all climbing abilities while the walkers covered the 6 miles from Bamford to Derwent Dam via Ladybower Viaduct and the Cyclists were offered varying routes depending on their fitness and enthusiasm. Many thanks due to David Bush (ADC Scouts for the District) for organising it all.

Maids Moreton Scouts have had a weekend at Braid Wood practising putting up tents, cooking on open fires and other outdoor activities; Winslow and Tingewick Scouts have been practising navigation with a night hike between Granborough and Oving.

Maids Moreton Cubs and Tingewick Scouts all put in teams to contest Wendover Woods Orienteering competition. The Beavers and younger Cubs had their own dedicated introductory 'String' course.

Buckingham, Stewkley, Winslow and Great Horwood have had half term camping expeditions.

The Scout Swimming Gala took place at the Swan Pool Buckingham. and was won by Maids Moreton. Have you ever seen an egg and spoon race in a swimming pool !

District Commissioner's Slot

As some of you may know the County Commissioner, Andrew Craddock has asked me to be DC for Buckingham and Winslow and I have accepted his invitation. As I have been Acting DC since July I have agreed with Andrew to take on the full responsibilities of my appointment with immediate effect (There are some formalities that have to be completed before my appointment is formally confirmed.)

One of the peculiarities of the appointment of a new DC is that all District appointments become subject to review, including all GSLs, ADCs, the DESC and Explorer Scout Leaders. My first statement is that all GSL appointments are confirmed. We are fortunate to have a very good group of GSLs in this District and it is my wish to work closely with them to support the Scout Groups. The function of a District is to serve the needs of the Scout Groups and I want to consult with all Leaders in the District particularly Leaders in the Scout Groups to determine how the District can support you. To this end I will be writing to the GSLs inviting their thoughts and asking them to a meeting on Thursday 15th November at Winslow Scout HQ. If you have any thoughts on what you want from the Scout District please tell your GSL or acting GSL so they can come prepared to the meeting.

In the meantime I wish to record that I believe that we have a strong District with very active Sections in the 10 Groups of the District. Not to mention Explorers Scouts. That does not mean that I do not recognise that every Group has some problems that need addressing. In my experience as a Scout Leader an active Group always has some problems. The important thing is to try and solve the problems. The District is there to help. I want to know from you what help you want.

I can always be contacted either by phone or by e-mail. I have an answer phone so if I am not there please leave a message and I will call back. My phone number is 01 296 670 663 or 0845 83 82 847 my email is: district-scouts@paulketteridge.co.uk

Paul Ketteridge

New Cubs Packs at Swanbourne and Marsh Gibbon

This term has seen Cubs restarting at Swanbourne House School and at 1st Marsh Gibbon with investitures planned for November. Congratulations to Leaders and the new Cubs.

District Scout Quiz 4.30pm Saturday 24th November

The Scout Quiz will take place at Winslow Scout HQ on Saturday 24th November and has been organised with questions and format designed for Scouts age 10 to 14 years. Teams to have a combined age of no more than 60 years. The first questions will be asked at 4.30pm. Full details will be circulated by David Bush ADC (Scouts). There will be a charge for the fish & chip supper.

100 - 100's Challenge

Roger Williams of 1st Tingewick has been keeping our District record of 100 - 100's Challenge. At the time of going to press the District has reached 2/3 point of the 100 - 100 challenges, we have achieved 67 challenges out of 100.

The Challenge Roll of Achievement

Nights Away: The District as a whole with 1,509 nights

For Walking: The District as a whole with 3,318 miles

Some of your "One off Events" have been

3rd Buckingham Beavers - Making of 100 Easter Nest Gifts

1st Tingewick Leaders - Collection of 176 Sugar Sachets

1st Winslow Scouts - 148 Dyed lengths of Rope for Woggles

1st Great Horwood Leaders - Justin Daley 100km of competitive running, including the London Marathon

1st Maids Moreton - Consumed 100 Cream Crackers in 100 seconds

3rd Buckingham Beavers - Planting of 100 Sunflower Seeds

1st Stewkley - Adam Oliver, "Did not utter a word for 100 mins".

(Some said it was a challenge from heaven)

1st Maids Moreton - Eat 100 squares of chocolate with knives & forks.

1st Steeple Claydon - Did 100 Activities at the Centenary Camp

1st Tingewick - 11 scouts, each counted out 100 peas from the pod for the evening meal at the centenary camp

Phoenix ESU - Lucy Wakeman & Oliver Loftus, 104 points in District 24 Hour Challenge

1st Tingewick Parents - Cooked 150 sausages at the Village Fete

1st Maids Moreton Scouts - Cycled 100 Miles

Time for a last minute rush of activity. Leaders can you please let Roger have your updates in time for Awards Presentation on 16th December along with photos of your years activities.

Centenary Finale Celebration - Sunday 16 December

On Sunday afternoon 16th December we are having a celebration to round off our Centenary year. It will take place at 'The Film Place', University of Buckingham, Chandos Road, Buckingham, starting at 2.00pm ending at 4.00pm

The afternoon will include films on the 'History of Scouting' and the 'Centenary Jamboree' and there will be a presentation of Certificates to those who have achieved the "100 - 100's Challenge"

Roger Williams 1st Tingewick and Sarah Vinson 3rd Buckingham are coordinating the event and Roger would like photos from each Scout Group to create an item on the programme. An "Invitation" form is enclosed with this News Letter to be returned as soon as possible.

DISTRICT DIARY

October 2007

Mon 28th END HALF TERM

Mon 29th District Executive Meeting Gt Horwood

November 2007

Sat Sun 3/4th Modular Train - 11,12,13,14,15,18 19 - Braid Wood

Wed 7th Fellowship Groups/District

Sun 11th Remembrance Sunday

Thu 15th District GSL's Meeting - Winslow

Sat 17th First Response - Bletchley Leaders

Sat/Sun 17/18th Modular Training - 20,21,22,23,24,25,26 - Quarries Sat/Sun

17th/18th Grymsdyke Hike - Misbourne Valley Groups

Sat 24th District Scout Quiz - Winslow

Sat 24th Festival of Scouting - O2 Arena Greenwich

Sun 25th Awards Presentation - Aylesbury High School Groups

December 2007

Wed 5th District Fellowship - Winslow

Sun 16th District Year End Centenary Celebration Buckingham

Fri 21st END AUTUMN TERM 25th - 26th Christmas

January 2008

Mon 7th START SPRING TERM

Wed 9th District Fellowship - Winslow

Thu 24th District Executive Meeting

February 2008

Sat 2nd Modular Training 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 - Braid Wood

Wed 6th District Fellowship - Winslow

Sat 9th Module 10 First Response Bletchley

Fri 15th START OF HALF TERM

Sun 17th Module 36 Special Needs Braid Wood

Mon 25th END HALF TERM

March 2008

Wed 5th District Fellowship - Winslow

Sat/Sun 8th/ 9th 2 Day First Aid Course - Quarries

Sat 15th Modular Training 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 - Quarries

Fri 21st Mon 24th BANK HOLIDAYS - GOOD FRIDAY - EASTER MONDAY

Sat/Sun 30/31st Module 16/17 Nights Away & Activities - Braid Wood

April 2008

Thu 3rd District Executive Meeting

Fri 4th END SPRING TERM

Mon 21st START SUMMER TERM