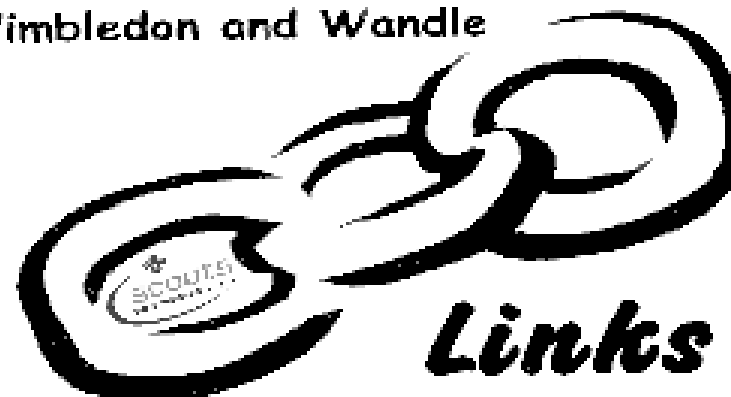


*"If you don't go after what you want, you'll never have it.
If you don't ask, the answer is always no.
If you don't step forward, you're always in the same place."*



Wimbledon and Wandle



September 2010
Issue 66

Sept 8	Cub Scout Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
12	Skills Day - CANCELLED	
14	Senior Managers' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
15	Beaver Leaders' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
16	District Store re-opens	Morden Hall DHQ 7.45pm
20	District Team meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
21	SAS meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
22	Troop Scouters' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
26	Cubs' Cycle Cross	Frylands Wood
Oct 2-3	Scouts' Survival Skills weekend PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE	Paches
5	District Executive	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
6	Inter-Troop Quiz Night	St John Fisher Church Hall
9	SAS Outing to Bletchley Park	
13	District EGM	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm
16	Swimming Gala	Morden Park Baths 5.30pm
25	Key Managers' meeting	Morden Hall DHQ 8pm

**Links Editor:
Lesley Bixby**

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District Commissioner

It's been an extremely busy summer with 20 summer camps/expeditions across the District, 4 of which were abroad, in Nepal, Kenya, the Loire valley and Kandersteg. That equated to 24 weeks of camping, involving 22 groups/units, over 350 Scouts and 100 Leaders, a great performance by any standards. The type of camp varied greatly and reflected the full range of activities and challenges open to Scouts of every age and ability. A big thank-you to each and every Leader/adult, who gave up precious holiday entitlement to ensure that our Scouts benefited from the experience of an extended period away.

A big thank-you too, firstly to Peter Hutton and his team of Leaders who put on a very enjoyable Sports Day that not only was blessed with good weather, but also with a wide range of participants and Leaders who had a great time (particularly the 22nd Wimbledon as I recall) and secondly to Dave Bixby and his team for an equally enjoyable, and fiercely contested, Raft Day on the Wandle. But where should we be, I wonder, without the 5 star food provided by the 23rd Mitcham at events such as these?

Finally, it has been a great experience visiting Groups' AGMs over the past months and I look forward (honest!) to going to the final few that remain. It has been very instructive and I have learned much that will help me in my job over the course of the next twelve months.

Joe

District Store

Morden Hall DHQ

Morden Road, Mitcham CR4 4DD

The Store is open Thursday evenings during term time

7:45 - 9:15pm

and on the following Saturdays between 10am and noon

18th September,

2nd & 16th October

6th & 20th November

4th December

Leaders can purchase badges from the Store
on Thursday evenings only

Full range of Beaver, Cub and Scout uniform in stock.

Some Explorer and Leader uniforms available - others can
be ordered with a normal 2 week delivery.

Record Cards, certificates, Log Books and Power Packs etc
stocked.

All other items including camping equipment, souvenirs etc
can be ordered

Contact Brian Whalebone, Store Manager

b.whalebone@btinternet.com

Scout Quiz Wednesday 6 October: This year the Quiz will be held in the St John Fisher Church Hall. Cannon Hill Lane SW20 9BD; 7.45pm prompt start; 9.30pm finish.

No prior entry needed, just turn up on the night.

Cost £3 per team; maximum of 5 Scouts per team.

Drinks will be provided.

Troop Scouters meeting Wednesday 22 September 8pm

Anyone connected with the running of a Scout Troop, Scout activities or with an interest in anything that affects the Scout section in W&W is welcome (positive attitudes only, please). The main item on the agenda is the setting of dates and events for 2011.

The County Commissioner, Ian Newbery, is due to attend so please have your questions relating to Scout Section matter ready for him.

The reason for the change of date for the Survival Skills weekend will be revealed at this meeting.

Scout Active Support - Linda Vaudrey

Many thanks to Jean and David for organizing another successful BBQ enjoyed by everyone who attended.



There are still a few seats available for the trip to **Bletchley Park on Saturday, 18th September**. We shall be leaving at 10 a.m., pick up point the Assembly Hall, Lower Morden Lane. Please contact Rob (8330 7466) for full information

Don't forget the formal meeting on **Tuesday, 21st September**, 7.30 at Morden Hall DHQ, when the subject will be Antique Watches and Clocks, and you can bring one along for valuation. Please let Bill Walden know if are able to attend. (020 8643 6699). Bill always manages to find an interesting speaker. The SASU uniform badges will be available for sale after the meeting at £1 each.

Next month we are hoping to see a performance of the Gang Show. If you are interested please let me know (Linda 8542 6200).

Date for your diary - Wednesday, 24th November - Beetle Drive and Fish 'n' Chip supper. Further details later.

Chairman's Chatter - Andy Edmonds

The summer has proved to be a busy period with some positive outcomes.

Negotiations with the Scout Trust Association and National Trust are coming to a conclusion and we should shortly have our lease on Morden Hall District Headquarters renewed until 2033. The NT have also agreed that subject to Planning Permission; we may house a storage unit on site which will be used to store Dave Bixby's ever increasing supply of pioneering equipment.

My search for a new District Treasurer has also borne fruit in that Richard (Rich) Nicol responded to one of my advertisements. Rich is a self employed accountant and member of the Institute of Directors. He has a wealth of relevant experience and his sons are involved with Scouting on the Isle of Man.

May I remind everyone that the Extraordinary General Meeting of the District Scout Council in order to sign off the December 2009 District Accounts, appoint the new Treasurer and review membership and workings of your Executive Committee will be held at **Morden Hall DHQ 8pm on Wednesday 13th October 2010**.

I have been underwhelmed by responses to my last two "Chatters" seeking feedback from you the members of the District as to how you want to elect your representatives. So all I can do is carry on in the belief that the Committee continues to act in the best interests of you and your membership.

For those who are looking to raise funds may I draw your attention to the following:

HQ Grants & Funds to support locally:

Recently revised Fact Sheet issued by HQ 103964 sets out range of funds available to support local Groups / Units and individual members.

Merton Priory Homes Community Fund Grant:

This programme is the £1 million fund promised to residents by funding community based initiatives to enhance the life chances of Merton residents. Applications close 1st October.

Yellow Card

Hopefully everyone has now seen the email announcing an amendment to the new Yellow Card, which was distributed with the summer edition of Scouting Magazine. POR is quite clear on the subject - "*It is the responsibility of all adults to ensure that their behavior is appropriate at all times*" and "*adults must not consume alcohol when they are directly responsible for young people on a Scouting activity and must not permit young people (aged under 18 years) to consume alcohol on Scouting activities.*"

Have a look at fact sheet FS185092 for more information.

Headquarters' membership fee

For 2011 the subscription will be £20.25 with a 50p reduction to £19.75 for early payment. The County and District elements will be published as soon as they have been approved.

Appointments Committee August 2010 - Joan Burgess

Full Warrants have now been agreed for:

Jonathan Moss CSL 13th Wimbledon
Simon Sykes ASL 14th Wimbledon. Congratulations.

Also congratulations (commiserations?) to Anita Meah-Wilson (14th Wimbledon) and Joan Condon (2nd Morden) who have agreed to take on the GSL role in their respective groups.

Please remember to destroy all old Application and CRB Forms - they are no longer acceptable. I now have a supply of new forms. If you need any help or want more information do contact me. All completed application forms should be returned to me for processing.

Thank you to the Groups who have addressed their Warrant Reviews - once these have been agreed by the Appointments Committee and any CRB or First Aid renewals have been cleared, the forms will be returned to you for your records, together with a copy to pass on to your Leaders. Look forward to hearing from the remaining Groups and Units. All Reviews should be completed by the end of December.

Scouts - Dave Bixby

Raft Race: Another successful raft race day. The weather was very kind to us and everyone who took part or watched seemed to have enjoyed themselves.

The whole idea of this event is a relaxing end to the school year with Scouts doing what they do best: having fun . . . laid back, no pressure . . . but I have noticed that some are beginning to take it just a little too seriously.

My thanks go to all who helped before and on the day. Transporting 150 drums, 90 staves and 400 ropes to the park and back takes some doing, as does standing in the river providing safety cover for the best part of 4 hours.

See you same place, same time, next year.

Summer Camps: A good number of Troops did some form of camp, canal trip or similar this summer. Judging by the weather forecasts not everyone was blessed with sunny days but that aside, I hope your events were successful and all your Scouts were able to put in to use the things they have learnt during the past year.

Survival Skills weekend 2-3 October: The closing date for the Survival Skills weekend is 19 September and places are going fast. We have to limit the numbers in order to protect the special nature of Paches, so be quick.

All the Scouts attending will need to bring a copy of the PC form that is included in the Red Book with them on the day, suitably filled in. If you feel that you must use a Group PC form, please ensure that it has the Group name on it.

Paches clear-up: Thank you to everyone who helped to clear our District camp site in readiness for the survival skills weekend. Paches is a wonderful venue for Scout activities, our very own wilderness on our doorstep. It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and as such has to be treated with great care but it is still possible to run excellent activities there.

If you have any queries regarding Paches, don't hesitate to give me a ring.



Training - Alison Edwards

Training has been carrying on over the summer holidays and I am pleased to be able to report on 3 more woodbadge awards for the District. Peter Hutton - GSL 13th Wimbledon, Kerry-Ann Inwood - ACSL 6/12th Mitcham and Richard Starke -ASL 9th Wimbledon. For those of you who are still completing your training can I encourage you to get in touch with your Training Advisers as soon as possible and 'get a move on' as they say! We do not have an abundance of Training Advisers to go round so you would help us all tremendously by making contact with them so they can help you complete your training!

I am also letting you know about some free training, for anyone in the District: 8 December 2010, Bow Lane Safeguarding Awareness Training. This 2 hour session will provide you with advice, information and maybe a few helpful hints on issues around safeguarding. It will give you some information on child protection issues and on keeping yourselves as well as the young people you work with safe. The training is open to anyone in the district. It will not cost you anything to attend. However it might be of particular interest to new Leaders, young Leaders aged 14+ (as it is relevant to the YL scheme as well as the adult Leadership scheme) and anyone who feels a bit of 'refresher' training in this area would be valuable.

It will form part of your ongoing learning commitment, which is a requirement for renewal of appointments. This is being offered to all Leaders in the County at a series of events this autumn. You should note of course that the requirement to HAVE DONE safeguarding awareness training in the 'life' of an appointment (5 years) is now a compulsory requirement for renewal of appointments, so this might be a good opportunity!

Sales pitch over: if you are interested in attending please contact me on Alison.edwards@local.gov.uk (please note new email address) or 020 8646 7927. I am also very aware many of you have done training in this area, through your work or other roles. Neither I, nor the County, can exempt people from doing safeguarding training directly, but I am happy to refer any 'worthy' folk to Gilwell directly for their 'adjudication'.

Training dates

18 Sep	9:00am - 5:00pm	Module 10 - First Aid 3rd Beddington HQ - Sutton
19 Sep	10:00am - 4:30pm	Module 25 - Assessing Learning
25 Sep	9:00am - 1:00pm	Module 12 - Providing a Balanced Programme
	2:00pm - 4:30pm	Module 18 - Practical Skills
29 Sep	7:45pm - 10:15pm	Module 16 - Nights Away
10 Oct	10:00am - 1:00pm	Module 20 - Administration (Managers)
	2:00pm - 4:30pm	Module 23 - Safety for Managers and Supporters
16 Oct - 17 Oct		Module 16 - Nights Away (Bears Wood)
16 Oct	9:00am - 5:00pm	Module 10 - First Aid 1 st Coulsdon HQ
20 Oct	7.30pm - 10pm	First Aid refresher course Morden Hall DHQ
31 Oct	10:00am - 1:00pm	Module 13 - Growing the Movement (Section Leaders)
	10:00am - 4:30pm	Module 21 - Growing the Movement (Managers)
6 Nov	10:00am - 1:00pm	Module 22 - Section Support
	2:00pm - 4:30pm	Module 24 - Managing Adults
		Module 26 - Supporting Adults
14 Nov	10:00am - 11:30am	Module 07 - Valuing Diversity
	11:45am - 1:30pm	Module 19 - International
	2:30pm - 4:30pm	Module 17 - Activities Outdoors
21 Nov	9:00am - 5:00pm	Module 10 - First Aid 1st Whitton HQ - Richmond

Please note that all Modules from September to December 2010 (apart from those specified above) will be at Morden Hall DHQ.

All Leaders who have already booked for Modules will be advised of the change of venue and a map will be issued.

Section Reports

Beavers - Kevin Quigley

Hello everybody. I hope you all had a good summer - despite apparently the wettest August since records began! But with September upon us and promises of an 'Indian Summer' at least the return to Colony meetings shouldn't be too chilly initially. Please remember to let me have a copy of your programme for the term (or year if you've done it already)



Several dates for the diary for the coming months:-

Next **Beaver Leaders' meetings** are Wednesdays 15th September and 17th November 2010 at Morden DHQ at 8.00pm. With some future planning to be done on forthcoming events, it would be nice if a representative of each Colony could attend the meeting. And if you can't attend, could you please let our wonderful hard working secretary Linda Vaudrey have a report on your Colony's current activities. Her contact details are: e-mail - William.Vaudrey@btinternet.com or 29 Cedars Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5AB. Telephone: 020 8542 6200.

District Beaver Outing to the Historic Dockyard, Portsmouth on Saturday 2nd October 2010: information has been circulated to Colonies.

Beaver Activity day (for Beavers of 7yrs of age) on Sunday 21st November 2010. More information to follow.

That's all for now. Happy Beaver-ing!

Cub Report - Michèle McNamara

I hope all the Packs that went away during the summer had a good time.

The next CSL meeting is September 8th at Morden Park DHQ for 8pm start, we hope to have the County Commissioner Caroline Dyer at this meeting, so a good turn out would be appreciated.

Future events to be discussed will be the swimming gala and handicraft competition, if you want to have any input into these events then please attend or send a representative.



Swimming Gala - Michèle McNamara

I have sent out paperwork for this event to all packs and troops, if you haven't received yours can you please call me. Please note entries for each pack and/or troop should be made by October 7th, no entries will be considered after this date.

I am in need of people to help at this event and would appreciate any "volunteers"; please contact me if you can help.

District Sports - Results

Cubs	1 st	13 th Wimbledon	78 points
	2 nd	5 th Morden	75 points
	3 rd	22 nd Wimbledon	61 points
Scouts	1 st	13 th Wimbledon	70 points
	2 nd	9 th Wimbledon	56 points
	3 rd	22 nd Wimbledon Y	46 points
Group	1 st	13 th Wimbledon	153 point
	2 nd	22 nd Wimbledon	115 points
	3 rd	5 th Morden	109 points
Tug o'war	Cubs	5 th Morden	
	Scouts	2 nd Morden	

A big thank you to Peter Hutton and his team who made the day a great success and to all the competitors for their good humour and sportsmanlike attitude

Scout Active Support

Thinking of joining the SAS but not sure about how to enlist? Contact David Gould (0208 395 1885) who will be pleased to visit your Section/Group and pass on details.

Failing this, why not come along to our next social meeting on Tuesday, 21st September, 7.30 for 8.00, at the Wandle DHQ - when the topic is 'Antique Clocks and Watches'. If you have one, bring it along. We look forward to seeing you then.