

Burton Scouts - Master Chefs!

The Scout annual cooking competition was held at the end of January and to misquote "Master Chef" the standard just gets better and better. Six teams took part and the judges had their work cut out deciding a winner. However after much deliberation, and a lot of tasting, the eventual winners were Burton with Mudeford repeating last years position of runners up. County recently introduced a new part to the competition "The best Pudding" and a new trophy for this was presented by Chris Hills prior to her departure to Australia. When a suitable base has been made it will be presented properly to the Highcliffe cooks who won this part of the competition. Burton and Mudeford both represented the District at the County competition two weeks later where Burton again excelled and won. They will represent Dorset at the Region competition at the end of March. Congratulations to all and good luck!



Christchurch Centenary Celebrations by Des Whitney

Thought it was time you had an update on the Christchurch Centenary Celebrations Event, after almost 7 months since my last release, many must be wondering what has happened! Once again, I can tell you that the district never ceases to amaze me! How did we get this far without conflict, argument or destruction? Simple really, it's called "teamwork". The team has grown and just before Christmas we welcomed Graham Pedder to give further enhancement, skill and expertise! Without ALL of the team members, we could not have seen the final event forming, as it has to date. Sponsorship is still coming in and Letters are still going out to secure the final £3,000 to make the event ROCK! There is so much to look forward to...Perhaps you will take the challenge to become the master of the horned bucker? Can you defy the gravity and lock yourself in the saddle defying only death itself? Can you aim for the target to sober the judge? Who can manage to climb the face of adversity? Maybe you are the sharpest shooter of the west? Or are you are more of a high roller? Or perhaps you are more of a crafty builder? Anyway, who said that getting to the top of the ladder was a breeze, I bet Bob never had this trouble! Whatever you fancy trying your hand at, the Christchurch Centenary Celebration will have something for everyone! Remember, this event is free to enter and will provide a day to remember! Please ensure that YOU are starting to spread the word! Every group that has given support, ideas and taken part with the discussions and organisation of this Fabulous Event will receive valuable funds.

This is a golden opportunity for Groups of the district to show what scouting is about. NOW is the time to start encouraging your Group Committee Members, Parents and helpers to be involved on the Day! So please don't wait to be asked, step forward and offer you help - Having got this far, the team needs to know that we have support on the day. To finish, I want to record my thanks to all who have believed in this Event and the time they have given and continue to give! For those who come for the fun, remember it was made possible by those "giving", it has not just been provided!

Scoutlink by Peter Hayes. GSLBurton

Sandy's plea for help from Leaders aroused my curiosity, so I arranged to participate on Thursday last. I went along with an open mind: Gemma and Ken were delighted. Just to see their little faces light up was a joy! Only two boys were able to attend, so the ratio of 1.5 to 1 was a little luxurious. On the plus side, it made for a relaxed atmosphere in which to learn about the challenges faced by the Scoutlink team. Lee is an established Scout, who rules the roost and arranges places for all at the flag ceremonies, and Ben is a newcomer to the Group. He's a livewire, full of energy and fun. Together we made gift bags for Mothers' Day (I was fearing a messy evening, but all was very calm and controlled), and played a series of games, some under the parachute. If you've not seen the parachute, it's a colourful nylon affair, and, with a little creative thinking, all sorts of fun emerges! Rolling a ball under the parachute, calling the name of the intended 'target', was a simple but effective way to help Ben to remember the Leaders' names. As well as being glad to help, the evening was a great experience- it made me think about how we communicate, persuade, dissuade, encourage creativity. I benefitted from being there almost as much as Ben and Lee! I would encourage anyone who can spare an hour on any Tuesday or Thursday to give it a go- you're assured of a warm welcome, from the Scouts and Leaders alike.

All Scouter's Service

2nd Christchurch Scoutlink have organised the St George's Day Leaders Service and a blessing of Scoutlink' new Union Flag at St Mary's Church, Bransgore on 21 April 2007 at 7.00pm. The service will be conducted by St Mary's new vicar Rev Peter Rickman. All leaders, committee members, helpers welcome.

Diary of forthcoming events

All Scouters Meeting	Thursday 19th April	7.30pm	CSC
All Scouters Service	Saturday 21st April	7.00pm	St. Mary's, Bransgore
St. George's Day Parade	Sunday 22nd April	11.30am	Depart from Christchurch
Mayor's Scout Handover Ceremony	Thursday 3rd May	7.00pm	Mayor's Parlour
Centenary Camp	25-28th May	-	Braggers Wood
Scout 'Night' Hike	Saturday 26th May	-	New Forest
Centenary BBQ	Sunday 27th May	-	Braggers Wood
Sports Day	Saturday 9th June	-	Grange School
District AGM	Friday 15th June	7.30pm	Royal British Legion, Bargates
Scout Emlyn Competition	16-17 June	-	Braggers Wood
Cub Athletics Badge	Thursday 28th June	tbc	tbc
County AGM	Friday 6th July	7.30pm	tbc
Sixers and Seconders Camp	6-8 July	-	Braggers Wood
Gilwell 24	Saturday 7th July	-	Gilwell Park
Christchurch Centenary Celebrations	Saturday 14th July	11.00am	Christchurch Quay
Goose 2007	29th July - 4th August	-	Buddens
International Sunrise Ceremony	Wednesday 1st August	8.00am	-

Awards

Congratulations to all those listed below who have received awards from the Chief Scout recently.



The Long Service Award

Awarded in recognition of 15 years adult service
Shaun Flynn. CSL, Highcliffe. 9th January 2007

5 year service certificate

Awarded in recognition of 5 years adult service to Scouting
Ginney Hebden. CSL, Bransgore. 9th January 2007
Trudi Butcher. ACSL, Bransgore. 9th January 2007



Mudeford excel at RN Swimming Championship

by Keith Vinycomb. SL Mudeford

The Mudeford swimming team managed to pull off some dramatic results in the Plymouth RN Championships during the first week of Feb 2007. Not only did 3 of the 6 member team win through the heats into their finals, but achieved a 2nd (Jack Radford), 3rd (Alanna Sibbald) and a 4th (Lewis Badley). More points were gained, in both the individual medley relay finals (2nd for U12 and 6th for U14) which was only topped by a 2nd in the Squadron relay final, for the whole team. The icing on the cake came from yet another 2nd placing in the Team Line Throwing event. When the totals were announced, Mudeford were 2nd in the Under 12 section and 2nd overall in the whole Scout section. In both of these, we were only out performed by the Norwich team, who had full representation in all age sections, in addition to having won the event for the last 5 years, and again this year, against the 26 other RN recognised Sea Scout Troops from all over the country. This was an outstanding result for a team who had to call on not one, but two reserves on the day we travelled down, and with two junior members having to compete in the senior team section. The number of Scouts that could not make the event, due either to sickness or availability, suggests, particularly with our two new coaches, that we have an excellent base for future swimming events to come. Our thanks to the team for such a grand effort, and to our coaches for the training and preparation of all the swimmers in the Troop. U12 Junior team: Alanna Sibbald, Jack Radford, Abbie Denison. U14 Senior team: Curtis Badley, Robert Collis, Lewis Badley. Coaches: Michaela Lord, Mandy Thomas

Centenary "Bring a Friend" Badge

Instead of a "Bring a Friend" activity, why not hold a "Bring a Parent" activity to encourage more adult support and help with your section?

Directory Updates

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Add Gang Show Secretary
Mrs Janet Campbell. 1 Manor Road,
Christchurch. BH23 1LT.
Tel: Christchurch (01202) 269767
e-mail: j.campbell33@ntlworld.com

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Change Miss. Charlotte Stribling's details to Miss. Charlotte Stribling. 32a Seabourne Road, Bournemouth. BH5 2HT
Mobile: 07722 067494

Page 11

Change Miss. Sally James' details to Miss. Sally James. 32a Seabourne Road, Bournemouth. BH5 2HT
Mobile: 07840 382861

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Change BSL Lesley Manley and SL Mike Manley's e-mail addresses to lelmanley@yahoo.co.uk

Change Treasurer Roger Evans details to Roger Evans, 500a Ashley Road, Parkstone. BH14 0AD
Tel: Poole (01202) 257411
e-mail: r.s.evans@ic24.net

District AGM

Will be held on Friday 15th

J u n e
commencing
at 7.30pm at
Royal British
L e g i o n ,
Bargates,
Christchurch



Burton named "BT Community Champions"

Preparing for a camp to celebrate the second century of scouting, 8th Christchurch (Burton) Scout group have been given financial help by BT.

Through various activities, such as bag packing and a race night, the group has already raised half the £2000 it needs. Now BT has weighed in with a donation of £150 through the BT Community Champions award scheme. Scout leader Robin Skitt, One IT's head of risk and governance, who successfully applied for the award, said: "This extra boost from BT makes a huge difference towards making this aspiration a reality."

Robin added that the camp will have a full programme of activities including climbing, archery, sailing, canoeing, power boating, gliding and amateur radio.

There will also be a special sunrise ceremony on 1 August when every Scout will mark the centenary and look to the past, present and future of Scouting. To commemorate the moment for the world, the same kudu horn that Baden Powell blew on that very first morning will once again be blown at 8.00am on Brownsea Island.

The aim is to have every Beaver, Cub and Scout in Dorset at the Buddens camp site for the sunrise ceremony with television links to Brownsea Island. The cost of attending this camp is going to be in the region of £200 per person. Said Robin: "We would like to ensure that every member of our group, regardless of finances, age, ability or special needs, has an equal chance of attending and reaping the benefits of this event."

The group has also used a BT sponsored programme of games, adventurous activities and creative challenges to intuitively improve the way the children communicate with each other.

"This success proves the value of communication and is a great testimony to the life changing work that the BT Community Champions scheme enables," said Robin.

"I would like to thank BT Community Champions on behalf of everyone involved with 8th Christchurch (Burton) Scout Group.

Sally Francis, a member of the work management team at Bournemouth, has two children in the 8th Christchurch cubs section – Thomas 10 and Lewis 8.

She said: "They always have a busy and funpacked agenda with plenty opportunities to earn badges, including trips out and of course 'Cub Camps'. Every week they learn something new, be it a skill like cooking, or safety at home or out and about, or about the world around us. Also, there is a strong emphasis on respecting each other and working as a team. It never ceases to amaze me how much the time and dedication the leaders and helpers devote in organising and entertaining the boys. Scouting is an excellent organisation in which to help our young people grow and learn in a fun and exciting environment,"

Added Robin: "Volunteering in Scouting is fun and rewarding and I would encourage everyone to take a look at what it can offer. I can assure everyone that they will learn new skills, rediscover adventure, make new friends, spend more time with their children if they are a Scout and give something back to the community.

"I personally, have learnt many new skills that have made me a better parent and also improved my effectiveness at work. Everyone has something to give and anyone who cares about the future could make a huge difference by volunteering with your local group."

County St. George's Day Parade and Service

Full details are available from the District website at <http://www.christchurchscouts.org.uk/2007/george.htm>. As this is a County Parade, there will be NO flag rehearsal this year. The parade will start at approximately 1.45pm and will be held in Dorchester with the service at Maumbury Rings (or the covered market in Great Western Street if wet). To ensure that we get as many people from Christchurch on parade as possible, a fleet of eight **50 seat** coaches has been booked to transport us to Dorchester. All those attending the parade are asked to meet either at Reid Street, Outside Bransgore HQ, Outside Mudeford HQ, Burton Village Green or at The Somerford Inn car park for departure at 11.30am prompt.

All members on parade must wear full and correct uniform with group **and centenary scarves**. Any non-uniformed sectional assistants attending must also wear the Group and Centenary scarves otherwise they will not be allowed entry into Maumbury Rings. No Union Flags or St. George's Flags are to be paraded. No flag escorts are required. All sections are asked to parade ONLY their sectional colours. Only the District Colour is to be paraded by the duty Group. Somerford Scouts will parade the County Banner at the front of the parade.

After the service, a picnic will be provided by the County. Members of the District Team will collect the picnic boxes from a set point at Maumbury Rings and distribute accordingly.

The coaches will leave Dorchester at around 5pm, returning back to their original pick up points at around 6pm.

Show your support to the District and to the County and be part of the biggest parade ever to be seen in Dorset!

Send your items
for the September Newsletter to
info@christchurchscouts.org.uk or
by post to 20 Portfield Close,
Christchurch. BH23 2AH by
13th August 2007



Information Centre
0845 300 1818

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Band members rewarded for efforts

Christchurch District Scout and Guide Band held their annual presentation evening at the Christchurch Scout Centre on Wednesday 10th January. During the evening, the special guests which included the County Commissioner, the Mayor and Mayoress of Christchurch and representatives from Groups were treated to a selection of musical items from the Band's current repertoire. Awards were also presented to members in recognition of their progress. The Bandmaster's Trophy was awarded to Chris Manley who also won Best Percussionist. Will Hoad took away the Best Bugler prize. Runner up percussionists were Jade Newmana nd Jim Tallant. Robert Paine won the award for attendance and Zoe Mundell and Maria James shared the person who tried hardest award. Below is a selection of pictures from a most successful evening.



Cubs caught speeding!



The annual Sixers and Seconders Party took place on Saturday 20th January. Around 20 sixers and seconders from around the District attended the event, this year taking place at the Ringwood Raceway. All those who attended (including some of the Leaders) couldn't help but enjoy themselves during the 3 hour party. After the racing the cubs were treated to a buffet before returning home, ensuring of course that the drivers kept to the speed limits!



Census records disappointing drop in members

This year's annual census recorded a disappointing drop of 24 members overall - 20 of which were young people. The biggest fall was in the Beaver Section whose membership fell by 26 despite the number of adults working within the section increasing by 3. Only two Groups recorded an increase in members this year - both Jumpers and Burton increased their membership by 7 overall. Cubs are holding their own with a small increase and an additional 3 adults. Scout youth membership dropped by just 2 but have lost 8 adults from the section overall. Explorers are doing well with an increase in youth membership by 7 and an additional two adults working in the section. Suffice to say our priority must be to all work together to reverse the decline in membership of the Beaver Section over the next year but not take our eye off the ball with regards to continuing the excellent work taking place in the development of the other sections.

