

TACEHAM WINGS 2009 NEWS

TACEHAM HUNDRED DISTRICT WINGS UNIT NEWS DECEMBER 2008

TACEHAM RACES – A HUGE SUCCESS!



Thank you to everyone who supported the race night, whether through a sponsorship of a race, purchase of a horse or playing the tote. The event was a huge success resulting in over £700 being raised for the Taceham WINGS Unit, money that will mean we can purchase badges and begin adding value to our participation.

On the night, more than 90 people packed into 2nd Thatcham's HQ, watched and took part in the races.

The horses and tote organiser's package are available for rent with further funds supporting the Unit. For details, talk to Peter Swynford or Nick Forbes.

DIARY DATE: 13-14 JUNE 2009

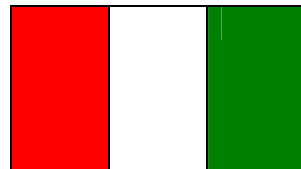
This is the date for our training weekend camp. Please put this date in your diaries as we'd like everyone in the Unit to attend. Full details will be published in the Spring.

Taceham Hundred District Scouts – WINGS 2009 Unit

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ITALIAN THEMED MEAL & QUIZ NIGHT 24 January 2009

Taceham WINGS is holding a quiz night on Saturday, 24 January 2009, at which food will be served of an Italian Theme. No doubt there'll be some questions about the Italian Job, The Romans and their love of Pasta!



The Explorers are preparing the food and the decorations, so it should be a good night out. This event is aimed at adults and is not suitable to children under 10 years.

A letter is enclosed with this newsletter for you to book a table for your team at "IL RISTORTANTE TACEHAM"

NEXT INSTALMENT DUE

A REMINDER THAT THE NEXT PAYMENT IS NOW DUE. PLEASE CAN YOU PAY YOUR £50 INSTALMENT BEFORE THE END OF DECEMBER. CHEQUES, PAYABLE TO TACEHAM HUNDRED DISTRICT SCOUTS, SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO ONE OF THE LEADERS LISTED OVERLEAF, WITH YOUR NAME AND WINGS ID NUMBER WRITTEN ON THE BACK. IF YOU'VE LOST OR DON'T KNOW YOUR WINGS ID NUMBER, YOU CAN RECALL THIS ONLINE; PLEASE VISIT THE MEMBERS' PAGES ON THE TACEHAM WINGS WEBSITE

Sainsbury's
Try something new today

SAINSBURY'S BAG PACKING 21 December 2008

We hope everyone can offer their help for our bag-packing day at Sainsbury's Newbury on Sunday, 21 December.

Let's look at the mathematics. The store has 34 checkouts. Can we fill all 30 of them? We're there for 6 hours. What if each we received a £1 donation at each checkout every 10 minutes? Theoretically we could raise over £1000. And because it's Christmas and we're going to look smart and we're going to tell them about our wish to get to the Windsor International we're bound to receive a little extra!

Please sign up as soon as possible. You can do this via our website, or complete the letter with this newsletter and return it via your section leader.

Let's look forward to a successful fundraising day out and help the community too.

Tales from a Jamboree Peter Swynford writes...

I've been Scouting since I was a Cub. In those days, as a member of the 84th Reading, we earned bronze, silver and gold arrows and we camped every summer for a weekend. I've always loved camping. There's something about being outdoors that makes Scouting special and every camp has something to remember. I recall my first Troop camp as an eleven year old Scout; my patrol leader didn't know the difference between a lettuce and a cabbage and proceeded to boil the lettuce.

My first international camp was 18 years ago; I went with other Scouts from Berkshire to the Netherlands to participate in the Haarlem Jamboree. We met so many different people from different countries. What was so amazing was what we had in common with each other. I still occasionally bump into some of the Dutch and English guys I met back then, though we're all a *bit* older now.

Two years later (1993) it was Berkshire's turn to host its own international event; the first WINGS was born. It was an instant success as was the following WINGS in 1998.

In 2003 we took a contingent of around 30 Scouts from the District to WINGS. Again, a very special week for everyone who attended. We had a Unit from Belgium visit us in Thatcham for one week afterwards for home hospitality and I remember one of the host families opening up their house and garden for a barbecue to which it seemed the entire Belgian and Taceham contingents descended and made use of the swimming pool in the back garden. It had been a very warm summer!

More recently I was very fortunate to have been able to lead a Unit of Explorer Scouts from Berkshire to the World Scout Jamboree in 2007.

For this event, we had a lead-up programme with many fundraising projects and training weekends. I have happy memories of entertaining Dutch, American, Irish and Canadian Scouts in our subcamp, singing songs with a Pakistani Unit, and having a cup of tea in the private quarters of some of the leaders from the United Arab Emirates.

For everyone going to WINGS next summer, I hope you can get as much

enjoyment out of this international jamboree as I have from any of the previous international events that I have been to. I can guarantee that once you've been to one, you'll want to go to more. For many of you, I hope you take the opportunity to apply for either the 2011 World Scout Jamboree in Sweden or the 2015 WSJ in Japan.

On behalf of all the leader team, may we wish you and your families well for Christmas and look forward to the New Year and WINGS 2009.



Clarkey's Comments...

Your unit leader Richard Clarke writes...

I have been involved with Scouting since 1990, from joining Beavers at the age of six and progressing through Beavers and Cubs at 1st Thatcham before joining Dartmoor Scout Troop. I absolutely loved my time at Scouts where I was APL, PL and eventually SPL; however my fondest memories come from the many camps I attended.

At the age of 18, I took out a warrant to become a leader within Taceham Hundred. I did this because, looking back on my time as a Beaver, Cub, Scout and Venture Scout; one thing which made it all the more enjoyable was the interaction with the leaders. I decided that if I could be half as good a leader as those which I had when I was younger, then I'd be happy! Becoming a Scout Leader has been one of the most rewarding challenges I have ever taken on, and can honestly recommend it to anyone.

I was appointed ASL at 1st Thatcham and remained there until 2005 when I took a short break, returning to the District as ASL at 1st Cold Ash in 2006 and becoming SL in April this year. Many within the District recognise me owing to my terrible singing voice and cheesy jokes told at each campfire I lead. I was lucky enough to attend WINGS 2003 and can honestly say that this was the first time I actually realised the true scale of Scouting, mixing with more than four thousand other Scouts from every corner of the earth was a fantastically memorable experience. I can 100% guarantee that you will

thoroughly enjoy WINGS 2009 and will truly catch the Jamboree 'bug'!

I look forward to seeing you all at the various training and fundraising events planned in the run-up to the camp (as well as giving you all terrible nicknames!)

Yours in Scouting, Richard

Get Online and join the Talk

Our online forum is a great place to share ideas and to talk about WINGS. The site is moderated by the Unit leaders and requires users to register. Currently registration is only permitted to persons aged 12 or over. If you're under 12, please get a parent to register on your behalf.



There are a few NEVER rules...

- Never give out your real name – use a nickname
- Never give out your address or telephone number or other personal details
- Never give out your email address
- Never put photographs of yourself on the site

The forum can be found at
www.tacehamwings.org.uk/forum .



Make Taceham WING Special

We'd like everyone to contribute an idea to making next summer special. Something to do? Something to make? Something to bring? Something to sing? Something to build?

Contribute your ideas today...
www.tacehamwings.org.uk/members