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



WOODSMOKE

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

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Woodsmoke is edited by Darren Dowling

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

WOODSMOKE



January 2009

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Jill's Jottings

Happy New Year to you all.

Have you made any New Year resolutions? I googled New Year resolutions to see what was said and a list of the top ten came up:

1. Spend more time with family and friends
2. Improve fitness
3. Lose weight
4. Quit smoking
5. Enjoy life more
6. Quit drinking
7. Get out of debt
8. Learn something new
9. Help others
10. Get organised.

A lot of those could be applied to our Scouting for the District New Year Resolutions so here we go:

1. Share our Scouting with family and friends; you never know it may help.
2. Improve fitness by being more active.
3. That will help those of us that need to lose weight!
4. No comment on the smoking
5. We will enjoy what we put in and

get more out.

6. No comment on this one.
7. With the credit crunch, we can try and support families that are in this situation, we may need to look at the costs of camps and trips so as to not exclude some of our families
8. I am sure we all do that frequently.
9. We do this all the time but perhaps look around us a bit more.
10. Whoops! We can all do better here!

My own New Year Resolution is to continue to lose weight, get fitter to play with Grace and to spend more time with my family.

Steve and I would like to wish you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Thanks

Thank you to the regulars who came out with the Round Table before Christmas. It is a shame we didn't see any new faces despite all the begging but it is a bit like the parable, some fell on stony ground!

Carol Service

Well done to the 9th for hosting the Carol Service, the youngsters did really well and I am sure everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Shame the vicar mentioned the "toilet" word he obviously didn't know that once you mention it kids have to go even if they don't want to! Well done and thank you for your hospitality.

Next year the 21st, with Simon twisting their arm, have volunteered so over to you.

Health Update

Shelley is coping well with her chemo and taking advice and staying near to home to keep her energy levels up and staying away from all the bugs flying round at the moment.

Nikki has had some good news the cancer is shrinking and they are reducing the number of chemo sessions she needs this time.

Please keep both of these families in your prayers and thoughts.

Calendar

By now you would have received your calendar in your Christmas card. If you haven't it may be because your GSL didn't reply to me with the updated names and addresses. Please get in touch and I will make sure you get a copy. All dates will also be on the website and given out at sectional meetings so no excuses that you didn't know!

Census

GSLs, I have received the pass words for your census numbers to be put on line. These will be sent out after Christmas with the cut of time. Please do not adjust figures due to cost as it does not reflect the hard work that is going on in the District. Thanks.

Jill May
District Commissioner

Upcoming Events

January			
5	CL Meeting	21 st B&D HQ	
8	SL Meeting	17 th B&D HQ	
9-11	Network Winter Camp	Gilwell	
10-11	National Pedal Car Olympics	Thriftwood	www.thriftwood.org.uk/events/
10	Cub/Scout Chess	17 th B&D HQ	www.badscouts.org.uk/chess/
12	BL Meeting	6 th B&D HQ	
15	District Executive		
19	CRB Check Evenign	21 st B&D HQ	
20	Appointments	Salvation Army	
26	Network	21 st B&D HQ	
27	Explorer Shooting	21 st B&D HQ	
31	Mark Sutton	6 th B&D HQ	www.badscouts.org.uk/markstutton/
February			
4	Module 3	17 th B&D HQ	
7	District Swimming Gala		
12	ADC Meeting		
16	ESL Meeting		
22	Founder's Day Service	St. Cedd's	
23	Network	Hargreaves	
28	Beaver/Cub Handcraft	6 th B&D HQ	
+lots more! Check out http://www.badscouts.org.uk/calendar/			

Mark Sutton - 31st January - 6th B&D HQ

Full details can be found in the information booklet on the website

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

Chess Competition - 10th January - 17th B&D HQ

Full details can be found in the information booklet on the website

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

Treasurer's Tidbits

District Sponsored Walk

Just a reminder to the few groups and Explorers who gave up their time to take part that I would appreciate your monies as soon as possible.

Roger Scowen
District Treasurer

BEAVER BITS

I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year. This is my penultimate year as ADC Beavers, I hope it will be a easy one as I go into my rundown.

This month we have Founders Day on Sunday 22nd at St. Cedd's. I hope all the Beaver Colonies can make it to this event.

Also we have the Handcraft on Sat 28th February. Please bring all exhibits in on Friday 27th, at the 6th B&D HQ, between 8 and 9:30 p.m.

Don't forget the Egg Hunt on Sat 28th March at Hargreaves campsite. This is a big favourite with all the Beavers. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. £3 per Beaver, £1 per Leader.

Beaver Meetings coming up on:
Monday 12th January at the 6th B&D HQ at 8:15 pm and Tuesday 10th March at the 21st B&D HQ at 8:15 p.m.

Ron Pringle
ADC Beavers

Meet the Chief

It was the 31st of July and I got up ready for a great day. I was going to Nottingham castle for one of my badges. It was funny, it took a long time to get there, but it was worth it. I met the Chief Scout. I also got to meet the other Cub groups. It was fun but I was sad when I had to come home.

Danny Reason
Cub (16th B&D)



On the 31st of July 2008, me and Danny Reason from the 16th Barking and Dagenham Scout Group, were picked up at 7 a.m. by Dagger and Baggy, our leaders. We were going to Nottingham Castle to meet the Chief Scout, Peter Duncan. We were on our way in Dagger's Mini Cooper. After a long three hours journey, we were finally there in Nottingham. We parked in a multi-story car park. It was a long walk to the castle.

When we got to the castle, we had to wait for the photographers to set up their equipment. We had a look at the museum they had. Finally, the photographers had finished setting up. We were all called in, and we had orange juice and biscuits while we waited for our turn. We had our photos taken with the Chief Scout, Peter Duncan, for our leaders, Dagger and Baggy, then one with Peter and the other Cubs. It was finally time to go. We went to the shop to buy something. I bought a fridge magnet and some rock. We left the castle and had another long walk back to the car park and off we went back home. It had been very exciting but tiring.

Lee Bowles
(16th B&D)



Farewell Evening

THRIFTWOOD SCOUT CAMP SITE

All are welcome to join us for

Bill & Mary's Farewell Evening

Saturday 21st 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

SCOUT SHOUT

Hello all, I hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and you are looking forward to the year ahead

As soon as you have some programmes and activities organised could you please email them to me or bring them to the SL meetings. The January meeting will be on the 8th at the 17th B&D HQ at 20:00. We will be deciding who is staffing which base at the Mark Sutton at this meeting.

If you have emails that are not currently known to me and you are a Scout Leader, GSL or anyone who wants to receive the SL minutes please send me an email.

District Chess

The District Chess is on the 10th January, all details available from the website or from me; Darren Dowling is running the event so please contact Darren with any questions as well. Past winners - please bring your trophies along.

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

Carol Service

Thank you to the 9th for hosting the Carol Service and to all who attended, I know Thomas enjoyed himself as I believe most of you heard.

I Joined Don, Scott, Rick & Vic for a few drinks (didn't feel like a few the next morning) at the Eva Hart pub. This was a good night, hopefully more can attend next year this is open to all leaders not just the Scout Section, thanks to Don & Scott for the idea. I also won a McDonalds betting on the X factor final the same night, thank you to Alex Burke for winning and to Vicki Luxford & JLS for losing said bet, I am looking forward to eating my burger soon.

Nikki is doing well, at time of going to print she has had 4 rounds of chemotherapy with another 3 to go, the quack is happy with the way things are going fingers crossed it continues that way. A big thank you to everyone for your support and well wishes it has meant a lot to us.

I look forward to working with you all in 2009 so from myself, Dave & Suzanne

Happy New Year to you all

Richard Blunden
ADC Scouts

Cyclo Cross

This was held on a coldish day at the beginning of December with a brave few battling it out, which would turn out to be very close indeed and actually going down to the last race. My thanks to all the leaders who gave up their Saturday morning/afternoon to help run the event, Julie Swart 1st, Lance Horsey 4th, Jill & Steve May 8th, Darren Dowling & "T" 9th, Pauline Wakeling 10th/18th, Steve Wakeling & Lee Copleston & David Bradford 16th.

Thanks also to the Scouts for a well-fought day, and please remind those who had trouble with brakes and gear the importance of checking your bike before hand.

Sam Taylor of the 16th won the day with the team trophy going to the 6th congratulations to them both. 2 almost-Explorers tagged along and joined in the fun, James Elmore won their race with Gemma Bailey providing the highlight of my day. A full run down of the results and placing is available online at:

Full results can be found at:

www.badscouts.org.uk/cyclocross/

Richard Blunden
ADC Scouts

Position	Name	Group	Points
1 st	Sam Taylor	16 th B&D	50
2 nd	Anthony Goodwin	16 th B&D	48
2 nd	Richard Wood	6 th B&D	48

Scout Results

Position	Group	Points
1 st	6 th B&D	129
2 nd	16 th B&D	117
3 rd	1 st B&D	44

Group Results

Position	Group
1 st	Explorers
2 nd	Explorers
2 nd	6 th B&D

Explorer Results

Flying Days

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

17th May
14th June
19th 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

Swapshop

I regularly field requests for help and advice on a wide variety of subjects, from people who contact me via the various websites I look after to leaders in our District and beyond.

I have a massive range of resources and links and sheets and such like, far too much to put on offer in one go (you would need a lorry to take it all away).

I have a whole box of resources for various badges, such as Scientist, Astronomer, Meteorologist, Pioneering/Knots and IT.

I also have thousands of useful links and gigabytes of useful files, for everything from putting up a tent to providing free painting software for kids, from how to tie a particular knot to the lyrics for a particular song.

Below is a short collection of some useful links. If you want help or advice with any topic in Scouting, across all sections, please feel free to email me. You will probably find someone else has already asked the same question and that I have already collected the information or resource you need. It can save a lot of head scratching and aimless wandering on the internet!

www.scouts.org.uk/

Eventually Scoutbase will die (and I will mourn its passing) and everything officially Scouty will be stuck on here. That includes POR and the new 'membership database'.

www.inquiry.net/

Contains a vast range of material on Scouting topics, some of which is hard to find elsewhere.

www.scouting.milestones.btinternet.co.uk/

An outstanding site on the history of Scouting.

pioneeringmadeeasy.co.uk/

An excellent resource for those who want to get stuck into pioneering, something traditionally offered by Scouting and something we still do the best.

www.escout.org.uk/

Not just a set of forums but a collection of resources and experience.

www.macscouter.com/

A wide range of Scouting material is available here.

www.weatherwizkids.com/index.htm

One of the many websites I have bookmarked to help teach the Meteorologist and Scientist badges.

www.routehiker.org.uk/

A free program from eScouts that can help you to make up route cards for your hikes

www.sja.org.uk/sja/first-aid-advice.aspx

St. John's Ambulance provide some good first aid advice.

www.mapmsg.com/games/statetris/europe/

One of the many mapping resources I have. Play a jigsaw puzzle with maps, very good for teaching about countries.

folk.uio.no/kjetikj/compass/lesson1.html

Still one of the best tutorials on compass use and orienteering I have seen.

www.equipped.com/tarp-shelters.htm

This offers hundreds of ways to make a shelter from a simple tarpaulin. I have tried a few of these and it offers a challenge to all Scouts, from Beavers to Explorers. Some of them work very well indeed, who needs tents?

www.exploratorium.edu/explore/handson.html

One of the many many bookmarks I have that is science related. A very good and easy to follow collection of science experiments for kids.

www.kids.gov/

American biased but still a good portal to many other sources of resources and information for young people.

www.educational-freeware.com/

Not a bad place to start to look for free software that will be of use to young people. I know many sources of such software and I can steer you to high quality, free to buy and use alternatives to pretty much any existing software.

So what are you waiting for? Why not share your good ideas and favourite resources with other leaders?

Darren Dowling

Person what has a lot of Scouting (and other) stuff to share