



ISSUE 40

JANUARY 2018

FROM THE DC

Thank you to those leaders who have sent me their programme for the Spring Term - there are some interesting things planned for our young people.

Big Camp 2018- Yes it is happening this year. Hopefully you will be going, there are some interesting activities being planned. If your Group/Section has decided it will not be attending there are still opportunities for you to join in the fun. If you would like to buddy up with a Group that is going but with limited leaders I can introduce you, or you can help with activities and then sleep in the adult only area so no little voices in close proximity! Also Young Leaders can attend and join the "working party" for reduced site fees, so please make them aware.

Just to remind you that **CENSUS** is looming. For those of you who are new - there is a head count on all those young people invested on January 31st. Information required is breakdown by age and sex. Also details of ethnicity and disabilities. More details will be out soon. If you can be prepared to complete your details ASAP after the 31st I would be grateful as I would like Blackdown not to be the last District to complete

There is some **CHANGES TO POR** but the one that could be of most relevance to Groups

• **Appointment of Young Leaders Rule 4.37e** The appointment of Explorer Scout Young Leaders This rule is being updated to add a note explaining that non-members under 14 are unable to volunteer with us due to insurance restrictions but members of the Explorer Scout section who have transitioned prior to their 14th birthday are able to volunteer in younger sections from their transition.

Badge Updates identified below will go live in January 2018 with related printed products being updated as soon as practical after this date (this includes the availability of new badges). All badges have a 12 month transition period, allowing members to operate on either the old or new requirements. From the 31st January 2019 all discontinued badges will no longer be available.

Here are a few of the changes, if in doubt check scouts.org.uk.

Updates to:

- o Beaver – Animal Friend – timescales reduced to 4 weeks, inclusion of options for those without pets.
- o Beaver – Gardener – inclusion of know what tools are needed in addition to how to use them, additional options for looking after an area for 2 months, addition of the option to grow 3 plants and look after them.
- o Beaver – Hobbies – addition of being able to talk about a hobby and understanding what it is.
- o Cub – Animal Carer - timescales reduced to 2 months, inclusion of options for those without pets.
- o Cub – Book Reader – library requirement replaced with reviewing a favourite book, linking to the summer reading challenge.
- o Cub – DIY – removal of the requirement to make 2 items replaced with design and undertake a project to make something useful.
- o Cub – Hobbies – the requirements have been made more specific.
- o Scout - DIY – removal of the requirement to work safely in the home to allow those undertaking the badge in different environments to show they can operate safely, and the DIY emergency list has been simplified.
- o Scout – Hobbies – the time requirement has been updated to be 4 months for both options and the examples of a collection updated.
- o Scout – Smallholder Badge – rename to Farming badge and some updates to requirements to make this more accessible.

New Badges

- o Beaver – Book Reader Badge
- o Beaver – Builder Badge
- o Cub – Gardener Badge

• Global and International badges - Updates to:

- o Beaver – Global Issues Badge – linking to the global goals and updating the description of requirements rather than the themes of the requirements.
- o Beaver – International Badge – update to methods used.
- o Beaver – My World Challenge Award – requirements updated but themes remain the same.
- o Cub – Global Issues Badge - linking to the global goals and updating the description of requirements rather than the themes of the requirements.
- o Cub – International Badge - update to methods used.
- o Cub – Our World Challenge Award - requirements updated but themes remain the same.
- o Scout – Global Issues Badge - linking to the global goals and updating the description of requirements rather than the themes of the requirements.
- o Scout – International Badge - update to methods used and inclusion of participating in a camp abroad.
- o Scout – World Challenge Award - requirements updated but themes remain the same.
- o Explorer - Global Issues Badge – linking to the sustainable development goals and updating the description of requirements rather than the themes of the requirements.
- o Explorer – International Badge – activity list updated.

• Space badges - Updates to:

- o Beaver – Space Badge – broadening of requirements.
- o Cub – Astronomer Badge – broadening of requirements.
- o Scout – Astronautics Badge – broadening of requirements.
- o Scout – Astronomer Badge - broadening of requirements.

• Technology badges - Updates to:

- o Beaver – Experiment Badge – updates to the list of experiments.
- o Beaver – Photographer Badge – expansion of examples list.
- o Cub – Photographer Badge – inclusion of smart phone as a method.
- o Cub – Scientist Badge – updated language.
- o Scout – Meteorologist Badge – updated methods and options.
- o Scout – Photographer Badge - inclusion of smart phone as a method.

New Badges (requirements are currently being developed):

- o Scout – Science Badge

Sports badges - Updates to:

- o Beaver – Sports Badge – inclusion of team sports and talking within the Lodge about the equipment used.
- o Cub – Athletics Plus Badge – inclusion of a relay race element.
- o Cub – Skater Badge – inclusion of scooters and amended timescale to 3 occasions.
- o Cub – Sports Enthusiast Badge – removal of the requirement to find out about the law, finding out about the rules remains.
- o Scout – Athletics Plus – removal of the male / female scoring and only one scoring system in place.
- o Scout - Street Sports Badge – inclusion of Parkour and timescale reduced to 3 months.
- o Explorer – Racquet Sports Badge – reduction in timescale to 3 months and expansion of options for the activity.
- o Explorer – Street Sports Badge – inclusion of Parkour and timescale reduced to 3 months.

• **Snowsports badges - New Badges**

- o Snowsports Staged Activity Badge Discontinued Badges:
- o Scout – Snowsports Badge
- o Explorer - Skiing Badge o Explorer – Snowboarding Badge

The annual **DISTRICT SCOUT TEN PIN BOWLING** competition is on Sunday January 28th from 10 am till noon. Don't forget to book your lanes for this competition.

Future events

- 4th March Orienteering competition.
- 15th April Field shoot.
- 11th- 13th May Competition Camp.
- 10th June Cycle challenge from Ilminster
- 6-8th July Activity camp At Brompton Ralph

Date and venue of next meeting - Monday 5th February 7.30pm at Costa, Hankridge Farm. Please make an effort to ensure your Troop is represented. **Graham Bell, DSL**



CLIMBING - Would you like to gain an activity permit for single pitch climbing? Lauren David, ADC Activities, is intending to run a course in February at Huish Woods. If you are interested please contact Lauren activities.blackdown@gmail.com

GANG SHOW 2018 - Tickets on sale from the Brewhouse. We would encourage all Groups to support the 2018 show.

Show dates are Tuesday 27th March to Saturday 31st March 2018

The 2018 show includes matinee performances on Good Friday 30th March and Easter Saturday 31st March we hope that these matinee performances will encourage more Groups to include attending the 2018 show as part of the Groups 2018 programme



Gang show 2018 promises to be an exciting blend of up tempo musical production scenes and ever popular comic sketches **DAVE MULLEN – Producer**

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE held at Tangier 13th December

NEW APPOINTMENTS – we welcome (back) to Scouting

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Sarah Davis | Pack Assistant | West Taunton |
| Paul Hopkins | SAS | Huish Woods |
| Colin Bennett | Chairman | Hinton St George |

CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| James Appleton | from ACSL to ASL | Wilton |
| Adrian Willoughby | from SL to ASL | Henlade |
| Kelly Woodgate | from BSL to OH | Bishops Lydeard |
| Peter Underwood | from ACSL to | SAS Wilton |
| Zak Fitzpatrick | from ACSL to Pack Assistant | West Monkton |
| Claire Craven | from ACSL to Pack Assistant | Manor Court |
| Garry Osborne | from SL to OH | Hinton St George |
| Janette Osborne | from Treasurer to OH | Hinton St George |

ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENT

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| David Humphrey | BSL | Bishops Lydeard Woodland |
| Ben Preston | Group Administrator | 1 st Chard |

Another **TRAINING TEPEE** is planned for Tuesday evening 13th February at Tangier. This is an opportunity to validate some training, get a Personal Learning Plan or just pop in for a chat about your training. To book an appointment please contact marianscouts@gmail.com with a preferred time.

ST. GEORGES DAY PARADE BADGE

I am proposing to reward my Cubs who attend the 2018 St. Georges Day parade with a commemorative blanket badge. Is this something that other Groups would be interested in? The cost would be no more than £1.50 per badge and the more that were ordered, the less they would cost. If a small profit was made it could be donated to the chosen charities that are supported by a collection on the day of the parade. Please let me know what you think, and if it went ahead whether your Group would want to purchase some badges.

Chris Pinguenet , Trinity Saturn Cubs trinitysaturncubs@outlook.com

This and **DISTRICT CUB CAMP** will be discussed at **CUB COUNCIL** on Tuesday 9th January, 8.15 at Tangier.

CENTRAL TAUNTON SCOUT GROUP had an end of term Christmas party with some special guests who came to help them celebrate. Here is a photo of who came to our Christmas party. Can you name the 'guests'?

**Nic Thompson, Beaver Leader
Central Taunton Scout Group**



'A big thank you to Mark Maynard, Assistant Explorer Leader at Wilton who kindly brought the Institution of Civil Engineers scale model of the **SECOND SEVERN CROSSING TO WILTON** for a week in November so that the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers could all have a go at building it. They were all great engineers and there were races to see who could get across it first. It was an activity that won't be forgotten in a hurry.

Nadia Atherton, Scout Leader, 1st Wilton Scout Group



1st CHARD had a great finish to the end of term.

The Beavers and Cubs took part in a sponsored welly walk and raised £180 for the group.

The Scouts finished the term with a Xmas party and the Beavers and Cubs had a visit from Father Christmas.

The Group made and distributed cards for Sunnymead care home.

On the 30th we went bag packing at Tesco for 4 hours and raised a great total of £343.04.

All in all a great term has been had with a massive increase in young people and some extra leaders

Happy new year all SL Ben Preston

