

Solihull Scout Times

For Solihull Scout County

June 2006

Editors Bit

Well Here we are again with another County Newsletter. I got quite a bit of an ear bending over the change of Foramt so I am trying to keep the thing smaller again this month so you do not have to waste so much paper.

Blythe District AGM

You are invited to the first Blythe District Annual General Meeting which will be held on Tuesday 13th June at 8.00 pm in 6th Shirley Headquarters (The Barber-Tullett Scout Hut, Shirley Heath School, Coombe Road, Shirley).

Solihull Gang Show

Help us Celebrate by visiting this years great Show at the Solihull Arts Complex. This great show has a Gigantic cast of over 90, Members of the Scout and Guide Associations We are looking at Celebrating 100 yrs of Scouting, 50 Yrs of Gang Show and 25 yrs of Solihull Gang show so book your tickets now. They will be on Sale from the Theatre Box office from the end of the Month
Gang Show 28th November to 2nd Decem,ber 2006

Sponsored Cycle Ride and Fun Day Out - Sunday 9th July 2006 - Illshaw Heath



Now in its 4th successful year, the C4C Charity Cycle Ride and Fun Day Out has not only provided invaluable support to local charities but proved to be a winner with the many families who come along to enjoy this unique event.

Attractions include rides on a steam model railway, entertainers, sideshows, music performed by local young bands and musicians and plenty of refreshments including a Pig Roast.

Last year a number of Groups from Blythe District took part in this event and raised over £350 for local charities. Why not join in the fun this year? Details from your GSL, DC or the County Sec.

Organised by Solihull St. Alphege Rotary Club, who serve the community by

many activities throughout the year, this event has the full support of Solihull Cycling Club, local schools and youth organisations including Scouts & Guides.
www.c4c.org.uk

Civic Awards Night

The Mayor of Solihull has kindly agreed once again to host the presentation of Chief Scout's Award certificates and Queen's Scout Award Mayoral certificates in the Council Chamber at 7.30pm on **Tuesday 4th July 2006**

THE AWARD WINNING SHIRLEY LIMELIGHT PLAYERS PRESENT

A fantastic comical array of three one act plays
SMALLS TALK
ALBERT
IMMOBILES
Friday 16th June
Saturday 17th June
At The Dovehouse Theatre, Langley School, Kineton Green Road arrive at 7 for a 7.30 start
£6.00 pp For info and tickets, call Craig Beedie Please try to support the Limelight Players: they have supported 6th Shirley Scouts by helping us to raise funds for our trip to Switzerland

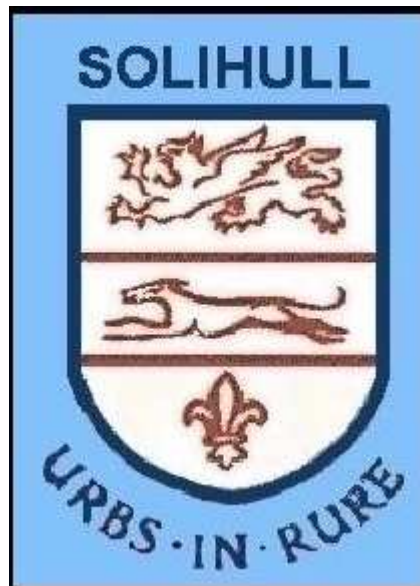
Guides' Activities Day

Around 120 Guides and Guiders from Widney Division enjoyed a fun-packed activities day at Rough Close on 13th May thanks to a team made up of members from Scout Fellowship and both Scout Districts. The activities were organised by Dick Bassett and included 'bivvies, backwoods & fires', 'pioneering and knots', 'knife & axe', 'hot air balloons', 'tents & gadgets' and 'crate stacking & climbing wall'. Thanks go to all those involved - the Activities Team comprising Dick, Dal, Mick Paget, Derek Grimmett, Phil & Miggy Knott, Darren Fellows, John & Joyce Jukes, Chris Morgan-Cettler, Chris Knott, Steve Parker, Roger Taylor, Anthony Henry and Martin Watts, and also to Widney Division Commissioner Lesley Day who organized the whole event

Yorks Wood Camp Site
Below are extracts from a letter that the County Secretary has received Julie Neary, GSL 229th Birmingham (1st Yorks Wood) Scout Group, Spitfire District:-

I am a GSL in Spitfire District and part of a team that is researching the old Yorks Wood Campsite in Birmingham. We have been working on this project for a number of months now and are hoping to get it finished for full viewing for the Centenary of Scouting We

really are going great guns on this project, people from as far away as the U.S.A. are emailing us with info on the campsite. They are even willing to travel over to see the finished project and take a look at what's left of the Wood and surrounding



areas. This has been such a brilliant project to take part in. We have managed to track down the original Ellis Island and the 2 Totem Poles to groups in Birmingham.

If you can ask people to email to me anything to do with the Camp site or would like to donate any artifacts to the project I would be very grateful. County have very little on the campsite, so we have had to rely on the memories of former Scouters of that era. County have given us permission to put it all on the Birmingham History Web Ring for all to view. Obviously after that we will need to house the artefacts we have collected

throughout this project somewhere where our youth of today can see what camp was like before lightweight tents and public transport.

If anyone has any information, please contact John Jukes (secretary@solihullscoutcounty.org.uk) who will put you in touch with Julie or forward your information.

Tent repairs - the annual discovery?

As usual all our tents went back into storage last Autumn, properly inspected and believed thoroughly fit for purpose. As usual, it turned out not to be quite like that! Fortunately, it was two Scout Leaders who sat under the 20mm hole in a tent roof that dripped all one March night, not two sniffing Scouts.

Anyhow, off to John Nicholls at Runway Farm (not far from the Tipperary PH at Honiley) where the damage was quickly put right. "We'll give it a check before we put it back in the bag," said John - so the tent had repairs to guy line holes and unknotted door brailing before it returned to its (thoroughly overhauled) bag.

John's been mending tents for a lifetime and used to have a fleet of marquees for hire before moving to Runway Farm. He also does new work - and makes many of those brightly

coloured covers that travelling show people use on their rides, so sometimes he's off to Gloucester or somewhere to measure up. He does all our repairs and the Berkswell Group's, too. His charges are pretty reasonable, and I suspect they are more reasonable if you're prepared to wait for the work and help shift the canvas around a bit. And I learned a bit more about tents and their bags into the bargain. John Nicholls works at Unit 5 Runway Farm, Honiley Road, Meer End OS Grid Ref SP236736, about 2 miles south of Balsall Common and just off the A4177. Telephone first on 07796 263532.

Roger Pacey, 2nd Balsall Common (Methodist) Scout Group.

Sea Scouts Dip In Again!

Last week, the National Lottery announced that 4th Knowle Sea Scout Group was to be awarded £4,788 from the Awards for All Scheme, and since then the National Grid have donated a further £800 to the Group. Both these grants will go towards expanding their fleet of canoes ready for the summer. This week, the Royal Navy have provided the Group with a grant of £1,100, to buy Resusci-Annie's to train the Sea Scouts in life support, and cookers and tents for their Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions.

www.knowledgeascouts.org.uk

SOLIHULL SCOUT FELLOWSHIP

Kath Hyde

The meeting started with a minute's silence in memory of Kath Hyde. Kath had been a stalwart of Scouting in Solihull since the 1950s. She and Dave will be remembered as the founders of Triton Venture Scout/Ranger Guide Unit when Venture Scouting was first introduced. After Dave's death, Kath became ACC International, organising countless overseas expeditions, especially those between 2nd Olton and Christiansand. She was appointed County Secretary when Greg Dodd became C.C. Although she had moved to Kidderminster, Kath kept well in touch with all her Scouting friends in Solihull and she will be much missed.

Mike Craske, on his second visit, entertained us well with his description of a huge charity bike ride across Russia. The subject matter is fascinating and Mike's way of telling the yarns amused everyone.

Future Programme

June 10th. Ramble To Tanworth In Arden. Derek Grimmett has details. Please contact him if you want further information.

July 10th. Illuminated Mediaeval Manuscripts.

By Raymond Sands. The subject is certainly unusual, and if the speaker lives up to his reputation, it should be a memorable evening.

September 11th. "Back-To-Back Houses In

Birmingham" By a member of the National Trust. This idea was obviously popular, so Barbara has booked the speaker. This will interest all those who remember "the old days", not so long ago when they were actually lived in.

Day Trip To Leominster.

This has been cancelled for July.. The possibility of a day in September can be talked about at the July meeting.

Date Of Next Fellowship Meeting Monday July 10th 7.30pm County Headquarters

**Solihull County Newsletter Editor
Andy Moore
Solscoutnews@aol.com**

Copy by the End of August Please