



Dodd's Deliberations

Since the last Woodsmoke Barking and Dagenham District have definitely been busy, and I found myself in the exciting position of meeting new people, and visiting various different events.

Umbrella camp kicked this off for me, and it was great to see so many groups camping alongside each other. Having the opportunity to go to camp is key for our young people, and it was clear to see how much they were enjoying themselves.

I was back a Chigwell Row a few weeks later for the County Beaver Funday. Over 100 beavers from County taking part in lots of different activities. My daughter had a great time joining in with the tent pitching, and I had trouble pulling her away when it was time to go. I was racing off to drop in on 8th's mile of pennies. I laid a few, which was very therapeutic but I'm sure those who had been there all day weren't so sure.

More Beavering away for me at one of the District sleepovers with the 7th, 8th, 10th/18th and 16th and 21st. Thank you for inviting me to run the camp fire, it was great teaching 24 Beavers new songs.

Even more singing was in store for me at the Scout Camping Competition weekend. A few new songs for them, and new songs for me too (thanks Russell). "Dodds likes campfires!"

Thank you to all those humouring me at the District AGM. I hope you like the new uniform!!!! It was an honour to present soo many awards, especially an amazing 40 years long service award to Trevor Howard.

I know some of you are having a busy summer with lots of NAN forms coming in for your summer camps. If you have or are going away, I hope that the weather is kind to you and that you will all be refreshed for the new Autumn term.

That's it for now.

Andy Dodkins (aka Dodds)



“Let Dodds know”

As previously mentioned I have created a confidential survey for all leaders in B&D to complete, to ask you about your current role, your aspirations, and your skills. You can find the online survey at the following location.

<http://questionpro.com/t/AK7njZRMR>

Please pass this onto to every leader, executive member, and supporter of Barking and Dagenham Scouts you know, as it is really important to me to make sure every Adult in B&D has the opportunity to have their say.

If you are not able to complete this online, please ask me for a printed copy. The survey will run until Sunday 28th September, but why wait, it will only take a few minutes to complete.

Many thanks. Dodds

Forthcoming Events

1st September: Beaver Leaders Meeting

1st September: Cub Leaders Meeting

4th September: Scout Leaders Meeting

10th September: Module 1 Training

- see 'Training' on Jill's page

11th September: District Executive

15th September: CRB Checking Evening

16th September: Appointments

26th September: District Quiz night @ Dagenham and Redbridge FC

28th September: Barking and Dagenham "Youth March" from Barking Park to Abbey Green.

More details to follow.

11th October: County Water activities day <http://glne-scouts.org.uk/events/county-water-activity-day/>

Dane Camp 2015

Russell will be sending out letters for all Scout Leaders to distribute at the next Scout Leaders meeting. This will be followed by an information evening for parents in October.

Jill's Jottings



A few weeks ago 24 eager beavers met at The Lambourne Centre for their sleepover. A real cocktail of groups, 7th, 8th, 10th/18th, 15th, 16th and 21st with a similar cocktail of leaders.

The beavers lit fires, pitched a tent, tied and ate their knot, made gadgets, packed their rucksack, walked twenty miles, (well

one beaver thought it was), sang songs with Dodd's, saw animals, made fruit bread and cooked it, toasted marshmallows and finally slept!!!

To see a Beavers face when their piece of cotton wool caught light was brilliant. The Rangers at Lambourne End are great and really bent over



backwards for us, the Beavers comments on the weekend included, awesome, fantastic, never lit a fire before, loved our dinner, best birthday, don't like walking, never been to the woods before, will we really see bats, it's dark out here and finally can we come again. This is what it is all about and the leader's smiles only slipped a little at the parent who was well over half an hour late!

Plans already in progress for next year!

I have met with Dodds on a couple of occasions and had a few long phone calls chatting about his plans for the District; changes are afoot and exciting changes. Please take time to fill in the

survey; this is your District so have your say in the changes.

Can you also make time to chat to your leaders about the activities your group will support next year? Time will be given at the next section meetings to find out what you want booked and we will only book what you ask for so ask your youngsters what they want if you meet before the meeting.

I hope you have all had a good summer and are ready for the new term.

Jill



Training!

CRB

The next CRB is on **Monday 15th September 7.00-9.00 at 21st HQ.**

Please remember to bring your NI number, and as much proof of who you are and proof of your address with you.

Training

Module 1 is on Wednesday 10th September.

It is being held at the 17th B&D HQ in Wilmington Gardens. 7pm for a 7.30 start.

Module 3 is on Wednesday 12th November also at the 17th HQ

1st Response

Have you booked on a course yet? Call **Steve Wakeling** on **01621 815570** to book your place on the next available course, at least a month before.

Safeguarding

Thank you to all who attended the session on 24th July.

Future dates to be arranged.

During October and November I am hoping to arrange a couple of evening to update training. This will be your chance to come along, get modules validated and get PLP updated. Dodds is starting to work on reviews and there are many of you who have not completed your training in the allotted time.

Check on here for local modules and the County web site for County run modules.

Reminder, First Response has to be booked with Steve Wakeling at least a month before the date of the course.

Jill



Sandwich making but not as we know it!

Disabilities section of a recent
Module 5,6 and 7 Course.



Beaver Bits

Hello my little Beaver people. It's fantastic to see another edition of Woodsmoke. It brought back the old memories last month when reading through each section.

District News

To be honest, it's been a bit quiet in our section since the last report. We haven't had any District events but I'm sure that all of you have been very busy in your Colonies. Do let us know what you have been up to. Get some of the children to send in a report for Woodsmoke. It's great to read through something that one of our young members has submitted and gives us as leaders and helpers a real insight into how they are enjoying

their time in Scouting.

Sleepover: Can I please remind all of those leaders who received sleepover forms from me at our last meeting to ensure that forms and deposits are returned on the date stated on the forms please. Many thanks.

DBL Meeting: Our next Beaver Leader Meeting is on Monday the 1st of September at the 6th HQ, Grafton Road, Dagenham. 8pm. Hope to see you all there.

County News

On June the 21st the Beaver Scouts came together with other Beavers from around our County to meet at Chigwell Campsite for a Challenge Badge Fun Day. The day was a great success. We were truly blessed with the weather. The Beavers took part in treasure hunts, discovery trails, putting up a tent, grass sledging, space hopping, tracking and all sorts of fun and exciting things.

To finish off the day everyone took part in a wide game followed by songs around a campfire. It was brilliant to see, not only our own District's Beavers mixing well together, but all of the Beavers from various Districts around GLNE getting on so well. Please refer to the last set of Beaver Leader Meeting Minutes for more County News.

Congratulations (in the Beaver section)

I would like to say a big congratulation to 5 of my Beavers who attended the Gilwell Bronze Chief Scout Awards on Monday the 14th July. I am so very proud of them and of how hard they worked to achieve their award. I did shed some tears I can tell you.

I also noticed some other groups from around Barking & Dagenham at the awards so a big well done to those Beavers too. Perhaps their leaders can mention them in next month's edition.

Lastly

Two of our Ex-Scouts / YL / Explorers, have received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh award in June. Gemma Bailey and Lauren Morley, we are so very proud of you. We know that you both worked hard for it. Well done.

That's it for now I think. Keep Beaver-ing Away.

T-Bag (Ken) ADC Beavers and Honest Leigh DBSL

Cub Capers

Hi all you cubby people,

Well done to those who attended Umbrella camp, what a lovely weekend. I had a great time sitting in the sun watching the leaders, cubs and scouts working hard.

Again well done to those who attended the change of date AGM and congrats to all the groups that won trophies throughout the year.

That's all we have had since the last addition, it only remains for me to wish all of you happy holidays and to those of you going to camp, have a great time.

Take care
Chilly Akela Rosie

Akela's Antics

Been out and about with the SAS (Fellowship) not the real ones. Had a great trip to the St John Museum in Clerkenwell.

Thanks to Stephen Foakes for arranging this, Heather Foakes for refreshments and their son Tom for a great informative tour.

Then I went to Barry and Marion's for the annual get together at their house. A very pleasant evening with good food and company.

Nights Away

I would like you to use the NAN form that I sent out from now on.

If you have already sent me a form for your camp you will not have to send me a new form, just the numbers attending e.g. Beaver, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Networkers, Leaders and helpers. When you are at camp I will try to visit you if I can.

Gold Duke of Edinburgh and Queens Scout Awards

Do you have a Gold Duke of Edinburgh award? Do you need help completing one? How about becoming a Queens Scout? I understand there are a number of young people out there in this position. If you know a young person, or are one in this position please contact me so we can help. dc@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Scout Shout

Hi everybody, I hope you are enjoying the good weather we have been having recently.

Which brings me onto the Scouts challenge camp we had (with fairly good weather) on the 12 & 13th July. Four groups attended, the 1st who had 2 patrols, the 10th/18th, the 8th and the 16th. For a couple of the scouts who attended it was their first camp so I hope they picked up some useful skills for the future which included fire lighting and cooking on an open fire. Also, using axes and saws safely.

We did have some heavy rain overnight fortunately it didn't cause any dramas but don't get me started on the Cockerel in the next field!!

The campfire on Saturday night was really good with each group performing a song and thanks to the DC for chipping in with 2 or 3 new songs which most of us hadn't heard before.

There was no clear winner over the weekend, so I have decided to share the Len Bridge Trophy between the 10th/18th and the 2 patrols from the 1st. 1st, you can have the trophy at Christmas J

Have and catch up with you all in September.

Russell Browning - ADC Scouts

Facebook and Website



Our new website has gone live.

Why not have a look at
www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Our social media presence is going from strength to strength. Our “B&D District Scout Leaders” facebook group now has 49 members, and we have 107 likes on our “Barking and Dagenham District Scouts” Facebook page. Why not join too?

In particular the Website has created a lot of interest from young people wishing to join groups in the District, and we have a few new leaders looking to join us to.

Situations Vacant

Assistant District Treasurer

We are looking for an Assistant District Treasurer to help Angie with looking after our Finances. It's not all about crunching numbers. We are looking at fundraising opportunities, writing bids for grants, company sponsors, online banking, and finding ways of being more efficient with our money. If you think you may be interested or know someone who could help, please contact dc@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk for more info.

District Secretary

We are looking for a Secretary to join the District Executive Committee. Want to know what we get up to, then please contact dc@barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk for more info.

Communications and Media Team

We are looking for people who are interested in joining a growing team to develop our Brand, and methods of Communication.

In particular we are looking for people that are keen to develop ideas for recruiting leaders, and young people into Barking and Dagenham Scouts. Do we have our own logo?, How about posters on bus stops? Radio adverts? Local newspapers? How do we get our message out to our whole community? If you have the ideas, then we are looking for you.

**Articles for the September edition of Woodsmoke should be in by the end of August.
Please let us know what your Group has been upto, with photos all the better.
Please email andydodkinsdc@aol.com**