

Contacts & Resources

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Scoutbase		www.scoutbase.org.uk
Scouts		www.scouts.org.uk
Scouting Resources		www.scoutingresources.org.uk

Deadline for next issue: 20th November

County Website: www.gln-scouts.org.uk



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Woodsmoke is edited by Darren Dowling

News and information for everyone involved in Scouting in Barking & Dagenham



November 2007 For the very latest see www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Jill's Jottings

I am a very proud DC last night after leading our District for their Jack Petchey awards. This is one occasion I really enjoy each year, every one of our youngsters were smartly dressed with not a pair of jeans in sight, scarves rolled correctly - what more could we ask? I hope they all enjoyed their evening of glory, even the one with an attitude who drove poor Sam Harvey mad! It was great to have Stephen Foakes present our medals this year, thanks Stephen. Congratulations to you all.

I am very sorry to the few groups who had sorted out their shoeboxes for the Shoebox Day. I was very disappointed to have to cancel it but as many GSLs hadn't answered emails I couldn't take the chance and carry on with it. Perhaps we could do it another year.

I spent an enjoyable day at Hargreaves for Kubadoo - loads of youngsters rushing around doing what youngsters do best, enjoying themselves. There are definitely some gullible people about as Rose was asked on a few occasions

"Was it real wine?" she was giving the Cubs. Of course - hic! - it was.

Lord Mayor's Show

This year, for the Centenary, Scouting is arranging a large contingent of Scouts/Explorers to take part. Jason Morris and Jamie Saunders are representing Barking and Dagenham. If you are not doing anything take yourself off and give them a cheer. Enjoy yourself lads and come back and report to Woodsmoke about your day.

Live '07

A long time ago, we were asked to nominate a young person to take part in Live '07, I approached Sam Harvey from Explorers and she was thrilled to be given the chance. We had to provide a District flag, lightweight, a certain size, certain material, certain pole. Steve and I put our thinking caps on and I decided that it would be great to use Ken's idea for the centenary flag in our design. Steve put fingers to computer, not pen to paper and came up

(Continued on page 2)

Growth, Recognition, Celebration



with the design incorporating every scarf in the District and the District Badge. Sam had to take the flag with her last weekend and reckons it is great, very colourful. I know she is reporting elsewhere in Woodsmoke so I won't spoil her report. If you haven't booked your tickets then get in quick, there won't be another show like it. Thanks Sam for doing a great job for the District and enjoy every minute.

District Leaders

Some of you probably don't know, but each section ideally should have some District leaders to support the ADC and myself. At present these are Ken and Rob for Cubs and Dave and Darren for Scouts. The Beavers haven't had any for some time. I think there are some of you out there who may be interested in helping out in these positions. We need people from a variety of groups in the District, this gives more varied opinions or views. There are a variety of jobs that you can get involved in and the amount of time you will be asked to give isn't that horrendous. If you think that you would like to have a go, please phone me and we can get together and have a chat. A chat doesn't mean you have to commit yourself. 0208 491 3614.

Away Day

Each year at the end of September or the beginning of October the District team have an Away Day. We spend time working on next year's diary, and updating our development plan. We look at what we think are the priorities to concentrate our efforts on for the following year. Previously we have concentrated on communication and recruitment. This year we are looking at finance.

This shouldn't really be our priority to worry about but it is the responsibility of all of us to see that our money is spent wisely.

For many years we haven't had anyone responsible for fundraising. Our main fundraisers have been the Balloon Race, the Quiz Night and on alternate years the Fun Swim. Unfortunately there are many groups who do not support any of these therefore we do not have as much money coming in but as much, if not more, going out.

At present we do not charge any youngster for entering competitions, but every one of these costs a considerable amount to run. We have to pay for Church Halls, camp sites, and borough facilities, the cost of which is exorbitant. We talked, at length about this and, while we all felt very strongly against charging for competitions, it was felt that unless we get more support this will be inevitable.

I have talked to other DCs and some of them do make charges for every competition. When we enter County competitions we, as a District, have to pay. We are looking into moving the Swimming Gala as the cost of this has shot up due to how many lifesavers we need. Please will you all think about this and see what you can do to help. If you know a super fundraiser, point them in our direction. But above all please do support your District, the balloon sales were way down this year, only a few groups supported the Quiz Night, if you can't come at least give your parents the chance.

We will update you every now and again

Upcoming Events

November			
1	SL Meeting	17 th HQ	
5	CL Meeting	6 th HQ	
7	Module 3	17 th HQ	
10	Connect 4	6 th HQ	http://www.badscoots.org.uk/connect4/
12	Profiling Evening	21 st HQ	
13	BL Meeting	21 st HQ	
17	Jungle Rally	17 th HQ	http://www.badscoots.org.uk/junglerally/
19	CRB	21 st HQ	
21	Appointments		
24	Live 07		http://www.scoots.org.uk/live07/
24/25	Beaver Sleepover		http://www.badscoots.org.uk/beaversleepover/
December			
1	Cyclo Cross	Crow Camp	http://www.badscoots.org.uk/cyclocross/
5	Module 1	17 th HQ	
17	Carol Service	Salvation Army	http://www.badscoots.org.uk/carolservice/
+lots more! Check out http://www.badscoots.org.uk/calendar_index.html			

Connect 4 - 10th November - 6th B&D HQ

This event will be run on a new system which will allow all the Beavers to play the same number of games each and will choose a winner in the fairest manner:

Further details at: <http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/connect4/>

Jungle Rally - 17th November - 17th B&D HQ

This event tests Cubs on a wide range of Scouting skills and all Packs in the District are encouraged to enter a team regardless of their ability or experience:

Further details at: <http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/junglerally/>

Profiling Evening - 12th November 2007

21st B&D HQ, Lodge Avenue, 7:30 start. Profiling takes about 45 minutes, all we do is establish what training you require and how you wish to do it. You have three years to complete the modules, at your own pace. Please phone or e-mail me to book your place.

Training Dates

All modules held at 17th B&D HQ, Wilmington Gardens, Wednesday evenings, 7:15 p.m. for a PROMPT 7:30 p.m. start. All welcome, just turn up.

Module 1 5th December 2007
2nd April 2008
10th September 2008

Module 3 7th November 2007
6th February 2008
5th June 2008
Provisional (5th Nov. 2008)

First Response - First Aid Course - 25th November 2007

At the Red Cross Offices, Cambridge Road, Barking. 9 a.m. start, till about 4 p.m. No uniform required, bring your own packed lunch, refreshments will be provided.

Only TEN places available, two already taken. Please pre-book, with me, if you wish to attend this one day course.

Chris Poole
adclt@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Appointment Meetings — Change of venue

Please note that Appointment Meetings will now be held at the Salvation Army Hall in Morley Road, Barking.

Veronica Poole
appointments@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Carol Service

Monday 17th December at the Salvation Army Citadel in Ripple Road, Barking (opposite the Westbury Centre). The service will commence at 6:30 p.m. Could you please let me know (by telephone or letter) if your Group is intending to participate and how many people are likely to attend from your Group. If you are unable to contact me, please be kind enough to contact our secretary Pam Guest, with your guesstimates!

Alec Everitt
District Chairman

as we keep this under review this year.

Health update

Pat and Roger are now feeling a bit more human, Roger can see really well now so watch out.

Nikki is doing well, she was out supporting Richard last night. She has two more sessions of chemo and then starts different treatment. Please continue to remember them in your prayers.

Love is in the air

Congratulations to Graham and Helen from the 19th. They have recently got engaged. Good Luck Helen you will have your work cut out getting Graham organised! Graham you do realise that you can't photograph your own wedding don't you?

Publicity

If any of you have passed the Salvation

Army Citadel in Barking you may have noticed two large banners. The 8th had these made to advertise their move. This has worked fantastically well. We have recruited for all three sections and had enquiries from an adult as well. The 21st have now ordered one to promote their group. They cost approx £50 each The art work won't cost you anything to prepare as Steve has already done it. He is prepared to make alterations for you. If anyone is interested give us a ring and we will sort it out for you.

Welly Walk

Congratulations to the Explorers on another successful Welly Walk. Well Done and thank you from many excited witches, wizards and hob goblins.

Jill May
DC

Live '07 Rehearsals

We traveled all the way to the NEC arena in Birmingham to get together and put together what will become the Live 07 show.

It started at 8 am for some people so, as you can imagine, it was a long day for most but for me, seeing as I was one of the lucky ones, it started at 10 am. There were a number of Scouts, between 2 and 3 thousand in total, all doing different things. Some doing dance routines others singing. There was a great 'buzz' around the place. There were Scouts from all over the UK, all doing various jobs. My job is a flag bearer and if you don't mind me saying we had one of the best, if not the best, flag there. Congrats to Steve May. I had a really great day, met lots of Scouts from all over the country and can't wait for the Live 07 show on the 24th November, it's going to be a great show. If you haven't got your tickets yet, make sure you get them.

I will report back after the show and share with you my experience. Thanks

Sam Harvey, Explorer



Shoe Boxing

Over the last couple of weeks we have been putting together items to pack into shoe boxes so that we could send them to children in countries who are not as lucky as we are. Some of the things that we brought to Beavers were toothpastes, soaps, sweets, toys, colouring books, pens, hair bands, brushes and little notes to say hello.

One night at Beavers we packed all of the items into shoe boxes and wrapped pretty paper around them that Julie had brought in. Honest Leigh then took them to her church so that they could be given to a lady who works with Samaritans Purse.

Now the boxes are on their way to countries like Romania, Bosnia and other places where there are wars. When the children open them they will see all of the things that we gave to them.

While we were packing the boxes we learned about the children and about how they don't really have the things that we do. We all had fun packing the shoe boxes and we hope that the children have fun opening them and seeing what's inside.

9th Barking & Dagenham Beaver Scouts

I would like to add how very proud and grateful we are to all of our Beaver Scouts and their parents. They made such an effort towards this worth while cause. The children displayed a real caring spirit and were extremely interested in helping less fortunate children from war torn countries.



Each and every one of them showed the true meaning of scouting along with affirming their promise because they certainly were "kind and helpful."

Honest Leigh
ABSL 9th Barking and Dagenham

EXPLORING

Gosh it's that time again, it only seemed like yesterday that I was writing the last entry. This month has been quite busy and it looks like its going to continue for a few more weeks.

We spent the first weekend in October camping at Gilwell, courtesy of Jamie Saunders and Jason Morris. These two young lads with a little help organised a superb weekend full of activities and fun and despite my pleas to be allowed to cook wouldn't let me because it was a fun weekend for leaders too! A good time was had by all and both lads earned their Scouting Skills badge which they needed to complete their Activity Centre Service Badge. Well done lads, looking forward to the next one.

This weekend was closely followed by the Spooky Welly Walk for the Beavers. We enjoyed doing it and I hope everyone who attended had fun. This year I encouraged the Explorers and Net-workers to take responsibility for a particular part of the evening and I was very impressed by the way they coped and dealt with the responsibility

(although phone calls at 7.30 am are not a good idea DAN). Unfortunately a few pulled out on the Tuesday before and a couple didn't turn up on the night so we were unable to run all the games that we had intended to. A big thank you to Luke Smith for taking over the pirate ship at the last minute and to Tracey and Nic for their help,

Coming up over the next few weeks we have been asked to help out at the Spooktacular at the Chase and the Rotary Fireworks Evening at Barking park. Our Junior Service Team members have also got a big weekend coming up at Gilwell, we have a guest speaker from the Substance abuse team coming to speak to us and much more.

Contact Kris, Pat or myself if you have any Scouts due to come up so we can pass on the information to you. Also we have a few new young leaders looking for placements if we can help you let me know. Why not pop down and see us one night?

Shelley Goodman
ESL

New Explorer Website

By the time you read this the new Explorer website should be live. Check out:

<http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/explorers/>

SCOUT SHOUT

We had a very long discussion about District events, support and fundraising at the Away Day. Expect some more information and some hard hitting facts and figures soon, to be followed by some tough decisions. Personally I am of the mind to make some hard choices. The District supports many Groups, but not all the Groups support the District. At the next few SL meetings I hope to discuss the events we have planned and to seriously consider the viability of some our proposed and existing plans and structures in the Scout section. If you do not have a representative there you may not get to have your say in this and may lose out.

Orienteering

Congratulations to the 6th B&D who earned a very credible 2nd place in the County Orienteering competition. Well done!

Trips, camps etc

Some groups are doing a good job of keeping me informed on their activities (thank you 10/18th, 15th and 19th) whereas some others I know have done certain things but failed to tell me about them. Without relying on rumour all I can assume is that the other Troops are sitting around twiddling their thumbs and watching their Scouts walk out the day due to extreme boredom.

Explorers

Please ensure that the Explorer Unit is

notified of any and all Scouts of age 13 or above. Also, you need to pass on their record cards and notes when they move to the Unit.

Cyclo Cross

Numbers for Scouts attending the Cyclo Cross MUST be handed in at the next SL meeting else they may not even be able to attend. All participants MUST have a cycling helmet, bike in good working order and a puncture repair kit. Each group should bring a tool kit and a bicycle pump for running repairs.

<http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/cyclocross/>

Danish Camp 2008

<http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/danishcamp/>

Upcoming Events

Cyclo Cross - 1st Dec. - Crow Camp

Carol Service - 17th December

Next SL Meeting

The next SL Meeting is on Thursday 1st November at the 17th B&D HQ, Wilmington Gardens at 8:00 p.m. Topics to discuss include Cyclo Cross and events in 2008.

Darren Dowling
Acting ADC Scouts

Down at the Farm



This was to be an "Unusual Night" away as defined in the "Join-In-Centenary" guide book, but turned out to be much more. Although calling it a camp is rather a loose description as we spent the night under two marquees that the farm team very kindly put up for us and just as well as it meant we did not have to pack away wet tents at the end of it! The whole weekend was devised and planned by the 10th/18th Scout Leader "King Louie" or Don Luxford as some of us mere mortals know him! It was a weekend, 18th/19th Au-

gust, and the location was Wellgate Community Farm in Collier Row (not far from the "Rollerball" ten pin bowling alley). This is one of the many city farms situated throughout London and its suburbs, which are there for the enjoyment of the general community. There were a total of 13 Scouts and 6 leaders from the 10th/18th, 19th, 11th, 1st and Network. It was a pretty successful event enjoyed by both the Scouts and leaders. We were joined later by an Explorer, Max. All the children worked very hard feeding and cleaning out all the animals. It is a very worth while experience if you have not done it before. Georgina from the 1st learned to milk the goats. Naturally the leaders helped by telling them the bits they missed, where to put the brooms and so on, after all, what are leaders for? After a packed lunch the Scouts and four leaders (the men, naturally) went on for a short hike to Hainault Forest. The children went to look at some more animals, while the leaders had a much needed cup of tea ... or two. We finished off Saturday with a barbeque, once we learnt how to start it that is, but enough said about that! There was much enthusiastic cooking with all the leaders trying to nudge each other out of the way to get onto the barbeque (but get us all at home in the kitchen however!). Many thanks to Dawn, Nicola and Max who stayed behind to prepare the food and especially the kebabs, they were deeelicious! I must mention that Scott from the 19th joined us for the evening. We did have some drizzle on Saturday, more rain during the night and by Sunday it did get quite persistent and many buckets were needed in the marquees, no shortage there, we were on a farm after all! I did cook breakfast, although I am not sure every one knew what they were eating. It all started to look pretty black in the end! My own personal interest was to find a big old red double decker bus being there used as their office, a touch ironic as I am a bus driver on the (slightly) more modern versions. As a footnote I would like to thank Don from the 10th/18th for organising the event and inviting the 1st along and I am sure the other groups involved feel the same. Of course I must thank the Scouts for their attendance and impeccable behaviour throughout.

Chil (1st B & D)

Directory

2007

A directory of adult members and their
appointments, qualifications and contact
details

Greater London North East Scout County
www.glnescout.org.uk

District Directory

Each group's entry in the old directory were handed out at section meetings almost two months ago. Only 5 groups out of 14 have returned their corrections and updated details to their page in the District Directory. It is important that we have the latest information so could the following groups please return the new information to Darren Dowling, Pam Guest or an ADC as soon as possible:

6th, 7th, 8th, 10/18th, 11th, 12th, 17th, 19th, 21st, Explorers

We also want to know your current email address and any qualifications you may have (archery, shooting, canoeing etc... ANY thing related to ANY activity please).

The directory is being brought up to date and this is also giving us a chance to tidy things up, make corrections and add some extra useful items and generally make it more useful. It is important to note that it is the responsibility of all of us to maintain its accuracy by passing on new and changed information.

Nights Away & One Day Activity Forms

These important forms, and details of how to use them, can be found at:

<http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/nightsaway/>

Castles & Houses



Out and About

A guide to places to see, events and things to do, in and within reach of our District, is now available at:

<http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/outandabout/>

CUB CHIT CHAT

Hi all you Cubby people, hope you are all well.

October was a busy month for the Cub section and me. First up was Kubadoo and 8 Groups from the District took part. Thank you to all who helped man our base.

Then I had an Away Day with the other ADCs to set the dates for next years events and to draw up the District Development Plan.

Next was the Jack Petchey Awards. Congrats to all the achievers (medal winners).

Jungle Rally

I have 3 bases remaining for the Jungle Rally and 4 Groups who have not requested one. Please let me know which one you want, it will be first come, first served.

Nights Away and First Aid

There is a First Response Course coming soon so please check to make sure yours is still current. If it has expired please contact Chris Poole to book a place on the course. Remember you must have a First Aider at camp (this is a new requirement by the Scout Association) and they must be named on the new NAN form.



Visits

Don't forget I will be visiting you after half term to catch up and chat to the Cubs.

That's it from me, see you soon, take care.

Chilly Akela Rosie
ADC Cubs

Upcoming Events

17th November Jungle Rally
17th B&D HQ 9:00 for 9:30
start, to 1

Sixer's Camp & Cub Quiz

Sixer's Camp followed with 24 Cubs from 5 Packs attending. The Cub Quiz was held during this camp. A full report on both events next month. Congratulations to the 9th on winning the Cub Quiz.

<http://www.badscouts.org.uk/junglerally/>

Lost? Us? No way!

Congratulations to the 6th B&D Scouts who came 2nd in the County Orienteering.

BEAVER BITS

Hello to all, please remind all Beavers about the dangers of fireworks as we do not want any accidents.

Connect 4 - Saturday 10th November

This competition takes place at the 6th B&D HQ, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Four Beavers per group. Leaders are to bring their own Connect 4 sets please.

Beaver Sleepover - 24/25th November

I think the Beavers can't wait to go.



Tue. Nov. 11th at 21st B&D HQ at 8:15, Cheese and wine Christmas celebration

Easter Egg Hunt - 15th March 2008

Hargreaves. 11 am to 2pm
£3 per Beaver, £1 per Leader/Helper
Packed lunch, scruff clothes, and each group to bring a game.

Football - Saturday 7th June 2008

7 Beavers & 2 Subs.

Beaver Sleepover - 27/28th Sep. 2008

Wat Tyler Country Park, Pitsea.

Connect 4 - Saturday 8th Nov. 2008

Venue to be advised.

Ron Pringle
ADC Beavers

Jack Petchey



Jack Petchey

Achievers Connected is an online community especially for Achievement Award winners. www.jpfonline.org.uk

The RF1 form that is used to send details of applicants for the Jack Petchey award can be found at:

<http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/jackpetchey/>

This years dates for sending nominations to Jill are as follows:

15th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 21st, 1st, 4^h, 6th by 10th November at the latest
7th, 8th, 9th, 10/18th, 11th, 12th, YL Explorers by 18th May at the latest

The forms MUST come to Jill and NOT to Malcolm Wetherall. If you have your nomination ready you can send it now even if you are in the second part of the year as Malcolm is quite happy to store them and then you know you have not got to worry later. As in the last couple of years groups will not be reminded. One group didn't send anyone in this year so have lost money!



Essex Jambo!

Essex International Jamboree 2008

www.essexscouts.org.uk/jamboree

jamboree@essexscouts.org.uk

26th July to 2nd August - Kirby-le-Soken, North Essex.

EVENTS CANCELLED

Following much discussion at the Away Day the District team would like you to be aware of some hard facts:

- Our District has an excellent record of putting on quality events
- Our sections are active with several events every year
- District events cost money, a **lot** of money
- Fundraising sources in the District have dropped over the last few years
- Costs have increased over the last few years
- Some groups are not offering much support to District events

The most expensive District events include Swimming (somewhere around £550), Sports Day and Football (around £350 each). At the moment, the only real fundraisers run by the District are the Balloon Race (which only made £184.53 thanks to the efforts of the 4th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 10/18th and 21st) and the District Quiz Night (which was supported by very few groups this year).

Some proposed actions include:

- Canceling events
- Making it clear to leaders and parents how much each event costs
- Finding other sources of cash and putting on other fundraisers
- Make it clear events may be lost if we don't cover part of their costs

We are interested in what you think about things like:

- Asking for donations from parents at District events
- Charging for programmes and entry at events like Sports, Gala and Football

Some simple, practical solutions, that we will need help with, include:

- Charging admission
- Offering a raffle at all big events
- Manning refreshments and sweets stalls to bring in some money
- Explorer/Network/Leader fundraiser - bath tub push possibly?

Many details were discussed. For example, the idea of removing the sponsored swim and simply charging everyone £1 to enter a 1.5 hour fun swim instead. There was also talk of an alternative to Thriftwalk, possibly taking place at Chigwell.

District are not looking to completely eliminate all costs but merely to offset part of

the costs for the District events so that they can be run without bleeding funds dry.

It is interesting to note which groups attend District events and make the most of what they have to offer:

2006 District Event Attendance Records			
Group	Cubs	Scouts	Total
9 th B&D	10	11	21
6 th B&D	9	12	21
10/18 th B&D	10	9	19
17 th B&D	7	10	17
19 th B&D	7	9	16
4 th B&D	7	8	15
1 st B&D	9	5	14
16 th B&D	4	8	12
21 st B&D	9	3	12
7 th B&D	5	5	10
15 th B&D	5	1	6
8 th B&D	4	1	5
12 th B&D	3	1	4
11 th B&D	2	0	2

Over the next few issues we will be taking a look at the finances in detail and discussing possible solutions and ideas.

If you can think of a good fundraising idea, know someone who can sponsor an event, wish to volunteer your services to help, are willing to raise funds for the District, disagree with what has been said here, wish to complain or just have your say, then please contact your ADC or the DC or the District Chairman.

IF YOU DO NOT TAKE ANY ACTION OR SPEAK UP THEN DON'T BE SURPRISED IF YOUR BEAVERS, CUBS, SCOUTS AND EXPLORERS MISS OUT ON A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES AND EXPERIENCES THROUGHOUT 2008 & 2009 WHEN THE DISTRICT ARE FORCED TO CANCEL EVENTS AND REMOVE SUPPORT FROM GROUPS

Don't let our Young People lose the opportunity to learn, grow and develop at the excellent and quality events the District provide simply through apathy and inaction.

We all need to work together and help each other to provide a quality programme. Please remember that we are all members of the same family, a world wide family of Scouts.