



THE



RAM



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NEWSLETTER OF BANSTEAD SCOUTS

Jan's Jottings

Christmas 2016

Another amazing summer with camps for all sections which included adventurous and challenging activities while learning new skills and having fun.

Although the overall number of members on the annual census dropped the quality of scouting certainly has not and this has been proved by the amount of awards being achieved in all sections with many Chief Scout Awards being gained and Four Queen Scout Awards – Congratulation to all for their achievement in gaining these awards.

During the last few months the following awards have been received: Bar to the Award for Merit has been awarded to Carline Pepper. Award for Merit to Adam Buckell, Andrew Halls, Denis Noe, Graham Payne and David Wingett. Chief Scout Commendation to Michael Charman (Junior), Louise Mundy, Stephen Myatt, Paul Robson, Katherine Scott, Sara Shackleton and Neil Vaughan – Congratulation to all for these very well deserved awards.

What a super turnout for St George's Day Parade in April although it was a very cold day we held the service outside which was enjoyed by all sections, parents and members of the public.

Again in November we did it again when all Groups and Units turned out for Remembrance Day Service– Several comments were made from the public at how smart everybody looked – Thank you.

Again, Banstead District Scouts planned and ran the Banstead Country Fayre in September – this was a very successful event enjoyed by the local community. Thank you to the team for the organising the event and all the

Groups and Units for their involvement all of which were very well received and the feedback was excellent.

As directed by HQ we are working for a 'Youth Shaped' organisation, so in accordance with this we have appointed Melissa Vagg as our Youth Commissioner – she will be in touch and visiting all sections in the New Year. Our Young Leader Unit is working well and several Young Leader Belts have been awarded. All three Explorer Units are full to overflowing and the District Team is considering opening a fourth Unit in the very near future.

Once again, thank you for everything you do for the young people in our care and I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year.

Jan

St Georges Day Service in the Church Orchard, High Street, Banstead 24th April.

This event was well attended by all the groups in the District and a lively service followed in the orchard after a 'march' from the library car park along the High Street.



All groups played a part in the service with readings and prayers.



The arena displays were popular and varied and our Chairman's 'Fun dog Agility provided considerable amusement .



Banstead Country Fayre 2016



A BIG thank you to all who contributed to the success of this event,

We had a fine day for our second Country Fayre which was well attended and we have had very positive feedback. The event was bigger and better than last year and we had more stall holders and the tractor rides transported visitors to our Park Farm Camp Site where our skills instructors had a busy day with archery, shooting and climbing. Proceeds were shared amongst those who ran these activities.



As well as being a community project to meet our 2018 Scouting Community goals, it is our opportunity to promote and develop Scouting in the District.

I am pleased to say that most of the of the groups in the district had a stall and This has resulted in some new members to local groups.



Fire lighting with a flint and striker

The Explorer Units played a big part in providing the major catering outlet and helping with the parking and other jobs. The Network's Dunk tank was very popular.



A few days before our debrief meeting we received the news that Reigate and Banstead Borough Council has introduced a number of charges to use the field which makes another Fayre financially unviable.

In view of the extremely time consuming and hard work and now the financial constraints The District Executive decided that we would not undertake the Fayre again. This decision was taken with much regret as we had made major improvements and it had become a well attended and popular event for the community.

We are very happy to pass on all the 'paperwork' if you know of any team who would like to take it over.

Len

Cubs

7th Banstead's 2016 Cub Centenary Celebration

This year we've seen the anniversary of 100 years of cub scouting – and to celebrate the occasion, Bagheera set all the cubs 100 challenges to complete throughout 2016! These have included attending a 1916 evening, making a birthday cake, attending Cub Camp, 100 Good



Turns, collecting 100 pennies for charity and burying a time capsule.

Community Boat Garden

In particular, one of these challenges was to bring in a flower to plant, and with the help of all the cubs we created a community boat garden, using one of our old boats. The Beavers also helped by growing sunflowers to make a colourful backdrop. The community



boat garden, with its commemorative plaque, now sits at the front of Banstead Methodist Church, and is a peaceful spot to rest in. The cubs will continue to care for the garden as part of their 'Our World' Challenge award.

Centenary Exhibition

As part of the celebration, 7th Banstead Cub's



also hosted a Centenary Exhibition in September. The exhibition was both a celebration of Cub Scouting History & the 72nd

Anniversary of the group, focusing on the way that Banstead and Scouting at 7th has changed (or not changed as many photos show) throughout the years.

The exhibition was also a fantastic way to showcase the exciting things that all the children have been doing throughout the year, which has included the 'Local Knowledge' and 'Photography' badges. The Centenary Exhibition was attended by current and past Scouter's, as well as members of the Church congregation and parents.



Janice

Remembrance Service



1st Walton on the Hill

At the well run and brief AGM in the Chequers, Jessica Sayers was presented with a bar to her Silver Acorn. Jessica has been a leader there for 29 years including 22 as GSL. She was presented with a bunch of flowers and will have her name on a brick at Gilwell, all from her Scouting colleagues at Walton. She intends to stand down as GSL from 1/1/17 but will continue as SL of St Margarets. Kelsey Cleaton has agreed to be the new GSL. Kevin Jobson (AGSL) was presented with his 40 year service certificate.

New Appointment

Melissa Vagg our new Youth Commissioner will in due course be visiting all sections in the District and at the same time collect items for the Ram our District newsletter.

Please give her a warm welcome and tell what you are doing.

Park Farm

We are in the process of negotiating a new lease at Park Farm which should be to our benefit. Watch this space.

Banstead Explorers Visit Poland for the Central European Jamboree

The Central European Jamboree was a worldwide gathering of Explorer Scouts mainly from Europe, in Wroclaw, Poland. From Banstead 14 Banstead District Explorers and 2 Tadworth District Explorers went.



They spent 8 nights on camp. Adam Heard-White takes up the story.

"On the first day we set up camp and had pizza. Some of the Banstead girls sung "Cha Cha Slide" for karaoke, and the rest of BDE joined in by dancing (and getting a lot of funny looks). The morning after we all embarrassed ourselves we travelled into the city. As the senior scout I navigated all 16 Explorers through Wroclaw. We watched a wonderful fire show before the red festival in which we sang the CEJ song for the first time.

The next day we tie-dyed t-shirts and wax painted on bags. By day four we played "The Lost Painter", which was a game that involved doing different tasks in international groups of ten Explorers. The following day we got a two-hour train to the Polish mountains before BDE showed the landscape who was boss. We ascended the height with some friendly Egyptians. We did some proper rock climbing (we still had harnesses), before sharing a camp fire with the Egyptians then all of BDE staying in one room in a lovely youth hostel. The next day we came back to camp before learning some traditional Lebanese dances that night.

For international day there were many different stalls, which we could do to collect stickers from. All the GB units teamed up to run a football shootout, cheese tasting, and a Countdown based game. Banstead and Tadworth performed the (now famous) penguin song on the main stage. In the evening we had a paint party, involving throwing powered paint. This was to show that although we are all different, all Scouts combine to be part of one great power. I most enjoyed our final night as we stayed up all night, in our sleeping bags stargazing and talking, only to get up at 3:00 am to leave camp. After I spent 60% of my Polish money in the duty free, I slept for the whole plane journey – I don't remember take-off or landing. "

Dates for your Diary

January

18th District Executive

February

9th District team meeting

March

County Admin Conference

April

23rd St George's Day Service (TBC)

May

4th District Team Meeting

June

District AGM (TBC) Park Farm

July

7th-9th Scoutabout



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www.bansteadscouts.co.uk

Www.surrey-scouts.org.uk



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