



**Hornchurch District
Scout Association**
www.hornchurchscouts.org.uk

“Scouting About”

St. George Wins the Day

About 550 beavers, cubs and scouts from Hornchurch District marched from Havering Sixth to Emerson Park School.

A service to commemorate St. George was held at the Emerson Park School, where, in the presence of the Mayor Mr. Cahill and his wife, the young people renewed their Scout Promise and listened to the story of St. George read by Dean Jefferys, the District Commissioner. The hall was filled to capacity with standing room only, with all groups being represented this year.

The following Scouters Andy Rice, Roger Fall, Eileen Gibson, Charles Cox, Jim Berry and Janet Winslow all received Service Awards - all richly deserved.

Andy Rice said “My sincere thanks to the following volunteers who formed the District Colour Parties and also performed the readings. They carried out their roles with enthusiasm and were a credit to both their sections and also to Hornchurch District. It was pleasing to see over half the Groups represented within the colour parties and readers”.



Cubs from 2nd.Upminster sporting St. George's flags



Colour party waiting to make their entrance.

May'04
Issue 36

Group Circulation:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Explorer Scout Leader	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scout Leader
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cub Scout Leader	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beaver Scout Leader



D.C.'s Discourse...

I couldn't really start this edition's article without mentioning St. George's Day. The attendance was fantastic, all of our members looked exceptionally smart and were a credit to their groups. Combined with the great weather and having the honour of presenting a number of Long Service Awards, I think most of us came away feeling really pleased with how it all went. Indeed I have had a number of letters and emails of thanks and would like to say how much I appreciate these and your support. Thank You. Make sure you check out the photos of the day on the District Website.

Since the last edition we have also had the success of the District Swimming Gala (expertly coordinated by Graham Crossman and Sumaiea) and our victory once again in the County Swimming Gala. Many thanks to everyone who made our Gala such a great event - again one of our best ones for years.

As some of you already know, we have recently purchased a 17 seater LDV Minibus for all Sections and Groups in the District to use for a small charge. Please contact Jim Berry for bookings. For this venture to be cost effective, it needs to be used - so please do. This is a great resource for us to own and should help groups to put the 'out' into scouting.

February saw the launch of our Young Leader Explorer Unit. Sixteen eager young people turned up for the first meeting and all completed the initial module. The next meeting is on Tuesday 22nd May at 8p.m. at The Paddock. If any other young men or women aged 14 - 18 would like to come along, then it's an open invite - I can supply more details if necessary.

The District Fellowship AGM is to be Monday 17th May at the District HQ. As both Sumaiea and Eddy are standing down from their respective roles this year, we need new volunteers to be Chairman and Secretary urgently.

Indeed there are serious concerns that without new help, the Fellowship could close - please think about this seriously and see if you or someone else you know could fill either of this key posts.

I would like to end by congratulating again all those who received Long Service Awards at the recent St. Georges Day Service. They were;

Jim Berry - Deputy District Commissioner - 25 years Service
Eileen Gibson - ACSL, 7th Hornchurch - 15 years Service
Ken Gibson - Scout Fellowship Member - 15 years Service
Andrew Rice - SL, 8th Hornchurch & ADC (S) - 15 years Service
Charles Cox - District Treasurer - 15 years Service
Roger Fall - GSL, 1st South Hornchurch - 15 years Service

And of course, Janet Winslow, BSL 7th Hornchurch & ADC (BS) for gaining the Chief Scout's Long Service Decoration for **40 Years** Service. An amazing achievement! Thank You to each of them for the support that they give to Scouting.

Dean Jefferys
District Commissioner

News/Events...

"Jack" Cornwell V.C.

Those of you who know their Scouting history will have heard of Jack Cornwell the boy hero of the Battle of Jutland who in 1916 aged 16 died of his wounds on board H.M.S. Chester staying at his post with everyone dead and dying around him Awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross for his bravery the Scout Association later created the Cornwell Award in his memory as he had been a Boy Scout in East Ham before joining the Royal Navy. Hospital wards and scholarships were also founded in his memory as well as a group of cottages for retired seamen in Hornchurch situated at the junction of Station Lane and Suttons Avenue their front garden in the shape of a Victoria Cross and a commemorative plaque on a gatepost.

Near the anniversary of Jack's death a wreath laying ceremony takes place there attended by the Royal Naval Association, The British Legion, and since 2002 representatives from local Scout Groups in uniform with their colours

This year the ceremony takes place on Saturday June 5th at 3 p.m. and all are invited especially younger members as it is a good opportunity to teach them about loyalty and devotion to duty.

For Leaders wishing to learn more about Jack Cornwell perhaps as part of a project for their members there is an excellent website which details many other aspects of Scouting history too at :

www.scouting.milestones.btinternet.co.uk

Melvyn Gallagher.

THE 2nd ELM PARK RACE NIGHT !!

DATE: Saturday 10th July 2004

TIME: 7.30pm, for a 8.00pm start

WHERE: 2nd Elm Park Scout Hut, Wood Lane

To all parents / guardians / supporters – We are having a Race Night to raise some much needed funds for the 2nd Elm Park Scout Group. The money raised at these events ALL goes towards benefiting your Son's / the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts time in Scouting. It's also a good excuse to have an enjoyable evening out.

For those of you that aren't sure what a race night is, it's all the fun of the races without standing in the rain to watch it. There's normally about 12 horse races over the evening on a big screen projector, on which you place small bets (50p usually). If you lose, you've only lost 50p, but if you win, you get just as excited as you would if you'd won £1000. A great night out for adults young and old !!

- Tickets are £6.00 per person
- Bring your own drinks & nibbles (although the ladies have promised me they will have some snacks for sale)
- No maximum number per table..... the more the merrier (if there's only a couple of ya, please still get tickets as this isn't a quiz night, so we can easily find you a table)
- Don't forget a few extra pounds for the raffle

Please note that due to the Scout Hut being on council land, we have to be very careful about the gambling laws, with this in mind it has always been the case that we have no under 18's at the evening. But don't worry, as you can bring them to the Christmas party at the end of the year

Please return the attached form to your Son's sectional Leader ASAP in order for us to allocate you a place at the Race Night. Alternatively, feel free to contact me on 07815 588657. We will collect payment on the actual evening.

Thank you very much and we look forward to seeing you there.

STUART BARHAM

2nd Elm Park Scout Leader,

Hornchurch District Scout Leader



Troop Talk...

Dear Scouters and Scouts of Hornchurch District

Again I start with news of a new leader. I would like to welcome Steve Birchill who has taken out an ASL warrant with 1st Elm Park. Thanks Steve for volunteering – I know you will get as much out of being a leader as your Scouts will get from your involvement.

It has been a busy few months since the last *Scouting About*. After the success of the District Chess Competition, Thomas Sansom (2nd Upminster), Jack Buffoni (2nd Upminster), Jake Olma (2nd Elm Park) and Richard Green (8th Hornchurch) represented Hornchurch District at the County Chess Competition and did very well to finish third.

The District Swimming Gala was held on Saturday 6th March and I'm pleased to say that over half the Troops were represented. Congratulations to 2nd Elm Park who won both the Scout Relay and the Scout Trophy. In the Scout Trophy 3rd Cranham came second and 8th Hornchurch came third.

The winners from the District Gala went on to represent Hornchurch at the County Swimming Gala and did exceptionally well winning the Scout Section and contributing to Hornchurch District winning the overall Gala Trophy. Well done to everyone who represented Hornchurch District.

As Spring is upon us and we have already enjoyed some lovely weather (possibly the warmest St. Georges Day Parade for some time) our thoughts turn to camping. As I write this I know that 7th Hornchurch are at the Patrol Activity Weekend at Tolmers, that 2nd Elm Park have just returned from their traditional Easter Camp at Buckmore Park and 2nd Upminster are preparing for a weekend camp to Thriftwood next weekend and also a Water Activity Weekend on the Lord Amory in July. Also I'm aware that many other Troops have weekend camps booked as well as several Troops being well progressed with their plans for the main Summer Camp. Whatever camping you can achieve with your Troop this year remember two things – firstly over and again Scouts tell us they want to be outdoors camping so its great to give them what they want and secondly, if you are new to the movement or just want some assistance there are a number of very experienced campers amongst the Scouts leaders of Hornchurch District all of whom would be very pleased to lend a hand to get your camps off the ground. If you want to run a camp but are not sure where to start just ask and I'm sure many Troops will be all too welcome to take you along with them so you can see at first hand what camping is all about and pick up a few tips at the same time.

St. Georges Day Parade – well as mentioned above the weather was great and this was one of the best services for a long time. Congratulations to all of the leaders involved in organising the service and in particular to the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers who formed the District Colour Parties and also gave the readings. They carried out their roles with enthusiasm and were a credit to both their sections and also to Hornchurch District. It was pleasing to see over half the Groups represented within the colour parties and readers.

Troop Talk continued...

Thank you to the following for volunteering:

Beavers

- Reece Clarke (3rd Rainham)
- Tyler Gull (3rd Rainham)
- George Herbert (3rd Rainham)

Cubs

- Alex Bottoms
- Mitchell Morgan
- Sam Hampton (2nd Elm Park)
- Chris Sims – Reading (8th Hornchurch)

Scouts

- Andrew Constable (8th Hornchurch St. Georges)
- Lee Price (1st Upminster)
- James Chapman (3rd Upminster)
- Leon Pascal (2nd Cranham)
- Dan Phimister (2nd Elm Park)
- Matthew Potticary (2nd Upminster)
- Matthew Ager – Reading (3rd Rainham)
- Daniel Austin – Reading (8th Hornchurch St. Andrews)

Explorers

- Lloyd Jones
- Kieron Fox
- Jake Stinson
- Patrick Aherne
- Philip Aherne
- Thomas Dodds

So what's coming up for the Scout Section?

County Scout Five-a-side Competition will be held on Saturday 15th May.

Full details were distributed at the previous District Scout Leaders meeting and are available on the County website or by contacting me.

County / District Scout Camp – This will be held over the weekend of 4th – 6th June at Decoy Broad, Norfolk. Full details were handed out at the previous District Scout Leaders meeting and are also available on the County website. Please do come along and support this event.

June will see the very popular **District Hiking Weekend** run again at Skreens Park. The dates are 19th / 20th June. Full details were handed out at the recent District Scout Leaders meeting. Colin and Stu will be visiting each Troop in the next few weeks to chat to the Scouts about the Hiking Weekend and also to hand out explanatory booklets.

With all this talk of camping please can I remind you of the Nights Away Permit Scheme. Can I just remind everyone to submit their Nights Away Permit application form ASAP with a passport-sized photo. The forms are available from Scoutbase, on the District Website or direct from Graham Crossman.

As always I finish off by thanking all of those leaders, instructors and parents who are doing so very much for Scouting in Hornchurch – THANK YOU

Andy Rice.

ADC (Scouts)

Providing active support – We don't just make the tea!

March and April have been a very busy time for the Fellowship.

- ***We were, as always, much in evidence at the District Swimming Gala.***
- ***David Spratt gave us a very fine illustrated talk on the Fire of London.***
- ***We were pleased to be involved in one of the best St. George's Day celebrations for many years. In this case, you could be forgiven for thinking that you didn't see many of us, if you didn't realise that most of us were disguised as members of our Groups.***
- ***It was encouraging to be successful in our Archery Challenge against Romford Fellowship, despite the fact that many of our members were away at two May Bank Holiday weekend camps.***

We now await a challenge from Epping Forest South Fellowship.

This month we have our Annual General Meeting, when we have an opportunity to elect new leaders.

The officers would like to take this opportunity to thank the members for their support during the year and look forward to supporting the new leaders.

Mon 17th May Fellowship Annual General Meeting – DHQ – 8.00

Fr/Sun 25-27 June National Fellowship Camp – Chalfont Heights

TBA JENGA Challenge v Epping Forest South

Mon 12th July Activity & Business Meeting – Thriftwood – 8.00

Mon 13th Sep Programme Planning for 2005 – DHQ – 8.00

Sat TBA Sep Fellowship Quiz

Sat 25th Sep Scout Camping & Cooking Competition

Mon 18th Oct First Aid – Chris Langford – DHQ – 8.00

Sun 24th Oct County Fellowship Own – St. Peter's, Aldborough Hatch

Mon 8th Nov Scouting Skills – Stuart Barham – DHQ – 8.00

Sat 27th Nov County Fellowship Quiz - Hargreaves



2 E.P. Easter Camp...

2nd Elm Park Easter Camp 2004

As with the last 14 years we held our annual Easter Camp at Buckmore Park, in Chatham, Kent.

We traditionally used this weekend for older Scouts only, but with our Scouts now taking part in Winter Camp each year, the elements that Easter Camp can throw up are nothing in comparison. Also with this being a long weekend, we take advantage of the extra day to pack in as much award work as possible. So with this in mind we took 26 Scouts along 9 Leaders to Sunny Chatham (well we hoped for the sun) Friday saw us arrive at about 13:00 and the Scouts that thought they knew the way to site G4 set off with their bags. I was waiting for the stragglers in the car park, and it wasn't long before I started getting calls from those Scouts that had headed off for G4..... "Stuart, we're lost"... closely followed by some of the parents that had also set off with the Scouts "Stuart, I'm by a toilet block, but I don't know where" (mentioning no names Daddy Voov) Eventually we all got to the site and took a couple of hours to pitch camp, the Scouts putting up the Icelandic's and the Leaders the 14 Foot Ridge as well as the Mess Tent. This was followed by a mass wood collection, and the preparation for dinner. After the Scouts had cooked, eaten and washed up we decided that evening to have a Wide Game (a decision we would regret) After an hour or so, we had a shout from Pinto (ASL) and Paul (ASL) that one of the Scouts had cut his leg. On getting to Ross, he had a very large cut just below his knee, that he'd got through falling on a lump of flint. This then saw Rob (ASL) and myself spend the evening in Maidstone A&E. 10 brave stitches later the doctor said that Ross would have to go home. We eventually returned to the site at about 03:00, had a swift half and went to bed.

Saturday was a lot calmer, with the lads told of how Ross was, we got down to a day of fire lighting, knife and saw, as well as prepping the mud ovens (kindly donated by Les Poulson) for the jacket potatoes. During these activities, the Scouts were also out building their bivi's for sleeping in on Sunday night. It was decided that night that we'd give the Wide Game a miss and instead we had a night hike. Luckily we had a Scout who wasn't feeling too good, which meant that Grim (ASL) and myself had to stay on site... I can still hear the whinging of Dean (DC) and Streaky (ACSL) When the Scouts returned from the hike they, along with the Leaders that went were coated up to the knees in thick mud, and Maggot (Scout) had even managed to lose a sock in the mud. Still trying to work out how !

Sunday was activity day with the Scouts doing rifle shooting, caving and climbing throughout the day. In the evening the older Scouts spontaneously started a camp fire which went on for quite a while with the occasional chant for Cecil aimed at Grim. Unfortunately Grim wasn't feeling too good and the high pitched Cecil couldn't be unleashed on the unsuspecting Scouts, however Pinto had other ideas and did his own version.... " Norris " in which he ate Bwwwwocoli instead of the traditional cabbage.

Monday..... Please, please don't rain !!!!! and it didn't, in fact it was the nicest day of the four, which meant that the tents could come down nice and early. Once down the Scouts gave their services to the crew for a couple of hours, doing some cleaning and tidying of the site entrance as well as the toilet block. Just for a change all parents were there on time and we left site at 15:00.

Whilst reflecting in the pub, after putting the gear away, we all agreed that the weekend had gone very well and the back to basics day followed by the activity day had also worked well. We'll use this programme next year.