



### GSLs report

November continued our success story with a clean sweep of the District Swimming Gala trophies. Well done to all participants, to Zoe who organised the teams and to Rebecca, our team manager.

The Fireworks raised a fantastic £16,000 and the 1,000 Club had its first draw.

The Community Christmas Post Scheme starts at the beginning of December and just needs a few more postmen to complete the team.

Planning of the 2009 Gang Show is well under way but there is still an opportunity for you to be involved. If you are interested, please contact either Nick Prots on 01737 350390 or Pam Brogan on 01737 813643.

To end, I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Neil Dallen 01372 728187

### **WHAT A SHOW**

If you were one of the 180 people who helped stage the best fireworks, funfair and bonfire show in the south east of England at Hook Road Arena, you are to be congratulated. Without a doubt this was the largest display we have held and the best array of fireworks we have ever seen, all of which raised spontaneous applause from the audience after the finale. There were so many of you contributing with the benefit of years of experience and practice that it seemed like a well oiled machine – well almost. Despite a few last minute hiccups like no fireworks, the odd rumour, no gate signs or music licence, it all came together at the right time. The bonfire was something to be seen and probably the largest we have ever constructed and we didn't set fire to the trees! Well done everyone, we raised approximately £16,000 towards our new HQ and have contributed to the funds of 10 different organisations. We need lots of people to help on the night and its great fun. Next years event, all being well, will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> November. Put it in your diary and ring me now to say you will help (01372 723077).

Doug Clasby

### Dates for your Diary

5 <sup>th</sup> December	District Inter Troop Challenge night
9 <sup>th</sup>	Church Parade and gift service
4 <sup>th</sup> January	Adult Group Meal at Jimmy Spices
11-13 <sup>th</sup>	Gilwell Winter camp
13 <sup>th</sup>	Church Parade
10 <sup>th</sup> February	Church parade
1 <sup>st</sup> March	County Explorer Night Challenge for Explorers
	Fund raising quiz night and social for new HQ
2 <sup>nd</sup>	District Challenge Hike at Bentley Copse (Scouts, Explorers, Network & Leaders)
20-24 <sup>th</sup>	Explorer Easter expedition
17-19 <sup>th</sup> April	EMC Book Sale
18-20 <sup>th</sup>	Knights Away for Scouts and Explorers
20 <sup>th</sup>	Knights Away for Beavers and Cubs
23-26 <sup>th</sup> May	Spring camp for Cubs and Scouts at Frylands Wood
7 <sup>th</sup> June	Group AGM and Family Barbecue

20-22<sup>nd</sup> Scoutabout for Scouts  
5<sup>th</sup> July Fund raising night for New HQ  
25<sup>th</sup> July- 3<sup>rd</sup> August Scout and Explorer summer camp at Buddens  
in Dorset

**More 2008 dates to come next month!**

**Gift Sunday – 9<sup>th</sup> December – church parade**

We will be collecting gifts to distribute to some of the less fortunate members of the community.

Please gift wrap the presents and include a detachable tag stating the contents of the parcel. Particularly useful gifts are gloves, hats, scarves, biscuits, sweets, chocolates, mince pies, tea, coffee and canned food.

The recipients include The Pitstop, based in Leatherhead for homeless; Teenagers estranged from their families through Surrey Youth Support Service, and family visitors to Highdown and Downs View prisons.

**1000 Club - up and running!**

Congratulations go to the October draw winners :

1st : Maria Kiero-Watson - no 23

2nd ; Christine Cox - no 22

3rd : Guy Ryckaert - no 16

We are hoping that this will be our most successful fund raising event ever!  
‘Shares’ are now available at only £5 per month, application forms are on the Web or available from William Brogan on 01737 813643.

This gives you a chance to win every month, enters you for the bonus prizes every 6 months and guarantees that the Scout Group win every month!!

For the foreseeable future all the proceeds are being put to the New HQ fund.

**For Sale - ring Laurie Garrett 01372 727439**

**Artificial Christmas Tree** - 6’8” – donation to Scout Building Fund

**Gents bicycle CLASSIC** - 12 gears, lights  
£40.00 ono – 50% donation to Scout Building Fund

**Donations for the new HQ to**

Karolina Whitehorn, 3b The Grove KT17 4DQ.

Cheques to 7<sup>th</sup> Epsom Scout Group Building Appeal.

**Articles** for 7<sup>th</sup> Epsom News are welcome from anyone and should be sent to Neil Dallen at 77 Hazon Way, Epsom KT19 8HG or emailed to [neil@interim-mgmt.demon.co.uk](mailto:neil@interim-mgmt.demon.co.uk)..  
The editor reserves the right to change, edit or exclude items.

**7<sup>th</sup> EPSOM TAKE ALL HONOURS AT THE DISTRICT SWIMMING GALA**

A fantastic performance from the 7th Epsom Cubs, Scouts and Explorers ensured a clean sweep of trophies in each category and retention of the overall Group winners shield at the District Swimming Gala, held at Cheam Baths on Saturday 17th November. In front of a full gallery of spectators the cubs team of James Lawrence, Joseph Ingell, Nathan Jolaoso and Owen

Johnston stormed to a convincing win with first places in the freestyle, backstroke and 4 x 1 freestyle relay events.

The Scouts Under 13 team of Kieran Hodson Kilroy, Christopher Green, Christopher Dendy and Christian Vander faced tougher competition but reached the finals of all their races, recording a first place from Kieran in the breast-stroke, a second place for Christopher Dendy in the freestyle, a convincing 1st place in the relay event and a well earned 3<sup>rd</sup> place for Joseph in the back stroke. The combined results were enough to see them comfortably take the title to the obvious delight of the team and supporters. The older 7th Epsom Scouts in the Under 15 competition also showed great spirit and did enough to clinch their category in a hard fought competition. Again all swimmers reached the finals with Dominic Hallett taking 2nd in the breast-stroke, Natalie Lawton 2nd in the backstroke, Michael Browning 2nd in the freestyle and, with the addition of Ben Bradbury, the team took 1st place in the 4 x 1 medley relay.

A very strong Explorers team, including the talented Andrew Browning, put in a convincing performance to clinch the Explorers competition convincingly. With Phil Barden in 2nd place in breast-stroke, Peter Edmonston in 1st place in the backstroke final, Andrew Browning easily winning the freestyle event and the 4 x 1 medley relay, with Kate Brogan augmenting the team, being a white wash, the team easily cruised to fine win.

The Gala was very well run and supported and a big thank you is due for all those who competed, organised and supported such a fun event which was played out in great spirit.  
Justin van der Pant

