

Contacts & Resources

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Scoutbase		www.scoutbase.org.uk
Scouts		www.scouts.org.uk
Scouting Resources		www.scoutingresources.org.uk



WOODSMOKE

County Website: www.glne-scouts.org.uk

Deadline for next issue: 20th December

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Woodsmoke is edited by Darren Dowling

News and information for everyone involved in Scouting in Barking & Dagenham

WOODSMOKE



December 2008

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk



Steve and I would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

I have just had a few "feel good" events. The first being the Chief Scout's Awards presentation, not many from Barking and Dagenham but congratulations to those who gained it. The next being the Jack Petchey awards. I am sure that every DC shares my views on this evening. It is great to lead our youngsters up onto the stage. They wore their uniforms with pride, no jeans, shirts tucked in and scarves rolled properly, they were a credit to themselves, families, Groups and District. Well Done and I hope you enjoyed your evening of glory. Unfortunately this year we had the largest number of non-attendees and a couple didn't even bother to reply!

I have also attended the Thriftwood remembrance service and meal, another feel good event.

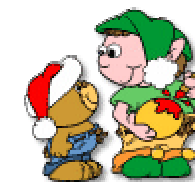
Recently I have presented some more Jack Petchey awards and the youngsters are being more imaginative with the purchases, one is buying a sign to go outside their HQ to advertise scouting, one a laptop and one a trophy cabinet. A bit of thought has gone into the choices.

Looking forward to seeing you at some of the Christmas events.

Health Update

Nikki seems to be tolerating her treatment better now and looking good. She has a long haul ahead but keep her and Richard and Thomas in your prayers.

Shelley has been given various options to further treatment, we wish her and the family well.



Ho Ho Run

The Roundtable Carousel will be out from the 15th December.

Please make an effort this year and get someone from your

Group to join us. I know it is a busy time but we do need your support.

AGM Challenge

For those of you at the AGM I gave you a challenge to increase your numbers, well the annual census is approaching and wouldn't it be great if every Group had increased it's numbers. I wait with bated breath!



Jill May
District Commissioner

Campfire with Carols

You are cordially invited to attend

Thriftwood's

Camp Fire with Carols



Saturday 13th December
at 3 p.m.

Burgers, Hot Dogs etc. Mince pies & Mulled Wine

will be on sale before and afterwards

Tuck Shop will be open with a wide range of reasonably priced toys and stocking fillers

To assist with catering:

Please phone 01277 212784 or 01277 226571

Or email: Thriftwood@btinternet.com

Upcoming Events

December			
6	Cyclo Cross	Crow Camp	www.badscouts.org.uk/cyclocross/
9	Carol Service	9 th B&D HQ	www.badscouts.org.uk/carolservice/
January			
<i>Look out for your 2009 District Calendar!</i>			
+lots more! Check out http://www.badscouts.org.uk/calendar/			

Carol Service - 9th December - 9th B&D HQ

Further details to follow

Further details at: <http://www.badscouts.org.uk/carolservice/>



Cyclo Cross - 6th December - Crow Camp

Please note that Groups are to arrange their own transport

Further details at: <http://www.badscouts.org.uk/cyclocross/>

SCOUT SHOUT



Hello all, this is the last entry of the year, I hope you have had a wonderful 12 months and enjoy the few weeks that are left.

I'll take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

Leader Minutes

Hopefully you should have received the minutes from November's meeting. If you have not please let me know, if the emails and addresses I sent the minutes to are out of date please inform us so we can keep them up to date. If you have new leaders/helpers that have emails which are not listed please send them to me to help with communication.

Cyclo Cross

All details are available online or in November's minutes or from me direct. Hope to see you there.

Chess 09

See website, November's minutes or me for details

Mark Sutton 09

See website, November's minutes or me for details. Base leaders will be decided at January's meeting.

Carol Service

I hope to see as many of you at the District Carol Service, on the 9th with the 9th at 7 p.m., as possible.

Richard Blunden
ADC Scouts

Archery

4th National Scout Archery Competition

9th - 10th May 2009

Phasels Wood Scout Activity Centre

Self catering weekend camp

Enter 1, 2 or 3 competitions

Open to Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Network & Adult Leaders

40 yard target competition

20 yard target competition

5-20 yard field competition

100 yard clout competition

Two entry levels

Equipment provided or own equipment
(recurve bow only)

For further information please email:

timfbb.hsac@ntlworld.com



BadX Camp den den der

On 28th October I was invited to a camp at Thriftwood Scout Campsite, the organizers were two young lads, one was Jason Morris, an Explorer Scout, the other was slightly older, I was told that Jamie was a Networker.

I arrived with another Networker, Tracey, as she had no transport to get there. Well, on arrival I was greeted by Jason & Jamie and as we went into the building (yes, we were in a building called Oak Lodge - Wussy Explorers!) there were also some older Scouts invited who were not yet old enough to be an Explorer. There were 17 Scouts & Explorers, two young leaders, Tracey, myself & oh yes, a trainee cook named Nicola. We had pizza for tea, a good standby for a first day meal at camp.

One game nearly all enjoyed was a game brought back from an international camp some of them went on to Denmark. It needed very precise equipment (a sock) and played a bit like a game known as Twister. If you know anyone who went on this camp ask them how it is played, I know there are a lot of you Scouts out there who would enjoy it.

Being ready to be put out to graze I'm afraid to admit I couldn't keep going as long as the youngsters. The activities I went on with them was the climbing wall, though I did not climb (I get nervous stepping off a high kerb!). The one they did get me on was the Cresta Run,

a wooden cart that runs on wooden rails, fine going down but then you have to pull it back up for the next rider. Thanks to Gemma, she helped me to the top.

The campers were split in two, Jason lead one group and Jamie lead the other, they cooked for themselves on altar fires, while Nicola and a few Scouts/Explorers cooked for the leaders. My only criticism would be whatever job you are given at camp should be the only job you do and not to try and take over the rest, as standing there shouting out orders to people as if you are in charge means nothing to me and I will do as I did then, ignore them. But all in all I did enjoy myself and from what I saw so did the rest of them.

Well done to the organizers and keep up the good Scouting, more of the self organizing and your Unit will grow, I feel it in my bones and it's up to leaders to support you in what you are trying to do.

**T Bag
(GSL 9th B&D)**

BEAVER BITS

Hello to all. Well done to all the Beavers that came to the Connect 4 Competition on Saturday 8th November. It was a good event, with Lucas of the 6th coming first and Jack from the 21st coming second. Well done to you all for entering and to the leaders for helping.

Our last District Beaver event of the year will be the Kidspace party in Romford. I hope to see you all there on Friday 28th November between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Bring £6.50 to pay for entry, your Beaver leader should have hold of

all monies.

The first District Beaver Meeting of 2009 is on Monday 12th January at the 6th B&D at 8:15 p.m.

A Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year to all leaders & Beavers and I will see you in the New Year.



**Ron Pringle
ADC Beavers**

NETWORK

We are having a Network meeting on the 24th November, 8 p.m. at St. Cedd's, to talk about the next year or so and discuss what ideas we have for the future. I am hoping that the chairman from Newham Network will be coming down but it is not definite yet.

about network please do not hesitate to talk to **Rob Craig** or email me at:

or ask a networker.

If you have any ideas or any questions

Tracey "Tazz" Martin

Treasurer's Tidbits

Polite Reminder

Can all groups who haven't yet let me have a copy of their accounts do so as soon as possible please

**Roger Scowen
District Treasurer**

Beavering Away



Hi all. Sorry that I missed last month's edition – work was a bit hectic and before I knew it I had missed the deadline for submitting my report. Don't worry; I did get a telling off from the Woodsmoke Editor (Though he couldn't be angry at me for long – not if he doesn't want his dinner in the bin or the dog!). Only joking.

Can you believe that we have reached the end of another busy year? This one really has flown by at high speed. We have seen many different Beaver Scout events - from searching for golf balls in the mud at Har-



greaves, splashing around in the Walton sea, scoring for England at the District Football, running with three legs at Sports Day to singing spooky songs around a campfire. It certainly

has kept us leaders and helpers on our toes but I can honestly say that the children have had a fantastic time throughout.

At the 9th we are winding down to the Christmas season. The Beavers have just attended the Connect 4 Competition and are now enjoying some fun activities at our Colony evenings until we close.



We are once again going to support Samaritans' Purse this year by packing shoe boxes with toys, toiletries and writing equipment for less fortunate children in eastern European

countries. We supported the charity last year through my church at St. Mary's in Grafton Road. All of the children worked hard and learned about what was going on abroad. Why don't you look up the website at:

www.samaritanspurse.org

for ideas on how to support or learn about the organisation.



All of us are looking forward to the District Carol Service at St Elisabeth's on Tuesday the 9th of December. Me especially because it's my birthday. Yes – 21 again as they say! (pffff.... Ed)

Don't forget to join me next year in submitting your own reports about what you are getting up to in your Colonies. Ron, Mandy and I are looking forward to coming round to visit you all in 2009.

If I do not see some of you before the big day – have a wonderful Christmas, enjoy the rest and may I take the opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful 2009. Take Care



Honest Leigh
District Beaver Scout Leader

BadX Camp '08

I am a Scout and I wanted to go to BadX Camp 2008 to see what it would be like to go up to Explorers. I thought the camp was really good because it was easy going, we did activities like rock climbing, cresta run and archery.

Also we all got given nicknames and we got to choose who we wanted to share a dorm room with. The food was really nice and the camp was a real laugh. I don't understand if we were staying inside with a new kitchen (Oak Lodge) why we then had to cook outside?

Many thanks to those that organised and ran the camp, and a special thanks for "T Bag" because without him the camp couldn't have gone ahead.

Great camp, looking forward to next year.

Thanks Again

Eggbert Mole
(Lauren Morley, 9th Scout)

Custard Caveman
(Geoff Morley, Explorer)

Camp BadX '08

Camp BADX 08 was a laugh, you had T-bag, Jamie, Jason, Nicola and myself as leaders there. We were up at half six every morning so we could chat before waking all the Scouts/Explorers up.

When 7 a.m. came around we went round the dorms and woke the Scouts/Explorers up with pots and pans then Nicola started breakfast, then came activities which the Scouts and Explorers enjoyed. Then it came to playing wide games when myself and Jamie took the Explorers out to a field and let them run

a wide game they then came back had supper and went to bed.

It was a range of activities climbing, archery and cresta run which was funny. Some days the weather was bad but others it was nice.

Tracey Martin
Network

Jungle Rally



Position	Group	Points
1 st	6 th B&D	947
1 st	9 th B&D	947
1 st	10 th /18 th B&D	947
2 nd	19 th B&D	885
3 rd	21 st B&D	835

so a total of 1300 marks were available to be earned by the Cubs.

It was unusual to see three teams tie in first place with exactly the same points!

Well done to all those who attended and I am sure every Cub went away with a little bit more Scouting knowledge than when they arrived!

Darren Dowling
ACSL (9th B&D)

Seven teams from 9 Packs entered the Jungle Rally this year and were challenged on a variety of bases:

Inspection, Knots, Map Signs, Compass, Feats of Skill, Gadgets, Flags & Saints, Packing a Rucksack, Kim's Game, British Sign Language, Our Country, History of Scouting and Cub Badges.

Each base was marked out of 100 and

Nature Trophy

The Nature Trophy has always formed a separate competition within the Jungle Rally and this year the Cubs were tested on British birds, trees and fish.

This year the trophy was retained by the 10th/18th in a brilliant show of teamwork! Well done.

Position	Group	Points
1 st	10 th /18 th B&D	67
2 nd	16 th B&D	50
3 rd	6 th B&D	47

Darren Dowling
ACSL (9th B&D)



Barking and Dagenham Fellowship
invite you to

'An Evening of Christmas Brass'

Friday 12th December 2008

at the 21st B&D HQ

**rear of St Cedd's Church,
Lodge Ave Dagenham**

8:00—10:00

Seasonal refreshments

Christmas Raffle

All donations to Teenage Cancer Trust

Young Reporter

Well the Young Reporter of the Year has seen over 35 articles from young people in 2008, with entries from Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Networkers!

A big thank you and well done to the following people:

Daniel Squirrel, Emma Kersey, Grace Williams, Martin Power, Lauren Morley, Sophie Clark, Gemma Bailey, Hannah Nicholls, Francis van Dongen, Dana Jones, Leah Davy, Luke James, Geoff Morley, Chloe Reeve, Francesca Breens, Cemone Collins, Harry Peters, Stephanie Palfreman, George Barnes, Alice Beany, James Bowles, James Elmore, Deren Aygin, Matthew Smith, Lucas Dobson, Sam Harvey, Jamie Saunders, Jason Morris, Kelly Barratt, Tracey Martin and Daniel Stukins.

Well done to the following Groups who all entered the competition:

6th (2), 9th (14), 10th/18th (7), 15th (1), 16th (1), 19th (1), Explorers (4), Network (2).

Judging a winner from all those excellent articles was a horrendously difficult task. It was first narrowed down to 15 entries! 15!

Careful consideration was given to the ages and abilities of the writer, the thought, effort and research put into the article and how interesting it was to the reader. Spelling, grammar and presen-

tation was ignored completely for the purposes of the competition.

Careful consultation with several judges led to the following shortlist:

Beavers	Grace Williams
Cubs	Francis van Dongen
Scouts	James Bowles, James Elmore & Deren Aygin
Explorers Network	Jamie Saunders Tracey Martin

There was then an even more tricky task of picking an overall winner.

The lead changed hands many times during discussions and voting but in the end we finally decided upon the winner.

Young Reporter of the Year 2008

Grace Williams
Beaver
9th Barking & Dagenham
January Issue
"District Beaver Sleepover"

Thank you very very very much to all who entered a report, every single one was outstanding and it is brilliant to see and hear directly from young people just how good Scouting is.

Please please please keep them flooding in to Woodsmoke over 2009.

Darren Dowling
Editor

Connect 4

On Saturday the 8th of November the District held its annual Connect 4 Competition for the Beaver Scout section at the 21st Barking & Dagenham Headquarters in Lodge Avenue, Dagenham.

Four Beaver Scouts from around seven Colonies attended the competition. Using the brilliant 'Swiss' system each child was able to play many rounds until a third, second and first place winner was decided.

From across the hall the leaders could hear the 'clink clink' of counters being slotted into holes and could see the concentration on the children's faces as they tried to connect four counters in a line. It was most amusing to see many a scratched head, frowned eyebrows and deep thought looks on their faces.

Every one of the Beaver Scouts enjoyed their morning together and as always made good friends with children from different Colonies.

Well done to the following Beavers for their places in the competition:

Position	Name	Group
1 st	Lucas Udaw	6 th
2 nd	Jack Gordon	21 st
3 rd	Matthew Williams	8 th

www.badscouts.org.uk/connect4/2008/connect4_finalstandings.html

Connect 4 is such a great 'small' competition for the Beaver Scouts to take part in. It gives them a chance to learn new skills, experience friendly competition and above all else have lots of fun.



Hope to see you all at next year's event.

Honest Leigh
District Beaver Scout Leader

Southend

Southend was wet and windy but it was a great night and everyone enjoyed themselves. We all must have gone on Rage about 8 times and Baggy went on a few times but I was shocked that he actually went on Rage. They had something to eat inside the park which

was nice but the chairs were all wet and when me Gemma and Lauren all got up we had wet bums hahaha but it was a good night.

**Tracey Martin
Network**

Horror Camp

On the 7th, 8th and 9th of November the 10th/18th Scout Troop went to Thriftwood for their Remembrance Sunday Camp. It was a really good camp and each year they have a themed event, this year it was 'horror'.



On Saturday the Beavers came along and with the Cubs and Scouts made their costumes, while the Beavers and Cubs played games the Scouts went rifle shooting. That night they all played games such as apple bobbing and eat the doughnut from the string. The leaders got into the party mood as well and dressed up. Baloo and Woody from the 19th B&D came along to do the disco and a good time was had by all.

**King Louie
Leader (10th/18th)**



Remember



it was very interesting. We held guns in the museum and two people from the army fired them. It was really loud. We had a really good parade. In the parade there were flag bearers and I was picked to do it. We walked to the church nearby. People read poems and prayers and we did the two minutes silence. There were people that were in the war there and the Deputy Mayoress and the local MP. After we went and had something to eat, had another look around the museum and then went home.

On the 2nd November we went to Purfleet Heritage Museum to do a Remembrance Parade. We had a really good time. We looked around the museum,

**George Barnes
Scout (10th/18th B&D)**

Jambo

The Essex International Jamboree was held at Frinton-on-sea this year. It took a hour and a half to drive there but the Jamboree was worth it. This is what happened during my week of staying there. The first day I arrived at the Jamboree, I had to report to the site reception to sign in and collect my pass throughout my stay. Marc and I then went to find the abseiling team to see where we were camping. We then set up our tents and helped the abseiling team set up the cave maze at the back. It was just basically shrink wrapping hay barrels. Marc then decided to shrink wrap me to one.

The next day was just like before just helping everyone set up, I then went over to the activities team where I was and helped them paint boards and move them around. The weather was exceptionally hot, half of us were just walking around with no trainers on.

All through the week I was meeting random people from Egypt, Sweden and Cambridge. In total it was a very good week at the jamboree and I am hoping to go to North Yorkshire Jamboree in the summer of 2009

**Tracey Martin
Network**