

Contacts & Resources

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| Scout Information Centre | 0845 3001818 | info.centre@scout.org.uk |
| Scoutbase | | www.scoutbase.org.uk |
| Scouts | | www.scouts.org.uk |
| Scouting Resources | | www.scoutingresources.org.uk |

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



WOODSMOKE

Deadline for next issue: 20th February

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Woodsmoke is edited by Darren Dowling

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

WOODSMOKE



February 2008

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

Jill's Jottings

Firstly a Happy New Year to you all, I must apologise for missing last months deadline, the first time ever. I am afraid what with the end of a busy term, the round table run and mum being taken to hospital in the middle of the night and this editor not being as kind as the one before it got missed so I am really sorry.

The Ho Ho Run was supported by the usual people, thank you to those who did turn up.

Also thank you to the Salvation Army for hosting the Carol Service I am sure everyone enjoyed it. The 9th have volunteered for next year.

At the recent Scout Leaders meeting it was discussed why it was moved from a Sunday. In the "olden days" it was only a Cub service and the support had gotten less and less until the year before I took over if I remember rightly about three groups supported it. Part of this was because of the family structure now with more children visiting dads at weekends and, just before Christmas trying to fit in visiting grandparents as well. Also leaders were finding it difficult to fit in with family life. Perhaps if

you would support a Sunday and wish us to return to that we will discuss it at our team meetings. Please think about the commitment and get back to me.

Also as a follow up from the comments at the Scout Leaders meeting on training, I have passed these on to the County Commissioner who had also picked them up from the minutes; I had already raised this at my one to one. He has promised to make this a priority as all the DCs had said the same at their one to ones. Please DO speak to Chris and support the Profile Evenings. Also check the dates for the first modules and at least get those done. I do listen to you and try to get things sorted, SPEAK TO ME rather than each other behind closed doors.

Health Update

I am pleased to tell you that Nikki is doing well, her consultant is very pleased with her and things are looking good. She starts her radiotherapy at the end of January. Please still keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Goodbye

At our Christmas Fellowship meeting we said a sad farewell to Fred. He seems to have been around forever and will be sorely missed. I did ask him whether the person he had sold the house to knows they have to have a spare hall key for when we all forget it but his reply was that he hadn't thought of it! He was presented with a limited edition centenary hologram of BP and some gift vouchers. Good Luck Fred and please do come back and visit.

Fellowship

Our last meeting before Christmas we had a "Music for Christmas" Night by the Pavilion Brass. This is the second year we have done this and it is very enjoyable. Our January meeting was a meal at the Top Meadow Golf Club, arranged by Pauline and Steve. This was a very enjoyable evening, even if I did get the wrong dinner, thanks Roger I am glad you enjoyed mine!
We have lots of things planned for this year so give Barry Ledger a ring and come and join us.

07-02

Congratulations to Sam Harvey for her outstanding performance at the 02. I know she had a great time and was a good representative for the District. The flag was donated to the District and I have it at home if anyone wants to borrow it.

Wanted

When Pam took over as District Secretary she said that she had no skills in shorthand or writing up minutes. With my help she has kept us in line with the minutes. What we really need is someone to

take this job on. Ideally they must be able to take notes at the District Meetings and produce minutes to be emailed out. They should be available for District meetings bi-monthly and the AGM. If you know anyone who could take on this job PLEASE give me a ring. Thanks.

District Leaders

For those of you who don't know each ADC has two leaders to support them. For some time we have not had any Beaver District Leaders. We have now appointed Leigh and Mandy and hopefully once they have settled in they will be popping in to visit the Beaver Colonies (I bet they don't come while we are all struggling with glue and paint!)

Fundraising

We are sorry that the Fun Swim cannot be a Sponsored Swim this year, this is due to the increased cost of hiring Dagenham Pool. To hire it for the time we would need and have the lifesavers we would need would cost us nearly £600. As you can imagine it would need every youngster in the District to swim to cover our costs without even thinking about being in profit! We will be holding a sponsored walk in October at Chigwell so please think about supporting that. It will be on a 50-50 split and more details will be sent out nearer the time.

Founder's Day

This will be at St. Cedd's Church in Lodge Avenue on 24th February at 3 pm. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Jill May
District Commissioner

Upcoming Events

| February | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| 6 | Module 3 | 17 th HQ | |
| 9 | Fun Swim | | http://www.badscoots.org.uk/swimming/ |
| 10 | Southern 50 | Chiltern | http://www.scouts-gln-southern50.org.uk/ |
| 17 | First Response | | |
| 19 | EL Meeting | 6 th HQ | |
| 24 | Founder's Day | St. Cedds | http://www.badscoots.org.uk/foundersday/ |
| 29 | Handcraft (hand in exhibits) | 6 th HQ | http://www.badscoots.org.uk/handcraft/ |
| March | | | |
| 1 | Handcraft | 6 th HQ | http://www.badscoots.org.uk/handcraft/ |
| 1 | County Scout Chess | | |
| 2 | County Cub Chess | Chingford | |
| 3 | CL Meeting | 6 th HQ | |
| 6 | SL Meeting | 17 th HQ | |
| 11 | BL Meeting | 21 st HQ | |
| 11 | Appointments | Salvation Army | |
| 14-16 | Sport Relief | National | http://www.comicrelief.com/ |
| 14 | Red Nose Day | National | http://www.comicrelief.com/ |
| 15 | County Swimming Gala | | |
| 15 | Beaver Easter Egg Hunt | Hargreaves | www.badscoots.org.uk/easteregghunt/ |
| 17 | CRB Checks | 21 st HQ | |
| +lots more! Check out http://www.badscoots.org.uk/calendar_index.html | | | |

Handcraft - 1st March - 6th B&D HQ

Open to all Beavers and Cubs. Exhibits are to be handed in on Friday 29th February.

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

Easter Egg Hunt - 15th March - Hargreaves Campsite

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. £3 per Beaver, £1 per leader. Packed lunch, scruff clothes. Each group is to supply and run a game for the Beavers.

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

Training & Appointments

First Response

Places are still available for the upcoming First Response course. There is a maximum of 10 people that can be catered for on the course. Venue is to be

advised, however it will be in the Barking & Dagenham area.

Chris Poole

adclt@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

TOP SECRET - TOP SECRET - TOP SECRET - TOP SECRET - TOP SECRET - 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 2nd April 2008
10th September 2008

Module 3 6th February 2008
4th June 2008
Provisional (5th Nov. 2008)

TOP SECRET

- TOP SECRET - TOP SECRET - TOP SECRET - TOP SECRET - TOP SECRET

Explorers - Survey

I am conducting a survey (with permission from the District Team) to find out the following:

1. A list of **all** Scouts in your Troop aged 13 years and above
2. A list of **all** your Scouts that have gone on to Explorers since the Unit(s) opened, no matter how long they stayed
3. A list of **all** those that you know **still** attend Explorers or Young Leaders on a regular basis
4. A list of all Young Leaders that help at **any** section in your Group

Please get this information back to me by the end of February.

Currently only the 6th, 9th and 10/18th have replied.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Rosemary Oakwell

Urban Myths

Myth: All office equipment must be tested by a qualified electrician every year

Reality: No. The law requires employers to assess risks and take appropriate action.

HSE's advice is that for most office electrical equipment, visual checks for obvious signs of damage and perhaps simple tests by a competent member of staff are quite sufficient.

Scouting Myths: Do you have any 'urban myths' that have a Scouting origin?

Banned Games - There are NO banned games in Scouting

Uniforms - Uniform is NOT mandatory for all Scouting activities (usually you hear the excuse of not being insured)



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<http://www.hse.gov.uk/myth/>

Scout Venues - Scouting activities do NOT have to necessarily take place at Scouting venues

If you hear something that you doubt the validity of then please forward your query to Darren and he will check and show you clearly where it does or doesn't say you can do it in the 'rules'.

He's Behind You!

My name is Daniel Squirrell, I am 8 years old and I am a Cub Scout at the 6th Barking and Dagenham (St. Mary's) Scout Group.

Today (19th January) I went to the pantomime at the Kenneth Moore theatre in Ilford with the rest of the scout group to see Jack and the beanstalk.

I had a great time and it was very very funny because my uncle Richard was the Dame's boyfriend. When the dame waved at Richard we all had to point at him and say Richard very loudly. The bit I liked best was the giant who was a big puppet and it was very very funny. I can't wait until next year.

Forums

Happy New Year everyone! (To those who I haven't wished it to yet). I hope that you have all re-charged your batteries and are ready to face 2008 and the fun that I'm sure it will bring.

My reason for writing in to Woodsmoke this month is to inform you of the new Beaver forum which can be found at

www.badscouts.org.uk/forums.html

The idea of this forum is to share ideas and resources and to discuss "Beavery" type things. If you have any files associated with programme ideas etc please email them to me and I will then upload them onto the forum.

dbsl@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

This could be a great resource if used regularly and is also another way for us to all stay in contact. I have noticed

that there are very few people who actually use our forums even though they have been there for quite some time. Please do take a look to see some of the past postings.



I have already placed a couple of programmes onto to the forum so feel free to use or change them to suit your colony.

That's it for now. Here's looking forward to another year of scouting with you all.

Take care.

**Honest Leigh
DBSL**

Pedal Olympics



Congratulations to the 17th B&D Scouts on winning the Junior section of the National Scout Pedal Car Olympics.

The 'Roadrunners' came in first place and the 'Flaming Wheels' and 'Super Subs' also did well.

Full results at:

<http://www.thriftwood.org.uk/events/>

intently to your gripes and acted promptly on them. If you need support or help in any way, shape or form please feel free to contact us. I truly do value the good relationships our section have and long may they last.

Keep an eye on the calendar for the National and other events. It would be nice to push your Scouts to try some of the more adventurous activities lest you be seen as a glorified "Cub Pack". Don't let anything hold you back, there is nothing you cant offer them in the Scout (or indeed any) section that will have any impact on other sections. I am pleased to see that the 17th are looking to go abroad and the 6th are deeply involved with the Danish Camp.

If you find it difficult to get your kids away or worry that you don't have the experience for something, ask! We are like one big family in the district, and while that may include the odd row, we do get on with each other well. Vic from the 1st always impresses me with his enthusiasm but also with his ability to be a man and stand up and admit openly he might need a tiny bit of help with something. We need more leaders to do that rather than pretend they don't need help. I would like to thank Don, Vic, Scott and their assistants for keeping busy and working together, like a Scouting family should.

District events are an ideal chance to gain experience without the worry of responsibility. That goes for your Scouts too. Please encourage them to attend, it will benefit the whole Troop in the long run.

Programmes, games etc:

I have a massive collection of Scouting Resources. I calculated that if I were to print it out you would need an articulated lorry to deliver it (actually more than one). If anyone is interested in a copy of most of the bits on a DVD have a word with me. If enough people are interested I may "sell" them. Lately I have collected programmes for all sections, for two years, from Scouting contacts in New Zealand and Australia. I have thousands of examples of programmes alone.

Upcoming Events:

Fun Swim 9th February

Founder's Day 24th February
St. Cedd's

SL Meeting Thursday 6th Mar
8 p.m. at 17th B&D Wilmington Gardens

Pioneering Day 12th April
Thriftwood

**Darren Dowling
Acting ADC Scouts**

EXPLORING

Hope you all had a good Christmas and a Happy New Year and are ready to tackle the New Year with vigour!! On our return from the Christmas break we have launched the Explorer Challenge Trophy to the Cook half and will do the same with the Columbus half on the 22nd January, This involves a series of personal, group and individual challenges that earn each Explorer points and the winner of the trophy will be the Explorer who gains the most points by the end of the competition which is the end of May. One of the challenges is an attendance challenge were points are earned for attendance at group meetings, church parades, district and county events, etc. Also included is attendance at the unit where the Explorer is a Young Leader and any camps, trips etc that they help out at. Each Explorer will have a record sheet to record their attendance at the latter but I would like to ask you, as leaders, to confirm this by initialling or signing their record sheet. They have been told it is their responsibility to get the proof so only ask them for it if you are feeling generous.

CUB CHIT CHAT

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

Our first event for this year was the Chess competition on 12 January. Well done and thank you to the 9 Cubs who took part. Congratulations to Terence Seow (17th B&D), David Hunn (9th B&D) and Tadhg Casey (4th B&D) who came in the top 3. The top four will now go on to represent us at the County Chess Competition in March. Full details have been sent to the leaders of those Cubs.

There are events and competitions in February and I would like to see you all there. Remember the District Team are looking at the cost of events so if an event is not well supported this year, it may be cancelled next year. That's it for me, take care, see

you soon.

**Chilly Akela Rosie
ADC Cubs**

Upcoming Events

9th February Fun Swim
Dagenham Swimming Pool
5:30 to 7:30 pm
£1 per person

24th February Founders Day
St Cedd's, Lodge Avenue
3.00pm

Handcraft Competition
St Mary's, Grafton Road
Hand in entries Friday 29th February
between 8-9:30 pm
Viewing 1st March 1:00 pm
Certificates handed out at 1:30 pm.

SCOUT SHOUT

Well done to the 3 teams from the 17th who entered the Pedal Car Olympics. The "Roadrunners" actually won the Junior section! Well done.

Thank you to Wayne (17th) for giving me a list of what the Troop has been up to in the past year and have planned in the future. They look set to be doing some exciting Scouting over the next 2 years including trips abroad and Jet Skiing! Thanks also to the 15th, 10/18th, 1st and 19th for giving me an overview on your activities and for keeping your Scouts busy with an active programme. Please let me have what you are doing in writing and perhaps a report or two?

I have not heard from any other Troops yet.

Please keep me informed of your programme, activities, days out and camps. I look forward to seeing more Scouts from ALL the Troops at events throughout 2007.

I am still waiting to hear from Troops about whether they can make it to the Scout Rally/ Incident Hike and the Camping Competition. If I don't hear anything soon I will assume that no one is interested in the event and cancel the booking, losing the deposit. Please let me know if you intend to support these events as soon as possible.

Also, please remember that as much as I moan at you, you are free to moan at me. We don't stand on ceremony in the Scout section and the ADCs have always listened

District Resources

District Directory

Details of how to obtain the directory online can be obtained by emailing the webmaster:

webmaster@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Nights Away & One Day Activity Forms

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

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/nightsaway/

Out and About

A guide to places to see and things to do, within reach of our District:

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/outandabout/

Jack Petchey

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

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/jackpetchey/

Risk Assessment Form

A sample Risk Assessment form can be found at:

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/resource_forms.html

A more detailed version can be found at:

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/incidenthike/2005/

Minutes

Minutes of the sectional meetings can be found on the District website. For details on how to obtain them email:

webmaster@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Forums

These forums are an excellent source of information and a good place to chat with other leaders and swap ideas. Why not sign up today at:

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/forums.html

Event Attendance

A record of groups who attended and 'won' events in 2007 can be found detailed at: http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/event_index.html

If you have any corrections or information to add to these records please email: webmaster@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Cyclo Cross 2007

First of all I would like to apologise for the lateness of this report!

December must be one of the busiest months of the year for families. The Cyclo Cross was held as usual at Crow Camp. A lovely little campsite tucked away not far from the M25 near Noak Hill. The camp is run by a staff with an average age of about 70! The camp is well worth a visit for a back to basics camp. There were just under 20 Scouts who turned up to race. There was only ONE girl, come on girls we want to see you next time!

The day was a beautiful, crisp, sunny winter's day. A bit too chilly for the leaders who had to stand still most of the time, but great for the riders. Chil from the 1st was tasked with lighting the fire, before Pauline froze to death (along with several others!) All the bikes were checked to see everything was in good working order. We were all set to go!

The riders were divided into different leagues. They then rode one race in that league. Based on the result from this race the riders went into a different league. This went on, for about 5 rounds, until a winner finally emerges. The exact formula seemed quite complicated, so we won't go into the detail. I think Pauline and Steve understood it. Each race consisted of two laps of the circuit. It sounds quite easy, but some of the hills are short but steep, especially the last one up to the



finishing post. This is where fitness levels really began to show.

The individual title was eventually won by Billy Chapman from the 16th. There was a race off for the next placings. This was when things really got serious. The riders really went for it in this race. One Scout almost had an accident with a tree!

The next placings were; 2nd - Michelle Swart from the 1st (the only girl!), 3rd - Thomas Howlin from the 17th and 4th - David Kail from the 17th.

The team results were;

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 st place | 17 th |
| 2 nd place | 16 th |
| 3 rd place | 10 th /18 th |
| 4 th place | 1 st |

Congratulations to all who took part, it was a great day out.

Julie
1st B&D

BEAVER BITS

Hello to all. Don't forget Founders Day at 21st St. Cedd's on Sunday 24th February, 3 pm start, I would like to see all the Beaver Colonies there.

The Handcraft Competition is at the 6th B&D HQ on Saturday 1st March. Please come for the presentations at 1:30 pm. Bring all entries to the 6th HQ on the Friday (29th) between 8 pm and 9:30 pm, thanks.

The District Beaver Egg Hunt is at Hargreaves Campsite on Saturday 15th March, 11 am to 2 pm, £3 per Beaver £1 Leader. Please let me know how many will be going as I have to buy the eggs. Bring a packed lunch, scruff

clothes and each group is to bring a game. I will take money at our District Beaver Leader meeting on Tuesday 11th March at 21st B&D HQ at 8:15 pm.

St. George's Day will be at St. Alban's on Sunday 27th April. Time and routes to follow.

Beaver Meetings for this year 2008:
Tue. March 11th at 21st HQ, 8:15 pm
Tue. May 20th at 9th HQ, 8:30 pm
Mon. Jul. 7th at 21st HQ, 8:15 pm
Tue. Sep. 9th at 9th HQ, 8:30 pm
Tue. Nov. 11th at 21st HQ, 8:15 pm

Ron Pringle
ADC Beavers



Checkmate!

There were 9 Cubs at the

Individual Results

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1 st | Keenan Casey | 4 th B&D |
| 2 nd | Daniel Bailey | 9 th B&D |
| 3 rd | Martin Squirrel | 6 th B&D |

Troop Trophy

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1 st | 9 th B&D |
| 2 nd | 19 th B&D |
| 3 rd | 4 th B&D |

Chess Competition this year from the 4th, 9th, 17th and 21st B&D.

Results

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|
| 1 st | Terence Seow | 17 th B&D |
| 2 nd | David Hunn | 9 th B&D |
| 3 rd | Tadhg Casey | 4 th B&D |

There were 13 Scouts this year from the 4th, 6th, 9th, 10/18th, 16th and 19th B&D.

The full results, including all the scores round by round and individual score cards, can be found at:

www.badscouts.org.uk/chess/