

# NEWSLETTER

## January 2008



Friday Night Scouts cook their traditional Christmas Meal.

[www.11thnuneaton.org.uk](http://www.11thnuneaton.org.uk)  
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### Happy New Year to all our members!

Many thanks to those who organised and participated in a very successful Carol Service at Weddington Church before Christmas. Well done to Friday Scouts for yet another enjoy-

able Christmas meal. Good luck to all members moving on to the next section this new year.

### Group Party – Saturday 26 January

This is our traditional annual party: please come and join in

2008 Dates:

- 26 Jan  
Christmas Party for Cubs, Scouts, Explorers
- 8-10 Feb  
Scout winter camp (older scouts only)
- 16 Feb  
District Swimming Gala
- 15-16th March  
Scout Hike Camp
- 20 April  
St George's Day Service
- 13-15 June  
Family Camp
- 4-6 July  
Cub Camp & Sun Run
- 19-26 July  
Summer Camp for Scouts and Explorers

on the day, we have always had great fun. Cubs will party from 4pm. until 6pm and Scouts and Explorers will meet together from 6.30pm until 8.30pm. Food and drinks will be provided. No uniform need be worn.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Subscriptions

These are now due. As January is the month of the annual census, the committee would appreciate the prompt payment of £20 for each member under 18 and an annual collection of £25 from Network Scouts. Please inform us of any change of address or telephone number. Thank you.

#### Gift Aid

This is an important fund-raiser for us. If you have not already signed up for this you should receive a letter in the near future inviting you to do so. Please help us with this if you can.

# NEWSLETTER

## March 2008



Scouts out and about in the hills of North Wales

### Katmandu Fundraising

*You should by now have been presented with an explanatory letter and sponsor sheet in our endeavour to raise money to fund the education of triplet girls who live in Katmandu. We hope to foster an international link with scouts in Nepal, as well as the scouting family concerned. Please help us to do this by supporting the youngsters who will be taking part in a series of sponsored activities during their meetings next week, from the 10 March. Thank you.*

### AROUND THE SECTIONS

**Beavers** have been working on their Discovery Challenge since the New Year and many have now gained this badge. The colonies worked together to gain the Health and Fitness badge and are about to start the Experiment Badge. Beavers welcome new kits – Anna, Jessica, Olivia, Lewis and Jamie – and say goodbye and good luck to those who are moving on to Cubs – Coen, Thomas, Nathan, Joseph K, Lewis, Joseph C, Jacob and Dominic.

**Watling Cubs** have worked on their home help badge that culminated in some expert pancake-tossing and have enjoyed a visit to the District gang show. They have

recently invested Louis: welcome to him.

**Fosse Cubs** have welcomed a number of new members since Christmas. They are working towards their fitness badge and five older cubs ran a craft evening recently as they complete the chief scout silver award. Congratulations to the Fosse team who came second in the District Quiz and good luck to them as they compete in the County Quiz.

**Scouts** enjoyed lovely, if unseasonable, weather for their winter camp in Wales and have spent a cooking day in preparation for their next hike camp on 16 March. They will be joining thousands of other Scouts in July for the Malvern Challenge and have organised a 3-legged walk to raise money for the Katmandu fundraiser.

**Explorers** have enjoyed a busy programme – they took part in the District Quiz and last week visited laser quest.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

Please make a note of **St George's Day** – Sunday 20 April. The event will be held at Nicholas Chamberlain School this year.

Our **Charity Stall** will be on Nuneaton Market on Saturday 10 May. We need tombola items and plants as well as cakes to sell. This is an important fund-raiser for

Thank you to everyone who has paid **subscriptions** on time. There are only a few outstanding. You have been invited to sign a gift-aid declaration. Please complete this soon if you are able to help as we can then apply for the refunds for the current tax year. There are forms at the headquarters. Thank you again.

Well done to all who swam so well to win a convincing victory at this year's District **Swimming Gala** last month. We retained almost all the trophies.

Once again, Scouts will be collecting the **Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers**. With your help we were able to order some worthwhile equipment last year and look forward to adding to that this time. There is a collection box in the headquarters.

us, so please consider donating any unwanted gifts and keeping any spare cuttings or plants for when we appeal for donations.

We are holding a **skittles evening** on Saturday 12 April. Tickets will be £4 for over 18s, £2 for under 18s or £10 per family. Supper will be provided; bring your own drinks. These evenings have always proved popular, so please make a note of the date and watch for more details later.

**Finally** it is with sadness that we have learned of the death of Gerald Ball. As Group Chairman in the late 1960s he was the driving force behind the purchase of the land from Courtaulds and the building of the Scout Hut on the present site. Our thoughts are with the family at this difficult time.

# NEWSLETTER

## May 2008



*Cooking on open fires at Fox Coverts Campsite*

### Katmandu Fundraising

Many thanks to all who took part in the Katmandu fundraising activities and helped to raise £730 for the education of the three girls in Nepal. This will almost fund two years of their schooling and we have committed to three years so we will be fundraising for them again in the near future. Meanwhile if you still have outstanding sponsor money, please hand this to a leader as soon as possible.

Well done to those who turned up to march at the **St George's Day** parade in Bedworth. Congratulations to Carol, Tony and Gordon who were presented with long service awards at the service.

The **Skittles Evening** was a success. Thanks to Committee

and leaders who worked so hard to stage the event and to those families who supported us on the night. We made a small profit for funds.

Watch out for an invitation to join a **County Activity Day** at Ragley hall – Scouting 101 - on Sunday 22 June. We will be taking a coach at a cost of £10 each.

We have had complaints about parents driving too fast on to the **car park at Ambleside** when dropping or collecting their youngsters. Please be aware of this: we really don't want to jeopardise the privilege of having access through that gate.

The management of Ambleside Club have suggested that those parents using the link to collect their scouts may be interested

We have a Charity stall on Nuneaton Market on Saturday 10 May. We **URGENTLY** need contributions for this. Please donate any tombola items (unwanted gifts, bottles, tins etc), plants or homemade cakes. Contributions can be brought to the Headquarters during any meeting or delivered to Sandra Parker 67 Shanklin Drive (76328738) or Carol Cottrell 16 Winchester Avenue (76387375).

In addition to donations we need help during the Saturday morning. Cubs and Scouts in uniform really help to encourage our customers. Please ring Carol or Sandra for details or turn up on Saturday morning to help. Thank you.

in joining the club and using the facilities. Anyone wishing to take up this invitation should phone John Bosworth at the Club on 02476371033 or on 07778251223.

Both Scout troops would like to make it clear that **mobile phones** should not be brought to either the weekly troop nights or to camps - they are presently causing too much disruption to the running of the meetings.

Finally **subscriptions** are now due for the scouting session May to August. Please return £20 for each member under 18yrs in the envelope provided. Thank you.

# NEWSLETTER

## August 2008



*Rafting at Summer Camp*

Many thanks to all who collected **Sainsbury's vouchers**. We doubled last year's collection with over 8,000 coupons. We have been able to order some useful equipment for the sections including a 'tactile' pack, volley balls and compasses.

Over £100 was raised for the **Katmandu Appeal** at Family Camp: we were very grateful for your support. Fund-raising will continue until we have sufficient funds to finance the education of the 3 girls in Tibet.

**Subscriptions** will be due for the session September to December. Please enclose £20 for each Member under the age of 18 in the envelope provided. Thanks.

We have enjoyed several successful camps since our last newsletter.

**Family Camp** held at Shugborough, was thoroughly enjoyed by all in spite of an unfavourable forecast. Activities were very popular, the food was good and the camp fire entertainment very much enjoyed. Thanks to all who participated in any way during the weekend.

**Cub Camp** went well. Congratulations to all Cubs who co-operated so well to ensure a successful two days at Fox Covert in spite of some heavy showers.

A large group of older Scouts took part in the **Malvern Challenge**, a National Scouting event. Well done to our teams who all finished in the top 50. Our best scoring team finished 12th, which was also the highest in Nuneaton district.

Explorers and Network also went along to the **Sun Run** and completed an extremely wet Moon Run challenge.

**Ragley Hall** County activity day was also affected by the weather. Very blustery

winds made some of the activities, especially the kayaking, extra challenging!

**Summer Camp** participants experienced a mixture of weather but were able to complete all planned activities and challenges including a day at the seaside in Blackpool. Other activities included Climbing, abseiling, rafting, kayaking, caving, biking and archery. Several Scouts spent the night in bivi shelters, a small group completed their Expedition Challenge and the Explorers all spent the night bivvying on the mountain tops. Special thanks to all Leaders including our Network Scouts who worked so hard and committed so much voluntary time to ensure all these summer events were such a success.

Well done to all who received awards at the Summer Camp presentation evening. **Congratulations** to Shaun Storer who received his 20 years service award, Gemma Deakin who received the 10 years award and Louise Cotterill her 5 years.

**Photos** from all these camps can be found online at [www.11thnuneaton.org.uk](http://www.11thnuneaton.org.uk)

Beaver and Cub Leaders wish to thank all **young leaders** who have turned up every week to help run the sections: their support has been invaluable. Good luck to those leaving to start their University careers.

Good luck also to those members **moving on** to the older sections when we resume in September. Well done to those who have successfully completed the relevant Chief Scout Award.

All sections **meet again** during the week of 1 September. Beavers meet Monday and Friday; Cubs Monday and Thursday (both at 7.00pm now) and Scouts on Tuesday and Friday. Explorers meet on Wednesday.

**Finally all members and parents are invited to our Annual General Meeting to be held at the Headquarters on Wednesday 3 September at 8pm. This is a chance to raise any issues for the Group and to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of all our volunteers.**

# NEWSLETTER

## November 2008



Mountain Boarding at Autumn Camp

**Weddington Scouts** have enjoyed a busy and active Autumn term and are now preparing for Christmas and the New year.

**Beavers** welcome lots of new members to the colonies and have said goodbye to several who have moved on to Cubs. Good luck to them all. Congratulations to those who have achieved the highest Beaver award: the Bronze Chief Scout Challenge Award. Most Beavers have completed the Safety Activity Badge and also the Friendship Challenge. They are currently working on the Creative Challenge and have achieved their Creative Activity Badge.

**Cubs** are also working towards a Challenge Badge: the new Promise Challenge which works through several aspects of the investiture promise including good turns and taking part in a Group event. Monday Pack congratulate Jamie Wilson and Daniel Cross who were part of the winning District team at the annual Frank Latcham competition held by the County in October.

**Scouts** had a very successful Autumn Camp, held at Oaks in Charnwood. The older scouts catered for themselves all weekend, had a go at Mountain boarding in the morning, and then went outdoor climbing in the afternoon. A great day was finished off with a brilliant campfire.

Tuesday Troop have had a busy start to term, with a number of activities counting towards the badge scheme. Some Scouts attended the recent Jamboree on the Air and others went to Fox Coverts for an outdoor cooking day. Friday Troop are now operating at a maximum number of Scouts and there is a waiting list for this meeting. Scouts have recently enjoyed a visit by the County Air Ambulance to whom they donated an impressive £75 and are hoping to be visited by a representative of Guide Dogs for the Blind. This is part of their work towards the Community Badge.

**Explorers** have been involved in weekend conservation work at Bosworth Battlefield. This will form part of the Platinum Chief

Scout Award. They have been engaged in a variety of activities on Wednesday evenings including an expedition to a bonfire in Higham on the Hill.

Many thanks to all who turned out for the **Remembrance Parade** on 9 November – again we were well represented, especially from the Scout section.

The District **Swimming Gala** will be held at the Pingles on the afternoon/evening of 24 January 2009. We hope to arrange a swimming badge session at the Pool before that date – please watch out for further details. Our Group Party has therefore been re-scheduled for Saturday 31 January.

Camp Dates for **2009** are available on the website: [www.11thnuneaton.org.uk](http://www.11thnuneaton.org.uk)

Finally, our **Carol Service** will be held at Weddington Church at 7p.m on Monday 8 December - all Members and their families are invited.

### Subscriptions

A note from Chris Ball, Group Treasurer (01455 213005)

Please note that the Executive Committee has decided to increase subscriptions for membership of the Group to £75 per year, payable in 3 equal installments: January, May and September. The annual subscription for Network Scouts will increase to £30. We have taken this decision in order to ensure that equipment and facilities can be continually updated and improved.

Whilst we have ascertained that our current subscription level is the lowest in Nuneaton and Bedworth, and that the new rate is still below the average, we do recognise that this may cause hardship to some families, especially those with multiple members. If you are concerned in any way please contact your son/daughter's leader or myself to discuss the matter in confidence.

In addition I would like to express the Group's thanks to Carol Cottrell for her work as membership secretary. Please assist her by ensuring all subs are paid on time and that the need for follow-up requests can be avoided.