

DC's Column

The summer has flown by but I trust that some of you will have found the time for a little rest and relaxation from the busy lives we all seem to have as part of our commitment to Scouting and the young people we serve.

I enjoyed a lovely two weeks in France and having only just returned have not yet caught up on all the news of your activities during July / August. I am, though, hearing some very positive reports of those involved in WSJ2011, CamJam, Jersey, Guernsey, and camps nearer to home at Gilwell Park, Hampshire, Blacklands, Park Wood, Bushy Wood and Broadstone. I am really pleased to hear of the successful DofE Gold/QSA expedition to the Peak District by seven members of Avatar Scout Network. Their formal report back is on September 7 at Bushy Wood when more details will emerge of their efforts.

It was also good to be at Bushy Wood during July and August meeting many visitors including those from Ireland who have now forged links with 23rd Eastbourne and Avatar. All of this activity shows how healthy Scouting is in the District, in fact looking at the list, was I the only one left in for a while as so many of you were away at various times?! I am acutely aware it does not happen without the dedication and commitment of all the adults involved and I can only say thank you for the superb opportunities you have afforded your young people thus far in 2011.

I also have to thank all those who have supported Bushy Wood during another very busy summer, either by providing activities for visitors or helping maintain the site by manning reception or cleaning or any of the routine jobs that need to be done, all of which help to share the load of the warden team.

It's now time to start another Scouting year and there will be many challenges ahead of us if we are to meet the ever increasing demands of more young people wanting to share the magic of Scouting. 2012 promises to be a very special year as we will be celebrating the Queen's Diamond

Jubilee and for the sports enthusiasts, football and the Olympic Games will dominate the summer months. This has prompted the District Team to agree to have a District Camp from 22 June to 24 June. The first planning meeting will shortly be held so please keep the dates free and plug them into your programme calendar now. More details will be published at the next ADC/GSL meeting on 19 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

Christine Skinner (DC)

Awards

Award for Merit

Ian Watling - EDSAS Woodpeckers & Press Officer

Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Paula Reed | ABSL 2 nd Willingdon |
| Major David Squirrel | BSL 23 rd Eastbourne |
| Gillian Collins | PA 23 rd Eastbourne |

5 Year service

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Joe Firth | 1 st Willingdon/Kingfisher Scout Band |
| Edie Lambert | 11 th Eastbourne |
| Sheri Trott | 1 st Hampden Park |
| Gillian Hacker | 1 st Seaside |
| Carol Hagan | 1 st Seaside |
| Damian Stoneham | First Polegate |
| Matthew Gregory | Electra ESU |

10 Year service

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Joe Hellett | 3 rd Eastbourne |
| Elaine Wink | DESA/Assistant Warden |
| Marina Tomlins | 23 rd Eastbourne |
| Robert Purcell | EDSAS Woodpeckers Unit |

15 Year service

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| Caryn Taylor | 1 st Hampden Park |
| Paul Taylor | EDSAS Woodpeckers Unit |

20 Year service

| | |
|------------|----------------------------|
| John Smith | 6 th Eastbourne |
|------------|----------------------------|

40 Year service

| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Robert Wood | EDSFAT SAS Unit |
|-------------|-----------------|

50 Year service

| | |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| Peter Wood | 23 rd Eastbourne |
|------------|-----------------------------|

Appointments

District Appointment:

Sacha Titherly - District Explorer Scout Commissioner

Thank you, Sacha, for taking on this important role, supporting Scouting and becoming part of the District Team. DC

Leaders Christmas Social

This year's social will be on Friday 16th December at the Cumberland Hotel, Eastbourne, 7pm - midnight. The cost will be just £25 per person which includes a three course meal, coffee and mince pies, glass of wine, a disco until midnight and fabulous company! (see the menu, below). Deposits of £10 per person need to be with me by 30th September at the latest, with full payment due by 20th November. Places are limited to 25 and these sold out very quickly last year so are based on a first come first served - don't miss out on this great leaders only event! Partners are of course welcome. Please contact me to get money and menu choices to me.

Sacha 'Smash' Titherly
07514 398581
sachatith@aol.com

Christmas Social Menu 2011

Smoked Salmon filled with Dill Cucumber & Mixed Leaves
Melon Fan with Raspberry Coulis
Cream of Red Lentil & Tomato Soup with Cheese Croutons

Roast Turkey Breast with Stuffing, Chipolata Sausage, Cranberry Sauce & Gravy
Seared Salmon Steak, Mashed Potato, with Dill & White Wine Sauce
Roasted Mediterranean Vegetables wrapped in Filo Pastry & Served with Borderlaise sauce
Home-made Nut Roast with Tomato Coulis

Lemon Meringue Tart served with Citrus Cream
Traditional Christmas Pudding with Brandy sauce
A Selection of Ice Creams
Assorted Cheese & Biscuits with Grapes & Celery

Mince Pies & Coffee

CUB SCOUT NOTICES

By the time you receive this you will hopefully all be raring to go into the new term with exciting programmes planned. Don't forget to send me a copy before our meeting so I can circulate.

Please let me know if you would like Terri or myself to come and visit / present on anything at any time.

Our District Cub Scout Leader meeting is on 12th September 7.45pm at 11th Eastbourne HQ so please make sure you send a rep from your Pack as we will be discussing next year's events and dates and value your input.

Ever thought about organising or helping with a District event? Fancy a go? Our aim for next year is to spread the load so we still be looking for volunteers. These events don't just happen and the more we spread the work the easier it is for everyone and the end result can be so rewarding! So have a go!

EVENT DATE CHANGES

Chief Scout Silver Award – Saturday 15th October @ Polegate community Centre (was 16th)

Art, Craft & Music – tbc Saturday 3rd December (was 12th November)

We are still desperately seeking a venue for this event so please let me know of any suggestions.

APPEAL FOR HELP

The DC recently sent out an appeal notice for Leaders to help keep 2nd Willingdon Cub Scout Pack going as they have been rather unlucky securing leadership. If anyone can help on the odd night please contact GSL Sarah on 406226. What about a new challenge? Run a different Cub Pack for a night. Take your own Cub Pack Leader team and run an evening for them. It could be fun and a fantastic new experience for you all. Or are you an ACSL secretly wanting to "have a go" at being Akela for a night? Well here's your chance. Again, please contact Sarah in the first instance. I do appreciate you are all busy people but it would be great to help keep this Pack running for another term or long enough to find Leaders. Unless of course you know someone who would like to take it on permanently, which would be absolutely brilliant for the Cub Scouts!

Happy Cubbing! Tracey Titherly
ADC (Cub Scouts) 01323 508402

1st Anderida Space Camp

We learnt all about space and we all tried space ice cream. It was dry but melted if you sucked it. We also tried to complete as many activities as possible to earn points to get things to create a camp in our tent teams. We made our own costumes and we wore a plastic bin bag as our costume in our camp. The bin bag was very smelly and our camp was see through – it wouldn't have been a good idea to get changed in it! By Annabel Davies

In our space camp we stayed for 2 nights and 2 days. When we got there they made us make our tent and unpack our stuff. The first thing on Saturday morning after breakfast was to do space activities like water rockets, balloon rockets, scavenger hunt, puzzles. When we finished them we went to the space shop to buy things to make our space camp. By a cub!



WEDDING BELLS!

Congratulations to Sheri Titherly (ACSL) and Chris Trott who were married on 6th August.

Best wishes for a happy future together from everyone in 1st Hampden Park Scout Group.

Badges

Now we are back into a new term of Scouting, I would appreciate advance notice of any badges you may be working towards within your sections. This is so that I can order in advance so that the young people will not have to wait too long before they are presented with the relevant badges. There is a Queen's Diamond Jubilee cloth badge which can be worn on the uniform. I'm not sure at the moment if District have approved the wearing of this badge but as soon as I have price etc I will confirm the availability; but it would be helpful if Groups would let me know if they want this badge and the number wanted as I will not stock this otherwise.

Reminder; my email address is; Margaret.150@hotmail.com Tel 07810 755787. Collections preferably on Monday evenings. Please note – I shall be away from the 1st to 8th October. Thank you.

Margaret Lewis (District Badge Secretary)

District Diary

- Sep 6 Appointments Meeting
- Sep 12 Scout Leaders Meeting
- Sep 12 Cub Scout Leaders Meeting
- Sep 13 Beaver Scout Leaders Meeting
- Sep 16/18 NETEXL – Bushy Wood (ES, Net, Ldrs)
- Sep 19 GSLs / Commissioners Meeting
- Sep 20 Bushy Wood Management Meeting
- Sep 24 County Cub Scout Mystery Trip
- Sep 26 District Finance Meeting
- Sep 27 County AGM – Uckfield Civic Centre
- Oct 1/2 Sixers/Seconders Weekend + Cooking Comp.
- Oct 3 District Team Meeting
- Oct 5 Appointments Meeting
- Oct 8 Regional Beaver Scout Legoland Trip
- Oct 9 County Mountain Bike Challenge (S, ES & Net)
- Oct 14 Explorer Scout Team Meeting
- Oct 15 Silver Chief Scout's Award Reception
- Oct 17 District Executive Meeting



"Movies under the Stars" 1st Seaside Family Camp

1st Seaside held their annual family camp in July at Parkwood Scout Campsite, Poynings, near Brighton. This year over 30 families and Leaders (over 100 people in all) enjoyed a Hollywood themed weekend, led by Group Scout Leader Pete Burtenshaw.

After setting up camp on Friday afternoon in brilliant sunshine, our families were divided into four groups – Directors, Producers, Special Effects and Stuntmen, each lead by a Leader. After supper, the evening was spent getting to know one another, followed by songs around the camp fire.

Unfortunately, the weather changed overnight and Saturday morning dawned to the sound of rain hammering on our tent roofs. We had to put our wet weather plans into action and our four groups took part in team games indoors in the hall. There were fun games including egg and spoon race, wrap up a mummy, three legged race and an obstacle race which were all hotly contested. After lunch in the dining hall, which was decorated with posters and balloons, the weather finally started to get better. We had to re-arrange our programme again but were able to do some of our planned activities outside like the wood branding and the young people had great fun on the bouncy castle. The hall was used again for other activities based on movie genres. There was lassoing for westerns, using catapults to fire balls at inflatable dinosaurs for monster movies, pirate games and a hall of fame where each family made their own Hollywood family star. There was also a concession stand with fizzy drinks and sweets. In the evening, as the weather was still uncertain, we set up long tables in the hall and covered them in red table covers with folded paper napkins for a Hollywood banquet and it was time for everyone to get dressed up. There were many imaginative costumes with lots of characters from films like Star Wars, Pirates of the Caribbean, Harry Potter, the Incredibles and the Addams Family as well as those who were in evening dress. A wonderful effort made by everyone and we all enjoyed a great feast and the time just flew by.

Sunday morning was wet again but everyone was in good spirits. In between showers, we took down our tents as our camp came to an end and after prizes had been awarded for various competitions, all the young people received a bag of popcorn and a light stick to take home. Each family received a specially designed certificate and everyone also received their own 'Movies Under the Stars' Family Camp badge to be sewn on their camp blankets.

The camp involved a lot of planning and hard work from the Leaders but to see how much it

was enjoyed, even though it was the wettest weekend of the year, made it all worthwhile. It also gave parents who had not been before an insight into how Scouting worked and, would you believe it, we are already being asked about next year!

Gill Cherriman, Group Assistant



Gilwell Park Fun Day

On the 18th June, the 23rd Eastbourne Beaver Scouts went to the Gilwell Fun Day. We had a great day and asked the Beavers to write something about it for the Eastbourne Scouting News. The following is the result:

It was a great day, we had lots of fun.

We liked all the bouncy castles.

We liked climbing in the black hole and on the climbing wall.

We loved the fairground rides and the sun even peeped through the rain and said hello!

We also went to the shop and bought souvenirs.

Tracy Sampson (ABSL)

Eastbourne Scouting News

The deadline for receipt of contributions for the October edition is 21st September.

Editor - Roger Gibbs. e-mail:
rogergibbs@f2s.com, Tel: 01323 762898

Avatar Network

Eastbourne District Scout Network

Peak District

BBQ & Quiz Night

On Saturday 30th July, Avatar Scout Network hosted a quiz night and BBQ for the District. It was a fundraising event for our Duke of Edinburgh Gold/Queen Scout Award team.

In total there were 8 teams entered, with support from EDSAS, First Polegate and 1st Willingdon groups. Unexpectedly, we had three teams entered from a scout group from southern Ireland, who just happened to be camping at Bushy Wood at the time. We also had the rest of our Network members and some parents.

I think I can safely say that everyone involved had a great night, especially those who were lucky enough to have the opportunity to delve into quizmaster Dave Kifford's big box! We managed to raise £100, which will be put towards map cases, compasses and other essentials as our ever-growing group continues to build its kit ready for our expedition. To all who attended, thank you, your support was much appreciated and we look forward to seeing more people next year for an even bigger and better night.



Last week a team of six network scouts travelled to the Peak District to complete a 4 day, 3 night expedition for our DofE Gold/Queen Scout Awards.

We travelled up by minibus on 20th August, driven by Pete Stoneman and along with our supervisor Steve Allen. We stayed the first night in a Youth Hostel and had one of the biggest dinners ever! In the four days that we hiked, we covered a distance of about 80km/50miles over the mountains.

The hike went very well, with bright sun almost all the time, and with none of the rain that Eastbourne had! However, the heat made it hard and we certainly broken a sweat! We faced some tough climbs up steep gravel tracks and had to scramble over large rocks at some points. Our practice in the Brecon Beacons definitely prepared us for this though. We didn't get too lost and successfully completed each day.

For most of us this now means we are getting very close to achieving the awards, and we hope to have at least five from Network getting awarded them late next year. The final stage of this section is to make a presentation which we are organising for the next couple of weeks.

We also have other groups starting to plan their Silver and Gold awards for next year, who will no doubt benefit from our experiences in the planning.

By Mark Tickner

New Website

We now have our own new website, which we hope to keep regularly updated with information and events. Have a look at avatarnetwork.org.uk where you can also register and post comments.