



The City Newsletter

The Edition Of Love !!! Happy Valentines Day !!



February 2010

www.portsmouthscouts.co.uk

Greetings From The Editor

What has 2010 got in store for us all? We start the year with our thoughts on the earthquake victims of Haiti, seeing the pictures of such a tragedy puts any problems we have into perspective. Fundraising has already taken place by some Groups to help! Can Portsmouth Football Club survive? Will England win the World Cup? Who will win the General Election and will this affect me? What we do know is that 2010 is Portsmouth's Scouting Centenary. Your Centenary Badges will be sent out as soon as the census figures are in so wear these on your uniform with pride. (There is one free for every paid member). Our aim is to expand Scouting in Portsmouth in 2010 so we are looking at new shoots in the form of new Sections and new Groups springing up and existing Groups expanding. Scouting has so much to offer our young people, let 2010 be the year when we deliver it to those who need it.

Lord Mayors Reception

The Lord Mayor after reading *The Newsletter* thought that she would like to extend an invitation to all leaders to attend a reception at the Guildhall to celebrate our Scouting Centenary in Portsmouth. Final details are being made and the date of Monday 22nd February at 6:00 pm should be confirmed by her office very shortly. Formal invitations to all leaders will be sent out in the next week or so. This means of course we all have to make sure our Centenary badges are on our uniforms before then!

City Commissioners Appeal

This is a final appeal for support from the City for the Lyons Copse cleaning weekend on 30 / 31st January 2010. "In the past the City of Portsmouth Scout District has not always supported the people who voluntarily manage Lyons Copse. We are after all the major shareholder in the site and as such should at least pull our weight when it comes to helping maintain the site and facilities for the future. The alternative will be for the committee to pay to have work done which will increase costs and reduced the possibility of future development and expansion. If you can only spare part of a day over the weekend of 30 / 31st January please come along and help. "Thanks, Richard. So are there any Explorers, leaders, helpers, parents or friends free for part of next weekend? Why not phone the Warden of Lyons Copse (Alan Crabb Tel:- 01489 892091) and ask what job you could undertake. You could camp the whole weekend or just go out for a few hours and it will make such a difference to the site.

Chief Scouts Award Evening

The snow stopped our first attempt but it has all been re-arranged . . . The evening is on 4th February from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. We have a new venue of Springfield School, Central Road, Drayton. Hopefully you have all received your letters of attendance and will come along and make the evening a memorable one for our young people. The Lord Mayor will be in attendance and she and her consort are masters at making sure they chat to all our award winners. Refreshments are being laid on so don't miss out. If your young people have qualified for an award but you have not submitted their names then the next awards evening is being planned for July when they can meet a new Lord Mayor and receive their award.



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Snooker Table

This was advertised last year but could not be utilised in the end, it is therefore available again to any Group or Unit who could make good use of it. The table with all related equipment was donated to Scouting and if you feel you could make good use of it please contact Joe Harbour (email joharo@ntlworld.com or Tel 9259 6838)

City Card Competition

Lots of entries this month with winners in all sections . . . Congratulations go out to Robert Grice of the 53rd Beavers, Ellen Humpleby of the 64th Cubs, Lee Mason of the 8th Scouts and Glen Humpleby of the Trafalgar Explorers who are this month's winners. Prizes are on their way to your leaders to present to you. Next month there should be some special prizes with Portsmouth Football Club sponsors Jobsite giving us some Pompey items as prizes. So leaders get your young people to enter right away . . . all they have to do is log on to our web site www.portsmouthscouts.co.uk and follow the competition link. Best of luck!

Programme Workshop

Two additional workshops have now been confirmed, the first one is on 2nd February and this is for Scout and Explorer leaders, the second to be held on 11th February and this is for Cub and Beaver leaders, these to be held at Hilsea Scout Centre. The aim is for leaders to be updated on all the new materials that are available to them, also to discuss devising new programmes. There will be a Scouting National Adviser in attendance to give advice and answer your questions. What this can give all leaders is an abundance of ideas on making programmes and we all know that better programmes means even more children enjoying Scouting.

More Centenary Celebrations

So that everyone is involved in our celebrations a special event is being planned for our young people at St Georges Day and a reunion for all ex-members is being put together for early in the summer . . . We did say this year was going to be exciting and very special for everyone didn't we? More details will follow so keep reading your Newsletter.

Scout Archery Club

Have you ever wanted to try bows and arrows, or, maybe you are an eagle eye already? Why not join in the fun? Leaders and young people of all ages meet up every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30 at City Boys School. You can go along and learn how to shoot or come along and have some fun practicing it's only £1.50 for young people and £2 for adults for the evening and all the equipment is supplied. If you need further details then give Bob Miles a call (Tel:- 9237 2177).



Hampshire County Link

Paul Wilkinson is our special link to County and wants everyone to know that he is there to help and support us. If you would like Paul to come along to any Group or Section event, perhaps to have someone new to make that special presentation, or for him to pass on his extensive Scouting knowledge, then he wants everyone to know that he is available to help. You can call Paul on Tel:- 9226 8350 but please get the City Commissioners agreement first.

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Training

Just to let you know that Module 13 - Growing the Movement (Section Leaders) is likely to be cancelled unless we get a few more on it. It is being held on Sunday 7th February at Itchen North's District Training Centre in Rampart Road, so fairly local along the M27 corridor. If you feel this would benefit any of your leaders please contact Beryl Young (Tel:- 9281 1902) ASAP.

Lyons Copse News

Attached to the Newsletter is the latest edition of Lyons Copse News from which you will see some of the tremendous upgrades that are taking place at the site. New exterior stairs will shortly be fitted to Lyons Lodge with plans for a new toilet and shower block to be added to the end of the Lodge. If you have not been out there for some time you may be surprised at all that is taking place . . .

Leaders' 1st Response Course

The next leaders' 1st Response Course is to be held on Sunday 28th February 2010. The Full Course will run from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, with the Refresher Course from 10:00 am to 12 noon, this at Hilsea Scout Centre. Please bring a packed lunch, drinks will be provided. Phone Maureen Locke on 023 9278 6009 to book your place.

Many Thanks, Alan Scott & Maureen Locke

PSMT Newsletter

PSMT are planning to run a Single Pitch Top Rope Climbing (Walls and Towers) course starting in February 2010. If you if you are interested or have any questions then please contact Sue or Martin on 02392 384 404 or email ps.admin@ntlworld.com. **PSMT** charges for the coming year remain the same with the exception of District Events. For full charges list please see our section on the City website.

Cub Mastermind

On Saturday 23rd January 8 teams of cubs from five packs tested out their knowledge in the bi-annual Cub Scout Mastermind Competition at Hilsea Scout Centre. Cubs had two minutes to answer questions on Scouting, General Knowledge and Science & Nature. The questions ranged from "who founded scouting?" through "when was the battle of Hastings?" to "what is the longest bone in the human body?". All the teams tried really hard and worked well together to work out as many answers as they could. When the Cubs weren't being quizzed they were enjoying a variety of board games as well as some more traditional ones . A good time was had by all, hopefully next time we will see even more packs coming along to try and win the trophy off this year's winners: the 54th Portsmouth "blue" team – congratulations to them!

Team:	1st	22nd "A"	22nd "B"	44th	54th "blue"	54th "green"	73rd "A"	73rd "B"
Scouting	11	8	11	8	8	3	12	11
General Knowledge	9	6	5	7	12	2	10	7
Science & Nature	12	14	10	13	15	6	11	10
Total	32	28	26	32	35	11	33	29
Passes	10	15	10	7	15	9	4	5
Position	4th	6th	7th	3rd	1st	8th	2nd	5th



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ADC Cubs

Following the announcement of my “promotion” in the newsletter before Christmas, I’m sure there were many cries of “who’s he then?” so I thought I’d better introduce myself . . .

My scouting life began at the 1st Woodlands Park Cub Pack in Maidenhead, Berkshire, before moving onto the 21st Maidenhead (1st Cox Green) Scout Group. Here I became one of the District’s first Explorer Scouts with the attached Cox Green Explorer Scout Unit. It was through Explorers, and the Duke of Edinburgh Award, that I started to help at the 21st Maidenhead, “Thursday” Cub Pack at the age of 15 as a Young Leader. Unsurprisingly it was a natural assumption that I would become a leader and I was issued with an ACSL’s warrant on my 18th birthday!

I came to study Geography at the University of Portsmouth in October 2005, and wishing to continue my Cubing I was soon e-mailing our Newsletter editor Martin Phillips in his former guise as ADC Cubs. I remember very clearly how fast his e-mail came back saying that Mike Stoneman at the 43rd Portsmouth was in desperate need of some help and it wasn’t long before I was making the short train ride to Cosham every Friday.

I’ve stayed with the 43rd and moved with them to their new headquarters at Hilsea in 2007. In the “real world”, I’m now a teacher of Geography and History at Cams Hill School in Fareham. To say being asked to become ADC Cubs was a bit of a surprise is an understatement, I know it sounds a bit clichéd, but I did actually fall off my chair when Richard Merefield phoned to ask me if I was interested! I look forward to working with a great team and shall be making a visit to all the Cub Packs during the spring term to say “hello”. I am honoured to be taking on this role in the 100th year of Scouting in the City of Portsmouth.



Next Months Newsletter

Copy date for items to appear in the March 2010 issue should be with the editor by 20th February 2010 at the latest. Martin Phillips:- email scoutnewsletter@gmail.com or details as City Directory.
