

Contacts & Resources

District contacts and useful websites

District Commissioners		
DC	Jill May	dc@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
ADC Beavers	c/o DC	adcbeavers@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
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ADC Special Needs	Steve May	adcsn@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
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District Treasurer	Ray Purdy	treasurer@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
District Secretary	c/o DC	secretary@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk
District Support		
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Resources		
Scout Information Centre	0845 3001818	info.centre@scout.org.uk
Scoutbase	www.scoutbase.org.uk	Scouts www.scouts.org.uk
GLNE County	www.glne-scouts.org.uk	Scouting Resources www.scoutingresources.org.uk



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Darren Dowling is the Editor of *Woodsmoke*



November 2010

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

WOODSMOKE



“When we reached Crick, we moored well away from the other boats, just in case we should cause a noise nuisance!”

Narrowboat Trip

In this issue:

**Narrowboat Trip
 Census Help
 Carol Service
 Circus Workshop
 Supervision
 Hargreaves News**

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/

Deadline for November Issue: 20th November

Jill's Jottings

News and views from the DC

I think, judging by the temperature, we have jumped autumn and headed straight for winter! I do like to see the lovely colours though. Steve and I are off on the Rhine for half term, we have been to this area before in October and it was spectacular so hopefully we will have a great time.

Well done to those who attended the District Quiz and a big thank you to Jan Mead who books the venue and makes sure everything is sorted out there for us. As with most of the District events many people work behind the scenes to make sure it happens, thank you to all those people.

The 8th/10th/18th and 21st had their sleepover the other weekend, 14 happy little pirates took over Chigwell, they had a great time and they slept!

Some leaders from our District joined those from Newham for a Cultural Awareness Training, this included visits to the Gurdwara and the Mosque and a delicious lunch prepared by members of the Salvation Army and provided by the Faith Forum. Again thank you to everyone involved in that.

Tonight I have spent a very pleasant evening in the company of nine new leaders/helpers who are starting our new 3^d Barking and Dagenham Scout Group. They will be meeting at the Mosque in Victoria Road on a Sunday



Jill May is the District Commissioner

Morning, 10:30 - 12:00. Starting with Beavers and Cubs, with Scouts to follow. This is a very exciting venture for them and us as a District. The leaders will hopefully be attending District meetings so please make them welcome.

Last weekend the District team held their annual Away Day, this is where we plan the diary for next year, and work on the development plan. We looked in detail at the last census figures and will be hopefully putting some support into the groups that are not maintaining their numbers.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Health Update

I am thrilled to say Nikki is still doing well with the margins increasing in the growths, fantastic news. Wendy, Don Luxfords' wife has had a heart attack and a stroke, we send our best wishes to them and hope things improve soon.

Gone Home

Bert Smith, a member of Fellowship died recently. Bert was a very valued member of the British Legion and came along to fellowship with Fred Rook. Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

District Diary

Upcoming Events

November		
1	CSL Meeting	6 th B&D HQ
3	Module 1	17 th B&D HQ
4	SL Meeting	17 th B&D HQ
6	Beaver Connect 4	
7	First Response	21 st B&D HQ
9	BL Meeting	21 st B&D HQ
13	Scout's First Aid Day	
15	CRB Evening	21 st B&D HQ
17	Appointments	Salvation Army
18	District Executive	Salisbury Avenue
18	County Jack Petchey Evening	
19	Fellowship/Explorers Bowling	
20	Cub Jungle Rally	17 th B&D HQ
21	Thriftwood Memorial Service	Thriftwood
26	Beaver Christmas Party	
December		
2	ADCs Meeting	Bromhall Road
4	Scout Cyclo Cross	Crow Camp
7	District Carol Service	10 th /18 th B&D HQ
+lots more! Check out http://www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/calendar/		

Training & Appointments

All trained up

Training Dates

Held at the 17th B&D HQ, Wilmington Gardens, 7:15 for 7:30 prompt start. Refreshments provided. All the following dates are on a Wednesday:

Module 1 3rd November

With immediate effect please note that you will have to BOOK YOUR PLACE on any future District run Modules.

We cannot continue to hold modules where no-one turns up, if we know the potential numbers booked, we can decide whether it is viable to go ahead or postpone / cancel.

2011 dates

16/01	Modules 5/6/7	Venue TBA but will be in Newham
02/02	Module 3	17 th B&D HQ
30/03	Module 1	17 th B&D HQ
01/06	Module 3	17 th B&D HQ
03/07	Modules 5/6/7	17 th B&D HQ
07/09	Module 1	17 th B&D HQ
02/11	Module 3	17 th B&D HQ



Chris Poole is the Local Training Manager

First Response Course

PLACES MUST BE BOOKED THROUGH ME

Sunday 7th November
17th HQ Wilmington Gardens

9:45 a.m. for prompt 10:00 a.m. start – finish about 4:00 p.m.

Scruff wear – please bring your own Lunch.

Refreshments will be provided.

All Change

As you are all aware, Ron's time as ADC Beavers came to an end at the AGM, he has still been covering this until someone else took up the reins. I am please to say that Tea Bag has agreed to do this. He has, until now, been a District Cub Scout leader but decided a challenge would do him good. Thank you Ron for all the work you have put into the Beaver Section and I am sure Ken will be a good replacement for you. Good Luck Ken, especially with keeping certain leaders quiet at the meetings! To replace both Ken and Rob as District Cub Scout leaders we have appointed Paul Robinson and another leader is in the process of letting me know. Welcome to the team Paul. We are still looking for another District Beaver leader to help Ken and of course Leigh as baby Dowling is playing up even before it is born, just like its Dad!

Circus Workshop

Can I remind all leaders that I need the names and money for the Circus workshop by the 20th November.

Fellowship/Scout Active Support

The Fellowship as we know it will cease to exist from 31st January. We can have more than one SAS unit in the District and while we will still have the existing one that will continue to eat, and have speakers and more importantly support the District events by providing refreshments, selling raffle tickets, running tuck shop and other varied jobs, we are hoping to start another, led by Steve Wakeling that will

be SAS Activities. This unit will provide support by planning all the sectional activities therefore leaving the ADCs free to be in supporting Groups and hopefully to stop any events being cancelled. The exact remit is still being fine tuned so watch this space.

HO HO Run

This year we are out 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd December. PLEASE do support this, you do get the benefit from the money raised. Explorers and Network welcome, I will send out an email when I get the time confirmed.

On the Move

As most of you know, Shelly and Vic are on the move, I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to them for all the hard work they have put in during their time with Barking and Dagenham. We hope you will be very Happy in your New Home.

Narrowboats

Akela (1st B&D)



The 1st & 12th (and one Explorer) go Narrowboating

The London narrow boat project is located in a small Northhamptonshire village called Braunston, I know, just where you would expect to find it, a 100 miles from London. I lived in Braunston for a number of years, my Mum and lots of my family still live there. I have often looked at the boats and thought the Scouts would enjoy the experience. I had visions of the odd Scout falling in the canal or something along those lines. One day I got chatting to one of the skippers who convinced me it was a good idea.

A narrow boat is exactly that, very narrow but it is 72 feet long. The boat sleeps 13 people including the skipper. There are 10 bunks for the Scouts and 3 for leaders, although mine was very narrow and I was a bit scared of falling off! The Scouts spent the Friday night sorting out who was sleeping where and exploring the boat. A few of the braver Scouts ventured out for a walk in the dark with me. That went well until a squirrel decided to leap from one tree to another, that jangled the nerves a bit.

We had a lovely breakfast on Saturday morning. Our skipper Paul started the engines and away we went, zooming along at 4 mph! Our destination was the village of Crick. We first had to make our way through 6 sets of locks at Braunston. The Scouts soon got the hang of it. Once through the locks we went through Braunston tunnel which is over a mile long, and very wet in places. There was a further set of locks at Watford village (the real Watford where the 'North of Watford' should be measured from). Just before Crick, there is another long tunnel.

All the Scouts and leaders were able to have a go at steering the boat. This is quite difficult with such a long vessel. When we reached Crick, we moored well away from the other boats, just in case we should cause a noise nuisance! We spent the evening playing cards, and other games. Some went for a walk and wanted to try some cow tipping (real city boys!). Well the cows just watched and moved away, I have a feeling they were laughing at the Scouts!

On Sunday morning, we set off back the way we came. Along the way, we spotted a kingfisher. We stopped off for lunch and some free time. The Scouts played in the streams and skimmed some stones. We had to clean up the boat, before returning to the mooring in Braunston. If you want to do something different, I would highly recommend a trip with the London Narrow Boat Project.

Scouting in GLNE

Kevin Williamson (ACC Cubs)

The Kubadoo 2011 badge competition has now been launched.

Cub Scouts can now use up to 9 colours in a choice of three shapes available on the entry form at:

www.kubadoo.org.uk

I have launched this early so that leaders, Cubs and parents can download entry forms. The rest of the site will become live in January 2011.

All completed entry forms are to be returned to a leader or ACC Cubs no later than 3rd December 2010, when judging will take place.

Dean Jefferys (CC)

With regret, Craig Jones our County Scout Network Commissioner has decided to stand down after 5 years in post, due to the pressures of his work commitments and his recent appointment as a Special Constable. I have met with and thanked Craig for his efforts and wished him the best for his future plans.

In the interim Peter Seddon will assume responsibility as Acting County Scout Network Commissioner so please refer any queries to him.

The search for a replacement begins immediately and there is a summary of the role along the lines of our recent Vacancies Booklet, available on the GLNE website. I would be grateful if you would circulate this to the widest possible audience and ask anyone interested to contact myself or Pete. In addition nomination of names you think might be suitable for this key role would also be appreciated.

Carol Service

District Carol Service
7th December

Becontree Heath Methodist Church Hall
The Broadway (behind the Ship pub)
Dagenham

6:30 p.m. start

Come and enjoy the carols and service with the 10th/18th Scout Group
Refreshments & Raffle afterwards
Plenty of parking space behind Icelands (entrance in Whalebone Lane)
Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Circus Workshop

Saturday 22nd January
1st B&D HQ

The workshop will be in two sessions:

Cubs	10:30-12:30
Scouts	1:30-3:30
Cost	£5.50

Parents are invited to attend ¼ hour before the end of the session to watch the performance. Each participant will receive their circus skills badge if they reach the required standard, a certificate of attendance and refreshments.

The forms must be returned to your leader by 20th November with the money. There will be no money back for non attendees due to the cost of hiring the trainers.



Box of Ideas

Russ Dyble (Development Officer GLN)

'Programmes in a Box' is a year's supply of 40 weekly programmes for Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs and Scout Troops (12 for Explorer Scout Units), written by experienced section leaders from across London. Whether you're looking for a few new ideas, or you want enough programmes for every week of the year, 'Programmes in a Box' can help you out!

The CD-Rom or printed booklets include 40 weekly programmes (and all required resources) for Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts and Scouts and 20 for Explorer Scouts, following a four year rolling plan, ensuring a balanced programme including two activity badges and one challenge badge each term. The 2010/11 edition of "Programmes in a Box" is available to pre-order at <http://bit.ly/piab2010> - We accept Paypal through our site, but if you would prefer to print an order form and post a cheque, one is available. For more information, please email orders@programmesinabox.co.uk or contact Russ Dyble, Project Co-ordinator 01442 262686.

Hargreaves News

Chris Geary (DC Ilford East)

At the District Executive meeting on the 15th September, Doreen and Paul announced their retirement from the Wardens role at Hargreaves Activity Centre.

A difficult decision but they felt the time was right to "let someone else take the reins". After 13 years of 24 hours 7 days

a week responsibility we can not thank them enough. The planned date to finish is 31st December but there is a degree of flexibility. Doreen and Paul will continue with their Group and Doreen with the Shop but with the Shop a new Manager will be sought for the future.

Ken Flack and myself will produce a Role description and will publish this in Ninety Degrees. From then on a sub committee will be formed and the process of appointing a Warden will take place. I am aware, that on the appointment of a Warden some applicants will be disappointed and possibly disagree with the decision, I sincerely hope this does not affect their present contribution to Scouting.

Doreen & Paul's retirement will from now be public knowledge and Ken and I will in confidence welcome any expressions of interest pending the formal process.

Lastly I would like to thank dear old Ron for all of his hard work and dedication as our ADC for the last 10 years. At last (he says) he can step down and take a well earned rest. Ken Thompson (T-bag) will be stepping into the role as our new ADC so I'm sure we would all like to welcome him to his new position and will give him just as much support as we did for Ron.

That's about it for now. I hope to see you all at the Connect 4 Competition on the 6th November at the 21st B&D HQ, 10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (4 Beavers ONLY, per Colony please, bring along a Connect 4 game and uniforms MUST be worn) and also at our next District Meeting (nibbles and wine) which is on Tuesday 9th November at the 21st B&D HQ again, 8:15 p.m. Ideas for Handcraft 2011 at this meeting.

Beaver ing Away

Thinking out of the box

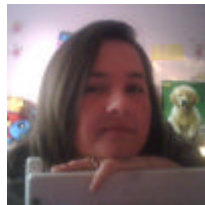
Hi All, it's been a while since I last wrote something for Woodsmoke, I've had a bit of a busy year so far. I do hope that all of you are keeping well and are looking forward to the count down to Christmas. How quickly this year has flown!

Beaver Scouts have had a good year so far. They have certainly had lots of fun at each of the events and outings that I've been to. It's been great seeing different Colonies attend events and meeting new faces who are now helping out and have become leaders in the different Colonies. Welcome to you all. It'll be great to see more of you, especially at our District Beaver Scout Leader Meetings as these have been getting a little thin on the ground of late with only the same old faces attending each time. Meeting dates are published in Woodsmoke so watch this space!

Sharing resources is always a good idea and so I wanted to share with you some of the ideas that we at the 9th have been using of late. Back during the beginning of this year I had the pleasure of attending a County Training event at the Albany School, led by Dean Jefferys. One of the resources at this event was the fantastic "Programmes in a Box." This is a resource for all sections and is a collection of term overviews and weekly programmes to help with the running of

Away

Leigh Dowling is a DBSL



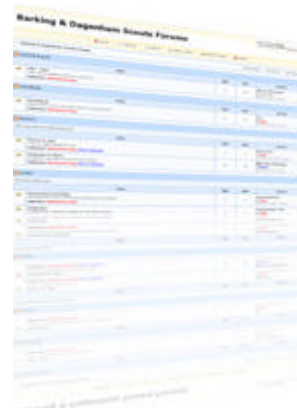
your Colony, Pack, Troup or Unit. It has certainly been a help for us when we have run a bit dry for ideas and covers all of the badge requirements for each section. It's very easy to follow and can be purchased either as a complete book or as a CD which can be downloaded and saved to your computer in individual section folders. For each week resources are also available to print off or photocopy so there really is little for you to do.

Programmes in a box isn't designed to take over the running of your section so that you don't have to plan anything, (unless you want to use it as that) it is there to dip in and out of when you are stuck for ideas or want to expand your resources for a particular theme.

Take a look at the link here to find out for yourself what Programmes in a Box is all about. As I say, we find it extremely helpful and I'm sure you will too!

www.programmesinabox.co.uk/2010/

Forum



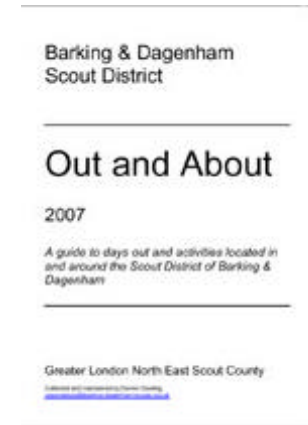
The forum allows you to chat with leaders and Scouts within the District. Why not share ideas and take advantage of the wealth of information and resources that

are to be found on the forums.

All this and much more at

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk/

Out & About



Out and About is a guide to days out and activities located in and around the Scout District of Barking & Dagenham.

Forms



The forms available on this page may change throughout the year as special events take place (for ex-

ample, the Town Show will require Balloon Race forms to be distributed a couple of months before the actual event

Programmes



Programmes Online - from The Scout Association

Programmes - from Scouting Resources

Words from the Wood

News and information from Thriftwood Campsite

Thriftwood Badge Team Courses

First Response Training

Sunday 6th Dec

Water Splash

every Wednesday during Summer Holidays

GNAS Archery Course

27-28th Nov. and 4-5th Dec. 2010

Campfire & Carols

11th December 2010

National Pedal Car Olympics

7-9th January 2011

Oak Lodge Makeover & New Look for 2010

Oak Lodge has received a substantial makeover to the main hall. New Dormitory block building started.

Climbing Walls Floodlight

Why not make use of the facilities and enjoy a floodlit climbing, Ice Climbing or Abseiling session?

New Activity for 2010 - Inflata-BULL

A fantastic new activity for 2010, the inflata-bull. A rodeo bull ride, with a twist, can you stay on whilst your 'friends' try to buck you off?.

www.thriftwood.org.uk/



Colin Tilbrook is the Warden

Campfire with Carols

Saturday 11th December 2010, 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

National Scout Pedal Car Olympics 2011

2011 event booking now open, 7th-9th January

Supervision

Alex Minajew

Supervision of young people in outdoor activities - The importance of risk assessment and head counts in groups

As we enter the new school term I would like to take this opportunity to remind all adults within Scouting of the importance of following our rules and guidance. There

have been a number of recent incidents in which it has been apparent that guidance has not been followed during both planning and running of Scouting activities. The Scout Association rules and guidance require risk assessments be carried out for all activities. A risk assessment allows those running the activity to identify potential hazards and to take steps to minimise these whilst delivering an exciting activity to the young people in their care. In addition The Scout Association rules and guidance sets out adult to young people ratios in certain circumstances and in others these should be determined by a risk assessment. However, some people may rely too heavily on these ratios in terms of monitoring the group and need to consider the importance of when head counts need to be conducted, where and by whom.

Risk Assessment

A risk assessment must be carried out for all activities but this does not need to be a time consuming process. More important is that a risk assessment is regularly reviewed both before and during an activity. Experience shows it is often the activity which is run regularly with little perceived risk where incidents may occur. Regular re-assessment of familiar activities will allow those running the activity to identify changes in the risks over time. Further information can be found in factsheet FS120000 Activities – Risk Assessment.

Head Counts

It is difficult to be prescriptive as to when head counts should be done. It is important that these are considered for all age groups in all outdoor activities and, specifically, when young people are moving as a group. A considered view is that these should be done when there is a change of terrain or overcoming a particular hazard. In the younger age groups this could be done when a walking group moves from one terrain to another (eg from one field to another or from a road to a track) or crossing the road. For those in adventurous activities it could be when paddling around a bend, moving around a rocky outcrop or, generally, when moving in poor visibility. Furthermore, for larger groups, it should be agreed as to who conducts these to remove the expectation that these will be conducted by someone else.

Finally, as points of action, please can I ask you to:

Increase awareness by ensuring this information reaches all section leaders and by following up at local sectional meetings

For those delivering Module 17 (Activities Outdoors), specifically cover risk assessments and head counts in the risk assessment exercise at the end of the module. A revised PDF version of this module will be sent to all training managers by 1 October 2010.