



November 2009

Volume 9, Issue 1

The City Newsletter

FIREWORKS EDITION

www.portsmouthscouts.co.uk



Greetings From The Editor

The leaves are falling from the trees, very shortly the clocks will go back and it will be dark after 5pm, there is a chill in the air and that first frost is soon to bite. And then there is Scouting in Portsmouth, with events and challenges galore to brighten up even the darkest days ahead. And what a lot of brightness we have to report on in this month's issue . . . read on and be amazed at what is being achieved . . .

Centenary Badge Competition

The City is 100 years old next year and we hope to publish some of your entries next month and let you be the judges of what everyone will be able to wear on their uniform next year. Get your young people designing their Centenary Badge and send them either by email to joharo@ntlworld.com or by post to Joe Harbour. Who will be the proud person who can say 'I designed this badge?'

Bag Packing Champion Wanted

Due to work pressures Billy Porter wishes to pass on his contacts at Supermarkets. (Many thanks for all you have done Billy.) The job entails liaising between the shops and Groups and helping Scouting in Portsmouth obtain some super fund-raising. If you are interested in this job which is one of liaison only (you have not got to bag pack yourself) then please contact joharo@ntlworld.com for details.

Welcome Home From Hospital

Sheila Castellano and Richard Spearing have recently spent some considerable time frequenting local (and not so local) hospitals. It is with great pleasure that we can report that they are now home and convalescing and we wish them a full and speedy recovery.



Membership Fees For 2010

The City Executive have agreed the budget for the forthcoming year and confirmed that the £2 levy for all members who are 18 and under, which was set last year, will be unchanged in 2010. We are now waiting for the figures from Headquarters and County to be confirmed which should be available by next month's Newsletter. By trying to get these figures out as early as possible it is hoped to help Groups with their budget plans.

County Events

Beavers: Annual trip to see Santa at Paultons Park . . . 14th November

Beaver & Cubs: Big Safari day out to Longleat . . . 26th June 2010

Scouts: PL's training weekend at Lyons Copse . . . 20-22nd November

Scouts & Explorers: Trek Cart 2010 . . . 4th & 6th June 2010

Go on, get involved

Southsea Fayre Wash-Up Meeting

A meeting is to be held on Monday 16th November 7.30pm at Hilsea Scout Centre, this with the view of discussing this year's event and considering ways to improve next years. This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend. If you are unable to get there but have some ideas then please email them to Ken George kengeorgereferree@sky.com so that they can be discussed. The final net profit from this year's event was £1470.55 and we need your help in raising-up this total for next year and in making the arena events more attractive for our young people.

City Card Competition

No Explorers entered this month . . . and to think if just one had then he or she would have been the winner in that section, never mind I will enjoy eating their winning chocy bars . . . The winners in the other sections were Benjamin Hale of the 53rd Beaver Colony, Ellen Humpleby of the 64th Cub Pack and Glen Humpleby of the 70th Scout Troop. Congratulations to you all, your prizes will soon be on their way to your leaders to be presented to you. Leaders . . . please do not forget you to remind your young people to log on to the City web site, to find out about Scouting in Portsmouth, to enter the competition and to try and win.

First Response Course

There are still places left for the next course which is scheduled for Sunday 22nd November at Hilsea Scout Centre. The full course will run from 10 am to 4 pm with the refresher from 10 am to 12 pm. If you have a problem with attending a Sunday course please contact Maureen as she may be able to make alternative arrangements. Phone Maureen Locke on 023 9278 6009 to book your places.

Lyons Copse News

The latest copy of Lyons Copse News is attached to your Newsletter. The date to put in your diaries is the AGM which will be held in Lyons Lodge on Thursday 12th November. As the City is the main owners of the site we really want to support camping there. This can be by attending meetings and representing the City, or, by doing some warden duties, or, by just helping out. If you are interested please email Mick Edwards dm.edwards2@ntlworld.com who will give details.

City Scout Wide Game

On Saturday 10th October, at 6 pm 34 Scouts from 8 Troops, met on Portsdown hill. This year's game was based on the TV programme "Catchphrase." The Scouts worked in teams and had to collect pieces that formed a picture. The first team to collect and guess the catchphrase correctly won that game; there were 6 games in total and the team who guessed the most correctly won the game overall. There was a joint 1st place so the winner was decided by a tie break catchphrase. Results as follows:

1st Place – 8th Portsmouth (B Team)

2nd Place – 8th Portsmouth (A Team)

Every team received a certificate for taking part, and the 8th Portsmouth also received the Scout Wide Game Trophy for taking first place, which they will now keep for the next year. Great thanks to all the members of the Scout Fellowship and the two members of the Portsmouth Network that gave up there time to help run the game.

Dan Hickin

Remembrance Parade

The Remembrance Day parade in the Guildhall this year will be held on Sunday November 8th. Those assembling are asked to be in the Guildhall square by the civic offices for 10:15 am and as usual, after the parade, refreshments will be available in the Guildhall. The turnout last year was one of the best we have had for a long time. Let's do it again this year and show the people of Portsmouth that Scouting is alive and well in the city and that we do not forget the service that our forces give to this country.



Cross Country Races 2009

<u>CUBS</u>	1 st	8 th	43 rd A	43 rd B	44 th	48 th A	53 rd	54 th A	64 th		= less than 4 in team
Points	3/2 9	3/33	76	89		45	1/30	44	50		= didn't show
Position			4 th	5 th		2 nd		1 st	3 rd		
<u>SCOUTS</u>	8 th	28 th	48 th	53 rd A	64 th A	70 th	73 rd				
Points	2/7	31	1/25	76	25	62	2/19				
Position		2 nd		4 th	1 st	3 rd					

Thirty Cubs and twenty eight Scouts participated in the annual cross-country at Hilsea lines on Saturday 17th October, we also had two leaders running. The ground was damp underfoot but at least it was not raining like last year. The cub race was run in a remarkably quick time with Alfie Macer from the 54th pack being the first cub home. The overall result of the cub race was very close with only one point separating first and second places. It was Harry Blay of the 8th Portsmouth Troop being the first scout home and John Craddock from the 70th Portsmouth (1st Drayton) who won the leaders race. Sadly there were no explorers running this year. Thank you to the District Scout Fellowship for running the event. We look forward to seeing you again next year. Well done to all those who took part.

Does Your Group Need Equipment

The City is in the process of making a £5,000 bid for grant funds. Many of you in the past have said it is equipment, especially lightweight or specialist equipment that you would like. Well now is the time to let us know exactly what you would like . . . The City with our Grant Champion will then make the bid . . . You will then be able to use the gear. Does this sound good . . . 'I can borrow the equipment I want whenever I like and it is there waiting for me and all I have to do is say what I would like.' Yes all we are asking is for you to email to joharo@ntlworld.com the list of equipment you would ideally like available to your Group or Unit . . . If you do not ask then we cannot deliver. Then we cross our fingers and hope we are successful.

Safeguarding Our Children

There is some concern that not all leaders are following the City policy of obtaining parents / guardians permission for photographs to be taken and used on the City Website or in the City Newsletter. Because of this concern a review of our procedure is taking place and in the meantime, any new pictures sent in for publication / putting on the web must come with confirmation from the Group / event organiser that parents / guardians permission has been obtained. The City Commissioner will be discussing with GSL's how we can ensure our policy can become foolproof and when agreed this will be set out in your Newsletter and on our web site.

Snooker Table Needs A Home

A quarter size snooker table (about 6 feet long by 3 feet wide) has been donated to the City. It is in excellent condition and comes with full sets of pool and snooker balls, cues, triangle and score board. The legs are removable for ease of storing. If you are interested in getting your Group or Unit in practice for The Crucible then email joharo@ntlworld.com. All you will have to do is collect it and maybe send a thank-you letter.



Our City Commissioner Extends His Warrant

Richard Merefield has issued the following confirmation:-In June 2008, I was asked by the then County Commissioner to become District Commissioner for the City of Portsmouth. I did this on the understanding that I would do the job for a period of two years and this period would expire at the Cities next AGM. However, our new County Commissioner, Adam Jollans, has asked me to stay on in the role and as things are going so well in the City, and with so many challenges still to get started, I have agreed to continue.

We all thank Richard for all that he has done and all he will do . . .

The City Newsletter

Folding Chairs Going Free

The 43rd Group have over 20 folding chairs which are surplus to their requirements. If you have a need for them please contact Craig Knights by email:- craigknights@aol.co.uk.

Administrators Workgroup

The City is to run a training evening for Group Executive Officers. This can be seen as a great start for a new Chairperson, Secretary or Treasurer as well as those already in post who want to know more about their responsibilities. They will meet with others doing the same role in other Groups, as well as talk to the City Team and the City Commissioner. GSLs are also welcome so they may learn what their roles in meeting and organising their executive members is all about as well as how to recruit them. The event is to be held on Tuesday 10th November 2009 7:30 pm at Hilsea Scout Centre. To book places please advise joharo@ntlworld.com as soon as possible.

Next Month's City Newsletter

Copy date for items to appear in the December 2009 issue should be with the editor by 20th November 2009 at the latest. Martin Phillips:- email scoutnewsletter@gmail.com or details as City Directory.

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