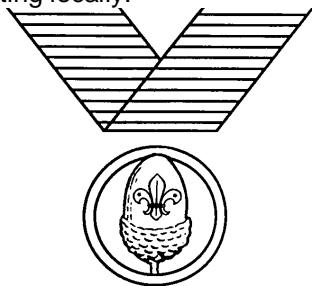


DC's Column

I hope you have all enjoyed the Easter break and are now ready for a busy and fun filled programme. I always think this is the best time of year for Scouting, the daylight hours are longer and warmer giving plenty of opportunity for being outside, whether camping, hiking, canoeing or whatever your young people enjoy doing most of all.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many people who came to pay their last respects to Gerry Gillett at his funeral. I know the family were very touched and pleased that we were able to provide a guard of honour for this very special man. A separate notice has been issued concerning the garden that is being created in his memory at Bushy Wood and we hope this will be a small oasis of calm for us all to share amongst the joy of seeing and hearing young people benefiting from Scouting.

As I write this, a few days away from St George's Day, it gives me the utmost pleasure to publicly recognise the award of the Silver Acorn to both Gordon and Tracey Titherly, to add my own congratulations and thanks on behalf of the District for the tremendous contribution they have made and continue to make to Scouting locally.



I know they are both going to the National Queen's Scout Parade at Windsor where they will be able to watch Toby Phair and the many other worthy recipients of the Queen's Scout Award on parade. Tracey, as always, is particularly concerned that she will not be with her Cub Scouts in Eastbourne but I am certain 1st Hampden Park Scout Group will be proudly at our St George's day event and they can swap stories of the day on her return.

I am also able to announce that 1st Hampden Park has a new Group Scout Leader, Lee Hobden, I welcome him to our team and wish him well in his appointment. Lee comes with a strong Eastbourne Scouting background and whilst this is his first adult appointment, I know he is looking forward to the opportunity to give back some of the pleasure he obtained as a Scout and Venture Scout.

I am trying to visit you all at various times and this week I finally kept a promise to visit the band on a meeting night. We are so fortunate to have the Kingfishers, they support us in many ways. I saw several new members being given their scarves and uniform in front of some very proud parents. The adult team led by Alan show tremendous dedication and commitment. I also have their programme which is packed with various carnivals, fairs and events they are appearing at in the months ahead, virtually every weekend. Considering that the band members are also fully taking part as members of Scout groups and achieving their awards, they are a credit to themselves and Eastbourne Scouting. Some of you will be aware that due to an arson attack, 1st Herstmonceux Scout Group HQ was recently destroyed by fire. Their Cub Scout Pack have accepted an offer made to them to use Bushy Wood as a temporary home so if you see them, make them all welcome. It will help keep their spirits up in what must be very difficult circumstances for their leaders. They are our close neighbours and part of our Scouting family; they deserve our friendship. Please note the article elsewhere in the newsletter about Network Scouting. It is about to happen in Eastbourne so watch this space as we establish the fifth section for the first time.

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.

Christine Skinner (DC)

District Scout Shop

Many thanks to those Groups who responded to the DC's message that the price of uniforms was being increased by Scout Shops Ltd. You should by now have received your orders.

I was able to order some stock at the old price and this is available at the shop on a first come first served basis. Once this stock is sold the new prices will be:-

Beaver sweatshirt	£10.50
Cub sweatshirt	£11.00
Scout shirt	£16.00
Explorer shirt	£19.50
Adult shirt (long sleeve)	£19.50
Adult shirt (short sleeve)	£19.00
Boys activity trousers	£15.50
Adult activity trousers	£26.00
Leather belt	£11.00

The usual 10% discount for Group orders will still apply

Maggie Collins, Shop Manager
Tel: 01323 504334

District Diary

- May 9 CS Oakleaf Hike
- May 11 SLs Meeting
- May 11 CSLs Meeting
- May 14 BSLs Meeting
- May 16 Leaders 'Have-a-Go Day'
- May 17 County Gold CSA Reception
- May 18 GSLs/Commissioners Meeting
- May 20 Appointments Meeting
- Jun 1 Bushy Wood Management Mtg
- Jun 4 Awards Meeting
- Jun 8 District Executive Meeting
- Jun 12-14 County Cubbly Bug Ball
- Jun 17 Appointments Meeting
- Jun 19 ESLs Meeting
- Jun 20 BS Gilwell Fun Day
- Jun 27/8 Acorn Hike
- Jul 3 BSLs Meeting
- Jul 6 District Team Meeting
- Jul 10 District AGM
- Jul 11/2 County Colditz Challenge
- Jul 15 Appointments Meeting
- Jul 18 BS Leeds Castle Trip

EASTBOURNE SCOUTING NEWS

The deadline for contributions for the June edition is 21st May.

Editor

Roger Gibbs, 13 Cormorant Close,
Eastbourne, BN23 7SG

☎ 01323 762898

e-mail: rogergibbs@f2s.com

SCOUT NETWORK --- --- OPEN INVITATION

Can you answer yes to the following questions?

Do you like bacon baps on a Sunday at 11.00?

Are you between 18 and 25?

Are you interested in joining an Eastbourne & District Scout Network?

Can you come to Bushy Wood on 10th May at 11.00?

Can you smell the bacon?

Can you pass this message on to anyone you know who may not receive this newsletter?

Any queries please contact the DC -

Tel: 01323 646350

e-mail: dc@eastbournescouts.org.uk

Gerry Gillett Memorial

Following consultation with Hilda, it has been decided that Eastbourne District would like to create a permanent memorial to Gerry at Bushy Wood. It will take the form of a memorial garden, to be known as the "Gerry Gillett Memorial Garden", be positioned alongside the Lodge and will form the basis of the various memorials that already exist and for the future. The Warden will be consulting with the Tuesday Gang to get this feature established, but naturally it will have a cost involved, therefore we are inviting Groups and/or individuals to make donations in Gerry's memory. As Hilda and the family have already stated, Gerry wished his ashes to be scattered at Bushy Wood and so the project needs to be started as soon as possible. The DC has suggested that the Bluebell season will be a lovely time for Gerry's family to visit the woods.

If you or your Group wish to contribute, cheques should be sent to me, as District Secretary, (I suspect the District Treasurer is particularly busy dealing with the end of year accounts just at the moment) made payable to Eastbourne District Scout Council, at 13 Old Drive, Polegate, BN26 5ET, by Friday 8th May 2009.

Thank you all for your support, any queries please let me know.

Win Trott - District Secretary (01323 482312)

Eastbourne Achievers Awards 2009

Explorer Scout Leader Sacha Titherly was nominated for one of the prestigious Eastbourne Achievers Awards 2009, organised by the Eastbourne Herald, and was judged the winner in the Volunteer of the Year category by an independent panel. It appears the nominations for Sacha came from Explorer Scouts and their parents.

Sacha has built on the early successes of Electra Explorer Scout Unit and has achieved great respect from her young people. Not content with Electra, she has devised a way supporting a new Unit starting after Easter which already has 17 members and 10 more to come in September. Leaving Paul and me with a high priority to find additional adult support for these young people, events such as this raise the profile of Explorer Scouting in this area.

Sacha was presented with her award on the 7th April at the Awards Dinner, held at the Winter Garden. This event was heavily supported by local business and education establishments as well as the Mayor, Chairman of the County Council and local MP. DC



Appointment

Lee Hobden - GSL 1st Hampden Park
9 Horning Close, Eastbourne, BN23 8DW
01323 769147

Eastbourne Scouting News

Don't forget, this is YOUR newsletter! Contributions from anyone, young and old, are always welcome and encouraged. Please, let the rest of the District know what you have been doing and why not use this publication as a way of sharing good ideas, or to even warn others about the bad ones! Please e-mail your contributions to rogergibbs@f2s.com or post them to Roger Gibbs at 13 Cormorant Close, Eastbourne, BN23 7SG by 21st May for the June edition. Thank you. ED