

November/December 2014

This year's Spooky Welly Walk - a Frightening Success!



**The Beavers
have fun
with ghostly
goings on at
Hargreaves**



Dodd's Deliberations

Sorry for the lack of Woodsmoke last month. I have been busy recruiting and making changes to the District so have been waiting for some surety before I announced the changes coming. More of that later!!



I have had a busy few months, so have not been to as many events as I would have liked, but did drop in on the Spooky Welly Walk, and oh what a sight. Leaders and Beavers in fancy dress roving across Hargreaves in the dark. It was very well attended by all, and you could tell by the smiles on their faces how much fun the Beavers had had.

Russell and myself had the opportunity to present the latest Dane camp information. It's still not too late if you have a Scout or Explorer who would like to attend, although time is running out!!! We also had a snippet of the Essex Jamboree in 2016. It's worth putting the date in your diary now!! 30th July – 6th August 2016.

I was really disappointed not being able to attend the Remembrance Parade, however at the very very last minute I had to change my plans. So a big thank you to the leaders who took charge of the proceedings. We had 85 scouters on parade which is a fantastic turn out, and also the largest number of members from one organisation on parade that day. I have also received fantastic reports of how patient and well behaved the "Scouts" were even though there were delays and disorganisation. Well done.



I did however had the privilege of leading this years Thriftwood memorial service. It was a team effort with everyone playing their part to create a truly memorable service. So another big thank you to everyone who helped me pull this together. Fred Rook attended in his Chelsea pensioner uniform, and laid the wreath with Hazaiah Gbadebo one of our youngest Beavers. We also presented a poppy memorial which was made up of separate pieces representing each district and crew, all coming together to remember the 100 years since the first world war. A special thank to Steve May for creating this special memorial for us. It was a very emotional service, and even our Regional Commissioner Dean Jeffreys was lost for words.



I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas, and a prosperous new year.

Dodds

New District Structure

In the last woodsmoke I presented the new District Structure. I am now in a position to inform you of some of the changes. Some you may already know about, some you may not.

Youth Development

ADC Beavers – Leigh Dowling

ADC Cubs – To be filled.

ADC Scouts and Explorers – Russell Browning

These are the only ADC roles within the new structure.

I would like to thank Ken, Rose, Steve, Pauline, and Pat for their hard work in their roles as ADCs and DESC over the previous years, and am pleased to inform you that they are all continuing with various Scouting roles in the District.

I would also like to welcome Leigh to the team, and I am pleased that Russell has agreed to take on the role of ADC Scouts and Explorers.

With regards ADC Cubs, I am actively looking for a new ADC Cubs, but am pleased to confirm that Rose will be continuing in this role, and will be assisting me in finding her replacement.

Media and Communications

Member Communications Manager (MCM) – Steve May

District Compass Champion – Graham Russ

District Photographer – Graham Russ

Webmaster – Daniel Field

We are looking for additional members to join this team, and in particular those who are interested in promoting the District through good news stories in print, online and radio.

The next project for the new year is a new District scarf for all District members, including Leaders, SAS, and Exec members. Watch this space!!

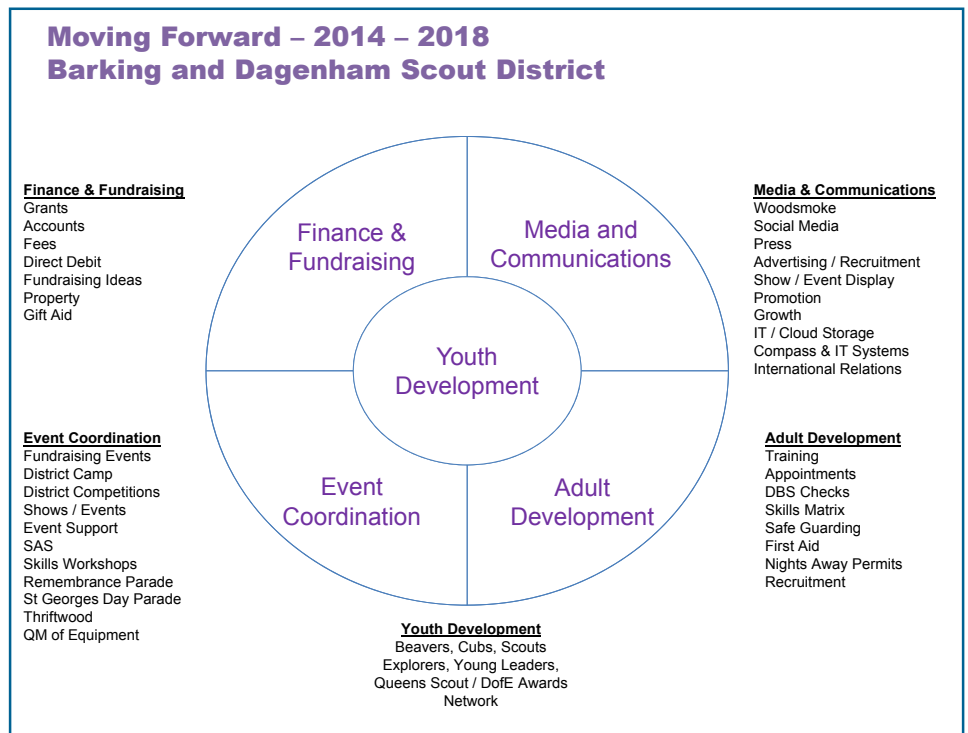
Adult Development

Jill has stepped down as Local Training Manager (LTM) so we are looking for someone who is interested in taking on this key role.

We are also looking for new members to join the appointments committee.

I am pleased to confirm that Rose will be continuing in the role of Night Away Advisor.

The way DBS checks are carried out are changing, and all GSLs should be able to complete DBS checks for their group. If you have problems with this, please let Dodds or Jill know and we will show you how to complete them. Please remember..... **NO CURRENT DBS.... NO SCOUTING!!!!**



Finance and Fundraising

Angie is currently the only member of this group and desperately needs support. If finance and fundraising interests you, please let Dodds or Angie know, and you will definitely be welcome to help. Also if you know anyone outside of Scouting who is interested in volunteering we are keen to recruit from as wide a field as possible.

Event Coordination

Jill will be heading up this team alongside Pauline. This group will help the ADC's organise events, and support activities throughout the year.

I am looking for a SAS manager who will be the link between Jill and the SAS, and look forward to seeing the SAS taking a more visible role at our scouting events over the next year.

Explorers / DofE

The 14-18 age range is key to B&D District moving forward, and therefore I have been working hard to put together a new leadership team.

Russell will be leading Explorers in the role of ADC Scouts and Explorers which will include the DESC Role. Pat will continue to run the Explorer group, and has found a new venue at St Elisabeths Church. This improves accessibility with a greater number of bus routes passing through Martin's corner.

Ken will be taking on the role as Explorer leader (young leaders), and will be focusing on providing support and training to our young leaders within our groups. Please note that there should be no young person over the age of 14 attending or helping in a section who is not a member of Explorers or the Young Leader scheme. Also any young person over the age of 14 may not stay on at Scouts as a young leader in their group. If they wish to stay in their group they must move to help with Cubs or Beavers.

Finally we have a new Explorer leader, Dick Catchpole, joining the Explorer leader team who will be focusing on the DofE Award scheme and Outdoor activities. So look out for a new programme of activities for next year.

Other Changes

Hot off the press. I am looking to open a new group in 2015. I am therefore looking for someone to take on the role as GSL to help me develop this group with the support of the regional development officer. There is a lot to confirm so no more details at this time.

Recruitment

As you can see we have roles already filled, and plenty of opportunities for those who would like to support the District team. If you would like to be part of this, please let Dodds know.

I am particularly aware of those who expressed an interest through the "Let Dodds Know" survey, and would welcome you to let me know if there is any particular area you would like to assist with.

Current Key Vacancies

District Secretary; Assistant District Treasurer; Local Training Manager;
Appointments committee members; SAS Manager; ADC Cubs; Group Scout Leader

If you would like to be considered for one these roles, please contact Dodds for further info.

Compass

Compass is now live. You should now be uploading all your Youth data onto the system. This must be completed by the end of January 2015. If you have any queries please with contact Gillwell on 0208 433 7100 or contract Graham Russ who will try to assist. Graham has also uploaded information on the District Dropbox where you will find useful information about Compass. If you don't have access please let Graham know.
graham.russ@btinternet.com

Gone Home

It is with deep regret to inform you that Sylvie Dennison passed away in King George's Hospital.

Sylvie was a valued member of the District for many, many years.
(A fuller account of Sylvie's contribution to Scouting in Barking and Dagenham will be carried in the January/February edition of Woodsmoke.)

The funeral will be held on **Monday 15th December** at Corbets Tey Crematorium, at **10am**.

No flowers, but donation to **Richard House Children's Hospice** would be welcomed.

Our thoughts are with Alan and the family at this difficult time.

Cub Capers

Hi all you cubby people,

I thought this would be my last report but I have agreed to stay on as ADC Cubs whilst a replacement is found.



Well done to the 18 cubs, 13 leaders and Angie our treasurer for coming to the Jungle Rally competition. Well done to all and congrats to the winners the 6th.

At the last cub leaders meeting it was decided to run these competitions, Swimming Gala, Handcraft, Football, Sports and Jungle Rally. These events are for the cubs to meet others cubs and leaders from around the District. Also as some cost the District a large amount of money we need you to support them. Leaders do not have to attend as I understand some of you work at weekends but it would be nice to see your cubs.

If you cannot take your cubs to camp for any reason please let me know as I am always willing to take them with me and I am sure if you contact other groups they will be willing as well. All cubs in this District should have the opportunity to go to camp.

I will be sending out an email regarding the date of the next meeting.

Have a good Christmas and New Year.

Chilly Akela Rosie

Scout Shout

Unfortunately we had to cancel Cyclo Cross at the last minute due to lack of numbers.

This is very disappointing especially when all the leaders agreed it was a good event and they would support it. I will reschedule Cyclo Cross for next and hope for a better response.

Well done to all the Scouts, Cubs, Beavers and Leaders that attended the remembrance parade in Barking on the 9th November. It was a really good turnout at 85 children and leaders from across the district and made me very proud to be part of Scouting.

Mark Sutton Competition – We are unable to have our usual venue at the Salvation Army in Barking due to both halls already being booked out. I am looking for another venue and will update you all accordingly once I have somewhere organised.

Have a great Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Thanks, Russell

Beaver Bits

Hello everyone. I hope that you are all well. Can you believe that we are already on the December issue of Woodsmoke? Where on earth has this year gone? It has flown by.

Since last month's edition we have had our Connect 4 competition, held on the 1st of November at the 21st HQ. Unfortunately this was very poorly attended. Only the 8th, 9th and 21st entered teams. Well done to the 8th for coming first and to the 9th for coming joint second, third and fourth along with the 21st. Perhaps due to the fact that the competition was held right at the end of the half term numbers were low. We discussed at our last leader's meeting about moving the competition to July as this tends to be a quiet month. Watch this space.

Next we had the District Remembrance Parade with the British Legion and other youth organisations. It was a fantastic turn out for such an important day. All of our members looked incredibly smart in their uniforms and poppies and paraded beautifully. Our parents, despite having to wait over an hour to collect their children, were very supportive. Well done to everyone. So much respect and compassion was shown to our brave heroes, both fallen and survivors.

By the time that you read this we would have already held our District Christmas party. I'm sure like last year that it would have been a blast. The children and leaders had heaps of fun rounding off the year together in 2013 so I'm sure that 2014 will be just as good. A huge thanks goes to Ken for organising it all again. He certainly knows how to throw a party! Speaking of Ken, as most of you are now aware, he is stepping aside as ADC Beaver Scouts from the beginning of December. Dodds will be announcing the new ADC soon, but on behalf of all of us, we would like to say a great big thanks to Ken for all that he has done for the section over the last 3 years and for how he has kept us organised and in touch with everything going on. We'll still miss him out and about in the District. He's not going far.

Thank you T-bag for everything.

Down at the 9th we decided to send our charity fund raising over to St Francis Hospice this year as sadly (some of you may know) our chosen charity, Beat Bullying, has gone into administration. I do hope that it can pick itself up again as it truly is a worth while charity. Come on government, step in and help these guys out. Anyway, the children and their friends and family raised a fantastic amount of £50 to send to St Francis. Well done everyone. Very proud leader indeed. Please don't forget to send in your reports of what you are all getting up to in your Colonies. We'd love to hear what you've been up to in Woodsmoke.

That's about it for now and for this year. An email will go around letting you all know when the first leader's meeting of 2015 will be.

Have a wonderful Christmas, enjoy and be merry and Happy New Year to all of you.

Keep Beavering Away,
Honest Leigh and T-Bag





Barking and Dagenham SAS
Invite you
To

Music for Christmas

With Pavilion brass.

Friday 19th December 2014
The Ted Ball Memorial Hall
Neasham Road, Dagenham RM8 2LU
7.30 for 8.00
Seasonal refreshments

**There
will be a
raffle split
between
SAS funds
and our
District
Charity for
2014/15**

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.



**Articles for the January/February 2015 edition of Woodsmoke should be in by the
20th January at the latest**

Please let us know what your Group has been upto, with photos all the better.

Please email: steveandjillmay87@hotmail.com