



**BLACKDOWN DISTRICT NEWSLETTER**  
PUBLISHED BY BLACKDOWN SCOUT COUNCIL

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



ISSUE 49

OCTOBER 2018

**FIRST AID TRAINING** has been arranged to be held at Tangier as follows:-  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October Refresher Course 7 – 9.30  
Sunday November 4<sup>th</sup> Full Course 9 – 4  
Monday November 12<sup>th</sup> Refresher 7 – 9.30

Or

Tuesday October 16<sup>th</sup> at Highbridge Refresher 7 – 9.30  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November at Wedmore Refresher 7 – 9.30  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November at Highbridge Full Course 9.30 – 4.30



If you would like to book a place then please email [training@somersetscoutsleaders.co.uk](mailto:training@somersetscoutsleaders.co.uk)

**TRAINING TEPEE** - during the October half term we are offering an opportunity to come and discuss your training. Perhaps some validation or a Personal Learning Plan. Several Training Advisors are willing to give up their time to suit YOU! Looking at Monday 29<sup>th</sup> or Thursday November 1<sup>st</sup> – your choice. Daytime or evening. Please contact [marianscouts@gmail.com](mailto:marianscouts@gmail.com) to book a place and negotiate a day & time.

**FROM THE DC :-**

**GDPR TRAINING.** All leaders, assistants and Executive members need to complete the online GDPR training by 31.12.18. <https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/4800>. Please complete and send a photoshot of the e-certificate, which you will receive, to show that you have completed it to [dc.blackdown@gmail.com](mailto:dc.blackdown@gmail.com) to update your training records.

**COMPASS.** Have you checked your compass records? You can opt for your communications from HQ as well as checking your details. Go to [scouts.org.uk](http://scouts.org.uk), click "Compass" (top right hand corner) and follow the instructions. You will need your membership number, if in doubt ask your GSL, Marian or myself.

**NEW EQUIPMENT AT HUISH WOODS.**



Alongside the frisbee golf the Woods now has a guttering game which can be played inside or out. Both were enjoyed at Big Camp.

There is also a new resource for teaching navigation. All are free and can be booked via the office.



If you are working with Explorers or Explorer YLs please encourage them to join the **EXPLORER FACEBOOK PAGE**. They can then see the range of activities available to them - D of E, Ten Tors, Moot etc which they are entitled to join in.



A **NEW UNIFORM BADGE** to be worn during 2019 is now available to order from the Scout Shop. Cost is £1 per badge and the Royal Navy link with Sea Scouts is well known.

Please get your order in soon to [shop.blackdown@gmail.com](mailto:shop.blackdown@gmail.com)

**Don't forget the GANG SHOW auditions & workshop on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

**APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS 11<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> September at Tangier**

**NEW APPOINTMENTS**

|                 |                         |                  |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Keiran Harcombe | Network & ASL           | Wellington       |
| Jamie Everett   | Network & Grp Sect. Ast | West T'ton       |
| Amber Norman    | Network & ASL           | Central          |
| Rob Spurway     | AAC Member              | District         |
| Gwyn Jones      | SAS                     | Huish Woods      |
| Ben Pitham      | ABSL                    | Stoke St Gregory |
| Rachel Watson   | Treasurer               | Central Taunton  |

**CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT**

|                |   |                  |
|----------------|---|------------------|
| Steve Purchase | from Colony Assistant to ACSL                 | Central          |
| Di Harding     | from AAC Member to AAC Secretary              |                  |
| Marian Scott   | from AAC Secretary to Assistant AAC Secretary |                  |
| Scott Walker   | from ABSL to BSL                              | Trull            |
| Shaun Street   | from Troop Ast. to ACSL                       | Stoke St Gregory |

**ADDITIONAL ROLE**

|                |     |          |
|----------------|-----|----------|
| Hannah Jackson | BSL | Iminster |
|----------------|-----|----------|

**MANOR COURT SCOUTS** spent 7 days camping in the New Forest this summer, Patrol cooking at least 2 meals a day on wood fires and learning to budget for a day's meals. Activities included tomahawk throwing, flighting angel throwing, making giant catapults, practicing electronics to build night light displays and building bivouacs. Our day out was to Paulton Park, not to see Peppa Pig, but to go on the big rides. Coloured hair spray was started as a forfeit for certain things but ended up with everybody wanting a makeover to shock the parents when we arrived home!

**CATHY BOWDITCH, SL**



**WEST HATCH CUBS** have been coming to terms with the sad passing of their leader by decorating pebbles that will be placed around a tree to be planted at Huish Wood' in Clive Welch's memory.



**WEST TAUNTON CUBS AND SCOUTS** had a brilliant weeks camp at Maud Heath Girl Guiding Centre in Wiltshire. The theme was decades and 5 teams competed in team challenges throughout the week including, playground games from the 60's, It's a knockout from the 70's.

There was also a visit to Longleat, the R.E.M.E museum and activity centre, swimming in Chippenham, a bin bag fashion show and a disco along with many other activities and games.



### **THIS TERM SO FAR:-**

**Beavers** - Have been working towards their Explore and Hobbies badge. They will be joining the Cubs on a visit to the Museum next week.

**Cubs** - have been working towards their Teamwork challenge, had a visit to Huish Woods and have just started the Fire Safety badge.

**Scouts** - Unfortunately we had to cancel our weekend camp to carry out site maintenance for the Forestry badge due to horrendous weather conditions but we are hoping to run it on a Sunday very soon. Last week we started the International badge, who knew we had so many bi-lingual Scouts! We have 2 teams entered in the Moonraker challenge organised by the Rotary club on October 13th.

**1<sup>st</sup> CHARD Scout Group** has had a great start back this term.

The **Beavers** visited Chard Fire Station to work on their Safety badge. They all had great fun looking around the appliance and learning about what a fire-fighter does. They even got to use the hose! A massive thank you to the fire station for hosting our sections over the previous months.

The **Cubs** have started off the term by working towards their world challenge award by learning about Cubs from around the world by taking part in their games and also learning their promises.

The **Scouts** have started off by learning the use of a good old fashioned Trangia in which they had to make the leaders a cup of tea (win win). Then for the second session they spoke about fire lighting then put the principles in place, which was to their benefit as a successful fire meant marshmallows and making popcorn which they all enjoyed.

Also this month we were due to have an activity day/camp at Huish Woods but unfortunately the weather meant we had to reschedule.

Also this month 2 of our leaders were awarded their Wood beads at the County AGM. It has taken Ben and Pascale around 18 months to complete their Wood Badge since starting them back in their old District of Oxfordshire.

Ben and Pascale both agree that achieving their beads was relatively easy with the majority of it being “on the job” and keeping in contact with our TA. This made things very easy as we always spoke of the next step and what we have been up to in the sessions as sometimes you are achieving modules and not actually realising at the time of running your sessions or planning the programme. So for those starting on their journey to their Wood beads, it's not as scary as it all looks!

