

**TAUNTON DEANE SCOUT DISTRICT
HAPPY NEW YEAR, HAPPY NEW DECADE
HAPPY NEW CENTURY & HAPPY NEW MILLENNIUM!**

Millennium Message from Sheila Bourner, Archive Adviser.....

Greetings to all Scout Groups in Taunton Deane District. I am seeking data on Group activities, not only from the early days (1909) but up-to-date news. Old documents, photographs or records are needed to supplement the archival material. Items will be copied and returned as soon as possible. Photographs of 1909 and 1910 Scouts have been enlarged. How can your Group help? Please forward anything of interest to Tangier Scout and Guide Centre addressed to the Archivist.

Happy Scouting in 2000!

B.P.'s Recollection of the earliest Camps. Extract from The Daily Arrows 1929.

The Chief Scout has conceived the happy simile that the Scout Movement may be likened to an acorn growing up to be an Oak Tree. We hope that the oak is still only a young sapling compared to the tree which it will one day become, for it is now only 21 years old, rejoicing in the vigorous youth which we believe will prove itself to be eternal - like that of Peter Pan.

AWARDS

I have great pleasure in informing you that the following people have had their Scouting Service recognised with a special award. CONGRATULATIONS from us all.

COLIN CLARKE, GSL WEST HATCH - BAR TO MEDAL OF MERIT

JIM READ, DISTRICT & COUNTY HILLWALKING ADVISER - BAR TO MEDAL OF MERIT

RICHARD BERRY, DISTRICT CANOEING ADVISER - CHIEF SCOUT'S COMMENDATION

DAVID EELE, DISTRICT CUB SCOUT LEADER - CHIEF SCOUT COMMENDATION

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

There will be a **Campfire Leaders Course** at Huish Woods on the 4th of March. This is a Gilwell recognised course and a certificate of attendance will be awarded on completion. The day will last from 9:15am until 8:30pm. Lunch and an evening meal will be provided. The cost will be £10:00. and application forms are available from the District Office. Numbers are limited and will be on first come first served basis. Closing date is February the 20th.

There is an **INDUCTION** evening on January 25th, 8pm, **PROGRAMME SKILLS** on February 5th and **Camping Skills** starts on March 27th. First Aid - **1st Response Course** February 13th. Full details from June Hick (284028) or from the District Office.

TRULL VENTURE SCOUTS



This new Unit held a special evening to recognise its formation. The Leaders Steve Mitchell and Ian Marks were presented with their Warrants and then David Marks (GSL) was given the special honour of investing 7 Venture Scouts in front of parents and friends. Lloyds TSB Foundations then presented the Unit with a £500 cheque. The evening finished with festive fare!

It is **CENSUS** time AGAIN. Please note the closing date Wednesday 2ND FEBRUARY. Any Group who anticipates that they may not be able to pay please contact Audrey Smith, District Secretary NOW!

SCOUTS - Reminder of forthcoming dates.

19th January 2000 **P.L.C MEETING** 7.00pm, **Scout Leader's meeting** 8.00 (Please bring along your Troop programme for this term. If you are unable to attend the meeting then please leave your programme in Tricia's pigeon hole.



Five aside football competition. 22nd January, Wellington Sports Centre Final 5.2.2000
TEN PIN BOWLING TOURNAMENT.... Sunday 13th February 2000
P.L & A.P.L Training weekend at Dewerstone Dartmoor 18th - 20th February 2000

Jamboree 2000 at Dunster....

I understand from Tony Hunt (ACC Scouts) that your Group Contact\Group Scout Leader should be receiving very shortly, in the post, all the details/application forms for the Jamboree so please chase them up. I have also been asked to find out the number of Patrols in the Taunton District who will be going on a Sub-camp this year. Please phone me with numbers or tell me at the Scout Leader's Meeting. Tony would like the numbers by Sunday 23rd January 2000. If you think you might be short of canvas let your GSL/Group Contact come with the relevant information to the GSL/Group Administrators meeting, Feb 9

ORIENTEERING RESULTS 39 Scouts in 11 teams from 8 Troops took part. The winning team came from Wilton with West Hatch B 2nd, Central B 3rd, West 4th and Norton 5th.

NEWS FROM HUISH WOODS. Bookings are now coming in quite fast - it would be useful to know site usage before we allocate sites. Campsite Chat will be produced before the end of January and will include what has happened and what will be happening in the near future.

We have to report the death of RAY MORTON (brother of Don Morton, and former Campsite Warden). Ken Sankey writes... I first met Ray in the 70s/80s. He was attached to West Hatch as ASL and his friendly, cheerful demeanour contributed to his effectiveness as a Tutor on several courses run at Huish Woods. His particular forte was pioneering and I recall a very grand suspension bridge built across the now car park - an excellent method of illustrating the value of good planning and leadership. He had heart problems way back but a successful by-pass operation gave him a new lease of life. A Scouter of the old school, though not recently active he will be sadly missed.

BITS & PIECES!

Thank you to those people who supported the **CAROL SINGING** at Tangier. It was a lovely atmosphere with the lights reflecting in the river. The next **APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE** will be on the 23rd February not the 9th. **DECEMBER SCOUTING MAGAZINE** included photographs of Into the Spotlight with some of the Taunton Gang included. I have seen the video; I missed a marvellous show!

The next batch of **SERVICE CERTIFICATES**, mainly 5 years, has been received. If you feel that you are entitled to one and your name is not on the list please contact Marian. We hope to hold another presentation session shortly.

If you have a youngster in your Section with **SPECIAL NEEDS** please contact Liz Lampard, our District Special Needs Adviser, so that she is aware of these people even if you don't want any help at the moment. From time to time special events and occasions arise for them to be invited to.

THANK YOU to all those Leaders who have complied with my instructions regarding being informed of when you are away from your normal meeting place. The Snowdon incident when a youngster fell to his death is an example. The GSL did not know of the trip, so obviously neither did the home DC, or the host DC in which the activity was taking place! You may feel it is all a bother making a phone call and finding home contacts but if something goes wrong you could find that **YOU are liable** not the Scout Association.

MILLENNIUM ITEMS FOR SALE. Visit the Scout Shop and see what is available. Pin Badges for when not in uniform. Woggles that could be used for small prizes, attached to a Thumb stick etc etc