

# 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
Local Training Manager	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@gln-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.gln-scouts.org.uk](http://www.gln-scouts.org.uk)

Deadline for next issue: 20<sup>th</sup> February

© Barking & Dagenham Scouts 2009  
Woodsmoke is edited by Darren Dowling

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

## WOODSMOKE



February 2009

[www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk](http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk)

# Jill's Jottings

How is the progress with your New Year Resolutions? I am doing quite well so far, I have lost the weight I put on over Christmas, taken a couple of long walks (well long for me) and met up or fixed dates to meet family and friends I have neglected recently. One such visit was this weekend and we took Grace with us. Our friend and godson are also in Scouting so lots of chat went on about what each of us were doing and a few drinks of wine. Grace had a great time being the centre of attention with Josh. On Sunday we took her to the beach and she now knows how to go puddle jumping, fortunately Neil, her dad, saw the funny side of this. He may not when she tries it when she is out with him!

I visited the Chess Competition a couple of weeks ago. It is a shame that not more youngsters play chess now days, we are looking into changing this to a games competition to enable more to join in.

I have also been to the County Social, a good eve-

ning was had, thanks Dean.

Friday saw twenty or more Fellowship members enjoying a meal at Top Meadow Golf Club. This is the second year we have been there and we can thoroughly recommend it. There is a good choice of meals to be had and the desserts trolley ruins any diet. Pauline and Steve arranged this so thanks to them and here's looking forward to next year.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Founders Day.



### Founders Day

The service this year is at St. Cedd's Church, Lodge Avenue at 3 p.m. on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February. This is at the end of half term week so don't forget to send out the letter early. Can I also ask that you ask any parents stopping to sit at the back of the Church; this was bought up at both the Beaver and Cub section meetings as a complaint from the Carol Service. Thanks

## Happy Grandparents

Congratulations to Heather and Stephen Foalkes on becoming grandparents. You have lots of fun ahead of you. Love and Best Wishes from all of us.

## Accidents

Last summer a young lad from one of our Groups had an accident whilst at camp and needed hospital treatment. I was notified and advised the leader of the correct procedures. The leader notified Gilwell and was sent forms to complete; they were then sent another set of forms to complete as the first set hadn't been returned. A letter has now been sent to the GSL as they haven't been returned either. I cannot stress enough that Headquarters can only support us if we keep to the rules and support them. Hopefully this has now been sorted as the mother is claiming against the Scout Association for negligence. Don't let this happen to you, complete the paper work, this is part of your responsibility as a leader and it could be a costly mistake if the parents sue you personally!

## Fellowship

As reported earlier the Fellowship has just had their New Year meal. We have

lots of things planned for this year and would love more people to join us. Fellowship is open to anyone young and old. It is the social side of scouting; they support the District by selling raffle ticket, making tea, selling sweets and other refreshments. They also spend time eating, drinking, laughing, chatting, and being amongst friends young and not quite so young. If you are interested give Barry a ring and he will let you know what we are up to.

## Thriftwood

The Pedal Car Olympics were a great success again, if you want more details ask Wayne from the 17<sup>th</sup>. It is a shame more Groups from the District don't support it but I know some of you are at Winter Camp. Perhaps give it a try.

Bill and Mary's retirement "do" is on the 21<sup>st</sup> February and I am sure you would like me to wish them all the very best for their retirement. Good Luck to Colin just starting his new life at the manager of a very busy and successful camp site.

**Jill May**  
District Commissioner

# Gala Cancelled

It is with great regret that the District have had to cancel the Swimming Gala due to the cost of hiring the pool and lack of support.

We will be looking into, perhaps using another borough's pool or begging to people before next year.

It seems strange doesn't it, that with the government complaining about obese youngsters, that when we try to lay on things to do with keeping them fit we cant afford it. Watch this space to see what we can do.

**District Team**

# Upcoming Events

February			
4	Module 3	17 <sup>th</sup> B&D HQ	
7	District Swimming Gala	CANCELLED	CANCELLED CANCELLED CANCELLED
12	ADC Meeting		
16	ESL Meeting		
21	Bill & Mary's Farewell Evening	Thriftwood	<a href="http://www.thriftwood.org.uk">www.thriftwood.org.uk</a>
22	Founder's Day Service	St. Cedd's	
23	Network	Hargreaves	
28	County Scout Chess		
March			
2	CSL Meeting	6 <sup>th</sup> B&D HQ	
5	SL Meeting	17 <sup>th</sup> B&D HQ	
6	Hand in Handcraft Exhibits	6 <sup>th</sup> B&D HQ	
7	Beaver & Cub Handcraft	6 <sup>th</sup> B&D HQ	<a href="http://www.badscouts.org.uk/handcraft/">www.badscouts.org.uk/handcraft/</a>
8	County Cub Chess		
9	Chief Scout Awards	Gilwell	
10	BL Meeting	21 <sup>st</sup> B&D HQ	
14	County Swimming Gala		
16	CRB Check Evening	21 <sup>st</sup> B&D HQ	
17	Appointments	Salvation Army	
19	District Executive		
28	Beaver Easter Egg Hunt	Hargreaves	<a href="http://www.badscouts.org.uk/easteregg hunt/">www.badscouts.org.uk/easteregg hunt/</a>
29	First Response	21 <sup>st</sup> B&D HQ	
29	DC's Explorer Challenge	TBA	<a href="http://www.badscouts.org.uk/dcchallenge/">www.badscouts.org.uk/dcchallenge/</a>
30	Network	21 <sup>st</sup> B&D HQ	
+lots more! Check out <a href="http://www.badscouts.org.uk/calendar/">http://www.badscouts.org.uk/calendar/</a>			

**Founder's Day - 22<sup>nd</sup> February - St. Cedd's, Lodge Avenue**  
3 p.m. Parents are to sit at the back of the Church

Further details at: <http://www.badscouts.org.uk/foundersday/>

# Group Attendance

The previous two pages show the records of the 2008 District Event attendance.

If a single Beaver, Cub or Scout attends the Group gets a 'tick'. First, Second and Third places are noted by the "traffic light" scheme as used in District competitions. A question mark means the record is incomplete or has not been passed on yet.

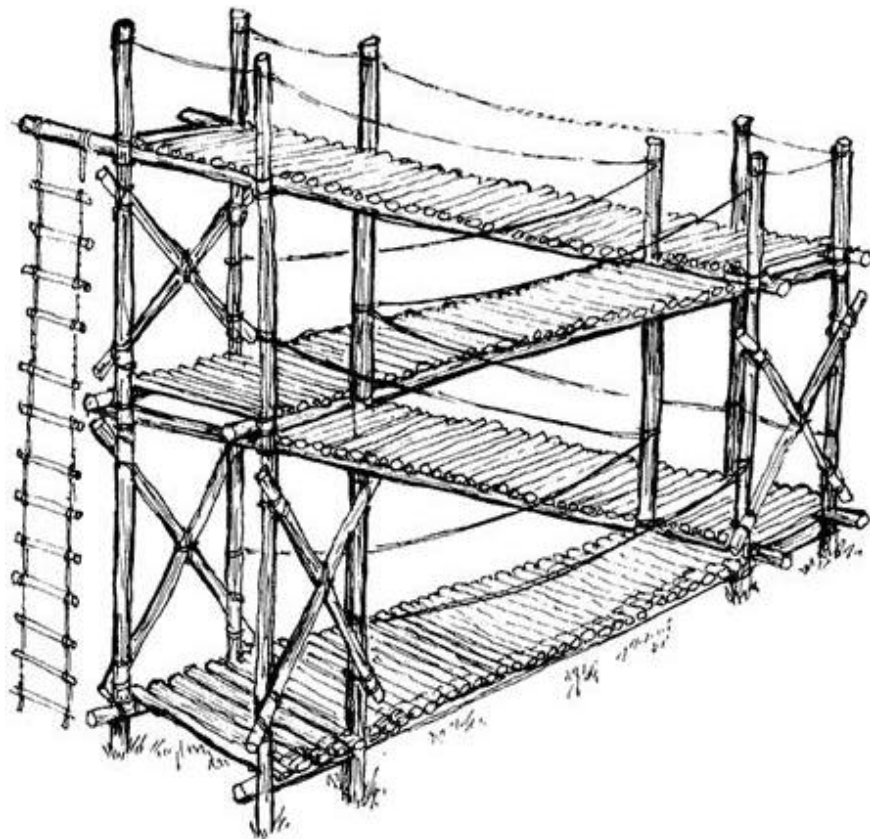
Records of attendance and results at all

District competitions are kept by the ADCs and records going back over 10 years of trophy winners is available on the District website.

If you have any information that can fill some of the 'gaps' please let me know.

[www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/records/](http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/records/)

**Darren Dowling**  
Webmaster



# Winter Camp brrrr

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January Velma and I took a group of 5 intrepid young Scouts, Explorers and Networkers/leaders into darkest Chingford to brave the rigors of Winter Camp. After a later than planned arrival we group pitched our tents and went off in search of hot food and an altar fire; although food was found, we were beaten to the altar fires by the 1800 Scouts and around 600 Leaders who had got there first. We did light their portable gas stove though, making possibly the smallest camp fire on site!

On the morn of Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> we awoke with the dawn, very chilly but raring for adventure - or at least for a sit down in the nice warm cafe for a hot breakfast. After making some enquiries, Ziggy and Fred managed to locate the Holy Grail of Winter Camp: an altar fire! Whilst setting this up, the group were approached by a photographer asking them if they wanted to be in photos for Scouting Magazine; we agreed (look out for them in the Feb/March and following issues, and on the website). During the day Velma took Georgina on the 3G swing (apparently this makes you feel as if you are flying) whilst Bayo couldn't wait to have a go at everything and tackled freehand abseiling, climbing on a wall, laser clay pigeon shooting (laser rifles that is, not laser pigeons) low ropes and the quite terrifying high ropes which included dropping from a dizzying height on a trapeze-like contraption and performing the Leap of Faith, which involved climbing a tall post then leaping off it to try and catch

hold of a different trapeze-like thing; Bayo deserves to feel very proud for tackling his initial fear and managing to successfully complete the Leap of Faith. All this in sub-zero temperatures; good thing everyone kept moving! Saturday night the Scouts were very grateful for the now blazing altar fire as temperatures were reported to hit lows of -8°C, and although much of the firewood had already been taken by other groups, Ziggy was able to keep the fire burning until around 3 a.m.

Sunday morning felt almost summery after such a cold night, although the rise in temperature meant the ground was quickly thawing and becoming slippery underfoot. Luckily all the tents got packed up before it got too muddy and there was even time to grab a couple of souvenirs before parents arrived to take everyone (except Velma, Michelle and I) home, looking forward to comfy beds and central heating. Us three had to endure three hours of Showstoppers rehearsals before being able to relax.

Showstoppers dates : 29<sup>th</sup> April to 2<sup>nd</sup> May - 2 Networkers and 2 Scouts from the district in it.

**Baloo (Jo, 1<sup>st</sup> B&D Cubs and a Networker), with Velma (Nic, 1<sup>st</sup> B&D Beavers and a networker), Ziggy (Max) and Fred (Reece, 1<sup>st</sup> B&D ASLs and Explorers), Michelle, Georgina and Bayo (1<sup>st</sup> B&D Scouts)**

*(Continued on page 4)*





# Farewell Evening

---

**THRIFTWOOD SCOUT CAMP SITE**

**All are welcome to join us for**

## **Bill & Mary's Farewell Evening**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

at the

**Essex County HQ**

in Thriftwood

**from 7:30 p.m.**

**Light refreshments will be available  
and there will be a pay bar for drinks**

**Looking forward to seeing you all there**

**Please send details of those individuals or Groups wishing to attend to:**

**Alan Pyle  
105 Shepherds Hill  
Harold Hill  
RM3 ONP**

**or email details (numbers, contact address, postcode, telephone etc) to:**

**alan.pyle2@btinternet.com**

If you do not receive the minutes from the meetings by email (check that I have your email or it's in the directory) or by post then let me know.

The Mark Sutton is fast approaching; all details are online or available from me, main change to last year is on the cooking base, remember to hand your menus in at booking in. Contact me if you have any questions.

The Scouts are running a first aid course in March; this will get the Scouts that at-

tend up to stage 3. This is being run by Suzanne Squirrel & Steve Wakeling, along with some St. John personnel. Please get this out to your Scouts and an idea of numbers back to me or Suzanne ASAP please, this will enable the organisers to arrange the times for the day the March meeting will be too late.

Hopefully I will see you at the Mark Sutton on the 31st

**Richard Blunden  
ADC Scouts**

---

## **EXPLORING**

I trust you all had a good Christmas and New Year. I couldn't wait to kick 2008 out of the door and was moaned at for having both the back and front door open at the same time - its too cold (says those who braved winter camp).

I thought I would write this little piece to thank everyone for their good wishes and support over the past few months and to update a few things. Surprisingly I feel reasonably well although this time round it has been a bit worse. Having said that I have good days and bad days and as long as I listen to my body I am okay. Luckily my family have been very supportive and I would never have coped without them. I hope she doesn't mind me saying this but Nikki Blunden has nothing but my admiration - having to cope with this and a small child!. A special big thanks to Jill and Richard for

ordering me to take a rest from Scouts and although I felt a bit rejected at the time I now know that it was very much for the best. Thanks again.

I have 3 more sessions of chemotherapy to go through and then a 2 week break followed by 4 weeks of radiotherapy which takes me to about mid April. Vic and I are planning a short trip at the end of April. So if the Explorers want me back I will return about the middle of May. I am missing my involvement with Scouting and can only listen enviously to stories from the rest of my family.

I hope you continue to support Kris, Pat and Helen and I hope to see you all soon.

**Shelley Goodman  
AESL**

# CUB CHIT CHAT

Hi all you Cubby people, I hope you all enjoyed yourselves during the Christmas and New Year period.

I am really sorry that I have missed the last two issues but I have been extremely busy with Scouting stuff, home life and at work. I also forgot the deadline and the editor is very strict about deadlines!

Competition results have been in previous issues so I'm not going over them again.

The Carol Service was good but with hindsight a number of things could have been better. The main thing was that all the children enjoyed themselves.

My groups annual winter camp went very well even though it was very cold again all the kids enjoyed it. The site run for the first time a campfire and carols thing

which was very good but again some of the kids got very cold, although they livened up when they went to the tuck shop!

In January I was asked to serve in the shop on the Sunday at Thriftwood for the Pedal Car Olympics and boy were we busy. We didn't even have time for a lunch break or a toilet break. There were some Scouts there from Wiltshire, Broadstairs in Kent and other places around the country so it's a well supported event and a chance to meet other Scouts. If you've not booked for next year I suggest you get booking.

That's it from me I look forward to seeing you at an event soon. Take care.

**Chilly Akela Rosie  
ADC Cubs**

# SCOUT SHOUT

Hello All, believe it or not one month in 2009 has nearly gone already.

So far we've had the Chess (see report from Darren). Well done to all who took part and won, Thank you to Darren for running the event and also to Suzanne for filling in for me while I had to work, thanks also to the Leaders & Explorers who helped the judging on the day.

Thanks to those who turned up to the SL meeting, would like to see some from the 8<sup>th</sup> (who did send an apology for January, forgot to minute it, sorry), 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>. Remember these are only every two months so most should be able to get cover for one night even, if it's a meeting night.

# Flying Days

As promised I have managed to secure some more flying dates from the Scout Flying Club.

17<sup>th</sup> May  
14<sup>th</sup> June  
19<sup>th</sup> July

All flights will take place at Stapleford Airdrome and will be in a 6 seater, twin engined aircraft.

It is possible to do multiple flights in a day if we get the numbers. Times of the flights will be issued once the aircraft slot is booked following submission of the numbers of participants.

Please could you circulate the details and let me have your numbers as soon as possible. Please bear in mind that there is a 1 month cut off before the flight date so if you can let me have your numbers when they come in it would be appreciated.

There is a certain amount of paperwork to be filled out for this event and I will forward it on for completion nearer the time.

Last years price was £27 per person, at



this stage I can't guarantee that this will remain the same but if I hear to the contrary I will let you know.

**Peter Seddon  
Deputy County Commissioner**

# Chess

This year saw a poor turnout from all sections, just 5 Cubs and 6 Scouts. However, I think it is just one of those things. If you don't have people who can play Chess they simply can't enter the competition, and it varies wildly from year to year. I know the Cub section is looking at extending the day to include a variety of board games on a "10 minutes" a game type of programme, to attract a wider audience. I would be willing to entertain the idea of a Chess training day too if people thought it worthwhile of their time.

the day, they all played with good spirit and showed excellent Scouting attitudes throughout their games. Thank you to Martin Squirrel and Geoff Morley from the Explorers who kindly volunteered their services as arbiters, they did a sterling job and I hope they will help me at the County Cub Chess as well.

Thanks to all the leaders who came on the day and to the 17<sup>th</sup> for hosting the event.

**Darren Dowling  
ACSL (9<sup>th</sup> B&D)**

My thanks to all those who attended on

Position	Group	Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> B&D	12
2 <sup>nd</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup> B&D	7
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> B&D	6

*Pack Trophy Results*

Position	Name	Group
1 <sup>st</sup>	Joshua Cooper	6 <sup>th</sup> B&D
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Luke Zajako	4 <sup>th</sup> B&D
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Amar Panesar	17 <sup>th</sup> B&D

*Cub Scout Results*

Position	Group	Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup> B&D	15
2 <sup>nd</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup> B&D	13
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> B&D	7

*Troop Trophy Results*

Position	Name	Group
1 <sup>st</sup>	Daniel Bailey	9 <sup>th</sup> B&D
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tadhg Casey, Declan Dobson, Ben Lawrence	4 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> B&D
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lucas Dobson	19 <sup>th</sup> B&D

*Scout Results*

# Beavering Away



Hello everyone – isn't it good to be back in the swing of things? Christmas and New Year seem like ages ago now; the only reminder for us is the endless Wii games being played in our house at the moment and of course those extra pounds that crept on while we weren't looking. Mine was due to the sweetie treats which my teenagers in my classes bought for me and Darren? well, you'll have to ask him but it might have something to do with the glass of beer that was welded to his hand on Christmas Day!

I love February as it sees many fun packed Beaver Scout nights working their way through making hand-craft items. Already the 9<sup>th</sup> Beaver Scouts have begun to make things and are keeping with tradition by getting glue, paint and sticky bits just about everywhere but where it should actually be. Have fun in your Colonies. Let us know how you get on by sending in a little report to our Editor.



ing for those little golf balls with a number on it in order to claim an egg. Of course, as always, all of the children receive a cream egg to take home. Hope to see you all there.

Summer may seem a way off but it was mentioned at our last District Beaver Scout Leader's Meeting about whether we would like another trip to Walton-on-the-Naze again this year. I think everyone in attendance said "yes" so do let Ron know if you are interested in joining us for a day of fun and enjoyment. Two dates have been proposed – 20<sup>th</sup> June or 11<sup>th</sup> July. Let Ron know which date would be better for you as soon as you can.



That's about it for now. Don't forget to send in reports, letters, pictures etc of what you have been doing this year to our Woodsmoke Editor. It's always good to see what's happening in the District.

Happy Beavering Away!

**Honest Leigh  
District Beaver Scout Leader**

Another event which I enjoy at the beginning of the year is the good old Easter Egg Hunt. This takes place in March at Hargreaves Scout Camp Site. It is so funny watching the children tread their way through the mud search-

