



Haslemere District

December Twiglets 2006

DC's News Roundup - Breaking News & Reminders – Steve Thames, DC

Diary Dates

January	National Census	1 st July	CSA Gold Award Presentations
20 th Feb	County Scout Team Meeting	3 rd July	County Scout Team Meeting
Feb/Mar	District Swimming Gala	6/8 July	Scout Camping Challenge
18 th March	County Scout Cyclocross	7 th July	Scout Cooking Challenge
18/20 May	Scout Expedition Challenge	16 th Oct	County Scout Team Meeting
May 2007	District Centenary Camp	10 th Nov	CSA Gold Award Presentations

So it's good-by from me...

This is my final newsletter to you as District Commissioner for Haslemere & District. It has been 5 years of interesting work and challenges, and it has been good to see Groups change and develop.

Unfortunately, recent changes to my personal circumstances have resulted in additional responsibilities at work and sporadic work patterns, so I am no longer able to devote the necessary time to effectively lead the District Team and to encourage and promote District & County activities.

I know that I will not be able to leave Scouting completely, so I'm sure that you will see me again in the future helping out at some event or another!

I hope that the new District Commissioner and Executive will find the changes & systems I have put into place during my tenure useful, and I wish you and Haslemere District every success for the future.

Steve Thames

And hello from ?

I was hoping to fill this space with an introduction to your new District Commissioner, together with their contact details, but at the time of going to press (23rd November) I don't know who it will be.

I will try and advise you by email, but if by the New Year the appointment has still not been confirmed any emails sent to dc@haslemeredistrictscouts.org.uk will be redirected to the County Office, and phone calls to the 0845 number will be similarly re-directed.

New District 0845 telephone number

We now have a "land line" number that can be used on publications where you do not want to use your own number. The number **0845 094 4126** is currently re-directed to the D.C., but if there is another Leader or Group Administrator out there that is willing to receive these calls, and reply or redirect them as appropriate, please get in touch.



Haslemere District Scouts (Registered Charity Number: 305761)

District Commissioner: **Stephen Thames**, Welbeck Cottage, Glayshers Hill, Headley, Hampshire, GU35 8AQ.

Tel 0845 094 4216

e-mail dc@haslemeredistrictscouts.org.uk

web www.haslemeredistrictscouts.org.uk

Representing Scout Groups in Camelsdale, Chiddingfold, Churt, Fernhurst, Grayshott, Haslemere, & Hindhead.

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Baldies at Grayshott Scout Group

THEY DID IT!!

Saturday 28th October was the most amazing day and I am so proud to have been the inspiration for what my friends did to raise so much for such a worthwhile charity. I am also very humbled, not only by what they did, but also for the fantastic support given by everyone, from our sponsors, to helpers on the day, and by all the people who approached me and wished me well with my continuing treatments. Too many names to list here, but the one person I will mention is Jo Edser, whose idea this was in the first place and who worked tirelessly to ensure the whole event went without a hitch.



We were able to 'present' a huge cheque for £8,000 to the representative for Cancer Research UK on the day.

However, we have since realised that together with the sale of all the delicious home-made cakes that were donated to sell, the monies collected in the buckets by the Beavers & Cubs, and the very generous donation of profits from the Ascot Ladies Race night held at the Grayshott Social Club on the same evening, we expect the final count to be something in the region of £10,000! I think that is absolutely marvellous. I would like to say a very personal thank you to everyone who has donated to this cause. I am so grateful for your support.



If anyone hasn't yet sponsored my brave friends and wishes to do so, you can send a cheque made payable to 1st Grayshott Scout Group.

Once again, a **huge** thank you!

Sally Smith, Assistant Beaver Leader, Grayshott.





Haslemere District

Scout Leaders Mid-Life Crisis

Camelsdale scout leader Peter Callender is trying to raise as much money as possible for the BHF's fight against heart and circulatory disease- the UK's biggest killer. Peter has already raised £1830 from the BBQ held recently at the Royal Oak so he is well on his way to reach his target of £3000. He has enrolled to the **British Heart Foundation World Experiences Everest Base Camp Trek**. If you would like to sponsor Peter you can at www.bhf.org.uk/sponsor/petercallender or pop into *Kaighin and Daughter Butchers* in Grayshott where Peter works.

Thanks again for all your help and support.

Peter Callender, Scout Leader, Camelsdale.

Flat 4, The Square, Grayshott, Hindhead, Surrey, GU26 6LQ - Tel 0772 4899231

First Aid – First Response Courses

There is a course on 4th June, and further courses will be arranged to suit you. Please let Mrs. Carol Spicket 01428 607222 or cspick@fsmail.net the best day & time for you so a course can be arranged. Please note that you will be asked to pay for the course when booking. You will be fully reimbursed on completion.

Remember, as a Warranted Leader, you are required to hold a valid First Aid Certificate.

An open letter to everyone with a concern for young people in Surrey

Mind the Gap

You may have heard of the "Mind the Gap" initiative launched by Surrey Council for Voluntary Youth Services earlier this year. It came about by the realisation that, according to Surrey Police statistics, the third highest crime peak of the week is around 4pm, and that there must be a way to provide alternative activities for young people around this time. The Mind the Gap scheme proposes that there are "things to do and places to go" that young people want to access between 3.30pm and 6pm. It all seems so simple yet the mindset change is perhaps our greatest hurdle, as tradition has dictated that youth work happens after 7pm.

In this age of sophistication and technology, can we get back to some of the basics for our children and young people by realising that they like to "do stuff", be allowed to get their hands and knees dirty, make things, take risks, get active and be praised?

Can we start thinking laterally and seeing what can be done to re-open appropriate buildings. Reclaim youth centres that now provide afternoon tea dances, re-negotiate youth workers' hours and recruit more volunteers?

Some of the early ideas included outdoor activities, sport, restoration, arts, and free use of leisure facilities, structured projects and ways to constructively divert youthful energy. All these thoughts will need time and effort - but not a great deal of money as the concept is relatively simple. Change or extend the times at which youth provision, clubs, projects and facilities are offered so that it meets the needs of children and young people, even from five or six years old up to late teen age.

What examples are there now?

- Guildford YMCA with Plantation Café, open daily in the afternoon.
- Harry's Youth Centre, Oxted with film making, art and graffiti clubs 3.30pm to 5.30pm.
- Godstone Baptist Church with an internet café and homework club.
- Chobham scouts have a Beaver section after school.
- Sayers Croft nears Cranleigh ran a five-week after school conservation programme on Wednesdays for two hours during the summer term.
- In the Mulberry centre in Dorking, a six-week pilot has started and 25 young people turned up of which 22 had never been in the youth centre before! The latest figures at Mulberry are approaching 50 with a drop in, chill out, coffee and games theme.
- Trinity Trust in Godalming run an after school drop in café in the town centre.

So who is supporting this idea?

Surrey CVYS and some of its 68 member organisations

Surrey County Council is starting to examine the concept through "Safer Communities"

Surrey Police

High Sheriff's Youth Award

Connexions Surrey

Youth Development Service



Haslemere District Scouts (Registered Charity Number: 305761)

District Commissioner: Stephen Thames, Welbeck Cottage, Glayshers Hill, Headley, Hampshire, GU35 8AQ.

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Haslemere District

So how can we get more activities and projects underway?

Can you introduce Mind the Gap into the thinking of the people you influence, control or work with? Ask your local young people if they have ideas on how to spend their time in the Mind the Gap period of 3.30pm — 6pm.

Understand that this is a new way of thinking and working and perhaps use it as a radical way to research, re-engineer and deliver new services and opportunities.

Sources of Funds to support the ideas.

- The High Sheriff's Youth Award is offering at least £500 for such initiatives.
- The Big Lottery Structured Play and Activities Fund for Borough Councils has at least £200,000 for every borough as from next year. Could this be used to support free leisure centre use?
- The Youth Opportunities Fund has £1,000,000 this year and the same again next year.
- There are funds available to support the creation of new clubs from the Surrey Youth Development Service of £500 per project.
- Surrey Community Foundation is offering up to £500 to support Rural based initiatives.
- Local Network Fund can offer up to £7,000 within a £10,000 project

How will we know if it works?

- Lower mid afternoon crime
- More engaged children and young people
- Better community relations
- Healthier young people

All except the first one are difficult to quantify, but nevertheless are worth attempting. We would urge you all to get Mind the Gap into your thinking and do let us know of ideas, successes, and rewards. We will be keeping a Hall of Fame for the successful projects - will your name be on it?

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Lady Baden-Powell CBE DL (President Surrey CVYS)
 David Hypher (Chairman Surrey CVYS)
 David Cox (Director Surrey CVYS)
 Robert Quick QPM MBA (Chief Constable Surrey Police)
 Adrian White CBIE DL (High Sheriff of Surrey)

One Hundred Years of Scouting in Hampshire

From now until 3rd February 2007 the Hampshire Record Office in Winchester has created a display of their archived information. Call 01962 846154 or go to www.hants.gov.uk/record-office/ for more information.



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