

# Scouting in Runnymede

## Cubs go for Silver

January 2011 has definitely put the **first** in 1<sup>st</sup> Englefield Green Scout Group; last Wednesday Andy Sainsbury-Brown presented not one but five Chief Scout's Silver Awards to our Cubs!

Even more surprising than that, two of the Cubs who happen to be twins are only nine years old, which is definitely a record in our Pack. In our experience Cubs are normally nearer to 10 or 11 before they manage to complete all the requirements.

The five Cubs all worked hard to gain their six Challenge Badges over the last two years, finishing with the Community Challenge Badge in December and were all delighted to receive the award from the District Commissioner, watched by the rest of the Pack and proud parents and Leaders.



Awards left-right Alex B, twins Joshua and Daniel W, Joseph T and Archie H



Left-right Joseph T, Alex B, Alex K and Daniel DM with Colin Brown of RNLI

In December, as part of the Community Challenge we had a visit from a representative of the RNLI to explain about their work, and the Cubs organised and held a Christmas raffle to raise funds for this worthy cause. This event raised £165 for the RNLI and on Wednesday we also had a visit from Colin Brown to accept the cheque on their behalf, so all in all a memorable evening!

*Sandra Hider, Cub Scout Leader, 1<sup>st</sup> Englefield Green*



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## Andy's notes

It only seems like yesterday that I was sitting down putting pen to paper for the last edition, and looking at what has been happening since is quite amazing, having visited two groups to present Chief Scout's Silver Awards amongst other group visits, join in with Beaver and Cub Christingles plus see Chief Scout Commendations Awards presented. This was a wonderful part of Scouting and what is more pleasing is at the AGM I asked for Scouting to be about **fun and friends**, you are all proving this to be very much the case – thank you.

Christmas has not slowed the pace down; in my last article I wrote about our plan to start up Network which I can now advise you we will be officially launched on 2nd May with nine members under the leadership of Louise Macdonald.

For our next new venture we are currently looking at the possibility of acquiring a new activity centre by the River Thames at Laleham which it is hoped will give us a site to camp, hike from, do activities afloat as well as archery and shooting etc. - *watch this space for further developments.*

Congratulations must also be made to Gareth Jenkins for agreeing to take on the role of District Cub Scout leader in addition to running his pack - thank you Gareth.

**Andy Sainsbury-Brown - District Commissioner**

## Treasury notes

At the February meeting of the District Executive Committee the budget for the year 2011-12 was approved. It was agreed that there would be no increase in the District subscription, in view of the income being generated by the District's online Scout Shop. However, the HQ and County subscriptions have gone up by 75p and 15p respectively, so the total subscription for the year will be £33.50 per head; this represents an increase of 2.76% on the current year. The breakdown is:

	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10
HQ	20.25	19.50	19.10
County	5.10	4.95	4.75
District	8.15	8.15	8.15
Total	£33.50	£32.60	£32.00

Payment is due on 1<sup>st</sup> April (no – this is not a joke!) and invoices have been sent to Group Treasurers. Last year's successful exercise of

post dated cheques is being repeated and the cheques will not be paid in until the due date. It is always a tight schedule to get cleared funds to County, which they can pass on to HQ and this year is no exception. Everyone's co-operation is appreciated and, if any Group feels it will not be able to meet the deadline, please let me know now.

We have been advised that Unity Insurance Services, the Scout insurers, have changed their underwriters, which has resulted in lower premiums. Any Group not currently insuring through Unity may like to ask them for a quotation. The recent increase in VAT to 20% means that insurance valuations will need to be revised upwards. We have also been reminded that Group HQs being used for sleepovers need both smoke alarms and carbon monoxide monitors - that work.

Following recent fuel increases the District's mileage allowance will be increased to 40p per mile from 1<sup>st</sup> April and Groups may wish to follow suit. Leaders not currently claiming their mileage and other expenses should be encouraged to do so; if they do wish to waive payment, they should be asked to do it under gift aid so Groups may recover the tax.

**Richard Mason - District Treasurer**

## The Mayor's Charity Jazz Concert

On Thursday 3 February 250 people attended a jazz concert in aid of the Mayor's Charities, one of which is Thorpe Youth Association which is responsible for the building which 2nd Thorpe used to use and will reuse once the rebuilding is complete. 3 of our Explorer Scouts Andrew, Zoe and Josh volunteered to help with guiding concert goers to the marquee where the concert was being held. Braving the elements with a force six wind blowing they stayed in place for an hour and then at the end were standing by with wheelchairs to help those with walking difficulties get back to the car park. Sadly no one accepted their generous offer, no doubt because they preferred a ride in Thorpe Park's golf buggy!

I received thanks from the Mayor for their efforts and a grateful letter from Brian Frith the organiser and would like to pass on their thanks together with my own.

**Ron Enticott - District Chairman**

## Recycle your ink cartridges

Inspired by Runnymede Borough Council's campaign to recycle household waste, 5<sup>th</sup> Addlestone has joined a recycling scheme for inkjet and toner cartridges and would welcome any cartridges that groups can collect and pass on to them. In general, only originally manufactured cartridges are recyclable; refilled, compatible or broken cartridges and any Epson cartridges are not needed, thanks.

## Scouting for entrepreneurs

Scouts from 1st Englefield Green Scout Troop have become some of the first in the country to earn their Entrepreneur Challenge badge. The badge was recently launched by HQ with the support of millionaire businessman Richard Harpin who was once a scout himself.



The young people were given the brief to create a product that would "make everyday scouting life easier" and they came up with some fantastic ideas ranging from waterproof neckers to state of the art pop-up tents. Not only did the Scouts have to invent a product, they spent several weeks learning how to market and advertise their product.

The Challenge culminated in the patrols pitching their ideas in front of the 'dragons'. The dragons were very impressed with the standard of product and the confidence that the Scouts showed when delivering their pitch.

Keep your eyes peeled for our young entrepreneurs in the future!

**Dave Moorcroft - Scout Leader, 1<sup>st</sup> Englefield Green**

## Camping is a game of 2 halves (Brian)



*Polyapes in the Sun*



*Bentley Copse in the shade*

Well, it is amazing when you compare the weather during the two camps the Cubs attended last year. In July we went to Polyapes and we had that rare event – a whole weekend of unbroken sunshine. In fact, I think at times it was probably some of the hottest weather we have had at camp for years. As you can see the grass was parched with hardly any green in evidence. Despite being on a ridge of higher land it was noticeable that the site is a few degrees warmer than the surrounding land, a real sun trap because of the trees.

Compare this with sixer and seconds camp at Bentley Copse in September, where the grass was back to it's a normal colour! It wasn't that we were rained on, it was the temperature difference. I think on the Friday night it dipped to 3°C, probably another record, low this time, for the Cubs. The picture is early (obviously!) Saturday morning and that is frost on the grass!

Overall two good camps and despite some unusual (for us) camping weather all the kit was put straight back in the stores – job done!

**Gareth Jenkins - Cub Scout Leader, 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Addlestone (Tigers)**

## **Gold Award presentation**

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2009 my family and I travelled to Yehudi Menuhin School in Leatherhead, to collect my Chief Scout's Gold Award in Scouting. When we arrived we had to sign in and then join the queue to meet the Vice President of Surrey Scouting – Adrian White. He asked me a few questions about what I did to gain my award. In the main hall there were over 50 Scouts from different regions all waiting to collect their Gold Award. My Group, 1<sup>st</sup> Englefield Green was the first to be called, with myself, Oliver W and Bhavik B being the first ones on stage. It was really exciting.

It was a great achievement and I worked very hard over the last few years in gaining all the nine Challenge badges. I am now looking forward to going to Explorer Scouts.

***Thomas R - 1<sup>st</sup> Englefield Green Scouts***

## **Congratulations**

To the following Cub Scouts on gaining their Chief Scout's Silver award.

Ryan S, Kyra E, and Jack M of 1<sup>st</sup> Egham Hythe and Robert F of 1<sup>st</sup> Englefield Green.

## **Log on – don't miss out**

If you have moved house, want to change your section supplement or amend your personal details, you can update with a click of the mouse.

- Sign up at [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk) – you only need to do this once. You will need your unique membership number to hand (this can be found on the address sheet that comes with Scouting magazine)
- Log on
- Update your details and anyone else's you are line manager for.
- Logging on today also means you can access Programmes Online, the revolutionary programme planner!

# Runnymede District Diary

Note: Items in red are changes or additions

## March

Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 6 <sup>th</sup>	County Explorer Night Hike
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup>	Scouts Cooking Competition
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup>	Cub Scouts Cooking Competition
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	Patrol Leaders/Assistant Patrol Leader's Training Camp
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	First Response Course
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup>	District Swimming Gala
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>	Beaver Family Rambleabout

## April (School holiday 8<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> Apr)

Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	Active Support meeting
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Cubs five-a-side Football
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	Active Support St. George's Day Dinner
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	District St. George's Day Parade and Service

## May

Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ottershaw May Fair
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	District Executive Meeting
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	Scout Leaders Meeting
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Appointments Committee
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	Keeping Children Safe – Training
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	Beaver & Cub Leaders trip to Brownsea Island

## June (School half term 30<sup>th</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June)

Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> to Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	Cubs Sixers and Seconders Camp
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Active Support meeting
Thur 16 <sup>th</sup>	District AGM
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	Scoutabout

## July (School holidays start Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>)

Sat 2 <sup>rd</sup>	Beaver Fun day
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	"Big Balsom" Pull
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	Scouts Football
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	District Executive Meeting

## August

## September (School starts Monday 5<sup>th</sup>)

Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	Active Support meeting
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup>	Keeping Children Safe – Training
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	Appointments Committee
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup>	Cub Scouts Fishing Competition

## October (School half term 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> Oct)

Sat 1 <sup>st</sup>	Firsts Response Course
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> to Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	Active Support Weekend Away
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> & Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>	25 Years of Beaver Scouts - Legoland Weekend
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	District Executive meeting
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	Cubs Night Hike

## November

Mon 14 <sup>th</sup>	Active Support meeting
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## December

Tue 6 <sup>th</sup>	Cubs Christingle Service
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	Appointments Committee

Copy date for next issue  
17<sup>th</sup> April 2011  
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