



Beaver Sports Day



Districst Cub Sports Day

Cub sports took place on a day that will live in the memory for a long time, in some cases for all the wrong reasons! Firstly, it was the hottest day of the year to that point. Standing in one spot too long, even in full uniform, was uncomfortable as the mercury hit 30+ degrees.

Secondly, something we could never have foreseen, it was the fateful day that England played Germany in the last 16 of the World Cup. There was both great expectation, as well as a very well prepared parent who had wired up a television set in the back of his car to relay what was happening.

I'm sure some teams were depleted as a result of the World Cup draw but as we all now know, they'd have been better concentrating on the Sports Day! It was with some disbelief that we had to announce goal after German goal and a disallowed strike by Lampard.

But it was testament to the spirit of the Cubs taking part that what was going on in the background didn't spoil the day or the event. We had some fine parental support, something which is always good to see at a major Cub event, all apparently undeterred by the heat or the football. 2nd Hook arrived as the double champions, having won the trophy in 2008, and retained it the following year. In practice, after a competitive event in tremendous heat, 2nd Hook took home the Cooke family trophy - awarded for 2nd place, presented to them by Alan Cooke, their own Group Scout Leader, who provided the Cup. The winners in 2010 were 1st Surbiton "Dolphin" whose team put in a number of fine performances to lift the shield that they last won in 2007. Bob Bushell presented the shield to them, attending his last District Cub event as District Commissioner and in doing so he paid tribute to all the parents who had overcome all of the other attractions of the day to attend.



Jan Appleford



The D.C.'s on the Ropes

New District Commissioner David Batten joined his old group 2nd Norbiton along with 7th Malden on their joint Scout Summer camp. This year the camp was held at Downe Activity Centre. Members of both troops enjoyed a week of climbing, go karting, archery and grass sledding as well as a day out to Dover Castle and other activities, not to mention the onsite high ropes course enjoyed by all including our

D.C. Along with all the fun, Scouts from both troops were able to work towards different activity badges as well as the outdoor challenge award.

A good camp all round. Keep up the good work.



Mike Osborne Asst Scout Leader (in Training).

ROYAL KINGSTON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL AGM



Dysart School
July 2010

Thank you Bob

DC Report

As I write, rain is precipitating from an overcast and grey sky, fading memories of a warm and balmy summer into a distant memory. But it's a summer we will all have memories of – ones that I trust will last us a lifetime. The Sleepovers; the Pack Holidays; the Summer Camps; the Expeditions; the events and activities – in short, everything that makes so enjoyable this great Game of ours – are our 'bread and butter' and, in those terms, I sincerely hope we are full.

I had thought that taking over the reins from Bob in July would be a good time as, apart from the camps, many Groups close down for the summer break and it would therefore be a nice, quiet lead-in until the doors were opened for the Autumn term. How wrong I was. I think it fair to say that it has probably been one of my busiest Scouting periods – and it's getting busier now that we are all back and the Group, District and County programmes have kicked in. Sometimes, it's not until you do something yourself that you fully appreciate just how much it involves; Bob: I salute you! Mind you, it may also have something to do with the fact that I have the small matter of the Jamboree preparations to contend with (I am just about to go and pack for Training Camp #2, which is taking place at Tolmers this weekend – 1-3 October) and I am still retaining an involvement with 2nd Norbiton until I can find a replacement GSL. Oh – and undertaking the training I need as DC; yes – it never stops!

Activities over the Summer and in the period since have included: the Beaver Sleepover; the Beaver Exploring afternoon (which, unfortunately, had to revert to its wet-weather alternative but was, nevertheless, a great success); two Group AGMs (Berrylands and 1st Kingston Hill); various meetings, e.g. GSLs, District Executive, County LTM's (Local Training Managers); and several fund-raising activities for Jamboree participants – the County BBQ, the Sutton Environmental fair, and the Kingston Dragon boat race. There was also a very enjoyable evening at 1st Tolworth where various awards and certificates – the pinnacle of which were seven Chief Scout's Gold Awards – were handed out; congratulations again to all recipients.

We have also seen the commencement of a new District club: the Archery Club first opened its doors on 22nd September. They are currently meeting on a Wednesday evening at 1st Hook (indoors) but will switch to Southwood (outdoors) next year when the evenings are lighter. For further information, contact John Bowman or Roy Watts.

And coming up? Well, there's the Scout Survival camp, the Cub Swimming gala, the Kingston & Malden Scout and Guide Band 60th Anniversary dinner (a must!), and the County Gang Show, to name but a few – see the list of upcoming events and get them in your diaries now. Of particular note, though, are two events, both in relation to Jamboree: there is a Barn Dance on October 23rd at 1st Hook (tickets - £8.00 in advance available from me or Martin Meacher, or £10 on the door); and the annual District Quiz on November 13th, again at 1st Hook (see the District Chairman's report for more details) – all are welcome and I'd really urge you to attend. Another date for your diaries is November 14th at Polyapes: from 2.30pm there will be the commemoration of the new memorial statue, followed by a short remembrance service and then the Polyapes AGM; all are welcome.

There is also a Safeguarding Awareness training evening (for Leaders who need it) on 21st October at Southwood, and a DCs and GSLs conference at Gilwell on 31st October – there's still time to book if you haven't yet, GSLs.

I hope that this edition of Insight will stir your memories of Summer back to the forefront of your minds; if your activity is not here, then allow what you see to rekindle thoughts of them and to begin planning for the next because, unlike most games, the one we are embarked upon is never-ending. So let me encourage you onwards to bigger and greater things – the World is your playground; get out there and enjoy it!

Dave



The Giant Cub Sleep Over

I remember going on the first of these events, held in 2008, when it was something of a talking point for all the wrong reasons! The 2008 inaugural event was well organised and conceptually fine, but certainly for a great many Cubs and certainly leaders, calling it a sleepover was a breach of the Trade Descriptions Act, as very little sleeping took place! This time, Martin, as ADC, altered the format - rather than Southwood, it was held at Polyapes this time, and went on for longer, moving away from the recommended sleepover format put out by the National organisers. The first Cubs arrived before lunch on the Saturday, and embarked on a series of activities, virtually from arrival. The excitement that Cubs naturally feel at starting a sleepover had a chance to die down a little by the time it was bedtime as a result.

For a one-night camp, this took an immense amount of planning as well as consuming a lot of leader effort in support: tents had to be put up the night before, mini-bus drivers had to be on hand to move the 170-odd Cubs from Cobham Station up to the site itself over a 2 hour loading period, along with a furniture van to collect their equipment.

The afternoon activities included some favourites: archery, air rifle shooting, bloody bandages and the water slide. The bandages always surprise me - the Cubs love them. The blood is daubed around freely, and they wear them proudly. Any parent turning up and not knowing this is something of a tradition would think they'd been in a naval engagement rather than a sleepover in Surrey. The first thing a number of them seemed to put on the following morning were their various war wounds - they certainly went to breakfast in them.

The catering organisation was led by Dave Ashton but with some excellent support from Ann Rogers, Neil Maclean, Pat Askey, Peter Fowler and many others. Catering was in the Warren, and the numbers on site meant that two shifts were needed for every meal - and although this may sound like a recipe for disaster, everyone who saw how it worked was impressed. The sausage casserole served for dinner was a masterpiece and I have to admit to going back for another one of Ann and Pat's beautifully put together bacon and egg rolls when breakfast was served, such was their quality, and the very taste of which sums up camping in a field to me since I experienced my first one on a campsite back in 1966





The activities continued into the evening after dinner. Dave Batten led an excellent camp fire which helped to send them all to bed happy. We don't have girls in my Cub Pack, and therefore perhaps I found the sight of the female Cubs coming to the camp fire not in camp blankets but in dressing gowns funnier than I should have done? Equally, it's the first time I've seen pink glittery nightwear at a Cub camp - and that was just Martin's. The Cubs did actually sleep that night, though. The tent I was looking after slept for around 5 hours, on a night that could possibly be best described as "bracing" - the top of the ridge at Polyapes is quite exposed and when you get a cold wind blowing, you know it. Nothing much for it other than to curl up and pull the sleeping bag right up.

I was speaking to Martin at one point during the weekend and he told me that one of the things he had to do as the main organiser was call the Giant Sleepover team and report the numbers on the site - it was part of an attempt to beat a world record for the number sleeping over - and so he reported to them that he was on a camp site with about 240, prompting great comment around the sleepover offices that he had so many - it would appear we were one of the largest sleepovers taking place, perhaps the largest. Our group photograph is on the Giant Sleepover Website - see www.giantsleepover.com, and check the second page of photographs in the "Gallery" section - there doesn't appear to be any group of a similar size pictured there, and 20+ Cubs at Polyapes weren't even in this photograph.

Those who take Cubs to camp regularly know the difficulty of the last morning - the Cubs don't find packing up the most interesting activity, and it can fall flat in those last hours - but this one didn't - another round of activities, including football training, martial arts and volleyball made sure of that. They were still singing some of the songs they'd learnt the previous evening while trying to replicate how their parents had packed their sleeping bags into such a small compression sack, before (typically) giving up and putting it in a bin liner before moving their bags to the other side of the field so the leaders that had put up the tents some 30 hours previously could take them down and pack them away again.

The 2008 sleepover was hard work, and everyone was exhausted afterwards. It was hard work again this time, but there was a sense of achievement, the feeling that we'd done something special as a District that is unique to Scouting. I think that Martin and the organising team can feel justly proud of what they organised for that weekend in June - whereas a number of us, recalling the first one, were feeling a little apprehensive about repeating this, if we do another one in 2012, I'm actually quite looking forward to it. So long as Dave, Peter, Pat, Ann and others are going to do the breakfast rolls again, of course.

Chairman's Report

Firstly, I'd like to welcome Dave Batten on board as our new District Commissioner and wish him all the best for the next five years.

In May I attended the Kingston Borough Band Tattoo where both our Scout and Guide bands, along with many other top class bands, showed how great they are in a wonderful display of musical talent.

Although I managed to attend a few of the AGMs this year, I was unable to get to most of them. I will try to get to many more next year. The District AGM was at a different venue this year but will be back at 1st Hook next year.

On Saturday 13th November we'll be running the District Anniversary Quiz again at 1st Hook headquarters and I hope that as many of you as possible will attend and enjoy the ploughman's supper.



Proceeds this year will be put towards the cost of our youngsters going to the next Jamboree. So please come along and support our youngsters.

If you would like tickets, then please contact either:

Trevor Strong on 020 8288 8652 or Dave Batten on 020 8391 1907. Hope to see you there.

Best wishes to you all.

Trevor Strong



Beaver Scout Report

We chose a different venue for our annual Sports this year and went to Green Lane School in Worcester Park. The parents obviously appreciated the shorter journey and also the refreshments available from the District Scout Fellowship's Coffee Bar. Congratulations to 2nd Norbiton Beavers who won the trophy this year.

September saw the usual District Sleepover, The Surbiton Festival Parade and the

Exploring Afternoon for older Beavers.

Some sleeping went on at the Sleepover plus all the usual fun activities.

The Festival Parade was attended by Beavers from several Colonies who showed the general public we exist and should be congratulated on their excellent behaviour.

Unfortunately it began to rain halfway through the Exploring Afternoon and was too wet to build the usual shelters or collect corks. However the programme was soon adapted to include indoor activities and everyone still earned their Explore Badge.

Lyn Stone, DBSL, has been holding the fort for me this month and has done everything with her usual aplomb and great support from all the Leaders. Thanks everyone.

Next we have the Annual Party. Stand by for the noise!

Heather Mason Assistant District Commissioner Beaver Scouts



BEAVER SCOUTS
(5 ½ to 8 years)

Cub Scout Report

Since the last edition of insight the Cubs section has had a very busy summer, with the first big event being the Giant Sleepover. We had over 160 Cubs come for the weekend at Polyapes campsite in Cobham, Surrey. Most of the packs in the District were represented. We were very fortunate with the weather, which helped make the event such a great success. The Cubs were dropped off on the Saturday morning at Cobham station and were then shuttled to the Campsite by mini bus. They were then checked in and given their itinerary for the weekend and showed the tents where they would be sleeping. They were given a brief introduction before they started many activities such as archery, rifle shooting, giant water slide, popcorn making, bloody bandages and many more. On the Saturday evening the new DC Dave Batten kindly came and ran a campfire along with Ian Appleford from 1st Surbiton 'Dolphin', which was great fun and enjoyed by all. On the Sunday the Cubs were able to try out new skills, such as martial arts, volleyball, football skills, model aeroplane making and more. After the activities we had a short closing ceremony, after which the Cubs then loaded their bags into vans and were shuttled back to Cobham station. Meal times over the weekend were done in shifts due to the large number. The food across the weekend was second to none and was all organised by Dave Ashton and his team. Thank you to them.



CUB SCOUTS
(8 to 10½ years)

It was so nice to see many leaders from across the District all work so closely together to make the event such a huge success that I hope it will be repeated in 2012. Thank you to the organising team for all your hard work and thanks also to all of the leaders that helped across the weekend.

Our next event of the summer was the District Sports Day held as usual at Imber Court in Esher. We moved the day of sports this year to Sunday 27th June so it didn't clash with the Wimbledon final only to find out that England was playing Germany in the World Cup the same day. Everyone who attended had a good time. 1st Place this year went to 1st Surbiton 'Dolphin' with the runners up trophy going to 2nd Hook - well done to both these teams. Thank you to the leaders from 1st Surbiton 'Dolphin' for organising the event.

All of the packs made the most of the summer with lots of different programmes going on across the District, from games at the park, BBQs, days out and more. I was pleased to see that most of the packs went camping or on pack holidays over the summer months and the Cubs had the opportunity to learn new skills and to explore the great outdoors.

We are now in the winter months and the Cub section still have a busy time ahead with our next big event, the Swimming Gala (which would have taken place by the time you read this). With Christmas just around the corner the packs I'm sure will be very busy getting ready for the festive season and the start of 2011.

Lastly, I would like to say a big 'Thank You' to Reg Lefevre who has sadly decided to step down as District Cub Scout Leader due to other commitments in Scouting. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all of your hard work supporting the Cub section over the last 2 years and I wish you all the best.

Martin Meacher Assistant District Commissioner Cub Scouts



Scout Report

As the evenings draw in, Troops are now getting into their winter programmes. With the resources now available on-line, Scouts can enjoy a huge range of activities. If one was to undertake a lightning trip round the District every Troop would more than likely be involved in a different variety of activity.

Over the past few years, running a balanced programme has enabled Scouts to not only enjoy activities but to make real progress towards their Chief Scout's Gold Award. However there are District activities to get involved in as well. Our premier event this year is the Survival Camp in early October, at Broadstone Warren Scout camp site in East Sussex, where 80 or so Scouts will be testing their survival skills. Making their own shelters to sleep in, cooking over open fires and learning real outdoor skills will enable them to gain the Survival Skills badge.

What about the weather, you might ask? That's all part of the challenge! With the continuing success of the District Air Rifle Club, a number of groups will be taking part in the National Scout Air Rifle Championships at Bisley in late October, a world class event with over 700 competitors. The District Night Hike will be in

SCOUTS
(10 ½ to 14 years)

early December; a very popular event in the Surrey Hills that really tests navigation and team skills. On a different note, this will be my last report as ADC(Scouts), I am standing down after 7 years in the role, starting with joint activities between the old Surbiton and Kingston and Malden Districts then for Royal Kingston District. During that time I have seen troops expanding, getting to know each other and enjoying a range of superb activities which are quite unique to our District. Stuart Thompson is taking over and will continue our fresh and innovative approach to activities. However, I will still be around as I have been honoured with a new County role as ACC(Scouts).

Robin Burr Assistant District Commissioner Scouts



Explorer Scout Report

During the summer holidays almost all of the Units managed to get away – either at joint camps with their hosting Scout troop or attending a Jamboree in Cheshire, or travelling further afield to Holland. We are now planning the programme for the coming year with most of the Units are taking part in the County Treasure Hunt around London in November. Next year we have decided that the Units will be on taking part in the Sun Run and Gilwell 24 – both in July so exams will be over!! No excuses, We have one unit and their leader taking part in the county Expedition to Sweden so we will look forward to their reports.



EXPLORER SCOUTS
(14 to 18 years)

Sue Barnden Assistant District Commissioner Explorer Scouts



K&M Band celebrates its 60th Anniversary on the Isle of Wight....

40 members of K&M Band enjoyed a fun filled and busy 5 days on the Isle of Wight in August as part of the Band's 60th Anniversary celebrations. The Band had been invited to take part in two Carnivals in Shanklin as well as being given a slot in the town's popular bandstand.

Although the heavens opened within minutes of our arrival on the Island the weather had improved considerably by the time we took our place at the front of the first Carnival Procession later the same day. The procession was made up of floats from all over the Island each representing their town or charitable organisation. Although the procession was painfully slow in places – due to the fire brigade stopping

to collect donations ahead of the procession (!!!) - there were lots of people cheering us all along the route which started and finished in Shanklin Old Village.

Between engagements we had the chance to do a bit of sight-seeing and enjoyed a bracing walk up Tennyson Down followed by a visit to Alum Bay with spectacular views of the Needles Lighthouse. The day was rounded off with a fantastic firework display – although it caused a bit of a stir when a stray firework set fire to a local farmer's field!

We also managed to fit in a trip to a local swimming pool and spent some time in the arcades on Sandown Pier! On our penultimate day we performed to a reasonably sized audience in the Bandstand in Rylstone Gardens in Shanklin (wearing our new 60th anniversary t-shirts) and in the evening led the Illuminated Carnival Procession.

During the trip everyone got into the spirit of things by making a costume to wear in the illuminated parade – which was done by sewing fluorescent material and ribbon onto black tops and trousers. These outfits looked really effective, as well as being fun to make and were completed with head lamps (to help us to see the music) and fairy lights draped around the instruments. Everyone even had their fingernails painted with fluorescent nail polish – yes even the boys!! We all had a lot of fun and our kit van was decorated with lights and banners so it could come in the parade with us!

At the end of the illuminated parade we joined with local marching band "Wight Diamonds" to play some music together, which they had shared with us earlier in the week. We are now hoping to meet up and perform with them again in the future.

We were fortunate to have a great support team with us on the trip keeping us fed and watered and we extend our thanks to them for helping to make the trip such a success. We received lots of compliments during our visit and we had been invited back in 2011 before we even got home!

The finale to our 60th Anniversary will be our Annual Awards Concert on Saturday 4th December and the Band would like to extend an invitation to all members of the District. The Concert is being held in the main hall at Tolworth Girls School starting at 7.15pm, admission is free and all are welcome. It would be lovely to see the leaders from all of the groups with members in the Band. Please contact Alison on 07941 399686 or Karl on 07960 930673 for more details on this event or the Band itself.



Have a Go Archery Competition Saturday 10th July

It was a glorious sunny day and no wind to contend with which was perfect for Royal Kingston's inaugural "Have a Go Archery Competition". The competition took place at Woking Archery Club, just past the R.H.S gardens at Wisley and was open to Scouts, Explorers, Leaders and Parents. 10 and 20 yard targets had been set up and the participants had the opportunity to shoot at both distances if they wished.

The competitors arrived at their allotted times, attended a briefing and safety talk then took part in the shoot. They all had some practice shots first so that they felt comfortable with the equipment and then shot 4 ends of 6 arrows, in total 24 arrows. Over the course of the day 30 people took part in a nice relaxed competition and gave us feedback as to whether there was enough interest within the district to set up an archery club and have competitions.

Watch this space re club and competitions.

A big thank you to John, Roy, and Frank who were the driving force behind the event, to Caroline and her admin skills, and also to the 2 club members Carolyn Hunt and Rob Henderson for giving up their day for free.

Result as follows:

20Yards	1st	Karl Bromley 82
Leaders 10 Yards	1st	Reg Lefevre 210
	2nd	Richard Gooud 204(2 ends)
	3rd	Bob Taylor 204(1 end)
Parents 10 Yards	1st	Steve Harrison 200
	2nd	Graham Weymouth 146 (2 ends)
Under 18, 10 Yards	1st	Emma Harrison 186
	2nd	Molly O'Connor 174
	3rd	Jack Gibbons 97
Under 14, 10 Yards	1st	Jake Harrison 202
	2nd	Stuart Davies 194
	3rd	Thomas Leaning 190

ADULT AWARDS

GOOD SERVICE AWARDS

BAR TO THE AWARD FOR MERIT

Muriel Drury 1st Tolworth

AWARD FOR MERIT

Timothy Evans 2nd Norbiton

SERVICE AWARDS

CHIEF SCOUT'S 40 YEARS SERVICE AWARD

Muriel Drury 1st Tolworth

CHIEF SCOUT'S 30 YEARS SERVICE AWARD

Paul Cavalier 3rd Kingston

CHIEF SCOUT'S 20 YEARS SERVICE AWARD

Graham Tucker 1st Hook/Scoutlink

CHIEF SCOUT'S 15 YEARS SERVICE AWARD

Sheila Traynor 1st Surbiton

CHIEF SCOUT'S 10 YEARS SERVICE AWARD

Sarah Yule 6th Tolworth

CHIEF SCOUT'S 5 YEARS SERVICE AWARD

Samantha Axbey 2nd Malden

Richard Feltham 7th Malden

Geoffrey Oakshett Columbus

Martin Lowes 2nd Tolworth

Janine Smith 1st Hook

WOOD BADGES

SCOUT

John Bowman 1st Tolworth

CUB SCOUT

Michael Gallagher 2nd Malden



ADULT TRAINING

For details of modular training see Website <http://www.glsWSCOUTS.org.uk/> For further details contact;

Mrs J Condon, 34 Arundel Avenue, Morden, SM4 4DX, telephone 020 8540 5115, email training@glswscouts.org.uk or contact your Local Training Manager.

For details of first aid courses contact;

Janet Drinkall, telephone 020 8669 4774, email janet.drinkall@glswscouts.org.uk.



DISTRICT QUIZ

Saturday 13th November 2010 – 7:30 for 8pm

at

1st Hook Scout HQ in Verona Drive, Hook

£5 per head including supper

Teams of 4 to 10

Everyone welcome

If you would like to submit an article for INSIGHT please e-mail it to michaelfarnon@msn.com or contact Michael Farnon on 0781 800 1594. Alternatively you can send it to 100 Bridge Road, Chessington, Surrey KT9 2EX. Dates of publication are February, June and October. Articles for inclusion need to be received by 10am. on the 1st day of each publication month. Thank you for taking the time to read "INSIGHT"

Published by the Royal Kingston District Scout Council.

ACTIVITIES

Oct 23rd

Barn Dance at 1st Hook

Oct 29th

Souwest Gang Show

Nov 13th

District Anniversary Quiz

Nov 14th

Commemoration of the new memorial statue at Polyapes

Nov 20th-21st

Scout / Explorer Scout Air Rifle Competition – 1st Malden

Nov 21st

Canoe pool session – Wimbledon College Pool

Dec 4th-5th

Scout Night Hike

Dec 4th

K & M Band Annual Concert

Dec 11th

Jamboree Craft Fair, Wallington District HQ

Feb 5th 2011

Cub Arts & Crafts Competition – 1st Hook

Feb 6th

Beaver Scout Bowling

Feb 11th

Jamboree Black-tie Dinner

Mar 12th

Beaver Scout Scientific Afternoon

Mar 27th

Beaver Scout Exploring Afternoon

May 13th/15th

Beaver Scout sleepover at Polyapes

Jun 11th

CuBeaver Jambo

2nd July

Beaver Scout Sports Morning

Sep 10th/11th

Beaver Scout Sleepover

Sep 24th

Surbiton Festival

Sep 25th

Beaver Scout Exploring Afternoon

Oct 16th

Beaver Scout Party

MEETINGS

Oct 21st

Safeguarding Awareness Training

Oct 31st

DCs' & GSLs' Day – Gilwell

Nov 10th

District Executive Meeting

Nov 16th

District Cub Leaders' Meeting – 1st Surbiton

Dec 1st

District Scout Leaders' Meeting / Social

Dec 22nd

District Executive Meeting

Jan 17th 2011

District Beaver Leaders' Meeting - 3K

Jan 19th

District Cub Leaders' Meeting - 2H

Feb 9th

District Executive Meeting

Mar 8th

District Beaver Leaders' Meeting - 1S

Mar 16th

District Executive Meeting

Apr 27th

District Executive Meeting

Jun 8th

District Executive Meeting

Jun 16th

June District Beaver Leaders' Meeting - 6T

Jul 20th

District Executive Meeting

Sep 14th

District Beaver Leaders' Meeting - 1H

AGMs

14th November Polyapes - 3.00pm

14th June 1st Tolworth

22nd June District - 8.00pm - 1st Hook