

**JANUARY 2012**

# FRYLANDS NEWS

Frylands Wood Scout Outdoor Centre  
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Frylands Wood is managed by  
Lewisham District Scout Council

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Welcome to the 8th edition of Frylands News. We hope you had a lovely Christmas & that 2012 brings you & your families happiness.

We're enjoying a nice quiet winter after another extremely busy year. There were a few hardy campers in temperatures of 2 degrees in December but mostly, visitors have been staying nice & warm in the Pembrokes.

Inside this issue: Josie & Peter, who faithfully managed the Providore for over 20 years, have hung their hats up & are taking a well-earned retirement. Enjoy reading the thank you below, written by Barry, for the Lewisham District Awards Evening in December. We do have some happy news though, Kelly Freeman, Scout Leader of the 8<sup>th</sup> Lewisham South & Crew Leader of Kelly's Heroes, has taken on the role of shop manager. She is looking for anyone who would like to help in the shop at weekends (& also during the week when we have schools in) so if you are interested please email us & we will pass the message on.

Pembroke 2 (one of our indoor accommodation buildings) has had a makeover with new floors & doors & some re-plumbing with thanks to Ron Allen & his team from Master Carpentry. We also have some new under-bench heaters in the children's toilets so this should stop them from freezing up over winter.

Looking forward to 2012 we have three great events to look forward to. Our big weekend over 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> May is called Give it a Go where 8-18 year olds can try all of our activities along with loads more. On the Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June, we're going to follow our Dig & Eat session by a Beacon lighting to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. This is closely followed on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June by our Wild West Funday for 6-10 year olds. See below for more details.

We are pleased to announce that, due to the ever-increasing use of the site, we are looking for a Deputy Warden for six months (mid-April to Mid-October). They will assist Barry and I with the day-to-day management, maintenance, development and operation of Frylands Wood. If you think you may be interested please email us and we will send you more information.

Thank you to all the Crews that worked so hard throughout 2011. We would like to welcome two new Explorer Crews who are due to start in January. If you are interested in helping out at Frylands please email us.

We hope you enjoy our Newsletter & we hope to see you at Frylands again very soon.

Penny Hann  
Warden

# GIVE IT A GO

4-7 May 2012

Frylands Wood Scout Outdoor Centre  
Featherbed Lane, Croydon  
CR0 9AA

[www.frylandswood.co.uk](http://www.frylandswood.co.uk)

[warden@frylandswood.co.uk](mailto:warden@frylandswood.co.uk)

TEL: 020 8657 1154

£26 per child & £5 per  
leader for weekend  
£10 per child & 2.50 per  
leader for Sat only  
Includes Meal on Saturday



**W I L D  
W E S T  
F U N D A Y**

**10 JUNE 2012**

**6 TO 10 YEAR OLDS  
10AM TILL 4PM**

**£8 PER HEAD**

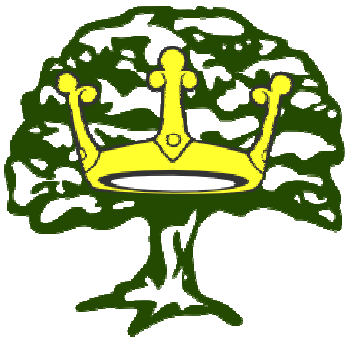
**LEADERS FREE**

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# **Josie and Peter James**

**By Barry Goswell**

Some of you will have heard that Josie & Peter James have now retired from the Providore.

When we took over at Frylands we looked round at what are we needed to focus on first and what to worry about but the Providore was one area that we most certainly didn't have too. Indeed Josie & Peter gave us a lot of support in our early days, which Penny & I thank them for, and if I needed to know anything about the history of Frylands I knew that, between them, they would know.

No-one was sure exactly how many years they have been helping in the Provi so in the end we discreetly asked Josie and it was a staggering 23 YEARS!

I was always amazed how Josie & Peter would give up virtually every weekend over the busy seasons to be in the Provi. You could set your clock by them turning up a 10 o'clock every Saturday AND Sunday morning and finishing at 4 o'clock.

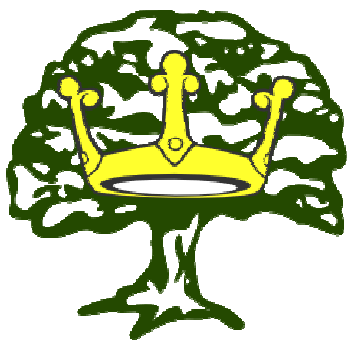
They tell me that the old Fellowship used to have a rota for covering the Provi and they happened to be doing the last shift when the Fellowship closed so they sort of got stuck there by default but we are very lucky they did. Sometimes we'd have a busy weekend but they'd get hardly anyone in the Provi, and I know Josie got through a few novels, yet at other times it could be a quiet weekend there would be a

busy flow through the Providore. At times, and for big events, it would sometimes take 4 people serving to keep up! And there were even weekends we told them not to come down as the Crew could cover but they would still turn up.

There was also a lot of behind-the-scenes work. In April, there would be the ordering and unpacking of the hundreds of gifts that are sold throughout the year. Virtually, every Thursday Peter & Josie would turn up to do a stock check & Macro-run, although this was normally followed by lunch at the White Bear so a good excuse to go!

The Provi has been in 4 locations in the past. It started in a small cramped 4-berth caravan beside the bungalow, where the storage units are now. Wendy (their daughter) told me money was extremely tight and they would often spend hours making gift items that could be sold on.

The caravan was then moved to the turning island outside beside the Fort. John Sweeney (Crew Leader) tells me that it was hard work that weekend! Then it went into the building that is now the Rifle Range and finally the porta-cabin in the Car Park. So there were all those changes but the staff never changed.



I would hate to guess how many people Josie & Peter have served in the Providore over the years it has always been the heart of the campsite. That special gift for Mum, Dad, brother or Sister. Learning good manners by insisting on a Please & a Thank You. There was always cup of tea and a chat for the leaders and everyone knew Josie & Peter and often asked after them.

Barry presented the following to Josie and Peter:

For many years of service, a 50% loyalty discount card for any future purchases in the Providore.

A small piece of Frylands Wood in the shape of a plaque, hand-made by Ray Wickenden.

A glass plaque with a message of thanks.

And finally flowers: green & yellow of the campsite scarf & purple & white for Scouting.

So on behalf of Frylands, the District & all those thousands of customers: a big massive Thank you!

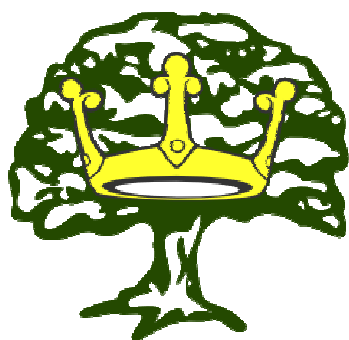
### **Messages of Thanks to Josie & Peter James for their Providore Service:**

"Please pass Josie & Peter my best wishes for the future and thank them for their patience on numerous occasions (typically about five times a day whenever we're around) with a number of my Scouts who struggle to make decisions about what to spend their money on." SL 1st Oxted

"We have not known Josie and Peter very well, as we are Group leaders since September only. We can only say they were extremely friendly and helpful on the few occasions we talked with them. On behalf of the Scouts et Guides de France, please thank them for the numerous camps and great moments the French cubs and scouts have had at Frylands Wood so far." Scouts et Guides de France

"We would like to thank you for all the friendship we received while at camp at Frylands. All the support you gave us & the cups of tea & coffee." 2nd Gosport Scouts

"Just to say a very big thank you from 31st Beavers. The Providore will not be the same without you both." 31st Croydon Beavers



## 2012 EVENTS AND COURSES

### 2012 dates for your diary

#### Dig & Eat and Light a Beacon

Queen's Diamond Jubilee  
4th June 2012



For 8-18 year olds



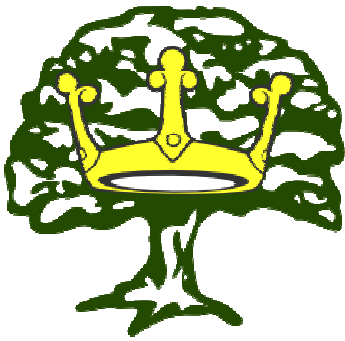
Grand National Archery Society (GNAS)  
Community Sports Leader Award

#### Archery Training Courses

February course – FULL  
15th/16th & 22nd/23rd  
September 2012



Please visit our website regularly for information and booking forms



# Adopt a Site

## Dig & Eat 23rd October 2011

On a bright and sunny October morning the 5th West Wickham, 8th/15th Woolwich and 20th Lewisham South turned up to work on their adopted sites, clearing back weeds & tidying up. We were also joined by the 9th Southside who haven't adopted a site yet but very enthusiastically collected many, many black bags full of leaves from the activity field. At lunchtime we all had burgers, crisps & snacks with some nice cups of tea (with thanks to Barry's Mum for preparing lunch). Filled up with energy everyone steamed into more hard work and the site looked much improved by the end of the day.

There were a number of groups who couldn't make that particular day but arranged to come and do some work at another time including 3rd Beddington & 38th Croydon. Throughout the year many groups have been working on their sites and the difference is noticed by our visitors.

We would like to say a HUGE thank you for all of the hard work carried out on the camp sites and fields at Frylands Wood. There is absolutely no way that we would be able to maintain all 65 acres of Frylands Wood if it wasn't for people and Groups chipping in and helping. The next Dig & Eat day is on the 4th June 2012.

If you would like to adopt a site please send Barry or Penny an email. The sites left to adopt are:

AG1  
NT1  
WP1  
SL1  
SL5 and 6  
DTL1, 3 and 4  
FW3  
BD3  
HW2  
Activity Field  
Pond Area  
The Fort  
Entrance





# The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

## Beacons



### 4th June 2012



## Bonfire Beacon

### Dig & Eat

2pm till 6pm

### Beacon Lighting

6pm.

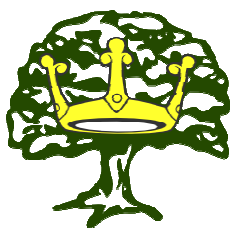
Campfire to follow

### Sausages and Burgers for Sale

From 6pm.

(Free of charge for  
Dig & Eaters)

### RSVP by 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012



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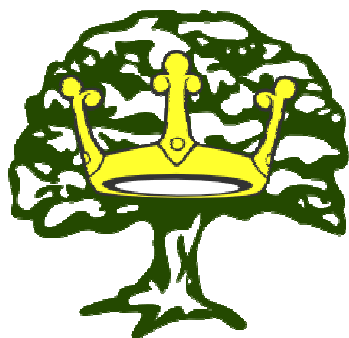
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Regd. Charity No. 1001668





### Getting the OUT into Scouting

Frylands get a lot of visitors for weekend indoor stays & camping for that all important Outdoor element of Scouting. However we know from discussions with users, that the time & financial commitment for young people & leaders alike can make weekend events hard commit to.

Therefore why not consider an evening visit and/or a day, morning or afternoon during a weekend. You can use the woodland to run your own activities such as wide games or knife & axe skills or use our site activities for a new fun experience or a combination of both. Visitor fees are low and if you run some activities yourself it works out even cheaper so can be a nice inexpensive trip out.

And don't forget that you don't have to be in Scouting to use Frylands. One of our aims is to introduce "Scouting" in its broadest sense to as many different users as possible so why not bring your youth club, church group or maybe use a birthday party or anniversary as a good excuse for a day visit.

Please get in touch if you'd like more information.

### Contacts

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### Frylands Operational Committee:

Alan Britchford - Chairman  
Natasha Cox - Secretary  
Kelly Freeman  
Rob Britchford  
John Sweeney  
Joe McEilly  
Penny Hann  
Barry Goswell  
Ray Wickenden

### Frylands Events Working Group:

Carole Simpson - Secretary  
Joe McEilly  
Tom Nixon  
Chris Vickers  
John Sweeney  
Nick Mellis  
Penny Hann  
Barry Goswell

If there is anything that you would like to discuss about Frylands, please let us know.