

### DC's Column

Christmas seems a distant memory and 2010 has arrived! Happy New Year to those I have not personally seen already. I hope this special year for our District will create many new friendships, challenges, opportunities and memories for us all but especially our young people.

I must go back to 2009 to thank everyone who ensured the Chief Scout Award ceremony at the Royal Hippodrome was a resounding success. So many pitched in at quite short notice to showcase this event in true 'Eastbourne style' I received many compliments about the day, none of which was possible without your efforts.

I have received no adverse comments about sending the newsletter by email so I trust everyone is able to forward it on and print it, where appropriate.

You may have unwittingly opened your door to Eastbourne Lions Christmas Street collection but did you realise that members of our Scout Network were helping the Lions and were rewarded for their efforts by a substantial donation in return. A classic case of one good turn deserves another especially as the Lions find it difficult to find volunteers to undertake this seasonal fundraising.

But now to 2010, there is lots of news! Our 100 Challenges are underway and the 100 pennies for the Mayor's Charity are already rolling in. Our plans for Timewarp in Tents at Bushy Wood in June are gathering pace where it will be a great time for us all to celebrate and reflect on 100 years of Scouting in Eastbourne & District and, of course, make plans for the next 100...

The snow and ice left most of us having problems including our Jamboree Selection camp which had to be postponed but I am now able to announce and congratulate

James Powell-Cullingford, Adam Riggs, Rebecca Preston, Dammy Sokale and Ami Woods. Harry Tompsett and Robert Harmer have been asked to be a reserve, if required. These young people have been selected from our District to be part of the East Sussex County Scout contingent to the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Scout Jamboree in Sweden in 2011.



I know they will be excited and will be looking to us all to help them raise the funds to help cover their costs and to ensure they are well prepared for this adventure. They have double cause to celebrate in 2010 and I wish them a busy and successful year. I have to especially thank Ian Watling, Robert Martin, DDC Seahaven and Kim Allfrey, DC of Hailsham & Heathfield and their team who managed the selection process on my behalf. Not an easy job, we had 22 young people apply and I wish to thank them all for being up for the challenge of a place. It of course means there are 17 disappointed young people who have had to accept it was not to be. They were all worthy of a place and I have no doubt they will shine as Scouting stars in other ways in the years to come.

The snow and ice brought the leadership, skills and equipment of EDSFAT to the notice of the public and they certainly put their promise to help others into practice when both Eastbourne Hospitals and South East Coast Ambulance service asked for their assistance, in addition they helped deliver meals to the elderly where 4x4 vehicles proved their worth. Ironically their own post Christmas celebration fell victim to the weather but they put their time to good use for the benefit of the local community when all

services were under pressure. Eastbourne Scouting received may thanks not to mention useful publicity of our capabilities.

The Explorer Scout section held their Awards evening on 23<sup>rd</sup> January and it was good to hear of the successes and events they had enjoyed in 2009 from both Explorer and Spiro Units. Look out in the weeks ahead as each Unit now has its own distinguished scarf, the colours and designs embodied from the District scarf.

The reports coming from Haiti are very distressing and we cannot begin to imagine the pain and suffering of its people, the Tsunami wakened our minds to these natural disasters but that does not dull the senses when a fresh problem occurs. I am sure many of you have managed to raise some money towards the DEC appeals or ShelterBox. I suggested to GSL's that young people come in Mufti for a small donation. To date the District Team raised £17:00 by some members paying to attend their meeting in uniform and I hope I may add to this at the ADC/GSL meeting. The Scout Fellowship had an enjoyable post Christmas lunch on 24<sup>th</sup> January at the Red Lion and mindful of the people of Haiti collected a generous £110:00 from those present, to which they kindly added the raffle proceeds of £46:00. I am sure the appeals will continue for months to come and if everyone gives a little it will help many.

Finally, some of you will be aware of the changes to 'Home Contact' procedures to InTouch. This will be discussed at the ADC/GSL meeting on 1/2/10 and groups will need to implement the changes by 1<sup>st</sup> September.

If you wish to contact me, please feel free to do so, either by phone on 01323 646350 or email at [dc@eastbournescouts.org.uk](mailto:dc@eastbournescouts.org.uk).

Christine Skinner (DC)

## Appointments

### **Provisional Appointments:**

Hannah Kemp 11<sup>th</sup> Eastbourne  
Assistant Scout Leader

Helen Spray 1<sup>st</sup> Willingdon  
Troop Assistant,

Tracey Timmis - 3<sup>rd</sup> Eastbourne  
Assistant Cub Scout Leader

Rachel Walters - 23<sup>rd</sup> Eastbourne  
Assistant Beaver Scout Leader

### **Changes of Appointment:**

Gary Capon - 11<sup>th</sup> Eastbourne  
Cub Scout Leader

Marc Fallon - 11<sup>th</sup> Eastbourne  
Scout Leader

Thanks to you all for taking on these roles and supporting local Scouting.

### **Resignations:**

Christine Harmer - District  
Scout Network Leader

Marc Fallon - 11<sup>th</sup> Eastbourne  
Group Scout Leader

I am indebted to Christine who was instrumental in establishing the District Scout Network Unit. The Unit is now in a position to enjoy its own programme and to provide support where needed thanks to her drive and enthusiasm for this initiative.

Marc, as Warden of Bushy Wood, is challenging us all with his initiatives to improve, promote and develop Bushy for our young people to enjoy. He remains at the heart of the 11<sup>th</sup> Eastbourne, now formally as its Scout Leader, a role he has quietly undertaken alongside that as GSL for the last five years. The Group has gone from strength to strength under his leadership and I am extremely appreciative of his dedication to that role alongside many other commitments.

DC

## David Jackson



Many people in Eastbourne District will be saddened to hear about the passing away of Dave Jackson, ACC (PR) and formerly DC of Brighton. Dave had been fighting cancer for the last 18 months but unfortunately he finally succumbed to it today, 1<sup>st</sup> February. Those of you who had met Dave would know that he was one of the 'characters' in Scouting in East Sussex, larger than life, often controversial but had a heart of gold and was a friend of many. I had known Dave for over twenty years and, like many people who knew him, could always have a bout of friendly banter when we met. I went to see him only last week and although not at all well, mentally he was still the DJ we all loved and cherished. Our sincere and heartfelt condolences go to his wife Lynn and their family.  
Roger Gibbs (Editor)

## Secretary's Scriblings

### **CRB Applications**

1. Please state the applicant's position when sending CRB forms to me.
2. If hand delivering please put the forms through letter box of the front door, not the porch door, as we don't lock the porch.
3. Sections E & F no longer need completing.
4. Continuation sheets are now available from me or to download [www.crb.gov.uk/continuation](http://www.crb.gov.uk/continuation).
5. If you keep a record of the CRB application form number it can now be tracked online at [www.crb.gov.uk/tracking](http://www.crb.gov.uk/tracking).

Thanks, Darrell  
Darrell Harris (District Secretary)

## Beaver Scouts Craft Day

It was a very wet day when we went to Bushy Wood. In the barn I made a yule log, place mat, windmill, hamabeads, angels bag, sweets in a cone and a reindeer candy. It was great fun.

Daniel Barclay  
(First Polegate Beaver Scouts)

## **News from EDSFAT**

[Eastbourne District Scout  
(Fellowship) First Aid Team]

### **Eastbourne Scouts provide support during the cold weather**

The Eastbourne District Scout First Aid Team (EDSFAT) has been out helping the community during the recent snowy conditions. In true scouting spirit within hours of the snow fall the team had a plan in place to help out wherever they could.

During the snow just before Christmas and again in the recent snow fall the team offered the use of their 4x4 Land Rover ambulance to assist the South East Coast Ambulance service in reaching, treating and transporting patients in difficult to reach locations. The vehicle was crewed by an Ambulance Technician and a BASICS Doctor from SECAMB both of whom also volunteer with EDSFAT.

Members of EDSFAT have also been out in their own 4X4 vehicles transporting vital ambulance staff to their place of work to ensure the service could continue to meet the additional demand on its resources.

As well as assisting the ambulance service the EDSFAT members have been delivering meals-on-wheels to elderly residents cut off by the weather, for some this is the only contact they have with the outside world.

SECAMB's Director of Operations, Sue Harris, said: "We would like to extend our thanks to the Scout First Aid Team and others. The support that we have had from voluntary sector and the general public has been truly amazing and really did make a difference in our ability to get to those people who really did need our help."

John Clark (EDSFAT)  
[www.edsfat.org.uk](http://www.edsfat.org.uk)  
[scout\\_team@hotmail.com](mailto:scout_team@hotmail.com)

## Eastbourne Scouting News

The deadline for contributions for the March edition is 21<sup>st</sup> February.

### **Editor**

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## Explorer Scouts Awards Ceremony

On Saturday 23rd January, Explorers, parents, leaders and VIPs turned up to our annual Explorer Scouts Awards Ceremony. This was opened by presentations from both units, showing the audience through powerpoint, performances and script, exactly what they've been up to in 2009. From scuba diving to survival themed nights, to summer camp and expedition, the audience thoroughly enjoyed the hard work that had been put into the shows. A rather interesting addition to the Explorer family is Regina the pink elephant to go alongside Roger the elephant, which was given by the units to Kocy - watch this space for further appearances! This was followed by the presentation of the awards for each unit: Most Improved Explorer – Electra: Torii Grace, Spiro: Jason Kearns. Outstanding Achievement – Electra: Tony Carmody, Spiro: Kathryn Sumner. Best Overall Explorer – Electra: Tor Mandy, Spiro: Kurt Barrow. Well done to you all for your achievements so far. There were then certificates for several Leaders including Appointments, Training, Service and LeaderLink badges, just to show they have been working hard too. The most exciting moment of the night for all was the revealing of the new unit scarves and the renewing of the promises for each unit, meaning they now have stronger identities as Electra and Spiro, as well as the unity that makes them Eastbourne Explorers. The teamwork from all of them on the night was great, and a brilliant night was had by all - see you all next year!

Sacha Titherly (ESL)  
Eastbourne District Explorer Scouts  
07514 398581

## Chicken Investiture!!!

Everyone who has been on a training course with Gordon Titherly will know about his County Training Chicken! My chicken is the County Chicken's Brother, and Lou Collins now has one called Chickette. I called Gordon late one Friday night after Scouts to ask him a very important question: will you come and invest our chickens into the First Polegate Scout Troop? A sudden pause came and then a thump as the phone dropped and all I could hear is Gordon laughing. He agreed and prepared his Chicken for the momentous evening. My Chicken and Chickette were to be invested in the First Polegate and Gordon's Chicken was invested into Kenya Scouts Support. I take my Chicken to every camp and Lou brought Chickette along in September last year. My Scouts are very aware of our unusual nature and love it that we are a bit crazy.

On the night, Gordon was introduced to our Scouts and the investiture took place. Gordon, as County Training Manager, presented certificates to each Chicken to say that they have passed the getting started modules and also investiture certificates. The chickens had a wonderful time and look forward to a long career in scouting!

Thanks must go to Gordon for making the event very special, and also to Lou Collins for making little chicken sized Polegate Scarves!

And I finish with a comment from one of my Scouts at the end of the night. With a confused look on his face he asked: "You are investing stuffed chickens?!"

Robert Kemp (SL, First Polegate)



## 'Win a Car for Christmas' Raffle

A special 'thank-you' to those people who helped at the Car raffle on its opening day on the 14<sup>th</sup> November. Despite being several weeks before Christmas people were very supportive and we took a magnificent £767. The cheques were presented to all the charities on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January and the Treasurer has safely deposited it and it will serve as an additional contribution towards the Climbing complex which is being installed quite soon.

Win Trott

## District Scout Fellowship

As a new year begins 27 members enjoyed an excellent lunch at the Red Lion at Willingdon on the 24<sup>th</sup> January, the food was good and the company congenial. We now look forward to continuing active support and fellowship for the coming year. Our February meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup>** at 7.30pm (please note the change of day) in The Lodge when we are looking forward to a report from the Explorers who completed their Queen's Scout Award expedition to the Isle of Wight last year. We hope for a good turn-out and welcome any new members who would like to come along.

Win Trott (S/F Secretary)

## District Diary

- Feb 1 Census Returns
- Feb 1 GSLs/Commissioners Meeting
- Feb 4 Awards Panel Meeting
- Feb 6 Sixers Forum (CS)
- Feb 7 Bronze CSA Reception (BS)
- Feb 8 Finance Sub-Committee Meeting
- Feb 17 Appointments Meeting
- Feb 19 Ten-Pin Bowling / LazerQuest (S)
- Feb 22 District Executive Meeting
- Mar 8 Scout Leaders Meeting
- Mar 8 Cub Scout Leaders Meeting
- Mar 17 Beaver Scout Leaders Meeting
- Mar 17 Appointments Meeting
- Mar 20 Camp Cooking Competition (S)
- Mar 23 Bushy Wood Management Mtg
- Mar 27 Skills Day (CS)
- Mar 27/8 Overland Hike (S & ES)
- Apr 14 Appointments Meeting
- Apr 19 District Team Meeting
- Apr 21 Explorer Scout Team Meeting
- Apr 25 St George's Day Celebration