

# Shorts

January 10

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## SCOUT SHOP

We wish all our friends a very Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you at the shop on a Saturday morning 10 - 12.30 (we are quite happy if you come in earlier but not later please!!!).

Due to VAT reverting to former level the price of badges has increased - new price lists are available.

At the same time Scout Shops have held prices on uniforms but most of the other VAT-able items have increased slightly.

Please remember that 31st January is end of the financial year so would be grateful if you could make sure any items which have been ordered are collected by then - many thanks.

Audrey

## Submitting Articles – We Need Your Input

To help make Shorts a useful tool for information sharing within Thurrock Scouts we need a regular supply of interesting and informative articles that inspire and promote fresh new ideas amongst us all. If you've put some effort into organising an event why not tell others the good (and bad!) points about it so that they can learn from your experience rather than re-invent the wheel themselves?

The best way to submit articles is via email to [mleach@bigfoot.com](mailto:mleach@bigfoot.com). This has two advantages: a) it avoids me having to retype anything which reduces my chances of repetitive strain injury and also guarantees that what you have written is what is published and b) emails reach me immediately and have a greater chance of being published before the deadline as compared to other, slower methods that may take some time to strain through the post/grapevine system.

## Abseiling/Climbing Permits

Have you held an Abseiling or Climbing Authorisation in the past that has now run out? or do you want to hold an Abseiling or Climbing Permit? If so please contact Chris Travis before 31 January 2010 as he is coordinating applications for these Permits for forwarding to the County team for assessment. Please let Chris have your previous authorisation (if applicable), application form and log book in electronic format before 31 January 2010 and he will arrange for an assessment and recommendations as to what is required to obtain a Permit. This could be either an assessment or attendance on a course followed by an assessment. Chris can be contacted on: [chris.travis@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:chris.travis@blueyonder.co.uk) before 31 January.

## District Calendar

### January

8th -10th	Winter Camp	Scouts and Explorers		
8th -10th	Pedal Car Olympics	Scouts and Explorers		
12th	Getting Started Modules	All sections	ALSC	7.00-10.00 p.m.
14th	District Executive	Executive Members	ALSC	8.00 p.m.
21st	Census Day	All sections	ALSC	8.00 p.m.
21st	Beaver Leaders Meeting	Beaver Leaders	ALSC	8.00 p.m.
24th	Ready Steady Cook	Scouts	Ockendon HQ	8.00 p.m.
25th	Jack Petchey Presentation		Council Chambers	6.30 p.m.
25th	Explorer Leaders Meeting	Explorer Leaders	Emma Dell's House	8.00 p.m.
28th	Scout Leaders Meeting	Scout Leaders	ALSC	8.00 p.m.
30th	Cub Games Day	Cubs	ALSC	

### February

10th	Getting Started Modules	All sections	ALSC	7.00-10.00 p.m.
11th	Information and Exchange Meeting	All sections	ALSC	8.00 p.m.
12th - 14th	Winter Camp	Scouts	Belchamps	8.00 p.m.
16th	Appointments Advisory Committee	AAC panel members	ALSC	8.00 p.m.
27th	Beaver and Cub joint activity	Beavers and Cubs	TBC	

### March

7th	Trax	All sections	East London Track	
9th	Getting Started Modules	All sections	ALSC	7.00-10.00 p.m.
11th	District Executive	Executive members	ALSC	8.00 p.m.
14th	Ready Steady Cook	Explorers	ALSC	8.00 p.m.
18th	Scout Leaders Meeting	Scout Leaders	ALSC	8.00 p.m.
20th	Cub Handicraft	Cubs	ALSC	
20th	Avock Challenge	Scouts and Guides		
25th	Cub Leaders Meeting	Cub Leaders	ALSC	8.00 p.m.
27th	District Beaver Quiz	Beavers	ALSC	



**AVOCK CHALLENGE 2010**  
Thurrock Scouts & Guides

Entries are invited for the AVOCK CHALLENGE 2010 to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> March at Condovers Scout Campsite, West Tilbury, Essex.

The Challenge is open to Thurrock Scouts and Guides.

Team entries are required – Teams to be made up of 4 participants. Leaders - If you have less or more than 4 young people interested don't let that stop them taking part. Please contact other Troops/Company/Units to amalgamate interested young people.

The Challenge will predominantly be an outdoor based activity and excluding really severe weather conditions is planned to go ahead rain or shine. So be prepared!

Registration on the day will be at Condovers Scout Campsite at 09:30hrs with collection at 16:00hrs. Leaders and parents are to make their own arrangements for delivering and collecting their participants to the site.

Participants are to bring their own lunch – soft drinks & tea/coffee will be provided.

Application Forms will be available at the Alf Lowne Scout Centre from 14<sup>th</sup> January or from Stewart Abbott (01375 391429) email [stewart\\_abbott@msn.com](mailto:stewart_abbott@msn.com).

To register your team, please submit your completed application form ASAP complete with a £20 entry fee per team to Stewart Abbott, 31, St Georges Avenue, Gray, RM17 5XB. Cheques payable to: AVOCK Scout Fellowship.

**The event is open to a maximum of 20 teams. Bookings will close when 20 teams have registered.** As this is normally a popular event each Scout Troop/Guide Company will be limited to **2 teams each until 20<sup>th</sup> February** in order to get a wider participation as possible. You can register additional team interest and if there are still vacancies on 20<sup>th</sup> February then they will be filled from the reserved list. Don't waste time, get your teams organised and applications submitted.

Adults: AVOCK Fellowship is open to all adults in Scouting. We welcome new membership and If you would like to join us for the day as a taster of Scout Fellowship please contact Steve Taylor 01702 555325.

**Wanted** - Photographs of your latest events and activity, please send your digital photos to me for publication on the Thurrock Scouts web site. Also I need more articles for the local press, please send a photo and a short story so we can promote Scouting in Thurrock and show everyone in Thurrock what interesting and worthwhile activities all sections of our organisation take part in every week.  
[chris.travis@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:chris.travis@blueyonder.co.uk)