



# ELPHWOOD LINK

## IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER !

Happy New Year and welcome to the ELPHWOOD LINK newsletter. After a long holiday, your newsletter is back on a trial run. Those of you who are not familiar with its history, the Elphwood Link was in circulation around the late 80's and early 90's. Looking back at past editions, it was an important part of Waltham Abbey Scouting, informing not only the members of Elphwood of what was happening within their group, but kept the parents of young members posted too. There were regular articles published from each section, everyone enjoyed contributing to ' their ' newsletter. Today, your contributions are crucial to its success, please support it by forwarding your news, forthcoming events, stories, complaints, birthdays, anniversaries or anything printable with local scouting in mind. If successful, it is hoped that it will be continued on a more regular basis.

*The Editor*

### SCOUT / EXPLORER SLEEPOVER

At the beginning of December, a group of 21 scouts and 6 explorers spent a night at the 'so called' Secret Nuclear Bunker at Kelvedon Hatch in Essex. The Friday evening began with a traditional game of Hide and Seek and later they were given the opportunity to dress up in authentic wartime uniforms and have their photograph taken. During the evening, Geoff Walker, ADC for the new Royal Forest District Scouts paid us a visit. Bed-time stretched the leaders patience, which was fuelled by excess fizzy drinks, and unfortunately resulted in disciplinary action. The girls slept in the luxurious sick bay, whilst the boys slept in a dormitory along side some terrifying mannequins. After breakfast, the four pre-arranged teams were given a bunker/picture quiz to complete whilst on their 2 hour self tour. The quiz winners were the Explorer team, and Scout team number 4 came in second place. Well done. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Nick Harvey - ASL

### ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Send to: Nick Harvey  
23 Cullings Court, Waltham Abbey. EN9 3ED  
07739 710280 buy@thebattery Stall.com

### A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year.

You should all have received your new subs letters for this term from your child's section leaders. Can you please pay as soon as it is possible.

We would like to encourage all parents to pay the subs on a term basis and not weekly. We understand that some parents prefer to pay weekly and hopefully this is a minority, and those whose children start halfway through the term can't be expected to pay a lump sum just in case the child changes his/her mind. This has been brought in to ease the workload of your child's section leader, and to make it easier to claim Gift Aid.

If you have been given a Gift Aid form recently or in the past, can you please ensure that it is filled in and returned back to your child's section leader, this will enable us to reclaim tax back from the government at 28p for each £1 of subs. This is worth a lot of money to us and if we don't get the money back from the government, the subs may have to be increased or we will have to do a lot more fundraising ! If you require a new form, please ask your child's section leader who will be happy to give you one.

Kevin Bruton

Chairman of the Group Executive Committee



## BAG PACKING AT MORRISON'S AND SAINSBURY'S

Saturday the 17th of December 2006 saw the Scout Troop and Explorer Unit fundraising as bag packers at Morrison's and Sainsbury's supermarkets in Loughton. The Explorers took Sainsbury's and the Scouts took on rivals Morrison. The attendance was magnificent, with some Scouts staying over 6 hours, which was hard work! There was help from a few parents, who collected money in buckets whilst their children worked hard on the checkouts. We would like to thank both companies for allowing us into their stores, and thank the customers for their generosity. After a mind-blowing count up of copper and silver coins, the Explorers raised £297, and the Scouts raised a staggering £1170.

Part of the money raised will go towards sending two specially selected Explorer Scouts to the World Jamboree this year, part will be split to fund future camping, and the scout section benefiting from the remainder.



What these young people have achieved in 8 hours is absolutely marvellous. Well done to everyone who took part. An extra special 'Well done' goes to Mark Archer, who not only stayed all day, but he actually only took a break when he was asked to..... That's what you call dedication!

Fundraising should always have an element of fun attached to it, otherwise it's a chore. Nobody really enjoys working, but if everybody chips in, soon it becomes fun, then 6 hours work seems like 3 hours, and before you know it .... Its time to go home.

Nick Harvey - ASL



### NEW SCOUT TROOP !

There are now over 35 invested Scouts at the Friday night troop meeting, and the number is set to rise in the next month or so as Cub Scouts reach their 11th birthday, and become too old to stay in 'The Pack'. This increasing membership puts great pressure on the three leaders who presently run it. Without regular offers of help from parents, a solution to reduce numbers will have to be created.

It has been suggested that a new Scout troop could be formed, but without volunteer helpers prepared to give up their spare time on a regular basis, this could not go ahead.

Parents, your children attend an educational and recreational facility which is run by volunteering unpaid adults who work during the day like many of you. The leaders put in a lot of work to create a successful meeting for your children. Please help your colony. pack or troop by offering to stay and help rather than going home.

If you can offer help and wish to know more, please contact the section leader or call the Group Scout Leader - Ken Stanger on 01992 712923. We won't refuse help.

### 10% OFF AT MILLETS

Members of the Scout Association are presently entitled to 10% discount at outdoor and camping shop Millets. Proof of membership will be required, either a warrant card for leaders or a group scarf or record book for the younger members.



### 100 YEARS OLD

On 1st August 2007 Scouts of every age from around UK will join with 28 million Scouts from around the world to celebrate the dawn of a new Century of Scouting.

Scouting was founded on 1st August 1907 and so this day, Scouting is 100 years old.

### WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE

Between the 27th of July and the 8th of August 2007, the world will be coming to the UK for the 21st World Scout Jamboree - the highlight of the World Scouting calendar.

Explorers Claire Rogers and Rachel Doubleday have been specially chosen to join 40,000 Scouts from around the world at Hylands Park, Chelmsford for 12 unforgettable days of celebration and international friendship.

It will be one of the biggest adventures in the history of the movement .

World Scout Jamborees take place only every four years. The last time the United Kingdom hosted the event, was in Sutton Coldfield in 1957, at the time of Scouting's 50th anniversary.

The United Kingdom is the founding nation of the World Scout Movement, so understandably we are delighted that we have been chosen, to host its centenary.

## DISTRICT SCOUT SHOP

We now belong to the Royal Forest district, and have two Scout Shops in our area where we can buy uniforms, badges, equipment and books for scouting. One is at Burgess Hall in Goffs Lane, Cheshunt, and the other which we should all use now, is at the 30th Epping Forest Scout HQ in Church Road, Loughton. The scout hall can be found at the end of the car park to St Johns Church, where it is open on Thursday evenings in school term time between 7.15pm - 8.45pm.

These shops are run by scout districts and all profits are put back directly into local scouting, and helps to reduce local subscription charges. Not only are you helping your group, but the people running these shops know the groups needs and can advise you.

Please use the Scout Shop at Loughton as we will benefit from it. Please quote the 3rd Waltham Abbey Scout Group when you are buying from this shop.

## RED NOSE DAY 2007

On Friday 16 March 2007, millions of people across the UK will be taking part in events to raise money to help fight poverty and social injustice. This year, Scout Groups who take part can keep 25% of the money they raise for Comic Relief – a great incentive to get planning your event.

Taking part in Red Nose Day can be an integral part of your participation for the 2007 Centenary celebrations, and will contribute to the Join-in-Centenary Badge. Since beginning in 1985, Comic Relief has raised over £402 million and has given support to more than 7,000 projects. To take part in Comic Relief 2007 as a Scout Group a Scout Sponsor Form will be required and can be downloaded from:

<http://www.scouts.org.uk/comicrelief/downloads.htm>



## ELPHWOOD HALL BOOKINGS

All enquiries for the hire of Elphwood Hall for private functions can be made by contacting Joy Morley on 01992 714722. Every non-scout booking of Elphwood Hall is very important to us, it helps fund the enormous costs that are involved with running the Hall. It costs a lot to heat, light, maintain and insure the building. Please tell your friends and relatives that our hall is available for hire for their birthday parties and wedding receptions. There is a large 'Pay and Display' Car park adjacent to Elphwood Hall.



## BRASS MONKEY 2007

THRIFTWOOD CAMP SITE. BRENTWOOD.

24th / 25th February 2007

It may be cold outside but its not yet cold enough for this years annual Brass Monkey challenge. On the weekend of 24th / 25th of February sees another contest to see who can survive a night in sub-zero temperatures in nothing more than a sleeping bag, a home made shelter and very warm clothing. Competitors gain points on their scouting skills and how they put them into practice. Teams of up to six will be tested on their bivouac building, First aid, Camp gadgets and how tidy their camping area is kept. Each team provides their own pre-arranged menu and will score points cooking it, without the aid of cooking utensils. Extra points are given if competitors who use back to basics methods of preparing and cooking i.e. Backwards cooking. Hopefully like last year, it will be just extremely cold, but the ultimate challenge of all to confront competitors .... has to be rain !

If you think you're tough and like a challenge, join in this years Brass Monkey. To take part see your Scout or Explorer leaders for further details.

## NEW 50p COIN

The new commemorative 50p coin for 2007 marks the 100th anniversary of the Scout Movement. It depicts the traditional Scout fleur-de-lys and appropriately features the words 'Be Prepared'. Endorsed by The Scout Association.

Available direct from the British Royal Mint website at £6.45



<http://www.royalmint.com>





KNIT

ELPHWOOD

## ELPHWOOD MEETINGS

### RAINBOWS

Meeting : Wednesday  
Time : 4.00 - 5pm  
Age Group : 5 - 7

Section Leader : Chris Hamer  
Contact : 01992 713945  
Email :

### BROWNIES

Meeting : Tuesday  
Time : 5.30 - 7pm  
Age Group : 7 - 11

Section Leader : Joan Pitman  
Contact : 01992 764971  
Email :

### BROWNIES

Meeting : Wednesday  
Time : 5.30 - 7pm  
Age Group : 7 - 11

Section Leader : Chris Hamer  
Contact : 01992 713945  
Email :

### BROWNIES

Meeting : Friday  
Time : 5.30 - 7pm  
Age Group : 7 - 11

Section Leader : Margaret Collins  
Contact : 01992 714057  
Email :

### BEAVERS

Meeting : Monday  
Time : 5.30 - 6.30pm  
Age Group : 6 - 8

### KIT

Section Leader : Joy Morley  
Contact : 01992 714722  
Email :

### BEAVERS

Meeting : Thursday  
Time : 5.30 - 6.30pm  
Age Group : 6 - 8

### WOODCHIPPER

Section Leader : Sue Bruton  
Contact : 01992 619241  
Email : susanbruton@ntlworld.com

### CUB SCOUTS

Meeting : Monday  
Time : 6.45 - 8.30pm  
Age Group : 8 - 10½

### SIMBA

Section Leader : Ian Bailey  
Contact : 01279 443466  
Email :

### CUB SCOUTS

Meeting : Thursday  
Time : 6.45 - 8.30pm  
Age Group : 8 - 10½

### SEEONEE

Section Leader : Jackie Kitchener  
Contact : 01992 717914  
Email : jackiekitchener@tiscali.co.uk

### SCOUTS

Meeting : Friday  
Time : 7.15 - 9.00pm  
Age Group : 10½ - 14

Section Leader : Maureen Stanger  
Contact : 01992 712923  
Email : k.stanger1@ntlworld.com

### EXPLORERS

Meeting : Friday  
Time : 7.15 - 9.00pm  
Age Group : 14 - 18

Section Leader : Brian Rogers  
Contact : 01992 762799  
Email :