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Eastbourne Scouting News

March 2008

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Visit our website at www.eastbournescouts.org.uk

DC's Column

Well, if that's the start of the year, it's going to be a busy one!

First may I congratulate **ALL** of you for the support and hands on that you have shown at Bushy Wood over the last month. What a fantastic response to the call for help. As I am sure the Bushy Team will agree, there was well over 40 volunteers working away during the project weekend.

It was fantastic to see leaders from all sections and a large number of Groups working together for a common cause. Not only that, but hot food and coffee were supplied, so thanks to the caterers for that.

In the background there have been many meetings to sort out the events going on both in 2008 and beyond! It has been encouraging to see so much enthusiasm from all Scouters at these meetings.

St Georges Day preparations are going ahead at steam, so please get involved and help the with days activities.

Training too, seems to be heading in the right direction, I have had good reports that we are "all doing very well" and attending the modules, although there are one or two still not turning up and not giving any apologies. Please, if you are unable to attend CALL and let the trainers know.

I had the honour of attending the **Bowling and LaserQuest** competition, and what a superb event that is! **THANKS** to Barry yet again for running this.

I hope all the young people had a good time, from what I saw this was definitely the case. Well done to all those who took part and especially

the winners. It was nice to see LOTS of Scouts having FUN, let's face it, that's what they are supposed to do.

2010 is the year of our "Centenary" celebrations and we **ARE** going to have our own Jamboree. Watch out for the advanced info coming soon. This will be for ALL Scouts, Leaders and supporters - everyone will be welcome to have a weekend of FUN. We are going to have activities from morning to night, all you have to do is JOIN IN.

The County report back from the World Jamboree was here in Eastbourne. Our Scouts did us proud and told us how they had had the "Best Time Ever", well done to you guys. I hope that they will be able to share their experiences with some of the Groups at a later date. Why not ask them along to your Group to talk to the Scouts about their adventures?

And Finally, you have done it AGAIN! Eastbourne has come first in the Centenary Challenge Tables: 31 Beaver Scouts, 85 Cub Scouts and 15 Scouts have all gained their "GOLD" 100 challenge certificates. A huge well done to them all, and to their Leaders for this amazing result. To top it off, **1181** is the massive amount of certificates over all that have been presented to Eastbourne District Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers from 25s to 100s.

Once again this goes to shows that "Together Everyone Achieves More" really is true. Many thanks. Clive

Clive Hatcher (DC)

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Electra Explorer Scout Unit

The Explorer Scouts Unit naming and Award Ceremony evening was on 26th January. Parents and guests attended the evening which was the first, hopefully, of many of such evenings to come. We introduced four new awards, Best Potential Explorer Scout, Most Improved Explorer Scout, Special Recognition and the Best Overall Explorer Scout.

To make it even more special we got the Explorers to present what they have done in the Centenary Year. We do not hold an AGM as a Unit, and we thought it was important that those close to the Explorers know what they have been doing.

The whole evening was a great way to start the New Year, with the awards, buffet, raffle and with the new Unit name, ELECTRA UNIT. The evening even had a very special performance from the Leaders which was WELL worth seeing.....!

Congratulations to Toby Phair, Mark Tickner, Peter Martin and Sam Paine for receiving their awards. Also well done to the Explorer Scout Leaders who put the evening together.

Matt Jones has recently started a new job and will be away on a residential training for the next few months. Sacha Titherly will be running the Unit in Matt's absent, so please contact Sacha, not Matt, with any enquiries regarding the Unit and Frank for admin enquiries.

The Explorer web page is back and updated, please visit to catch up on what they have been doing, and what they have planned for the next few months. www.ebexplorerunit.com

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Adult Training

Apology

I must say sorry to Tuesde, ABSL 1st Hampden Park, for spelling her name wrong in last month's newsletter. It was partly my fault and partly the computer as it corrected the spelling automatically and then when I ran the spell checker through it passed as a correct spelling. That's what I get for not checking. Please note the correct spelling is as stated above. Thanks to those who pointed it out.

Training - new dates for courses

We now have a confirmed date for modules **11 and 20** which are both administration, 11 for Section Leaders and 20 for managers. They will be held on **29th April at 11th Eastbourne HQ**, so start booking your place now. Also, **module 18 will be on the 27th September at Bushy Wood**. This is an all day course but please start booking your places now. As you can see, once again these are local so make sure you support them.

Wood Badges

To those of you who have been awarded your Wood Badge, when the DC has it, you will receive a letter from him asking to arrange a date for presentation. He tells me that there are still some people who received a letter in 2007 but haven't yet done this so please contact Clive to arrange this. You have worked for it so you should get it. Do it now while it is fresh in your mind!

First Aid / Child Protection Renewals

After going through my records recently I have noticed that there are a lot of people who have either one or both of the above qualifications which have expired or will expire this year. **Can I remind you that it is not part of my responsibility, and never has been, to send out reminders that renewals are due. It is down to you and your Group, but if you are not certain about your renewal dates, you can ask.**

Some of you may have done the First Aid training outside of the Scouting method. If this is the case I need a copy of your certificate so I can update your records as these need to be in date at the time of appointment review and also for a Nights Away Permit application or review.

Courses are filling up fast and people are finding them full, especially if you leave your application until the last minute. As you have probably heard,

First Aid training through Scouting is now either a full or refresher course. To do a refresher course your current first aid qualification **MUST BE VALID AT THE TIME OF THE COURSE YOU HAVE APPLIED FOR**. This will be checked and your old certificate should be taken along as proof. You will be assessed under the new scheme as it is for the Red Cross First Aid Certificate and they set the standards, so brush up on things before you attend.

Child Protection is also on the same basis - refresher and full courses and they do differ so please make sure you book on to the correct course, but once again, book early and don't leave it until the last moment and then moan when you cannot get on!

Mobile Number

Those of you who have recently changed my mobile number as mentioned in a previous newsletter, I am sorry to say I have changed it back, my number is now **07905 849188**. This is mainly because I couldn't get used to the new number and every time someone asked me for it I quoted the number above (must be a sign of age). This is the number that should be in the County Directory but unfortunately, I notified them after it had been published. Fortunately, though, not many people contact me via this method.

Gordon Titherly (LTM)
01323 508402

Scouts to Explorers

Regarding Scouts moving on to Explorers, could I please remind SLs of the "six-month guide". . . For any Scouts who you plan to "move on" after this year's summer camp, and who, therefore, are currently aged around 13/12 years old, you really need to let me have Cards for them NOW so that they can get Registered before Easter in time to be invited along in April to start linking. Thank you as always for your kind co-operation. By the way, just for your information, we currently have six on red, six on amber and three on green.

Frank Woods – 01323 504870
(District ES Administrator)

District Scout Shop

The new publications are now available and as you have probably read in Scouting, while each individual publication is cheaper than before, there are more of them.

District Leaders have copies to show to their sections and there is also a copy of all the resources at the District Shop. Leaders are welcome to come to the shop and look at them before deciding which to order. Any orders placed through us will get the usual 10% discount.

As you know the District shop is open during term time and this year this means that, because of the new school terms, we will be open on the Tuesday before and after Easter but closed on April 8th and April 15th.

Maggie Collins (Shop Manager)
01323 504334

District Diary

Mar 10 SLs Meeting – 19.30
Mar 10 CSLs Meeting – 19.45
Mar 13 Explorer Team Meeting – 19.30
Mar 15 Trip to Port Lympne (B)
Mar 19 Appointments – 19.30
Mar 29 Cub Scout Skills Day – 10.00
Mar 29&30 Overland Hike (S/E)
Mar 31 District Executive Mtg - 19.30
Apr 2 S & ES Linking Sausage Sizzle
Apr 27 St George's Festival of Scouting
May 10 CS Oakleaf Hike
May 11 BS Bronze CSA Reception
Apr 16 Appointments – 19.30
Apr 24 BSLs Meeting – 20.00
Apr 28 District Team Meeting – 19.30
May 17 County CS Activities Day
May 17&18 Bushy Wood Working W/E
May 25 Mayor's Parade

EASTBOURNE SCOUTING NEWS

The deadline for contributions for the April edition is 21st March

Editor

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