

# Scouting in Runnymede

## Jamboree selection

At the end of September 8 Scouts/Explorer Scouts gathered at Englefield Green Headquarters for maybe one of the most important weekends of their lives. The prize, a trip to the World Jamboree, being held in Japan in 2 years time.



The Scouts were split into two teams. The first activity was a short hike in Windsor Park during which time the teams had to work out a menu/shopping list for their dinner and breakfast. The ice was broken and the teams started to bond. A couple of activities took place in the afternoon before cooking dinner for the team and two guests. Two varieties of pasta were served, followed by apple tart from one team and chocolate rocks from the other. After several Scout type activities on the Sunday morning before lunch, the selection panel locked themselves away to make a decision.

At 2.30 p.m., parents and the District President arrived but the panel were finding their job as difficult as in previous years and it was another quarter of an hour before the District Commissioner emerged with the official piece of paper. Jim Broadhead, our President, made the awaited announcement that the Scouts being invited to represent Runnymede at the Jamboree would be Ryan Boast from 1st Chertsey and Jade Tregoiing from 1st/4th Addlestone. The reserve will be Alex Page from 2nd New Haw.



*Alex Page, Jade Tregoiing and Ryan Boast attempting to move golf balls across the car park at Englefield Green.*

Our thanks to John Boreham and two previous Jamboree participants, Andrew and Josh for their deliberations and input to the whole selection process, and thanks also to Englefield Green for the use of their HQ and Equipment.

**George Kerr – District Secretary**



**The Bi-Monthly District  
Newsletter - Issue 176  
November/December 2013**



## 1<sup>st</sup> Egham Hythe Scout Group Summer Camp

This year's Summer Camp was based at Budden Scout Centre County Site in Dorset. 19 Scouts, 7 leaders and one Young leader made up this year's contingent.



On arrival at the site we were met by a party of over 400 Scouts from Luxemburg making this a very International event and a testing time for the sites' facilities. However the site team did a fantastic job.

Our camp was run as a Patrol Camp with three patrols competing with each other. Traditional skills had to be used such as fire lightening, cooking on open fires, wood collection and preparation, tent tidiness and personal hygiene. These were the components of the competition alongside teamwork and leadership skills. Camp gadgets were built to help the patrols in their daily tasks.

In between all this, the Scouts took part in many activities including potholing, dragon boating (which we managed to capsize) canoeing, raft building and using an indoor climbing wall and a high abseil tower.

An afternoon on the beach just enjoying the sun, sea and sand was a great respite for everyone.

During the week badges were awarded for Camp Cook, Camper and Quartermaster. Many of the activities also went towards the Scouts achieving the Outdoor Challenge, the Outdoor Plus and the Adventure Challenge awards.

Christian Scott achieved 50 nights under canvas.

On the last evening we held the traditional camp banquet when Richard Williams was named Scout of the Week and David Butler was awarded young Scout of the week.

At the end of the Camp it was announced that Richard Williams, George Pemberton and Christian Scott had all completed their badge work and training to gain the Chief Scout Gold Award. Well done to all three of them .

**Steve Turner - Group Scout Leader**

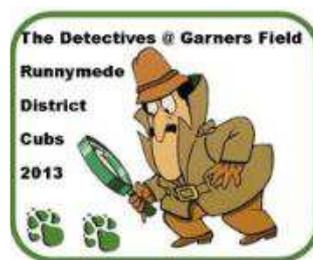
### Congratulations

To Mandi Adams, CSL from 1<sup>st</sup> Ottershaw on being awarded the Award of Merit.

To Alex Couzens, District Quartermaster, Sandra Hider ex CSL 1<sup>st</sup> Englefield Green, and Ron Verlander, GSL 1<sup>st</sup> Englefield Green on being awarded the Chief Scout's commendation for Good Service.

And to Hana (Hanka) Vlhova on gaining her Wood Badge.

## Cubs Sixer & Seconds Camp 2013



Despite the absence of 2 packs, 80+ Cubs gathered at Garners Field Campsite in late September for this year's sixer & second's camp. With a theme of 'The Detectives' the leaders made sure the Cubs had a really interesting and fun weekend. We mixed the traditional camp fire and wide games with a bingo session that the Cubs really enjoyed and even managed some water based activities on the River Wey.



They managed to solve a nasty murder that had taken place on site early on Friday morning, but then again, we did have the top CSI team from 2<sup>nd</sup> New Haw on stand-by.



The weather Gods were smiling (unlike last year) and all tents were packed away dry and back into stores, which was the best news of all.

**Gareth Jenkins- District Cub Scout Leader**

## Land of the Midnight Sun

Explorer Scouts from Runnymede District set forth for the land of the midnight sun in August as they enjoyed a challenging expedition to Iceland.

15 Members of the Intrepid, Endeavour and Phoenix Units, plus 4 Leaders, based themselves at the Ulfjotsvatn Scout Centre, which is 65km east of Reykjavik on the edge of a lake in spectacular countryside.

During the 8-day trip, we took part in lots of challenging activities, including a triathlon, where we hiked for miles, canoed for more miles and cycled for even more! We also got roped up and put on crampons to go for a day's walk over a glacier, in very cold but clear weather conditions.



On Thursday, we moved to the outskirts of Reykjavik where we camped at Hafnarfjordur Scout Centre. The town is known as the 'Town of Lava' and is proud of its Viking heritage.

Ever keen to sample the local hospitality, we dined out in style in a traditional Viking restaurant, but decided to let our involvement with historical Viking activities end there.

One of the highlights of the trip was visiting the Pingvellir National Park, where we saw some of the natural wonders of Iceland, including the thermal activity and even active geysers without getting too wet.

It was a brilliant week – seeing all the geothermal activities, swimming in the natural hot pools, walking over glaciers and doing the triathlon with a great bunch of people is something that will stay with me for life!

It wouldn't have happened without the leadership of David Breakwell and his team, and we Explorer Scouts thank them all so much for giving us this experience of a lifetime!

**Ollie Wood – Endeavour ESU**

## Dragon Boating

Runnymede Scouts have been practicing Dragon Boating this summer and for the first time we entered a team into the Longridge Dragon Boating Tournament. Our team of 12 Scouts and 1 Cub (13 in all) raced against a number of teams all with 18 paddlers in the under fifteen category. We won two races and came a close second in another and came third overall in the competition.



It was great to see the excellent teamwork and an amazing amount of effort that they had to put in to win two races with five fewer paddlers than all the other crews (even the marshals were cheering us on). The weather was kind as we missed all of the rain and we even had the wind behind us. Our best time was 2 minute 29 seconds for 500 metres, which is excellent. I would like to say a massive well done to all those who took part as well as the mums and dads for their vocal support. Just think what could have been if we had put in a full crew? I am pretty sure that Dragon Boating is going to stay in our plans for next year and hopefully we can bring back a trophy. Finally, a big thank you is due to the guys at Wrasbury Dragons who coached us through the summer.

**Nick Reeves – District Water Activities Advisor**

## Cubs Fishing Competition

This year we held the Cubs fishing competition at the Angling Fishing Projects Lake in Wrasbury.

Thanks to the Cubs who took part and to the parents who came with copious amounts of fishing kit to help their packs! We had a terrific morning, in an ideal location. The sun shone down and there were plenty of fish to catch. Apparently, there was a carp in the lake but he always seemed to be the one that got away as, although there were a few sightings, he wasn't coming up for air!



1st /4th Addlestone retained the trophy this year. The results were:-

1<sup>st</sup> Place for Best Overall Catch went to 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Addlestone Lions - 43oz continued.....

2<sup>nd</sup> Place for Best Overall Catch went to 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Water Dragons - 33oz.



Best Individual Catch by weight went to Leo, 4<sup>th</sup> Addlestone Lions - 1lb 10oz.  
Best Individual Catch by number of fish to Zephan, 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Water Dragons - 11 fish.

Honestly, it wasn't a fix !!!!

For more information about this location, and to book fishing activities for your section log onto <http://www.angling-projects.org.uk>  
It is really worth a visit.

**Akela, 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Water Dragons**

### Poppy Collection

The District collected £785.55 on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thank you to all who gave up their time.

**George Kerr**

### Into the New Forest

On the weekend of 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October members of the District Scout Fellowship/Active Support Group ventured into the New Forest, staying at the Forest Lodge Hotel in Lyndhurst. Saturday was spent exploring Lymington (mainly the market),



and on Sunday, despite the rain, we had our walk around Lyndhurst. Most of the rest of our time was taken up with fine wines and excellent food.

### Leaving Walton Firs

Sue and Dave McIntosh will be leaving Walton Firs over the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> November and would like to thank everyone for their friendship and support over the last 24 years; it has been very much appreciated. We are looking forward to seeing many of you next year at "Surrey Scout About" as we have been invited to help in the tuck shop.

With kind regards and best wishes from Sue, Dave and family.

### Local Knowledge at the Local Museum



Cubs from 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Addlestone Tigers visited Chertsey Museum to complete their Local Knowledge badge. The museum staff had put together a very interesting collection of old photographs and maps, which the cubs used to answer a range of questions on their local area. One map showed Addlestone in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and, apart from the railway, there were very few local, present day landmarks you could recognise.

St. Pauls was one of the few schools in the area and all the big houses that gave the remaining schools their names; Darley Dene, Ongar Place, etc. were still there. It was strange to look at a map and realise the road and house you live in today didn't exist! We cleared the tables and the cubs had a 10 minute run round the museum and finished with a drink and biscuit. As always the museum staff worked very hard to ensure the Cubs had and really interesting evening and possibly even learnt something.....well maybe.

**Gareth Jenkins - CSL**

## District Diary 2013-2014

Updates and Corrections shown in Red

### November 2013

|                      |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Fellowship/Active Support Meeting |
| Thr 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Young Leader Training             |
| Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> | Cubs Night Hike                   |
| Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> | Beavers Emergency Aid Badge Day   |
| Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Scouts Night Hike                 |

### December 2013

(School ends 20<sup>th</sup>)

|                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> | Cubs Christingle Service |
| Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> | Explorers Bowling Night  |

### January 2014

(School starts 6<sup>th</sup>)

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> | Gilwell Winter Camp               |
| Sat 18 <sup>th</sup>                         | Fellowship New Years Dinner       |
| Thr 23 <sup>rd</sup>                         | Keeping Children Safe             |
| Mon 27 <sup>th</sup>                         | Explorer Dodge Ball Challenge     |
| Mon 27 <sup>th</sup>                         | Fellowship/Active Support Meeting |

### February 2014

(School half term 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>)

|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> | Cubs Big Splash                     |
| Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> | District Executive Meeting          |
| Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> | Explorers London Monopoly Challenge |
| Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> | Scouts Cooking Competition          |

### March 2014

|   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> and Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Explorers County Night Challenge  |
| Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup>                         | Cubs Cooking Competition          |
| Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>                         | 1 <sup>st</sup> Response Course   |
| Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>                        | Scouts Day Prowl                  |
| Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>                        | Fellowship/Active Support Meeting |
| Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup>                        | Beaver Family Ramble              |

### April 2014

(School holiday 7<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>)

|                      |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Fri 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Scouts 5-a-side Football          |
| Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Fellowship St Georges Dinner.     |
| Thr 24 <sup>th</sup> | Parade Flag Practice              |
| Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> | St Georges Day Parade and Service |

### May 2014

(School half term 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>)

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup>                         | 1 <sup>st</sup> Response Course |
| Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> | National Archery Competition    |

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> | Scouts Canoe Camp           |
| Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>                         | District Executive Meeting  |
| Fri 16 <sup>th</sup>                         | Cubs Football Competition   |
| Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> | Beaver POW-WOW & sleep over |

### June 2014

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>                          | Fellowship/Active Support Meeting |
| Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>                          | Keeping Children Safe             |
| Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>                         | Cubs Fun day                      |
| Thr 19 <sup>th</sup>                         | District AGM                      |
| Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> | Scoutabout                        |

### July 2014

(School ends 23<sup>rd</sup>)

|  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> | Explorers Gilwell 24       |
| Mon 14 <sup>th</sup>                         | District Executive Meeting |

### August 2014

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> to Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> | Explorers International Scout Meeting Germany |
|---|---|

### September 2014

(School starts 2<sup>nd</sup>)

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>                          | Fellowship/Active Support Meeting |
| Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>                         | Scouts Cardboard Rafting          |
| Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> | Cubs Sixers & Seconders Camp      |

### October 2014

(School half term 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>)

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> to Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> | Fellowship/Active support Weekend Away |
| Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>                         | District Executive Meeting             |
| Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>                         | 1 <sup>st</sup> Response Course        |

### November 2014

|                      |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Fellowship/Active Support Meeting |
| Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> | Cubs Night Hike                   |

### December 2014

(School ends 19<sup>th</sup>)

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> | Cubs Day Trip |
|---------------------|---------------|

Copy date for next issue  
21<sup>st</sup> December 2013  
Email: [chris.couzens@ntlworld.com](mailto:chris.couzens@ntlworld.com)