



## *G.S.L. Report*

# *The Request*

September sees the start of a new Scouting Year and looking at our provisional calendar it looks like being a full and active one. Plenty of activities and events for all the family to join in with so please put the dates in your diaries and support them as best you can.



Scouting is always changing with the Scout Association keeping us on our toes, particularly with respect to the training of all our Leaders and adult supporters. New rules mean our Group Executive Committee are assessed on knowledge of their roles. There are also new Scout Association insurance requirements. These days it seems that if you aren't in a process of change you are considered to be stagnating! In the 151, we have embraced change over many years so that the Scouting we offer to our Young people remains relevant, challenging and fun.

At the end of this year our Beaver Scout leader Jen Clark will be standing down as her other volunteering roles outside of Scouting will require her full attention for a while. Jen has been a great BSL for many years and we will all miss her but she has assured me she will become a member of our SAS and help out from time to time. At the same time Mandy Powell (ABSL) who has been helping as a 2<sup>nd</sup> role (her prime role is as CSL with the 78<sup>th</sup> Kingswood) will be leaving – thanks Mandy for your help over the past year or so. Naturally this leaves me with a few roles to fill but be assured I am on the case and hope to have a BSL in place straight after Christmas.

### When we meet

- BEAVERS, Mondays  
5.15pm—6.15pm
- CUBS, Mondays  
6.30pm—8.00pm
- SCOUTS, Tuesdays  
7.45pm-9.15pm

JT

## Beaver Bits



The Beavers had a great summer term, concentrating on gaining their My World and Hikers badges. We thought it would be nice to send the Queen a birthday poster for her 90th. All the Beavers drew pictures of different things to do with the Queen. We were all very excited when we received a special thank you card and letter from her. As part of My World badge we did a sponsored walk through Vassal's Park for The Jack Bank's Appeal. We raised the fantastic sum of £365.00 which goes towards treasure chests full of toys for sick children to play with at the Children's Hospital. We received a thank you certificate. Ollie Hughes who raised the most money said he was 'really pleased that the money was going to make sick children happy'.

We started our Autumn term with the Beavers showing us their collections and talking about their hobbies, which varied from judo to collecting precious stones. We will also be working towards their Disability Badge in the next couple of months. 13 of us will be joining the District Beavers day out on the 9th October at Puxton Park which we are all looking forward to.

### The Beaver Team

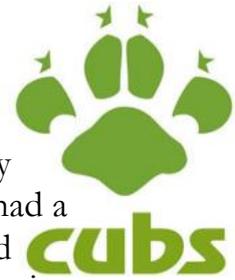


Beaver Scout Leader: Jen Clark  
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Parent Representative  
Tesfaye Demissie  
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# Cub Capers



Hi all hope you all had a good summer. We at Cubs have had a really busy summer! It all started in May with the Avon Jamboree, 10 Cubs had a very busy Bank Holiday weekend. The camp had 4000 participants and over 200 activities. The Cubs enjoyed practising archery, caving and various crafts they also played with inflatables, and many more.

During the summer we worked towards the navigator badge where the cubs learned how to use a map and compass. This really important skill was then put into practice with orienteering in Vassal's Park. We then worked on camp skills by learning how to pitch a tent. As it was the summer of the Olympics the Cubs decided to work towards the athletics badge. Over few weeks, we practised several activities including long jump, throwing challenge, sprinting and a 400m run.

Now we are looking forward to the winter term. Where we have lots of things planed like local knowledge badge, scientist badge, remembrance night and Christmas activities plus a trip to the Helicopter museum.

The Cub team



Cub Scout Leader: Sean Mundy  
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Parent Representative  
Pete Hook  
07875139836

# Scout Snippets



We started the Summer term by going back to basics, learning fire lighting skills and building up to cooking some fish on the open fire.

Most people tried it and more than would have admitted actually liked it!

Later in the summer we started our athletics badge, cycled all the way to Saltford, spent some time with the Cubs and even played a wide game with torches.

Late May bank holiday found us at AJAM which was a fantastic event with thousands of scouts from all over Avon. As I'm sure you will have heard Bear Grylls visited, albeit briefly! This year our annual summer camp was held at Ferny Crofts near Lyndhurst in the New Forest. A beautiful area, beautiful site, with beautiful weather made for a fantastic week away.

Enough from us now let's hear from the scouts themselves:

## Summer Camp

'Camp was great I liked it'

'Camp was fun and adventurous and you are there to try new things'

'On Ollie's birthday we woke up and did tomahawk throwing. Our leaders got nicknames on who won. Martin got given Rambo and reluctantly Dave got Haribo. I think you know who won. Later in the afternoon we went to a Waterpark'

'My favourite bit was the very long cycle ride I was tired but proud'

'At scout camp the best thing was when we went to the waterpark it was really fun and we had an amazing time. The scariest thing was when we went out for a bike ride and I fell off my bike and cut both my elbows and had a bruise on my side. Also on the Friday we did an invitation meal where we had to cook a three course meal for a leader. Our score for our meal was 9/10 we did amazing!!'

'Scout camp was brilliant because of the choice of activities. Also we went to go to Splashdown waterpark one of the days of scout camp'.



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Parent Representative  
Shaun Nurse  
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And finally a report from this years district night hike, courtesy of Kila Hayward.

## The night hike (the shortened version)

On an extremely dark, wet and miserable evening at some point in the week, ( I think it might have been the weekend my memory is not that great) myself and four other brave adventurous scouts were released into the wild dangerous wonders of Ashton Court, Bristol. We were to find checkpoints that weren't there with false instructions, in an act of emergency.

We set off on our dangerous, daring journey. Approximately not long after we were lost, sat in a field in the dark, eating grass. After a couple of long tiresome hours trying to convince ourselves to just give up and go back, we got up and walked in a random direction. After not that long of walking we found "base one" - unlabelled and hidden in the trees. We completed their tasks, relieved to have other human company and set on our way to find base 2.

Approximately three hours later we are sat in a field desperately lost, in the middle of what we later found out was the Deerpark, attempting to get heat off batteries off a torch. Once we have decided to give up and go back one of us fell over so we decided to use the whistle system. Well... It didn't exactly go to plan, we blew out with someone and didn't get a reply. The beauty getting on again into we heard a faint whistling from the direction of base camp we gave up, got up and went back to base camp had a chocolate and biscuits. Later we learnt that half the leaders didn't possess a whistle and the whistling we heard was Sam.

Actual words of wisdom by me, myself and I.



# Glamping or Camping?

You don't need to go 'Glamping' to have comfortable 'Camping' so here are a few top tips to help our young people enjoy their time under canvas.

It is important for our young people to get a good night's sleep so it is essential that they are warm and comfortable. For warmth they need a sleeping bag which is classed as '3-4 season'. Anything less and they will be cold – Group Camp a few years ago saw -1C at night towards the end of May!! Comfort is achieved by having something comfortable underneath them. Mats and mattresses do 2 things; they 'iron out' the bumps in the ground and give insulation. There are a whole raft of types of mats/mattresses from basic rollup to inflatable ones. No need to spend a lot of money but the general rule is the 'thicker the better'.

It is a fact of our weather that we get rained on (although Scout Camp this year was almost sunshine all week) so our young people need to be protected from the elements by waterproof clothing - coats, over trousers and wellies. Again, no need to spend a lot of money but anything that says it is showerproof will not keep your child dry!

The Leaders do take spares of the above equipment in the event that items get wet and just in case a young person brings something that is unsuitable.

The Scout Association does have an arrangement with Go Outdoors where Leaders can get 15% so if you talk nicely with your section Leader they may be able to help you!

<http://www.gooutdoors.co.uk/online-scout-manager-leader-coupon> Go Outdoors also have from time to time special offers for Scouts so you may be able to get a bargain here



# Events for your diary



## 151 Calendar 2016-7

**30<sup>th</sup> September** - Evening Social for Leaders and supporters

**2<sup>nd</sup> October** - Group Birthday celebrations – Church 2pm, followed by section presentations and tea

**8<sup>th</sup> October (am)** - Working party to tidy the store and complete fitting of light units in the hall

**30<sup>th</sup> October** -Autumn Amble around Swinford and Kelston

**13<sup>th</sup> November** -Remembrance Day – attending Page Park ceremony & Downend Scout Memorial

**26<sup>th</sup> November** - Christmas Bazaar

**5<sup>th</sup> December** - Santa's Sleigh Cubs and Beavers

**6<sup>th</sup> December** - Santa's Sleigh Scouts

**12<sup>th</sup> December** - Carol Singing at Colliers Gardens

**9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017** - Beavers, Cubs and Scouts return after the Christmas break

## *SAS Scout Active Support*



The purpose of the 151 Scout Active Support Unit is to free up your volunteer leadership team as much as possible so they can concentrate on running the sectional programmes that your children enjoy. Members of the 151 SAS are members of the Scout Association and wear the group necker.

We invite all parents, carers and friends of 151 to either become a member of the 151 SAS or to volunteer to work alongside us occasionally and to help when and where you can.

We meet three times a year to accept requests for help from the group.

If each parent helped us with just one event, we can ensure our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts get the best from their scouting experiences with the 151.

Please ask any Leader if you would like to help.



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### *Group Council Executive Committee*

Chairman, Ron Brooks, 2 Lytchet Drive, BS166SA , 01179568478

Secretary (Minutes), Rosemary Wyatt, 30 Stanbridge Road, BS166AL, 0117 9564214

Treasurer, Lorraine Sanderson, 38 Shrubbery Road, Downend BS16 5TA , 0117 9401829

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The Request Editor, Isabella Browne, 29 Aintree Drive, BS166SY, 0117 9565638