

**5 to 25**  
**August 2005**

I was there ...

I was on the beach in the Philippines when the Tsunami happened, but luckily we were just that bit further away so we were not really affected. When I saw the news coverage on television that day I could not believe it, all the damage it caused and all those people who had lost so much. When I heard about the Sponsored Walk I was not sure if I wanted to do it, then my Mum and Dad said remember all the children that had lost everything in the Tsunami. Then I asked my Dad how far 12km is, he said it's a piece of cake. Mind you he had just completed his third London Marathon. My Dad said that if I do it so would he, my Mum and brother James, so we did it as a family. We started to get sponsorships from friends and family so it was now too late to back out. On the day, we all gathered by the Fanny on the Hill in Welling, for an 11,30am start, we followed the Green Chain walk through the countryside past Woodlands Farm into Oxleas Wood then over the A2 to Eltham and then back again. It was a lovely sunny day, more important is that I finished and I have a medal (and a few blisters) to show for it!

PS. Most of all I did it for a good cause and I hope I have helped others in someway.

My name is Chloe Kent, aged 7  
3rd Welling Beaver Scout

Bobs bit ...

Hello everybody I hope you have all had a great summer break and are raring to go with your groups, some old, some new. To the new ones – welcome to the BCVYO, to the old ones – it's good to see you are still there! I am very pleased to say I have had several articles for the newsletter, but don't let that put you off sending more in, we can always increase the size! The terrible events of recent times has been a shock to us all and the stories of those who were there, either as victims or helpers has been astounding. Let's hope things will calm down. I do not think people realise just how many volunteer members of the BCVYO have been involved let alone the young people like Chloe who's on the front cover. On a much lighter note quite a few people were around when our Queen came to visit the Borough, I'm sure there are many stories there waiting to be told, please send them in. Likewise there must be many a tale to tell of summer camps or other events that have a funny story we can print. Also don't forget the next issue will be at Christmas so send in your 'best wishes' requests and dates of your fetes and bazaars. For those of you who still haven't had the time to apply for your grant there is some money left, but apply soon to avoid disappointment, thanks. I have also been talking to many of you about the 'Year of the Volunteer', and the attempt to map all groups who are short of adult volunteers. This is a big problem as without adult leadership there are many thousands of young people in Bexley who cannot join a group. There is a Volunteers Fair at the Civic Offices on 28<sup>th</sup> September, where we hope to recruit new people. If you are interested please contact Lynn Regan on 020 8304 0911. Lynn is setting up something similar to an employment agency but for volunteers, she could help get you leaders or committee members!

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## SCOUTS TSUNAMI WALK RAISES £2000

£2000 was raised by Welling Scouts towards the national tsunami appeal through a sponsored walk along the Green Chain Walk. 80 walkers set off from East Wickham Open Space in Wickham Street, Welling and enjoyed a 12 kilometre ramble along the Green Chain Walk to Avery Hill Park and back again. The route took in Woodlands Farm, Oxleas Woods, Shepherdess Woods and Eltham Park. With the devastation caused by the tsunami earthquake in December it was recognised that Scouting should extend its hand of friendship to Scouts in the disaster area and the Scout Association in the UK set up a national appeal to allow Scouts to help Scouts. The focus of the appeal is to provide funds for the regeneration work of Scouting in the Asia Pacific Region, through a co-ordinated plan of recovery and reconstruction. It will be used to re-start and re-equip Scout Groups, and to support Scout projects to help rebuild communities. The interest generated in the walk organised by the East Wickham and Welling Scout District, brought together a wide spectrum of age ranges with many families, including grandparents and youngsters of 5 and 6, walking the route together, as well as groups of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with their Leaders. Checkpoints along the route provided encouragement and support with refreshment, rest areas and, if necessary, first aid all available to ensure everyone had a chance to complete their challenge. At the end of the walk all walkers received a specially inscribed medal to commemorate their efforts both in completing the course and for raising funds for the benefit of others.

By Richard Willgoss  
East Wickham and Welling Scout District

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## 60 years in North Cray

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June turned out to be a memorable evening for the 1<sup>st</sup> North Cray guides and their supporters, as they marked their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in North Cray with an evening of entertainment and fun. First of all we were treated to refreshments as we assembled for the eagerly awaited talent show. All the guides' performances were very warmly received as they showed off their skills in music, dance and drama. The evening finished with songs around the camp fire for which they were joined by the 1<sup>st</sup> North Cray Brownies also celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> this year, and anyone else who knew the songs. We also said goodbye to Diane Chaplin who retires in September as leader of 1<sup>st</sup> North Cray Guides after 27 years. A very warm and heartfelt speech by her successor Diane Smethurst showed us all how much she will be missed and how much she has done over the years for the Guide movement. We all wish Diane a very happy retirement.

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Barnehurst District Show  
'Over The Rainbow'

The lights were dimmed, the announcements made, the music started, the curtains opened and 75 Guides, Brownies and Rainbows from Barnehurst took to the stage and entertained 360 people over 3 performances of 'Over the Rainbow' - our adaptation of 'The Wizard of Oz'. The Guides took the lead roles and the Brownies were the Munchkins, Monkeys, Winkies and the people of Emerald City. The Rainbows were dressed as the poppies and the snowflakes - ahh! Rehearsals had been hard going spread over 8 weeks. So much organising - auditions, scripts, scenery, props, costumes, programmes, tickets, music and within 90 minutes, it was all over! St Martins Players once again provided the lighting and sound and we are grateful for all their help and support. An exhausting weekend with tea being provided for all the cast and Guiders between the matinee and evening performance on the Saturday. But with the smiles on all the girls' faces and the comments from parents and visitors alike, it was all worth it!

Sheila Francis

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In April it was St George's Day.  
I had to carry a heavy flag, It felt like a pole, a heavy one! It was a brilliant day for me and a tiring one too. It was a bright sunny morning. We was excited and we had a long walk to get to St John's Church, the Mayor of Bexley trod up and he winked at me. I got confused where to sit.  
Oliver Green, 3rd Welling Beaver

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Erith & Belvedere Football Club, by Wayne Baldacchino.

Since I joined the club in 2002 we have grown from just the First Team competing in the Dr Martens League to over ten teams starting in the 2005/6 season. We now cover Under 7s, 8s, 9s, 10s, 11s, 12s, 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, 18s, reserves and First Team football, which is absolutely fantastic for both the club and the community. We offer trials to any local youngsters wanting to join the club as well as give out free tickets to local Primary and Secondary school children. We encourage good habits to all youngsters on and off the field of play and have recently started to run coaching sessions during the school holidays for the 6 to 16 age groups. We have a strong 'team' of managers and qualified coaches and meet regularly at our base at Park View Rd Welling. The venue of our First Team has an excellent clubhouse which is available to the community for hiring (parties, receptions, themed events etc). For more information about the club call Wayne on 07719 712151.

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Get Airborne! – Welling Air Cadets need your help.

The group runs and organises numerous varied and exciting activities for young adults aged 13 to 22. We have specific need of people with specialist skills, someone who could spare a few hours per week to help us train and enthuse the youth of Welling.

1. Radios – Would suit a radio ham who has a desire to use their knowledge to help cadets train for their communicators award. We have some equipment but need help and direction in this subject.
2. Radio Controlled Aircraft – Would suit an R/C enthusiast. We have six R/C aircraft in assorted condition and various 'bits'. We lack the know how to build, repair and fly them. They have all flown but not in the last year.
3. Shooting – Full training is possible, but we need an enthusiastic RCO or shooter to develop coaching, weapons handling, small and full bore targetry, indoor and gallery shooting. Ultimately to Bisley standard. We have a regular slot at a range in Bexleyheath, but due to a lack of training have not shot in a long time.

If any reader knows someone who could help, please phone (24 hour answer phone) and speak to Kris Cottier on 020 8303 7379

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#### Snooker lessons for K2 Explorer Scouts

Sidcup snooker hall, in Sidcup, allowed K2 Explorer Scout Unit (from Sidcup) to try out this strange sport of hitting balls into holes. No not golf, snooker, and June Banks was on hand to help. June reached number three in the World rankings for women a few years ago and is now the resident professional at the Sidcup Club. The quiet surroundings of a peaceful emporium were shattered every now and then when one of the Explorers actually got a ball down! However it was a relatively quiet night as the TV coverage had not started. When snooker is on TV you can't get a table, like trying to find an empty tennis court during Wimbledon week!



Emma gets a helping hand from June.

K2's programme is so full that they meet every week and often at weekends when they work towards their various awards. Each week, on a Thursday, the unit splits into three groups as there are so many of them, and do different activities. They are

constantly off in the hills around the country, camping, hiking and generally learning new skills. They are all very proud of their new unit and scarf and were a sight to behold all marching together at St Georges Day Parade.

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#### Power boating with the Scouts.

The conditions were almost perfect; the sea was as flat as it could be with hardly a ripple – until we went past. Four Rigid Inflatable Boats or RIBs with twenty or so scouts and leaders from Greater London South East joined the Kent Scouts for a day's power boating at Whitstable. The horizon blended into the sea as a heat haze slowly cleared to see the forts in the distance, about seven miles out. As we got closer at speeds around 23 knots these incredible structures, like something out of The Empire Strikes Back, grew larger and larger. The Maunsell Sea Forts were built to protect the estuary of the Thames from invasion during the Second World War. The Army forts each had seven towers linked together by walkways. Six of the towers were armed, the seventh held the searchlights and they were manned by a complement of 120. They were built in 1942 at Shivering Sands, Red Sands and Great Nore. Each 300 tonne tower was preconstructed before being towed out to sea, sunk into position and then connected to the next tower. Today they are rusting hulks, relics of the past, but an amazing sight. I am to understand that Frank Ready, District Treasurer from Sidcup actually worked on one of them during the 'Cold War' of the fifty's. The sea was even flatter as we sped on around the Cardinal Buoys marking the channel where boats of all sizes plough up and down the Thames, and then onto the new Wind Farm being built a few miles out to sea off Herne Bay. The Kentish Flats Offshore wind farm is under construction and at the moment all you can see are the massive platforms sitting on the seabed only 5 meters below. The generated electricity will be fed into the electricity network via a sub-station at Herne Bay for use in the local grid serving the needs of the communities of North Kent. The Kentish Flats wind farm will operate for 20 years, after which the wind farm may be decommissioned and entirely removed from the offshore environment. Turning inshore we stopped briefly at the end of Herne Bay Pier which was destroyed in storms in 1978 and 1979. There is some talk about trying to rebuild it, but after 25 years it is incredibly rusty. Eventually we had to head for home and after some high speed manoeuvring, which soaked most of the crew, we returned to the Scout HQ on Whitstable Beach. Kent Scouts have an amazing array of boating activities and all are welcome, see their website at [www.kentscouts.org.uk](http://www.kentscouts.org.uk) for more information.



One of the Kent Scouts RIBs



The Maunsell Forts



Hold on tight!



Pure speed



Boys will be bouys!

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## Rubbish!

Do you know where your recycled rubbish has gone? Take the new climbing wall at Thamesmead, recently renamed The Cave. Did you know the wall is actually made from old aluminium cans that have been recycled. In Britain we earn nearly £10 million a year by recycling 40% of the five billion aluminium drink cans sold in the UK. Other amazing items reincarnated are things like the fleece you are wearing, it could be made from plastic soft drink bottles. About 25 bottles are chopped up, melted and made into fibres, which are then spun into yarn, or is that a tall story? In some nature reserves there are 'wooden' walkways made from recycled plastic packaging. 'Timber', being made from plastic, is used for adventure playgrounds, sports equipment, garden fencing and furniture, and those big black lumps holding up the crowd barriers at the marathon are made from old cables and household wiring. Old plastic is also used by Fords, Toyota and Vauxhall to make bumpers and battery cases and some window frames are made from recycled plastic too. Up to 85% of a dumped car can be used and your cereal carton could have been an old 5 to 25! According to statistics in 2003 each person in Britain threw away over 100 kilograms of rubbish, although some figures put it much higher, however more and more of it is being re-used. The good news is there is a new law coming into force to combat electrical waste, which is an ever increasing problem, from August in fact. Called the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment directive, it will shift the responsibility for disposal of all electrical devices back onto the producer. Many voluntary groups collect waste items for fundraising purposes, from ink cartridges to mobile phones, and everyone is being encouraged to recycle, why don't you try it? There are many websites addressing this subject, try [www.recycleforlondon.com](http://www.recycleforlondon.com) as a start.

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## Giant Sleepover.

The 2nd Erith Cub packs Nathoo and Mowgli attempt to smash last year's record of over 9,000. The 2nd are based at St. Paul's in Mill Road Northumberland Heath. We decided to do our Giant Sleepover at our HQ at Cheviots close, as this has very large grounds for us to do some wide games and a nice secure hut. We had loads going on with inside and outside games. The boys were given some free time to which they took great advantage of by making camps and covering themselves with camouflage. We then had marshmallow dipping in chocolate. By now it was time for our midnight McDonalds. McDonalds Erith were kind enough to sponsor our event which pleased all the boys. After watching the Giant sleepover video we then had our Giant pillow fight. We then all got in our sleeping bags and watched a star gazing image on the ceiling. All in all we all had a good time as you can see by the photos attached. At present we understand the record to be 33,000  
Lyn Beeson, Akela, 2nd Erith Cubs Nathoo





2<sup>nd</sup> Erith Cubs



Two likely lads



This months word search winner was Teigan Nancarrow from the 1<sup>st</sup> North Cray Brownies, one of many entries sent in, keep them coming. A cheque for £20 has been sent to her leader.

## WORDSEARCH COMPETITION

A prize of £20 will be awarded to your nominated Voluntary Youth Organisation for the first correct entry drawn out of the hat. All you have to do is find and mark each of the words shown below then return this page with your name, address and the name of the voluntary youth organisation of your choice. There's no limit to the number of entries from an organisation, so why not let all of your members have a go? The deadline for returning completed entries is 7<sup>th</sup> December 2005. The winner will be announced in the next issue of "5 to 25".

W	T	H	E	P	E	L	V	I	S	B	O	B	C	J
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A	Q	S	S	N	D	N	A	L	E	C	A	R	G	X

Long live the King, Elvis that is, here are some words to do with him that are all shook up!

ALL SHOOK UP, DON'T BE CRUEL, ELVIS, GRACELAND, HEARTBREAK HOTEL, IN THE GHETTO, JAILHOUSE ROCK, LISA MARIE, LOVE ME TENDER, MEMPHIS, PRESLEY, PRISCILLA, SUSPICIOUS MINDS, THE KING, THE PELVIS AND VIVA LAS VEGAS.

Name .....

Address .....

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Youth Organisation .....