

"Scouting About"

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Kip on a Ship

On the 3rd-4th April 06 during the Easter holidays the 7th Hornchurch Cub pack attended Kip on a Ship. 18 Cubs and 4 leaders attended a two day activity adventure for which the core attraction was the HMS Belfast on the river Thames. They could explore the nine decks of a WWII warship and had the chance to sleep-over on board and sample the sights and smells of the ship. This in war time supported up to 945 sailors. If that wasn't enough for them, they had a visit to the Tower of London, to see the soldiers, the beefeaters and the ravens, to see the crown jewels and the Gunpowder plot to blow up the King and his government. On the second day after more activities on board we set off to visit the Science Museum as the finishing touch to explore the history of mankind's past and present. One boy celebrated his ninth birthday having a cake with candles at a pizza restaurant in central London. One birthday party he should be able to remember. Below are extracts from some of the boys' letters.

I liked kip on a ship because we went to lots of London's landmarks-I saw the Tower of London, I thought it was funny when I called a real life solider a dummy till he moved!

I liked the science museum; I set off one of the alarms!

The Belfast was also nice because of the gentle rocking motion/enjoyed exploring and learning about the Belfast.

The crown jewels were amazing well over 500 diamonds in the Indian coronation crown; I thoroughly enjoyed my stay at the HMS Belfast.

Went to see the science museum, we saw what was inside a car motor; different materials and parts of the human body.

I thought it was really good, I liked it all!

The two days went extremely well and all the planning of it paid off, the weather on the days were totally different to what was forecast so well pleased with that. It was quite tiring for both the cubs as well as the leaders but we all enjoyed it. We returned with lots of good memories.

I wished to thank all the Cubs their parents and of course the other leaders who attended, who's support was much appreciated. I can also email detailed planning /review packs should anyone like to have a copy.

Adrian Ribnell ACSL 7th Hornchurch Cubs



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**June '06
Issue 45**

Group Circulation: Beaver Scout Leaders Cub Scout Leaders Scout Leaders Explorer Scout Leaders



DC's Report

I can't start this edition without turning my mind to St. George's Day. Despite the wet start, the rain couldn't dampen our enthusiasm and a good time was had by all. Both the Mayor, Cllr John Mylod and our new M.P James Brokenshire really got into the swing of things and seem to be the sort of people who actually care about Scouting – a welcome development from our local politicians. I have received some very positive feedback about the day and I would like to thank everyone for their help and support. I would also like to congratulate all those adults who were honoured with long service awards and Wood Badges. It was also good to present two Chief Scout Awards to Explorer Scouts Rob Lyus and Stuart Dickson – well done lads.

It was a pleasure recently to be invited to the wedding of District Cub Scout Leaders, Keith Carver and Jan Fletcher (even if me and Grim had to rush back from Easter Camp to be there!). I even had the great honour of being chosen to do the reading at the service itself. It was a fantastic day and I am sure that speak for all concerned when I say that I wish the new Mr & Mrs Carver all the best for the future. I even managed to surprise Keith by presenting him with his ten-year service certificate at the reception, much to the shock of all concerned!

We have a couple of personnel changes recently. Graham Crossman has now taken on a wider brief as ADC (General Duties) and consequently Kevin Williamson is now handling all Nights Away Notification Forms. We now have an interactive NAN Form on the District Website. This makes it much easier for the relevant people to get the information, so please try to use this in future. We also welcome Kevin Cooper who has taken over as GSL of 1st South Hornchurch, and in so doing, we thank Roger Fall for his hard work in this role previously. Thankfully Roger remains as a DCSL.

I feel that at this point I must again highlight the fact that the Chief Scout honoured Jim Berry with The Silver Acorn and Terry Morley with The Silver Wolf. Both men have given a lifetime to scouting and have helped and motivated countless hundreds of young people and adults. It is individuals like them who make this District what it is, and I add my most sincere congratulations on their most prestigious of awards.

Plans are building across the District for summer camps and expeditions. I will be joining 1st Elm Park and 2nd Elm Park at 'NorJam', while other Troops are off to a variety of locations including 'Come to Tolmers' and most spectacularly, Centurion Explorer Scout Unit are off to the Serbian Jamboree in Nis. If you are going away I wish you all the best of luck (and plenty of fine weather!)

Do you realise that in August I will have done four years as District Commissioner! I can't believe that the time has gone so fast. The fact that I am still here has much to do with the excellent support that I receive from my team, and I would particularly like to thank each and every leader, helper and committee member for helping to make Scouting in Hornchurch such an excellent asset. On behalf of all the young people who you help to motive and inspire, many thanks!

Have a great summer!

Dean Jefferys

District Commissioner



Well we are nearly 20 years old but some of us, well most of us feel a lot older. To celebrate this, our County are arranging a Birthday Party on 11th June at Gilwell Park. We will be joined by the Cubs who are celebrating their 90th and yes most of us feel that at times. So I am looking forward to the jelly and ice cream!!!! And pass the parcel!!

Our Colonies are continuing to grow and we look forward to opening our new Colony, 1st Corbets Tey at Corbets Tey School in September.

I hope like me you thought St George's Day was much better with improved seating for the Beavers – thanks to everyone who turned up on the Saturday morning to put out the benches and chairs, and who helped put them back after the service.

We had an excellent turnout at the Swimming Gala, and congratulations to 1st Cranham for winning the Beaver Trophy.

Next year is our big one our 21st and we are looking to hold our first ever District Beaver Sleepover!!!! In February.

**Linda Thorogood
ADC Beavers**



Who said raising money is hard?

2nd Elm Park Scouts held "I'm a Scout get me out of here", the leaders are walking up the 3 highest peaks in Wales and the Group held a Quiz Night so Cathy Briggs ACSL at 2nd Elm Park thought the Cubs should do a fundraising event. We decide to hold a sponsored silence, not the most exciting event for the Cubs, but an hour of piece of the leaders! We made sure that we had planned out enough activities to keep them quiet for an hour so the sponsored forms went out. The target was £350 meaning that each Cub needed to raise £10.00..... amazingly we raised £500, with Gift Aid on all the sponsorship the actual total raised for one hours' work was £610, beats holding a jumble sale doesn't it ?!?!

**Paul Fix - CSL
2nd Elm Park**



Nights Away

I was once told on my training that a good Cub Pack builds on what young people have learnt and done at Beavers, but still leaves scope for them to do more in Scouts. This is so true, the natural progression of Nights Away is a great example, on average Beaver Scouts go on sleepovers, Cub Scouts go on weekend camps and Scouts go on a week summer camp, (plus weekend camps). At 2nd Elm Park Cubs we aim to have 3 nights away experience per year, Christmas Camp, Cub Camp and this year we introduced the idea on holding a 'Mini Camp' which although in reality was a sleepover in our Scout Hall, we made sure that the programme included outside based activities like learning how to cook on a fire, taking part in a hike, etc...

When we sent out the letters we made sure that we really sold the benefits of this camp as our primary aim was to attract those Cubs who never go on camp. The benefits of holding such this type of camp were, as we held it in our Scout Hall the costs were minimal, the transportation time for parents was minimal and it was only for 24 hours so it didn't take up the whole weekend. We had 20 Cubs who attended many of who were new to Cubs or had never been on a camp before.

By holding this type of event it takes a lot of the 'anxieties or concerns' away from Cubs (and parents) so that when it comes to attending an outside weekend Cub Camp they are fine. Also it makes it much easier on the leaders when it come to an outside camp as the Cubs will have learnt many of the basic skills they need from the inside camp. I know that 1st Elm Park also held a similar mini camp using our Scout Hall. This is such a great idea and very easy to organise I would recommend that all Packs consider this. If any Cub Packs are interesting in using our hall to hold a sleepover / mini camp please contact me.

Photos below: Grim showing the Cubs to 'gunk' a pan ready to put on the fire and Dean with some of the Cubs enjoying their Chips!



2nd Elm Park really are putting the 'out' in Scouting!

With the weather getting hotter (although as I write this its raining!) and our Cub Pack growing in numbers we decided that having 40 Cubs in our Scout Hall every week was going to be very challenging over the summer term, the Cubs are always telling us they like it when we go on visits or have nights out so we set ourselves the task of every other week we would hold a meeting not in the Scout Hall ... therefore the challenge was on to arrange 6 nights out for this terms programme. Below are some of the nights we have held / going to hold and contact details should you like to try them with your section. **(continued on page 6)**



The camp season has now been upon us for a couple of months and already many packs have either been or are planning camps in a wide variety of locations.

Although this makes it probably one of the busiest times of year I also think it's the most rewarding. To see Cubs leave the shackles of their pack meeting place to venture out for a weekend under canvas, learning new skills and having lots of fun.

The Packs around the District seem to be very healthy and more now seem to be taking part in District events – for which I am grateful. This gives both Cubs and Leaders throughout the District a chance to meet up, meet new people and swap ideas and skills. The main winners are the Cubs as it gives them the opportunity to get even more out of Scouting.

This brings me on to our next two events, the County Birthday Party and District Cub Camp.

The County Birthday Party is to be held at Gilwell Park on 11th June to celebrate 90 years of Cub Scouting. It's a long way to go for just the afternoon party so it was decided at the January Cub Scout Leaders Meeting to 'make a day of it'. So that's what we are going to do!

As a bolt-on to the County activity we are holding the District Cub Scout Sports Event in the morning and are inviting the Beavers to join us. I've dug out the District Cub Sports Shield and this will be awarded to the Pack with the most points scored on the day.

A hot lunch will be provided before marching off to the Birthday Party and more fun and games.

District Cub Camp will be held at Thriftwood Scout Site using the Essex Training Centre and the surrounding fields and forested areas.

The Programme is done with just a few leaders to email in details of their bases, the planning is complete. We've just got to sort out a few remaining Packs to cough up the dosh and then we're ready for the off!

This year Fifteen Cub Packs out of Seventeen have signed up for this camp. This has to be the largest 'get together' of Leaders and Cubs in the Cub Calendar and promises to be an excellent opportunity for our more experienced leaders to guide our newer leaders, many of which will be on their first large camp.

I would like to welcome all of our new Leaders within the Cub Scout Section and hope to meet many of you at District Camp.

Archery / Badge Day 25th March 2006

The passports have been printed – made 100 in case extras turn up; the four bases are set up – D.I.Y, Navigator, Naturalist and Communicators; the bows and arrows are readied; Now just waiting for the Cubs.

Thriftwood is a fantastic venue for any activity but when the sun shines, as on this morning, nothing can beat it. Well, it's just before ten and the cubs are arriving, and arriving, and arriving, andthat can't be right, the signing in queue is out the door of Squirrel Lodge and backing up towards the Wardens Office. The line seems endless, the Signeriners (Leaders who sign people in) are frantically scribbling, extra help is summoned to assist them and the start is put back. Of the 80 expected Cubs 160 turned up to what turned out to be a fantastic day where in excess of 630 badges were earned by Cubs furiously dipping, sawing, hammering, signing, and generally darting about all over the woods with great enthusiasm.

I'm sure that the Cubs will join me in thanking *ALL* the leaders that turned up on this day to make it a success. Special thanks to the base organisers, Roger Stannard – Navigators, Paul & Laura Davies – Naturalist, Jim Berry & Peter Allen – Communicators and Dave Langley, Ray Clarke & Roger Fall – DIY. Thanks also to Sharon & Jess – the signeriners, Keith & Jan – Archery duo and Paul Fix for helping to reschedule the timetable throughout the day.

Feedback from the Cub Scout Leaders Meeting suggests that we do this again, possibly year after next.

That's all for this issue of Pack Patter apart from two reminders:

Please don't forget your NAN forms if you are planning a camp

If you need help with your Pack in any way let your District Team Member know or contact me ... don't suffer in silence we're there to support you.

Kevin Williamson
ADC Cubs

2nd Elm Park really are putting the 'out' in Scouting!-continued from page 4

Thames Chase: This is an excellent facility on the edge of Cranham, I know that many Cub Packs have visited Thames Chase already. They offer a variety of Activities/Programmes for after school Clubs, all at a reasonable cost. All sessions include one member of staff who can take up to 30 children. My Cubs have already been 'Pond Dipping'. This was an excellent night, where the Cubs are split into small groups, show to effectively pond dip, then after an hour we all went back to class room and examined all the creatures that had been caught under a microscope which was connected to big screen, the Cubs then had to identify the creatures and were told about them. As the Cubs enjoyed it so much I have already booked to go back in July and do the Survival Skills session.

Contact: 01708 641880

Cost: £37.50 for 1½ Hours

Ice Skating: An old favourite, Cubs can all attempt to earn the Skaters Badge, this is one of the easiest nights to arrange and run. The Cubs just turn up, put their Ice Skates on and away they go! However you might want to make sure that you have enough leaders to help tie up the Cubs ice-skates! Before we go next time I think we need to practice tying up shoe laces!

Contact: 01708 724731

Cost: £4.60 per person

Bike Ridding: With Hornchurch Airfield just round the corner from our Scout Hall we have decided to go on a bike Ride, I'm just hoping for sunshine for the first week back after half term. We have decided to split the Cubs and do it in two groups the oldest and youngest half, this way we can tailor the bike ride to the age groups.

Contact: None

Cost: Free

Athletes Badge: A great way to fill a programme in the summer term, find a grass area and grab a tape measure, stop watch, cricket ball and skipping rope and off you go!

Contact: None

Cost: 44p per Athletes Badge

Equestrian Badge: Commonly known as the Horse Ridding Badge, this badge is easy to earn according to people at the stables! We have arranged to go to Brettons Equestrian Centre, each Cub will get to spend ½hour with / on a horse. This activity is rather expensive but it will be something that most Cubs have never done before!

Contact: 01708 524615

Cost: £7.00per Cub

Thriftwood: Every term we have a night out at Thriftwood and this term we decided to make use of some of the onsite activities, so we have booked Pedal Cars and the Assault Course. These nights are also a great way for Cub to see what a campsite looks like and to build up excitement about forthcoming camps!

Contact: 01277 212784

Cost: Pedal Cars £5.20 per hour per Car.

Paul Fix - CSL 2nd Elm Park

Photo of Jack Gateson with some of the contents of his net from Pond Dipping.





8 th.Hornchurch Group Camp 12th to 14th May 2006

On 12th May the 8th Hornchurch Scout Group descended upon Belchamps Scout Site in Hockley, Essex.

It was a slow start to the day with the discovery of an extra padlock securing the Group trailer....and the key? Anybody's guess where that was.

After a frantic phone call to Robert from Jupiter Pack we borrowed his hacksaw and forty seconds after his arrival at Group HQ the padlock was off and we were on our way.

At 7:15pm the 48 Cubs began to arrive but by this time we were prepared, tents had been pitched, hall and kitchen cleaned, Tesco's had delivered and we had just finished a well-earned break and a bite to eat.

The Scouts and Gladiator Explorers had also arrived with the Group mini bus, oh yes, and the missing key, Their camp began to take shape very quickly with the tents pitched, the dining shelters up and roped off wood piles and wood cutting areas. The scene was now set for a weekend of fun, learning and adventure.

The Cub Programme began immediately on the theme of Transport over the last 70 years. Why 70? Well, the 8th were registered as a Scout Group in June 1936 so we are celebrating our 70th birthday.

After an evening of Rockets and Satellites the Cubs went off in search of wolves and bears in the twilight of deepest Essex. None were found and all returned safely about an hour later.

Following Sixers Council the Cub Leaders then played host to the Scout and Explorer Leaders with a traditional Camp Spagbol.

Saturday morning was taken up with Archery, Climbing, Assault Course and the construction of a pioneered cane aeroplane.

We were very lucky with the weather over the weekend and when the Group's Beavers arrived at 2pm for lunch on Saturday everything was poised for a fun afternoon.

And that's how it turned out with the younger Cubs and Beavers making kites, planes and rockets followed by a paper chase and wide game. The older Cubs spent the day being expertly educated by the Gladiator Explorers and Scouts in the art of fire lighting and camp cooking – they really enjoyed it.

It didn't rain until after 9pm and the torchlight wide game had to be substituted with a 'Kevin Quiz'. One by one they fell asleep and by half ten most of them could not stay awake...so, off to bed they went, exhausted but happy.

Sunday was the normal manic day of striking camp as well as earning those extra points that could make all the difference in getting 'best six' of the weekend. Luckily the rain had stopped and the tents came down as dry as a bone. Thanks Stuart for helping with the tents, it got done much quicker.

By 3:30 it was almost over, the parents were arriving and the Cubs finishing off their last minute tasks. At the closing ceremony it was revealed that 'Concorde' six had won the best six of the weekend with a points difference of just one half of a point from their nearest rivals. The best behaved Cub of the weekend was declared to be Toby Meadows from Mercury Pack. Well done not just to the winners but to all Cubs who took part in the weekend with great enthusiasm and excellent behaviour.

The Leaders over the weekend from both Cub and Scout side worked tirelessly over the weekend to ensure that the programme was carried out with fun and enthusiasm. As the direct result of their labours the Cubs, Beavers and Scouts had a great weekend and will undoubtedly carry fond memories of this for years to come. On behalf of our youngsters I would like to thank you all – a job very well done.

This article wouldn't be complete without saying thanks to the Cooks team of Peter Greener who is a non-uniform helper at Jupiter Pack and Phil Martin who is GSL of 6th Romford. Their non-stop work in the kitchen provided one of the best prepared feasts I have ever seen on camp with full cooked breakfasts in the morning and even a full Roast on Sunday – superb! Thanks very much the Cubs and Leaders thoroughly enjoyed it.

**Kevin Williamson
AGSL 8th Hornchurch**

7th Hornchurch Scouts are back!

After a short closure period Pete Seddon Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts, (with the help of Kevin Williamson, ADC Cub Scouts) reopened 7th Hornchurch Scout Troop on Wednesday 22nd April 2006, with 8 Cubs who were old enough to join Scouts. Already the Troop has grown in numbers! I had the privilege of helping there for two weeks in May, while Pete was on holiday. Whilst talking to the new Scouts it was great to see how enthusiastic they all were, already they have learnt new Scouting skills, and put these into practice with a day at Thriftwood orienteering and undertaking two pioneering projects in the hall. A number of the Scouts are also planning on attending the District Hiking Weekend and the District Scout / Explorer Day out to France. Below is a photo of the Scouts working on one a Pioneering structure that was designed to hold on the Scouts off the ground! Thanks to Pete, Kevin and Gerry for all their hard work in reopening the Scout Troop – and its now great that all Scout Groups have a Scout Troop!

Paul Fix



1st Elm Park (St Nicholas) Triumph at Greater London North East County Scout 5-A-Side.

Saturday 20th May saw the commencement of the annual GLNE 5-a-side tournament at the Metropolitan Police Sports Ground in Chigwell. 30 Scout Teams from around the county entered, as well as 8 Explorer Scout teams.

1st Elm Park entered the competition for the first time this year. The Team consisted of Calum Finch, Lewis Shead, Bradley Eve, Matthew Duncan and Angelo Greatorex. The team performed well throughout the entire competition. Calum was outstanding in Goal making great saves throughout. Lewis was solid in defence making some good tackles and blocks. Front man Angelo scored plenty of goals slotting the ball past the helpless opposition's keepers. Matthew played well throughout making key passes and tackles. Bradley was fantastic during the games, constantly working hard and always in the right place making tackles and good passes to set up a number of the goals. The team played well together with great team spirit.

The route through to the final was by no means an easy one. The Group stage saw them beat 52nd Epping Forest South 2-1 and then 10th Leyton 2-0. This left the last match against 18th Epping Forest South; they had also won both of their other games making this the deciding match. 1st Elm Park had a slightly better goal difference so a draw would have been enough, but they weren't going to settle for that, scoring 2 goals for a 2-0 win. An unfortunate draw for the quarter final saw them play against rivals and friends 2nd Elm Park (Current holders from 2005). This didn't worry the players as they coasted to a 5-1 victory. 36th Epping Forest South fell in the quarter final 3-1. The final was a close contest against 1st Ilford North with the winning goal coming about a minute from time, leaving an ecstatic 1st Elm Park winners 1 goal to nil.





Zabava!

The Centurion Explorer Scouts are going to the Jamboree in Serbia & Montenegro this summer, to do this they need to raise about £5000. On Saturday 6th June they held an Serbia themed event called ZABAVA, this was an evening of traditional Serbian food, costumes, dancing and music which the Explorer Scouts planned and run themselves, this was a fantastic and very entertaining evening and was great to see many of the leaders from around the District coming to support them!

The highlight of the evening was the arrival of Miss Serbia & Montenegro 2006 (also known as Mike Suggate, ESL Centurion Unit)

Good luck for the rest of their fundraising and have a fantastic time at the Serbia Jamboree.

Paul Fix

Photo of some of the Explorer Leaders dressed up!





"A Pleasant Surprise."

I would just like to pass on to the readership something which came as rather a pleasant surprise to me.

As some may know the scouts that make up St. Andrews Troop are "what can I say - a bit mouthy". Well the other week before handing out notices regarding the wreath laying in commemoration of the scout Jack Comwell, V.C. I said to the troop "Just listen, I want to read you something that is very relevant to one of the notices you are going to be given this evening."

I then went on to refer to various pieces of information I had been given by Melvyn, Dean and some I had researched off a website and gave the scouts a potted history of this courageous young man. I was also fortunate in being able to relate the age of this seaman to the explorer scout who helps out with the troop and they had a vague idea of where the cottages are in Hornchurch.

Well the surprise was that, unusually, they were all quiet for about ten minutes and actually took in what I had told them and consequently I have a number who were interested in attending the wreath laying. Just a pity it was then cancelled.

Sue Cruse - 8th Hornchurch.

Gilwell Reunion

Gilwell Reunion 2006 Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd September.

This year is the 80th Reunion and should prove very popular. Last year saw the largest amount of visitors for more than 20 years. As a District several of us camp together which has proved very enjoyable. Full details are in the June/July issue of Scouting. If you would like to join us please let me know and we will reserve sufficient camping area. For many years we have had a District polo shirt made up this years colour is Black bit quieter for a change. If you want one please send me your size and a cheque or cash for £10

ASAP.

Jim Berry

DDC

James.Berry@remploy.co.uk

8th HORNCHURCH QUIZ NIGHT

When: Friday 30th June 2006

Time: 7.30pm - 10.30pm (approx)

Where: Scout HQ, Chelmsford Drive

Why: Have fun and raise funds for Summer Camp

What to do next: Ideally get together a team of between 6 and 8 people, fill in the form below and return via your son's Scout Leader with entry fee of £3 per person (cheques payable to "8th Hornchurch Scout Group" please). Children of Scout age (10 1/2) and above more than welcome to be part of a team. If you cannot get at least 6 people together give us a ring and we will try and make up a team for you. Any questions: Speak to Amanda or Richard Austin on 01708 479737

BRING YOUR OWN DRINK - NIBBLES WILL BE PROVIDED

Yes, please enter me a team of ___ people into the quiz night on Friday 30th June. I enclose the entry fee of £ ___.

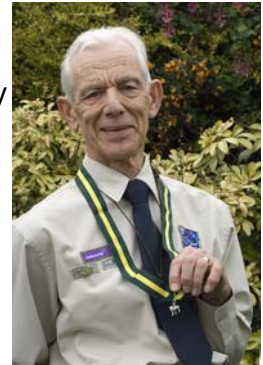
Name: _____ Contact telephone number: _____



Terry Taylor-Morley – The Silver Wolf

Terry Taylor-Morley's commitment to scouting within this District is virtually without comparison. For the last **thirty** years or so he has consistently given service of the very highest standards, both to his own group(s) and to the district as a whole.

As ADC (Scouts) he created and led a highly organised team of District Scout Leaders, providing support to all of the fifteen Scout Troops within his care and devising a busy programme of district events. He worked hard to keep all of the Scout Troops going, and helped in the recruitment and retention of leaders and helpers.



He was highly involved in the organisation of numerous district camps, competitions and hiking marathons. It is not an exaggeration to say that these events would not have happened without his enthusiasm and dedication.

Working in association with his wife (who at the time was ADC Cub Scouts), he led the way in creating links across the district, leading to more members transferring between sections. This was epitomised in the vigour with which he led the various events, serving as an excellent link between the sections.

He continues to be the prime motivating factor within his Scout Group, and plays a major role in the recruitment, induction and support of his leaders. As Group Scout Leader he was regularly seen at all the Group's Sectional Meetings and is known by all the young people. The Group continues to be highly successful, and plays an active part in the events organised by the district. His recent re-appointment as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader has been a very positive development.

The group has been through some troubled times recently, which has meant that Terry has in the past acted as a helper for the Beaver Colony, Cub Packs, Scout Troop and Venture Unit at the same time. Thankfully Terry has helped recruit some new leaders and helpers and is helping them in the induction process. Indeed without all his efforts during this difficult time, it is my firm belief that the whole group could have closed.

In addition to these achievements, Terry has found time to be a member of the District Executive Committee and has performed two specific functions; firstly acting as one of our representatives on the management committee of Thiftwood International Scout Centre, and secondly as District Badge Secretary, providing an essential service to our leaders and helpers.

Terry 77, has given service of the most exceptional nature over many years, and this service deserves to be recognised.

James (Jim) Berry – The Silver Acorn

Jim Berry's commitment to scouting within this District has been of the highest standards. For the last **twenty-five** years he has consistently given service of the very highest standards, both to his own group and to the district as a whole.

Continued on page 13



James (Jim) Berry – The Silver Acorn-Continued from page

As ADC (Cub Scouts) he created and led a highly organised team of District Cub Scout Leaders, providing support to all of the twenty plus Cub Scout Packs within his care and devising a busy programme of district events. He worked hard to keep all of the Cub Packs going, and helped in the recruitment and retention of leaders and helpers.

He has always been highly involved in the organisation of numerous district events, competitions and fun days. It is not an exaggeration to say that these events would not have happened without his enthusiasm and dedication. In addition, he regularly acts as a Training Adviser for new leaders, and has been a regular helper on Adult Training Courses, both in this County and also in Essex, serving as an Assistant Leader Trainer.

In addition to these achievements, Jim has found time to help in the organisation of events run by all of the other training sections, and often takes a lead in the coordination of District Activities, such as District Cub Camps, our Millennium Celebrations, and the District's 70th Anniversary Reunion.

Jim has also devoted a large amount of his time to our local campsite, Thriftwood. He has been our representative on the Management Committee now for some years, and has served as Chairman of the Site's Development Sub-Committee and as coordinator of the bi-annual Thriftwalk Event, which raises much needed funds for the site. He also regularly helps in the Site Shop and is well known by all the crew and a number of the campers.

As District Commissioner, Jim has been invaluable to me as my Deputy. He is always present at meetings and events and has been a great personal support to me. He has never doubted my opinions or judgements and has always been 100% supportive. I don't doubt that without his encouragement I may have struggled to carry on in this role. His optimism and enthusiasm for scouting in this District motivate all around him to aspire to the highest heights.

These achievements are all the more remarkable considering the fact that Jim has had in excess of 15 operations in the last few years on his legs. Despite the agonizing pain that he is so clearly in, he does not moan or complain and is always the first to volunteer his services – so much so that in the past he has released himself early from hospital in order to attend district events. His determination to carry on despite his medical problems is an example to us all.

Jim 62, has given specially distinguished service over many years, and this service deserves to be recognised.

Arthur Carter - Bar to Long Service Decoration

He has served for 25 years as a leader and then a Group Scout Leader with 2nd. Rainham Scout Group.



HORNCHURCH DISTRICT



EXPLORER SCOUT NEWS

ISSUE 4 – June 2006

Dear All,

Doesn't time fly by, just to think we are half way through 2006 already? On my visits to the Unit's I have been pleased to see a wide variety of activities and skills taking place not just in the HQ but also out and about. So what have the Explorer section been up to so far this year?

Well it all started with Winter camp at Gilwell back in January, a good turn out of Explorer from Units across our District and we were joined by a few Explorers from Squirrels Heath District as well. 2000 campers took part again in the event which is open to Scouts, Explorers, Guides and Rangers, one not to miss in 2007.

March saw the District's annual Swimming Gala where we only had a few Explorers taking part as some of the Units were off competing in the Monopoly Run event in London. This event only recently revived from my old venture Scout days always proved popular and the 2 Units who had teams in the event said they would no doubt be taking part again next year.

As well as the main organised events there have been numerous Unit camps and even a joint Skills day between the Gladiators and Dragon Unit's

Approach your Explorer Scout Leader and find out when your next Unit camp or District event is.

Scott Wilderspin

District Explorer Scout Commissioner

Forthcoming Events

District Clay Pigeon Shooting – 11th June 2006.

This annual event organised by 3rd Cranham Scout Group is open to Scouts and Explorers, details about the event are;

Venue: The Crowfield Gun Club, Latchford Farm, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster

Date: Sunday 11th June 2006.

Time: Gate opens at 10.00am, Should finish by 1.00pm

Cost: £12 per person, payable in advance

Dress: Waterproofs and boots as it can be muddy

Full details and Shooting consent form available from your Leaders.

District Hiking Weekend – 17/18th June 2006.

Details about this years event are;

Venue: Screens Park Scout Campsite, Roxwell, Chelmsford

Dates: 17 & 18^h June 2006 (Starting from midday on the Saturday)

Cost: £20.00 per team (payable on arrival)

For full details about this event please speak to your Unit Leader who will be available to provide you with a full information booklet.

Hornchurch District Scout Council

District Explorer Scout Commissioner: Scott Wilderspin 66 Grosvenor Drive, Hornchurch, Essex, RM11 1PW

Tel 01708 469406 Mobile: 07957 363683 Email scott.wilderspin@JACplatform.com website <http://www.hornchurchscouts.org.uk>

Patron HM The Queen **President** HRH The Duke of Kent **Founder** Robert Baden-Powell OM **Chief Scout** Peter Duncan

Incorporating Cranham, Elm Park, Hornchurch, Rainham & Upminster. Registered Charity no. 303669



This year we will be attending the Gilwell 24 event as a District. The event takes place over 24 hours at Gilwell Park in Chingford and challenges Explorer Scouts to take part in as many activities as they can, before they drop off to sleep!

Venue: Gilwell Park Scout Activity Centre. Chingford

Dates: 8th – 9th July 2006. (Starts 9am on the Saturday)

Cost: £24 per person (Extra for those wishing to arrive and camp Friday evening (£30))

This event is open to all Explorer Scouts including those who are members of the Young Leaders Unit.

I am hoping we can get nearly all the Explorers from our District involved in this event. It really is one of those events where you can take part in as much or as little as you want.

Full details about this event can be obtained from your Unit Leaders or the DESC

...Recent Chief Scouts Platinum Awards presented

Congratulations to the following Explorer Scouts who were presented with their Chief Scouts Platinum Awards at our recent St. Georges day Parade and Service;

Stuart Dickson - Gladiator Unit

Rob Lyus - Dragon Unit

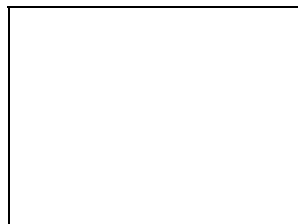
Where is your Unit going for Summer Camp this year?

Is your Unit planning a summer camp this year? Have they thought about going abroad?

The Centurion Unit is this year going to Serbia for their summer camp and the cost of the trip has already come down dramatically due to their fund raising efforts.

The fundraising started back in January and to date the Unit has run car washes, sold items online and organised a Zabava evening.

Having attended the Zabava myself I was most pleased see all the Explorers and their families coming together to fundraise towards their summer camp. I also got the chance to meet Miss Serbia & Montenegro 2005 in person



Have you seen this woman before?

More pictures of this event can be found on the District website photo's section.

Well done to the Centurion Unit Leaders and Explorers for all their hard efforts so far and good luck with your forthcoming fundraising events for you Serbia Summer Camp

New Leaders in the Hornchurch Explorer section

I am pleased to announce that we have two new Leaders who have recently been approved by the Warrants Sub Committee and have been issued with their temporary Warrants.

The Leaders are Claire Taylor with the Gladiator Unit and Ben Gillespie with the Dragon Unit, who are both holding Assistant Explorer Leader Appointments.

District numbers are up...

Yes it is great to announce that our Districts overall census numbers are up by 6% this year

The Explorer Scout section has also increased this year and with 5 Units operating around the District things can only get better.

CONTACT

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