



Well what a great second CCI AGM we had earlier this week and I was very glad to see a hall full of people even though the traffic was chaotic. The best thing about it was to see so many of our young explorer scouts and even a network or two. Our CC could not make it but his deputy Nick Dewdney, who happens to be a scout leader in CCI, did a great job in his place.

We had an inspiring presentation from the unit leader of the GLN Jamboree unit Colin Batsford, himself an ex scouter from Islington who now does his scouting in our neighbouring district Southgate. He told us of a young cub many years ago in the scout centre waiting to see the grandson of our founder BP. We were priviledged to watch a dvd prepared by one of the unit members so professionally and what a great film it was telling us all what the unit had done so far. It certainly gave me a sense of enthusiasm to carry on my role supporting the unit.

A great surprise was to be presented with an honary unit badge which are only available to unit members for the work I had done to help them this far, though it is no more than what others are doing as well. This will save me stealing my son's badge!!

I was overwhelmed with the support you gave the four CCI guys with your great generosity and the giving of raffle prizes. We raised £112 on the night plus we sold plenty of jamboree goods as well. I figured we raised some £500 all in all. Well done to everyone. We must not rest on our laurels though because we have a long way to go and we will be stepping up a notch next year and would love to have your support again. One of the fundraising events will be a big raffle with some nice prizes so look out for that one. We will also be collecting outside Marks and Spencers and we will also be collecting hopefully in Morrisons as well. We still have tickets for our Explorer disco on the 2nd of December so if your Explorers have not got a ticket yet please chase them up.

As we move towards 2007 and the centenary year of scouting, let's give our young people a fantastic year to be proud of and want to stay with the movement to see what other fantastic things they may get. Think before you say no to an event, even if one or two of your young people wish to take part please let them. Do not let the fact that you cannot manage the event stand in the way. They can still join in. We want them to have a great year . On that note you, as leaders, should also have a great year. We are not going to be around to see the next 100 year celebrations so make the most of it.

This will be the last Newsletter before the New Year so may I take this opportunity on behalf of Aileen and myself and the District team to wish you and your families a fantastic Christmas and New Year and to all the young people in your groups we want to say to them enjoy your Christmas and get ready for the adventure of a life time in 2007 enjoy the journey through 100 years of true scouting history.

Enjoy!

Mark Darlow
Deputy District Commisssioner

District Night Hike 2006

On Saturday 30th September a total of 8 teams took part in this years district night hike. Luckily the heavy rain that had fallen that morning had passed away so it was dry and quite warm, although some of the paths were muddy underfoot.

The teams had to navigate a 5 mile circular route, starting and finishing at Gilwell, with 5 checkpoints along the way at each of which they had to do an activity. These included eating as many cold baked beans as possible in 30 seconds, making a cup of tea using a Trangia stove, finding a hidden glowstick, singing a campfire song and doing a campfire stunt, and lighting a candle from a distance using some canes and string.

It didn't look too good to start with as a few teams found it difficult to get out of the car park at Gilwell – but they were soon all on their way.

One team decided that the route wasn't long enough for them so they went from the first checkpoint round in a nice big circle and back to the first checkpoint. A couple of others had a little wander about in the woods, but managed to get back on track. One scout from the 34th had to be picked up by the minibus when he put his foot down a hole in the dark and twisted his ankle and there were a few scratches and stings but nothing serious.

Given that during the district day hike earlier in the year we had to send out search parties looking for a team that had gone missing I was slightly apprehensive about all the teams finding their way back in the dark. However, amazingly all the teams made it back to the finish before the deadline without having to send out any search parties! All the scouts seemed to have enjoyed the event and had a good time.

The winners of the rather fetching new trophy that Brian Cumpstey had made were a team from the 8th Holborn, with a team from the 34th coming second. Other troops taking part were the 1st Islington and the 201st Islington. Many thanks to all the scouts who took part, thanks to the adults who walked with them, and to all the checkpoint staff for manning the bases and Jan for doing the food.

Mark Thompson
201st Islington





A tribute to John Freeman
By Peggy Double

John was born in 1932 and lost his fight against cancer on the 28th September 2006. I had just met John when he joined the 4th North London Scout group in the 1950's. We had worked together for some time and developed a good rapport with each other. He was an Assistant Scoutmaster and I was a lady Cub master. John later became district scout leader in the old district of Islington.

We had several camps together going somewhere at the Whitsun weekend and a summer camp. Wherever John went his camera went too. He took some marvellous photos of people (sometimes when you would rather he didn't as he often caught one out at awkward times, when things were going wrong) He was a member of the Gang Show, and was later the publicity manager and in 1984 he recorded the show and produced a tape, of which I still have a copy. In 1986 he was one of the leaders with Derck Herdman (the Centre leader) on the Belgium ski expedition with 11 boys.

He married Connie 36 years ago and moved out of Islington 9 years ago to Basildon in Essex, but he often came back to help out.

He used to help out the Ramsey service crew and was very popular with the ladies and was always around on sports days taking photographs.

John was a good scout - kept the law and promise to the best of his ability. He was always on hand to help people. If we were both at a meeting together he would always take me home afterwards although I lived in the opposite direction. He would smile and sing under all difficulties and was jolly even though he was in a hospice for a long time. I spoke to him on many occasions and we always ended up with a giggle.

I for one will miss John. I have some very happy memories of him that will stay with me forever. As the scout hymn says. 'To be the best, the best that I can be.' That was John Freeman.

Rest in peace John

Peggy Double



Have You Signed Up?

The next *Getting Started* session is taking place on **Saturday 11th November 2006** from 10:30am to 4:30pm. The session will be taking place at Scout Park, Bounds Green.

The session is aimed at all new leaders that have not yet started the compulsory *Getting Started* module. There is no charge and the benefit is that you will be able to sign off a large part of the module in one session (and lunch is provided!).

If you are interested in attending please contact me by telephone or e-mail.

County Training

Last month we published training sessions available through the County. So far I have had a few requests to go to the sessions. Please get your name in quickly if you want to attend as they are very popular.

If you are interested in attending please contact me by telephone or e-mail.

A Big Well Done...

Firstly to Sam Manners, who has taken on the role of District Training Administrator. Sam will be responsible for adult training administration within the District, as well as maintaining District training records. Well done and thanks Sam!

Secondly, a massive well done to the Young Leaders of the Explorer Section, who completed a large amount of their Young Leaders training at the Young Leaders Camp this month. The level of enthusiasm and participation was impressive and refreshing – well done to them.

Thoughts? Ideas? Requests?

Please feel more than free to contact me:

E-mail: trainingmanager@londonscouts.org.uk

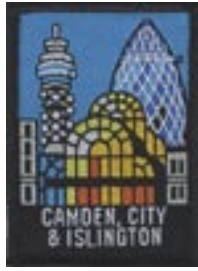
Tel: 07919 210602

David Hudson
ADC Adult Support

WISDOM TRUST

Money is claimed by the accumulation of FC's (Fundraising Credits) through The Wisdom Trust website. FC's are usually awarded when a member uses our education programs to learn more about poverty, the environment and world health issues (almost like a loyalty scheme - the more they use the education programs, the more FC's they can accumulate. Throughout each day, members will be able to view a series of extra facts, statistics and information (about poverty, the environment and health), in addition to those displayed on every page of the website. In this way, they'll be able to learn while they use the internet for some of their normal searching, surfing, researching or shopping.

It's free and it only takes a few minutes every time. The more we do the more we will get for the jamboree 4 from CCI. Visit the link on our website to get a tutorial (www.londonscouts.org.uk) Go on give it a try.



Dear Troop/Unit Scouter

The Annual 5-A-Side Football Competition will take place at Coram's Fields on Sunday 19th November. First kick off will be at 9.40am, and all teams must register at 9.30am. Finish by 12.30pm. Please note it is an artificial surface, so dress appropriately.

I outline below the basic rules.

- ⊙ Class A (Scouts aged 10-12 having not reached 13th birthday)
- ⊙ Class B (Scouts aged 10-13)
- ⊙ Explorers (Aged 14-18)
- ⊙ Teams must be of no more than seven players (includes 2 subs)
- ⊙ Participants can only play in one team/class throughout the competition
- ⊙ Groups may enter only one team in each class (cost is £5 per team)
- ⊙ Team members should be dressed similarly to aid identification (e.g. same t-shirt/strip)
- ⊙ Smaller Groups can enter part teams of "THREE" and these will be partnered up on the day with similar teams if at all possible.
- ⊙ We will run two leagues in each Class (if we get sufficient entries) with the top two teams going through to semi/final stages.
- ⊙ Matches will be of five minutes each way
- ⊙ Normal Five-A-side rules will apply on the pitch

John S. Cronin

Assistant District Commissioner (Scout Section)

COLLECTORS BADGES



There are also special limited sets available at £10, sealed in plastic for all three badges including the unit one. We also have a framed set for £15 if you would like to order one or more of these get in quick as they are going fast. e-mail deputydc@londonscouts.org.uk

This badge can be purchased for £2-50 and the money goes direct to the gln unit and this badge can be worn on the uniform on the left arm to show your support to the unit



There is also another badge that can be purchased. This one cannot be worn on the uniform and is for collectors to add to that badge collection. It will be hard to get after the Jamboree, so get yours soon. The money raised from this badge goes towards helping the IST staff from the District. We keep £1 from every badge sold and is the only way we are making any money towards the £500 plus fee we are paying so please support us as well.



RECRUITING STUDENT VOLUNTEERS TO SCOUTING

There is a downloadable resource packed full of ideas and suggestions for encouraging students to get involved in volunteering for Scouting. Every year students put 3,459,653 hours worth of effort, worth around £42 million to the economy, into the voluntary sector. They most regularly volunteer to work on projects involving young people and children. Can Scouting really afford not to take advantage of such a ready and willing group of volunteers? Of course not! So, if you're looking at new ways to boost adult volunteers within your Group and you have a university near by, why not download and take a look at the resource right now?



Recruiting student volunteers to Scouting

'Getting involved in Scouting has enabled me to put into practice the many skills I've learnt through my studies. The real life experience it has given me is invaluable.'

Tracey Green, 20

You could also download a number of useful items which work alongside the ideas suggested in the resource. Why not download the wrapper for your very own tins of Scouts' beans to help promote Scouting at the yearly Freshers' Fair or another student event?

Scouts' Beans Wrapper

More items including useful example letters to send to universities requesting help and a short quiz for students to hand out at students events will be available to download soon. Just keep your eyes peeled on this page.



Yoplait Dairy Crest has teamed up with the Beavers and Cubs to offer your troop members the chance to create a new Frubes character!

Calling all Beaver and Cub leaders! Your troop members are invited to design their very own Frubes character, with the best idea being drawn up by a professional illustrator to be put on thou-



sands of Frubes fromage-frais nationwide! The winner will also get £100 worth of Frubes , redeemable through vouchers. Encourage your troop to get involved and to help create a cool new friend for Fifi Forest Fruit, Sidney Strawberry and the rest of the Frubes gang. The most original and creative idea will be the winner! There are just a few rules...

- 1) The name they choose for the character must begin with the same letter as the flavour they are designing for. For example, a Forest Fruit character's name must begin with an 'f', and a Peach character's name must begin with a 'p', etc
- 2) The character cannot have the same name as any existing Frubes character. Check out www.Frubes.co.uk to make sure!
- 3) The closing date is December 1st 2006

Participants should describe their character's personality as well as their appearance. To ensure the basics are included, all entries must be completed using the entry form, (although additional pieces of paper are allowed). Drawings are also permitted if it will help describe the character, although they are by no means necessary.

Download the entry form then go for it <http://www.scouts.org.uk/frubes/>

Frubes can now be frozen to keep lunch boxes fresh, how cool is that?!





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ScoutBase



The Website of The Scout Association

WWW.ScoutBASE.ORG.UK