

BUCKINGHAM & WINSLOW DISTRICT SCOUTING NEWS

Spring 2008 Issue 8 www.bwd-Scouts.org.uk Tel: 0845 83 82 847

Welcome to 2008

After a very active 2007 centenary year, with all the added extras, this year will be a bit simpler with an emphasis on the District Team giving support to the Scout Groups.

Planned District activities for this year are, two Hathersage weekends; the first in March for Leaders; the second in September for Scouts and Explorers. There will be a District May Day Cub Hike on May 5th and a District Beaver Fun Day on Sun 29th June. Tingewick Scouts are organising a District Street Orienteering in Winslow on Friday 4th July

In the autumn - dates to be fixed - we plan to hold a District Scout Swimming Gala, a District Scout Quiz and a District Cub Quiz .

The idea of a District Scout Camp has been discussed and agreed in principle, but as summer is committed with various Group activities, not to mention the Longridge weekend water camp, it is proposed to look for a date for a District Scout Camp in early October.

St George's Day celebrations this year will be a Scout Group occasion with each Scout Group organising their own local commemoration. There will be a District St George's Day Parade in 2009.

Centenary Finale Celebration

We closed the centenary year of Scouting with a Final Celebration on Sunday 16 December at 'The Film Place', University of Buckingham. The occasion was well supported. Presentation of Certificates to those who had achieved the "100 - 100's Challenge" were made by the Mayor of Buckingham. Thanks to Roger Williams and Sarah Vinson their organising.

Invitation ! Scout Fellowship Wednesday 5th February

The District Scout Fellowship not only supports local Scouting but has its own programme of events. Why not come along to Winslow Scout HQ on Wednesday 6th February 7.45 for 8.00 to meet the Fellowship and hear a presentation from a representative from the Donkey Sanctuary at Sidmouth, Devon on the work of the sanctuary at home and abroad. There will be an opportunity to see and acquire some of the sanctuaries 'shop' items. It all promises to be a very informative evening. Tea and coffee will be served. Membership of the Fellowship is open to all past and present Scouts and Leaders and we are happy to welcome new members.

District Commissioner's Slot

As many of you know I have agreed the new District Team which forms the core of Leaders for organising and running the District.

Our District Team is:

District Commissioner	Paul Ketteridge
Deputy District Commissioner	Rosemary Frohock
Assistant District Commissioner - Scouts	David Bush
Assistant District Commissioner - Cub Scouts	Denise Ward
Assistant District Commissioner - Beaver Scouts	Tina Flegg
District Explorer Scout Commissioner	Martyn Smith
District Fellowship Chairman	John Robbins
Local Training Manager	Pat Pullinger

The District Team is supported by District Scout Leaders; Hugh Tattersall, Sally Kettley, John Kettley, Rebecca Riley, Alun Riley, and of course the District Scout Fellowship

Bryan Mason has accepted a County Appointment to develop Network Scouting in the north of the County. I would like to take the opportunity of thanking Bryan for all the good work he has done over the years for Buckingham and Winslow District and wish him every success with his new appointment. Although he now has a County Appointment he will still have links with this District.

Communication and Organisation

It is my wish to manage the District through the District Team and the Group Scout Leaders, all with the support of the District Executive.

I hope that we can achieve this through termly meetings of GSLs and the District Team along with ADC Section Meetings for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with a Scout link to District Explorers. The District Executive will be meeting termly. I sincerely hope that Group Scout Leaders will hold their own termly Leader meetings and I would like to be invited to these.

We are a strong District with very active Sections in 10 Groups -not to mention our Explorers Scouts. I know we have need for more Leaders, but the Scouting has always had this problem: the very first Scouts had to go out and find their own Leaders ! But surprise surprise we do keep finding Leaders. Just talk to parents and friends and you may be astonished that they may have some time to come and help you.

Just to remind you 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

Nights Away Permits - Adventurous Activity Permits We need to update our District records. A number of Leaders have Nights Away Permits and a number of Leaders probably need Night Away Permits. Remember you cannot take a party away overnight unless you have a Permit. They cover four categories: Indoor, Camp Sites, Green Field Camping and Lightweight Expeditions.

GSLs have been asked to advise the DC of the names of Leaders in their Groups who hold a Nights Away Permit. So if you hold a Nights Away Permit make sure you GSL knows about !

As the nights away scheme has been revised it will be necessary for new Permits to be issued to current holders. Sorry, this will require you to fill in a form, but we must have a record of your experience.

The Same also applies to Adventurous Activity Permits. If you hold an Adventurous Activity Permit for water or climbing please let you GSL know as these are also subject to review.

Young Leaders and Young Leader Training

The good news is there are a number of Young Leaders in the District. Some are active Explorer Scouts, some are Scouts who have stayed on after 15 to help with a Section and some are short term placements doing their DoE service.

Except for the DoE placements they must all be registered as Explorer Scouts even if they do not wish to be active with the Explorer Unit.

If you have any over 15 Scouts helping with your Section please let Martyn Smith our Explorer Scout Commissioner know their names so that they can be properly registered and insured.

All Young Leaders should take advantage of Young Leader Training which covers such things as: Prepare for kick off ! - Taking the lead ! - That's the way to do it ! - Kids behaving badly ! - Special people ! - What did they say ? - and - Programme Plans ! The feed back from Young Leaders who have done the course is - "It's Great !"

Starting on Tuesday February 12th Martyn Smith will be organising an opportunity for Young Leader Training. Application forms have been given to GSLs so make sure you get a form and come along.

Communication within the District

With this news letter is a personally addressed questionnaire.

Please take a moment to tick your answers. There is an addressed envelope to return it and it will help us improve our communication.

On the Web

You have received this News Letter by post. Well you can also read on our District Scout Web Site www.bwd.Scouts.org.uk.

District Diary 2008

February

Sat 2nd **The Quest**
Sat 2nd Modular Training 5 6 7 8 9 Braid Wood
Mon 4th County - DC's Meeting
Tue 5th County - ADC Scouts Meeting
Wed 6th **District Fellowship - Winslow**
Sat 9th Module 10 First Response Bletchley
Sun 10th Scout Section Leaders Workshop
Tues 12th **Young Leader Training - Winslow HQ**
Fri 15th START HALF TERM
Sun 17th Module 36 - Special Needs, Braid Wood
Mon 25th END HALF TERM

March

Sat/Sun 1st/2nd Wild Country Expeditions Training for Leaders
Wed 5th **District Fellowship - Winslow HQ**
Sat/Sun 8th/ 9th 2 Day First Aid Course Quarries
Sat 15th Modular Training 5 6 7 8 9 Quarries
Fri 21st BANK HOLIDAY - GOOD FRIDAY
Mon 24th BANK HOLIDAY - EASTER MONDAY
Sa/Su/ 29/30th County Leaders - Wild Country w/e - Dartmoor
Sa/Su/ 29/30th **District Leaders Hathersage w/e**
Sat/Sun 30th/31st Module 16/17 Nights Away & Activities Braid Wood

April

Thur 3rd **District Fellowship - Winslow HQ**
Fri 4th END SPRING TERM
Mon 14th County - DC's Meeting
Thur 17th **District Team Meeting (ADCs) - Winslow HQ**
Sat 19th Beaver and Cub Activity Day, Braid Wood
Mon 21st START SUMMER TERM
Mon 21st Adult Support Team Meeting
Thur 24th **District GSL Meeting - Winslow HQ**
Sun 27th Module 10 First Response High Wycombe
Sun 27th Module 36 Special Needs Braid Wood
Mon 29th County - ADC Cubs Meeting
Fri 18th Queen's Scout Dinner
Wed 23rd St Georges Day
Sun 27th First Response Course - High Wycombe

May

Thur 1st **District Executive Meeting - Winslow HQ**
Mon 5th BANK HOLIDAY MAY DAY
Sat/Sun 10th/11th Module 16/17 Nights Away & Activities Quarries
Sat/Sun 17th/18th Modular Training 11 12 13 14 15 18 19 Braid Wood
Fri 23rd START HALF TERM.

June

Mon 2nd END HALF TERM