

Scouting in Runnymede

5th Addlestone Sing Carols

As part of 5th Addlestone Scout Group's Christmas festivities, a group of approximately 20 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Leaders descended on St George's Court senior citizen accommodation in Addlestone to sing carols to the residents. In addition, a few of the Beavers and Cubs played seasonal items on the piano and electric guitar. The residents were treated to a glass of sherry and a mince pie, plus Christmas cards and pot plants which the beavers had been busily preparing during the term.



The evening concluded with 3 Beavers, Taylor W, Jack M and Charlie M being presented with the Chief Scout's Bronze Award by Andy Sainsbury-Brown (Deputy District Commissioner) and Alison Barry (Akela) being presented with her Wood Badge by James Nash (District Commissioner).

Alison Barry – Cub Scout Leader

In Memorium

It is with regret that we announce the deaths of Reg Quatermain, former Group Scout Leader and District Warrants Committee Chairman and of Jack Smartt, former District Treasurer and Vice President.

Congratulations

To Zoe C, Andrew W and Joshua S of 1st/4th Addlestone on gaining their Chief Scout's Gold Award.

and

To Jack M, Charlie M and Taylor W on gaining their Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

Poppy Appeal

I wish to thank the leaders who collected for the Poppy Appeal at Sainsbury's, Chertsey. A total of £1066.82 was donated. *David Taylor*



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Virginia Water give Christmas presents to the soldiers in Afghanistan.

Many of you will know Captain Rob Marshall, our Parade Marshal. We recently learnt that he was due to go to Afghanistan over Christmas, so we thought we'd collect some gifts for him. However, after a swift change of plan – he didn't go – we decided to collect some presents and pass them on to other members of his unit. The photo below shows Carol Reeves, Group Scout Leader, passing over a number of well packed boxes of gifts, all in Christmas wrapping paper to Rob Marshall. Rob was delighted to accept these gifts, saying he was "thrilled to bits; this means so much to us".



We will keep you posted as to what the soldiers said when the presents arrived!

District Scout Football Competition

1st Ottershaw Scouts faced the 'big guns' in July at the District Scout Football competition. Despite having a very young team, they managed to keep the visiting marauders at bay and fight their way to the final. There they faced the giants of Virginia Water, who looked supremely confident. With our coach calm and collected at the sideline, it was up to our parents and me to scream encouragement as Virginia Water threatened to overcome our valiant team. Full time came with no goals being scored, so a nail biting penalty competition ensued. As the average height of the VW scouts was probably 6 feet (it looked like it from the sideline!) and our goalkeeper was just over 5 feet, we watched helplessly as they commenced the penalty shootout.



James S, in goal for Ottershaw, managed to make save after save to keep VW out and with Ottershaw scoring their penalties, it meant that we were THE CHAMPIONS!!

Heather Howell, Group Scout Leader 1st Ottershaw

Cubs Christingle Service 2009..... Putting the 'out' in Scouting

The District Cubs Christingle Service is always a nice start to the Christmas Celebrations, but this year we decided to do something a little different, make it a bit more exciting and special for the Cubs and take it out of church and hold it around a campfire at the 1st Egham Hythe HQ. It's a special campfire circle – we built it in the memory of Jake Grey, one of our Beavers, who lost his battle with a brain tumour on the day of the first Michael Patrick Challenge in 2008, so any event held around it, especially one that brings to mind the less fortunate children of our country, has added sparkle.

The enthusiasm for our new-style event was great; Leaders, Cubs, Explorers, clergy from St Paul's Church, Egham Hythe, and the local Community Police Officers all joined in with a mixture of traditional Christmas carols, Christingle history, prayers and a Christmas story and a few action campfire songs for fun and to keep everybody warm. The weather was on our side, the rain stopped for the evening, the wind died away and we managed to have all the Christingles alight while we sang 'Away in a Manger.' It was lovely. So, thanks to all who came, joined in and made the evening a success. There were about 130 Cubs there in total, and hopefully they all enjoyed their winter Christingle campfire. Many thanks especially to the 1st Egham Hythe team who built the fire, made sure we were all safe, and made the place sparkle with silver stars above our heads, fairy lights in the trees and in the hedge, candles in jars all around us. We even had a star at the top of the flagpole! And special thanks to the Endeavour Explorers who managed the parking, helped Mandi with the refreshments and really made themselves very useful

Mary Halls – Cub Scout Leader- 1st Egham Hythe

District Scout Night Hike

Friday 20th November saw 135 Scouts and Leaders brave the elements for their annual night hike. This year the event was based on hiking two different routes between 1st Englefield Green and 1st Egham Hythe Headquarters with fifteen teams walking the course in around two hours. As the date clashed with "Children In Need" it was decided to use the event to raise monies for a good cause at the same time with many walkers turning up dressed for the occasion - flashing lights, dragons!! etc. As a result we raised £213 on the night. Many thanks must go to Steve Turner and his team (1st Egham Hythe) for organising this years' routes.

*Andy Sainsbury - Brown
Deputy District Commissioner*

Treasury Notes

The time available to make Gift Aid claims is reducing on 1 April 2010 from 6 years to 4 years. This means that most claims relating to periods that end in the tax years 2004 and 2005 must be made by 31 March 2010. Claims for the tax year ended 5 April 2006 must be made by 5 April 2010. Examples

Year of claim	Old time limit	New time limit
Year ended 5 April 2004	31 January 2010	31 January 2010
Year ended 5 April 2005	31 January 2011	31 March 2010
Year ended 5 April 2006	31 January 2012	5 April 2010
Year ended 5 April 2007	31 January 2013	5 April 2011
Year ended 5 April 2009		5 April 2013

HM Revenue & Customs have produced a useful Gift Aid Toolkit which includes a CD containing all the necessary forms and it even does the calculations for you. This is free money for very little effort. If any group needs help with the claims, please let me know.

Another source of free money is our District Scout Shop. The shop has just declared its first dividend after one year of trading. Groups are receiving a dividend equal to 50% (to be reviewed annually) of the gross profit on their members' purchases through the shop. 1st Ottershaw tops the league with a dividend of £240.16. More purchases mean a higher dividend; it's as simple as that.

Capitation for the year beginning 1 April 2010 will be set at the February District Executive Committee meeting and group treasurers will be sent invoices in early March.

Richard Mason – District Treasurer

1st Ottershaw Cubs (Otters) - Fitness Challenge

Beep...beep...beep! After taking part in a beep test as the start of their Fitness Challenge, 1st Ottershaw Cubs (Otters) were wondering what we had in store for them next. With one requirement of the badge to try a new activity and after the leaders advised that activities on the Wii would not count, in came Sergio and Craig, dressed in their Tae-Kwando outfits. The Cubs were brought to attention by doing a planned warm-up exercise, including those wonderful things called press ups and shown numerous types of kick and punch. The Cubs threw themselves into each kick and punch, thoroughly enjoying the chance to attack (definitely) and

defend (not as much!). A few red feet later, we were treated to a top level display from Sergio and Craig, making many of the Cubs want to learn more!

The following week came another very different activity...line dancing! Tony and Peter took the Cubs (and the Leaders) and taught us 4 routines, all to country music. When it all got a little confusing, Iris and Lyn were on hand to guide us too. Every Cub gave it a go and seemed to grasp it better than the leaders who, most of the time, did not know which way to turn (there's something to be said for consistency anyway!). Although the routines were difficult, everyone had a good go, swinging their hips along to much laughter!



Many thanks to Sergio, Craig, Tony, Iris, Peter and Lyn for giving us an insight into their respective activities, providing us with two entertaining nights. It will be interesting to see how well the leaders were concentrating, as they will be in charge of leading each activity again – causing many Achy Breaky Hearts along the way no doubt!!!

Hannah Isaac – Assistant Cub Scout Leader – 1st Ottershaw (Otters)

Visiting the Groups

During the latter part of November and December I had occasion to visit several groups to present awards (5th Addlestone, 2nd New Haw and 1st Egham Hythe) to both our young people and Leaders alike. Through the newsletter I would like to thank everyone for making me welcome, and congratulate all those who received their awards. For me it demonstrated the many reasons why Scouting is so successful in Runnymede.



I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and successful 2010.

**Andy Sainsbury-Brown
Deputy District - Commissioner**

Runnymede District Diary

February (School half term 15th to 19th Feb)

Mon 1 st	District Executive meeting
Sat 6 th	District Scout Cooking Competition
Mon 8 th	Fellowship meeting
Sun 21 st	Sixer & Secondar training day
Mon 22 nd	Keeping Children Safe training

March

Sat 6 th to Sun 7 th	County Explorer Night Hike
Sun 7 th	Cub Scouts Cooking Competition
Sat 13 th	Scout Fishing Competition
Sun 14 th	Bourne Copse maintenance day
Sat 20 th	First Response - training
Fri 19 th or Sat 20 th	Fun and Fundraising night – in support of the Mayors Charity
Sun 21 st	County Scout Cyclo Cross
Sat 27 th	District Swimming Gala
Sat 27 th	Chief Scout's Gold Award presentations.

April (School Holiday 1st to 18th Apr)

Sun 11 th	Beaver Family Rambleabout
Mon 12 th	Fellowship meeting
Fri 16 th to Sun 18 th	Explorer Camp
Fri 23 rd	Fellowship St. George's dinner
Sun 25 th	District St George's day Parade and Service
Wed 28 th	ADC's/GSL's meeting.

May

Mon 3 rd	Ottershaw May Fair
Thr 6 th	Getting Started – training
Fri 7 th to Sun 9 th	Scouts Standing Camp
Mon 10 th	District Executive meeting
Fri 14 th	Cubs football Competition
Sat 15 th	First Response – training
Fri 21 st to Sun 23 rd	County Scouts Expedition Challenge
Sun 23 rd	Michael Patrick Challenge
??	Scouts Cardboard Rafting

June (School half term 31st May to 4th June)

Mon 7 th	Fellowship meeting
Sat 19 th	Cub Scouts Scram 2010
Thr 24 th	District AGM
Fri 25 th	Scouts Five-a-side.
Sat 26 th	Chief Scout's Gold Award presentations.

July (School Holidays Start Friday 23rd)

Sat 3 rd	Beaver Runnymede Raiders
Sat 3 rd	County Scouts Cooking Challenge
Fri 2 nd to Sun 4 th	County Scouts Camping Challenge
Mon 19 th	District Executive meeting.

August

September (School term starts Thursday 2nd)

Mon 6 th	Fellowship meeting
Thr 9 th	ADC's/GSL's meeting
Fri 17 th to Sun 19 th	Cubs Sixer and Secondar Camp
Wed 22 nd	District Planning meeting For 2011
Sat 25 th	Cub Scouts Fishing
Sun 26 th	First Response (Extended)-training
Mon 27 th	Getting Started- training

October (School half term 25th to 29th Oct)

Date TBC	Scout Night Hike
Sat 9 th	Beaver Badge Day
Fri 8 th to Mon 11 th	Fellowship Weekend away
Mon 11 th	District Executive meeting
Fri 15 th	Cubs Night Hike
??	Patrol Leaders training
Sat 16 th	Chief Scout's Gold Award presentations.

November

Date TBC	Scout Shooting
Mon 15 th	Fellowship meeting
Sat 27 th	Cubs Craft Competition

December (school Term Ends 18th Dec)

Wed 1 st	Cubs Christingle Service
Fri 10 th	Fellowship Christmas dinner
Sat 18 th	Explorer Christmas party.

Mayor's Charity Events

Sat 13 th February 2010	Opera/Musical evening at the Royal Holloway College – 7.30 pm £25.00pp
Fri 12 th March 2010	Jazz Concert at Thorpe Park – 7.00pm £10.00pp.
Sat 24 th April 2010	St Georges Dinner & Ball at Wentworth - 7.30pm & £50.00p

Copy date for next issue
13th March 2010
Email: chris.couzens@ntlworld.com
"Remember to reduce photo file size"