

Gloucestershire Echo, 'Where I Live'

SHURDINGTON Saturday 1st May 2010

- This year seems to be flying off at quite a pace; May already and the London Marathon over. Talking about the marathon, our Scout Group section members last Monday were thrilled to have as a guest Elliott Prince who is a member of Cheltenham Harriers, but also had a very successful run in the Marathon, placing 251st out of over 35,000 runners. It took Elliott 2 hours and 43 minutes. That is an amazing success. Well done Elliott and thanks for sharing your knowledge with us last Monday. Beavers especially loved the games.
- A reminder, if anyone needs reminding, that Thursday 6th May is Polling Day. You can cast your vote at the Century Hall from early morning to late at night.
- I heard from Richard Jones that Shurdington Cricket Club commences their season today. This year the club will operate with two teams on a Saturday; the first team now being in the County League 1 after promotion last year, two teams on a Sunday, and two midweek teams. This volume of matches is in excess of any season in the club's 124 year history. In addition there are teams of under 13 and under 15 for the junior members. If anyone would like to join the club, whatever your ability, you would be most welcome. In particular players for the under 15's are required. Contact Lee Baldwin on 07838 264936.
- As a project for last Monday some Beaver Scouts and parents took on the task of refreshing the three flower beds outside the Millennium Hall. Up came the old plants and soil and in went new soil and some lovely colourful plants. With thanks to Jon who brought the plants and Becks and Helen and others for teaching the young Beavers a thing or two about gardening. Sincere thanks to our local Nurseries, Shurdington, Dawn and Greenway, for donation of such lovely flowers. Four new Beavers were invested round the campfire.
- Cubs practiced games for Fete & Funday, Explorers mixed and cooked some lovely cup cakes, and Scouts listened to Ollie's talk with a presentation on the life of Bear Grylls, followed by backwoods cooking. Some lovely steak and bacon was soon devoured.
- Last Sunday 25th April saw the annual St George's Day Parade in Pittville Park for our Cheltenham District Scouts. At a guess there were well over 350 members of all ages on a fairly beautiful day. The parade set off at 2.30pm from Central Cross Drive to the sound of a Kudu Horn, similar to the one that was sounded on Brownsea Island over 100 years ago by Lord Baden-Powell. Parade walked to the Pump Room where everyone was seated on the grass and flags from each section and each Scout Group presented to the waiting marshals for the Renewal of Promise. After a couple of songs we listened to Liz Odell who explained what Shelterboxes are all about; money collected on Sunday was for Shelterbox and some young members filled a box to show us and the public what goes into making a package so much sought after in disaster areas, such as a tent, blankets and clothing, cooker and fuel, cooking pots and much more. The parade ended with drinks and buns and the younger members had a change of tackling a monkey rope bridge, a fishing game, cooking dampers and more. Lovely to see so many Scouts of all ages get together.
- Today some of our Scouts will be at Cowley Guide Headquarters helping at an event for Gloucestershire Guides. Maybe even building another monkey bridge.