

June 2010

Dorking District Newsletter



The summer holidays are getting closer, and the sun is really having a positive effect on almost everyone I talk to! We all seem more buoyant, and this is what I love about summer!! Especially the ice cream vans on street corners ☺ I hope that you're all enjoying the good weather too?

On 15th July 2010, we will be having the Dorking District AGM up on Ranmore – I do hope we will see lots of you there!? I have had to make the difficult decision to step down as District Secretary at the AGM; it's mainly due to work commitments and living in Wimbledon, so July will be my last Newsletter – if I could make it a bumper issue that would make my day!!!

Winnie Viner

Many of you will know that, very sadly, Winnie Viner, who was a valued stalwart of Scouting for very many years, has died.

Vic Viner was invited to write a note on her contribution to Scouting and has kindly provided the following:

Winnie came into Scouting in 1947. Vic had ended his 14 years in the Navy and had returned to the 1st Dorking as Scoutmaster. Miss Florence Pitts had been running both Pack and Troop. Winnie decided that she would be a team with Vic.

In 1949 Miss Pitts relinquished her Warrants - Vic became GSL and Winnie took over the Pack. Winnie enjoyed her cubbing and completed the Cub Wood Badge in 1950.

She became District Cubmaster in 1952 and settled down to organise many District events. She helped out in some of the County Training Team events and in 1960 joined the Training Team as Assistant "Akela Leader" for Surrey.

On the 17th August that year she was awarded with Vic the Long Service Decoration and Medal of Merit. In 1962 she became ADC Cubs for Dorking. Together with Vic they held many Group Camps and in 1964 the County Commissioner asked her to be "Akela Leader" for Surrey. Winnie enjoyed her long years on the Training Team. In 1965 she was made a member of the National Cub Scout Board.

In 1974 Winnie joined the International Trainers Course at Gilwell and the following year returned to Surrey on the Training Team. Many a Scouter in Surrey came under Winnie's influence.

In 1982, having reached 65 years of age, she relinquished her Warrants and was appointed an Honorary Commissioner. From that year onwards she was a faithful member of the District Scout Fellowship and with Vic became Co-Chairman for a few years.

Winnie loved her Scouting and it was a great comfort to her when, in 1990, she became visually impaired. In later years Winnie looked forward to the visits to Bentley Copse and the County AGM to meet up with her "Trainees".

Ed – Our sincere condolences to Vic and his family at what must be a very sad time.

SURREY SCOUT

If anyone wishes to read the Surrey Scout newsletter, please go to the following web link where you can download the current (and past) editions:

<http://www.surrey-scouts.org.uk/Resources/SurreyScoutArchive/tabid/64/Default.aspx>

Many thanks to Ruth Wood for finding this out!

DORKING SCOUTS NIGHT INCIDENT HIKE 7TH MAY 2010

On a cool evening in May, forty eight Scouts assembled at the District Campsite to walk and try their luck and skills around Ranmore Common. The leaders manned the four incidents spaced out along the hike.

The eight patrols set off (some going east, the others going west) and some five hours later they all arrived back safe and sound to a hot dog and soup provided by our District Commissioner, Mick, before being collected by parents or for those who had brought tents retired into the campsite.

The results proved a win for the Holmwood and Capel Hawkes Patrol with 56½ points. A good team effort. Unfortunately for those who camped overnight, it rained in the morning so they had to cope with wet tents before going home!

My thanks go to the Rings - Dave and Simon - for dreaming up the idea, and to those leaders who manned the bases, but especially to Dawn Mounsey who walked the route several times and put out signs at critical points to help the map reading and collected them all back in on the Saturday morning. Finally to Di who checked the radio control between bases and collated the scores.

Well done the Scouts of Dorking for an enjoyable evening... Shall we do it again next year? Debriefing for Leaders will be at the next Scout Leaders Meeting on July 15th 2010.

**Bernard Moore
ADC (Activities)**



Chief Scouts Bronze Award Ceremony

On 9 May 2010, ten Beavers from 3 Groups were thrilled to take part in the 3rd ever District Presentation of the Chief Scout Bronze Award. Beavers from 1st, 5th and 24th Dorking Scout Groups received their awards from Sharon Andrews, the Assistant County Commissioner for Beavers. Parents, grandparents, and siblings were warmly invited to attend, and their Beavers were well supported. The award ceremony was followed by a cream tea. The Beaver leaders from the Dorking District would like to thank the White family, who generously allowed them to use Denbies sports hall, as so many Beavers have achieved this award that a larger venue than was used before was necessary. It was delightful to have so much space, which helped the very convivial atmosphere. Well done to all the Beavers and their families!



Sharon Collett
1st Dorking