



# DORCHESTER DISTRICT

## BULLETIN



June 2006

[www.dorchesterdistrictscouts.org.uk](http://www.dorchesterdistrictscouts.org.uk)

No. 71



Mr Mike Marsh, DC

### New DC's Message

*Thanks to everyone who has offered their support and kind words over the last few days. Change is always both exciting and challenging and I am looking forward to my time as DC. Hopefully there is no significance in starting on the sixth of the sixth of the sixth!*

*I want to make the anniversaries for Beavers and Cubs and the Centenary not only a celebration of Scouting history but also an opportunity to grow Scouting in Dorchester District. I am sure that you do too. The coming year or so should be an opportunity not a destination!*

*We have to take the opportunity presented by the high profile that we will have to attract young people into Scouting for the first time but also to reach out to former members and leaders and bring them back to Scouting as Leaders, Fellowship members and supporters of Scouting. We must take advantage of every PR opportunity to get that message across.*

*Scouting for girls is now a fact and any problems that were caused are behind us. We now need to move forward and ensure that we are making Scouting available to those who have never considered that it was for them, perhaps because of disability, ethnic background or religion.*

*Over time we will have to look at where Scouting is provided in the District. Expanding and new communities may present the opportunity to enlarge Groups or open new ones.*

*I look forward to working with everyone in the District to build on Debbie's achievements in the last six years and I extend my thanks to her for her help to date. I will be visiting every Group in the next few weeks to meet Leaders, and will be meeting with ADCs, GSLs and others to discuss the way forward in the District over the next 5 years.*

*You are all probably aware that my "day job" is as a Fire Control Watch Manager with the Fire Service, however my "day job" involves working shifts and that means not always being immediately available for Scouting. I would therefore suggest that your first and the best means of contact will be by email on [mikeandpammash@aol.com](mailto:mikeandpammash@aol.com) and I promise that I will reply ASAP. Only in an emergency try the phone (unless you haven't got a computer!).*

**Mike Marsh, DC**

### Outgoing DC

Our Diddy DC, Debbie Thomas, was presented with the Waterman Award at the St George's day Service by the then District Chairman, Mike Marsh. The Award was given for the exceptional service she gave to local Scouting during a difficult year in her life, carrying out her duties (and more) so conscientiously throughout the last year of her six-year tenure of office.

Debbie was also presented with a new Leader Warrant by Jim [REDACTED], ACC (Fellowship), who was representing the County Commissioner at the Service. This Warrant enables Debbie to continue serving the District in the role of Leader of Young Leaders.

In addition, Debbie has become the Home Hospitality (HOHO) Co-ordinator for the County, responsible for finding families with suitable accommodation willing to provide four days hospitality for overseas Scouts after attending the World Jamboree next year.

### Next District Directory

The District Directory for 2006/7 will be available with the August issue of the District Bulletin. It will include changes made to appointments at the AGMs.

Any new e-mail addresses will be added if you let the District Secretary know.

## St George's Day 2007

The District is delighted that the County has accepted the Diddy DC's invitation to hold the County's Centenary St George's Day Service at Maumbury Rings, Dorchester, next year. Our thanks are due to Pam [REDACTED], ADC (Public Relations), for her great powers of persuasion getting the County to come to Dorchester with all it has to offer as the County town, rather than having the event in Bournemouth. We can look forward to the spectacle of thousands of youngsters on parade through the streets with their banners held high! A great day.

## Changes to Policy for CRB Checks

Further information has been received from the Scout Association that necessitates important changes to the policy previously adopted by the District Executive Committee and printed in the February issue of the District Bulletin (No 69). The policy now reads as follows, with the changes shown in bold type:-

- (a) All adult **Leaders and** helpers, including Group Officers and Group Executive Committee members (**not under the age of 18**) will be required to complete a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Disclosure Application form.
- (b) CRB clearances are valid for a period of five years or until such time as further instruction is provided by the Scout Association.
- (c) **Adults are not permitted to work with young people in a supervised capacity until such time as an initial check is received from Scout Headquarters by the District Secretary at which time the applicant and the Section Leader will be advised accordingly.**
- (d) **Adults are not permitted to work with young people, such as at outings, events, activity days, camps, or any events that take place outside of the normal weekly meeting place, until such time as the CRB clearance has been received.**

## Explorer Scout Awards

At the District AGM the District Explorer Scout Commissioner, Ian [REDACTED], presented Chief Scout's Platinum and Diamond Awards (the first in the County), and the County Commissioner, Dr James Morton, presented Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver Awards, with congratulations all round.

The Explorer Scout recipients were:-

Chief Scout's Platinum and D of E Bronze:

Joanne [REDACTED], Gregory [REDACTED] and Elliot [REDACTED].

Chief Scout's Platinum & D of E Silver Expedition:

Alex [REDACTED].

Chief Scout's Diamond and D of E Silver:

Daniel [REDACTED] and Frances [REDACTED].

Not present: Emily [REDACTED] and Stephen [REDACTED] had been awarded the D of E Bronze Expedition and Matthew [REDACTED], Robert [REDACTED] and Matthew [REDACTED] the D of E Silver Expedition.

## District Diary

<b>JUNE</b>	
13	Young Leaders Training – Modules G & H
17	County Beavers 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fun Day
30 – 2 Jul	County Scout Banner Competition
<b>JULY</b>	
1	District Beavers Football Tournament and Sleepover. District Bingo, Magistrates Room, Corn Exchange, Dorchester, 2.45 pm.
2	District Cub Football Tournament
4	Young Leaders Training – Modules I & J
7	County AGM ( <i>by invitation only</i> )
12	District Executive Committee Meeting
21 – 1 Sep	<i>School Summer Holidays</i>
<b>AUGUST</b>	
5	District Bingo, Magistrates Room, Corn Exchange, Dorchester, 2.45 pm.

*Details from District Team*

## New Leader

At its meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> June the Appointments Sub-Committee was pleased to approve the issue of a Leader Warrant to Keith [REDACTED], a parent helper who has volunteered to become an Assistant Cub Scout Leader to help Claire [REDACTED] with the Pack in the Piddle & Cerne Valleys Group. Keith's father, Alick, was an ACSL at 3<sup>rd</sup> Dorchester Group, helping Cub Scout Leader Morris [REDACTED], and Keith was one of his Cubs. Morris is chuffed with the news! Welcome, Keith.

## Group Accounts

The District Treasurer, Barry Thomas, would like all Group Treasurers to prepare their Annual Statement of Account in the format approved by the Charity Commissioners and the Scout Association. The Rules of the Association require the audited Statement to be sent to the District Treasurer within six months of the Group AGM. If such a Statement has not been available for approval at the AGM it needs to be approved subsequently by the Group Executive Committee and three copies signed by the Chairman.

## Cub and Beaver Awards

At the St George's Day Service the District President, Mr Thomas Pope, presented the Chief Scout's Silver Award to Cub Scouts James [REDACTED] (special project – fossil collecting), Harry [REDACTED] James Bond memorabilia), Edward [REDACTED] (computer skills and film) (*all from Piddle & Cerne Valleys Group*) and Thomas Whiting (gamesmaster and guitar) (*from Charminster Group*).

The Chief Scout's Bronze Award was presented to Beaver Scouts Nathan [REDACTED] (photos of pets), Christian [REDACTED] (lantern show with stars and book on planets), Owen [REDACTED] (war-gaming with models) and Freddie [REDACTED] (cooking skills) (*all from Charminster Group*).

Mr Pope was pleased that the youngsters' special achievements had been recognised in this way and they should always be proud of their awards. .

*The next Bulletin will be published on 26<sup>th</sup> July*