



2nd Bulford (St Leonards)

Scout Group

Annual Report 2015/16

Registered Charity Number : 284682



<http://bulfordscouts.org.uk/>

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Chairman's Report

Over the last year the adult volunteers and leaders have, as ever, put much of their own valuable time into helping develop our children. In addition to the many hours per week spent planning, developing, executing and leading the programme, they organise fundraising events, and look after the children during the weekend camps. Therefore, I'd like to extend my thanks to all the adults who work hard to help our kids grow and develop.

Group numbers are also very healthy, but the Leaders will tell you more about that tonight.

The new scout hut has remained the focus of my attention. At last year's AGM, I reported that only a few weeks' work was needed to finish the build. Unfortunately, the group did not have the budget to complete the remaining tasks. However, there has been progress since this time last year, as discussed below:

Over the summer of 2015, the Group Scout Leader and the Treasurer won a grant of £5000 towards the groundworks, which includes the car park. As a direct result of their efforts, the car park is now complete. In addition, local building company RG Spiller have agreed to finish the building to sign-off, at no cost to the Group.

Many group members, families and friends, past and present, have contributed a great deal of time and effort to the hut. I am sure that we are all at least a little frustrated that the build is taking so long. However, it must be pointed out that the funds committed by the Group thus far are significantly less than it would cost to build the property commercially. Hence, as a volunteer organisation, with some generous professional help, I think we are making good progress.

Finally, if there are any parents reading this who feel able to help out, even just once per term, or have a fundraising idea, please feel free to mention it.

Gerrie Mullen



<http://bulfordscouts.org.uk/>

Treasurer's Report

April 1st 2015 to 31st March 2016

HSBC

Starting balance £4571.33

(This includes a grant of £3000 for tents)

Closing Balance £2869.25

We have paid our County Subs £2580.00

Nationwide

No change £3858.99

We could still have some expenses on the new Hut.

Fund Raising Bingo date booked for Friday 4th November

Last year this event raised £316.80 and was a good social evening.

Mary Morgan



Group Scout Leader's Report

The year has gone by quick. The Group has been progressing well and continues to provide a well balanced programme for the sections.

We have are still pushing through with the new build. A few outstanding issues need to be completed and we will be there.

We are fully established within the District and continue to support events and help organise these as well.

As a Group we have taken part and supported a number of local community events held in Durrington, Bulford Village and the St Leonards Church which we are affiliated with.

Fundraising this is an area we need to look at and try to establish a committee to organise these for us. This is a major source of income for the Group. With the New hut nearly finished these funds can now be put to Activities and outings.

Census was completed and inputted on time and we have grown again in both Young People and Adults.

Beavers at Census were:

- 20 Young Beaver Scouts
- 6 Adults Leaders
- 1 Section Assistants

Cubs at Census were:

- 18 Young Cub Scouts
- 4 Adult Leaders

Scouts at Census were:

- 22 Young Scouts
- 4 Adult Leaders

Totals for the Group were

- 60 Young People
- 14 Adult Leaders
- 3 Committee Members
- 2 Parent Committee Members

The Group has a whole has grown from last year. However if you look at the Statistics it will show a slight fall in the Cub pack which is equalled out within the Scout Troop as it grew by the same amount. What this shows is the ability as a Group to retain the Young People in Scouting. The Beaver Section has grown from last year. On the whole it has been another successful year.

New to this year is the successful establishment of an Explorer Unit at 2nd Bulford Scout Group. This unit is a District Section and what it means to the Group and local area is there is an Explorer Unit in easy reach for 14- 18 years of age group. We currently have 5 Explorer Scouts who moved on from the Troop. This is currently being run by Caz Taylor and Vic Peters who is mentoring this establishment.

We are always on look out for any new adults who could either occasionally help or join the committee. Best still become a fully fledge Uniform Adult Leader.

The Vision for the future of Scouting is together we help the young people get the most out of their Scouting experiences by including elements from as many zones as possible with in the activities on offer.



The older they get, the more input young people themselves have in their own activity selection.

Scouting is about adventure and experiences run by the young people supported by adults.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support through out this busy year.

Bob Jones

Aka Zephyr

Group Scout Leader



Beaver Scout Leader's Report

It has been another year of fun-filled activities for the Beavers who have enjoyed a varied programme with many activities being off site or outdoors and in all weathers. Beavers have also enjoyed many parties including Halloween with the other Scouting sections.

April started with the Beavers celebrating with lots of chocolate makes and our famous egg hunt around the grounds. The Easter bunnies certainly knew where to hide the eggs. The Beavers were also asked to make a 'home' for an egg person which brought in some lovely designed eggs.

St Georges Day is always a big event for the Scouting movement as St George is the patron saint of Scouting. The Beavers attended a St George's day event, where all scouters reaffirm their promises.

The Beavers have attended other church parades including mother and father's day along with their parents, christingle service, harvest festival, where they bring in a gift for people who are less privileged. The Beavers made a wreath out of lots of smaller poppies which was very proudly placed on the memorial at our local church on Remembrance Sunday.

There has been the introduction of new badges this year and one of those that the Beavers achieved was Disability awareness. We talked about disabilities and how this affects our everyday lives including wearing hearing aids and glasses. The Beavers splint into groups and had a small disability aid to find out what it was and how it helped someone. They had the opportunity of being pushed in a wheelchair and pushing themselves through doorways, etc. They also had some paper based activities eg: following a maze whilst looking in the mirror

and made a snack with one hand only. It was a really fun activity and helped them to understand what it was like to be disabled.

Camp fires and cooking over them is very popular with Beavers and anything that involves making and eating food. The Beavers have all participated in healthy eating including healthy lunch boxes and fruit smoothies. The Beavers made sweets for Mother's Day, which were decorated and boxed beautifully. Pancake tennis is great fun and enjoyed by all, but eating pancakes is better. Burns night is also a fun night with the making of tatties and neaps (carrot and swede) and the reciting of the Selkirk Grace to welcome the Haggis. Beavers are all asked to taste the Haggis, which they readily do until they are asked what they think it is made of. In the words of one of the Beavers it is made of all the bits you wouldn't normally eat!!

Scouting skills and camp fire crafts are an important part of Scouting. The Beavers and leaders spent an evening making camp fire blankets. Every Beaver had the opportunity to stitch around a blanket. They also made welly clips for use on camps.

The Summer programme with all sections meeting on the same night started with a camp with the Beavers sleeping in tents (although some of the leaders didn't quite manage it), a night time hike and a camp fire, which is always fun.

Other summer activities included rafting, hiking and a games night. Also this year Salisbury has celebrated the anniversary of the Magna Carta with a Baron Trail. The Barons were 'hidden' around Salisbury and the young scouts walked around the trail trying to find them all and having their photo taken with them.

Another new badge for Beavers this year is the Space Badge. Rob and his boys very kindly shared their excellent knowledge, bringing his

telescope with him enabling the Beavers to look at the stars and moon. This was a very interesting evening.

Each year the Beavers make bird feeders and take part in the RSPB National bird survey looking at and recording the birds in their gardens. The Beavers have also completed their gardening badge growing lettuce, beans, tomatoes and one pumpkin. They also grew plants for presents for Father's Day, growing them in the school greenhouse.

The Beavers are also encouraged to participate in local events and to help with raising money for other charities. They have helped out at Bazaars, jumble sales, fêtes and attended the local Pantomime. Bring a friend to Beavers was very popular and raised £30.00 for Macmillan.

2016 is the 30th Anniversary of Beavers Scouting and the year started with a District Party and they are all looking forward to the County event in May 2016.

We are fortunate to have a full Beaver group with a healthy waiting list and an expression of interest list for those who are not old enough to start yet. We also have a very strong leader team, which is important in the running of the night and for supporting the children who require one to one.

We're all looking forward to the forthcoming scouting year.

Caroline Lewis

Badger

Beaver Scout Leader



Cub Scout Leader's Report

It has been another jam-packed year for the Cub Pack. During the Cub meetings they have done such activities as shelter building, fire lighting, first aid, hikes, science, astronomy, disability awareness, pioneering and map-reading to name a few. We have regular Pack Forums where the Cubs have a chance to say what they would like to do, change or improve at Cubs.

We have had Cubs representing us in a number of the Salisbury district events. These include the Scrapheap Challenge, Chess Competition, 5-a-side football and the Swimming Gala.

Cubs have attended the monthly Church Parades at St Leonards Church including Remembrance Day, St Georges Day, Mothering Sunday and the Christingle Service. The Cubs have also helped at the church's fund raising activities and helped at the group activities.

We have had joint activities with the Beavers and Scouts which helps the children when they move from section to section in that they know some of the children and the leaders they will be with in their new section. These joint events included Christmas and Halloween parties and the Bingo evening. During the summer all the sections get together on a join programme, this started with a Summer Camp where we got to try out our new tents for the first time. We also had a Winter Camp, although sleeping indoors, lots of outdoor activities were accomplished including the obligatory hikes!

In September the Cubs moved across to the New Programme Zones and Badges. The new badges were introduced after consultation with Cubs and leaders, and this emphasises the continuing improvement of the youth involvement in running the Cub Pack. It is always a pleasure

to be able to award badges to the Cubs for work they have done in the sessions and away from Cubs.

We have had the pleasure of presenting the Chief Scout Silver award to three Cubs who have managed to complete all their challenge badges.

It is really great to see that in the last year the number of children in Cubs has gone from 21 to 28. Our latest recruit to the leaders, Hathi, was recently invested so we have four uniformed leaders in Cubs. Of course there is always room for more leaders!

2016 is the Cubs Centenary celebration and there have been special activities throughout 2015 and this year to commemorate the anniversary ending with a special promise party on 16th December.

Finally, a big thank you to all the parents and Cubs for your support this year. It is greatly appreciated and without it the Cub pack would not be able to work half as well.

Rob Morgan

Baloo

Cubs Scout Leader



Scout Leader's Report

We have another busy year in the Scout Section. We finished off the year on a high as 7 Scouts actually finished on achieving the highest award in Scouts they can achieve. Chief Scout Gold award. These were presented at the scout troop meetings. But to make it an especial experience the District organised a presentation ceremony at the Guild Hall Salisbury.

Scouts went over in September to the New Programme Zones and Badges. What's this mean to your Scouts? They get to choose some elements of the Challenge and Activity badges they would like to achieve. This emphasises the youth involvement of the Scout Troop.

As a Troop we have 4 Patrols which consists of Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader. They work as a small team or individuals to achieve their goals.

This was achieved this year on a high as the Troop were successful at winning the District Cube event Lions Patrol and the Path Finder Hike Event where the Patrol Hawks managed all 10 Check Points and were over all winners of this event.

We have had Camps, Hikes, Navigation, and Cooking over a camp stove, Knife and axe work. One Hike which the Scouts took part it was the Nine Mile river adventure hike. Let's just say we all came back looking as if we had just been through a mud bath. This was very enjoyable and showed how well all the scouts worked together at getting through the obstacles as a team.

Scouts have increased in numbers and we are at present 22 on the books. The cubs are actively moving on to Scouts and now we have an

Explorer Unit established within the group the Scouts will begin moving on when they reach the age.

Scout this year have had the chance of signing up to take part in an international event in America 2017. This will take a lot of work on their part, but it will be a worthwhile experience. At present we have three Scouts who have signed up and wish them all the best in their fundraising towards this event.

We as a Leader team are looking forward to another year in Scouting
Can I please take this opportunity in thank you all for your continuing support.

Bob Jones

Zephyr

Scout Leader

Caz Taylor

Sea Horse

Assistant Scout Leader

Charlie Battey

Orca

Assistant Scout Leader



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