



The City Newsletter



October 2009

HALLOWEEN EDITION

Volume 8, Issue 11

www.portsmouthscouts.co.uk

Greetings From The Editor

We are a little late in getting your Newsletter in front of you this month but we do have a fantastically good reason. The Newsletter is scheduled to be done on the 20th of the month, however on Saturday 19th September Martin Phillips and Patsy went and got married . . . how very inconsiderate of them! Our very best wishes for their future happiness are sent to them, even though we do have to wait an extra week to be able to read our Newsletter!

We also wonder if the adults who receive the Newsletter pass on the information to our young people? The same young people tell us that they want more competitions and in the last edition we offered prizes for summer camp reports, yet have received not one! It is not too late to get them in and win . . . so please pass on the competition details . . . reports to joharo@ntlworld.com please.

Portsmouth Scouting Centenary

Records have been uncovered that confirm that the Boy Scouts Association of Portsmouth was first registered on 6th March 1910. This means we are officially one hundred years old next year. So how do we celebrate? To start with let's have a centenary badge . . . so here is the next competition . . . Let's get everyone designing a badge that everyone will wear, from Beavers to Leaders, let's all have a go. What could go on this badge? Perhaps an old picture, of Baden Powell in his Scout hat back in 1910, or, maybe a design of a modern Spinnaker Tower? It's your badge so it's your design. Entries can be sent in the post to Joe Harbour, 20 Lovedean Lane, Waterlooville PO8 8HJ or by email to joharo@ntlworld.com but please get 'everyone' involved.

We then move on to how else to celebrate? Do we want an event, a camp, a social, a barbeque? Lets us know your thoughts.

Southsea Fayre Report

Well we had great weather, we had lots of traders, car booters and volleyball players, we even had the Lord Mayor and her Consort make a visit but what happened to the Scouting turn out? The arena was a fantastic site, set up with the flags of the Commonwealth all around it but it was disappointing that so few of our members took part in the activities that had been arranged for them. There were of course big positive notes to the day . . . first that we raised over £1500 for Scouting in the City and secondly the fun and enjoyment so many Scouting people and many others had on what was a terrific day. Thanks go out to Ken George who organised the event and to the Fellowship and leaders who supported him so well. Also many Groups ran stalls and made money for themselves during the day. Ken has agreed to organise the event again next year when it will be even bigger and better. So put 12th September 2010 in your diaries now . . . and make sure you and all of your young people get along next year.

If you have any comments about this year's event please pass them to Ken on email at kengeorgereferree@ntlworld.com.

Bookings For Hilsea Scout Centre

We are able to take bookings for Hilsea Scout Centre for casual usage. Children's Parties cost £25 for the whole building for an afternoon. Meetings at £20 per session and general hiring is £10 per hour. To make a booking contact the booking secretary Hazel Paice on Tel:- 023 9278 7253.



Training Grants Requests

Many of you are aware that the City has secured a £10,000 Grant from the Lottery to spend this year on training. The City Executive have received numerous requests for funding already but wanted everyone in the City to have a chance to make an application before deciding how to distribute the funds. To this end the requests already made have been put on hold for a further month and we are asking all Groups to consider if they want to make an application. The cut off date will be the next Exec meeting on 12th October at which time all requests will be considered. So if you have any training planned, perhaps an adventurous course for your leaders, or, time away with your young people where training will take place, then get your request for funding in, as once spent it will be too late. Please can requests to be emailed to joharo@ntlworld.com.

Administrators Workshop

Has your Group got any new administrators following the season of Group AGMs? If so the City are to run a training evening where your Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary can learn their responsibilities. They will also meet up with others doing the same job in other Groups and make invaluable contacts. GSL's are also welcome so they may learn what their role 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, 7:30 pm at Hilsea Scout Centre. To book places, so that we can arrange the correct number of brochures and the refreshments please advise joharo@ntlworld.com as soon as possible.

First Response Course

The next course 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. Please phone Maureen Locke on 023 9278 6009 to book your places.

Charlie Belstone Goes To Camp

Charlie is a Scout with the 28th Troop and he showed great bravery in beating personal difficulties and in raising funding to go to camp, having had to overcome lots of problems along the way. Charlie sent us a postcard from camp and he said 'I am having a great time here. I have done archery, climbing and abseiling and am doing caving, mountain biking and going to Alton Towers.' Well done Charlie we are so pleased you had a great camp.

Supermarket Notice Boards

Morrison's and Summerfield's have told us that they have notice boards that Scouting can freely use. The City hopes to have a glossy brochure detailing what Scouting in the City is all about and will be getting these out in due course. In the meantime any Group who has a local supermarket can use their notice board to advertise who to contact and where they meet to potentially attract both leaders and young people.

23rd Portsmouth Scout Group Centenary Camp

Next year we are celebrating our centenary and are trying to put together a history of our group. We have collated quite a bit of information about the group but are looking for more and we know that many people still within Scouting are ex members of the 23rd either as Leaders or as Scouts. Our group are currently land scouts but were previously sea scouts and we would be interested to know when this changed and why, we would also like to know if the group was originally set up as Sea Scouts as this isn't clear from the information that we have. If you are an ex member of the 23rd Portsmouth and would be interested in taking part in our celebrations next year or if you have any information, memorabilia or photos that we could 'beg, steal or borrow' from you, please contact us via email atscouts@23rdportsmouthscouts.org or by letter to: 23rd Portsmouth Scout Group, c/o Hilsea Scout Centre, The Ridings, Gatcombe Park, Portsmouth.

City Camp

City Camp was another great success! Over 500 people enjoyed a weekend of sunshine at Lyons Copse campsite over the weekend of 25-27th September 2009. Activities for the weekend included Climbing, Archery, Shooting, Aerial Runway, Handicrafts, Circus Skills, Pioneering, Snake and Reptile Display, Inflatables to name but a few. The camp started on Friday evening with Groups descending on the site to pitch their tents and get themselves ready. Saturday morning soon came and the Camp was officially opened with a Flag Break and Introductions and then the Cubs, Scouts and Explorers disappeared to their activity zones and started the first 3½ hours of activities. At 10am the City Beavers arrived, again to a small welcoming ceremony and they joined in with the activities. Lunch soon followed then the afternoon activity session started. Our first visitor of the weekend arrived shortly afterwards. The Deputy Lord Mayor and her Consort visited the camp and were escorted around the site by the Camp and Assistant Camp Leaders. They got a chance to shoot a few arrows and cakes were baked for them in cardboard boxes. They really appreciated the invitation to visit the site and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. At the end of their visit, the Deputy Lord Mayor presented to Richard Merefield (our City Commissioner) 2 framed photographs of the gravestone and building commemorating Lord Baden Powell in Kenya, after she visited there last year.

At 6 pm, after a long and tiring day, the Beavers departed with smiles on their faces. Our second visitor arrived at Flag Down. Adam Jollans, our new Hampshire County Commissioner arrived with a difference – starting a huge Mexican Wave with all those assembled around the flag pole. He then stayed well into the evening. The evening entertainments started at 8pm with a very loud and fun campfire and the wide game followed. Everyone then went to bed very tired. Sunday morning started with a quick flag break and then back to the activities before finishing for lunch. The weather over the weekend was glorious, albeit a bit cold over night. The closing ceremony finished the weekend with a couple of presentations and all the thank-you's for everyone's help.

On a final note, I want to say a big thank you to everyone involved in the weekend from Dan Hickin, my Assistant Camp Leader down to every young person attending. (*Neil Miles*)



My Late Friend Les Minter

An extract from the tribute made by Nick Thorpe, Scout Leader at the 28th Group.

'They say that in life, you can count the number of real, good friends on one hand. And I am proud to say that Les Minter was one of those friends. Dependable, reliable, trustworthy, all the attributes that a friend should be, Les showed me and many of those who knew him, those special qualities which only endeared us all to him. His enthusiasm and lust for life was infectious, he got people on his side and helped them realise their visions, as well as his own, and in no better place that I saw this in action than when he first walked through the door of the 28th as our new Chairman. In less than a year, he had doubled the size of the committee, we were running our own mini-bus and membership of the group was ever increasing. Then for ten glorious years as GSL, Les oversaw membership reach an all time high of over 100 members and success was so rich at District level. It was not all roses however, but Les had the knack of not only maintaining success but also had great nous in dealing with various crisis which occurred and was able to smooth over any potential problems which arose.

A Victorian Festival Of Christmas

Portsmouth Historic Dockyard again hosts this magical event from Friday 27th to Sunday 29th November 2009. Book as early as possible and get the best possible discount on tickets for your Group. Tel:- 023 9283 9766 for details.

City Card Competition

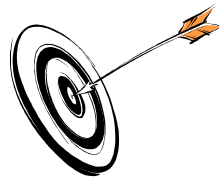
Firstly we thought we just had to tell you about a cheeky entry recently received:- 'Hi the answer is Adam Jollans. My name is Jamie Murdoch of the 43rd Beavers, Portsmouth. I am 6 on 30th September 2009. Happy Birthday to me.' Very happy birthday Jamie from us all and keep taking part in the competition and trying to win. Anyone can enter by logging on to the City website www.portsmouthscouts.co.uk and entering the monthly competition. Please keep advertising this to your young people, it helps with their computer skills, gets them to learn what is happening Scouting wise and gives them a chance to win prizes each month. Now to this month's winners . . . Benjamin Hale of the 53rd Beaver Colony, Ellen Humpleby of the 64th Cub Pack, Callum Humpleby of the 70th Scout Troop and Josh Lambe of the Pinnacle Explorers. Congratulations to you all, your prizes will shortly be sent to your leaders so that they may be presented to you.

Training / Validation Reminder

Don't forget that the next Module 1 and 3 learning days are to be held on Saturday October 17th for Module 1, 9 am to 12 noon and on Tuesday October 20th for Module 3, 7 pm to 9:30 pm. The Validation Session is on Saturday October 24th , 10 am to 12 noon. All will take place at Hilsea Scout Centre.

Archery Leaders Course

This course will take place on 14th - 15th November and 21st - 22nd November 2009. If you are interested please contact Tim Beeching on timfbb.hsac@ntlworld.com. The booking form and course information is also attached to the newsletter.



Clive's Easylearn Rock School

The Clive's Easylearn Rock School at Admiral Lord Nelson School meet on Saturdays and as part of our efforts to extend their Rock Roadshows to the wider community, in association with the local Extended Services co-ordinators, they wondered whether our Groups would be interested in coming along to our free roadshows at ALNS? They have taken the roadshows into local schools e.g. Springfield College, Moorings Way and a number of other schools in Hayling Island, Petersfield and Chichester, to great excitement and reactions from the pupils and now we are in a position to extend this offer to local youth organisations like yours. We have hosted Chichester Beavers at our Chichester base and have a roadshow booked in with the 2nd Waterlooville Cubs, both helping them towards their music badges. The hour long roadshow provides an opportunity to play guitar, bass or drums and, within 15 minutes, to be playing in a rock band with the tutor team . . . it's fast, totally absorbing and an awful lot of fun. If you are interested the number for Mark Thompson-Smith is 9243 6122.

My Little Wrapper

My name is Jo and I am the owner of My Little Wrapper Southsea. I produce personalised chocolate bars for special occasions such as birthdays, births and weddings. I run the business part time alongside my full time role and all of the chocolate bars are designed, printed and wrapped by myself. I would like the opportunity to have a stall at some of the scouts and cubs evenings to showcase what I can do and hopefully get some orders from the mums! If you are interested please contact me - Jo Johnson, My Little Wrapper, Southsea, Tel: 023 9236 7034 or email: mylittlewrapper.southsea@live.co.uk.

The City Newsletter

Photographic Permission Of Parents / Carers

All leaders please ensure that you issue the relevant letters regarding permission to take photographs to all new members. Yet again when holding the City Camp, we find children who do not have permission to be photographed and are not on the current list. For obvious reasons, this is not good practice. You will find forms on the City website, please issue these to new members under the age of 18 and make sure all 'No Permission to Photograph' updates are sent to Marilyn Nancarrow who holds the City register for this. Please contact Marilyn by email Marilyn.nancarrow@ntlworld.com for further information.

World Jamboree Application - Update

Attached to the Newsletter please find 2 flyers, one is for our young people to apply to attend the event and the other is for leaders to apply to be part of the International Service Team. The participant's applications officially close at the end of September and the IST applications open on 19th October but you must apply immediately if you want to get in!!! Our young people who apply will be invited to attend 'One Big (Jamboree) Weekend' at the end of October at Lyons Copse, which will be a selection weekend. Hampshire have been allocated 2.5 units for the Jamboree which means 90 young people from Hampshire will have the chance to attend the Jamboree, there is of course no stipulation to the number of young people who can apply from Portsmouth!!! The only stipulation is the age range (today's 12 to 16 year olds,) so this will include TODAY'S SCOUTS AND EXPLORERS. Full details of how to apply are on the attached flyers...Best of luck with those applications.

Next Month's City Newsletter

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