

# Scouting in Runnymede

## Celebrating 100 Years

Almost 200 people enjoyed a party tea as 1st/4th Addlestone came to the end of their Centenary year. Invitations had gone out to all the members of the group together with most of the people who had helped over the past year, from Jumble Sale staff to the District President and Chairman. All who attended sat down to a tea of sandwiches, crisps, cakes, jelly and cream and all the old favourites.



The Chairman and Acting GSL then cut a birthday cake with 100 candles before George Kerr was presented with a photo cake to celebrate his 50 years association with the Group. The party was made possible by a Beaver dad who had completed a half marathon asking for sponsorship in favour of the Group. Following the party 400 people enjoyed a fantastic firework display put on by the Group Treasurer, Peter Reynolds and more food cooked by the Intrepid Explorer Scouts.



The Bi-Monthly District  
Newsletter - Issue 165  
January/February 2012



## Andy's Notes

Happy New Year to you all.

Whilst recovering from a busy Christmas and New Year I reflected on what has again been a busy and successful year for Scouting in Runnymede, across all sections. For example seeing so many Explorers at their Christmas bowling do, to the Scouts on the inaugural NightOwl, Cubs at their Christingle, Beavers singing Christmas carols and joining our Active Support team on their weekend away. All this has been made possible solely by the efforts and enthusiasm of you, the Leaders and supporters. So a big Thank You to all.

It looks as though 2012 is going to be another busy year, with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and Community Week to add to the mix of programmes already in place for the year. We are also looking to organise a skills day to help provide some of our newer, as well as our existing Leaders, with introductions to some of the traditional basic Scouting skills. (If anyone has any suggestions as to what skills they would like to see, please let myself or Penny Lympny know as soon as possible). It does make me proud when speaking to my colleagues from other Districts to realise, in comparison, how much we as a District achieve. Let's keep making Runnymede the place to be.

On a personal note I would like to publicly thank Sarah Kinnaird, who has sadly decided to stand down as ADC (Beavers), for all her time and energy in this role and to thank Stephen Livesley for taking on this role in a temporary capacity until the summer.

I look forward to catching up with you all over the coming months at one of our many events in Runnymede.

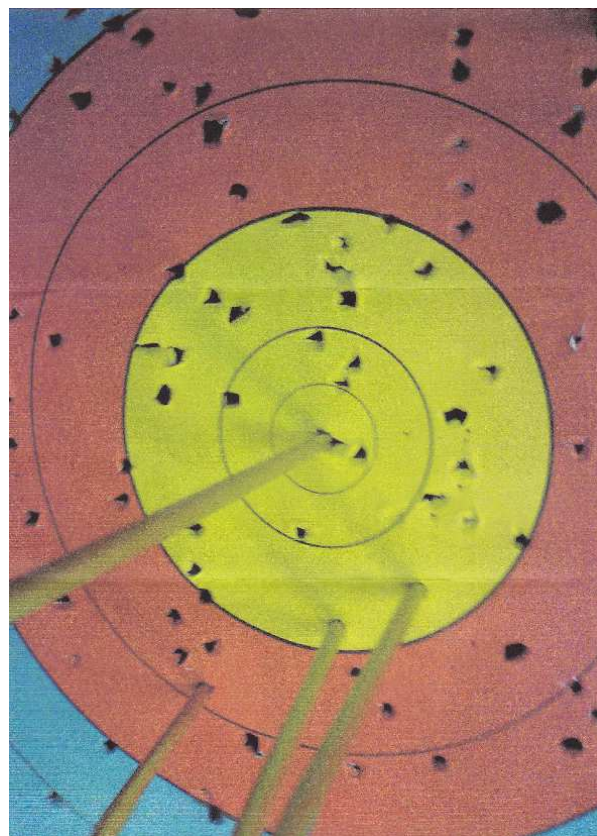
***Andy Sainsbury Brown- District Commissioner***

### **Calling All Leaders – Archery is Here!**

You may or may not know that Runnymede Leaders are able to include Archery as a programme idea, whether it be in the form of a Group meeting, through a longer, tailored, Master at Arms course or at a family fun day.

Members of the District Archery Team are looking forward to hearing from any group who may be interested in including archery into their programme. As a district we have recently purchased a brand new archery kit and it would be great to have as many groups use it as possible! We can travel to your

headquarters and run a session; provided it is big enough or if it is not then we'll do our best to find an alternative venue for your archery session.



Should you require an instructor to run an archery session for your group, or require any further information, then please contact Phil Rigolli who is the District Archery Advisor, directly on 07810 044148.

### ***So what's stopping you!***

On another note I would like to say well done to 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Addlestone (St. Paul's) Scout Group have recently completed a six week long Master at Arms course which led to several Scouts and, believe it or not, two Cub Scouts attaining a much coveted Master at Arms badge. They have gone on to build on that success by attending regular Archery sessions with Intrepid Explorer Scout Unit, where one of the Cub Scouts from the original course has taken it seriously enough to buy his own bow!

A special mention also goes to the 14 Scouts at 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Water who have also completed their Master at Arms Badge Course.

Well done to you also!

***Phil Rigolli- District Archery Advisor***

## Treasury Notes

Capitation for 2012/13 will be due for payment on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012. We have been advised that the headquarters' subscription is to increase by 75p and County's by 15p, so capitation will not be less than £34.40. The final figure will be confirmed after the District's budget has been agreed later in January and the census figures have been finalised. The Easter weekend falls on 8<sup>th</sup> April, so I shall again be asking Group Treasurers for post-dated cheques to enable me to pass on cleared funds to County on a very tight timetable.

A reminder to leaders to make use of the Districts' badge secretaries and online District shop. The profits from these activities are partly used to reduce the District element of capitation. If you source your requirements from other Districts or the internet, our District (and therefore your Group) will receive no additional benefit. Grants are available to fund Keeping Children Safe training and towards specialised activities training. In the latter case, application should be made through the District Commissioner.

*Richard Mason – District Treasurer*

### 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Water Scouts District Night Hike 2011



Another exciting autumn term neared its end on a high with the 'Scouts District Night Hike 2011'. This hike, unlike others throughout the year, was a collaborative adventure for all the Scout groups in the district, rather than our own group-run hikes. After an hour long journey in the car, we arrived at Bentley Copse Scout Campsite, near Shere. We unpacked the gear and began to pitch the tents, which was rather difficult as we were relying on our small head-torches to give us the amount of light required for this operation since it was pitch black. After a few fumbles, everyone managed to assemble their tents without too much trouble.

Once we had successfully arranged our camp, we began to prepare for the hike, donning high visibility jackets and placing maps and compasses around our necks. Finally, as each group's allotted time came, everyone began to set off. Before leaving, we had to check out and notify the rescue infrastructure of our departure. This was done in a building called 'The Barn' near the camp. Part of it was set up as a control centre with radio transmitters, receivers and a whiteboard on which the positions of each hiking group would be marked. After being led to the starting position by one of the helpers, we embarked on the hike – it was already very late. Every twenty minutes or so we reached a checkpoint where the operators radioed the control room to inform them of our arrival at each leg of the journey. The terrain on which we were hiking differed at every corner - one minute we were walking on a logging-truck track, and the next in a forest. We heard several sounds including the creepy sound of leaves rustling in the wind and loud hoots from unseen owls. However, one of the challenging factors of performing the hike in total darkness (except for the dim torch-light) was that we occasionally bumped our feet on a rock or tree-root.

The helpers were always at hand with an encouraging word - as were some of the older Scouts towards the younger ones. Team members offered support and encouragement towards each other throughout. Eventually, after some struggles, everyone in our group managed to complete the hike. Once we had arrived back at the campsite, we were shocked to find that the 'control centre' had been transformed into a dining room. To our delight there was a warm and very welcome hot-dog waiting for us, along with steaming cups of hot beverages. After refreshments, everyone stumbled over to their tents, longing for sleep. It was past midnight and hardly anyone stayed awake for long. Those that did took the opportunity to tell a few jokes.

The next morning, we woke up much later than usual, as our Scout leaders had expected. Upon our waking, we headed over to the 'The Barn' where we were given a generous breakfast of sausage, eggs, and bacon in a bap, along with more hot drinks. We then headed back to the tents to pack up our gear and once everything was stowed away in the cars we left for the journey home after a thoroughly enjoyable experience. Thank you to Tim and the parent helpers for making this hike absolutely fantastic!

*Sacha L - Scout (Age 11)*

## Windsor on Ice!

This year two young Scouters performed the official opening ice dance routine at Windsor's Christmas ice rink for its opening Gala, which was held on Friday 9th December in front of invited guests, VIPs and dignitaries.

At 6pm the Gala began and onto the ice glided James Rigden aged 12 and his sister Emily aged 9. After waiting for the sound engineer to find the correct piece of music, despite rehearsals, and five attempts later James and Emily performed a new pairs routine put together especially for the gala performance which included lifts, spins, turns, jumps, slides and of course sparkly costumes. Despite being brother and sister, James and Emily had only been skating together as a pair for four weeks so it was really amazing to see how well they did together.



Once the plucky pair had completed their first routine it was swiftly off the ice for their first radio interview of the evening then to quickly change for their next routine which was with Absolutely Magic - Slough's Junior Synchro Skating Team. Sixteen members of the synchro team were skating on the night with every skater working to keep the routine in time to the music, in time with each other and to keep it safe. With so many people skating together if it goes wrong it is a disaster but due to huge amounts of training and very early morning practises everything went fantastically well.

All of the evening's ice routines for the gala were created by the children's head coach, the former Welsh Ice Dance Champion Simon Jenkins.

After the synchro dance it was off the ice for another radio interview and a short rest before the rink was opened up for everyone to skate with all the gala skaters late into the night.

After the gala ended it was home for a few hours sleep before getting up at 5am to go skating again as it was then time to focus on final rehearsals for Slough Ice Rink's Christmas Ice show which was being performed for three nights.

**Charlotte Rigden – Assistant Cub Scout Leader  
1<sup>st</sup> Egham**

## Disruptive Cubs – A Suggestion



We all have the occasional cub that finds sitting still and not talking a bit of a tall order.

What to do?

Well, you could put them on the naughty step and hope they sit on their hands, but I have a second option that may be useful.

Have an Egyptian evening (or Halloween) and suggest to the rest of the six that Billy, Bobby or even Sadie, may be a good person to wrap up for the best mummy competition – jobs a good'un.

Now, you could just leave them like this and stand them in the corner for the rest of the evening and then hand them over to the parents like a parcel at the end of the meeting, but apparently POR doesn't cover this sort of eventuality, so we just let them out and used the paper to stuff guys for fireworks night. Not a bad second option actually.

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

# Runnymede District Diary 2012

## January 2012 (School Term Starts 4<sup>th</sup> January)

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> District Executive meeting  
Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Fellowship/Active Support Meeting.

## February (School Half Term 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> Feb)

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Cubs Big Splash-Woking Pool  
Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Scouts Cooking Competition

## March

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sun 4<sup>th</sup> County Explorer/Network  
Night Challenge  
Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Cubs Cooking Competition -  
1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Addlestone HQ  
1<sup>st</sup> Response Course  
Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Scouts Football – Egham  
Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Sports Centre.  
Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Fellowship/Active Support meeting.  
Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Beaver Family Rambleabout

## April (School Holiday 30<sup>th</sup> March to 15<sup>th</sup> April)

Thu 19<sup>th</sup> St Georges Day Flag Rehearsal  
Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Fellowship/Active Support  
St Georges Dinner  
Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> District St Georges Day  
Parade and Service  
Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Leaders' Skills Day

## May

Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Cubs Football – Egham  
Leisure Centre  
Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Scouts Fishing Competition  
Sat 12<sup>nd</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Response Course  
Mon 14<sup>th</sup> District Executive Meeting  
Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Fellowship/Active Support meeting.

## June (School Half Term 4<sup>th</sup> June to 8<sup>th</sup> June)

TBC Chertsey Beacon Lighting  
Tue 5<sup>th</sup> Queens Diamond Jubilee  
Thr 14<sup>th</sup> District AGM  
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Beavers Bazzaz  
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Scouts Dragon Boating  
Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Cubs Summer Fun Day -  
1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Addlestone HQ  
Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Beaverabout – 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>  
Addlestone HQ

## July (School Holidays Start Friday 20<sup>th</sup>)

Sat 7<sup>th</sup> District Leaders "Shin Dig"  
Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Fellowship/Active  
Support meeting  
Mon 16<sup>th</sup> District Executive meeting

## August

## September (School Starts Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>)

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> to Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> Cubs Sixers and Seconders  
camp - Farnham  
Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Fellowship/Active Support  
meeting.

## October (School Half Term 29<sup>th</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov)

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> to Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Fellowship/Active Support  
Weekend Away  
Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Cubs Fishing Competition -  
New Haw Lock  
Sat 13<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Response Course  
Mon 15<sup>th</sup> District Executive meeting

## November

Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Scouts Night Hike  
Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Cubs Night Hike

## December

Tue 4<sup>th</sup> Cubs Christingle Service –  
1<sup>st</sup> Egham Hythe

Copy date for next issue  
18<sup>th</sup> February 2012  
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