

Scouting in Runnymede

Andy's Notes

I hope you have all enjoyed our summer at long last especially those who managed camp this year. As we look forward to the new Scouting term, I would like to welcome all our new leaders and congratulate those in new roles. As with every passing year we seem to be getting busier with lots going on for all in Runnymede.

This coming year will see a focus towards improving safety in Scouting for nationally there has been a rise in accidents and so we will all need to be thinking about risk assessments and accident prevention more in the coming months. This will be very much linked in with training and particularly ensuring leaders have the right qualifications in areas of high risk activities, so please be aware of any information coming out on this subject and please feel free to ask for assistance here if you require help.

With new activities/events happening in the coming year like District Camp, Scout archery competition etc. please let us make sure we put our weight behind these district events for they are there for everyone to benefit and enhance Scouting for our young people.

I look forward to seeing you all soon and keep shouting about Scouting.

Andy Sainsbury-Brown - District Commissioner

Chief Scout's Award

At the Surrey Scouts, Chief Scout's Gold Award presentation evening held in Normandy, Alex Astely of 2nd Thorpe and Joseph Collyer of 2nd New Haw were presented with their awards by The Assistant Chief Constable Jerry Kirby of the Surrey Police and Roxanna Bostock our new County Commissioner.



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1st Egham Hythe Summer Camp

Gilwell Park was the destination for our Summer Camp this year. 16 Scouts and 7 leaders made up this year's contingent and this was the 20th year that this team of Leaders was running the annual Scout summer camp.



After all the dreadful rainfall leading up to the camp it was a fantastic surprise to set up camp on a hot sunny day which stayed with us for the whole week. The camp was run as a Patrol Camp with three patrols competing with each other. Points were awarded for fire lightening, cooking on open fires, wood collecting and wood preparation, tent and personal hygiene along with team work and leadership skills. Camp gadgets were built to help the patrols in their daily tasks. In between all this work the Scouts took part in many activities over the week including canoeing, raft building, using an outdoor climbing wall a zip wire and testing their nerves by jumping off 50 foot high telegraph poles as well as ascending up difficult and high Jacob Ladders and ropes. During the week badges were awarded for Camp Cook, Camper and Quartermasters; also many of the activities went towards achieving the Outdoor Challenge the Outdoor Plus Challenge and the Adventure Challenge. At the end of the week we held the traditional camp banquet where Shams D was named as Scout of the Week and Aaron H was awarded Young Scout of the week. After the banquet we joined in with other Scouts on the site watching the Olympic Games opening ceremony on a big screen.

Steve Turner- Group Scout Leader

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following adults on their service awards:

Mary Halls (20 years), Alison Barry (15 years) and Sonia Marchant, Carole Smorely and Robert Carter all 5 years.

Congratulations also go to Cub Scout Kailah P of 5th Addlestone on gaining the Chief Scout's Silver Award.

First ever District Beaver Sleepover

"I liked the sleepover because we played lots of games that I liked and the tall beds were fun to sleep in." Henry aged 7

54 Beaver Scouts with the support of 20 Adults and Young Leaders slept at Bentley Copse on 20th/21st July. For over half it was their first sleepover, and for some it was scary enough to want to go home. No one did, thanks to fun, food and Leader power of motivation and persuasion.



Archery, Climbing, Adventure Course, Firelighting and Photo Orienteering ran back to back til 9:15. Followed by the Worlds Latest Campfire, at least that's how it felt, including an investiture, and bed by midnight(ish). There was a crash course in mass camp breakfast catering for a new and fast learning team, Scouts Own and exploring the ridge, followed by lunch and home.

'When can we go again?' Bailey aged 6

Thanks to everyone at Bentley Copse especially the Service Team who weren't too upset at singing at 11:15 (at night) and all the adults who gave up their time and energy to give the Beaver Scouts a great time. When shall we do it again?

Steve Livesley - Acting ADC Beaver Scouts

Cyclists Badge

At 1st Virginia Water the Cubs and Scouts just love getting the badges so with the help of some Dads, the Cubs and Scouts joined together on a sunny May Saturday morning to achieve their cyclist badge. Bikes were stripped down, punctures mended, pedals tightened and handle bars adjusted. Then with helmets on, Cubs, Scouts and parents took to the roads of Virginia Water for a cycle ride.



The Beavers were in charge of decorating The Hut ready for the Queens Diamond Jubilee tea party and invited along friends and guests.

We finished the term on a pleasant warm Friday night with a sleep over at The Hut. Bed rolls were unrolled, sleeping bags unzipped and after an evening of games on Coronation Field the snoring started just after midnight. By 7am the following morning we were up on a trek down to the woods for a game of Pooh sticks over the stream and then back to the Hut for a cooked breakfast.

Sandra Wentworth – Cub Scout Leader

Olympic Torch Bearer

1st Englefield Green Cubs had their very own Olympic torch bearer at their meeting on the 11th of July.

ACSL Mark Landon was selected by his company Procter and Gamble to be one of four torch bearers when the Olympic Torch came through Egham recently. Mark was selected not only because of his volunteering at Cubs but also because of his commitment at work in setting up a running club 4 years ago for lapsed or non-runners; this has culminated in over 200 people successfully completing a Half Marathon.



Mark came along to Cubs the next evening and entered the meeting to the music of "Chariots of Fire" and ran around the hall and out into the field outside with the Cubs following behind him and the torch. The Cubs thought this was brilliant and even better was the chance to have their photo taken with the

torch at the end of the meeting - a real once in a lifetime opportunity. There were quite a few parents queuing up too!

The Scout Group is equally proud of Mark and presented him with an Olympic scarf and badge at the end of term which he assures us he will treasure along with his torch!

Sandra Hider – Cub Scout Leader

2nd New Haw Isle of Wight Camp

We travelled down to Lymington on the minibus on the Friday evening. We unpacked our bags and settled down to bed. On Saturday we got up early to catch the 9 o'clock ferry to the Isle of Wight. When we were there we drove to Black Gang Chine where we went on some of the rides and went round the different areas. I liked the colourful roller coaster and "Cliffhanger", which left my stomach behind in many places! I also loved the snakes and ladders slide which I nearly fell off! At teatime we enjoyed fish and chips on the beach.

On the Sunday we went to Moore Valley Country Park and we did many little activities which involved lots of climbing. My hands were quite tired after that! We also went on the miniature train which went surprisingly fast! An action packed few days made us very sleepy on the journey home!

Louis E – Cub Scout

Runnymede District Diary 2012

September (School Starts Tuesday 4th)

Fri 21st to Sun 23rd Cubs Sixers and Seconders Camp - Farnham
 Mon 24th Fellowship/Active Support meeting
 Sat 29th BAZAZ - New Date
 Sun 30th Scouts Cardboard Rafting

October (School Half Term 29th to 2nd Nov)

Fri 5th to Mon 8th Fellowship/Active Support Weekend Away
 Sat 6th Cubs Fishing Competition New Haw Lock
 Sat 13th 1st Response Course
 Sat 13th Scouts Dragon Boating
 Mon 15th District Executive meeting

November

Fri 9th Scouts Night Hike
 Fri 16th Cubs Night Hike

December

Tue 4th Cubs Christingle Service – 1st Egham Hythe

Copy date for next issue
 20th October 2012
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