

## 1. AROUND THE GROUPS

VENTURES have planned a busy programme of activities for the coming year including a weekend in Brecon, Wales.

TUESDAY SCOUTS enjoyed a very successful hiking weekend in Derbyshire at the beginning of December. Cold, but fine weather led to good walking conditions with snow underfoot. Congratulations to Andrew Shorter, Stuart Ind, Jonathan Cottrell and Richard Scoffham who have subsequently gained their Hiker Badge.

A further expedition is planned in February. A group will visit Edale the weekend 5-7th: this will be another opportunity to gain the Hiker Badge.

FRIDAY SCOUTS had another memorable Christmas dinner when the meal was prepared and cooked by the scouts themselves.

The SCOUT SECTION will be participating in the Outdoor Activity Award of 1999. This will entail involvement in up to 12 nights camping and 20 outdoor activities and will include a Cub Scout 24 hour challenge and a possible camp in May. More details will be given in due course.

MONDAY CUBS are still looking for more members: if you know of any boys who may be interested, please contact the leaders or visit the group during a Monday meeting between 7 and 8 p.m.

THURSDAY CUBS are starting the year with working for first aid awards: they also plan a busy year with a variety of activities and events.

WEDNESDAY BEAVERS look forward to a full programme for the coming months.

FRIDAY BEAVERS are writing to H.M.S. BEAVER to become 'part of the crew'. They may be amongst the last beavers to do this as the ship is to be de-commissioned this year

Well done to Joshua Cooper, Alex Gadsby and Nathan Adamson who were awarded best attendance awards.

## 2. FUND-RAISING

Many thanks to all of you who have ordered from Webb Ivory. This has realised about £1,000 for group funds.

200 Club - please renew your number(s) this month or consider participating in this 'lottery'. Numbers are £1 per month and three prizes are awarded each month. Winners for November were R. Shorter, Mrs E. Parker and Mrs D. Coopey. Winners for December were Mrs J. Hill, Mrs E. Woodward and Mrs C. Rowberry. The end of year jackpot winner was Mrs C. Cottrell. We give a further reminder to reserve some jumble for our rummage sale at the beginning of March. This can be taken to the scout hut during any meeting.

### 3.SOCIAL EVENTS

Look out for details of the skittles evening on 27 February. Tickets will be £8.50 per family; or £3.00 per adult, £1.50 for children. Jacket potatoes with a variety of fillings will be provided. Bring your own drinks.

If you are unable to attend the event but would still like to help, please consider donating a prize for the raffle on the evening.

### 4. CANADA 2000 UPDATE

Plans are progressing for the proposed visit to Canada in the summer of 2000. These include a visit to Niagara Falls and the C.N. Tower. A travel agent has agreed to organise the details of these visits in addition to general travel arrangements. The date of a meeting to give further details of costs and activities will be announced soon.

### 5. HEADQUARTERS NEWS

Our buildings suffer from a continued series of attempted break-ins. Following the successful burglary of last week during which cupboards were forced and equipment taken, new steel fire doors will be fitted to replace the wooden ones at a cost of about £600.

A REMINDER of the annual district swimming gala to be held on 6 February. Practice for this is arranged at John Cleveland College on 16 January. Cubs 2-4 p.m.; Scouts and Ventures 4-6 p.m.

A REMINDER to pay membership fees before the end of the month. The annual CENSUS has to be returned by the end of January; membership is determined by subscription payment.

ADDITIONALLY we congratulate Doug Shorter our acting Group Scout Leader who was awarded the Medal of Merit at the end of last year for his services to Weddington Scouts over many years.

FINALLY we say FAREWELL to Tim and Gemma Deakin and family who have left to

live and work in Barbados for the next two years. The group sends good wishes to Tim (Friday Scout leader) and Gemma (Monday Cub leader) and daughters Jenny and Vicki. We will send them an E-Mail of the newsletter, so they can keep up to date with our activities.

Please submit items for the February newsletter by 9 February.

## NEWSLETTER

## 1. AROUND THE GROUPS

VENTURES have been bowling and will be ice-skating this week. Some members may be joining an activity weekend in Brecon at the end of this month. In addition to their own activities, the group works hard to help with the maintenance of the building and fund-raising. They will be spending their first meeting in March collecting jumble for our rummage sale.

SCOUTS survived a wet and cold weekend camping in Edale, Derbyshire. They walked beyond Edale Cross to the Reservoir in persistent rain on Saturday and from the campsite over to Castleton in much drier (but colder) weather on Sunday. So this was a good test of walking and camping skills and the suitability of clothing and equipment.

CUBS enjoyed a good afternoon's swimming at John Cleveland College on 16 January when the teams for the district gala were selected. Fifteen cubs gained a Stage 1 swimming badge, eleven gained a Stage 2, and four a Stage 3. Well done to them. Thanks also go to Mr and Mrs Heath, Mrs Allport, Mrs Vernon, Mrs Wall, Mr York and Mr Boucher for their help in making the afternoon a success.

Members from both Cub Packs will be visiting the training centre for Guide Dogs for the Blind in Leamington during this half term.

FOSSE (Monday) Pack recently had an interesting visit from Mrs Burnett who taught them some sign language. They have also had a visit from Mrs Gay with her blind dog. These visits are part of a programme of activities based on different 'senses'.

MANY CONGRATULATIONS to all cubs, scouts, ventures and over-18s who took part in and won the annual Nuneaton and District Scout Swimming Gala on 6 February. Cubs finished a very good second in their section and the others won their sections to secure the championship once more. Well done to all those who swam so well.

FRIDAY (WOODLAND) BEAVERS have written to HMS Beaver and asked to join the honorary crew. They have sledged through Antarctica and experimented with oil and water. They plan to visit a desert island, to get rid of the winter blues. We have started collecting pennies, enough to go round the circle at the hut, to give to the R.S.P.C.A. as our community challenge.

Well done to William Ogden and Nathan Adamson who have gained their Beaver Challenge Badge. Welcome to Timothy Johnston who has been invested as a Beaver Scout.

## 2. FUND-RAISING

Thanks to those who have renewed or taken out numbers for the 200 Club. We would welcome more members: please think about responding to the invitation you received last month. The winners for January and February will be drawn at the skittles evening next week.

Our jumble sale is imminent: Saturday 6 March at St Nicolas Church Hall. WE URGENTLY REQUIRE ANYTHING WHICH CAN BE SOLD ON THAT MORNING: clothes, books, tapes, toys, shoes, bric-a-brac etc. Please find something if you can. It can be delivered to the scout hut during any meeting before the date. Please label your bag 'scout rummage' so it is not overlooked. Alternatively it can be delivered to, or collected by, Mrs Carol Cottrell, 16 Winchester Ave. (387375). Anyone who may be able to help on the morning would be very welcome: we do at the moment rely on helpers who have very little connection with our scout group to run the sale. As always, we are very grateful to them.

### 3. SOCIAL EVENTS

You should by now have an invitation to the skittles evening on 27 February. Tickets will be £8.50 per family; or £3.00 per adult, £1.50 per child. Money to be paid on the night but numbers are needed for catering. Jacket potatoes with a variety of fillings will be provided. Bring your own drinks. Please come and join us for an enjoyable family evening. We would welcome any donations for the raffle.

### 4. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

We are planning an ambitious programme of events for the year 2000. This includes special camps, particularly the summer camp in Canada in July. We plan a commemorative badge, the details for the design of which members have already received; the hosting of a group party near to the anniversary date in April; the organisation of a group photograph; the printing of a commemorative tea-towel in addition to sweat-shirts; and perhaps the organisation of an open day for all who are involved or have been involved in the group since its registration in 1950

If you know of anyone who has been involved in Weddington Scouts during the past 50 years, please keep them informed of our plans. If they would like to contribute in any way, please contact Doug and Myra Shorter. (328166)

We also claim to create a TOTEM POLE carved by the members of the group as a long-term memorial of our 50th anniversary. Enquiries are currently being made for an experienced woodcarver to oversee this idea: please contact a committee member or section leader if you know of anyone who may be able to advise us on this.

### 5. HEADQUARTERS NEWS

In addition to the break-in of last month, our buildings have received a further set-back: flood damage. The floors of the two buildings were covered by water during January's floods and this has entailed additional 'mopping-up' operations and longer-term repair/refurbishment of the floors both of which have only recently been improved. We will need to replace the carpet tiles of the extension building. New fire doors have now been fitted.

#### ADDITIONALLY - AN APPEAL FOR HELP

It must be clear from the extensive range of activities and events provided for our boys by each of our sections, and from the nature of our plans for next year, that much additional work will be involved in the success of all these schemes. Section leaders and committee members already happily give up much extra free time. They will be very stretched, however, to find all the necessary resources to ensure we achieve all we hope to do in the coming months.

For this reason we are currently re-organising the group management structure. It is intended to create smaller, more job-specific sub-committees for finance, fund raising, maintenance, membership, recruitment and so on. Please consider helping in any of these areas according to any interest you may have or expertise you may be able to offer. Specific needs and contact numbers will be published in the March newsletter.

Meanwhile we would like this month to find a TREASURER to be responsible for our accounts. This would involve little direct contact with the groups: the collection of subscriptions, for instance, would be the responsibility of a membership secretary. Please contact Chris Ball, our current Treasurer, if you would like more details. (01455 213005)

A REMINDER that information is forthcoming on both a meeting to introduce the Canada camp and on the ordering of group sweatshirts and T-shirts.

Doug Shorter, our acting Group Scout Leader, with family Andrew, Ruth and Helen and wife Myra, at the recent presentation of the Medal of Merit.

Items for the next newsletter by 15 March please.

## MARCH 1999NEWSLETTER NO. 4

### WEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP

#### 1. AROUND THE GROUPS

The annual membership census reveals very encouraging growth for Weddington Scouts. It shows that within the Nuneaton and Bedworth District, our group alone has increased its membership. Indeed we are just four members short of being the largest group in the district which is currently 1st Nuneaton. We do have by far the largest Venture section, the largest Scout section and the largest Beaver section.

VENTURES will attend a District Quiz at Attleborough on 24 March. They have also organised a night hike during a link with the District Scout Activity Camp 16-18 April. Next weekend some Ventures have volunteered to walk to Fox Covert with the scouts.

SCOUTS plan to walk from their headquarters to the scout camp site at Fox Covert near Kirby Mallory next Saturday 20 March. They will leave the scout hut at 1 p.m. and spend the night in the building at the site before being collected from there at 9.30 on Sunday morning.

Scouts hope to participate in the District Scout Activity Camp at Kingsbury 16-18 April during which they will enter the Scout raft race and camping competition.

MONDAY CUBS had a very successful evening recently making bird boxes. Each cub was accompanied by an adult and between them they produced some very professional bird boxes. Congratulations to the two 'Mums' who attended and managed brilliantly. Monday Cubs are also happy to welcome 5 new beavers to the pack and hope they will enjoy their time with us.

THURSDAY CUBS completed their first aid work with a very interesting visit from Ken Aldridge of the West Midlands Air Ambulance Service. His illustrated talk underlined the importance of this service and described some of the incidents during which they have been able to offer invaluable assistance.

Cubs are now modelling and decorating clay pots for Easter eggs.

BEAVERS are currently being reorganised following the retirement of Pat French, Wednesday night Beaver leader, who has worked with Weddington Scout Group for many years. We extend to her our thanks for all her hard work and commitment to the group and wish her well in her retirement.

Meanwhile John Ind has taken the leadership of Wednesday Beavers in addition to the Friday group. He plans to transfer the Wednesday group to Monday evening. Ultimately we aim to open a third Beaver Colony: we need potential leaders to come forward and

offer their help.

The Beavers have looked at the stars and made telescopes. They have looked at old and foreign coins which links in with the Woodland Colony's community challenge. Woodland Colony collected £45 in pennies in just 5 weeks and have donated it to the R.S.P.C.A. The Beavers have celebrated Baden Powell's birthday and St David's Day. All Beavers are looking forward to a joint party on Friday 26 March to celebrate Beavers becoming Beaver Scouts.

They hope to put a team in for the District Beaver Challenge at Hartshill Hayes. Welcome to William Harrison who is now an invested Beaver and congratulations to all Wednesday Beavers for gaining their first Beaver badge. Finally, good luck to William Ogden, Adam Waite, Craig Summerton, Joshua Merry and Philip King who have all moved up to Cubs.

## 2. FUND RAISING

Many thanks to those who found rummage for our jumble sale. The sale raised £182 for group funds.

There has been a slow response to the 200 Club appeal this year. Please consider buying a number for this (£12 a year) to help make the project more worthwhile. This had proved a useful fund-raiser in the past and the chances of winning a prize are considerable.

## 3. SOCIAL EVENTS

The skittle night was an enjoyable evening which raised some money for funds: thanks to those who attended.

## 4. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

A meeting was held at the beginning of the month to move on the plans for the Canada camp. Parents of those interested in participating in the camp have been asked to register their interest by depositing £50 by the end of March. This will be refundable until the next payment is made in August. If any boys (born before 1 July 1989) missed the meeting and would like more details please contact Doug Shorter (328166).

Please remember to return designs for our commemorative badge.

## 5. HEADQUARTERS NEWS

Our most recent problem with the Scout Hut is that of a collapsed sewer. This will need the attention of another maintenance working party.

We have recently purchased a lawn mower and strimmer. The grass around the building needs cutting regularly during the summer. Up to now this had been an additional job taken on by scout leaders. It has been suggested that some parents might be able to help with this task once in a while., probably during their son's meeting. We may put a rota on to the noticeboard to see what response there may be.

ADDITIONALLY we wish to acknowledge the kind bequest of £320 from the family of HARRY SPENCER who died at the end of last year. Harry Spencer has been described as the 'father' of the group: his association with Weddington Scouts goes back to the late 50s and 60s and it was he who as G.S.L. fought for the survival of the group during difficult times of finding a permanent headquarters. We thank the family for this generous donation and assure them it will be used in commemoration of one so significant in the group's history.

Details for the next newsletter by 15 April please.

## APRIL 1999NEWSLETTER NO 5

### WEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP

#### 1. AROUND THE GROUPS

VENTURES won second place in the District Quiz held at Attleborough on 24 March. Well done to their team.

Ben Wallis and Robert Hadley were invested on a bridge spanning the Ashby Canal, in VERY muddy conditions last Wednesday night.

Well done to the three Ventures, Nicky Ind, Paul Reavenhall and Chris Cottrell, who completed three bases of the District NIKE (all night hike) on Saturday night before it was abandoned due to the potential dangers caused by fog combined with very low temperatures.

SCOUTS returned from a successful District Activity Camp at Kingsbury Water Park last Sunday. During a showery and sunny weekend they took part in a number of activities including shooting, abseiling, canoeing and archery. Some competed in three competitions and congratulations to Richard Scoffham, Alex McDonald, Andrew Shorter, Andrew York, Richard Heath and Tom Dermott who won the Camping Competition. Weddington Scouts also came third in the rafting competition.

This camp follows the Fox Covert walk earlier in the month when scouts navigated to Kirkby Mallory and spent the night in the hut at the scout campsite there. There will be a further camp in the middle of May which will link with older Cubs doing their Twenty Four Hour Challenge. Details of this to come.

CUBS travelled to Wembley on Saturday: they enjoyed a good day out which included a visit to the RAF Museum at Hendon.

Around 12 Cubs from Thursday Pack will be taking part in the District Activity Camp over the Bank Holiday weekend at the beginning of May. This will take place at Willesley near Ashby.

For a three-month trial period, Monday Cubs are starting their meeting in the extension building as Wednesday Beavers have now moved to Monday night.

BEAVERS enjoyed their party which celebrated Beavers becoming Beaver Scouts. Thirty Beavers attended with representatives from all the sections. The lads found it hard to believe that Mark and Owen were once Beavers!

Well done to Nicky Guyan, Kieran Taylor, Luke Barrar, Daniel Wincott and Alex Mather-Bright for winning the District Beaver Scout Challenge. They made a brilliant team. Well done lads!

The Beavers are now increasing in number and we would like to welcome Stuart Crooks,

Jonathan Allred, Alexander Coopey, Grant Perry, James Bainbridge, John Mumby, Greg McCracken, Max Mallabone, and Robbie Hawksworth.

, The new Beaver programme is beginning and we hope to use the Romans as our theme; the activities culminating in a Roman feast and battle.

We look forward to seeing everyone marching, some for the first time, in the St George's Day Parade.

**WE HOPE TO HAVE A GOOD TURN-OUT OF WEDDINGTON VENTURES, SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS AT THE ANNUAL ST. GEORGE'S DAY**

**PARADE ON 25 APRIL.** Please try your best to attend: as we are one of the largest groups in the District we should be well-represented.

We meet at Pool Bank Street at 2 p.m. and parents are asked to park nearby because of the congestion at the starting point.

## 2. FUND-RAISING

Club 200 winners have been drawn for the early part of the year. In January, first was C. Ball; second S. McDonald and third E. Parker. In February, first was S. Ball, second A. Ball and third M. Grant. In March, first was J. Woodward, second R. Ball and third S. Parker.

Once again, please consider 'buying' a number at £1 a month: this will be £8 for the remainder of the year.

Thanks to the Committee members who served refreshments to the audience of a Bedworth Symphony Orchestra Concert last month to earn additional funds for the Group.

On 31 April, 1 May and 2 May (May Bank Holiday Weekend) we will be staging one of our important fund-raising events: the provision of a refreshment tent at A 5 Aquatics.

**WE NEED HELP WITH THIS.** Please donate some bought or home-made cakes/cookies/biscuits for us to sell during the weekend and if anyone is available to help for an hour or so on any of these 3 days between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., this would really reduce the pressure on those leaders and committee members who are organising the event. A Rota for help will be circulated next week at the meetings and on the Notice Board.

## 3. CANADA 2000

There has been sufficient response to the initial invitation to the Canada Camp in the summer of 2000, to confirm that it will go ahead. So we are moving on to the next stage of selecting and booking a camp site near to Toronto. We hope then to be a little clearer on the actual costs of the trip, costs which we are hoping to reduce by a series of fund-raising events and bids for sponsorship. When we have more definite information, a further meeting will be arranged to update those involved.

Meanwhile we are able to take up to six more members. Any older Cubs, Scouts or

Ventures who may still be interested, please contact Doug Shorter during a Tuesday Scout meeting or tel. 328166.

#### 4. HEADQUARTERS NEWS

Our next priority is the repair of a collapsed sewer. This job will require a mini digger: if you are able to hire, or know where to hire a mini-digger and driver (if possible) for a weekend at very reasonable rates please contact a leader or committee member.

The maintenance group are also intending to tackle the refurbishment of the storage container in the near future.

FINALLY a reminder that the subscriptions for the Summer Term are now due. These remain at £15 per member.

Details for next Newsletter by the 14th May please.

## WEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP

MAY 1999 NEWSLETTER NO 6

### 1. AROUND THE GROUPS

VENTURES continue to enjoy a varied programme of events. They have recently attended the annual County Venture Ball at Honiley Hall and their most recent meeting was a barbecue. They plan a visit to the climbing wall at Hinckley in the near future.

SCOUTS returned on Sunday from another successful weekend camp at Bromsgrove, described by several who went as 'brilliant'. They had a busy time, participating in a well-organised programme of activities including an assault course, canoeing, mountain biking, grass sledging and swimming. They were based on a lovely site with very good facilities.

Leaders have also returned with a tree trunk, hopefully appropriate for our planned totem pole carving.

MONDAY CUBS wish to congratulate Kulminder Banwait and Christy Guyan on gaining their Adventure Crest Award and wish to welcome William Ogden, Adam White, Craig Summerton, Josh Merry and Philip King who have recently been invested into the Pack.

THURSDAY CUBS had a memorable time at District Activity Camp at Willesley. They were able to participate in a range of activities including canoeing, and archery and had a brave entry into the final 'moon-buggy' race on Sunday afternoon. Their 'silver-plated' wheel-barrow did NOT come last! The boys were complimented during the weekend for their good behaviour and their leaders were pleased with them. So thanks to the boys and to those parents whose assistance with transport and tents was greatly appreciated. Thursday Cubs welcome Natham Adamson who has recently been invested.

CUBS entered the District Six-A-Side Football Competition last weekend. Well done to those who participated and again thanks for parental help. The annual CUB CAMP will be held at Fox Covert, Kirkby Mallory, from Friday 2 July to Saturday 4 July.

BEAVERS are starting to invest thirteen new members who are trying hard to remember their promise and motto. Well done to Nicky Guyan who gained his Beaver Scout Challenge.

This month's programme is based on travelling - by land, by water, by air etc.. Beavers have plans to attend the Beaver Sport Day, the Beaveree, group camp, and have a trip to the theatre in June. Watch the Beaver Noticeboard for details. Please can parents put

their name on the parent rota to help - we urgently need support in order to keep up the numbers in both colonies.

GROUP CAMP 11-13 September 1999.

Please note the dates for this. Our annual camp is at Bosworth Water Park. BEAVERS and CUBS will join us on Saturday 11 September for an activity day which will include canoeing, crafts, archery, rafting, greasy pole, assault course and abseiling. Transport to Bosworth will be provided in the morning and parents are invited to join us for a family barbecue when they collect their boys at the end of the afternoon. SCOUTS and VENTURES (and some older Cubs) will camp for the weekend. This has always proved a very enjoyable and rewarding camp: we will need help with the groups on Saturday and we urgently require parents with an interest in FISHING to volunteer to help organise and supervise that activity on the day. It will be a great pity to omit fishing - last year the Beavers in particular had conspicuous success with their numerous catches - and our regular fishermen can not help this year. Please volunteer to help if you can - we have given plenty of notice!

Thanks to all those who attended ST. GEORGE'S DAY PARADE: we managed a pleasing turn-out, particularly from some sections.

Please watch for details of scout exhibitions at the local primary schools: we will need some members to volunteer to help with displays which we hope to stage at their summer fairs.

Waiting list forms for Beavers are available from section leaders or from Chris Ball 01455 213005.

## 2.FUND-RAISING

We raised £350 from the sale of refreshments at A5 Aquatics. Many thanks to proprietors, Mr & Mrs Brocklehurst, for allowing us to fund-raise during bank-holiday weekend. Special thanks to those few parents who managed to donate some cakes and to parents Penny Price, Nikki Mumby and Stephen Sambrook and family who spared the time to help. A special mention must be given to Scouts Richard Price and Andrew Shorter who worked so hard for much of the weekend.

This week, 17-21 May, is definitely the last for sweatshirt orders.

## 3. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Thanks to all who submitted badge designs. These have been looked at carefully and a representative few selected for judging at the AGM THIS WEDNESDAY.

Plans are progressing for Canada 2000. A meeting for all those involved (and indeed anyone who may still like to register an interest or find out more) has been arranged for Monday 24 May at 8 p.m. At Scout Headquarters. We will be discussing arrangements made so far and our endeavour to raise a considerable sum of money to reduce the expense for those young people who will be going. We will inevitably need support if these fund-raising events are to succeed.

#### 4. HEADQUARTERS

The sewer has been repaired and the concrete which caused the problem removed. A new toilet will soon be fitted. The work on the storage building is almost complete.

FINALLY for those who receive this newsletter before Wednesday 19 May, a reminder that you are invited to the Group's Annual General Meeting at the Scout Headquarters at 7.30.

Details for next newsletter by 11 June please.

June 1999 Newsletter No.7

## 1. AROUND THE GROUPS'

BEAVERS are continuing the theme of travel this month. They have been kite-flying and enjoyed a game of 'Fox and Hounds' around Weddington.

The Colonies would like to welcome Stuart Crooks, Jonathan Allred, Alexander Coopey, Callum Merry, Ben Taplin, John Mumby, Greg McCracken, Max Mallabone and Robbie Hawksworth. They have all been invested now. Ben's grandmother surprised us all by travelling from Portsmouth to watch the investiture, bringing with her a wonderful Beaver cake for us to share.

Well done to James Cruickshank, Luke Barrar and Kieran Taylor for gaining their Beaver Scout Challenge Badge. Eight Beavers are currently enjoying their link with Cubs.

The Beavers will be visiting the Abbey Theatre on Friday 25 June to watch a puppet show. Please arrive at 5p.m, if you are attending, as we have to sort out seating for our group of 145 people!

The Beavers will be attending the District Beavers Sport's Day on Sunday 27 June at Milby School. The afternoon starts at 1p.m. and Beavers must wear full uniform.

CUBS look forward to their annual camp at Fox Covert, Kirkby Mallory - Friday 2 July to Sunday 4 July.

CUB SPORTS will be held on Saturday 10 July at St James School , Bulkington.

Congratulations to Thursday Cubs who won first place at the District Cross-Country competition held at Stockingford on 11 June. The winning team were Ian Maconnachie, Philip Allred, Christopher Wall and Luke Salter. Runners Up were Richard Allsopp, William Canavan and Jack Wakefield. Well done to them all.

At the presentation evening last week , 20 of the pack received their First Aid Badges from Ken Aldridge of the County Air Ambulance Service. Many thanks to him for the time he has spent with the pack.

On Friday 16 July a joint walk has been arranged with Nuneaton North, starting at their headquarters and finishing at Weddington. More details later.

MONDAY CUB LEADERS urgently require HELP with their meetings in order to maintain their programme of events. Anyone who feel they may be able to offer assistance even for one or two nights, please speak to Myra, Carol or Jenny.

SCOUTS and VENTURES look forward to their annual summer camp at Brecon Beacons in the first week of the summer holiday.

A Parents' Meeting to finalise arrangements for the camp and to pay the balance of the fees will take place on Tuesday 6 July at the Headquarters at 8.30 p.m.

ALL GROUPS look forward to Group Camp at Bosworth Water Park 10-12 September, where Beavers and Cubs join Scouts and Ventures for an activity day on Saturday 11

September.

## 2. FUND-RAISING

Winners of the Club 200 draw for April were C. Ball, Mrs Woodward and C. Cottrell.

Winners in May were S. McDonald, A. Ball and J. Kaiser.

We have secured the CHARITY STALL IN NUNEATON MARKET on Saturday 18 September this year. We run a tombola and sell cakes and plants. This was a very successful fund-raising occasion last year but we quickly 'sold out' and lost the potential of much more profit: money raised from OUTSIDE the Group members and their families.

The Committee will therefore be appealing for donations early in the Autumn Term.

Please bear this charity stall in mind if you can take cuttings from plants this summer and if you have any suitable tombola items. All kinds of home-made cakes sell well.

## 3. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to RYAN FORREST (Thurs Cubs) whose design for the Anniversary Badge was voted the winner at our AGM in May. His design will form the basis of the commemorative badge which will be manufactured to wear on the uniform alongside the millennium badge next year.

Other finalists were BEAVERS - David Mills

CUBS- Nicolas Valente, Ben Wonnacott, Sam Evans

SCOUTS- Sam Jeynes, Richard Canavan, David Moyes

VENTURES - Nikki Ind

Thanks to all who submitted some very effective and well-considered designs.

## 4. CANADA 2000

Negotiations with scouting authorities in Canada are currently in progress to finalise camping arrangements for the visit.

We have discussed specific fund-raising aimed at reducing the costs for the young people participating in this camp. Some sponsorship and some donations have been received.

H.S.B.C. Bank are assisting with financial arrangements for the camp and it is hoped to gain good interest as money is raised and saved in the Canada account.

Two major fund-raising events are being considered. Firstly the staging of a sponsored cycle ride in which parents and families in addition to members will participate. We hope to stage this in October. Secondly we intend to organise a grand raffle for next Easter. For this we need PRIZES. We have already been offered some. If you have any contacts which can realise other prizes we would be very grateful. In addition we will collect for a bottle hamper and Easter eggs to offer as other prizes.

FINALLY we say farewell to Chris Coxall, son Owen and daughter Sian who have figured so large in our group's activities for the past 12 years. Chris is returning to Wales to take up a new job. A former Beaver leader, and more recently, a Venture leader, Chris will be very much missed by the Group and we thank them all for the very hard work and tremendous support given throughout their years in Nuneaton.

We wish them every success and happiness in the future and hope they will stay in touch and return to visit us.

Details for the next Newsletter to Carol Cottrell for the second week in July, or **carol.cottrell@11thnuneatonscouts.zzn.com** or tel. 387375

Our Web Site has now been officially recommended by ScoutNet UK! Check it out at **[http://members.tripod.com/Scouts\\_11thNuneaton](http://members.tripod.com/Scouts_11thNuneaton)**

If you would like to contribute any details, information, photos, ideas or anything else, please contact Chris Cottrell at **chris.cottrell@11thnuneatonscouts.zzn.com** or tel 387375.

General queries to **scouts\_11thnuneaton@yahoo.com**

## 1. Around the Groups

BEAVERS will not meet during the first two weeks of the summer holiday but will resume the week beginning 9 August.

CUBS enjoyed a successful camp at the beginning of the month. In spite of threatened thunder storms, the weather was favourable and leaders were impressed by the co-operation and team work shown by the boys during the camp.

MONDAY CUBS will not meet on the first Monday of the holiday, 19 July, or the last, 30 August (Bank Holiday).

THURSDAY CUBS have arranged a joint walk this Thursday evening with the pack from Nuneaton North. They will be walking from Tuttle Hill to Weddington. The Pack hopes to meet throughout the holiday.

Holiday meetings for Cubs will generally be non-uniform.

TUESDAY SCOUTS have given details of a varied programme of events during the holiday including a barbecue, ice skating, bowling and tobogganing.

FRIDAY NIGHT SCOUTS have been informed of any holiday meetings.

SCOUTS and VENTURES leave on Saturday for their annual summer camp in Brecon.

Parents of members from all sections of the group acknowledge the tremendous amount of additional work and time put into arranging these camps and other activities by the leaders and their families.

We thank them for the care and concern shown in the organisation of a programme of events from which our boys and girls gain so much.

## 2. FUND-RAISING

Please remember our charity stall on 18 September. We will be appealing for plants, tombola items and home-made cakes. Please try to contribute to an important money-raising event if you can.

Negotiations with MIRA for the use of part of their track for our sponsored bike ride are currently underway. We hope this will be on a Sunday in October.

You will by now have details of Group Camp at Bosworth 10-12 September.

FINALLY the Group's leaders and Committee wish all members and their families a safe and enjoyable holiday and remember that many of the sections will continue to meet. Do join them if you can.

Details for the next Newsletter to Carol Cottrell for the second week in September, or **carol.cottrell@11thnuneatonscouts.zzn.com** or tel. 387375

Check us out at **[http://members.tripod.com/Scouts\\_11thNuneaton/](http://members.tripod.com/Scouts_11thNuneaton/)**

If you would like to contribute any details, information, photos, ideas or anything else, please contact Chris Cottrell at **chris.cottrell@11thnuneatonscouts.zzn.com** or tel 387375.

## WEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP SEPTEMBER 1999 NEWSLETTER NO.9

### 1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS have had a very busy summer. They have been bug-hunting, making stained-glass windows as well as enjoying sports activities. Both colonies enjoyed an evening out at the Wacky Warehouse where the leaders and helpers were as keen to play as the boys.

Welcome to Joe Botham, Christopher Treadwell, Adam Ford, Matthew Golightly, Martin Aston, Sam Powell, Jack West, Jonny Haywood, Ryan Stuart, Gareth Wainwright, Sam Healy and Jake Healy.

The new programme starts this month with a number of district events in prospect. Everyone is now preparing for and looking forward to the activities day at Group Camp.

CUBS continued to meet during the holiday and enjoyed coming together for evening games and outdoor activities including fire-lighting. Several members of Monday Cubs earned their Athletes Badge while Thursday Cubs had the opportunity to gain their Cyclists Badge.

Six Cubs attended the District Cub Scout Challenge Camp at Bosworth where they experienced activities such as pioneering, life-saving, archery, canoeing and a night-hike. They also prepared and cooked their own dinner!

Congratulations to Luke Salter, Richard Heath, Daniel Johnson, Richard Allsop, Ryan Forrest and Philip Allredd who were awarded their Cub Scout Challenge Badges after successfully completing the challenges of this camp. This is the highest award to be gained in the Cub section of the scout movement so well done to them all.

There are currently vacancies for Cubs. Friends who would like to attend pack meetings for a week or two as a trial, would be very welcome: notify leaders the week before.

SCOUTS enjoyed another memorable summer camp at Llangorse Rope Centre in Brecon. The weather was excellent and boys participated in many outdoor activities including canoeing on the River Wye, riding in the Centre, mountain walking and back-packing along parts of Offa's Dyke, climbing and 'bouldering'. They also went swimming, had a meal out and visited the cinema. A very busy and successful week enjoyed immensely by members and leaders alike.

VENTURES have been active during the summer: an evening of ice-skating and a barbecue were just two of the activities they enjoyed. Ventures say farewell to Chris Hull who has left Nuneaton. We wish him every success in the future.

GROUP CAMP at Bosworth Water Park takes place this weekend, 17-19 September, a week later than planned because of a booking mix-up. Scouts, Ventures and some older Cubs will camp for the weekend while Beavers and other Cubs will join us on Saturday.

The bus leaves from the 'Coniston' at 9 a.m. All parents and their families are welcome to bring their food and barbecue at Bosworth from 4 p.m. onwards. Do try to join us if you can; we always have a lovely afternoon.

## 2. FUND-RAISING

This now begins in earnest. We appeal to all parents to contribute some time and/or a donation, however small, to help ensure the success of the events we are currently planning. Maintaining our funds is essential to the provision of a varied programme of events, the maintenance and up-grading of our headquarters building and to help with the costs of the Camp 2000 to Canada.

This Saturday, 18 September, is the CHARITY STALL. Please try to donate something: a tombola item, plants or cakes. This is an important opportunity to raise money from outside our own Group. Thanks to those who have responded this week.

Our next RUMMAGE SALE is 2 October. We have received useful donations from parents in the past. If you have any jumble for us (clothes, shoes, books, toys, bric-a-brac) it can be delivered to the headquarters at any meeting or to Carol Cottrell 16 Winchester Avenue (387375). Please label the bag RUMMAGE to avoid it being overlooked.

We intend to hold a GRAND RAFFLE at Easter next year. Tickets will be available soon to allow plenty of time to sell as many as we can. Many thanks to those who have offered prizes for this - any more would be most welcome. Additionally we are asking for bottles for a bottle hamper and nearer the draw, Easter Eggs as further prizes

WEBB IVORY catalogues will also be distributed soon. Christmas orders have always proved a very significant part of our annual fund-raising. Please try to order some of your Christmas goods from the catalogues if you can and perhaps circulate them to friends and family.

. We are awaiting the confirmation of a date for our proposed SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE.

Thankyou in anticipation of your support in at least some of these events!

## 3. HEADQUARTERS NEWS

Maintenance work both inside and outside the building is planned for the next few weeks with an emphasis on increasing security as break-ins are becoming a more regular occurrence.

## 4. CANADA 2000

Notification will soon be given of a meeting for those involved in the visit to Canada next year. Base Camp near Toronto has been reserved, insurance has been secured. We are still waiting for confirmation of the flight which is now likely to be to and from Manchester. The Party will number 52 and the meeting will hope to give some advice on the 'kit' we would recommend in addition to clarifying travel and accommodation details.

FINALLY a reminder that subscriptions of £15 per member are now due.

## 1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS attended Group Camp at Market Bosworth Water Park and everyone enjoyed the day. Our photo album is now full of photos from the day for us to look back on during the dark winter months. The new intake of Beavers are now invested.

Congratulations to the Beavers who have received their first and second badges including David Mills, Josh Stanley, Mitchell Power, Ben Taplin, Graham Allsopp, Daniel Wincott, William Harrison, Andrew Wright, Ben Rowberry, Sam Wallis, Stephen Sykes, Stephen Sambrook, Greg McCracken and John Mumby.

Well done to Alex, Josh, Daniel and David who have gained their Beaver Scout Challenge Badge and along with Adam Ford have started their link to cubs. The Autumn programme is well under way and the Beavers have enjoyed making boats, potato men, and mixed vegetable soup while they are working to get to know each other.

The colonies are looking forward to taking in their next group of Beavers during the next few weeks.

Group T Shirts are on sale at the meetings at a cost of £4 each.

Please would parents fill in their turn on the parents' rota : their help IS VITAL.

CUBS have been busy with activities such as cooking, making masks and working hard for their awards. Many are due to receive badges and awards in the next week or so.

Some cubs will be taking part in the annual district conker challenge on 29 October.

Other dates for the diary include the District Carol Service on 9 December (this will be the Thursday meeting that week) possibly at St James Church, Bulkington. Thursday Cubs are hoping to arrange a pantomime visit on Thursday 16 December and have their Christmas Party on the 23rd.

SCOUTS are also working hard towards awards at this time of year. Tuesday group congratulate James Huckerby, Stuart Ind and Andrew Shorter who have gained their Outdoor Diamond Activity Award. Friday Scouts last week set off on a short night hike during which they prepared and cooked a simple meal and hot drinks .

VENTURES are working through a diverse programme of activities. They have been cooking, collecting jumble and enjoying a games night as well as brushing up on their first aid and are looking forward to a Halloween Party, a Bowling trip and a possible weekend camp.

Members from all groups from enjoyed a successful camp at Bosworth Water Park last month when in spite of very threatening weather forecasts, a variety of activities went ahead. The groups enjoyed canoeing and rafting; the greasy pole, a bungee run and the assault course were as popular as always. There was also craft and cooking bases. The rain held off until after the break of camp on Sunday morning. Many thanks to all those parents who helped with groups on Saturday and to those who joined us for a barbecue in the evening. Your help was fundamental to the success of the weekend, part of the appeal of which is the family 'atmosphere', and we hope most of you enjoyed yourselves!

## 2. FUND-RAISING

The Charity Stall raised over £300. Thanks to those who contributed.

The Rummage Sale also raised over £300 . Thanks again to those who found items for us to sell. These sales happen twice a year so please bear us in mind when having a ‘sort-out’. The next will be in March.

The emphasis this month is on the sponsored CYCLE RIDE of 31 October; the Christmas orders from the WEBB IVORY catalogues and the selling of tickets for the GRAND RAFFLE. Please try to support these: we need to raise additional funds to finance our birthday events and celebrations next year.

The Cycle Ride is on Sunday 31 October. A letter and sponsor sheet has been sent out; if you have not received one, please ask at the hut. Additional sponsor sheets are also available. We need to meet at the main MIRA gate on the A5 by 1.30 pm. The ride will start at 2.00 and last for up to 2 hours. We should be finished by 4.30 and hope to have some simple refreshments available. Cycle helmets are required. If you have any spare helmets, it would be helpful if you were prepared to bring them along to enable those without helmets to take part. A reminder, also, that cameras are not allowed at MIRA. This should prove an enjoyable and active afternoon! Please encourage as many members of the family to participate as possible and those who don’t want to ride may like to volunteer for other marshalling duties! Meanwhile please don’t forget to take the sponsor form with you to school, work and while visiting at half-term.

Winners of the 200 Club have been drawn-

August - 1st G. Ball 2nd M. Grant 3rd J. Canavan

September - 1st G. Richards 2nd R. Shorter 3rd M. Shorter

October - 1st S. Parker 2nd W. Canavan 3rd J. Huckerby

## 3. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

A Meeting will be held on Monday 1 November 8 pm at Scout Headquarters for members and their parents involved in the Canada Camp. This will update them on arrangements and hope to give some advice on the appropriate ‘kit’ which it will be useful to take.

## 4. SOCIAL EVENTS

This year’s Group Bonfire will be hosted by Friday Scouts on 5 November. All members and their families are invited. Please bring a few fireworks and there will be some refreshment provided. Check the noticeboard for further details including the time.

This term's SUBSCRIPTIONS of £15 should now have been paid. When handing the money or cheque to a busy leader during the meeting, it would be helpful if it were in a clearly marked envelope to avoid later confusion.

We must notify parents of the need to increase the annual subscription next year from £45 p.a. to £48 p.a. From April 2000 the termly rate will thus be £16. This is due to the increase in capitation paid by the group to national headquarters; but even so remains one of the cheapest in the district. We are able to keep the rates so low partly because of the success of our fund-raising.

FINALLY we would like to reiterate an appeal for

1. More members in the Cub, Scout and Venture sections. We would welcome direct entrants to these groups to keep numbers stable which would help to maintain the varied programme of activities provided and

2. New leadership. In the long term, the expansion and development of 11th Nuneaton Scout Group rests on thriving Beaver colonies. We have two flourishing groups. We need three. We therefore need Beaver leaders. Please speak to a leader if you think you, or someone you know, would be prepared to help in the establishment of a new colony, probably on a Thursday evening. Perhaps there is untapped experience or willingness to become involved amongst the parents of boys who have recently joined us. If you have such an interest, please come forward; you would be made very welcome by our very friendly and dedicated leaders and committee members.

**[http://Scouts\\_11thNuneaton.tripod.com](http://Scouts_11thNuneaton.tripod.com)**

E-Mail us at **[Scouts\\_11thNuneaton@yahoo.com](mailto:Scouts_11thNuneaton@yahoo.com)**

## 1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS have been busy welcoming new boys into the colony and are pleased to welcome - Jason Hales, Luke Currin, Luke Woodley, Joe Goodman, Daniel Warren, Campbell Jones, Harry Dixon, Thomas Sharrock, Robert Tambini, Edward Eaton, Ryan Hudson and Daniel Ashford. The boys are eagerly learning their promise to be invested soon.

The beavers say 'bye' to David Mills, Adam Ford, Josh Cooper, Daniel Winncott and Alex Gadsby who have moved up to Cubs. We would like to say a special farewell to Josh Cooper who was one of the first Woodland beavers when the colony opened in June 1997. He clocks up an amazing number of trips with Beavers, attending every activity arranged and was awarded the 100% attendance trophy. Well done Josh!

The Beaver programme continues with the making of Pencil bugs, caterpillar bookmarks, Nodding heads and many Christmas activities. The Christmas parties will be on Monday 20 December and Friday 17 December when the boys will need to bring their own sandwich box tea. Some Beavers have just attended the District Conker Challenge. Sadly we could not take everyone but watch this space to see how our teams got on!

Can we appeal to parents to check whether you are up to date with subs as we need this money to ensure we have a Christmas Party and for funds to provide craft equipment for the Christmas period.

CUBS have been busy with badge work. Monday Cubs wish to congratulate Graham Vickery who has gained his Adventure Crest Award and the following who have been awarded the Cub Scout Award: Nick Valente, William Ogden, Adam Waite and Craig Summerton, Philip King and Josh Merry.

Monday Cubs met at half term and enjoyed making sweets.

Thursday Cubs are working as a group towards their World Conservation Badge. They have been asked to research an individual piece of work on an endangered species to put towards a group display. They will be constructing bird boxes this week and hope to 'get out' to do some active conservation work soon. The meeting for 9 December will be the District Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church Attleborough and the meeting for 16 December will be a visit to the hospital pantomime. Letters have been given out for this: parents and brothers and sisters have been included in the ticket invitation. The meeting for 23 December will be the Christmas Party. Thursday Cubs took part in the District Conker Challenge on 29 October.

FRIDAY SCOUTS organised this year's bonfire. Many thanks to them for a successful evening.

TUESDAY SCOUTS are working on their progressive award scheme. Some are completing log books for their hill walkers badge. Last weekend was the winter camp to Butterton Barn in Derbyshire with eight older scouts taking part. Many Tuesday night

scouts will attend a lecture given by Chris Bonington at the Civic Hall Bedworth on Tuesday night.

Welcome to Jonathan Price and Jack Wakefield who will be invested on 23 November.

Well done to Alex McDonald who has gained his Diamond Outdoor Activity Award.

## 2. FUND-RAISING

The sponsored cycle ride at the end of last month proved a great success. The weather was fine but windy and many of our members and their families found this an INVIGORATING way to raise money! Well done to them all! We are grateful to MIRA for helping us to organise the event and for the use of the track. We hope to have raised over £1000. Sponsor money is still coming in and again it would be helpful if the cash or cheque (made out to 11th Nuneaton Weddington Scout Group) were enclosed in a clearly marked envelope. Leaders are collecting money for a variety of activities: to avoid confusion, it is essential that all money is separately labelled.

WEBB IVORY orders should be handed in by now; the early ones have already been distributed. Your helper will need payment when the order is delivered. Many thanks to all of you who are helping to raise money in this way: it is one of our most important fund-raising activities of the year. You have also received raffle tickets to sell. We have allowed plenty of time to do this and are hoping that this will prove another significant fund-raiser for our birthday celebrations planned for next year. Thanking you all in anticipation of your selling as many tickets as you can.

## 3. CANADA 2000

Parents have been kept up to date with preparations for the camp and are reminded that the next instalment of £100 is due at the end of November.

11th Nuneaton (Weddington) Scout Group Online:

Web Site: [http://members.tripod.com/Scouts\\_11thNuneaton/](http://members.tripod.com/Scouts_11thNuneaton/)

E-Mail: [Scouts\\_11thNuneaton@yahoo.com](mailto:Scouts_11thNuneaton@yahoo.com)

## 1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS will hold their Christmas parties on Friday 17 December and Monday 20 December. They will re-open on Friday 7 January and Monday 10 January. All Beavers are invited to a pantomime on Friday 14 January. Please see Ali for tickets.

MONDAY CUBS also have their party on Monday 20 December. They will meet again on Monday 10 January.

THURSDAY CUBS having participated in the District Carol Service and enjoyed a pantomime visit this week, will meet for their fancy-dress Christmas party on Thursday 23 December. They re-open on 6 January.

TUESDAY SCOUTS will meet next week, 21 December, and again after two weeks on the 11 January.

FRIDAY SCOUTS, fifteen of them and their guests, enjoyed their traditional and hugely successful Christmas meal last week. They will meet again on 7 January.

VENTURES will be camping at Fox Covert on Saturday 18 December to participate in a Christmas meal. They meet again on Wednesday 5 January.

## 2. FUND-RAISING

Many thanks again for the sponsor money which is still being returned. We have so far raised over £1200. Well done to everybody.

Please remember the raffle tickets. Committee members will be available at group meetings during certain weeks between now and May to collect any money raised so far. The first of these collection weeks is the third week in January, the week beginning the 17th.

ADDITIONALLY we must thank Janet Brogan for arranging our Carol Service at St James' Church on Monday 6 December. It is lovely to see so many members of the group with their families coming together on occasions like this.

SO we come to the end of another successful and very busy year of scouting activities and look forward to an even more eventful time in our 50th anniversary year. We promise some exciting changes in many of our plans for the year 2000. We thank all those who have worked so hard and contributed in any way to all that has taken place and look

forward to your continued support during what will inevitably be a VERY busy year ahead.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.