



BLACKDOWN DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
PUBLISHED BY BLACKDOWN SCOUT COUNCIL

WEB SITE <http://www.blackdownscouts.org.uk/>
FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/pg/blackdownscoutdistrict>

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Gas safety The most recent guidance on gas safety
https://members.scouts.org.uk/documents/safety/Camping%20Gas%20-%20Guidance%20on%20Safe%20Use%20-%20v3%20February%202018.pdf?dm_i=31ME,NIF2,3D7242,2F8JM,1

YL TRAINING. There will be a Module A on Tuesday 13th March 19.15-21.15 at Tangier. This module is mandatory for all Young Leaders and those completing the volunteer section for their D of E and must be completed within 3 months of them starting. Bookings to be made via Vicki Venn desa.blackdown@gmail.com

GRAHAM BELL - DSL I am currently trying to locate all the **DISTRICT TROPHIES** if you haven't yet looked could you do so and return any to the District Office. Thanks

To **GROUP TREASURERS** – a reminder that a full set of the Group accounts must be sent to the District Treasurer David Johnson. Either paper copies left at Tangier or electronic copies soon after the Group's AGM. David.Johnson@monahans.co.uk

To **GROUP SECRETARIES & GSLS** – please remember that the DC & District Chairman, John Lewis, need to receive a copy of your Group Executive minutes please. Could you also let DC Pam and Marian Scott know the date of your **GROUP AGM** please? The **DISTRICT AGM** will be held on Wednesday 6th June at Tangier, 7.45. Please put the date in your diary.

DBS FORMS – if leaving completed ones at Tangier please ensure they are in a sealed envelope or pushed under the door of the District Office. This is to protect the information on the forms getting into the hands of the wrong people.



ST GEORGE'S PARADE Sunday 22nd April. There will be parades in Taunton and Ilminster. Taunton's will start in Cannon Street Car Park and after parading through the town will finish in Wilton Lands. Please can each Group provide at least two marshals, wearing high visibility tops, to walk road side - no prams or buggies please. More details will be issued soon. At each parade there will be people watching for the best smartest Group.

St GEORGE'S PARADE - CHARITY - It has been decided that half of the collection will go to the Friends of Somerset Young Carers. See **WEB SITE** <https://www.fosyc.org.uk/>
This was the Scouts choice from 3 suggestions.

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 Meeting held 26th February 2018 at Tangier

We welcome back to Scouting or to Blackdown

Sarah Lott	BSL	Staplegrave
Miriam Hawkins	Pack Ast.	Central
Phillip Bayles	SAS Member	Ten Tors & D Of E

CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT

Debra Cummings	from Group Admin to GSL	Hinton St George
Iain Porter	from ABSL to BSL	North Taunton
Phil Cookson	from ABSL to Col Ass	Wiveliscombe
Amie Clear	from ABSL to OH	Crewkerne
Matt Montane/Mitchell	from ASL to Troop Assistant	West Monkton
Darren Addicott	from BSL to ABSL	North Taunton
David Vestey	from CSL to ACSL	Trull
Mark Hughes	from BSL to ABSL	Trull
Andrew Mountstephens	from SL to ASL	Trull

ADDITIONAL ROLE

James Lowe	SAS Manager	Ten Tors & D of E
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COUNTY BIG CAMP at August Bank Holiday - we would like to fill a tent with loads of loose **LEGO** bricks. Various competitions will be held from seeing which group can make the biggest chair, tallest tower etc



So could you please see what's in the bottom of your toy box or in the loft? Duplo also welcome. Lego donations can be left at Huish Woods Camp Site (Donations need to be bagged and left in the Gore Langton Cabin) or at Tangier on a Wednesday evening either in the Scout Shop or the District Office. Collections will end on the 31st March. One of our SAS members has even be buying some up in charity shops

TRULL- from WILL PEACH

The Beavers have enjoyed winter Olympic themed activities including both table top and Human curling, 3 man (Beaver) cross country skiing and of course the inter lodge bobsleigh. It may not sound much but I can assure you the videos are brilliant! Give us 10 years and we will have some new recruits for team GBR?

Before Half term the Beavers had a sleep over in the hall, with popcorn and a film. First night away of 2018 for any of the Trull sections! The Beavers have earned their stage 1 First Aid and visited Lazer Space.

The Cubs have had a museum visit to Taunton Castle. They have made woggles (leather, string and wood versions all tried) and attempted to cook pancakes over candles. A Winter/night time mini beast hunt and exploration of the new meadow in Trull put our cold weather clothes to the test. We have also had an update from a Pack in Canada we made contact with last year. We have some Canadian Scout badges in the post for our campfire blankets and we are hoping to send some in return so if anyone has some spare badges (from a District Camp for instance) for swapping please let me know (looking for about 20, and they don't have to be the same, lots of different ones would be great)

The Scouts have been to the high ropes as well as the climbing wall at Exeter. They have planned and undertaken a night hike and of course cooked pancakes.

The whole Group is looking forward to sleeping under the wing of Concord 002 this weekend at the Fleet Air Arm Museum



1st CHARD has been continuing their fundraising campaign this term. We hosted a bake sale in Chard and raised £177.35. We also received a grant from the Chard Carnival Committee to go towards some new equipment.



We are also running a bingo night on the 3rd March 1830 at Crowshute Centre in Chard it would be great to see some of you there.

The Cubs and Scouts also took part in a hike upon the Quantock hills. For many this was their first experience of hiking and they all put their newly acquired map reading skills to the test. Safe to say we didn't get lost and they all really enjoyed their day. They have already asked when the next hike is!

WEST TAUNTON SCOUT GROUP

All sections have been busy concentrating on various badges this term.

Beavers – They have completed their International Badge by learning a song in French, drawing flags from different countries, tasting food and trying to guess which country it came from and also learning some simple phrases.

They have also worked towards the Teamwork, Adventure and Skills Challenge badges.

Cubs – They have completed their Teamwork challenge during January, with quiz's, games and challenges in their sixes.

They have just started the Physical Recreation badge by sharing their knowledge of different sports which interest them.

Scouts - Have successfully completed the Creative Challenge over several weeks, the skills they learnt were - knitting, cake decorating, wood branding and potato printing. Some of the end results were quite impressive!

They also completed the Photography badge, learning how a camera works, producing their own artistic photographs and enjoying an evening with Paul Leamon who demonstrated how to create amazing images in the dark using various lights.

They enjoyed taking part in the District ten pin bowling competition again this year and last week had fun making and eating pancakes.

