This newsletter will be issued monthly. Please provide any content (pictures, stories, events) to Gillan.Barnard@harrowscouts.org.uk by 18th

Scouts Harrow

HAF2021 Harrow Summer Scouts. Supporting disadvantaged children and introducing them to Scouting

SAD NEWS FOR THE DISTRICT

Many of you will have heard the very sad news that one of our long-standing Scout Leaders has passed away, Ashley Williams (Ash) was known to many after more than 40 years of Scouting in Harrow and we will all miss him greatly. You can read more about his career of service inside this newsletter

On a more positive note, many Groups and Units have been enjoying camps over the summer – and we have some pictures to share with you. Alongside this is a useful update from DDC Alan about the Adventurous Activity and Nights Away permit schemes.

We have also been promoting Scouting to new families, both at the Made in Harrow Day on 25th July and through HAF2021 (Holiday Activities & Food) where we have been running a scouting-style day camp for local children aged 5-10 who are from disadvantaged families. Thanks to all the Leaders, YLs and Scouts who have supported at both.

Update from Reshma Patel

Growing up, I didn't have the opportunity to join a uniformed group – but I'd go to the library every month and check out some Brownie books and magazines instead. So, you can imagine, when asked by my son's Beaver leader if I could 'help' – there was no hesitancy from my end.
I am passionate about #SKILLSFORLIFE learnt through Scouts and the importance of all scouts having similar experiences through their journey, regardless of the Group/Unit they attend. That's why I decided to take up the opportunity to lead on Programme & Events for Harrow. My aim is to ensure that we have a fun packed, inclusive & quality programme that scouts across Harrow can access equally. I would love to have your help in delivering this vision. Whether you want to help run a district event, plan a badge activity session or support Leaders across the District with their programmes, please reach out to me at reshma.patel@harrowscouts.org.uk. I really do look forward to hearing from you because its #GoodForYou (sorry – just couldn't help myself 😊).
When I am not at Scouts, I work full time in Pharma. Both my children are enjoying their journey in scouting and my son has just started his DoE – Exciting times…
Please check out the Leaders Archery event in Sept- I would love to meet you there. But let me know for catering purposes…
Reshma

UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS, TRAININGS

4th September **LEADERS ARCHERY TRY-OUT** – have a go at this sport for free and enjoy meeting other Leaders from Harrow. At the DAC, Walton Road, Harrow from 2pm to 5pm. Details here Please RSVP to **Reshma Patel**

17th -19th September **GLMW HILL WALKING WEEKEND** in Dartmoor. All welcome, whatever level. Full details at **hillwalking-dartmoor-sept-2021**

26th September **ROXY-FEST** – come and help on the Scouts stall, recruiting new volunteers and promoting Scouting. Or visit with your family for a fun day out. Details from **Gillan Barnard**

3rd October **DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT DAY** – all adult members are invited to give their views on the future of our District – Mercure Hotel, A41 Watford by-pass, WD25 8JH. Details from **Ashley Martin**

Ashley James Williams RIP

Dedicated and long serving Scout Leader dies

Ashley James Williams passed away on the August 8th. Ash, as he was known, was born in Harrow and grew up in West Harrow opposite St Peter's Church. The 8th Harrow (now the 8/19th Harrow) met in the church hall and Ash joined as a Cub. He later went on to Scouts, Senior Scouts and Rovers before becoming an assistant leader in 1961. Eventually he took over as Scout Leader and remained as such during his working life. Ashley completed his Duke of Edinburgh's Award as a Rover Scout and helped and encouraged many others to gain the Award during his time as a Leader.

Later, after retirement and with more time, he expanded his interest in the Scout Group and Harrow District and took on the role of Group Scout Leader. He was GSL at the time of his death.

Ash was very much respected by all those who knew him. He had an unassuming nature that belied his dedication. Privately he lived a quiet life but enjoyed going to The White Horse, his favourite pub on Harrow hill. He also enjoyed country & western music and wine and travelled widely, enjoying more remote places in Western USA, New Zealand, Europe and UK. Through scouting he discovered a great interest in the outdoors and was active in mountaineering, boating (both sailing and canal boats) camping and other related outdoor pursuits including skiing. Scouting brought him into contact with a great number of people over the years, not only the young people who passed through the group but parents and other colleagues in the Scout movement. In later life, ill health prevented him from enjoying pursuits as he would have wished, but it didn't stop him from engaging in a lesser way. Ash never married and he leaves no family other than the great family he gathered about him in life.

Ash's funeral was on Wednesday 25th August, but a tribute page remains available at https://ashleywilliams.muchloved.com where you can also find the link to donate to Sightsavers, his preferred charity. …

CAMPS AROUND THE DISTRICT: PACCAR CAMPSITE

Alpine ESU's Chilled-out Week…

Alpine Explorers enjoyed on-site activities at Paccar, and a variety of games and challenges, dodging the rain showers. But the sun came out when they went to Liquid Leisure Water Park, the largest in the UK 😉

16th Edgware's Awesome Camp

It started with a Covid test and ended with a superb 3 course meal… on the way there were cardboard ovens, on site activities, kayaking, swimming, campfires, hikes, shelter building and lots and lots of fun!

Particular highlights included a joint campfire with Pegasus ESU and 9th Kenton Scouts and visits from the Forensic Experience and entertainer Skittleman

8/19th Harrow had fun at Paccar

Due to Covid we decided that this year's summer camp would be held locally to make the logistics of running the camp easier. We had booked 3 wooded sites at Paccar and had 27 Scouts and 10 leaders attending. We tried to make the camp as normal for a summer camp as we could. This meant the scouts camping, cooking and sleeping in their patrols, we ran our usual patrol points competition, and we tried to run as similar activities as we would run at a normal summer camp, although we spent a lot more time on site than we normally do.

We ran our challenges competition, we held scout sports, we went on a short hike, we ran our competition meal and we did some of the Paccar on-site activities. All the Scouts managed very well, considering that they hadn't camped for nearly 2 years, and for the majority of Scouts it was their first time at Scout Camp. All in all, it was a good camp, without travelling too far from home.

If YOU want to see your Group or Unit featured here, send some photos and a short report in to the Editor: Gillan Barnard

USEFUL INFORMATION SECTION

Permits

In Scouting Permits are required to lead Young People on Adventurous Activities. There are 2 main types of permits:

- Adventurous Activities
- Nights Away

Adventurous Activity Permits

Adventurous Activity permits are required to run the following activities:

- archery;
- caving;
- climbing and abseiling, except;
    - bouldering;
    - climbs using auto belay systems (systems that lower a climber to the ground without any human intervention);
- hill walking and off-road cycling (in Terrain One and Two);
- hovercrafting;
- snowsports (except artificial slopes and nursery slopes);
- all water activities, except swimming, on class B1, B2, B3 or A waters;
- all motorised water activities and SCUBA activities on class C waters.

Air Rifle Shooting is not included within the Scout permit scheme. Permit holders train for a National Governing Body qualification which the Scout Association uses instead.

If you buy in the services of either a Scout campsite or external supplier to run the above activities then you do not need to hold an activity Permit yourself, as the equivalent will be held by the people running the activity. You should check the Risk Assessment carried out by the people running the activity, to ensure you understand what is expected of you and the young people.

Nights Away Permits

If you run an activity with an overnight stay, then you must have a Nights Away Permit. There are 4 types of Nights away Permits: Indoor, Camping, Green Field and Expedition. You must ensure you have the correct permit for the type of overnight stay you are running.

In addition to holding the permit you must also complete and submit a Nights Away Notification (NAN) form to the Deputy District Commissioner (Operations) at alan.sims@harrowscouts.org.uk.

Valid Permits

Only Permits that are held on Compass are classed as Valid Permits and are able to be used to run Adventurous Activities or Nights Away. The only exception to this is rifle shooting, where the National Governing Body qualification is obtained and this is used instead of a Scout Permit. It is the Permit holder's responsibility to ensure that their Permit is valid. It is the GSL's and DESC's responsibility to ensure the events are being run by the holder of a valid Permit.

If you think you hold a Permit that is not shown on Compass, then please contact Alan Sims, who will assess the evidence you have available and will advise the next steps you need to follow to get this Permit approved and added to Compass. If your evidence is insufficient, Alan will advise how you can obtain a valid Permit and have it registered on Compass. Not all cases will requiring starting from scratch, it depends upon the experience you have in the area you are applying for the Permit.

All Permits have an expiry date, and it is your responsibility to ensure that your Permit is valid at the time you run the Adventurous Activity or Nights Away. You should aim to renew your Permit in good time, before it expires. The process for renewing Permits is the same as for obtaining new Permits, however you should now have more experience to demonstrate your abilities to your assessor.

New Adventurous Activity Permits (and renewals)

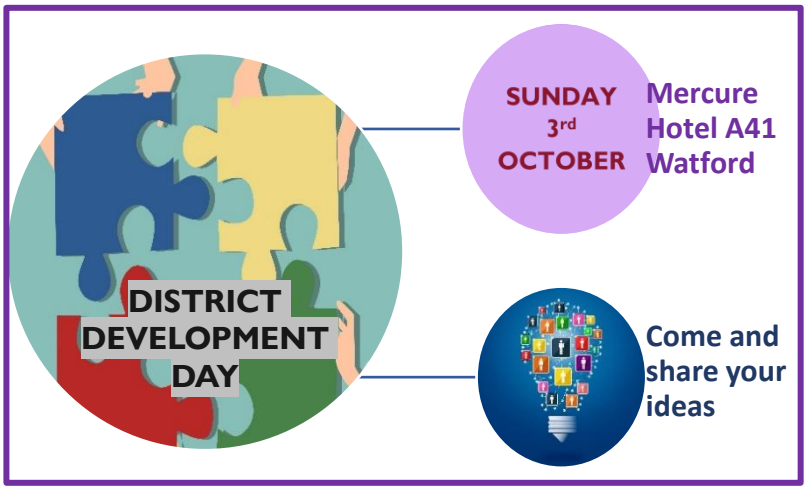
Details regarding how to obtain new Adventurous Activity permits, and renew existing permits can be found on the GLMW website at: https://www.glmwscouts.org.uk/activity-centres

New Nights Away Permits (and renewals)

To obtain a Nights Away Permit, or renew an existing Permit, you need to have some instruction and be assessed by a Nights Away Adviser. Please talk to your Training Manager, who will put you in touch with an appropriate Nights Away Adviser. If you have a good variety of experience in leading residential experiences and are willing to help newer/less experienced leaders, please get in touch as we are looking for additional Nights Away Advisers

For further information, please contact: Alan Sims – Deputy District Commissioner (Operations) – email: alan.sims@harrowscouts.org.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS



District Camp 2022

Tolmers Campsite, Cuffley, Herts

1st to 3rd July 2022

All sections, groups and units invited.

GSLS/ESLS PLEASE SEND IN YOUR NUMBERS SO WE CAN PLAN THE CAMP

Mail to *Reshma Patel*