

# ***SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON DISTRICT NEWS***

June 09

Dear All

Well I can't believe that it is almost two months since my last district news letter! There is plenty to say but I have been busy doing, rather than writing about it.

Firstly I have just had a wonderful afternoon and evening at Cub Camp, where I really did only hear good things being said about it this year. And to have 148 cubs on site is an excellent turn out from the district well done to all those leaders who got organised and managed to get along to this event. I know a couple of groups couldn't make it due to prior commitments, so let's hope that we can beat this number next year. I must apologise for not managing to visit every group for a chat. It wasn't done on purpose, I just didn't realise how quickly the time went and before I realized it was too late to get around to you all.

I was unable to make Scout camp, but from what I heard this was also a resounding success. Well done to both ADC's for very successful first district events. There are some good photos on the district web site.

Hopefully those who were at the camp site this weekend will have noticed that the Quiet area and Chapel have been refurbished. This was thanks to a group from Kingshill who came for a day to participate in a corporate work event. This day has helped us no end, a team of people like this can get a lot of work done quickly and efficiently. Without this sort of help our site would not look as good as it does, so if any of you work for companies or know people who work for companies who run these sorts of schemes, please push for them to come and do some work at our site.

I am pleased to say also that the hall at Bexon Lane is looking so much better since we have had a regular cleaner. However there have been two instances when I have visited site and have been disappointed by the way the hall had been left. What makes this even more disappointing is that it has been left like this by our own groups. The cleaner is not there to clean up after you; she is there to keep the hall in a generally tidy and clean state ready for us all. She should not be faced with dirty cups, not washed up and put away, or mess on the floor, leaving the hall like this is not acceptable. So please make sure you clean and tidy up after you. Please also check that all the heaters and lights are turned off when you leave.

I also helped out at a county canoe day this month at Leybourne lakes. This was a very well attended event by well over 100 young people on site for the two days. Unfortunately none of these were from Sittingbourne and Milton district! Please keep pushing with your young people these county events. There were a lot of sections there who had also gone as a whole section. So please remember that this is a way of giving your young people a really good event with very little effort on your part.

So we have a few good things coming up. Firstly the District Beaver fun Day on the 4<sup>th</sup> July at Bexon Lane with a Wild West theme, lots of activities have been planned and this will end with a sleepover for the older beavers. The 18<sup>th</sup> July will be the District bike ride, which this year is open to all sections. If you haven't seen all the paper work I have emailed out for this event, either speak to someone in your group or give me a call. This was a great day last year and I am praying that if we have good weather again this year it should be a fun day. Please if you as a leader can't come yourself, please can you make sure you arrange for your young people to come along. There will be plenty of people there and they will be well looked after. The Nuclear Bunker sleep over is also proving to be very popular. If you want to go hurry up and get your returns back to Kevin Grimshaw.

There is a leadership team meeting, that's ADC's GSL on the 30<sup>th</sup> June. Hopefully all those who need to attend have been told about this. If you are unable to attend can you make sure someone in your group comes along in your place.

I don't generally send out the CCC as this is available on the county web site. However this month I have made an exception as there is some important information out the next world jamboree. So please have a read.

Finally, I am keen that we recognise people's efforts in the district and it is the time of year where we have to make a submission for any awards. If you want to nominate someone, please have a read, first of the rules regarding awards on the Scoutbase web site and if you think someone deserves an award please make contact with me.

Best regards

Paul Austin  
District Commissioner  
Sittingbourne and Milton district Scouts.