

Scouting in Runnymede

Dutch Scouts Visit Runnymede

At end of July a party of 11 Dutch Scouts and their Leaders from Heeze, near Eindhoven arrived at 1st/4th Addlestone HQ, to spend a week exploring the local area.



The party, equivalent to our Network Scouts, had arranged the visit themselves as part of their training. Thorpe Park, Windsor Castle and Wembley stadium were visited; archery was arranged at the HQ, Top Golf at Addlestone and canoeing from Addlestone Canoe Club, thanks to Nick Reeves who also allowed the visitors to use the showers at the Canoe Club.

George Kerr – Chairman 1st/4th Addlestone

Water Activities Good News

I hope you all had a good break. I am writing to update you all regarding our Water Activities team ably run by Nick Reeves. This year has seen more use of this resource and from what I have seen, a lot of young people from Beavers to Explorers PLUS some leaders have been enjoying themselves. Further to this several members of the team have now acquired rafting permits further widening the range of activities we can now offer. However please can I ask we support these specialist sections for the more we use these cost effective resources the more our young people get out of Scouting.

Also I would like to announce, following Nicks submission to the District Executive for some equipment to enhance what they can offer, the Executive have agreed to acquire three new kayaks for use by our young people to supplement the equipment provided by Addlestone Canoe Club (bearing in mind we have to date not purchased any equipment for this team).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Nick and his team for what they have done for Scouting in Runnymede, in such a short time.

Andy Sainsbury-Brown District Commissioner



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Chertsey Dons and Hunters Cub packs camp at Bentley Copse in Shere

The camp crew arrived on Sunday to set up the majority of the camp in the pouring rain and crossed their fingers and toes for a dry week to come.

When the 30 Cubs arrived on Monday, they were excited to explore the camp site but first they had to put their tents up, which would be their homes for the next 5 days. Cue lots of tent poles and mallets swinging around, but they worked well in their sixes to finally put up their tents and sort out where they were sleeping. Our fantastic Scouts and Explorers (Martin, Tom, Harvey, Daisy, Roo and mini-crew Maff and Orla) took the cubs off into the woods for a spot of orienteering and games. The Cubs love to explore and play freely at Bentley Copse. After a spot of lunch, the Cubs split into two – one half went rifle shooting with Ben and the other half went pedal go-karting with Lou. Luckily, lots of the younger camp crew came and helped push the Cubs up the hill as the go karts are tricky! A few spectacular crashes and overtakes stunned the crowd as the Cubs whizzed round the course. In the Rifle Range, there were some impressive sharp shooters as they were patient and were very sensible. After dinner, we introduced the tent inspectors (Mrs. A – Lou, Mrs. B – Kate, Mrs. C – Sara) and shared with the Cubs that points meant prizes and points could be achieved by having a tidy tent, working well as a team, being polite, flattery and of course wooing the tent inspectors with some amazing evening entertainment. The Cubs took this very seriously and millions of points were awarded the first night after being wowed by beautifully tidy tents, light shows, songs and even dances!

Tuesday arrived with some much needed sunshine and after a delicious breakfast, the cubs packed their day bags for our hike into Shere village. We recognized lots of the trees, hazelnuts and even where squirrels or mice had taken a nibble. Steve (The Viking) challenged the younger camp crew to climb an overhanging tree – very dangerous but exciting. We arrived in Shere and ate our lunch in the sunshine by the stream...



We arrived back at camp mid-afternoon and chilled out in the woods before enjoying some fire lighting. The Cubs used flint strikers to try and light their own little fires and learnt how to kneel in the 'respect' position around a fire in case of emergencies. Once dinner and the delightful washing up was done, the Cubs were treated to a campfire with favorite songs such as Boogaloo, Found a Peanut, The Penguin Song, The Yellow Bird and a few of the Cubs even taught us some new ones! Once the singing had died down, it was time for another tent inspection. We were treated to dramas, Strictly Come Dancing skits, untold flattery of the tent inspectors and fantastical light shows – we were very impressed!

On Wednesday we packed our swimming cossies and headed to Guildford Spectrum for fun on the slides, the diving boards and of course, a mid-week wash! The Cubs were fantastically well behaved and looked out for each other in a busy swimming pool. Some really challenged themselves to dive off the middle and top diving boards – well done!

We returned to camp where Steve had made us lunch and we then turned ourselves into Forest Explorers. Each Cub was given a paper crown with double-sided sticky tape to collect leaves, twigs, berries and other flora to make into a beautiful camp crown – some struggled to stick logs and stones to their crowns but had a good try! Wearing our crowns, we replanted a tree at Bentley Copse to commemorate one hundred years of Scouting in Chertsey. The birch tree was kindly donated by long-standing supporter of Chertsey, Yvonne Barnes – thank you Yvonne!



After our crowns were made, we headed back into the woods to undo our earlier wash in the swimming pool and got ourselves very muddy making Muddy Faces. The creativity of the Cubs was amazing and they worked tirelessly on their spooky faces.



We then heard a strange bird call... it was the OOLIGOOLI BIRD OF BENTLEY COPSE!

Lou told the Cubs the story of the Ooligooli bird and that very few people have seen it and all that we knew about it was it liked ready-made nests and laid two different coloured eggs – blue for a baby bird and yellow for custard. The cubs had already tasted Ooligooli bird custard with Swiss Roll the night before and so set about making nests for the bird.



Their nests were fantastic! Many of them had used a range of materials and some even had en suite bathrooms, lounges and gardens! Some were protected by stick and stone fortresses and some had traps to stop predators from getting to the eggs. We didn't see any Ooligooli birds while we were there, but later in the week, we discovered a blue egg in one of the nests! The Cubs decided that all the yellow ones had been taken by other groups for custard making. Wednesday ended with another fabulous campfire and more delightful entertainment with the tent inspections.

Thursday was a beautiful sunny day and the group split in half again. Half went fishing with Ben, Steve, Dave (GSL) and Simon and the other half went with Lou and Kate on an exciting visit to the Sewage Museum... we mean the park, followed by Pick-Your-Own at Secrets in Milford. The Cubs enjoyed foraging for the BEST strawberries and we enjoyed sitting on the grass in the sunshine joined by Paul (Scout Leader), Tansy and their two boys Barney and Jamie who were well-looked after by the Cubs! Once we arrived back at camp, we enjoyed our lunch and then practiced our fire lighting skills again and this time, we could toast marshmallows over our own fires. We then donned our cossies again for Splash Cricket, where the stumps are replaced by paddling pools and the crease is replaced with a slippery tarpaulin. After the splashing, we created a long, slippery tarpaulin down the slope at Bentley and using some Lilos from a neighboring group, we slipped and slid down the hill. Thursday was our final night and we had been joined by some of the Bourne Beavers to experience Cub camp for one night and we enjoyed a huge campfire with our blankets and hot chocolate with mini marshmallows. Martin was challenged to eat the remaining marshmallows and we cheered him on as he did it in record time! Go Martin! The cubs slept soundly after their final tent entertainment and it was of course DOUBLE POINTS DAY. By this point, each team had reached at least 10 million points, if not more. There was still lots of time left to earn more points!

Friday was our final day and the Cubs and beavers enjoyed playing in the adventure playground and then Ben took them down to play some great wide games in the woods – capture the flag, postbox game (led by Fox and Mr. Fox) and lots of other fun in the Hurt Wood. The camp was dismantled and after lunch, the final points were shared. It was a close race, but the winning team was the Pink Pigacorns! Well done. The Cubs received their camp badges and we made our way home. Thank you to everyone who made this camp possible and thank you to all the Cubs who made it really fun.

Louise MacDonald CSL 1st Chertsey Dons

Walton Firs Activity Evening



On the last evening of the Summer Term we decided to try something different and booked an evening at Walton Firs. We did two activities, an hour in the newly refurbished maze and then an hour on the activity course. It was a lovely summer evening and apart from one other Cub Pack we had the whole site to ourselves. Unfortunately because of the lack of rain the adventure course was a bit drier than we would have liked. Even the rope swing was dry, but at least the Cubs went home reasonably clean. All in all, a great way to end the Scouting year.

Gareth Jenkins CSL - 1st/4th Addlestone Tigers

District Diary 2015

Changes and additions shown in red

September 2015

(School starts 2nd)

Fri 18 th to Sun 20 th	Cubs Sixer/Secondar camp
Sun 13 th	Leaders Skills learning day
Sat 19 th	Cubs Fishing Competition
Sun 27 th	Scouts Fishing Competition

October 2015

(Half term 26th to 30th)

Fri 9 th to Mon 12 th	Active Support Weekend Away
Mon 12 th	District Executive Meeting
Sat 17 th	Beavers No Cook Cooking
Sun 18 th	Training First Response
Sun 18 th	Scouts A to Z Challenge

British Legion Poppy Collection

Poppy collection confirmed for Sat 24th October at Sainsbury's, Chertsey. I shall be looking for volunteers in a couple of weeks.

George Kerr District Secretary

Editors Note

As this issue is low on articles, I have decided not to judge and award prizes for the best article for under 15 and over15 age groups, but I will do so for the next issue 188, at which time I will review all the articles from issue 187 and 188.

Chris Couzens - Editor

November 2015

Fri 13 th	Cubs Night Hike
Sat 14 th	Leaders Skittles Competition Evening

December 2015

(School ends 18th)

Sat 5 th	Cubs Big Day Out
Wed 9 th	Cubs Christingle Service

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