

I hope those of you that managed to get there enjoyed the AGM and especially the presentation of the District Development Plan and Strategy (DDP). A lot of hard work has been put in by Claire Davis, Roger Plumb and Ben Richardson to get the plan together and it looks like time well spent, so congratulations and thanks to them.

For those of you who were not able to attend the AGM, the DDP focuses on the following:

Development in the growth in numbers of young people and adults;

Improvement of Internal Communications

Improvement of External Communications

Development of existing and identification of new methods of support for adults members.

As you can see, the plan involves you, so please get in touch with your GSL/ADC/Me, or one of the people above to ensure you know where you fit into this plan. It is vital that we move forward together and in the same direction on this.

I have visited several group AGM's so far and there are a few still to come. Please make sure you send me an invite if you have yet to hold your AGM and I will ensure that I or a member of the district team attends.

I hope you are all out and enjoying the good weather - I have been with 3 different sections in the last couple of weeks and enjoying being involved with the youngsters (they're so much less demanding!!!).

There is a very experienced scout leader who is willing (keen in fact) to help out at your camp - **so if you want that help, let me know** and I'll pass the info on. This could be especially useful for any of you who don't yet have the appropriate qualifications to take your lot to camp.

Until the next time then, make sure that what you're doing is fun for you as well as the kids!

Mike Botten, District Commissioner

Cub Scouts I hope that plans for your summer camps are well underway and you have sent the relevant forms to me. Even if you are camping in this District I would still like to know what you are doing (being the nosey person I am) and if I'm available I will visit you in camp.

Not many Cub Leaders have sent me application forms for their "nights away" permit. Don't forget that from the 1st September you **cannot** take your pack camping even in our district if you don't have a permit. I have plenty of forms, please don't leave it to the last minute.

If I don't get round to your pack meeting before the summer holiday I hope you all have a well earned rest. Thank you all for the time and energy you put into scouting - 1½ hours a week isn't it!

Don't forget the Cubs "sign on for the Gang Show" at the 24th HQ on Sunday 4th July.

See you in September, **Judith Collins**

Explorer Scouts

The Phoenix Unit meets at 24th Hastings HQ 19.30 - 21.30, Wednesday evenings. This is led by Brendan Salsbury, Keith Rose and Lucy Hart

Recent activities included a talk by the Hastings Dive Club, followed up with the opportunity of 'Try Dive' at Hastings Swimming Pool, Backwoods cooking at Northiam, and an evening of Raft Building on the beach at St. Leonards. They are also planning expeditions for the D of E scheme, some are performing their service via the troops, packs and colonies and this week they are trying to build a monkey bridge for the explorers and Northiam Scouts to play on.

A new Unit to cope with the growing numbers of Explorer Scouts will be meeting at the 5th Hastings HQ 19.30-21.30 Tuesday evenings. Start date Tuesday 14th September. This Unit will be led by Brian Lamb, Scott Feltham, Adam Weddle and Chloe Stevens.

Details for a Young Leaders Unit are being finalised. Letters will be sent out to all with details as soon as possible.

-ALL young people aged 15+ within Scouting in the District should now be registered with the DESA. If not, he or she is NOT insured. Any Scout over the age of 14 should have the opportunity to experience Explorer Scouting and Scout Leaders should pass names and contact details to the DESA, Hilary Zebedee .

The New Executive Committee

Chairman: Gareth Moore (appointed by DC)

Treasurer: Brian Fox

Secretary: Ann Brownhill

Appointed by the DC:

Jane Hart, Stuart Hayler, Stuart Old, Roger Plumb.

Under 25: Philip Moore

Elected: Becky Marchant, Tony Davis

Rep to County Scout Council: Ken Scott.

Under 25: Philip Moore

For election to County Executive Ken Scott

Tony Davis (01424 439981) is the new Chairperson of the Appointments Sub-Committee of the Executive.

His e-mail is tony.davis@amo.org.uk

Mail address is 93 Lower Park Road, Hastings. TN34 2LE

The dates for Executive Committee Meetings:

Wed 30th June 2004 at the 24th HQ

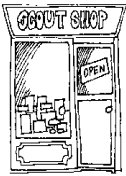
Wed 1st September 2004

Thurs 25th November 2004

Thurs 10th February 2005

Thurs 21st April 2005

All times are 8pm



Next Saturday opening is July 3rd
9.00am until 11.00am.

The last Monday we will be open before the
summer holidays is July 19th.
We will reopen on Monday September 6th. We
will not be open on Saturday September 4th.

Several people who have seen the article in the Observer regarding the planning permission on Scoutcroft have wondered whether we were still operating the shop as the article mentioned that the building was vacant. Please assure everyone that we are still there at the moment. When the situation changes we will advise all groups.

Our thanks to **TRADE PAINTS**
for printing this newsletter

On w/e 29th /30th May Dave & I took four Explorers & four Scouts to do the Royal Military Canal walk as their fitness challenge. This followed the canal from Seabrook (Hythe) to Cliff End, Pett, about twenty eight miles. We left Seabrook at 9.45 am and arrived at camp in Kenardington at 5.45 pm covering the 14 miles in 8 hours including lunch break. Not bad for a first attempt.

Day two we made Rye by 2 pm and this was enough for the Scouts so we left the last 4 miles for an other day. I can really recommend this walk. But shorts not recommended as some of the agricultural route is through crops and some stiles have seen better days. A good Scout stave or walking stick is worth taking. Lots of things to base the hike on: nature, history, buildings, churches, communities and many other things. I cost it at £6 per head for dry pack food from Tesco (instant pasta type cupersoupe and dried fruit). For the address of farmer where we camped drop me a line.

Some other things: Roy Gaved's Road Show "lamps and pressure stoves" visited and it was terrific, we're doing a sponsored trek cart hike to Lydd for publicity and our new hq., and if you want help with some of the air badges Lydd Airport Flying School is willing to help. Also, if any one is interested in the snow activity badge, contact Knockhatch Ski Centre, next to Bushey Wood camp site on A22, they do a good deal.

Bill Perfitt, Rye

Fiona Adams will be setting up a District Diary for the year from January. It will aim to include all activities in the hope of avoiding clashes. She will be trying to collect the information from September. It could be very useful.

Home needed for trailer tent

Anyone want a trailer tent? It needs some work so we are virtually giving it away. If you're interested, ring Janice or Kevin Harmer on 01424 429206.

Kevin Harmer is no longer involved in the Water team and bookings are currently being taken by

Jillian Fox.

(07905-469273 or 01424- 430963)



Appointments Sub-Committee

The committee recently met to review applications and discuss methods of working. Amongst the issues was the need to ensure that the sub-committee had a better balance, particularly on a gender basis, and it is hoped to recruit more female members.

The committee also focused on the interview process and is hoping to develop interviews on less formal lines in some cases.

Another concern shared by the committee was the trend for applicants to only provide referees involved in the Movement and it is hoped in future GSL's will encourage prospective leaders to supply one reference from outside of the Movement.

Tony Davis

Fellowship Duck Race

Sunday 18th July

11am Pett Level (opposite Smugglers Pub)
to raise money for Natalie London and funds.

Natalie, who was involved in scouting in Hastings, was diagnosed with a brain tumour in December and the Fellowship is raising money to support her chosen charity. The ducks will have a number on their bottom and be released into Pett stream at 11am. Hopefully they will swim between two bridges and there is a prize for the first three ducks to arrive. All ducks cost £1 and forms can be obtain from any Fellowship member.

After the events the ducks may be hired for any group fundraising activity.

The Fellowship

The Fellowship went to Guestwell for their family camp, and had a fantastic time. Friday evening had the normal chip 'n' sausage run followed by a torch light ramble through the woods. Saturday we caught the bus to Pett Level and had games on the beach. We lunched out and returned to the site for kids party games! In the evening we wined and dined our three course meal and had more party games. Sunday we woke to glorious weather and the camp finished mid morning.

The Fellowship is also helping at the Beavers 18th Birthday party well as helping at the Cubs Gilwell day on 19th June.

Fiona Adams

DIARY	JUNE			
	WED	30	DISTRICT EXECUTIVE, 24th (William Parker) HQ	(Ann Brownhill)
	W/E	26/27	CANOEING COURSE - see booklet	(Jillian Fox)
	SUN	27	CHIEF SCOUT AWARD HOLDERS DAY OUT	(Ben Richardson)
	JULY			
	SUN	4	CUB PIRATE PARTY (GANG SHOW AUDITION)	(Gina Potter)
	W/E	10/11	COUNTY COLDITZ CHALLENGE - Scouts & Explorers	
	SAT	10	BEAVER 18th BIRTHDAY PARTY - Eastbourne	(Ben Richardson)
	SEPTEMBER			
	W/E	25/26	CANOEING COURSE - see booklet	(Jillian Fox)
	Items for September Tom Tom should be with me by Wednesday 8th September			

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