



# North Dorset Scout District Newsletter



Issue 3 Number 2

March 2018

## GONE HOME



It is with great sadness that North Dorset Scouts report the death of our President, Mr. Dave Wathen on Founders' day, Thursday 22 February 2018.

Dave had been a Cub Scout Leader for many years in St. Mary's Scout Group, Gillingham. He had also been Gillingham Town Crier, amongst other things.



Gillingham Cub Pack 1957, Dave is on the right.

## FROM OUR DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S DESK

Simon Young, DC [simon.young@wates.co.uk](mailto:simon.young@wates.co.uk)

## A WORD FROM OUR DISTRICT TREASURER

Geoff Spencer, D Tr [geoffanddeanna@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:geoffanddeanna@tiscali.co.uk)

It is that time of the year when the capitation fees are payable to Scout HQ. Back in January each Group submitted its census numbers, declaring how many beavers, cubs, scouts, and young leaders were in the Group at that date. Those declared numbers are what are used to calculate the figure that each Group then pays in its annual capitation, on a figure of £41.50 per person - no arguments, the figures per the census are what HQ base their figures on.

This amount payable is made up of:

£26.50 payable to Scout HQ (an increase of £1 over the previous year) - discounted from £27.00 for prompt payment.

£9.50 payable to County (compared with £7.10 in 2017 - this increase includes an estimated cost of £1 per young person to cover the introduction of the Online Scout Manager Gold system for every Group.), and

£5.50 retained by District (an increase of 10p)

There were a total of 621 young people in the District census, making a contribution to District funds of £ 3,415.50. Against this the District has a budgeted expenditure for the year in the region of £6,500, and it is only through the generosity of individuals who do not make claims on Scouting for their legitimate District expenses that we can in any way maintain a rate as low as £5.50.

All Group treasurers received notification of their Groups contribution a few weeks ago, and I am indeed grateful to you all for forwarding the amounts due to me by the requested date of 13<sup>th</sup> March. A 100% success rate - thank you very much. It means that we can take advantage of the discount that was offered for an on time payment to HQ

Geoff Spencer  
District Treasurer

## SUMMER IS COMING

Just a few gentle reminders when planning your camps.

### NIGHTS AWAY NOTIFICATION (Form NAN)

This form provides the information a Commissioner requires to **APPROVE** an event to take place (i.e. POR 9.1b/9.1c). The Permit holder is responsible for ensuring that the appropriate Commissioner is informed about each Colony, Pack, Troop, or Unit attending a night's away event (even a District or County event). This can also be done online in the event function of Compass.

For all Nights Away experiences your Form NAN should be with your District Commissioner (or appointee) **SEVEN** days before the event (in normal circumstances). How the information is passed on will depend on local arrangements (this may be for example by telephone call, e-mail or fax).

### PURPLE CARD

The purple card provides support for safe Scouting and guidance in the procedures for dealing with an emergency.

### MINI BUS PERMITS

ALL Scout Groups, Districts and Counties who operate (own, borrow or hire), a minibus require a Standard Bus Permit so that voluntary groups can charge or accept a form of remuneration for providing transport for their own members, without having to comply with the full PSV operator licensing or PCV driver licensing requirements.

Under the Section 19 permit scheme, non-profit making organisations can make a charge to passengers for providing transport to the people whom the organisation serves without the need to obtain a PSV Operators License and, in most cases, without having to comply with PCV driver licensing requirements.

## ST GEORGE'S DAY

Meetings have been held with Dorchester and West Dorset, with whom we are sharing the Event, here are some outline plans:

1. 1.45pm Meet at the Digby Hall Car park, Hound Street, Sherborne. DT9 3FE. **No cars allowed in the Car Park.**
2. Form up Parade in Sections between both districts, Beavers at the front, then cubs, scouts, explorers and network
3. 2.30pm Members will parade in Sections, in 3's, with Leaders at the RH side.
4. Section standards at the front of each section for all groups
5. District standards for both districts will lead the parade along with Shaftesbury Town Silver Band
6. 3.00/3.15pm Arrive at Tinney's Lane Youth Centre and Playing Field DT9 3DY. Enter into 'tennis court' area, flags lined up outside to provide guard of honour. Car Park here is only for the Band, Jamboree Catering Staff, people with equipment, Committee. Parents and families are welcome to the Event.
7. Standards brought in once all are assembled with band accompaniment
8. 3.15/3.30pm Ceremony and awards / promise renewals
9. 3.45/4.00pm Activities Commence on Grassed area.
10. 4.45pm Dismissal from the Site

The Ceremony will be quite short with only Chief Scouts Award Certificates, Explorer/YL Awards, and long service awards (15+yrs) for adults.

**Re Awards - Simon needs to be informed by Friday April 6th for Certificate recipients.**

**Activities:** We hope to provide a selection of activities for the young people, Section based, although some activities may be suitable for use by more than one Section.

**Please can you let Sandra Wellstead know if you have activities which your Section/ Group could offer to bring and run, by March 23rd.**

**Refreshments:** These will be available in the form of cake, tea, coffee, hot chocolate, quash from the Youth Centre. **Please ask your young people to bring a maximum of £2 to purchase refreshments.**

**Cakes:** Each Section is asked to provide Home-made Cup cakes or Tray bake, please decorate with a St. George theme, with Red and White icing. **These can be dropped off at the Hall before the Event.**

**Jamboree Participants:** These are to be invited to organise and sell the refreshments at a small price, together with anything else they may wish to sell, as part of their Fundraising.

**Car Parks:** Most are free on Sundays. They can be found at :

Culverhayes- DT9 3ED  
Newland North-DT9 4HA  
Acreman St- DT9 3NX  
Coldhabour-DT9 4HA  
Old Market-DT9 3HR  
Also, there is a lot of on-street parking.

Please contact Sandra directly, at [caperspreschool@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:caperspreschool@hotmail.co.uk) , if you require any further information.

## BEAVER CHEW

Jacque Harris. ADC Beavers. [adc.ndbeaverscouts@btinternet.com](mailto:adc.ndbeaverscouts@btinternet.com)

### LOOKING FORWARD

92 Beaver Scouts from across the District are looking forward to our District Outing to Longleat on 24<sup>th</sup> March. Pictures and story will appear in the next newsletter.

8 Colonies have signed up to join Districts from across Dorset for BeaJam 18 taking place at Buddens Farm on 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> June.

District Beaver Scouts have the opportunity to visit Jurassic Jamboree for the day on 12<sup>th</sup> August - speak to your Leaders for more information.



## CUB HOWL

Clive Biggs, ADC Cubs. [Clive72biggs@aol.com](mailto:Clive72biggs@aol.com)

## SCOUT SHOUT

Suzi Bullen. ADC Scouts. [suzibullen@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:suzibullen@hotmail.co.uk)

## EXPLORERS AND NETWORK REVIEW

Lionel Boyle. DESC. [Lionel.explorers@gmail.com](mailto:Lionel.explorers@gmail.com)

## ADULT APPOINTMENTS AND DBS

John Kerley. Chair AAC. [john.kerley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:john.kerley@yahoo.co.uk) Helen Graeser. DAS. [northdorsetscouts@gmail.com](mailto:northdorsetscouts@gmail.com)

A very successful AAC, with Mandy and Debbie making up the committee, was held on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018 at Blandford HQ. We saw and approved the following:

SA Scouts Sturminster  
ACSL Charlton Marshall  
ACSL Blandford

ASL Blandford  
ABSL Winterborne Whitechurch

A further successful AAC, with Jenny and Debbie making up the committee, was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Shaftesbury. We saw and approved the following:

AESL Shaftesbury  
SA Beavers, Gillingham

## ACTIVITIES

Rob Young. ADC Activities. [youngrob@aol.com](mailto:youngrob@aol.com)

The Dorset Scouts Activity Calendar 2018 is available here ([http://www.dorsetscouts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Activity-calendar\\_v2018.pdf](http://www.dorsetscouts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Activity-calendar_v2018.pdf)), it lists many activities for leaders and young people. Unfortunately, the March Terrain 1 course has been cancelled due to low numbers, but another course is being arranged for September/October; watch this space for more details.

There are still plans to replace the climbing wall at Buddens, but there are no time scales available at the moment.

## AIR ACTIVITIES

John Kerley ADC Air Activities. [scoutaviation@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:scoutaviation@yahoo.co.uk)

Dates have been booked for the 2018 Aviation Camps at Henstridge Airfield; they are the 18th to 20th May 2018, the 26th to 29th July 2018 (A three night camp) and the 14th to 16th September 2018. Troop Leaders and ESL look out for an invitation from your ADS Scouts and DESC for the May camp or contact me direct.

## ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Sheila Kerley. ANA. [kerleysheila@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kerleysheila@yahoo.co.uk)

### Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus

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#### **What is Spina Bifida?**

Spina Bifida is a deformity occurring during early pregnancy when the bones of the spine are not closed completely leaving the nerves, spinal cord and their protective sheathing exposed.

This can result in damage to the spinal cord and nerves. The physical consequences depend upon the level of lesion (or break) and the amount of damage to the spinal cord. In general there are three types of Spina Bifida.

1. **Spina Bifida Occulta**- an opening in one or more of the vertebrae (bones) of the spinal column without apparent damage to the spinal cord
2. **Meningocele**- the protective covering around the spinal cord pushed out through the opening in the vertebrae in a sac called the 'meningocele' with the spinal cord remaining intact
3. **Myelomeningocele**- the most severe form of Spina Bifida, in which a portion of the spinal cord itself protrudes through the back. Some degree of paralysis may occur and loss of sensation in the parts of the body below the level of the damage. The upper limbs may be affected.

#### **What is Hydrocephalus?**

Hydrocephalus is caused by an excess of fluid that may exert pressure on the brain. In some children the fluid drains away on its own, if not the ventricles of the brain swell and the brain tissue is stretched and squashed. The skull bones in babies and younger children are not fixed together as they are in later life, and the pressure causes the head to increase in size. However, it is important to realise that hydrocephalus can also arise in older children and in adults, when the skull bones are fixed and the head cannot increase in size.

In some cases a device known as a 'shunt' is implanted to help the fluid drain. Shunts usually work very well but some children have problems with them from time to time eg. blockage or infection.

### **Living with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus**

*Some young people have poor co-ordination, which may affect handwriting, games and activities. In particular ball-handling skills may prove difficult for these young people. They are often fluent talkers and may give the impression that they understand without, in fact, doing so. Hydrocephalus can lead to learning difficulties. They may have difficulty with paying attention, expressing or understanding language, and grasping reading.*

*In the more severe forms of Spina Bifida, children are paralysed in the lower limbs, and therefore use a wheelchair. Access to buildings and facilities may need to be considered.*

**Practical tips**

*Exercise is very important, especially for those who are partially paralysed. This will help to improve the functioning of many of the body organs. Movement also aids circulation so it should be encouraged, following discussion with parents.*

*Young people with Spina Bifida are prone to kidney damage and are often encouraged to drink a lot of fluid to keep the kidneys functioning well. They may therefore need extra drinks during hot weather. Parents and medical advisers will be able to give you details of a young person's requirements.*

*Try not to make too many assumptions.*

**What else do I need to know?**

*It is advisable to discuss the parent's method of recognising an incorrectly working shunt and the course of action to take, as the young person will need urgent medical help.*

*If a young person with Hydrocephalus develops a severe headache, drowsiness or vomiting this may indicate that the shunt is not working properly and medical attention should be sought immediately.*

*If a young person with Spina Bifida develops a high temperature this may be indicative of a urinary infection and the parent should be contacted immediately for medical attention.*

*Some young people with myelomeningocele Spina Bifida may need training to manage their bladder and bowel functions or have little or no control of their functions. In some cases this may require the need for catheterisation. Discuss with the individual and parents/ carers how this can be managed during nights away*

**OUR DISTRICT CHAIR'S CHUNTERINGS**

Liz Greenway [liz.littlewolford@btinternet.com](mailto:liz.littlewolford@btinternet.com)



Editor John Kerley at [john.kerley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:john.kerley@yahoo.co.uk) All copy for the May 2018 edition to be submitted by the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018 please.