

FROM THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Best wishes for another successful Scouting Year

Where on earth did the autumn go? As I write this in late November, the snow is falling and the temperature has dropped to a bone-numbing 6 degrees below zero.

In recent weeks we have appointed a new District Executive Committee for the next year and one of their challenges is to work with the Chairman and me to oversee the Centre development – if we ever get that far.

The District team are now almost complete – we still have a couple of roles to fill, but the activity programme for all sections is now in the diary. We will do all we can to hold the announced dates.

I have continued visiting Groups this term and enjoyed witnessing some fantastic scouting going on out there – keep up the great work.

It is almost a daily occurrence where I am contacted by prospective new adult leaders and helpers – or those looking for places for their children. It is important that when I pass on referrals to Group Contacts, that these be followed up swiftly. I keep an up to date list of vacancies at Group level and have a fair idea of the numbers each Group/Section can cope with – so will do my best to direct new people to where there are spaces. We have capacity and with a little bit of effort we can grow substantially.

In addition Groups can help themselves by raising their own profile by:

- Visiting local schools and taking assemblies (or at least dropping off leaflets) – consider joining the Friends & Parents Association, and try and meet with the Head



Teacher

- Advertising in school/church/community newsletters
- Putting up posters outside Group meeting places advertising that Scouting is alive and well
- Get your Group members out into the community so that they are visible
- Bring a Friend nights – not just with youth members but adults as well!

Why not try some of these in the new term?

My focus in the first half of 2011 will be to work closer with the GSL in each Group in order that we can all better support the leaders operating at Section level. I am sure that the Training opportunities will be dramatically enhanced next year – I want to work towards all adults gaining their Wood Badge within two years of taking up an appointment.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in Scouting in CCI for all of the very hard work done in 2010 – and to offer my best wishes for another successful Scouting year in 2011.

John Cronin
 dc@londonscouts.org.uk



CCI Scouts meet the Mayor

On 10 November a group of Cubs, Scouts and leaders from 1st Islington Scout Group and Explorers from the Acorn Explorer Scout Unit visited 'London's Living Room' at City Hall to meet Boris Johnson, the Mayor of London.

This was one of Boris Johnson's new community receptions. On his blog Deputy Mayor Richard Barnes says that these events are intended to "build on the community spirit of Londoners" and "champion London's unsung heroes" and "thank them for the part they play in making London the success that it is, a success measured not in financial but in social terms". The receptions have been based on geography rather than individual communities defined by faith, race, business, orientation, nationality or disability.

The event kicked off with a speech by Boris Johnson and then there was an opportunity to meet and mingle. None of the Scouts had ever been to City Hall before so it was a great opportunity to enjoy the magnificent views from the ninth floor. It was also something a little different for the young people and gave them a real opportunity to consider just what it is that makes their community function.

FROM 19th/23rd ISLINGTON

Group Family Camp

Friday 17 September saw Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and parents gathering at Scout Park, Bounds Green for a Group Family Camp. Tents were erected in the training field whilst parents began preparing a supper in the hut for everyone after they had taken part in a wide game.

Saturday morning saw everyone

embarking on bases relating to circus skills. After a lunch of sandwiches, 8 bases ranging from balls in the buckets, raising table tennis balls by firing water into jars, cooking, kicking footballs through holes and darts the slippery slope was unleashed on willing participants.

This was followed by a roast meal for 55 people, cooked by the adults.

A campfire, during which the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts renewed their Promises, was enjoyed by everyone. Another wide game ended a busy day.

On Sunday morning 3 teams rotated round air rifles, archery and a challenge to make a cup of tea by melting ice cubes. A BBQ lunch meant that the kitchen could be cleaned during the morning.

The weekend finished with everyone helping to clear up and leave the site mid afternoon tired but having enjoyed a weekend with the Group.

FROM THE DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

AGM report

We had a good turnout to our AGM in early November. The usual formal business was done and I am pleased to say the accounts have been signed by our Independent Examiner with no changes to what was printed.

For the first time in many years we had an election for membership of the Executive. This is a healthy process and good for the District and I am grateful to those who put their names forward to stand. Inevitably in any election some are disappointed but it is good that those who are elected know they have the support of the District. I am sorry for any confusion with the voting paper and we will sort that out for next year if a vote is again required.

My thanks to Joan Feakes, Lynne Edgerton, Ruth Punter, Sophie Bowman and Laura Citron as they stand down from the Executive and welcome to Ruth Anderson, Abdelmajid Afdel, Jennifer Mann and David Hudson all of whom join the Executive for the first

time. We are so fortunate to have such good people willing to serve the District in this way.

The meeting was also an opportunity to say thank you to Aileen for her service as DC and to make a presentation which she was delighted with and has expressed her thanks to all who contributed.

Finally at the end of the meeting we were able to find the winners of the draw organised by the Scout Active Support. All went well and the winners identified. I do not have precise figures but understand there was a surplus of £1,200 to be shared equally between the Groups who sold tickets and the District. The District share is towards the £4,800 we have paid for next year's Jamboree. We would if possible like to raise some further funds to offset this cost so any ideas or offers of help please let me know. A race night or social event will be good but we need an organiser.

Brian Hosier

chairman@londonscouts.org.uk

DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

District Quiz

Another event organised by the Scout Active Support Unit. 65 people took part and a good time was had by all. I even heard one team say they thought the questions were more straightforward than previous years, but then that was the winning team and it is always easier when you know the answer.

A profit was made for the District of £158 and a further £120 from the raffle for the Unit's funds.

These events do not just happen but take organisation and we were sad that 3 of the organisers could not be with us. Margaret Rudge who was in hospital and Alvis and Anne Hill following a fall by Alvis earlier in the week which also involved a visit to the hospital. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

The proceedings were managed well by Sally as quizmaster ably assisted by Paul who brought technology to the scoring and amplification. Others from the Unit assisted as markers and runners and behind the bar. Our thanks to them all.

Brian

FROM THE DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

District Centre update

Iam beginning to dread AGMs and the need to report progress with the Centre. Last year I was very optimistic at that meeting and thought building would start during 2010. This year I reported on the delay but was able to say those problems were now resolved and I was hopeful the developer would soon be in a position to make an application for planning consent with a view to work starting soon after Easter next year.

Within days of our meeting the developer attended a pre-planning meeting with officers in the planning department

and although the meeting went well within days a letter was received wanting substantial alterations to the draft plans which will make the whole scheme not commercially viable.

I attended a further meeting with the Council officials and hope common sense will prevail but it is by no means certain. Everybody seems to want the scheme to go ahead but also to achieve their own agendas which are not always compatible. I will keep you aware of major developments.

Brian Hosier

chairman@londonscouts.org.uk

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

2011 District & County Diary

Tuesday 4 January	Section leaders' meeting	7.30pm at the District Scout Centre
Friday 14 January	Duke of Edinburgh's Award training	7pm at the Band Room, Coram's Fields
Friday 14 to Sunday 16 January	Fire & Ice	at Tolmers
Sunday 16 January	Cubs County Quiz	
Thursday 20 January	Scout Active Support	7.30pm at the District Scout Centre
Saturday 29 January	Beaver Scout Party	
Sunday 30 January	SAS Post-Christmas Lunch	1pm for 1.30pm at The Cherry Tree, Southgate
Tuesday 1 February	Getting Started training	at the District Scout Centre
Friday 11 February	Duke of Edinburgh's Award training	7pm at the Band Room, Coram's Fields
Wednesday 16 February	Safeguarding Training	7.30pm at District Scout Centre
Saturday 19 & Sunday 20 February	Southern 50 Challenge	
Wednesday 23 February	Jack Petchey Awards	6.45pm at the Peel Centre
Saturday in February	Cubs 5-a-side Football Competition	
Wednesday 2 March	Getting Started training	at the District Scout Centre
Friday 4 to Sunday 6 March	County Explorers Basics Weekend	
Saturday 5 March	Scout Winter Mad Venture	Hertfordshire
Friday 11 March	Duke of Edinburgh's Award training	7pm at the Band Room, Coram's Fields
Saturday 12 March	County Jamboree Fundraising Dinner	at the Radisson Edwardian Bloomsbury Street
Tuesday 15 March	District team meeting	7.30pm at the District Scout Centre
Thursday 17 March	District Executive Committee	at the District Scout Centre
Tuesday 22 March	Group Scout Leaders' Forum	at the District Scout Centre
Friday 25 to Sunday 27 March	Scouts Paddlesports Weekend	at Longridge, Marlow
Sunday 27 March	County Cub Chess Competition	
Tuesday 5 April	Getting Started training	at the District Scout Centre
Friday 8 to Sunday 10 April	DofE Award training weekend	at Longridge, Marlow
Saturday 9 April	Monopoly Run	at Scout Park, Bounds Green
Saturday 16 April	Beaver Scout Easter Challenge Day	at Scout Park, Bounds Green
Tuesday 26 April	Section leaders' meeting	7.30pm at the District Scout Centre
Wednesday 4 May	Getting Started training	at the District Scout Centre
Wednesday 11 May	District team meeting	7.30pm at the District Scout Centre
Friday 13 May	Duke of Edinburgh's Award training	7pm at the Band Room, Coram's Fields
Saturday 14 May	Beaver Scout Swimming Gala	
Friday 27 to Monday 30 May	District Camp	at Gilwell Park
Thursday 2 June	Getting Started training	at the District Scout Centre
Friday 10 June	Duke of Edinburgh's Award training	7pm at the Band Room, Coram's Fields
Friday 10 to Sunday 12 June	County Cub Scout Camp	Phasel's Wood
Friday 18 & Saturday 19 June	Beaver Scout Sleepover & Gilwell Fun Day	Gilwell Park
Wednesday 22 June	Distict Executive Committee	at the District Scout Centre
Saturday 25 June	Athletics Day	at Finsbury Park
Friday 8 July	Duke of Edinburgh's Award training	7pm at the Band Room, Coram's Fields
Tuesday 12 July	District team meeting	7.30pm at the District Scout Centre
July [date TBC]	Beaver Scout 5-a-side Football Competition	
Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 July	County Cub Water Activities Days	at Enfield Scout Sailing Association, Nazeing
Thursday 1 September	Section leaders' meeting	7.30pm at the District Scout Centre
Wednesday 7 September	District team meeting	7.30pm at the District Scout Centre
Thursday 22 September	Distict Executive Committee	at the District Scout Centre
Saturday 15 October	Chiltern 20 Challenge	
Thursday 3 November	District Annual General Meeting	
Wednesday 7 December	Distict Executive Committee	

FROM 19th/23rd ISLINGTON

Firework Poster Competition



Beavers, Cubs and Scouts from 19th/23rd Islington Scout Group recently designed posters for the Islington Council's Firework Safety Poster Competition. Their posters were amongst nearly 500 others which were all to a high standard.

Whilst the Beavers and Cubs were not amongst the winners the Scouts did extremely well. The picture shows, from left to right Vinceant Barbato age 12, Malik Newman age 12 and Sam Martin age 11, with their leaders Lynne & Roger Edgerton, in front of a display of some of the posters. Malik won an iPPd for being the overall winner of his age group and Vinceant & Sam received Highly Commended certificates. The presentations were made by Councillor Barbara Sidnall at the Emirates Stadium on Monday 18 October.

FROM THE DISTRICT DofE ADVISOR

DofE training sessions

Regular monthly training sessions are underway again for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Although there are four sections to complete at each level of Bronze, Silver and Gold, we concentrate in the training on Expeditions work, as there is a syllabus to complete.

Recent training has concentrated on first aid and safety, an important pre-requisite for going into wild country. We examined in detail the tragic case of a fourteen year old on a school trip, Charlotte Shaw, who died of heart failure and hypothermia after falling into a stream on Dartmoor while taking part in training for the annual Ten Tors trek. She was trying to retrieve a friend's backpack. The normally tranquil stream was swollen after nine hours of heavy rain. Appropriate lessons can be learnt from such a terrible loss, and the aim is to equip our Explorer Scouts with the expertise to avoid such a calamity, by putting into practice the necessary personal risk assessments required for such an outdoor endeavour.

Anyone 'rising 14' and up to the age 25 in the District is

FROM 201st ISLINGTON

Paradise Wildlife Park

20 Beavers and 5 adults from the 201st Beavers went off to Paradise Wildlife Park in Hertfordshire in September to take part in a day organised by Hertfordshire Beaver Scouts.

The Beavers had a fantastic time and managed to do the Explorer badge and the best part of the Animal Carer badge as well.

They played on the many play areas and met lots of animals including a white tiger, they fed the ostriches and bunny rabbits and goats and a pig.

The zoo is a fantastic place to go and is well equipped to keep young Scouts entertained all day.

Mark Darlow

FROM 8th HOLBORN

Police Station visit

The 8th Holborn Colony recently visited Holborn police station. We were greeted by three police officers who showed us around the station. We were shown some of the police cars and they turned on the flashing lights and they even turned on the sirens. We had to put our hands in our ears as it was so loud. We were then taken in to the custody room and shown round the cells. When then finished the tour we were given a talk by the police officers explaining what the police do and how they can help us. When it was time to go the Beavers were given a goody bag and a balloon to take home with them. The Beavers really enjoyed their visit.

welcome to come along to any of our Duke of Edinburgh's Award training nights, once a month on Fridays, and to participate in any of our camps and activities towards achieving their own Bronze, Silver or Gold DofE Awards.

Every month - the second Friday 7pm to 8.30pm in the Band Room at Coram's Fields, 93 Guilford Street, WC1 (close to Russell Square tube station). There is a modest charge of £2 per session, which goes to DofE equipment.

Next year there are some key dates:

- Friday 8 to Sunday 10 April, DofE Weekend Training Camp at Longridge.
- Friday 8 to Sunday 10 July, DofE BRONZE expeditions on the River Thames.
- Most importantly, because of the World Jamboree in Sweden and the camp at the Haarlem Jamborette we will be putting the Silver and Gold expeditions week at the end of August: Saturday 27 August to Friday 2 September, DofE SILVER AND GOLD, River Severn.

Julian Fulbrook

julian.fulbrook@camden.gov.uk

FROM THE ADC (SCOUT NETWORK)

An eye-opening experience at the World Scout Moot

CCI Network are very much back in 2010, following a lull in members and activities. We are currently very much at the 'looking at what we'd like to do' stage, and so we really want to engage with some new and not quite so new faces who are willing to be involved in coming up with ideas and spotting opportunities. We can provide support and resources, but we need ideas of what the members want to do, and members willing to be involved in making that happen.

If anyone is interested, please email me on: gilly@cci-network.org.uk, 'like' our facebook page: www.facebook.com/CCInetwork, or head over to our website: www.cci-network.org.uk.

We held an open taster afternoon this term specifically to interact with new faces. The intention for 2010 is very much for the members to decide the way forward, so in 2011, we can make that happen! The core programme will definitely include at least one meeting, one event and one trip every term. Beyond that it's all up to the members. Watch this space!

This Summer saw four Network members from CCI attending the 13th World Scout Moot in Kenya. I attended also as IST, and I can honestly say it was a big eye opener!

After the Kenyan Contingent, the UK Contingent was the largest on a Moot of 3000 participants from 66 Countries, and as such participants gained a significant multicultural insight in patrols of mixed nationalities, as well as gaining skills that they will be able to use in their Scouting here in the UK such as leadership, delegation, negotiation, communication (often with international members with limited English) and teamwork skills and traditional scouting skills from the Danish 'Most Primitive Scouting Experience' team as well as having a whole heap of fun!

For the first half of the camp, participants travelled to 3 expedition centres; 1 near the coast (Machakos) and 2 near the foot of mount Kenya (Kaiyaba and Embu). The programme consisted of a mix of excursions, service projects, teamwork activities such as enormous pioneering projects, activities to develop understanding of each others cultures and relaxing activities, such as African beading and dancing workshops. On two nights there was a huge outdoor disco for all the participants, and we proved that you can have a great time on a dry camp!

I'd like to say that my highlight of the camp was visiting Robert Baden-Powell's grave, but really my highlight was making friends for life with an Aussie Rover, and Ugandan Scout Leader and a Tahitian Cub Leader. Bring on the next Moot in Canada in 2013!

Gilly Gray
gilly@cci-network.org.uk



NEWS IN BRIEF

Merry Christmas

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the newsletter during 2010. I am very aware that the production the newsletter has not always been very timely and promise to do better in 2011. Please send your news and pictures to newsletter@londonscouts.org.uk for the next edition which will be circulated in February.

Scouts 5-a-side

Congratulations to the teams from the 12th Hampstead who won both sections of the 5-a-side football competition at the Sobell Leisure Centre on 12 December. 8th Holborn came second in the 10-12 category whilst 34th Islington were runners-up in the 12+ section. Six troops took part in the competition - many thanks to Nick Dewdney for his fantastic organisation and to everyone else who made the event possible.

Chiltern 20

Three troops from CCI took part in the Chiltern 20 Challenge in early October. All four teams successfully completed this 20 km navigation challenge in the Chiltern hills. Scout Leaders: please consider taking part in this fabulous GLN event in 2011.

Peter Lund

It is with sadness that we record the recent death of Peter Lund, a former Hampstead leader who was closely associated with the Gang Shows organised by that district.

RAF Museum visit

8 Beavers from the 11th Islington visited the RAF Museum at Hendon to complete their Air activity badge, they had a great time going on some of the aircrafts and at the end of the day their badges were presented to them by a World War II Wren under a Lancaster Bomber, which made the day complete.

FROM THE ADC (BEAVER SCOUTS)

Halloween Sleepover

More than 40 CCI Beavers and Leaders boarded the coach and minibus and headed south to Belchamps Scout Centre for a weekend of scary fun and games.

A great time was had by all, with all of the children taking part in the daytime activities offered by the Belchamps Halloween activity day. After an exhausting day of karting, stacking, bouncing and climbing, the Beavers then headed back to the cabin to make witches hats and sew their own scary coin purses. A sumptuous feast of worms and dragons breath was served up and devoured. Gradually the well fed children were transformed into cackling demons for the witches and wizards ball, where they spent the night spinning and twirling (thanks to the many sweets and cakes they ate). Thankfully at 10pm they slowly became tired faced little angels again and headed for bed, not a sound was to be heard by midnight... except the giggling and cackling of the odd talkative sprite in the boys' room!

Tracey Smith

adcbeavers@londonscouts.org.uk

11th Islington Scout Group

Your invited to

at the
CCI Scout Centre
Holloway Rd, N7

Party 2010-2011

Tickets: Adults £15.00
Under 16's £5.00
Under 2's F.O.C

7.30pm until late
food provided but bring
your own drink

Contact: Tracey 07534748402 for tickets

DISTRICT PERSONNEL

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