



## DC's Column

Whilst this is undoubtedly the busy time in a Scouting year, the public holidays have meant several breaks in activity for some and the opportunity for extended camps and events. The newsletter is also a little late due to my holiday!

I was certainly fortunate to be at the national St George's Parade in Windsor with Lawrie as a Silver Wolf recipient and to see Tony Carmody proudly flying the flag for Eastbourne Scouting and Avatar as he marched alongside 300 other Queen's Scouts. For those of you working towards your ultimate D of E Gold and Queen's Scout award, talk to Tony, the hard work and commitment is well worth it and a useful addition to your CV for years to come.

I understand the District Scout camp at Broadstone (The Great Escape) was a great success and I was sorry to miss it. Thanks to Ian Watling and Bev Levett for giving our Scouts a special weekend with a remarkable opportunity tucked in its midst for our Scouts to understand some of the issues of war from a special man who could speak to them with his own story.

Its AGM season and certainly the first two I attended were the best of Scouting, congratulations to Ashley and Val, showing what can be achieved whilst having to deal with the formalities at the same time.

I must also mention the 23<sup>rd</sup> AGM, again thank you Zoe, for a great evening during which a plaque was unveiled in the climbing compound at Bushy Wood to acknowledge the initial monies raised in the name of Lucy Fears, a much loved and respected Cub Scout Leader of 23<sup>rd</sup> Eastbourne. A true mother Wolf and a remarkable Akela. It was delightful to welcome Lucy's daughter and grandchildren back to Bushy for the evening and I know they took much pleasure from the occasion. I am now eagerly awaiting the District Cub Scout camp and the opportunity to be part of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beaver Scouting party and the first official District Beaver Scout sleepover at Bushy Wood.

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

### **Group Appointments:**

Ian Shakespeare	BSL	6 <sup>th</sup> Eastbourne
Phillipa Boreham	CSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Anderida
Gregory Rampley	ASL	1 <sup>st</sup> Anderida
Hanah Bradley	Pack Asst	1 <sup>st</sup> Anderida

### **District Appointments:**

Peter Burtenshaw	GSL	1 <sup>st</sup> Seaside
Hannah Kemp	ESL	tba
George Cole	SAS Unit Manager wef 1/9/11	
Margaret Lewis	Badge Secretary	

Thank you to you all for taking on these roles and supporting Scouting in the District and a warm welcome to you. DC

## District Badge Secretary

Firstly, my sincere thanks to Win Trott who has held this role always with a smile and has successfully kept us supplied with varying needs relating to badges and awards. I am also pleased to welcome Margaret Lewis to the role. Margaret is a former SL 1<sup>st</sup> Willingdon and a current Woodpecker SAS Unit member so is well placed to take over from Win. Please be patient as Margaret gets to know you all and the vagaries of different badges!

Badges will no longer be available on Tuesdays at the Scout Shop but Margaret will be available from her home on Monday evenings 6-9pm and by appointment on some Saturday mornings as she works alternate Saturday afternoons. It would be preferred if orders were emailed or posted from leaders rather than have them just turn up on spec. Margaret has also said she will always take a telephone order as long as it gives her time to get the order together.

Margaret's telephone number is 07810 755787 and her email address is [is\\_margaret\\_150@hotmail.com](mailto:is_margaret_150@hotmail.com). Her address is 15, Winkney Road, Hampden Park, Eastbourne. BN22 9LN. DC

## Chief Scout Gold Awards

Many congratulations to David Evans of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Eastbourne Scout Troop for being awarded with his Gold Chief Scout's Award at the presentation on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Also thanks to the Leaders who have helped David achieve his very special award by giving the Scouts lots of opportunities within the troop's programme to cover all the work needed for the Gold Award.

Bev Levett (ADC Scouts) Tel: 01323 749640

## **'The Great Escape'** **District Scout Camp**

Over the weekend of 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> May the Scout Section held a reconstruction of the film The Great Escape. Six groups, 3<sup>rd</sup> Eastbourne (The Polish Air Force), 23<sup>rd</sup> Eastbourne (The Commandos), 1<sup>st</sup> Anderida (The Navy), 1<sup>st</sup> Old Town ("The Yanks"), 1<sup>st</sup> Willingdon (The Royal Air Force) and 2<sup>nd</sup> Willingdon (Tank Corp) were imprisoned in Broadstone Warren planning their "Great Escape". The forces were sent on working party duties on Saturday morning with the aim of escaping the German Army who they had been warned were lurking in the woods keeping watch. A very good water tower on the site was the watch tower. That was more by luck than judgement when booking the site but it all added to the authenticity.

Saturday morning started with Wing Commander Cole (Andy Cole) putting the forces and officers through their morning exercises. When you next see Andy get him to Knees up Mother Brown for you! Throughout Saturday the Forces undertook bases put on by the Officers (Leaders). These included tunnelling, morse code, moving a casualty over an assault course, blowing up a bridge, radios (thanks to the Radio Club) and fire lighting. At the end of a gruelling day the Forces were rewarded with their Red Cross parcels in a real war time red cross box. Thanks to our Sunday Special Guest for his real Red Cross label. On Saturday evening the forces and officers, 90 in all, were treated to a wartime meal of corned beef hash, beans, peas and hunks of bread followed by sponge and custard. The evening entertainment had to be one of the highlights of the weekend with so much talent lurking out there from Officers and the forces. There were songs, sketches, stunts, poems, a great evening was had by all. Throughout the camp the air raid siren called the forces

together. Just as everyone had settled on Saturday night back at their bases to sleep we were unfortunately called back to the command centre by the air raid siren!

Sunday morning started again by a superb morning exercise session by Wing Commander Cole. This was followed by the highlight of the weekend a talk by Ted (Val Godwin's Father) who was a Prisoner of War. He took the Scouts and Leaders through a very moving talk of his experiences of being captured and his story of what happened from his capture to his release. Ted answered questions from the Young People and Leaders and had his medals and pictures from the war with him for us all to see. It was a very interesting talk for us all from someone who had been at the heart of it all. The morning ended with football matches as in the film before we were all called for the last siren to announce that the war had ended.

Many thanks to all the Leaders who put bases together for the weekend and special thanks to Ian Watling and Steve Allen for all their hard work helping me by putting the camp together, and to the Radio Club and our special guest, Ted.

Bev Levett (ADC Scouts) Tel: 01323 749640

### **District Diary**

Jun	1	Appointments Meeting
Jun	4	Beaver Scout Fun Day
Jun	4/5	Beaver Scout Sleepover
Jun	6	SLs Meeting
Jun	6	CSLs Meeting
Jun	7	Bushy Wood Management Meeting
Jun	9	Awards Meeting
Jun	10	Explorer Scout Team Meeting
Jun	11	CS Sixers / Seconders Forum
Jul	2/3	Acorn Hike
Jul	4	District Team Meeting
Jul	6	Appointments Meeting
Jul	8	District AGM
Jul	8	District Executive Meeting
Jul	9/10	County Colditz Challenge (Scts & ES)
Sep	16-18	NETEXL (Explorers, Network & Leaders)
Sep	24	County Cub Scout Mystery Trip

### **District AGM**

The District AGM will be at Bushy Wood on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00 for 7.15pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### **Eastbourne Scouting News**

The deadline for receipt of contributions for the July edition is 21<sup>st</sup> June.

**Editor -** Roger Gibbs. e-mail: [rogergibbs@f2s.com](mailto:rogergibbs@f2s.com), Tel: 01323 762898