

MALDON & EAST ESSEX DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Volume 3 Issue 1 June 2009



The closing date for the next issue

Saturday 18th July 2009 Please send me your reports by then. Thanks Ed.

Welcome to our new District Commissioner Derek Joyce

Opening gripe.....

I seem to have had a problem with the items for the newsletter which have been sent to the 'newsletter@meescouts.org.uk' address instead of direct to me. The forwarding did not work so I have nothing from that method reaching me.

It is a shame that it took an email from me just with the urgent attachment re AGM to wake a few members up to send me a few entries for this belated copy of your newsletter. My phone kept ringing letting me know I have more emails. Good !!!

I might be delighted if another person would like to take over this volunteered job as newsletter / directory Ed, it is very time consuming and a worry when you the members do not bother to send anything in to be published. It is the same story with the District Web site so I have been informed. If you do not really want or need either or both let me and Phil know at the AGM.

We always have entries from the usual groups, many thanks to them, but what about the rest of the District? You must have some news ----please share it with us.

GSL's please let me know if your Committees have changed or you have new leaders etc...I can't hope to keep the District Directory up to date if you do not correspond with me. Sorry for the gripe...but I do despair sometimes, after all I am only trying to do my bit to help this District of ours.

At times I receive two or more in some cases about the same event----so---which do I print?? If an ADC is reporting and Leader/s about the same event I have to choose which to print, and then upset someone. Sorry! May I suggest that Sections agree who is going to be the correspondent?

A despondent Editor.

1ST SILVER END SCOUTS SPRING ADVENTURES

With the coming of the spring, Silver End Scouts have been out and about enjoying the adventure of Scouting as much as possible. Since the last news letter here are a few of the activities we have got up to.

Lasert Mayhem

On the same day as the District Handicraft competition, we went to Abridge for an afternoon of Laser Games around the woods and buildings. Split into two teams, the Scouts had to complete different scenarios. These ranged from games such as 'last man standing' to having to disabled the 'Radar Station'. On the different playing arena's there were objects such as tyres and barrels to hide behind and even real airplanes and tanks! It wasn't just all about running around shooting each other, as they had to work as teams to complete the missions. The young people had a fantastic time and it is definitely something we will be doing again in the future.



UK Camp 2009

At the beginning of the April School Holidays, a group of 24 of us went away to a campsite in Surrey for a 5 day activity camp. This was for mainly for those Scouts that are unable to come on our Summer Expedition to Germany. So we could fit in as much as possible in the 5 days, we stayed in a

building so meals were quick and easy to prepare. For just £90, the Scouts got to do climbing, Incident Challenges, Adventure Course, The Maze, Shooting, Crate Stacking, Circus Skills, a whole day at Thorpe Park, Ice Skating, Bowling and swimming in a Fun Pool. One of the highlights of the week was the Crate Staking. They all worked brilliantly in their teams to help each other out and really highlighted how well Scouts of different ages and abilities can all work together and encourage each other. Looking back at it now, it's hard to believe we managed to fit all that in during such a short time. Come the end of the camp Scout had all had a fantastic time, but were completely shattered. It meant the cars were very quiet on the way home as most were asleep!



Gliding

A week after coming back from camp, a small group of Scouts took up the opportunity to go gliding. An early start



was needed as we had to be at the airfield for a briefing session at 9.30am before the first young person took to the glider at 10am. After

putting on their parachute and being shown how to use the controls by the instructor who would be sitting in the rear of the dual control glider, it was 'winch launched' into the air. With the day being perfect for gliding, the Scouts got approximately 15 minutes in the air where they could fly the glider, or simply sit back and look at the views with the instructor taking charge.

Wild West Themed Survival Camp

At the end of May, 22 members spent the weekend in the woods on a survival camp. They had to complete tasks to earn luxury food items but the basics were supplied. Teamwork was required to get maximum points on the tasks such as a 'Blind Trail', 'Moonshine Retrieval' and 'Crossing the Canyon'. Once all the tasks had been completed the rest of the day was spent building their teams shelters and collecting enough firewood to be able to

cook their food. In the evening they cooked on open fires and slept out in the wild. In the early hours of Sunday morning it started to rain heavily, but no one got wet and the shelters withstood the weather. A few weeks ago we



were in a nice heated building at camp and this weekend we were out in the wild...just showing how we offer one extreme to

the other.

Report by Dan Sutton (1st Silver End Scout Leader)



If you didn't take part, you missed out on an excellent County Event. Teams of between 4 and 6 Scouts, some with Leaders, some without, had to complete a route of approximately 12 miles from Silver End to Prances. On the way there were 3 check points and incidents to complete as well as questions about various items along the route. These ranged from dates on buildings to what was in the middle of a field. In total 109 people were out walking in the sunshine. Once at Prances, a BBQ was laid on for all those that took part and the Event Staff. There was the option to camp over and rest tired legs and blistered feet too. The evening concluded with a film in the Peter Church lodge. It was a great seeing so many Troops from around the County from as far away as Thurruck come to our District and enjoy the countryside we take for granted and the facilities at Prances.

Everyone that took part has said they want to do it again next year, so keep an eye on the county website at



www.essexscouts.org.uk. Once a date, time and location is confirmed, full details will be on the web and also distributed to the ADC Scouts.

Report by Dan Sutton (Essex County Scout Leader)

JOTI

Jamboree On The Internet

The World Scout Jamboree On The Internet (JOTI) is an international Scout Meeting on the Internet which takes place every year on the third weekend of October. This is an official event of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. On the 17th October members from the Maldon & East Essex District will be able to take part by coming along to Prances where there will be over 20 PC's connected for use. As well as JOTI there will be other activities taking place. More info will be on the District website soon.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW LEADERS

Dear All,

As from October there is to be a new appointments process, the Appointments Sub-Committee is to be replaced by the Appointments Advisory Panel and the leader appointment process is to change. Within the next month or so Derek together with John Smith and myself will hold a meeting to explain the new process to all GSLs but in the meantime you can, if you haven't already done it, download all the guide books for the new process from www.scout.org.uk/appointment and the role descriptions you will need for new leaders will be found on the Information Centre web page under Adult Support.

All being well we intend that Maldon and East Essex will change to the new process at the start of September. If you have any questions about any of this and you can't wait for the meeting you can contact John Smith or myself.

John Reed. Appointment Secretary

MALDON AND EAST ESSEX DISTRICT BEAVER FUNDAY 2009

District Teddy Bears Picnic

A Big Thank you to all who helped make it possible, all 40 Beavers who attended looked like they were having a great time plenty of smiles. They met different Beavers from other Colonies and all mixed very well,

The Activities they enjoyed (and I must admit I did have a go myself) There was Campfire Cooking they

made dough twisters and when cooked spread some nice flavours on -- yummy!

Assault course races to see who could get through first. and I spied them later doing that a few times. through netting commando style tunnels, across a ladder, and over some tyres, (I didn't do that one!)

The Beavers did the Cork guns and Suction Crossbows, a Scavenger hunt and Crazy golf

Parachuting Teddies that was quite fun although a few crash landed. Some Beavers spoken to thought their teddy liked it and did it again.

And of course we had our picnic complete with Bears if they wanted.

Most Bears went around doing everything with the Beavers at least four or five times, (some very mucky bears went home Sorry Mums and Dads but they did enjoy it) and Parachute games .



I played rat up a drain pipe at least once but I was the cat and I missed. Beavers can certainly run.

A good day. We would recommend it thank you to colonies who came, very nice to meet you and we look forward to meeting more colonies next time

All the beaver that came have been given the friendship change award and the outdoor change badge

Well done to all.

I would just like to say a big thanks to the leader from silver end Hatfield pe and Burnham -on -crouch

And all the rest that help I really enjoyed the day look forward to the next one

Report copied and sent to me by Dawn Kilburn

And another-----This report from Emma ADC Beavers

I have used both so as not to offend. ED

ADVISING ON ADULT APPOINTMENTS - ADDITIONAL

SESSIONS MODULE 37 IS 'ADVISING ON ADULT APPOINTMENTS' AND PART OF THE NEW APPOINTMENT PROCESS. 2 ADDITIONAL SESSIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON 13TH JUNE. 2 FURTHER SESSIONS HAVE BEEN ADDED ON SATURDAY 13TH JUNE.

09:00-13:00 1ST RAYNE SCOUT GROUP HQ
14:00-1800 2ND BILLERICAY SCOUT GROUP HQ

ADULT
TRAINING

PLEASE SEE THE ESSEX SCOUTS ONLINE TRAINING [CALENDAR](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BOOKING DETAILS.

ST GEORGE'S FUN-DAY CELEBRATIONS (HEYBRIDGE GROUP, WITH SUPPORT FROM 1ST TIPTREE)

On Sunday 26 April, at Prances camp site - District HQ and temporary home to 1st Heybridge Scout Group, we set the stalls up early, for a day of celebration, fun and renewal of our scout promise.



Medieval tent and armour – the day started peacefully!

The day before had seen a hike and sleep over at Prances of 30 Heybridge scouts so there were plenty of bodies around keen as mustard to get involved. By 10.00 the main field was set complete with a medieval tent and suit of armour and the 10 craft stalls were laid out, including Warhammer painting of knights and Orcs, cake decoration, face painting and slate carving. Meanwhile in the back field (behind Prances) the medieval stocks were up and Fancy dress obstacle races and team games were all set, most with a Dragon or medieval theme.

The BBQ's were on full heat and the smell of sizzling burgers wafted about the site, while authentic wenches served tea and cake to any desperate knight.....!

Let them eat cake!

At 11.00 the flood gates opened and over 200 scouts joined in the fun..... the tidy craft tables were soon a mass of eager beavers.

Over 60 scouts joined in the Warhammer painting competition with prizes and free magazines on offer -all materials and prizes (boxed games) supplied by Games Workshop. The happy winner was George Lamb with some excellent runners up including Summer (great tree motif!)

and Seb (good grass base!) I was helped by my many eager scouts on the day with running the painting, undercoating and table top game, but in particular thanks to Dad-helper, Martin Dixon - cheers mate.

Warhammer painting - Games Workshop!

At 2.30 we all gathered around the medieval tent for the promise renewal and the day was special for Sue as we signed up another most welcome leader to the Heybridge posse

Initiate promise – Sue is sworn in, with too many witnesses to change her mind!

It was a great day and we have plans to repeat the event in 2010: only bigger and even better!

St George scouts and Games workshop - final pose for the PRESS!

Karl Jarvis, Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Heybridge Scouts (... and St George when the mood takes!!)

Sorry photos never arrived Ed.

COUNTY AWARD DAY AT COLCHESTER CASTLE MAY 2009



This is one of the photos (see others on www.essexscouts.org.uk photo gallery)

We had cubs from 3rd Witham and 1st Hatfield Peverel

All had a good day at Colchester Castle also we had a scout from Silver End get award

Well done to all . Emma ADC B

