Scouts
North East Norfolk District

North East Norfolk Mardle

A word from 1st Buxton Sea Scout's GLV...

Hello everyone,
I have been asked to write a small piece for the second edition of The Mardle and I thought I would briefly talk about some things that have happened recently at Buxton.

- We had a very successful AGM in September where we managed to recruit not just a new Chair but we also managed to walk away with a Vice Chair too, plus another Trustee member, all of these appointments have strengthened our Board of Trustees and they have all fitted in really well.
- Our brand new web site has just gone live, there are still some personalised areas to be finalised, but check it out at 1st Buxton Lamas Sea Scout Group (buxtonscouts.org.uk)
- We had a very well attended Remembrance Parade with over 60 young people taking part from Squirrels all the way up to Explorers as well as the Brownie pack. It was nice to see lots of local residents lining our parade route. All young people were smartly dressed, well behaved and did Buxton proud as always.

Albion ESU

- I am in the process of setting up a second hand uniform store to cover all sections, this is because we have identified that in these challenging times with the cost of living, some people struggle to afford uniform, we do not want this to be a reason to lose a young person from Scouting.
- Our Squirrel dray celebrated their first birthday in the summer, where the leaders put on an evening of party games and fun, they all left with massive smiles on their faces and a party bag too.

I would like to finish by saying that it is a huge honour to work with such amazing leaders, they all do a wonderful job investing their time to give our young people the opportunities to learn new skills whilst having fun.

Information Needed!!

We currently have 2 forms making their way 'round the District' We are asking you to fill them in please.

We have set them up so we can get a real sense of what you want from the District Team in terms of activities and sections support.

We also are doing an Adult Information 'grab' so we can generate mailing lists and permits list so no one gets left out.

Please find the links below (they are also on the District Sections Facebook Groups):

Activities and Support Questionaries—https://forms.gle/aVj1yv1c4YqjeSmG7

Adult information form— https://forms.gle/ivsWyoYRF7tNb9TV7

A challenge...

Are you a budding photographer? Do you have a way with words?

We are looking for pictures and articles for the newsletter and for the Facebook page. So...it's time to get your camera out, grab you friends and get snapping. We want you to show us what your Group and your Section has been up to! Trips, activities, badge nights, camps, and anything else you've had fun doing.

Send your pictures with a few paragraphs or your written articles to – northeastnorfolk@gmail.com

What's been going on in the District?

Holt Explorers at Norfolk 24

Norfolk 24 was a great camp with lots of different activities, my favourite would probably have been shooting but I enjoyed them all equally, it was a fun challenge staying up all night, thanks to the disco music and the bonfire we managed to stay awake for most of it... or at least the others did! Overall the camp was well organised and had plenty to do and learn, next year I'm really hope there will be bushcraft and the climbing activities as I was really looking forward to those. Can't wait to go back in 2024! - Daisy May Burn

Patrycja, Kadie and Daisy enjoying kayaking and then with 7hrs to go...

Albion Explorers at Norfolk 24

Norfolk 24 was a very enjoyable time, there's not much else to it. I thought it was very well organised and a lot of the leaders, volunteers and explorers did a very good job at attempting to stay up for the 24 hours! And a few did. There were activities for everyone from shooting to camp crafts, inflatables and even a cinema room. But the main takeaway of Norfolk 24 was the time spent doing activities with mates and everyone at the camp just getting along. Ethan - Albion Explorers

What's been going on in the District?

45th National Scout Rifle Competition - Bisley

On Friday the 20th October myself and 5 other competitors travelled from Norfolk to the Bisley shooting ground to compete in the national scout championships for 2 days, we were part of the North Walsham Rifle Club - Zero point team for Scout Association members, there were 750 other competitors entered from all around the country. We stayed in a little chalet altogether where we found 'Gary', our mascot for the weekend. The next day we woke up to go shoot and compete against all the others. The competitions we participated in were 6 yard air rifle, 6 yard air pistol, .22 small bore rifle, field target, knockout and optional crossbow. I have never competed in such a big competition before and to start with I was nervous. The members of my group shot at different times over 2 days with small groups at each discipline, with hours to wait for the next one, At 2pm on the last day we all went to the main building upstairs to see who had won prizes Between us our group won 3 Gold medals, 3 Silvers and 3 trophies of which I won a silver medal for air rifle (under 14), scoring 92 and a Gold medal and the Chief Scout trophy for the Scout with combined highest score across the shooting events. I really enjoyed my weekend away, learnt a lot and am looking forward to another competition soon.

Tobias Eddison - 1st Buxton Lamas Sea Scouts

I was very excited to go to Bisley, having heard so much about it from my sister, who shot for Greshams school while she was a student. Although I didn't have a clue what to expect I managed to get the hang of things pretty quickly and enjoyed the shooting activities a lot. I was very pleased with how I did with 22 small-bore having won the silver medal in B class, and in Knock Out, which I somehow managed to get to the 4th round in! I was also incredibly grateful to be staying in the Greshams pavilion, as there was a lot of rain on Saturday! The competition was so well organised, and there were lots of different types of shooting to try. Despite being a relatively small group at Zero Point, we came home with a pretty good haul of medals and trophies, and I'm really excited to go again next year hopefully this time without over packing!

Daisy Burn - 1st Holt Scouts

What's been going on in the District? Continued...

45th National Scout Rifle Competition - Bisley

I had the greatest time at Bisley, from the small bore rifles to the shiny blue pistols. We had pizzas which were 15 inches! And we also had Gary, who was very funny at times. I loved Bisley, and for me, it was the best competition to this day.

Conner Morgan - Buxton (Albion) Explorers

On Friday the 20th of October 6 of us from North Walsham shooting club went down to Bisley for the national Scout championships. We weren't expecting any awards as its our first big competition so we just saw it as a learning point for all. Yes, we wanted to win some 'bling' but we weren't expecting 6 medals and 3 trophies between us. It was an amazing experience as we were able to shoot a variety of guns, positions and even crossbows! I'd like to thank all involved for making this possible, I'm looking forward to coming again.

Emily Flowerdew - 1st Buxton Lamas Sea Scouts

I had a brilliant time at Bisley, it was such a good experience, and despite not winning any medals I still really enjoyed it, my favourite part was .22, it was awesome. Hopeful for next year!

Thomas Aldous - Buxton (Albion) Explorers

Salhouse Scouts

Survival Food - Flynn Belcher & Freddie Pelan

We learnt how to cook muntjac deer in the Black barn farms woods, with knives to cut the meat and axes for cutting the fire wood to cook the lovely meat that one of the Scout Leaders provided. We learnt how to cook the venison a different way and developed our cooking skills doing so. We found it tasty and thought of different ways of incorporating it in different meals such as roast dinners, burgers and stew! As well as cooking, we chopped pallet wood in pairs of two working together to complete this job efficiently. This was to fuel are fire in order to cook the deer quickly so we could eat it as soon as possible!

Stand up paddle boarding - Ted Tibbenham & Cory Carpenter -

We went to the Mike Thurston Centre in North Walsham. We were there with our Scout Leaders and 2 instructors from the Centre. We started by a small jog / run up and down a hill to warm us up. After that, we got our paddles and boards to learn how to paddle on our knees to start with and then we learnt to stand up as well. After learning how to stand safely we did a slight race around part of the lake to get used to the speed and how to paddle. After this we played a game which was throwing two balls at the oppositions Leader and then we got to choose whether we jumped into the water or not, which was rather fun. Next we got out of the water and took the paddles and boards to the shed. Finally we got changed.

Scouts Survival badge - William Keys-Baston & Toby Short

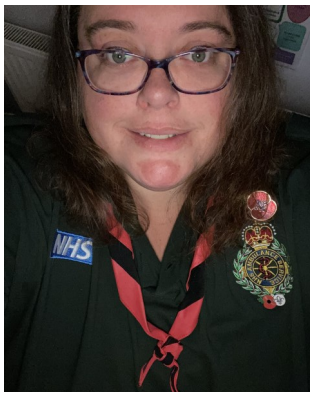
We completed our survival badges, so we spent a lot of time at the forest at Black Barn Farm. We did all sorts of adventurous things, such as; cutting coke cans in half and making miniature penny stoves, building log dens and shelters throughout the woods. We prepared and cooked venison, built fires independently, practiced our pioneering skills and simulated a plane crash where we had to rate items based off how useful they would be to survive. We also roasted marshmallows and played lots of games such as manhunt, capture the flag ,etc, and got to know each other more and made lots of other thing out of wood, like bug hotels and chairs. We told really scary stories around the campfire.

What's been going on in the District? Continued...

Lest we Forget

Remembrance 2023

Lest we Forget



Authorising Activities

After a few points that were raised at the Senior Management Team meeting I felt that a clear understanding on how we Authorise the activities within our groups and Explorer Units should be set out. Please see the statement that allows myself as the Acting District Commissioner (District Lead Volunteer) to delegate parts of the authorising process to the GSL's, DESC and DDC I am confident that you have been putting these actions into practice already but the document does lay out the responsibilities to authorise activities within the District .This guidance is for now as responsibilities will (maybe) change with transformation:

Authorising Activities in Northeast Norfolk District

POR (rule 9.1) states that "the District Commissioner is responsible for approving all activities for Squirrel Scouts, Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts and Explorer Scouts. This will usually be by means of an informal system agreed between the District Commissioner and each Group Scout Leader or District Explorer Scout Commissioner".

<u>This documents the delegated responsibilities for authorising activities under POR</u>

Rule 9.1 in Northeast Norfolk District.

1. Group Scout Leaders are responsible for authorising all activities that take place in Squirrel, Beaver, Cub and Scout sections in their Group (with the exception of those mentioned elsewhere in this document). Group Scouts Leaders will need to see and consider every section's programme.

2. The District Explorer Scout Commissioner is responsible for authorising all activities that take place in Explorer Scout Units in the District (with the exception of those mentioned elsewhere in this document). The District Explorer Scout Commissioner will need to see and consider every Unit's programme.

3. If, in any instance, a Group Scout Leader or the District Explorer Scout Commissioner is unsure whether to authorise a particular activity, they must discuss it with the District Commissioner.

4. Where an activity is covered within the Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme and led by a member of the district holding the relevant permit, the GSL / DESC must be aware of the activity taking place on each occasion (see points 1 and 2). If you are using someone from outside the District with a permit the DC must be informed.

5. All Form NANs for Nights Away activities must be sent to Colin Begley, Deputy District Commissioner, who is responsible for checking that the information provided on the form complies with the requirements for Nights Away. Also copied to the District Commissioner. Nights away abroad will only be considered by the District Commissioner

6. The following activities must be notified to the District Commissioner who will seek appropriate advice on suitability ahead of approving the activity to take place: air activities, motor sports.

7. For activities and events involving only adults (adult only nights away 9.2, and adult groups undertaking activities 9.8) the District Commissioner must be notified of the activity taking place. Approval of activities will be discussed at each SMT Meeting to ensure that everyone is comfortable with the process outlined above and applying consistency, also providing an opportunity for the system to be reviewed and amended as appropriate.

Nights Away information

Here in North East Norfolk, we are fortunate to have a good number of camps happening throughout the year. Usually, the notifications are sent in with the right risk assessments and information which then allows the camp to be Authorised, however, we have noticed several common mistakes or omissions which then delay this process. To refresh everyone on the things we need, this crib sheet has been put together which should make the process smoother and easier to follow.

Who do we send the NAN to?

1. Gunner Begley (Deputy District Commissioner) gunner.nenscouts@gmail.com
2. Clive Gritten (Nights Away Advisor) scouterclive@gmail.com .
3. Your GSL (GLV) needs a copy, and if you have Explorers or Young Leaders attending, the DESC also needs a copy.

How long before a camp do we need to send the NAN?

The minimum notification time before a camp is 7 days and any NANs sent with less than this will automatically be denied. However, if you are going offsite or visiting an activity centre, we really need a minimum of 14 days to carry out all the checks and ensure the information is complete. Any NAN's with offsite activities sent with less than 14 days, and without all the information may not be approved.

What to include with your NAN?

Risk assessments, if you are staying on site for the duration of your camp, then send your RA's for your camp and activities. If you are travelling to a camp or doing offsite activities, send a travel RA, or let us know that parents are taking their children to and from the camp in your covering email. If you are using a minibus, you must have a Section 19 Minibus permit, including if you have use of a School Minibus. If using your own vehicles, check your insurance covers you for this purpose too.

If you are hiking, send a hike RA, a map of the route, and estimated times for leaving and arriving. If you are visiting an activity centre, (Scouting or external) we will need their RA too.

What are common issues that hold up an approval?

Ensure all adults have Safety & Safeguarding up to date before and during the camp! Occasional Helpers with a DBS can be on camp, but if they are staying over, they must have Safety & Safeguarding too. You need to have a First Aid provision in place and ensure your RA's have been reviewed within the last 3 months with a review date a few days before the camp. Lastly, and this one catches out more people than you think, make sure your Nights Away Permit doesn't expire just before or during the camp itself!

Is COVID still required on the RA?

No, this is something we see included quite often and to an outsider, makes it look as though the RA hasn't been reviewed, just had the date changed. COVID now falls into the same category as any other infectious illness, and should be covered by 'illness on camp' in your general RA.

What should I do if our programme changes significantly during the camp?

If you significantly change your programme, email the person who approved your camp (this will be Gunner for North East Norfolk). This is especially important if you decide to leave the campsite or decide NOT to when you had planned to. If you leave the campsite, email the times you're leaving and expect to be back, and follow up with an email when you *ARE* back.

Under these circumstances, a map of your route may not be available to share, so a written route is required in your email.

Should you decide to run an activity that requires a permit, ensure the leader has a valid permit and again, let Gunner know by email.

What about if the camp is cancelled before or during the event?

This comes under significant changes, simply inform Gunner by email.

This just about covers all the common issues, I hope you have found it useful!

Any questions please get in touch! - Gunner

Community Service Award

Don't forget that we as a District have our own Community Service Award!!

To earn these fantastic badges you will need to:

Awarded upon completion of the necessary number of hours of voluntary work

(over and above your 'normal Scouting')

To gain this award you must volunteer to help people for 10 hours, for example you could:

- Cut your neighbour's grass
- Clean your neighbour's car
- Help at a residential home
- Help at Beavers, Cubs or Scouts
- Fundraise for your Group or District
- Help out at a community event
- Clean your local park
- Pick up litter around your school
- Support at a Scout recruitment activity
- Any other activity agreed with your Leaders supporting the community.

Remember Volunteering is voluntary and you are not doing it for money.

Badges are available through NEN District only;

currently that is via Mr. Ian de Ath.

daffy.death@btinternet.com

07484 371746

Who am I? Helen Cardani – GLV West Runton

I am known by my many friends around here as 'Helen from Milan' but I was actually born in Lancashire. My father was a Yorkshireman and my mother was Italian. All my education was in English schools with my most memorable days spent in secondary at a convent school on the Wirral where I excelled in sports and loved choir and music. I went on to train as a teacher in Manchester and during my training years spent my summer holidays working at a family run Hotel in Lytham St Annes where I met my future husband. He was from Milan and in the UK to learn English. We married after completing my teacher training and off I went to Milan to start married life and a career at the International School out there that spun nearly 4 decades and what wonderful memories I keep of happy days with primary school children, enjoying music and choir with them and running the yearly music shows and drama productions.

My most memorable times with my primary school choir

I spent many a weekend skiing in the Alps with the family and travelling whenever I had the opportunity. I had the privilege of heading the primary school in later years before retiring back here in Norfolk.

Head Teacher Helen!

When I was asked to become GSL at West Runton I was not daunted by the challenge even though I had no previous experience in scouting. I have learnt so much since starting in 2012.

Enjoying the garden!

I love the peace and open skies of Norfolk, a very different environment to Milan and much appreciated. Whilst my husband Lucio is enjoying his golf and tennis I enjoy gardening, reading, singing in two choirs and being part of a very busy and thriving scout group. I often travel back and forth to visit the grandchildren in Milan and to Basel in Switzerland to visit my brother and his family.

"I believe every human has a finite number of heartbeats. I don't intend to waste any of mine."-Neil Armstrong