



### **DC's Message**

Dear All,

*On behalf of Barry and myself, may we thank everyone for their support and kindness which we have received during the past few months.*

*The sea of colours which greeted us in the form of banners and uniforms at our 'Guard of Honour' on our wedding day is something we will never forget. So to the organisers, young people and parents – thank you very much for making our day so memorable.*

*As DC it is always sad to report the passing of a member of Scouting. Former Badge Secretary and Fellowship member, Marion Scott-Robinson, my mum, 'went home' a few weeks ago. Although she never wore the uniform of a Scouter she was no different from many I know in the Movement who love to have fun and for whom they will always be 'young at heart'.*

*And so, as the festive season approaches and a new year begins, it is time to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year and look forward to the good times and challenges that lie ahead. May I therefore wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and every success for the coming year and the many more ahead.*

*Debbie Draper (Diddy DC)*

### **Cubs go to Brownsea Island**

Val [REDACTED], our Assistant District Commissioner for Cub Scouts, reports that on a beautiful warm sunny day at the start of October, 37 Cubs and Leaders visited Brownsea Island for the District outing. They caught the ferry from Sandbanks and spent a very enjoyable five hours on the Island, squirrel watching, bird spotting for the twitchers, playing games of football and rounders and having fun with activities at the new education centre.

Lunch was had at the Camp Site where they were told about the Centenary Camp which will be held there in 2007 and about the new developments it was hoped to have in place by then

They met some members of the Cornwall Scout Fellowship and the 38<sup>th</sup> Bournemouth Troop who were busy clearing rhododendrons whom the Cubs were only too pleased to help.

Val thanks all those who came along. For some it was their first time on the magical Island, for others their second home ! Let's hope we can repeat the experience, concludes Val.

### **New DESC**

The vacancy for a District Explorer Scout Leader (DESC) has been filled by Ian [REDACTED], the Scout Leader in Maiden Newton Group and Advisor on the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Thanks, Ian. In August he organised the visit of Polish Scouts hosted by the Dorchester Explorer Scout Unit. This Unit of 14 to 18 year olds is growing from strength to strength. Based at the District HQ at Little Britain, Dorchester, its varied programme of activities can be seen on the District website [www.dorchesterdistrictscouts.org.uk](http://www.dorchesterdistrictscouts.org.uk)

The previous DESC, Peter [REDACTED], continues to help the Unit by joining the team of Explorer Scout Leaders. Many thanks for tackling the difficult job of setting up the Dorchester Unit from scratch.

### **Crossways Renaissance**

A carefully planned recruitment drive, which started in the summer when the youngsters and parents in Crossways Group were given invitations to a party to hand out to their friends, turned out to be a success beyond the dreams of Group Scout Leader Andrew [REDACTED]. This great initiative coincided with the Group's decision to admit girls. The party was called a Jamboree and was held at the Group's activity site at Brownjohn's Copse as part of the AGM. A crowd came along and the youngsters enjoyed the freedom to play games, ending with a traditional sing-song around the camp fire. Many parents signed up there and then. When the new term started even more youngsters joined, and some potential Leaders are in the wings.

Flushed with excitement at the new dawn the Leaders wanted to celebrate, so the investiture of 38 (yes, 38) youngsters took place in a display room at the Bovington Tank Museum, surrounded by the local school's Headmistress, the Chair of Governors and lots of tanks! This event attracted the attention of the local press and radio. Andrew, and new Leader Philip Blyth, ended up with a 20-minute slot on Radio Solent's Nick Girdler Show, with an article in Scouting Magazine to come! Great publicity for local Scouting. Congratulations from the District !

### **Beavers Party**

As many as 68 Beaver girls and boys from nearly all the Colonies in the District were entertained by Mr Muddle at the District Beaver Christmas Party on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December, reports Carol [REDACTED], ADC(BS). After games and music the children tucked into party food and drink before a visit from Santa. Carol thanks Leaders for their continuing support for District events and sends seasonal good wishes.

## Dear Marion

It was so sad to hear of Marion's passing after she had rallied so well at her daughter Debbie's wedding following a period of poor health.

Marion came to Dorchester 10 years ago and soon started supporting the District – it was in the family! Many Leaders got to know her as the kind and patient Badge Secretary. She became a member of the Executive Committee, tied up endless bundles of waste paper in her flat month after month, attended every sorting session of Scout Christmas Post in Dorchester as 'stamper-in-chief' for many years, helped the DC organise her District Doos, etc., and as recently as this October Marion ran the raffle at the District Bingo session. What more could you ask?

As a member of the Fellowship Marion enjoyed a Tinsel and Turkey week-end in Looe two years ago. Most certainly she will be missed by her many friends - a charming lady.

## Cooking Cubs

Exciting menus were created and wonderful aromas of spices and curry wafted through the hall at Sawmills HQ in November as Cubs worked very well in their teams preparing, cooking and serving meals in this year's District Cooking Competition, reports Val [REDACTED], ADC(Cubs).

The judge, Ken Lederer, an ex-army chef, commented on how well the proceedings had gone, how care had been taken in preparation and he was pleased to report that everything was edible, not burnt. The winners were Milborne St Andrew for the second year running with their chicken in white sauce and jungle crunch desert. Equal second were Broadmayne and 1<sup>st</sup> Dorchester (Everest) with chicken curry and mandarin tart and spicy chicken and raspberry cheesecake, respectively. Val says 'well done' to all who took part – her taste buds will never be the same again! Oh!

## Chief Scout Awards

In future, the formal presentation of Chief Scout Awards to recipients in all Sections will be hosted by the District and not by the County as in the past.

## GOOSE Camp 2007

This Camp at Buddens will be held from 29<sup>th</sup> July to 4<sup>th</sup> August to include the 'Sunrise Ceremony' on 1<sup>st</sup> August. Scouts and Explorers can camp for all or part of this period and Cubs from 31<sup>st</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August. Beavers will not be able to camp but they are asked to join everyone for Sunrise Day. It is expected that the cost will be made known by April 2006.

## An Honour

We learn that Beth [REDACTED], GSL and Fellowship member, has been awarded The Cross of St Aldhelm for her "selflessly generous" contribution to the life of the Church in the Diocese of Salisbury. Thanks, Cyril.

## District Diary

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>DECEMBER</b> |  |
| 5 – 19          | Scout Christmas Post   |
| 17              | Fellowship Service to receive the Peace Light from Bethlehem, Wimborne Minster, 6 pm. Open to all, including children. |
| <b>JANUARY</b>  |  |
| 7               | District Bingo, Magistrates Room, Corn Exchange, Dorchester, 2.45 pm   |
| 10              | Young Leader Training – Modules A & B  |
| 11              | District Executive Committee meeting   |
| 22              | County Scouts Cooking Competition turn   |
| 23              | County Junior Section Leader Meeting, Broadmayne   |
| 24              | Young Leader Training – Modules G & H  |
| <b>FEBRUARY</b> |  |
| 4               | District Bingo, Magistrates Room, Corn Exchange, Dorchester, 2.45 pm   |
| 4 - 5           | County Explorers Frostbite Challenge   |
| 7               | Young Leader Training – Modules I & J  |
| 13 - 17         | Half Term  |
| 13              | Dorchester Scout Christmas Post Beneficiaries Presentation Evening 8 pm.   |
| 17              | Fellowship Annual Dinner, Conservative Club, Dorchester  |
| 18              | Purbeck Big Band Concert, Corn Exchange, Dorchester, 7.45 pm   |
| 20              | District Meeting of Leaders, Little Britain, Dorchester, 7.30 pm   |
| 26              | County Founder's Day Service, Charminster Church, 2.45 pm followed by tea in Charminster Scout Hut                     |
| <b>MARCH</b>    |  |
| 4               | District Bingo, Magistrates Room, Corn Exchange, Dorchester, 2.45 pm   |
| 7               | Young Leader Training, - Modules A & B   |
| 8               | District Executive Committee Meeting   |
| 21              | Dorchester District Fellowship AGM   |
| 25              | Diddy DC's Leaving Dinner, Conservative Club, Dorchester   |

*Details from District Team*

## District Directory Up-date

### District

Explorer Scout Commissioner (DESC)

add Ian [REDACTED]

### Crossways Group

ACSL add Philip [REDACTED]

### Maiden Newton Group

ASL add Steven [REDACTED]

### Milborne St Andrew Group

ACSL add Mrs Christina [REDACTED]

## Annual Census

The District Secretary will be asking for the usual information for the 2006 Census as soon as the festive season is over. Forewarned ! HQ expects Group Secretaries to be able to simply count from the entries in an up-to-date Membership Register.

*The next Bulletin will be published on 25<sup>th</sup> January*