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[Scouts] DCs Merger Update - 18th September 2011

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DCs Merger Update – 18th September 2011

With only two weeks to go until we merge our four Districts into one, we are now into the final stretch.

As we've suggested in the past things won't change a whole lot to start with – we ask everyone to continue doing what they're doing as we work through everything that needs to be done to create our new District. We plan a phased change over the remainder of this year – and probably the beginning of next – time is not unlimited - we are all still volunteers of course!

For a variety of reasons, not least that all venues of a suitable size, location and accessibility are busy we have had to delay the launch event for the new District until Wednesday 9th November. This event will be held at Oakley House on Bromley Common – more details will be published shortly. We will still be merging the Districts on 1st October but the change really starts at the launch. The launch event is going to be one not to miss – we will not only be presenting our new District, District Badge and District Scarf but also will have presentations from the Jamboree Troop, Training Team, D of E, Special Needs and many others.

Since my last update we've been working hard on many fronts.

We met up with a good number of the existing District Teams for a social event and camp fire at Wilberforce at the beginning of September. Although organised at very short notice, we had a good turnout from supporters, leaders and friends of the new District. This was a fine opportunity for the DDCs to start to meet those who already fulfil many of the roles that we need for our new District and to chat informally about our plans.

As a result of this we have identified a good number of people who will be approached over the next couple of weeks to fill roles in our new organisation. All we need now is an Appointments Committee to interview and validate our appointments!

Sorry to those who couldn't make the BBQ but we will arrange another opportunity or two to meet with you as soon as we can – we don't want anyone to miss out on their opportunity to join the new District and help out. We have also met a number of you at the Orpington AGM and expect to meet more still at the Beckenham AGM on 28th September. Please don't wait to be asked – I am happy to take phone calls, e-mails or even visits (although I am rarely in

during the evenings at the moment) to discuss progress, appointments or whatever you wish - to do with the merger.

We have also started to try and attend sectional meetings in the heritage Districts to take questions from Group and sectional leaders, so please try and catch one of us if you have any questions or concerns.

The shadow Executive Committee – formed of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Appointments Chairman from each of the four heritage Districts met again with Colin Goodwin (District Chairman) and I to review the progress of two of the workgroups. This team will continue to ensure that we get the best out of our four heritage Districts and that nothing gets missed in the merger.

The Appointments Chairmen had met to discuss how the appointments process and administration for the new District might be formed and the Treasurers from the four heritage Districts had met to review the transition of finances. Both teams had made good progress – which will be built upon as we move forward.

Appointments on both the Executive side and the Uniformed Support side will be made shortly. We have started to identify ADCs and District Leaders as well as Executive members and supporters and will start approaching people shortly.

Good luck as you all start your new Scout terms – may the game of Scouting be great for the members and fulfilling for the adults and supporters. As Henk said at the Orpington AGM – the Young people's pleasure is our reward.

Giles, Colin, Steve, Gary and James

Giles Barnett

District Commissioner – BromleyScouts

Scouting in Bromley Borough

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