

# REUNION EXPRESS 2011

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**FRIDAY EVENING EDITION**

## DERRICK FROM YORK GARRISON ?

From Lucy Gilchrist...

It's my first time at Reunion and I have come on the recommendation of a gentleman from York Garrison Scouts called Derrick Mollan. He told me at NORJAM he would be here this year and I would love to meet up with him again and find out what he's been up to the past year. Derrick, contact Lucy through the Reunion Express office.

## FLAGS - THE NEXT STEP!

Flags, the Fellowship of Lesbian and Gay Scouts is an Active Support Unit for lesbian and gay members. They celebrate their AGM tomorrow at 4.00pm in Marquee A on the Training Ground. Flags work to raise the profile of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities in Scouting, and Scouting in LGBT communities. They currently have 76 members, and recently attended London Pride where 30-40 members spread the message that it's ok to be gay in Scouting! If you would like to talk to them about helping to make sure your Group is open to all, please go and have a word!

## DEVELOPING THE WORLDWIDE FAMILY

Anne Shannon recently went to Malawi along with 3 other leaders and 6 Explorer Scouts from York Minster & York Ebor Explorer Scout Unit, to give local Scouts a real sense of the friendship and support prevalent in Scouting. The team spent 3 and a half weeks with the 1st Ekwendeni Scout Group, where they helped them to build a Scout shelter for their Group of over 30 Scouts to meet in. They also managed to find a container from Northern Ireland, in the middle of a housing area. Thanks to the team a crane was organised and the container was transported to the Groups new shelter, and is now used to store tents that were sent over by the Explorer Unit. While in Malawi, they invested over 16 new Cubs and Scouts who were recruited simply by word of mouth. New Leaders were recruited from the local schools, and they are really proud of the uniform that they wear, which in turn is helping them recruit even more members! Well done to all!!



Steve Peck, Director of Programme & Development officially opened Reunion, with sign language provided by Taz. Steve said "we have over 2000 people here over half of which are virgin reunionites." He explained about the many events happening over the weekend including over 100 activities and bases and due to popular demand, expanded practical skills sessions. He emphasised the importance of everybody wearing their pass (let's hope Mrs. Peck now has hers on!). He welcomed people from the USA, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, Uganda, Argentina, Malta, Germany and the Netherlands. He closed by welcoming everyone to **your** Reunion weekend, have a fantastic time!

## DEEP SEA SCOUTS

The Deep Sea Scouts are raffling a pocket size brass 40 year calendar and compass, if you see the raffle tickets please dig deep. They have also built Clinic Nepal after being shown kindness by locals, go to marquee A to see the achievement

## WELCOME!

We would like to give a huge Gilwell Welcome to Sean Mundy, our latest virgin addition to the 3 generation Gray, Mundy and Smith family circle.

## PIANIST WANTED

The Scouts Own team are looking for a pianist to support the event. Can you help? Please contact Simon on 07595166769, thank you!

## GEMMA LATHAM!

From Braggers Wood Explorers, wishing you good luck with the exam on Saturday. See you at the campfire, love Anne, Richard and your friends at BSI SAS

## FLIPPY OLD!

Welcome to your first Reunion Christchurch's very own Gilwell Virgin. Have a great weekend love Jan, Clare, Robin and Paul!



## 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE SILVER ARROWS!

The Silver Arrows are a group of Leaders who have been coming to Gilwell Reunions and are now numbering around 30; membership is gained by coming 3 Reunions in a row. Set up originally when one of the original members asked the then Chief Scout George Purdy, was he allowed to wear his Cub Silver arrow and his answer was yes...if that was the highest award he gained! Due to the new rule that had just come out, allowing leaders to now wear the highest award they had gained as a youth member. They are situated on the Woodlands field and are happy to chat.

## BIG DAN!

You have left your cup in the reception of the Jack Petchey Lodge, it's waiting for you there.

## SCOUTS OWN - AMENDMENT

Please note that the time for the Scouts Own has been changed to 14:30, sorry for the confusion.



## COMMITTED TO ADVENTURE.

Ken and Bunty are celebrating their Ruby wedding anniversary at Reunion on Sunday. How about that for commitment?



**ON THE UP IN DEPTFORD!**

The 32nd Deptford Scout Group is enjoying its highest ever number on the books, with 118 members including 41 in the Cub Pack alone, which is a massive achievement, and just goes to show what can be done when we work together. The Group operates in a very deprived area, but despite, or maybe because of this, the Group has had success in recruiting new leaders and are going to open a new Cub Pack in October. So how? What was the magic formula? Well, the Group sent posters and letters to the local Schools, they advertised in local volunteer centre, they managed to get an ex leader back into the movement and simply by spreading word of mouth. The leaders say that delivery of a fun programme is key, delivered enthusiastically and passionately. Another 'interesting' method is to get to know your local landlord, through this 'technique' the Group were able to recruit a Group Chair and also have managed to collect a few more donations for the Group. The Group is also opening an Explorer Unit linked to the Group using the same methods, and out of the 6 or 7 new Explorers starting in October, 4 are young Leaders and 2 are Scouts, which will be the start of a good link to ensure that young people will have a strong link to continue their Scouting after 14. Well done all!

**CRACK THE CODE!**

The nationwide Scout communications team are here this weekend and are the guys responsible for the funny bar codes! They are a national active support unit and provide support with radios and phones all over the world! This weekend you can find them in marquee C on Saturday where you can ask them for advice on general communications problems or even about these bar codes.

They are called QR or quick response codes and are all over the place if you look closely; coke bottles, sweet wrappers, you name it. The team have had success in using them on checkpoints on hikes and activities, you can link them to all things technical like twitter and websites. You can create your own QR codes by searching 'qr generator' on Google and can download the reader through any smartphone app store. Check out the updated factsheet for private mobile radios FS120503 or pop along to see the guys tomorrow.

I-SPY @ Gilwell Reunion		
Score points for spotting the following, which you would never see on the High Street.		
ITEM	POINTS	SPIED
Man with knitted cubs around the brim of his hat		
Beaver Scout Ventriloquist Dummy		
Tim Kidd's Trainers		
10 Jamboree tents (this year's ones, and not at the Scout Shop)		
Mobility Scooter with the Scout logo on it		
Two Assistance Dogs		
Quoits Game		



**FROM THE NEWS DESK.**

How has your Reunion been so far? There is just so much to catch up on when meeting up with everyone – new leaders they have brought with them, stories about what happened on their Big Adventure, memories about working hard and playing hard at the various international camps around the UK this summer as well as at the World Jamboree. This evening I can't decide on the Barn Dance...



...or watching The Sound of Music! The area behind the offices really is a building site with the construction of the new Muslim prayer area.

Just to while away the wee hours after the Barn Dance and whilst you are all back at your campsite putting the world to rights as all good Scouters do, here is a quick quiz to test the grey cells, you may need to find a nearby Scouter of a certain age to help you (look out for ones muttering about the Advanced Arrow Scheme).....

Name the Clangers scary friend? Name Scooby's little pal? He was a humble janitor by day but when called he became? Benny, Brains and Chooch were led by? Mr McHenry knows a snail, a cow and a guitar playing rabbit, called? Its Friday, its five to five and its? Name Petra's owner Hector lived with? I'm a very friendly lion called? Who did Mary live with?

Enjoy your evening

"Ed"

**MORE NUMBER CRUNCHING!**

- Sodexo have served 314 dinners today
- Spence is expecting to sell 3784 pints
- There are 851 tents pitched at Gilwell
- The tractors have made 224 bag runs
- There are 1227 cars parked on site

**CATVOG**

Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Have had an excellent growth of 132 new people to Scouting in the last year! They attribute this to the hard work and support of their development officers and their Area and District teams. Through being able to visit schools and respond quickly to new volunteers they have been able to support new volunteers. Lynn Thompson the Area Training Manager has an excellent training and support structure including residential training weekends with ideas, games and practical skills. Lynn can't be with us this weekend as she is poorly, get well soon Lynn! Also here with them this weekend is Jane Deere, a reunion virgin! "Well she attended once aged 17, but we didn't like to ask how long ago that was" Ed.

