

Contacts & Resources

District Commissioners		
DC	Jill May	dc@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
ADC Beavers	Ron Pringle	adcbeavers@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
ADC Cubs	Rosemary Oakwell	adccubs@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
ADC Scouts	Richard Blunden	adcscouts@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
DESC	TBA	desc@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
DESA	TBA	desa@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
ADC Network	Rob Craig	network@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
ADC Training	Chris Poole	adclt@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
ADC General Duties	Pauline Wakeling	adcgd@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
ADC Special Needs	Steve May	adcsn@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
District Executive		
District Chairman	Alec Everitt	chairman@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
District Treasurer	Roger Scowen	treasurer@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
District Secretary	Pam Guest	secretary@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
District Support		
Appointments	Veronica Poole	appointments@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
Thriftwood Reps.	Pauline & Steve Wakeling Steve May	thriftwood@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk communications@glne-scouts.org.uk
Webmaster	Darren Dowling	webmaster@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
Woodsmoke Editor	Darren Dowling	woodsmoke@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
Resources		
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



WOODSMOKE

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

Deadline for next issue: 20th September

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Woodsmoke is edited by Darren Dowling

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

WOODSMOKE



September 2008

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Jill's Jottings

By the time you read this the summer holidays will be a fond memory and the nights will be drawing in. I have a tree in my garden (don't know what it is called) whose leaves change into a beautiful red in the autumn. When I was hanging some washing out today I noticed that the leaves are changing already. I must admit it didn't cheer me up as, like a lot of other people I like the sun and long days. Never mind, we can't do anything about it so best not to moan.

I hope all of you that have been away had a great time. Congratulations to Richard and his crew on another successful Danish trip and the 16th have had a few days in France. Hopefully we will have reports from them soon. Marc and Tracey were on the staff for the Essex Jamboree. Marc said it was an amazing experience so perhaps something more of you might want to try next time.

I have been out and about catching up with friends and lots of Scouting paperwork. I recently went to visit the Salvation Army Farm at Hadleigh. If you haven't been it is well worth a visit. The entrance was very cheap, you buy spe-

cial animal food, again very cheap and everywhere was beautifully clean and well run. You can easily walk from there to visit Hadleigh Castle where you can climb on some of the ruins and it is a perfect kite flying place. There is also a really reasonable café at the farm. This is run by adults with learning difficulties and they really made the visit special by helping you and chatting with the children. I can thoroughly recommend it.

I have also met up with several GSLs to see how they feel their Groups are progressing and see what the District can do to support them.

I am looking forward to seeing you soon, settling into more indoor programmes during the winter months.

Sponsored Walk

Rose, Steve and I walked the route of the sponsored walk and it isn't that arduous, so manageable for all sections. I would like some volunteers to supervise some activities to break up the walking. Just give me a ring and then we will know what activities we can have. NO volunteers, no activities it is as simple as that!

Jack Petchey

All GSLs have now had their dates for next year so get those RF1s to me as quickly as you can. If you didn't receive the dates from me please let me know and I will give you a copy.

Baby Pringle

At the time of typing this I haven't heard any news so good luck to you both and of course nanny and granddad.

Jill May
District Commissioner

Kibblestone

Kibblestone is holding Kibblestone Adventure Week 2009, their second week long summer Adventure Week, from 8th - 15th August 2009.

The aim of the event is to give all Scout leaders and Scouts the opportunity to enjoy a week under canvas, with maximum activity and adventure, and minimal stress and work for the leaders concerned.

Many Groups that have small numbers of Scouts have difficulty getting away for a week in the summer because it is expensive to put all the great activities and days out in place for a few people... so they are going to take the numbers out of the equation, but some Groups have so many numbers that finding space and enough activities is difficult to achieve.

You can book Adventure Week for any numbers, and your Group will receive:

- two days of adventurous onsite activities
- two days offsite activities (Alton Towers and Monkey Forest, Trentham Garden & Waterworld)
- one day of inflatable fun
- and games, competitions, campfire, wide games etc thrown in too!

What they don't do is - transport from and return to home, food and catering and equipment (canvas, cookers etc).

The cost is £110 per person.

For more details visit:

www.kibblestone.org/events/adventureweek

or email

adventureweek@kibblestone.org

Upcoming Events

September			
1	CL Meeting	21 st B&D HQ	
4	SL Meeting	17 th B&D HQ	
5-7	Gilwell Reunion	Gilwell	
9	BL Meeting	9 th B&D HQ	
10	Module 1	17 th B&D HQ	
18	Explorer Cooking Competition	Hargreaves	
20-21	Midland Sea Scout Meet	Midlands	www.mssm.org.uk/2008meet
23	Appointments	Salvation Army	
26	District Quiz Night	Dag. & Red. FC	www.badscouts.org.uk/quiznight/
27-28	Beaver Sleepover	Wat Tyler	www.badscouts.org.uk/beaversleepover/
October			
2	District Executive Meeting	17 th B&D HQ	
4	Away Day	Chris's	
4	Sussex Downsman Hike	Sussex	www.downsman.com/
4-5	Longmynd Hike	Longmynd	www.longmyndhike.org.uk/
11	Cub Scout Challenge	Hargreaves	www.gne-scouts.org.uk/cubs/
17-19	Sixer's Camp	Chigwell Row	www.badscouts.org.uk/sixerscamp/
17-19	Scout Rifle Championships	Bisley	www.scouts-shoot.org.uk/nsarc2k8
18	Cub Quiz	Chigwell Row	www.badscouts.org.uk/cubquiz/
21	CRB Checks	21 st B&D HQ	
26	County Fellowship Own		
28	EL Meeting		
28-31	Campbadx 08	Thriftwood	www.badscouts.org.uk/campbadx/
+lots more! Check out http://www.badscouts.org.uk/calendar/			

EXPLORING

It has been a bit quiet on the Explorer front due to the summer break and the Denmark trip but I am sure that the Explorers have been meeting up with each other and making the most of their break. By the time you get this the 16 and 17 year olds will have received their exam results and so should the 14 year olds if the government has cleared up the mess it made with the SATs tests. I hope they all get the results they wanted.

As well as the Danish Camp, which I understand went really well, Kelly went off to Project 819 for the second time. As regards to Danish Camp I have only heard what happened with the seniors and it certainly sounded like they had a lot of fun, with lots of games and some surprising exploits from the quieter members of the unit. The seniors presented the Explorers/Networker with a signed Danish Camping guide with the task of being able to tell them what is in it in 2010. It will be a useful challenge, for those who can't think of one for their higher badges, to translate a chapter!

We have updated our information pack which can be sent to any Scout due to come up. It tells them about Explorers and Young Leaders, the badges and awards they can work to, who to contact and our rules which everyone has to sign and agree to. Please let me or Tracie know who is due to come up and we can send them a pack or send someone to have a chat. It would also be useful if, when they start Explorers, we have their record cards. The information that we

mostly need is stuff like number of Nights and Hikes Away, number of years in Scouting and where they are with the other badges that cross the sections, you would be surprised how many of them don't know this. If you don't keep record cards but can supply any of the latter we would be most grateful.

At the time of writing Kris and Tracie are still anticipating the arrival of their baby and hopefully he will enter this world shortly. Good luck to them both.
Shelley

I have a limited number of new bandages (open weave stretchy ones), steripods (sachets of sterilised water) and thick dressing pads left over from when my legs were bad earlier this year. If anyone wants any for their First Aid boxes in return for a donation of 20p per item to be split between the Explorers and the District Charities please let me know either by email or phone:

shelley@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Shelley Goodman
Assistant Explorer Scout Leader

Loopy Again



The 9th B&D Scouts had a solid week of walking further sections of the London Loop. Each day we met at Dagenham Heathway Tube Station and waited until 9:30 a.m. (whereupon you can buy a cheaper group ticket).

We set off on the first day to tackle the legs where we last left them, at Bexley. We had a pleasant day walking from Bexley to Petts Wood. This was quite a nice walk through various country parks and we even had a guided tour by a local man who was very knowledgeable on the local area! We got to Petts Wood station and there was some confusion as apparently the train at platform 1 and 3 was going to London, a bit difficult as they were completely different platforms. I chose the wrong one and we just missed our train and had to wait a while. Akela and I can highly recommend the bakery at Petts Wood though.

Tuesday saw us return to Petts Wood station to pick up the country walk from

where we left off. This was a longer route and it was pretty much up and down for a fair bit. We saw the rather nice village of Farnborough, the lovely ponds at Keston and some of the nice areas in West Wickham. Time was a ticking for this route though and we didn't want to miss our train so we pushed hard on the last few miles, even though it wasn't that easy going. What was a little frustrating was that route finished half a mile (and with hills in between) from the train station at Hayes! However we just made our train. This route was nice and tiring.



We all had a discussion on Wednesday morning and voted to do the longer route number 9 rather than the shorter ones we had on our list. This went from Kingston to Hatton Cross (or Heathrow if you prefer). It started in the middle of Kingston and we had to drag Akela away from the shops to cross the nice bridge. We walked through the lovely Bushy Park and saw many sights, including some deer up close. The gardens in the park are very tranquil too and we stopped for lunch just a little

SCOUT SHOUT

way along from a group of deer, also resting by a pond. We later picked up the River Crane Walk, past a shot tower (where they used to make gunpowder) and then across Hounslow Heath. We had a good compass all the way along the route, low flying airplanes from Heathrow. They are very difficult to capture well on a digital camera though and have lots of photos of empty sky! After a bit of a tiring day the Scouts started to flag a bit and we slowed down on the final section, arriving at Hatton Cross 20 minutes over the estimated time (the first time on the entire Loop we were 'late'). The journey home was a long one too as we were just about as far as public transport could take us in London.



The Scouts wisely decided to choose a couple of short routes for Thursday and Friday, instead of the original plan of walking them together in one day. Thursday saw us hop back to Coulsdon South to walk towards Banstead. We find a very nice tea shop along the way and instead of eating 'in the field' Akela and I had a very civilised jacket potato (along with a couple of Scouts who decided to taste their wares). We walked through some nice fields and past a high security prison to arrive at Banstead. The trains only run every hour from here and we had missed the last one by 5 minutes! We had a

good 50 minutes wait here before getting back to London.

Our last walk on Friday was very short but our Scouts planned to stop at the tea room at Mansion House, halfway between Banstead and Ewell West stations. I must say it wasn't a patch on the stop yesterday. After walking around the hunting lodge a couple of times (don't ask) we whizzed the last mile or so to Ewell, past the jailhouse (it wasn't open unfortunately) and back home on the Tube.

A good five days of walking with the weather pretty much working out really well for us. There were far too many interesting things that we saw to note here, and far too many funny moments to list here too but suffice to say we all had a good (and tiring) time.

We have now completed 94 miles and 15 sections out of the London Loop (which is 148 miles and 24 sections). We are pretty much 2/3 of the way now and we have about 4 decent size sections and lots of short ones left to go (which we should be able to double up on and do two a day).



We are looking forward to walking the entire Loop and most of our Scouts have made a point of not missing a single me-

Hello All. Welcome back, I hope you all had a fantastic summer break, enjoying your camps/activities along the way.

Danish Exchange

On a personal note our District adventure to Denmark was a great success. Please see the Blog for an in-depth report:

<http://danishcamp.blogspot.com/>

A big thank you to Malcolm & Sue Beerling for their help in the run up to the camp and also for their help whilst there. Thanks also to Vic & Nicola Goodman for their support and help over the 2 weeks especially as Shelly (don't call me Shirley) had been ill running up to and during the holiday - they both were able to relax and enjoy it. Shelly (don't call me Shirley), I wish you well soon.

Thanks also to the Scouts/Explorers for their part over the 2 weeks, not a foot wrong between them, Leaders, Parents & the District should be proud of how they behaved themselves I know I am so please pass this on.

Thanks to Darren Dowling & Suzanne Squirrell for updating the Blog for me during my time at camp, I managed to get to a computer during the second week but their help was very much appreciated not only by me but to the parents who were keeping track.

A thank you goes to Steve May for being the EHC

And we won the Football.

Our next exchange camp is in 2010, we are also returning to Denmark in 2011 as this is the 50 year anniversary since the exchange camps began (Malcolm was at the first one) so it will get quite expensive for those wishing to attend old and new so get fund raising in your Groups for it and hopefully you will be a part of it.

Communication

Please could you send me a report of what you have been up to over the summer and also of what you have planned for the coming year?

SL Meeting

Our next meeting is on September 4th at the 17th B&D HQ at 20:00. Please endeavour to have someone from your Troop/Group attend. This can be a parent helper that you are trying to recruit into uniform or even one of your Young Leaders, all are welcome.

**Richard Blunden
ADC Scouts**

CUB CHIT CHAT

Hi all you Cubby people, I hope you are all well rested and ready for the next few months leading up to Christmas to give your Cubs great programmes. I have the new programme books and if you would like to have a look or borrow them then please let me know.

Cast your mind back to the end of June, our Sports Day. Well done and thank you to all those who took part. The fellowship who sold raffle tickets and refreshments and raised £353.77. Thanks to line judges, race starters, recorders and certificate writers and those who manned bases for me. Congratulations to all the winners and the 10/18th who were the overall winners of the Cub section.

Thank you to everyone who turned up for their slot and sold balloons. Well done to Daniel (leader) of the 21st who sold the most balloons and also to Daniel Squirrel (Cub) of 6th who came a very close second.

I am sorry if I haven't managed to get to visit you at camp but will try harder in future, I do hope all went well and you had some good weather.

Sixers Camp is 17-19th October at Chigwell Row. I gave the forms out at the last CSL meeting and would like to know as soon as possible how many Sixers you will have attending. The cost is £25. The Cub Quiz will be held on Saturday 18th October, 6 for 6:30 start. The team does not have to be the Sixers at camp, you may bring another six Cubs to the campsite just for the quiz.

Chilly Akela Rosie
ADC Cubs

Akela's Antics

Well I've been at it again, walking with the Scouts on more sections of the London Loop. I have been to every major train station in London and can tell you how to get to most places in South London. Sometimes the travelling took longer than the walking. On one of the walks we were very, very close to Heathrow and were identifying the planes from their tail fins. I must say South London is quiet flat as there was only one bit that had loads of hills and they were on the way back to the station. Another day we had to wait fifty minutes for our train back to London, so we all took our boots off at the station and travelled back to London with them still off, we got a number of funny looks.

At Cub camp we had a few Scouts with us and they made me go on the go-karts, I have never been quiet so tired after that but wait.....oh no Akela now has to have a go at the Demolition Derby. Honest Leigh (if you want to know how she got her name just ask me), Baggy, Baloo and me got into the ring and away we went. This is another very tiring activity, we let the boys win because otherwise they would have moaned. Ha, Ha thought Akela that's it for the day (I was very tired) but nothe Cubs had other ideas, it was now my go on the Assault Course, and yes I managed to get over or through all of the course. Just goes to show that there is life in this old Akela - but not much.

See you all soon (after I have had a long rest)

tre of the route, so they can truly say they have walked all round London.

What is amazing is how much you learn along the way and how much history there is to pick up on and how much beautiful scenery and sights there are, right on the doorstep of one of the biggest and busiest cities in the entire world. London has an incredible amount of natural beauty and most people just don't realise what there is to enjoy under their

noses. So what are you waiting for? Visit the Walk London website and get out there and get loopy!

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/photos/hikechallenge08/

www.walklondon.org.uk/route.asp?R=5

Darren Dowling
Leader (9th B&D)

District Quiz Night

District Quiz
Friday 26th September
7:30 for 8 p.m.
Dagenham & Redbridge Football Club



£3 per head
Bring your own food
There will be a raffle

DRINKS MUST BE PURCHASED AT THE BAR

Please support this District Event to help keep down the cost of Capitation.

Contact Pauline to book your tables:
(no later than 8th September please)

Project 819

Project is an amazing chance to mix with people from Birmingham, Liverpool, Leeds, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk. People come from all over to dig holes, cut down trees and pull up weeds in Epping Forest. I attended Project 818 last year and absolutely loved it but going on my own this time I was a bit worried but I enjoyed it so much last year that I went anyway. After all Scouting is about helping others and making new friends etc. The Explorers of Barking and Dagenham don't know what a fun time they missed out on.

Day One - Getting to know you

We had to dress up a very battered and naked Action Man who was a secret, undercover CSI agent. We were all given tasks to do but this was just one of them. It was a great laugh, everyone had their own ideas of how to dress up the Action Man but after a few hours of working on a outfit Yellow Team came up with he/she barbie/action man which kind of speaks for itself. Two Essex girls, Charlotte and Colette, dressed him in red boob tube black mini skirt with white heels and a hand bag and boobs to match. He/she looked pretty funny. Red Team came up with grass man which basically had grass duck taped to Action Man's body. If you stuck him in a bush he wouldn't be seen for days but stick him on the streets of Dagenham and he'd be cut down by a lawn mower. Blue Team came up with a very amusing chef man with a moustache drawn on in permanent marker, and Red Team came up with SUPER MAN obviously yellows Essex man/woman MY TEAM was the best but after all the tasks Reds won the game.

Day Two - Path Construction

With the very wonderful Ashley to give you a idea of the work we dug out roots and stumps to old trees that had fallen or been

cut down, then we dug out 4 inches of dirt to then cover with wood chips and red tar like material to make a flat path for the disabled to go through Epping Forest.

Day Three - At Long Running

Cutting down trees to make log piles to habitat grass snakes and other such animals and I saw a snake and almost crushed its head, but don't worry it was safe until someone dropped a tree on it but we still think it's alive somewhere. I gave it the name of Fred and cutting/pulling/slashing weeds to allow heather to grow Jacob caught a red dragonfly. Two animals I'd never seen, one so close.

Day Four - The Day Out

There was a choice of Camden Market, The Science Museum, Covent Garden, and the Imperial War Museum. It was a great day out starting off with a monopoly run going round taking various pictures of the sites in London.

Day Five - Warren Hill

Also consisted of the cutting down of sycamore trees to clear space for Oaks to grow. Later that day we had the Fairmead Olympics which involved silly games and silly costumes to match.

Day Six - Bulrush Pond

This was the muddiest of the lot, clearing out bulrushes from the pond wearing waders and old cloths we got the pond looking quiet clean till we ended up rather messy from the mud fight to finish the day.

Day Seven - HOME SWEET HOME!

Project is well worth the money so what are you waiting for get your name down for next year to put an impact on the environment.

Kelly Barratt

BEAVER BITS

Welcome back after the summer break.

We have a District Beaver meeting at the 9th B&D HQ at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday 9th September.

On Sat 20th September we have the County Fun Day for Leaders, helpers and Young Leaders at Hargreaves, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is £5, to be paid to County.

We have the District Beaver Sleepover at Wat Tyler Country Park on 27th-28th September. There are still 7 places left for girls, let me know if you want to take those ASAP. It will be a very good weekend.

Friday 24th October is the Spooky Campfire, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Hargreaves Campsite.

Saturday 8th November is the Connect-4 Competition at the 21st B&D HQ. 4 Beavers per Group, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The last District Beaver Meeting will be at the 21st B&D HQ on Tuesday 11th November at 8:15 p.m. (cheese & wine).

Please let me know how many Beavers from your Group are going to the District Beaver Kidspace on Friday 28th November, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The price will be about £6.50. Let me know by the 7th November.

Dates to put in your diary for next year

1. Easter Egg Hunt at Hargreaves Campsite
Saturday 4th April
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
We have the big hall.
2. District Beaver Sleepover at Chigwell Row Guide Campsite (Oaklands Lodge)
12th—13th September 2009
Please get your numbers in very early as this venue is very limited in terms of numbers of Beavers.
3. District Beaver Spooky Campfire at Hargreaves
Friday 23rd October, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
We have the big hall.
4. District Beaver Connect-4 Competition
Saturday 14th November
Venue still to be booked.
5. Kidspace (Romford)
Friday 27th November 2009, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Ron Pringle
ADC Beavers**

Training & Appointments

First Response

The first response course on the 20th July has been **CANCELLED** as there was only one applicant. The next proposed date is: 23rd November 2008 at 17th B&D HQ

Module 1

10th September at 17th B&D HQ
7:15 for 7:30 p.m.

Module 3

5th November (proposed)

Chris Poole
ADC (Leader Training)



The Spooky Campfire in October is well underway. This looks like it is going to be a fun evening for the Beavers. Cost will be £3 and each Beaver will receive a goody bag. There will be a mask competition and I am hoping that some of the Beaver leaders will complement the Explorers solo (The Monster Mash and possibly Thriller) with a number of their own. Unfortunately I was taken ill again whilst Nic and Vic were in Denmark and I have been delayed in sending out letters to leaders but I hope to do that very shortly. I will need to know numbers, so that everyone gets a goody bag, and have money in by the 3rd of October. As we have to pay for

everyone on site it would be also useful to know the number of leaders/helpers who will be coming as well as the number of parents who plan to wait till it is over. Only known leaders and helpers will be allowed by the fire but we will be providing tea and coffee for parents waiting in the hall. I can't make the next Beaver leader meeting as it is our first day back, but Nic will be there to collect any questions forms etc to pass or else you could always phone or e-mail me direct.

Shelley Goodman
Assistant Explorer Scout Leader

Scouting Resources

www.scoutingresources.org.uk

My Scouting Resources website has had a major face lift and lots of extra content added to it. Further resources will be added over the coming months. Please have a look see. I welcome any comments on the site and any articles or resources you want to put on the site (or requests for me to put on the site).

Darren Dowling
Leader (9th B&D)



Splashing About

Midland Sea Scout Meet
20/21 September 2008



This year's event is on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st September 2008. The Saturday will contain the Seamanship and Sailing competitions. There will also be the opportunity for groups to practice in the pulling boats for the Sunday events. Sunday contains the Pulling and Canoeing events.

Full details are available on their website:

www.mssm.org.uk/2008meet

County Canoe Race
28th September 2008



This 7 mile race takes place on the River Chelmer and is open to all Scouts, Explorers, Network members and leaders who possess at least their BCU (British Canoe Union) 1 Star certificate (old), or the UKCC One Star (new), or paddle power passport. The race costs £5 per person and includes the permit to canoe on the river, certificates, and trophies for the winner of each class.

www.gln-scouts.org.uk/events/events_2008_canoe_race.pdf

International

Did you have a great summer camp? Have you started planning for 2009? Are you are looking for some ideas and suggestions? Please find some off the shelf ideas below. You just need to sign up, pay and make your way there.

www.gln-scouts.org.uk/international/international_opportunities_2008.pdf

Staying at home?

National Scout
Rifle Championships



17th - 19th October 2008

National Shooting Centre - Bisley

www.scouts-shoot.org.uk/nsarc2k8

Caving Courses

The Essex Caving Team have the following courses on offer.

October 2008: Sunday 28 September & Friday 10 to Sunday 12 October

November 2008 (overflow only): Sunday 2 November & Friday 13 to Sunday 16 November

Please contact the course leader:
caving@essexscouts.org.uk

<http://www.ecsct.org/>



Rules & Recalls

Please be aware of the following rules changes and details on a lifejacket recall:

- Life Jacket Recall
- Parascending Rule Changes
- Hovercrafting Rule Changes

Full details available at: www.gln-scouts.org.uk/activities/