



Woodsmoke

The news from around
Barking and Dagenham District

February/March 2016

Dodd's Deliberations

It's 2016 already and there is a busy year ahead, particularly with the Cubs celebrating their 100th birthday (they don't look a day over 10 ½), and 30 years of Beavers (they don't look a day over 8).

A lot has happened since the last Woodsmoke, and I am sure we could fill a book with news. Hopefully you have all been keeping up to date through our Facebook page and group.

One of the biggest hi-lights for me las year was leading a group of 29 Scouts and Explorers to Denmark where we met up with our long-time friends Bellahoj 21st Barking Scout group. It was a first for me having never had the opportunity as a Venture Scout. It truly was trip to remember, with long lasting friendships made, and us all looking forward to the Danes joining us in 2018. The bread however was another story !!!

We had a good turnout at the B&D Youth Parade , and over 100 young people and leaders at the Remembrance Parade. A big well done to everyone who attend.

We finished the year with the District Carol Concert. Many thanks to 6th B&D for hosting this at St Marys.

So back into 2016. We have a busy year already planned and to make sure you don't miss a thing the District Calendar is available in electronic copy, and on the website. This will be updated as needed, so check with your GSL or the website for the latest information.

Our first big event is our Founder Day Celebration on Saturday 20th Feb. Our New District Youth Commissioner Anna Skipworth is organising a fun filled morning of activities to celebrate the Baden Powell's birthday and all things Scouting. This will be our very first Youth lead event, and will be followed by a leaders get together. Definitely not one to miss!!!

Other events worthy of note are St Georges Day Parade on 24th April, Swimming Evening on 30th April, and Sports Day on 18th June.

There are plenty of events coming up in the District, so please support them. You have asked for them to be put on, and they can only be a success with all groups taking part.

Dodds



Woodsmoke rises from the Ashes!

Sorry for the lack of issues in the latter half of 2015. This was due to the Editor's relocation in October to Rochford.

Dodd's Deliberations contd.

9.1 Notifications

I am aware of groups that are still not informing me of their activities away from their hall. It is very important to do so, and if something went wrong, you could be personally liable and your Scout insurance maybe invalid. It only takes a quick text or preferably an email to let me know.

Appointments and Training

As part of updating Compass we need to make sure that all roles are full. Therefore you will notice from the calendar that we have a number of dates for the Appointments Advisory Committee (AAC). If you have changed roles or are a new leader then please contact Sue Beerling our new Appointments Secretary (susan.beerling@ntlworld.com), who will book you in for your review.

We will also be focusing on training this year. All the training modules are included in the calendar. Please book yourself on the training you require. We have a new leader joining the District team shortly who will be working with the Training Advisors, Appointments Secretary and other members of the District team to bring our records up to date. So watch this space!!!

Vacancies

District Treasurer. Angie is looking to step down from the role of Treasurer at the next AGM so we are looking for someone to hand over the reins to and to look after the District Accounts.

District Secretary. Why not join the District Exec, and find out what we really do!!

If you would like to be considered for any of these roles, please contact Dodds for further information.



Compass is about to be relaunched and will allow us to manage Appointments, Training, and DBS's for all Leaders, Adult supporters and Networkers in the District. It will not include youth members.

Leigh Dowling has agreed to be our Compass Super user and will have access to update records and assist where possible to get our records up to date. So if you need any help, Leigh and myself should be the first point of contact. Gilwell will also be setting up a Compass Helpline, and GLNE will be providing support too.

Leigh and myself will be updating records, and will need your help in making sure we have accurate information. So if asked, a speedy reply would be very welcome.

It is worth noting that there are a number of Adults without current DBS's at the moment in the District. Also there was a period in 2014 when DBS's were not recorded by Gilwell, so you may think your is current but Gilwell have no record of this. The easiest way to resolve this is to complete a new check.

Please note that Leaders Warrants will start to be suspended from 31 March if DBS's are not valid.



**Some
photos
of 'Dane
Camp
2015'**



Beaver Bits



Hello everyone. I hope that you are all keeping well. It's been a crazy few months since our last Wood Smoke issue with all sections being extremely busy. Christmas seems like a distant memory, now that we are back into the swing of things in 2016.

What an exciting year ahead the Beaver Scout Section has. We've reached the lovely young age of 30! Lots of fun filled times coming up to celebrate this.

So, since our last issue what have we been up to? We had Connect 4 in September and as usual it was a lovely morning where the Beavers mixed beautifully with each other from different groups. Next we held a fun packed District Spy Camp at Thriftwood in Brentwood. For the weekend, the Beavers pretended to be spies and had to complete secret missions! They even had to retrieve a coded message from an agent who was hiding out in the woods! Following on from this we had the Youth Parade which saw all of the sections coming together to join in with other Youth Movements across the borough. The parade demonstrated to the local community how great we are at offering wonderful opportunities to young people in Barking & Dagenham. I was particularly proud of the Beavers that attended from different groups. They marched fantastically. Well done.

After the Youth Parade the Beavers were soon busy again as they had the Spooky Welly Walk at Hargreaves. There were ghosts, vampires, werewolves, Frankenstein and lots of other spooky things to be seen. Thank you to everyone

for making it such a fun night for the children. We were also joined by the Explorers who helped out too and were a brilliant team. After the Welly Walk everyone took part in the Borough's Remembrance Day Parade and Service. Unfortunately I was unable to attend this year but I was told that everyone did brilliantly and were so smart. They walked proudly and showed enormous respect for the event. Well done.



Lastly as a section, we round off the year in November with our District Christmas Party. Mr Ziggy Zoo, the children's entertainer, had the Beavers jumping for joy, playing games, dancing in the snow and thoroughly having loads of fun. We even had a visit from our ACC Beavers (Phil Merchant) and our County Mascot! In total 73 Beavers attended. Great turn out. We



ended the year fully with a District Carol Service hosted by the 6th B&D. It was great and very well organised. Thank you to all who planned, took part and welcomed us to their HQ.

So, this year proves to be even busier. We have our meetings to discuss, things to plan etc so please do ensure that someone from your group attends. I will always send out plenty of notice for when one is coming up.

That's about it for now. Do send your articles in for Wood Smoke. It will be great to hear from the Beavers themselves this year. Especially as we have a big birthday coming up.

As always, Keep Beaver-ing Away!
Honest Leigh ADC Beaver Scouts



Cub Capers

Hi all you cubby people,

It's been a long time since I had to write my bit for Woodsmoke, we have had all the usual competition and some reinstated one e.g. sports. Well done to everyone who supported these events and congratulations to the winners.

On a sad note we have said goodbye to the 5-a-side football as this wasn't very well supported, so can I ask you to support all the events this year because we could lose some of these.

If you would like to write about a campsite or somewhere you have taken your cubs for a day out then you need to get your bit to Steve May by the 14th of each month. Better still get your cubs to write something.

I would like to thank all of you for your support and kind wishes during 2015 as this was a horrible year for me what with one thing after another. We did have some good news, I have had 3 additions to my family a great nephew and a great niece in May and another great nephew on the 1st January 2016, and so the New Year has started well so far. T.Bag goes into hospital for more treatment on the 26th January and will not be allowed near people or children for about 3 weeks.

That's it for me; hope to see you at an event soon.

Take care

Chilly Akela



Scout Shout

The past few months have been fairly quiet for the Scout section, but we have still seen many taking part in district events, such as the Youth Parade and the Remembrance Parade.

Away from parades, we had 47 link up with the Explorer section taking part in the inaugural Explorer/Scout link camp – which was an activity based camp based at Thriftwood. The scout section had 8 stay the entire weekend, camping alongside the Explorers – with another 39 turning up on the Saturday morning, to take part in a full day of activities. Thanks to the leaders who helped make the weekend a success, and to Dick, Anna and the explorers for organising and leading the event.

Congratulations goes out to those scouts, who attended the last Chief Scouts Award evenings, collecting their Gold awards.

To finish, we'll look forward to 2016, where we hope the Scout section will once again be busy every month – starting with the Mark Sutton Competition. These events are constantly being discussed and planned by myself and Russell – if you have any ideas please email us. Keep an eye on the district calendar on the website and emails for more updates.

Dan Warrington - District Scout Leader

SAS report

We are doing what it says on the tin - actively supporting!

The SAS supported the Barking and Dagenham Youth Parade in September and Remembrance Sunday. We also provided refreshments at the County Jungle Rally, assisted Explorers and Scouts at their Activity Day in November, refreshments at the District Carol Service and at the brass band evening.

SAS members also attending a curling evening run by Ilford East SAS and Alan, Sue and I attended Romford SAS Xmas dinner.

We recently went to Top Meadow for B&D Xmas meal - thank you to Pauline for organising this.

Our next role will be helping out at the Founders Day activities.

Malcolm

Do you ever find yourself in need of another pair of hands in an emergency?

The Scout Active Support (SAS) members are willing to stand in for your leaders in a time of difficulty.

Call Malcolm or Sue Beerling on **01708 459912**.

This can not be a permanent arrangement, but could be of help in case of long term sickness, term-time holidays, etc.

Facebook and Website

Don't forget to look at

www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

This has various links including the latest NAN forms, District minutes, and Woodsmoke.



District Diary February - March

February

Wednesday 3rd	Getting Started Module 1	District Training	@ 17th HQ
Wednesday 3rd	Young Leader Training	Young Leaders	District HQ
Sat 6th/ Sun 7th	Young Leaders Training	Young Leaders	Hargreaves
Sat 13/Sun 14th	Southern 50 Challenge	Explorers / Network	TBC
Wednesday 17th	GSL's Meeting	GSLs	District HQ
Friday 19th	County Youth Forum	Youth Committee	County HQ
Saturday 20th	Module 28/29 (Presenting & Facilitating) Training		County HQ
Saturday 20th	Founders Day Celebration & Leader Social	All	District HQ
Tuesday 23rd	Safeguarding Training	County Training	TBC
Wednesday 24th	Appointments Advisory Committee	Leaders	District HQ
Saturday 27th	Young Leaders First Aid (Sat or Sun)	Young Leaders	Hargreaves
Sunday 28th	Young Leaders First Aid (Sat or Sun)	Young Leaders	Hargreaves

March

Wednesday 2nd	Beaver Leaders Meeting	Beavers	District HQ
Thursday 3rd	District Executive Meeting	Executive	District HQ
Friday 4th	Hand in Handicraft (19:30-21:30)	Beavers/Cubs	9th HQ
Saturday 5th	Handicraft Competition	Beavers / Cubs	9th HQ
Saturday 5th	Beaver Science Event	Beavers	Hargreaves
Saturday 5th	Network Meeting	Network	TBC
Thursday 10th	Module 16 (Intro to Residential Experiences) Training		@17th HQ
Saturday 12th	Multi-Module 11, 12a, 12b, 19	County Training	Hargreaves
Sunday 13th	Multi-Module 8, 9, 13, 14, 15	County Training	Hargreaves
Monday 14th	Chief Scout Awards	Invitees	Gilwell
Wednesday 16th	Explorer Leaders Meeting	Explorers	District HQ
Saturday 19th	Beaver Easter Egg Hunt	Beavers	Hargreaves
Saturday 19th	DofE Drop in Day	DofE	District HQ
Monday 21st	Trainer Training Meeting	County Training	County HQ
Wednesday 23rd	Appointments Advisory Committee	Leaders	District HQ
Wednesday 23rd	Getting Started Module 3	District Training	@17th HQ

Remember -Woodsmoke is Bi Monthly!
Articles for the **April/May 2016** edition of Woodsmoke

should be in by the
24th March at the latest
Please let us know what your Group
has been up to,
with photos all the better.

The new schedule will be:

March/April
May/June
July/August
September/October
November/December
January/February

Thanks Steve May - Editor
Please email: steveandjillmay87@hotmail.com