



DC's Message

21st World Jamboree

Congratulations to Jo [REDACTED] of Dorchester Explorers, a former Beaver, Cub and now a Young Leader with Milborne St Andrew Group, who has been selected to join the Dorset contingent for 2007.

There are vacancies for another 12 young people. Applicants must have been born between 28th July 1989 and 27th July 1993 to qualify. For more information please contact me as soon as possible.

GOOSE 2007

A GOOSE DVD is expected to be available soon to all Districts providing all the information relating to the County camp which will run at Buddens in 2007 in parallel with the World Jamboree. More details will be known in time for the next District Leader meeting.

Scout Post 2005

A fantastic two weeks of hard work by lots of volunteers across the District saw another record-breaking year with Christmas Post. To all the many helpers, my sincere thanks, not only on behalf of members of the District who will benefit from the monies raised, but also on behalf of the local charities that will receive shares, not to mention the many letters of thanks from members of the public who are so appreciative of this wonderful service!

Mayor's Scout

William [REDACTED] in the Central Dorchester Troop took over the Mayor's Banner and Sash at short notice at the end of 2005. He will now continue as the Mayor's Scout until April 2007. However, a Deputy Mayor's Scout is now sought for this coming year, who will, in turn, become the Mayor's Scout in 2007. Nomination forms are available from me and interviews will be held in early April.

Keeping Children Safe

"Keeping children free from harm" is a correspondence course run by the NSPCC. The County agreed that every Leader will be required to take this course. For existing Leaders it will be paid for by the District, but for new Leaders the usual split of the cost 50/50 between District and Group will apply. A Registration Form is being sent to GSLs with this Bulletin.

District Meeting of Leaders

A reminder that the next meeting of Leaders in the District will be held on Monday, 20th February, in District HQ at Little Britain, Dorchester at 7.30 pm.

Debbie Thomas (Diddy DC)

Census 2006

It is 5 years since the total membership in the District fell, but this year the fortunes of individual Groups have varied considerably, giving rise to a net loss of 19 members. Whilst half of the 10 Groups show a healthy increase, one by as many as 29, the others have lost members, one by 33 including the closure of a Beaver Colony. The total of 468 is comprised of 94 Beavers (20 less), 158 Cubs (4 more), 97 Scouts (4 less), 61 Group Leaders (1 more), 15 Sectional Assistants (6 more), 21 District Explorer Scouts (4 less), and 22 other District members (2 less).

Policy for CRB Checks for Helpers

At a meeting of the District Executive Committee on 31st January, 2006, the following policy was adopted :-

- (a) All adult helpers, including Group Officers and Group Executive Committee members, will be required to complete a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Disclosure Application Form.
- (b) CRB clearances will be valid for a period of five years, or until such time as further instruction is provided by the Scout Association.
- (c) Upon receipt by the District Secretary of a CRB Application Form any Leader or adult helper may work with Sections at their regular, normal weekly meeting place – provided that they are always supervised.

Cub Scouts 90th Birthday Camp

In celebration of this event a provisional camp has been arranged to run jointly with Weymouth & Portland District, taking place at the 3D Centre, Osmington, during the weekend Friday, 2nd to Sunday, 4th June, 2006. The cost per head is £45 plus VAT including all meals, accommodation and activities. Please advise Val [REDACTED], ADC(Cubs), of your interest as soon as possible.

Cub Scouts Scrapheap Challenge

A reminder that you need to register your Pack team by 1st March to take part in this event on Saturday 4th March at Sawmills HQ from 2 to 4 pm.

Crossways Renaissance

The great success of Crossways Group's recruitment drive reported in the last issue of the Bulletin is featured in a colourful article with photographs in Focus, one of the Scout Association's supplements to Scouting Magazine. This is circulated nationally to DCs and GSLs only, but it can be seen on <http://www.scouts.org.uk/magazine/FebMar06/pdfs/Focus.pdf> Thank you, GSL Andrew [REDACTED] XX.

Fellowship's 30th Anniversary

The occasion is to be marked in the County by the Founders Day Service at Charminster Parish Church on Sunday, 26th February at 2.45 pm. The County President, County Commissioner and Chairman of WDDC are attending. Hosted by Dorchester District Scout Fellowship, the Service will be followed by tea at the Charminster Group HQ in Mill Lane. All are welcome, but park cars elsewhere and walk, please.

A Change at 1st Dorchester

Nearly eleven years ago John [redacted] very successfully started up a Scout Troop at 1st Dorchester from scratch, becoming Acting GSL. Having been a Scout Leader since 1968, firstly in Sidcup, Kent, and then at Charminster, John has decided it's time to step down from a warranted appointment. He will continue to be involved with 1st Dorchester as a Sectional Assistant. Once a Scout!

His successor as Acting GSL is Mike [redacted] who has been an Assistant Scout Leader at 1st Dorchester for the last 5 years, transferring there on the closure of 3rd Dorchester at Little Britain where he served for 13 years. Another stalwart.

A Change at Martinstown, too

After eight years as Cub Leader at Martinstown, Pauline [redacted] announced at the Group AGM that she wished to give up by Christmas because her work now required travelling away a lot. Pauline first took up an appointment as a Cub Leader at Central Dorchester in 1987 and husband Tony became the Group Scout Leader. This was followed by three years as ADC (Cub Scouts). We're sorry to lose you, Pauline

All is not lost. Jennifer [redacted] has entered from the wings (she presented the Martinstown panto!) to save the Cub Pack. Having recently moved to the village Jenny is no stranger to Scouting – she was Group Scout Leader in Hanwell, London. Welcome, Jenny.

More Leaders at Crossways

The District Appointments Sub-Committee has been busy. Crossways Group has gained as many as four new Leaders who are needed to cope with the influx of youngsters recruited in September. Jenny [redacted], Angela [redacted] and Matthew (Bob) [redacted] will join Alex [redacted] to help with the Scout Troop, whilst Tony [redacted], who comes with years of experience as a Cub Scout Leader in Harrow, Middlesex, has volunteered to help with the Cub Pack. A welcome to you all.

Membership Subscriptions

For everyone on the Census Returns the membership subscription due by the end of March totals £21.80, accounting for 50p refund for prompt payment. The District Treasurer will be notifying Group Treasurers of the amount payable by each Group, with a deadline to be met. The District makes no levy on Groups for

administration, continuing to be self-financing from its own regular fund-raising events. See 18th February >

District Diary

FEBRUARY

- 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

MARCH

- 4 District Bingo, Magistrates Room, Corn Exchange, Dorchester, 2.45 pm
- 4 Cub Scouts Scrapheap Challenge
- 7 Young Leader Training - Modules A & B
- 21 Dorchester District Fellowship AGM
- 22 District Executive Committee Meeting, Little Britain HQ, Dorchester
- 25 Diddy DC's Leaving Dinner, Conservative Club, Dorchester

APRIL

- 1 District Bingo, Magistrates Room, Corn Exchange, Dorchester, 2.45 pm
- 1-2 County Explorers Survival Skills Camp
- 3 - 17 *Easter Holidays*
- 18 Young Leaders Training – Modules D & F
- 23 St George's Day Parade & Service
- 26 District Meeting of Group Administrators
- 29 - 1 May County Explorers Activity Camp
- 30 Dorchester Lions Club Fun Run, am

Details from District Team

District Directory Up-date

1st Dorchester Group

AGSL/ASL *delete* Mr John [redacted]
substitute Mr Michael [redacted]

Crossways Group

ASL *add* Mrs Jenny [redacted]

ASL *add* Miss Angela [redacted]

ASL *add* Mr Matthew [redacted]

ACSL *add* Mr Tony [redacted]

Maiden Newton Group

SL *change* Daniel [redacted] from ASL

Martinstown Group

CSL *delete* Mrs Pauline [redacted]

substitute Miss Jennifer [redacted]