

GILLINGHAM SCOUT NEWS

March 2010

COMING EVENTS

March 14

MINISTRY OF FOOD for Scouts

Download details at
www.gillinghamscouts.org.uk

March 20

CUB FIZZ QUIZ for Cub Scouts

Details from Cub Leaders

March 21

AWARDS PRESENTATION for All Sections

Details from All Leaders

March 27/28

BEAVER SLEEPOVER for Beaver Scouts

Details from Beaver Leaders

April 25

ST GEORGE'S CELEBRATION for All Sections

Details from All Leaders

Details of upcoming events will be posted on the website as they are available. Click on main menu 'Upcoming Events'.

The next issue of GILLINGHAM SCOUT NEWS will be published on 5 April 2010. Please let the Editor have copy/photographs by 28 March.

1st Gillingham team runners-up in Kent Apprentice



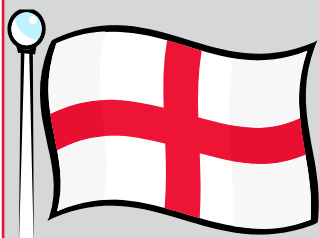
Go to page 3 for full report and more pictures.

SCOUTS

ST GEORGE'S CELEBRATION

Howard School, Rainham
Sunday 25th April • 1.30pm-4pm

The theme this year will be St George's Medieval Fayre. Dressing up will be encouraged, and there will be prizes for best costume, best shield, best sword/helmet.



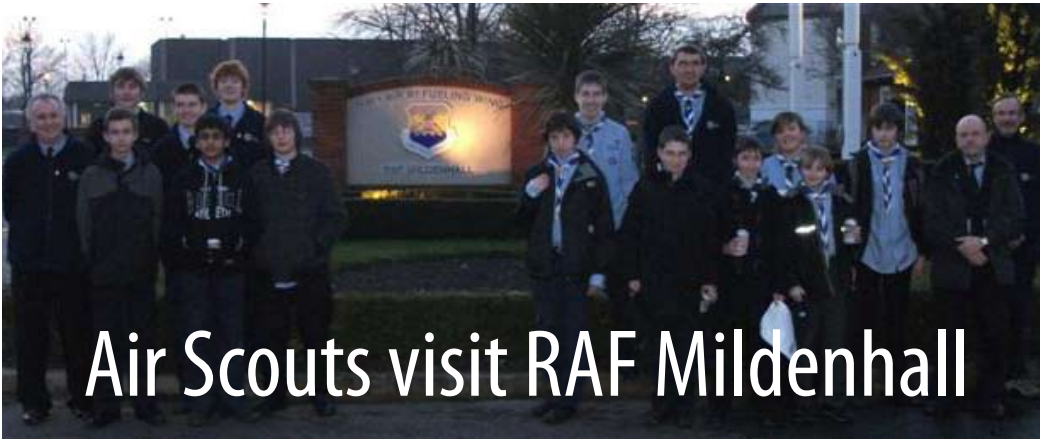
Congratulations to...

Owen Lewis and Sophie Smail from the 11th Gillingham on gaining their Chief Scout Silver Awards. They are pictured with Marion Isaacs (ADC-Cubs) after receiving their badges.



cubs

Email your copy and photographs to: gsn@gillinghamscouts.org.uk



Air Scouts visit RAF Mildenhall

TEN SCOUTS, three Explorers and five big kids known as Leaders, visited RAF Mildenhall on 17th February 2010. We were welcomed to the Station by Staff Sargent Rebecca Ghesquiere, Steve and Frank from the 'Homeland protection front' and Jason who was the station FBI. Introductions took place in the enlisted men's lounge where we were provided with Pizza and Soda, for some, the highlight of the tour! From here we were driven around the base, starting off by a talk from a co-pilot and a boom operator of a KC-135R Stratotanker, which they showed us around, the plane built in 1958, nearly as old as the GSL! It was pointed out that at least the plane still works. From there to a dog display, car search and bringing a man down, all the dogs they have are Alsations trained in the USA, but interestingly they buy many of the dogs in Europe. Onto the control tower and a simulation suite, then a tour of the Station Fire Brigade and four of the Scouts got to ride round the station and use the foam jet. Finally into the main HQ and a chat by a Pilot giving the history of the Squadron 'The Bloody 100', some video footage of the planes in action and any last questions. We were given a great reception from all those we met and cannot thank the staff of Mildenhall enough for a great, sorry awesome day out, Yeah cool.

Roger Lovesey GSL 20th Gillingham Air Scouts



From the District Commissioner....

This month has been one of tragedy and success in scouting in Gillingham and Kent. As you will all have heard in the news that Stephen Young had a fatal accident whilst on a trip to the Cairngorms. As Stephen belonged to Malling District not many of us in Gillingham would have personally known this young man; however you probably would have read about his Scouting adventures in the local press over the last few years. Stephen was the Explorer Scout who slept in a tent for a whole year to raise funds for Charity. He was a keen member of the Invicta Climbing Team and the youngest trustee for Kent Scouts. Stephen had a short life and filled every minute of it. I was privileged to know Stephen - he was a true Scout.



Congratulations to each and every one of you because this year I am pleased to report that Gillingham District has shown a growth in this year's census return - this is the first time for seven years and just goes to show the hard work that every one of you is putting into running a fun exciting balanced programme. Well done and thank you!!!!

I am also pleased to say that our training surgeries and our night's away surgeries are starting to be used and are becoming effective ways to get adult leaders trained. I would like to congratulate Rob Gill (8th), Dave Cordell (8th) Pauline Odle (5th) and Maria Langford (20th) for gaining their wood badge. I look forward to presenting them in the near future.

Please make every effort to make sure your young people that have achieved their Chief scout awards in the last 12 months or so are given the opportunity to attend the District presentation afternoon this is a great opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the young people taking part in Gillingham Scouting.

Also, please can you make every effort to get young people attending our St George's event this year. As advertised it will be slightly different, but we need all adults to pull together with open minds to make this year's event a success with something different and fun.

Dean

Members of the Fellowship pictured on one of their regular walks organised by Pam Burnop. This one was in the Harrietsham area on March 2nd and the weather was brilliant!



fellowship

Don't miss out

To ensure you continue to get information from District and County keep your email address updated. If you change your email address let the editor know on gsn@gillinghamscouts.org.uk

Kent Scouts Apprentice Challenge

1st Gillingham take second place

HOURS of hard work and planning had gone in to putting on this event and finally the day that they had all been waiting for had arrived: the 7th of February 2010 – The day that the doors of BAE Systems (Rochester) opened for 10 teams of Young People to take part in the ultimate Kent Scouts Apprentice challenge!

All in all, 39 Young People between the age of 10 and 14 turned up from around Kent for a day full of personal challenges, new experiences and plenty of fun! They were all rearing to get started and give it a go!

The Scouts the brief outline for the day and explained what their challenge would be: To come up with a new campaign to encourage Young People to join Scouting. As part of this, they would have to come up with a name for the campaign, a slogan, a new badge and a 30 second jingle or advert. This all then had to be pitched to the star-studded panel of judges in the afternoon.

The Teams were soon let loose into the modern and comfortable canteen and they quickly spread out around the area to find their perfect spot and work began immediately. This is where they would spend the main part of the next 3 and a half hours conjuring up their ideas and fine-tuning their pitch.

Throughout the day, three teams at a time got the opportunity to go next door to Rochester Airport to get a free tour of the hangars and the control tower, provided by Kelvin Carr (Airport Manager). Despite the cold wind outside, the Scouts thoroughly enjoyed their V.I.P tour of the airport and thanks to the very useful booklet that Rochester Airport provided, also got the opportunity to gain some aviation knowledge which will help them work towards their Aviators badge.

During the day, the Scouts also got the opportunity to have a go on the Flight Simulator, which was provided by the County Air Activities Team. This was all done on two great, big projector screens in one of the very modern and well-equipped conference rooms. The Scouts enjoyed the opportunity to fly a plane – Some even flew as far as Belgium!

While the Scouts were preparing to pitch their ideas, the four judges arrived. First up was Alex Killick from Kent Cricket Club. Alex was keen to find out more about what the Scouts had been doing during the day. He was soon joined by Ian Dance, Director at BAE Systems (Rochester), Ian Dodds, former Assistant County Commissioner for Kent, and

Tom Winters, defender in the Gillingham Youth Team and voted Kent Messenger Player of the Month in January. The judges were given an overview of what challenge the Scouts had been set and were soon invited to make themselves comfortable in one of the conference rooms, ready for the first pitch.

The judges had plenty of questions and the Scouts had plenty of enthusiasm!

Each Team was given 3 minutes to pitch their idea to the judges who were then given a minute to ask questions. The ideas were coming in thick and fast and no pitch was like any other! The judges had plenty of questions and the Scouts had plenty of enthusiasm! Some of the ideas that were pitched included the "All Time Camp"—A camp where Young People of all ages and abilities could try all the different activities Scouts has to offer, such as archery, pioneering, cooking, First Aid, quad biking, campfires and much, much more!

1st place was awarded to the Team from 1st New Barn, consisting of Bethany, Abby, Amy and Libby. Their pitch was the most inspired and enthusiastic one – it included several posters, drawings of suggested merchandise and a great logo for their new campaign: A cheeky cow with fleur-de-lis (the scout emblem) instead of patches. The girls did a brilliant pitch and shared their incredible enthusiasm and love for Scouting with all the judges! In 2nd place 1st Gillingham Scout Group, which was made up of Iona, Shannon,

Amanda and Chloe (photo on front page). Their idea was the "All Time Camp". 3rd place was awarded to the Team from 2nd Sheppey Scout Group which consisted of Callum, Kieran, Ryan and Jack.



GILLINGHAM SCOUT NEWS is published by Gillingham District Scout Council
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