

Scouting in Runnymede

To Runnymede District

The purpose of this letter is to let you know that I will be standing down as District Commissioner with effect from this year's District AGM – June 24th. My reason for doing so is simply that balancing the many demands of work is no longer compatible with being able to invest the amount of time that the role, and therefore you, deserve.

I daresay you will have some ideas about who you feel should be considered for the role of District Commissioner, and I would ask that you please send nominations directly to Richard Shortman, County Commissioner either via email or in writing. Richard's contact details are: commissioner@surrey-scouts.org.uk his address is 14 Sheraton Drive, Epsom, Surrey KT19 8JL.

Please do not leave it to someone else to nominate who you think would be good for Runnymede, send that email or write that nomination as soon as possible.

Richard will lead the search for my successor, but of course don't hesitate to speak to Ron Enticott, our District Chairman if you wish. Looking back over the past four years, Runnymede has grown in a number of ways, and this is perhaps best reflected by us being the largest we've been in over a decade.

Yours sincerely,
James Nash

Jamboree on the Trail 2010 (JOTT)

Scouts Walking Together World Wide

Many of the Cubs, Scouts and Beavers of 1st Englefield Green Scout Group joined in this year's Jamboree on the Trail on Saturday 8th May 2010. In pouring rain but undeterred, 28 young people and adults made Wick Woods campsite their base then set off to walk around Windsor Great Park.



They passed the totem pole, went through the flowers of Valley Gardens and back to Wick Woods for a BBQ lunch. The rain had stopped so everyone enjoyed their time outside. After lunch there was free time to make dams in the streams around the campsite and play games. Great fun was had by all. This is an activity we will try to do again next year. Why not check out here www.jott.org to learn more about JOTT.



The Bi-Monthly District
Newsletter - Issue 156
June/July 2010



District Scout Camping Challenge

On a rather cold blustery weekend four brave Scout Patrols and their leaders took part in the annual challenge, with back-to-basics cooking over wood fires, sleeping in patrol tents and fending for themselves, carrying out pioneering projects under the supervision of their leaders.



All who attended certainly seemed to enjoy themselves despite the cold and damp weather, with 1st / 4th Addlestone emerging as the victors. Well done to all those who came and hopefully learnt new skills.

Andy Sainsbury-Brown, Deputy District Commissioner

Beaver Scout Activities

In March was held the District Beaver Little Swim. Unfortunately, the numbers were low but all of the Beavers that did come had a thoroughly splashing time!

The 11th April, was the District Beaver Family Rambleabout. We had a great ramble and the weather was really kind to us; the sun shone! After the Ramble we had a picnic and played some games, the Parachute Game always a favourite. To finish the day we had a great Campfire, all thanks to Graywolf. I was really pleased with the amount that we raised for our charity "Bright Lights" which was nearly £200, well done everyone!

A huge thank you to all those Beavers that read their part of the prayer in our St. Georges Day service. It's not always easy standing up at the front and looking out onto a sea of Beavers and Leaders. Also a big thank you to 1st Egham Hythe for their great contribution in the Service. We also had a visitor, 'Larry', join us again this year; thank you for your nods and waves, Larry! I would also like to say a huge THANK YOU to Bex, she puts together the Service, learns all of the sign language and

actions especially for the Beavers. She has a great commitment and enthusiasm which I know that the Beavers enjoy. Looking forward to and now planning our next District event, 'Runnymede Raiders'.

Sarah Kinnaird, Assistant District Commissioner, Beaver Scouts

Mini adventure for the 5th Addlestone Scout Group

5th Addlestone Scouts went on a mini adventure on Friday 19th March 2010. We went to Scouts as usual on Friday and at 9pm when we had finished our meeting we went to Addlestone train station and caught a train to Virginia Water station which was 2 stations down the line. From there we walked as a group to 1st Virginia Water Scout Group, where we got our beds ready for bed time which was to be at 2:30 am. From here we went on a mini night hike around the area using maps compasses and torches this took us about 2 hrs. We got back to 1st Virginia Water where we got something to eat, before we crawled in to our beds. In the morning after only a few hours sleep we got up to bacon and egg butties which were very welcome. After we had packed our rucksacks back up we headed for the train at 9:25 am at Virginia Water station taking us back to Addlestone for 9:30 am where our mums and dads picked us up.

This was a great fun night walking in the dark and spending the night together on make shift beds and telling jokes in to the night and especially waking up to bacon and egg butties! Thanks to all the Leaders who had to suffer the night with us!

Jason M - 5th Addlestone Scout Group

St Georges Day 2010

We were told it could be the warmest day of the year so far. The London marathon runners were warned to take in extra liquid to avoid dehydration and we had a Parade to look out for. But upon waking the good old English weather brought us rain, the only thing we could not legislate for. However by 2.30pm the sun appeared and allowed us to Parade along the streets of Egham to St. John's Church for the annual St.George's Day Service. The Colour party this year formed from Scouts of 1st Egham Hythe was led by Nick C carrying the Union Flag, Tim B carrying the St.George's Flag and Dickson C carrying the Troop Flag.



The Mayor of Runnymede, Paul Tully, District President Jim Broadbent, District Chairman Ron Enticott, and District Commissioner James Nash also marched with the Parade. The Parade Marshall Captain Rob Marshall once again brought us all to the alert and on his command we marched off to the Church with the fantastic Egham Brass Band providing the marching music. Inside the church an enjoyable service was held by the Reverend Craig Holmes with readings by Alex G (Scout) Katie F and Braydon B (Cubs) from 1st Egham Hythe. Renewal of the Cub and Scout Promises were made and the collection for the Help the Heroes Charity raised £307.00.

After the service the Parade reformed and marched back through the packed streets of Egham with flag waving spectators enjoying seeing 430 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Leaders taking the Salute from the Mayor of Runnymede and District Commissioner and one of the longest line of dignitaries we have ever seen. Well done to everyone who took part you all made Runnymede Scouting proud.

Many thanks to the Scout Fellowship for all their help and to the Egham Brass Band, the local Police Officers, Surrey County Council (Highways), Runnymede Council (Car Parks), St. Johns Church Egham, the 1st Egham Hythe Scout Group Team and of course our Friend Captain Rob Marshall who makes this Parade special to Runnymede.

Steve Turner - Group Scout Leader. 1st Egham Hythe Group

The Beaver's service

All the Beavers started the Parade with their Groups then split off to the Church Hall for their own Service. When all the Beavers arrived we all joined in with a sing-a-long, a quiz, an interesting story and prayer time. Captain Marshall's wife Shannon joined in with us and it was a pleasure to see her again this year supporting the Beavers. The service was led by Lulu, Beks and Alan Hewson, and we were

having so much fun that we were back late to rejoin the return Parade. Sorry!

Sally Doe - Beaver Leader. 1st Egham Hythe Scout Group

Treasury notes

A big thank you to Group Treasurers for their prompt payment of capitation this year. This enabled me to get a cheque to the County in time under a particularly tight timetable.

Runnymede Borough Council has advised us that there will be grant aid available to Scouting in Runnymede totalling £1,500 during the current financial year. Requests for grants should be sent to me by post or email by 30th June to enable the District Executive Committee to consider the bids at its July meeting. RBC applies a matched funding requirement, which means you need to be able to finance the other half from group resources.

Richard Mason - District Treasurer

An unusual evening at Thorpe Park

2nd Thorpe Cubs and their Leaders spent an unusual evening out at Thorpe Park at the end of April. They did not scream with terror on SAW or tremble with fear on NEMESIS they didn't even get wet on the LOG FLUME. Why not; are they really brave with nerves of steel? Yes they are really brave with nerves of steel but the main reason for not screaming was ... 2nd Thorpe Cubs spent their evening litter picking the car park!



As a way of saying thank you for the support Thorpe Park has shown 2nd Thorpe Scout Group over the last year and a half the leaders decided they would return the favour and they struck upon

the idea of clearing the rubbish left behind by the visitors to the theme park. So with lots of emails to organise things and one risk assessment later everyone put on their high visibility vests and protective gloves armed themselves with refuse sacks and grabbers and away they went.

The Cubs did not need telling twice, once the leaders had finished the safety briefing the Cubs were rushing about in their allocated sections trying to see if they could collect more rubbish than each other and very soon the leaders were handing out more refuse sacks. By the end of the evening there were some very tired but extremely satisfied Cubs who could not wait to do the litter picking again. Who knows how a Cubs mind works!

The section Leaders hope by completing this activity it will encourage the Cubs to think twice before dropping any litter as after only an hour they had managed to collect enough rubbish to fill half an industrial sized wheelie bin.

Stuart Rigden, Group Scout Leader, 2nd Thorpe

Hitting the Wall

In April, cubs from 1st/4th Addlestone Tigers visited The **Elmbridge Xcel Leisure Complex in Walton on Thames** for an evening of climbing on their 12m walls. Some of the cubs had been on climbing walls before, for others it was their first time and it was a pretty daunting prospect (and that was just for us leaders watching from the bottom!). But being good cubs they all 'did their best' and most had reached the top by the end of the session. All in all it was a good evening and the staff really looked after us and made sure it was a fun and safe activity.



Three of the cubs well on their way up the walls.

Gareth Jenkins – Cub Scout Leader – 1st/4th Addlestone Tigers

Runnymede District Diary

June (School half term 31st May to 4th June)

Mon 7 th	Fellowship meeting
Sat 19 th	Cub Scouts Scream 2010
Thr 24 th	District AGM
Sat 26 th	Chief Scouts Gold Award Presentations

July (School Holidays Start Friday 23rd)

Sat 3 rd	Beaver Runnymede Raiders
Sat 3 rd	County Scouts Cooking Challenge
Fri 2 nd to Sun 4 th	County Scouts Camping Challenge
Fri 9 th	Scouts Five-a-side.
Mon 19 th	District Executive meeting

August

September (School Starts Thursday 2nd)

Mon 6 th	Fellowship Meeting
Thr 9 th	ADC's/GSL's meeting
Fri 17 th to Sun 19 th	Cubs Sixer and Secondar Camp
Wed 22 nd	County AGM
TBA	District planning meeting For 2011
Sat 25 th	Cub Scouts Fishing
Sun 26 th	First Response (Extended)- Training
Mon 27 th	Getting Started- Training

October (School half term 25th to 29th Oct)

Date TBC	Scout Night Hike
Sat 9 th	Beaver Badge Day
Fri 8 th to Mon 11 th	Fellowship Weekend away
Mon 11 th	District Executive Meeting
Fri 15 th	Cubs Night Hike
??	Patrol Leaders Training
Sat 16 th	Chief Scouts Gold Award Presentation

November

Date TBC	Scout Shooting
Mon 15 th	Fellowship meeting
Sat 27 th	Cubs Craft Competition

December (School Term Ends 18th Dec)

Wed 1 st	Cubs Christingle Service
Fri 10 th	Fellowship Christmas Dinner
Sat 18 th	Explorer Christmas party.