



2nd Bulford (St Leonards)

Scout Group

Annual Report 2016/17

Registered Charity Number : 284682



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

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Chairman's Report

This is the third annual introduction that I have authored; in 2015 and 2016 the focus was on the on-going build of our hut. In December 2016 the certificate of completion was issued by the building inspector, and as a result we enjoyed a wonderful opening ceremony on the 11th March, and are able to hold our first AGM here tonight.

I would like to thank all of the parents, leaders, children and local businesses who, over many years, have given up much time and money to make this hut a reality – well done. Your efforts will be enjoyed by generations of children to come. The hut is now in use four nights per week by the Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer groups, and there is much interest from other local organisations that have enquired about occasional use.

Over the last three years I have enjoyed serving as Chairman, and playing a small part in the education and training of our children. It has been a pleasure getting to know some of the leaders and parents better. Tonight you will have an opportunity to volunteer your services as a member of the Group Executive Committee; it is a very worthwhile activity and I would strongly encourage you to consider it.

Gerrie Mullen

Treasurer's Report

April 1st 2016 to 31st March 2017

Opening balance	£2869.25
Closing Balance	£4321.56

This looks very healthy but includes donations of £777.00

Tesco's bag packing	£173.00
Scouts Bingo Night	£368.00
Total	£1318.00

Without this additional income our balance would be £3003.00

As we are now in the hut we will have additional expenses ie. Water, lighting, heating and any repairs to fund.

November 24th is the date for our Scouts Bingo at Durrington Village Hall last year we had many compliments on the evening as a good community evening. This year again we will be asking for your support nearer the time.

Please book the date in your diary's and keep it free.

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 had an early Christmas Present on the 19th December 2016 with Building Control Officer signing off the new build. This meant we could move back to our Groups home. We held the official opening and hut naming ceremony Saturday 11th March 2017. This was well attended and we now have the Grey Wolfs Den as our HQ Building.

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 finished these funds can now be put to Activities and outings. We also need to start a maintenance and utilities fund to enable the up keep of our building and grounds.

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

The Group has a whole has grown from last year. This shows the ability as a Group to retain the Young People in Scouting. On the whole it has been another successful year.

The Explorer Unit has moved in with us and a partnership agreement in place. We currently have 6 Explorer Scouts and 1 Scout whose moving on from the Troop. This is currently being run by Caz Taylor

(Sea Horse), Neal Harrison (Ducky) and Vic Peters.

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 throughout this busy year.

Bob Jones

Aka Zephyr

Group Scout Leader



Beaver Scout Leader's Report

The Beaver section has continued to run with 18 children with a small waiting list and has a good mix of girls and boys. Now we have moved to the new hut the aim is to gradually increase the numbers to 20.

The move to the new hut in February has given the Beavers a lot more independence as they are now able to access facilities and equipment much easier and independently and also ensured that the Beavers are able to enjoy the outdoor activities & projects and to take pride in their new surroundings including gardening, in which they have a real interest. It has also meant that the Leaders are spending less time taking the children to the toilet, putting activities away after meetings and are able to incorporate more activities that can be worked on over a series of weeks. The Beavers can also spend more time outside in a reasonably safe environment (the accident book is filling up).

We have also held our first Sleepover in the new hut on the theme of Superheros. This was very successful with Superhero Bingo being an activity that kept them busy for quite some time.

Last year saw the Beavers celebrating 30 years of Beaver scouting and this was celebrated with a county fun day at Potterne where they enjoyed many activities including circus skills. In typical Beaver fashion the thing they enjoyed most was getting muddy on the bank of the brook and poo sticks.

Another important celebration was the Queens 90th Birthday. The Beavers made placemats, decorated glasses and enjoyed an old fashioned tea, good enough for the Queen. They also played very traditional games like hop scotch and the 3 legged race.

The Beavers have had new badges introduced this year and these have been incorporated into the programme including the space and cooking badge. Thanks to Baloo they have learnt the names of the star formations and Thanks to Otter a rhyme to remember the planets in order. The cooking badge was completed on camp.

One of the highlights of the year is Pancake Tennis. To see the Beavers laughing and enjoying hitting pancakes around the room and seeing if they can get one to land on Squirrels head is very funny.

The Christmas fun activity was spent at a local garden centre where the children met Santa and were able to go to his workshop and choose a present after completing some fun games. However, they enjoyed watching the elves stuffing the Christmas trees through the netting machine and drinking hot chocolate more. The Beavers made canvas prints using their foot prints for presents for their parents. They loved getting their feet dirty. Fox did not enjoy the cleaning up!!!. They also decorated Yule logs to take home. Beavers and food are a great mix especially chocolate.

A Macmillan Coffee Evening was held in September with the Beavers inviting their parents to attend for coffee and biscuits. This was very successful and raised £40.

The Beavers enjoy nature and have spent time making bird feeders which they have hung around the new hut and have taken some home to hang in their own gardens.

They have enjoyed joint activities with the other sections including a camp where they slept in tents for the first time, Christmas and Halloween parties, and a church history evening. It is good for them to integrate with the other groups as this helps when they move up into the other sections. The summer programme is also joint evenings. It is

lovely to see all sections enjoying fun activities including pond dipping, raft racing, games, etc. The older Scouts are very attentive to the younger members and help them complete the activities.

They have enjoyed visiting other venues including Avon Valley Academy where they have used the woodwork room, kitchen and garden.

Everyday living skills are very important to teach the Beavers including First Aid, where each Beaver is able to treat minor injuries, put someone in the recovery position and know how to call for help. I think a few Leaders have improved their skills too.

We are very lucky to have a dedicated group of Leaders who, with their varied skills bring different ideas to how programmes can be carried out.

It has been a year of fun and friends and here's to another the next one.

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, 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. We recently had a Spring Camp, although sleeping in the tents you could have be forgiven for thinking it was a Winter camp with ice on the tents, lots of outdoor activities were accomplished including the obligatory night hike, campfire and orienteering at Moors Valley.

The Cub programme is based around achieving badges. 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 four Cubs who have managed to complete all their challenge badges.

We have four uniformed leaders in Cubs. Of course there is always room for more leaders and parents who would like to help occasionally.

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 3 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 County each year hold a ceremony which the achievers are invited too.

Scouts have quickly adapted to the New Activity and Challenge 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 ,Raft Race trophy , Competed in the Grose Trophy and got a pat on the back for their team work and excellent presentation of themselves.

We have had Camps, Hikes, Navigation, and Cooking over a camp stove, Knife and axe work. Also with the Scouts having to achieve all 9 Challenge badges saw us out and about on the Expedition from Thrupton to Stapleford over two days. Scouts are holding their own in numbers around a steady 18. The cubs are actively moving on to Scouts and now we have Scouts moving on to Explorer's.

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

Aka Zephyr

Scout Leader

Charlie Battey

Aka Orca

Assistant Scout Leader

David Austin

Aka Akula

Assistant Scout Leader

