

We look forward to an exciting and eventful year 2000 for all our members and their families. Weddington Scout Group intends to celebrate its fiftieth birthday in style and hopes that all of you will be involved in some way with a variety of our celebrations.

1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS have started their new year programme which is based on communication. Alongside this they have entered the national Y2K Challenge. So they have a busy period ahead incorporating visits, outdoor activities and district events.

Beavers began their year with a visit to the panto - a very enjoyable evening for everyone.

This Saturday (29 January) the Beavers are holding a Bring and Buy Sale to support the Blue Peter Appeal. The boys have worked hard for this and would appreciate everyone's support.

Welcome to Carl Fitzgerald, Thomas Waters, Lloyd Cheshire and Oliver Horton-Tilley who have joined us. Well done to William Harrison and Joshua Ruff who have gained their Beaver Challenge Badge.

Leaders wish to remind parents not to bring their cars up the drive as this is potentially dangerous for the boys, especially on these dark evenings when there is a change over from Beavers to Cubs.

CUBS will be working towards their next badges during this term.

Monday night pack will be welcoming new members who are linking from Beavers.

They also plan a night hike in the near future.

Thursday (Watling) pack have organised their programme for the early part of the year and activities will include work for several badges including the Astronomer's and Conservation which will involve a 'litter walk'. They are urged to come along on 10th February for a meeting with a difference! A gang show outing is planned and a Chinese evening when they will be preparing and cooking a meal for some honoured guests!

Thursday night leaders will be supplying parents with a copy of their programme which runs through to a sailing evening in May.

SCOUTS will also be concentrating on award work this term.

Friday leaders are pleased with the application, hard work and regular attendance of the members of their troop.

Tuesday troop has been reorganised into two sections (Senior and Junior) for part but by no means all of their programme. The Senior troop will be visiting the Physiotherapy Department at George Eliot Hospital on Tuesday evening.

Congratulations to the Scout basketball team of Richard Scoffham, Alex McDonald, John Rowley, Richard Canavan, Richard Wood and Tom Ind who came second in the District competition last Saturday.

VENTURES and older SCOUTS will be travelling to Edale on the 19th February for their winter camping and walking weekend. Ventures continue to meet regularly for a variety of activities. They are planning a trip to the Cinema this Wednesday.

2. FUND-RAISING

WEBB IVORY orders made a profit of about £700. Many thanks to those who helped us to raise funds in this way.

Please continue to sell the tickets for the GRAND RAFFLE. A committee member will be available to collect money at all meetings during the week beginning 14 February. Please send in any outstanding SPONSOR MONEY from the cycle ride. To date we have raised about £1200 so well done to all who worked so hard to find sponsors and indeed to complete the ride!

Our next RUMMAGE SALE is 4 March: any contributions for this can be taken to the Headquarters at any meeting. Please mark the bag RUMMAGE so that it is not overlooked. Anyone who could spare an hour or so on that Saturday morning at St Nicolas Parish Hall to help with this, please talk to a committee member; we really need more help. More details in next month's newsletter.

CLUB 200 winners have been drawn for November and December.

In November 1st - S. Parker; 2nd - G. Ball; 3rd - J. Canavan

In December 1st - S. Ball; 2nd - R. Tilley; 3rd - J. Hill

It is now time to renew these numbers. To ensure your numbers remain in the draw please return £12 for each one you have. Please consider participating in this scheme: more numbers will mean better prizes and a bigger contribution to scout funds.

3. SOCIAL EVENTS

Another popular SKITTLES NIGHT has been organised for 18 March. More details next month.

4. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

The 50th anniversary of the founding of Weddington Scouts is 18 April. We have arranged an open-day and celebration at head-quarters on Saturday 20 May during which we hope to arrange a whole-group photograph. In order to prepare for this, we are appealing for any memorabilia of the last 50 years and for names of ex-members of the group who may be interested in participating in the event. So any photographs, certificates, press cuttings etc which might be relevant, we would love to borrow and of course promise to look after such items carefully. The next newsletter will give details on how to pass on any suitable material. Meanwhile please ask around to help us fill in some details of the last half century.

Our annual GROUP CAMP (which usually takes place at Bosworth in September) is arranged this birthday year for 16-18th June at Blackwell Court Scout Camp Site near Bromsgrove. The usual outdoor activities plus many more will be on offer. We intend this to be a family camp and while Beavers and younger Cubs will be bussed to and from the site on the Saturday, and older Cubs, Scouts and Ventures will camp as usual, we are encouraging as many families to come and camp with us for the weekend. More details to come, but if you think you may be interested in what promises to be a very enjoyable camp, please pencil the dates in your diary now.

Plans for the CANADA CAMP are progressing. The wilderness site has been reserved for the trip to Haliburton. A reminder to those who are taking part in this camp - the next instalment of £200 is due at the end of March.

The start of a new century coinciding as it does with the 50th birthday of the Group, seems an appropriate time to introduce a fundamental change to the character of Weddington Scouts. From the end of this month, all sections will be inviting girls to become members. This is an inevitable development: most scout groups already run with both boys and girls and we feel this will strengthen and invigorate the Group and help us to flourish in the coming years as we, alongside scout groups nationally, respond to the challenges of a new century.

All sections have immediate vacancies. New members (boys or girls) and their parents are very welcome to come along to one of the meetings to find out more. The groups, their leaders and their meeting times are listed in an attachment to this newsletters and further copies will be available from the noticeboard at Headquarters.

FINALLY this term's subscription of £15 per member should now be paid: a reminder should have been received. We issue further notification that this needs to be increased to £16 next term.

AND all leaders wish to emphasis their concerns about cars being driven up the drive at the beginning and end of meetings. For reasons of safety PLEASE WALK UP THE DRIVE. Thankyou for your co-operation with this.

Blue Peter Bring & Buy

For New Life

Saturday 29th January 2000

2-4pm

In The Scout Hut

1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS held their Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale and raised £128 for the appeal. Thank-you to all the parents who supported us on the day and a special thank you to BEN TAPLIN who had the original idea. We would like to welcome our new Beavers - Craig Gilchrist, Catherine Taylor, Christopher Hall, Alex Parkinson and Mark Warmington. Well done to SAM WALLIS and JOSHUA STANLEY for gaining their Beaver Challenge Badge.

Good luck to Joshua Stanley, Mitchell Power, Joe Goodman and William Harrison who have started their link to Cubs.

We would like to appeal to any older scout, venture or leader who could give up some time to help us on the day of the Beaver Challenge on Saturday, 25 March. Please speak to Ali or John.

CUBS continue their work towards badges and awards.

Fosse Pack (Monday) have for the past few weeks been concentrating on the award scheme with Cubs working towards the Cob Scout, Adventure and Adventure Crest Awards. The Pack had a very enjoyable Night Hike, walking over very muddy fields on a cold night. Thanks must go to Mr Mills, Mr Ogden, Mr Vernon and the Tomkinson Family who helped on the night.

There will be a parents' open night on Monday 20 March.

The Pack is pleased to have Jonathan Rhodes, Andrew Wright, Stuart Ind and David Pinks helping over the next few months as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Watling Pack (Thursday) hosted a successful evening for 2nd Attleborough Brownies on 10 February. They made catapults to compete for the furthest 'firing' of a ping-pong ball and started and finished the meeting with games. Everyone enjoyed the evening which we hope to repeat in the future. Two wet Thursday nights have frustrated attempts to complete the Conservation Badge with a litter - picking walk but it is hoped we can combine this with a 'star-gazing' evening this week in which we continue work on the Astronomy Badge! A visit to the Gang Show will take place instead of the normal meeting on Thursday 16 March.

There are at present several Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh candidates helping with Beavers and Cubs as part of the service section of their Bronze Award. We appreciate their help and hope they have a rewarding few months with their groups.

SCOUTS have also had a busy start to the year.

Tuesday troop invested PHILLIP ALLRED and LUCY BOUCHER last week. Welcome to both and congratulations to Lucy who is the first girl to be invested as a Scout in the history of the Weddington Group. Welcome to six other girls who have joined Tuesday troop.

Well done to MATTHEW PRICE who has now gained his Diamond Outdoor Activity Award.

Friday troop are organising a Fox Covert weekend on 18-19 March. Scouts will be walking over to the Hinckley site on Saturday, cooking their meal backwoods style, and staying the night before walking home on the Sunday.

VENTURES will be collecting rummage this Wednesday night and are booked to go climbing in Warwick on Friday 3 March.

Scouts and Ventures met with three Cardiff Ventures for their winter camp in Edale two weeks ago. Although a cold weekend: sunny, frosty conditions were ideal for walking to Kinder Downfall on Saturday and to Hollins Cross and Loose Hill on Sunday. They enjoyed a challenging walk and a lovely 'play' in the snow!

The ANNUAL DISTRICT SWIMMING GALA will be held at the Pingles on Saturday 11 March from 6.30 pm. Cubs should meet at 6pm and Scouts at 7 pm. Those members not in the swimming teams are urged to come along to support 11th Nuneaton who aim to achieve even better than the excellent results they gained last year.

In order to prepare for the Gala, the swimming pool at John Cleveland College has been booked on Saturday 4 March. Cubs have the pool between 4pm and 5.30 pm and in addition to selecting their team, there will be an opportunity to gain Activity Badges. The Cub leaders would be grateful for the help of some parents to act as examiners. This is not difficult: the requirements are printed out and easily explained.

Scouts and Ventures have the pool from 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm. Those requiring a lift to Hinckley should meet at the Scout Hut at 5.00pm. Members will have the chance to complete the Swimmers Badge and take part in canoe capsizing training.

The ANNUAL DISTRICT ST GEORGE'S DAY PARADE will march from Bedworth Civic Hall to the Christian Centre and back on Sunday 16 April. Eleventh Nuneaton have responsibility for organising this event this year. So in addition to a very good turn-out of members, we would be grateful for parental help in accompanying the parade. Please note the date and consider offering assistance if you can: previous afternoons at Bedworth have been very enjoyable indeed and the St George's Day event remains an important gathering of the District in the more ceremonial side of scouting. More details later.

2.FUND-RAISING

Our RUMMAGE SALE is this Saturday, 4 March. Thanks to those who have already found items for this: if anyone has contributions for the sale please get them to the Scout Hut before Friday or deliver direct to Carol Cottrell, 16 Winchester Avenue, or indeed to St Nicolas Church Hall after 8 pm Friday night or before 9.30 on Saturday morning. These are the times when we are preparing for the sale: if you can spare time to help either on Friday evening or at any time on Saturday morning, we would be VERY PLEASED to see you.

We need to finalise the profits from the SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE . If there is any money still to be handed in, please do so soon. Thanking everyone again for the very pleasing response to this fund-raising activity which has raised £1200.

Thanks, too, to those who have been selling tickets for our GRAND RAFFLE. Please remember to sell these in the next few weeks. Money (in a marked envelope please) can be sent to Group Meetings.

Contact Bob Phillip (326928) if you are able to sell more tickets.

3.SOCIAL EVENTS

The SKITTLES EVENING has had to be postponed to 1 April because of a conflict with scouting activities in March. Please note the date: further details will be given next month.

4. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

We are currently planning for our OPEN DAY at Scout Headquarters on Saturday 20 May. It is hoped this will include a whole-group photograph, a barbecue, activities and games and a display of our first fifty years. Again, we appeal for items to display: press cuttings, certificates, photographs, uniform, badges etc. Please send these to a meeting or get in touch with Doug or Myra Shorter (328166) to discuss what you may have and how best to hand it over for display.

We need reminding of anyone connected with the group over the last 50 years who may appreciate an invitation to the open day.

If you didn't note the date of our Group/Family Camp at Blackwell Court from last month's newsletter, please do so now. The weekend of 16-18 June is sure to be a popular summer weekend for lots of events.

Gang Show 2000

14th March - 18th March

Bedworth Civic Hall

Tickets £5-00 Adults, £3-50 Children/OAPs

contact Cara (Thursday Cubs)

11th Nuneaton Scouts Online: <http://turn.to/scouts>

1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS are welcoming new members into the Colony including Catherine Taylor and Mark Warmington who have recently been invested. Well done to BEN TAPLIN and BEN ROWBERRY who have gained their Beaver Scout Challenge. Four Beavers have begun their link with Cubs and we wish Daniel Winncott, Luke Currin, Ben Taplin and Graham Allsopp well.

The Beavers have been busy with their communication theme and this week, Greenwood Colony visited Anker Radio. On Saturday, the District Beaver Challenge was held at Hartshill Hayes. Very well done to the Friday Colony whose team won the competition so well to retain the trophy for a second year. The team from Monday Beavers also did well; achieving fourth position. Many thanks to all parents, helpers and scouts who contributed to a very successful day.

Both Beaver Colonies would like to thank Mrs Eaton for providing them with an enjoyable 'parachute' evening.

We hope lots of Beavers will come along with their families, to enjoy an evening playing skittles on Saturday 1 April. Details below.

Monday (Fosse) CUBS held a very successful parents' night last week and want to thank all who participated. Congratulations to WILLIAM COLE, OLIVER TOMKINSON and EDWARD VERNON who have gained their Adventure Award. Edward Vernon, Oliver Tomkinson, Jamie Arnold, Luke Barrar, Kieran Taylor and Richie Morgan represented the pack at the District Ghost Hunt. They had an enjoyable evening and finished well placed. The following have gained Stage 1 and Stage 11 swimming badges after recent group swimming activities: Alex Gadsby, Craig Summerton, Richie Morgan, Phillip King, Josh Cooper, Jamie Arnold, Adam Ford and David Mills. Well done to them all. Cub leaders wish to thank Mrs Arnold and Mr Mills for their help with these badges.

Thursday (Watling) pack had an enjoyable visit to the Gang Show. Most cubs have completed their work for the Conservation Badge and the Astronomer's Badge. Very well done to the Ghost Hunt team who were beaten into second place by just one half of a point! Well done to the following who have gained swimming badges:
Andrew Scoffham, Richard Allsopp, Daniel Smedley, Rebecca Forrest, Nathan Adamson, Jonathan Richards, Ian McConnachie, Daniel York and William Canavan.

SCOUTS navigated their way to Kirby Mallory on Saturday 18 March, cooked their meals in the open, and stayed the night in the hut at Fox Covert. Over 30 scouts joined the expedition which was blessed with excellent weather and a lot of fun!

More investitures have taken place on Tuesday night: the pack welcomes Samantha Igoe, Anna Scoffham, James Boucher, Daniel Johnston, Jennifer Cottrell and Charlotte Wall. Congratulations to JONATHAN COTTRELL, TOM IND, and RICHARD BALL who have

gained their Diamond Activity Awards. A five-a-side team entered the District Scout Football competition and drew both their games.

Friday troop wish to congratulate CHRIS BAXTER on gaining his Silver Outdoor Activity Award; JAMES RANDLE his Gold and EDWARD HADLEY his Diamond. Well done to the three of them.

VENTURES hope to return to Warwick for more rock climbing which they thoroughly enjoyed. They spent one very cold Wednesday evening collecting rummage for the sale. Thanks to those who turned out for that. Ventures, along with leaders who need to update their certificates, are due to start a First Aid course this week.

CONGRATULATIONS to those Cubs, Scouts, Ventures and Leaders who swam so well on 11 March to retain the DISTRICT SWIMMING TROPHY with a decisive victory. Weddington claimed first place in the senior competitions but special congratulations to our Cubs who swam against very strong competition to come a very creditable second, losing out by just one point!

2. FUND-RAISING

Many thanks to those who contributed to the RUMMAGE SALE at the beginning of March - we raised £314.

The GRAND RAFFLE will be drawn on 3 May. So it is now time to find those tickets and try to sell as many as you can. More tickets can be obtained from Bob Phillip (326928). Remember there is a prize for the seller of the most tickets. Please return stubbs and money in a sealed envelope at any meeting.

We hope to repeat a successful venture of the last two years. We open a REFRESHMENT TENT AT A5 AQUATICS over Bank Holiday Weekend - 29 April to 1 May. We have in the past had invaluable help to run this from one or two individuals and families. We really need help again this year. If you feel you can spare an hour or two on the Saturday, Sunday or Monday between the hours of 11am and 4pm, please watch for a rota on the noticeboard at headquarters. A good profit is made from the sale of home-made cookies and cakes. Please try to contribute if you can.

3. SOCIAL EVENTS

Our SKITTLES EVENING is 1 April at the Headquarters building from 7.30 to 10.30. The cost will be £10 per family; £3.50 per adult and £2 per child. Baked potatoes with a variety of fillings will be provided. Bring your own drinks.

These evenings are very popular and very enjoyable - please ring Sandra Parker (328738) or Bob Phillip (326928) to give an idea of numbers. Pay on the night.

4. CANADA 2000

Plans for the summer camp are progressing now. An evening has been arranged on Tuesday 11 April at 8 pm to update parents and those attending the camp on the situation so far. Please, if possible, bring with you two photo - copies of the information page (with the photograph) of the passport, which will be used as two records of the details of the travelling group - one to remain in this country and the other to go with us.

A reminder that the March instalment of £200 should by now have been paid. A further £200 is due in May and the final instalment of £50 along with spending money needs to be paid by the end of June.

5. HEADQUARTERS

With the arrival of better weather and more hours of daylight, it is hoped to tidy up our buildings and site and carry out some essential repairs, partly in readiness for our OPEN DAY ON SATURDAY 20 MAY.

6. ST GEORGE'S DAY

WE REALLY NEED A GOOD TURN-OUT FOR THE ANNUAL ST GORGE'S DAY PARADE ON SUNDAY 16 APRIL. Please meet in full uniform (with warm clothing underneath if the day promises to be cold) at 1.30 outside the Civic Hall, Bedworth, ready for a 2.00 pm start to the march. Parents, please consider staying to help with the marshalling of the parade which is the responsibility of our Group this year. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Marchers should be dismissed by 4.00 pm.

<http://turn.to/scouts>

WEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP MAY 2000 NEWSLETTER NO. 16

Our busy birthday programme begins to gather pace. This newsletter combines an update on our major events and (for those to whom it is applicable) a request for subscriptions for the coming term.

Thanks to those who organised and to those who supported the successful SKITTLES EVENING last month: we made a profit of £80.

Thanks also to those who supported our REFRESHMENT TENT AT A5 AQUATICS last weekend. More details on the money raised in the next newsletter.

Again many thanks to all members and parents who attended and helped with the ST GEORGE'S DAY PARADE. This proved to be a very successful afternoon: many pleasing compliments have been received about an excellent service organised by Bedworth Christian Centre. Sincere thanks to them. The collection of £250 was presented to the Mayor's Charity last Wednesday. Congratulations to Weddington Beaver Colonies who were awarded the Bronze Beaver Trophy: the reward for the District's best group for the year 1999-2000. Ali and John would like to thank fellow leaders, helpers, parents and boys who have helped them to gain this award. The group, in turn, would like to record their thanks to Ali, John and fellow leaders who have worked so hard to develop the flourishing Beaver Colonies for which the presentation of this Award was so well deserved. Congratulations, also, to Helen and Cara who have worked hard over the last year or so to gain their wood badges which were presented during the service. Thursday (Watling) Cubs received the York Cup, the runners' up award for best Cub Pack: well done to them.

An invitation will shortly be issued for our Birthday celebration OPEN DAY on Saturday 20 May. You are invited to be with us from 3 pm onwards for a variety of activities, displays, a group photograph at 6 pm, and a barbecue in the evening.

An additional reminder is also given about the MILLENNIUM FAMILY/GROUP CAMP to be held over the weekend of 16-18 June. This will be open to Scouts and Ventures and also to any Cubs and Beavers who can bring their families along. Cubs and Beavers unable to camp for the weekend will have the chance to join us on the Saturday when a coach will drive them to Blackwell Court and return them in the evening. A letter giving more details will be distributed soon.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER 1 MAY - 31 AUGUST 2000

The second instalment of this year's subscription is now due. An envelope is attached to this letter. Please enclose your payment of £16 per member and return the sealed envelope indicating name or names (if there are brothers or sisters), the section (s) (eg

Mon Cubs), the amount, and whether the payment is made by cheque or cash. Cheques should be made payable to 11th Nuneaton (Weddington) Scout Group. Please return the envelope to your leader: a receipt should be given.

Do not hesitate to discuss with a leader any problems which this payment may cause.

Our Website has moved! The new address is:

<http://www.weddington-scouts.org.uk>

Email: scouts_11thnuneaton@yahoo.com

WEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP MAY (2) NEWSLETTER NO. 17

www.weddington-scouts.org.uk

We have celebrated our 50th Birthday and are mid-way through an eventful and exciting year.

Meanwhile the sections are working their way through a busy summer programme of activities.

1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS welcome George Goodman, James Dyer, Alun Howard and Tom Hebden to Monday meetings and Thomas Thorpe and Steven Merry on Fridays. They say goodbye to several older boys and wish to record their special thanks to BEN TAPLIN who has been described as a 'brilliant Beaver, committed and motivated'. Good luck to them all in Cubs.

Beavers are working this month on their theme of castles and the environment.

MONDAY (FOSSE) CUBS have recently invested Joshua Stanley and their first girl members: Katie Parkinson and Maria Phillips. Welcome to them. A team participated in the recent District Football Competition: thanks to Dad, Steve Tomkinson, who once again helped to organise this event.

THURSDAY (WATLING) CUBS also participated in the District Football Competition. They won one game and were defeated in the other. They wish to thank Dad, Bill Canavan, for helping to organise their team. Well done to all Cubs who turned up to play. Rebecca Forrest has been invested as the first girl member of Watling Pack. The Pack hosted a successful 'Chinese' evening last month when they prepared and cooked a Chinese meal which they served to invited guests. They have discussed water safety and last week enjoyed a sailing evening in Hinckley when many took to the water for a Thursday meeting with a difference! Thanks to Hinckley Water Activities Centre for enabling this activity to go ahead. [Any members or groups interested in pursuing sailing as an activity, please speak to Gordan McIntosh on a Thursday night].

TUESDAY SCOUTS welcome Adam Lloyd, their latest investiture. Older members of the troop are currently preparing for their Chief Scout Challenge.

FRIDAY SCOUTS congratulate Chris Guyan for gaining his Silver and Gold Activity Awards.

VENTURES along with many of our section leaders have been concentrating on gaining or renewing their First Aid Certificates. Congratulations to all of them for their success with this and thanks to Viv Moore of the St John's Ambulance for organising the training for us.

Ventures took part in a 50 mile Queen Scout Walk over Easter. Thanks to two scouts, Richard Scoffham and Andrew Shorter, who walked with them to complete the group.

2. FUND-RAISING

We continue to do well with our efforts to raise money to fund our birthday activities this year.

Thanks to those of you who sold RAFFLE TICKETS. We raised over £500.

Congratulations to our winning ticket holder, Barry Parker. Other prize winners have been notified and a complete list posted on the headquarters noticeboard; a copy is available from committee members.

We are grateful to all who donated prizes including Mr Wallis, the 'Acorn', the 'Fox and Crane', the 'Yeoman Harvester', Weddington Fruit and Flower Shop, Stevenson's Butcher, Thresher's Wine Merchants, Allen's Newsagents, Weddington Fish and Chip Shop, Hairdressers St Nicolas Park, Somerfield and those members of the committee and their families who contributed many of the other prizes.

Thanks, also, to those who contributed to our REFRESHMENT TENT AT A5 AQUATICS. We raised over £300 here and an additional £100 from the sale of raffle tickets. Scouts, Andrew Shorter, Richard Scoffham, James Huckerby, Richard Ball, Stuart Ind, Jonathan Cottrell, Charlotte Wall, Anna Scoffham, Samantha Igoe, Jenny Cottrell, Lucy Boucher and Jo Maconnachie, worked hard during the weekend and special thanks to parents Mr and Mrs Parkinson, Mrs Mumby, Mrs Haywood and Mrs McCracken who all provided invaluable help.

The GROUP TEA TOWEL is on display in the head-quarters. This is made up of the 'portraits' of most of our members and is available to buy at £2.50 each: we feel sure you will want to keep this memento of the year 2000 and help us to raise funds at the same time!

The next major fund-raising event is the CHARITY STALL ON NUNEATON MARKET on Saturday 24 June. This is another important opportunity to raise money from outside our own scouting community. We need home-made cakes to sell, plants to sell, items for a tombola and help on the stall on the morning itself. Please contribute to at least one of these. If you have little time during these busy summer weeks, the donation of a bottle or tin would realise a profit of £1 in the tombola. If you find you have more plants than you need, please remember our stall. Contributions can be delivered to any meeting or any committee member. It would be helpful if items were labelled 'Charity Stall'. Thanks in anticipation. More details on this will be sent home after half-term.

3. SOCIAL EVENTS

We are grateful to all who attended our PARTY and OPEN DAY last Saturday. Numbers were sufficient to make it an enjoyable and worthwhile celebration of our 50 years, although we felt more members could have turned up in uniform for the group photograph: we don't often have the chance to meet together across the group like this. There were games including a bouncy castle for the younger guests, a rope walk, an

abseiling tower, refreshments, a chance to carve a piece of our totem pole, the cutting of the birthday cake, and a display of photographs and items representative of the last 50 years. We were pleased to welcome several former members of the group and share a nostalgic memory or two of earlier times. Many thanks to all who were able to come. The group photograph will be on display on the noticeboard from this week and a copy can be ordered at £2 each.

4. GROUP CAMP: 16th-18th June

An invitation to this camp will be issued very soon. We hope many (in fact, most) members, and if possible their families, will join us at Blackwell Court near Bromsgrove for what promises to be an action-packed weekend. There will be swimming, canoeing, grass-sledging, aerial runways and much more. We are holding a Barn Dance and barbeque on Saturday evening. A coach has been booked to transport to the site Beavers and Cubs unable to camp, for the day on Saturday.

Please talk to a leader if you are considering camping as a family (or part of a family) particularly if you need to borrow a tent.

Thanks to those who have paid their SUBSCRIPTIONS so promptly. If the subs envelope has not reached home or has been lost, please ask for another from your leader or simply place the £16 per member (cheques made payable to 11th Nuneaton (Weddington) Scout Group) in an envelope with name, section and amount on the front.

Advance notice is given of our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on the evening of Wednesday, 28 June.

www.weddington-scouts.org.uk

1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS have done it again! They attended the District Sports' Day on Sunday 25 June and won the trophy. The Beavers took first place in many of the races along with some second and third places. Well done to the whole team and special thanks to the parents for their support.

Beavers travelled to Blackwell Court to join the Group at camp. Everyone enjoyed a rather hot day and returned worn out after a full programme of activities. Thank-you again to all the parents who gave up their time to take groups around. Some of the parents also experienced new activities and seemed to enjoy their day.

The programme continues at our normal meetings: the theme being castles. The theme will end with a trip to Kenilworth Castle on Sunday 23 July.

We say goodbye to Ben Rowberry who has moved to Cubs and welcome all our new Beavers: Nathan Whitehead, Jessica Smedley, Jack Mellings, Samuel Barrett, James Dyer, Alun Howard, Tom Hebdon, Faye Cruickshank, Jamie Badhams and Laura Golightly.

CUBS have had a busy summer with several camping weekends on offer. Fosse (Monday) pack has been very active recently with members attending the Millennium Camp at the end of May (thanks to Tony for this), the Group Camp in the middle of June and the Cub Scout Challenge Camp the following weekend.

They welcome Ben Taplin and Matthew Golds who have recently been invested in the pack and congratulate Alex Gadsby, David Mills, Josh Cooper, Jamie Arnold, Kieran Taylor, James Cruickshank, Luke Barrar and Adam Ford who have each gained their Cub Scout Award. Well done to William Cole who has gained his Adventure Crest Award. We have said goodbye to William who has now moved up to Scouts. Finally Monday Cubs would like to extend a big welcome to Tim Taplin who is taking out an Assistant Cub Scout Warrant with Fosse Pack.

Watling (Thursday) pack have been practising athletics for Cub Sports on 8 July and they spent one evening baking buns and cookies to sell on our Charity Stall on Nuneaton Market.

They attended the District Millennium Camp at Leek Wootton on a very wet weekend. However they had fun with a great variety of activities provided and were visited by children with special needs from Sherbourne Fields School Coventry. They did well in the 'Chariot race' and wish to give special thanks to John Moyes, Tim Taplin, Mark

Currin and Keith Wincott who braved the weather and came along to help. All participants received a medal and certificate to commemorate their attendance at this special camp.

Thursday Cub leaders organised another District camp for the Cub Scout Challenge Award, which was attended by 33 Cubs. Thursday night members Ian Maconnachie, Chris Wall, Andrew White, Jonathan Richards, William Canavan and Daniel Smedley have gained their Challenge Awards as a result. Well done to them all.

Cubs hope to travel to Packington for a District Camp Fire on 13 July and to have a barbeque on their last term-time meeting, 20 July. Thursday Cubs invite parents to stay and enjoy a sausage or burger with them on that evening!

TUESDAY SCOUTS have been very busy working for their Chief Scout Challenge Awards. As part of the work for this, eight senior scouts completed a 34-mile walk to Hinckley and Bosworth and back to Nuneaton two weeks ago. They are preparing a project on Churches in South Leicestershire as part of the follow-up activity. Many of the older Scouts have qualified for the higher awards in the Outdoor Activity Award including Richard Scoffham and Andrew Shorter who gained Platinum 2 and Matthew Price and Jonathan Cottrell who gained Platinum 1. Well done to them and all other award winners who are due to be presented with them soon.

VENTURES wish to congratulate Helen Shorter who is to be presented with her Queen Scout Award; Jenny Galland who has gained her Venture Award and all the Ventures who have gained their First Aid Badges.

2. FUND-RAISING

Thanks to those who contributed to our CHARITY STALL. We raised well over £300. We are grateful to parents Penny Price and Mrs West for their assistance on the Saturday morning.

Our next fund-raising activity will be our Rummage Sale early in October - please bear this in mind when having a summer 'sort-out'!

TEA-TOWELS are still available to buy at most group meetings at a cost of £2.50.

3. GROUP CAMP JUNE 2000 as described by a Scout who went along.

Group Camp this year (for over 100 people) was held at Blackwell Court, near Bromsgrove, on a very hot weekend. We got there about 7.30, unloaded the lorry, pitched our tents and were lucky to have some time cooling off in the outdoor swimming pool. There was lots of work to be done - an abseil tower had to be built and work started on our new aerial runway. This took most of Saturday morning to finish.

We played games of football and rugby and after supper of soup and French bread, some prepared for bed. It was very late when the last cubs and scouts finally went to sleep and very early in the morning when the first ones woke up!

After breakfast (bacon and beans) the bus load of Beavers arrived and the activities started. I had a go on the grass sledges, the assault course, the go-karts, the archery, the pop-bottle 'rockets', the abseiling and the outdoor cooking. We went canoeing which meant a short bus ride to the pool. At lunchtime everyone went swimming. The Beavers were having a great time with a gigantic 'push-ball'.

After the coach left, we dismantled the abseiling tower and runway, then lit the barbecues for supper. Many of the older members then deserted to the car-park to watch the England v. Germany match (a good atmosphere in spite of the small black and white screen) while the rest of the group held a very energetic barn dance on the field.

This was followed by more barbecues and many groups enjoyed the warm evening, sitting talking until a very late bed time. It had been a very full day!

On Sunday we packed up the tents, loaded the lorry and were home in the early afternoon.

My BEST EVER and HOTTEST Group Camp.

We must thank all who worked so hard to make this camp such a memorable success including the parents who camped with us, those who came with the Beavers on the bus and especially Dad, Dennis Price, for transporting our equipment and gear.

Enquiries have been received about embroidered SWEATSHIRTS AND POLO SHIRTS. The minimum order which can be placed is 10 items, so if anyone is interested in buying either of these, please contact Myra Shorter, Monday Cubs (024 7632 8166).

T-Shirts for youngsters should eventually be available for purchase within the groups.

A PRESENTATION EVENING is to be held at the headquarters building on Tuesday 18 July when the guest of honour will be David Brain, County Commissioner for Scouts along with other officials who will be presenting a variety of awards for which many members of the group have worked so hard. All leaders, committee members, ventures, scouts and sixers from Cub packs, in addition to the parents of recipients will receive an invitation to this. We hope all will be able to attend what will be a celebration of some considerable achievement.

Thanks to those who attended the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Group on Wednesday 28 June when the Group finances were discussed, last year's activities summarised, the Committee re-elected and an invitation issued for any parents who would like to become involved in the work of the executive Committee.

FINALLY, fifty-three of our members are looking forward to our annual summer camp with a difference. They fly to Canada on 22 July. The group wishes them a wonderful and memorable holiday and will be reading all about it in the next newsletter.

Please try to come along to some of the holiday meetings if you can, have a lovely summer and return for normal meetings around the first week of term.

Monday and Friday Beavers show off their success at the District Sports Day.

Holiday Arrangements Around the Sections

The last meeting for BEAVERS will be Monday 31 July, there will be no meetings during August and they re-open on Monday 4 September.

MONDAY CUBS will not meet on Monday 24th or Monday 31st July. They will meet on 7th, 14th and 21st August - no uniform required. They will not meet on 28 August (Bank Holiday) and will resume normal, uniformed meetings on Monday 4 September.

THURSDAY CUBS will continue to meet THROUGHOUT the holiday - all meetings will be non-uniform. Normal uniformed meetings will resume on Thursday 7 September.

TUESDAY SCOUTS will not meet for the first two weeks of the holiday then members will be invited to participate in a programme of activities such as bowling and tobogganing during August.

FRIDAY SCOUTS will hold their last meeting on 14 July and will resume normal meetings from 1 September

VENTURES will continue to meet in August.

WEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP SEPTEMBER 2000 NEWSLETTER NO. 19

www.weddington-scouts.org.uk

This newsletter welcomes all current, and particularly new, members and their families to the third part of our special birthday millennium year . It combines an update on scouting activities, some idea of events to come, and a reminder that subscriptions are now due.

1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS have started this term with a busy programme following 'Scouting Around the World'. They would all like to welcome new Beavers - Christopher Johnston, Edward Ford, James Gilbert, Thomas Hughes, Alex Bratt, Stuart Missen, Sam Waugh and Rees Sweeney.

Everyone would like to wish Stephen Sykes, Stephen Sambrook, Jonathan Allred, Martin Aston and Sam Powell well as they move on to join Cubs.

Well done to the following who have gained their first Beaver badge - Lloyd Cheshire, Mark Warmington, Catherine Taylor, Thomas Waters and Carl Fitzgerald and to the following boys for gaining their second Beaver Badge - Harry Arnold, Alex Coopey, Joe Botham, Jason Hales, Luke Woodley, Craig Gilchrist, Jonathan Haywood, Jack West, Sam Healy, Jake Healy and Gareth Wainwright. Well done everyone.

CUBS met throughout the summer and enjoyed non-uniform games nights. Monday pack held a successful 'fire-lighting' evening at Fox Covert camp site, Hinckley.

Both packs are setting out on a busy programme of activities and would welcome occasional parent help and involvement with these. Pack leaders will let their parents know when some assistance would be useful.

Both Cubs and Beavers have been invited to attend an activity day at Bramcote Barracks next Sunday 17 September. The Chief Scout, George Purdy, will visit during the day. Details of what should prove to be a really good activity day have been issued by the sections.

SCOUTS and VENTURES will also have the chance to meet the Chief Scout and members from other parts of Warwickshire at a specially organised camp at Broadwater Campsite for the weekend. (15-17 September). Again details have been given at meetings.

Fifty-three members of the Group returned last month from a memorable summer camp to Canada. They had a wonderful 'adventure' combining scouting activities such as walking, shooting, archery, camp fires, lots of canoeing (Canadian style), swimming and even snorkelling with tourist visits to Toronto, Niagra Falls and so on. You can follow the story of the fortnight by following the photographic record of Weddington Bear's trip in the Headquarter's Building or by visiting the website at www.weddington-scouts.org.uk/canada2000. Those who attended the camp and their families are invited to a Canada Evening on Saturday 14 October when photographs and the video will be on show. Start at 7.00; bring your own refreshments; further details soon. Please bring your

own photos with you.

2. FUND-RAISING

Our next RUMMAGE SALE is very close - Saturday 30 September at St Nicolas Church Hall in the town. We urgently need contributions for this - clothes, books, toys, bric-a-brac etc. Please find something if you can and deliver it to the Scout Hut at any meeting this or next week or deliver direct to Carol Cottrell, 16 Winchester Ave (76387375). We still need more help at the sale and the evening before - please volunteer if you can. Thank-you in anticipation.

WEBB-IVORY Christmas catalogues will reach you very soon. This is one of our major fund-raising activities raising over £700 last year. So we are confident that parents and their families, neighbours and friends will not disappoint with their response again this year. Those who may be interested in special deals for personalised or business cards can find more details from Chris Ball (01455 213005)

You should have received an invitation to join our 200 CLUB before the summer holiday. We are hoping to attract many more members in the coming weeks. Numbers are £1 per month, paid for 6 months or a year, and winners will be drawn at one of the evening meetings each month. If you have not received, or have mislaid, your invitation, please ask for details at your son's/daughter's meeting.

Hopefully all of you will be able to contribute to fund-raising in one or all of these events. Volunteers give up a lot of their time to organise each of these- please help them to succeed and make their efforts worthwhile. Raising money in this way helps us to keep subscription rates down, to maintain our building and most importantly to offer a wide-ranging variety of activities to our youngsters.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER 1 SEPTEMBER - 31 DECEMBER 2000

The third instalment of this year's subscription is now due. An envelope is attached to this letter. Please enclose your payment of £16 per member and return the sealed envelope indicating name or names (if there are brothers or sisters), the section (eg Mon Cubs), the total amount and whether the payment is made by cash or cheque. Cheques should be made payable to

11th Nuneaton (Weddington) Scout Group

Please return the envelope to the meeting - a receipt should be given.

Do not hesitate to discuss with a leader any problems which this payment may cause.

WEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP OCTOBER 2000 NEWSLETTER NO. 20

www.weddington-scouts.org.uk

1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS have invested all new members. Welcome to them. Congratulations to JOHN MUMBY who has gained his Challenge Badge. Leaders are appealing for old, large-sized T-Shirts to protect uniforms during craft and painting activities.

CUBS have had a busy start to the term. Along with BEAVERS, Cubs attended a county activity day at Bramcote where in spite of reduced attendance because of the fuel crisis, they enjoyed activities ranging from canoeing, 'rock' climbing and abseiling to badge making and juggling and balancing challenges. The Chief Scout, George Purdy, toured round the field and talked to many of the youngsters during his visit.

FOSSE (MONDAY) PACK welcome, and are in the process of investing, James and Tom Goodyear, Steven Sambrook, Sam Powell and Martin Aston. They are creating a new 'six' reflecting the encouraging growth of numbers in the pack.

WATLING (THURSDAY) PACK have invested SAM WALLIS and welcome him and other Beavers who have recently joined this section. Cubs have been working on various badges including the computer, book reader, cooking and first aid alongside completing some of the tasks for their award badges. Last week, they went for a rather damp and muddy night hike; but had a good walk and a welcome bag of chips at the finish!

SCOUTS along with VENTURES also met the Chief Scout at their County camp at Broadwater in September. The Weddington group was the largest on the site and the group had an active weekend which included a disco, abseiling, climbing, shooting and archery. There was an opportunity for members to learn sign-language.

A patrol from TUESDAY TROOP attended and were the winners of the District Scout Camping Competition two weeks ago on a VERY wet and cold Saturday. Well done to the winning team: John Rowley, Richard Ball, James Huckerby, Lucy Boucher, Charlotte Wall and Jennifer Cottrell. There has been some reorganisation of Tuesday troop with the departure of a number of senior scouts to Ventures. New patrol leaders are John Rowley, Richard Ball, Lucy Boucher and Joanne Maconnachie.

FRIDAY SCOUTS have been having fun at their meetings. They have been practising cooking using light-weight stoves and staged a hard-fought, conker competition last week.

VENTURES welcome many new members this term. They have organised activities such as hot-air balloon making and a games night. Many thanks to those who turned out on a

VERY wet Wednesday night to help with the door-to-door collection of rummage. An expedition was arranged at the end of the summer for two Ventures to complete the expedition section of the Queen Scout's Award. JENNY GALLAND and MATTHEW ARCHER successfully finished a challenging walk in mixed weather in the Peak District and wish to thank Matthew Price and Tom Cotterill for walking with them.

2. FUND-RAISING

Many thanks to those who contributed to our RUMMAGE SALE: we raised £200. Please remember to order from your WEBB-IVORY Christmas Catalogue. Orders should be returned to your helper and the sooner they are returned the earlier the goods will be received.

Thanks to the many of you who have already ordered but WE DO NEED MANY MORE. Please circulate the catalogue to other family and friends. Goods are not paid for until they are delivered to you.

Again, we really need an improved response to our CLUB 200 invitation. This is an EXCELLENT way to raise money and the chances of your number being drawn are quite high.

The value of the prizes will increase with the addition of new members. September winners were drawn at a Friday Beaver meeting. First prize was won by Mr and Mrs Haywood, second by Mrs Cottrell and third by Mrs Parker.

The October draw will take place at Thursday Cubs (19th). Please consider taking a form from the noticeboard at Headquarters and perhaps joining until the end of the year for just £2 (£1 per month).

3. SOCIAL EVENTS

Members who participated in the summer camp to Canada this year, along with their families, enjoyed a get-together last Saturday during which they watched a video of the trip and looked at the photographs and souvenirs from the camp. Could all who went to Canada please ensure that they have donated at least one photograph to help put together a photographic 'collage' as a permanent display which will commemorate the visit.

Everyone concerned would like to sincerely thank all the leaders, especially Doug and Myra Shorter, who worked so hard to organise and ensure the success of the visit.

The evening was also the occasion chosen to present some Scout Association Long Service Decorations which recognise the many years of dedicated commitment given by adult leaders and committee members. So Dave Mein, District Commissioner, presented Scout Leader PETE GALLAND with an award for 15 years of service to Scouts, current committee chairman BOB PHILLIP and committee member JOAN KEISER with an award for 15 years service and committee member SANDRA PARKER for 5 years. CHRIS BALL, currently the Treasurer of the Group, received a decoration for 25 years service. Thanks and congratulations to them all.

The Group Carol Service will be held at Weddington Church on Monday 4 December. We are planning a special end of year Party to bring our anniversary year to a close, so watch for details of that.

FINALLY, thanks to all who have paid subscriptions so promptly this term. Reminders should have been received by those who have not yet paid. Your co-operation with this is very much appreciated.

Weddington Scout Group Newsletter: November 2000 No: 21

www.weddington-scouts.org.uk

1. AROUND THE GROUPS

BEAVERS would like to welcome Edward Taplin, Oliver Osbourne, Christopher Hall, Kieran Quinn, Jack Grant-Hughes, Ben Nicholas and Nathan Packe who have recently joined the Colonies. They would like to wish Tim Johnston luck as he moves to Cubs. The Beavers are currently working on their theme of toys and are looking forward to a busy few months. The Group Carol Service is on Monday 4 December and will replace the scheduled meeting. The Beaver District Carol Service is on Thursday 7 December and will replace the usual Friday meeting that week. The plans are in progress for a party and the Beavers have been invited to join with the District when they attend the panto on Friday 12 January '01 at Bedworth Civic Hall. Further details of these events will be sent out later.

FOSSE (MONDAY) CUBS have created a fifth six and congratulate Will Ogden, Andrew Scoffham, Richie Morgan and Philip King who join Edward Vernon and become sixers in the reorganisation of the Pack. Well done to Brown Six for winning the Six Trophy this month. Leaders ask all members to bring an empty, cleaned 'baked bean type' tin (approx 200 g) in which to bake their mini Christmas cakes on 27 November.

WATLING (THURSDAY) CUBS have been busy this term. Along with Members from Monday Pack they participated in the District Conker Competition and enjoyed a really good evening of archery two weeks ago. Many thanks to 1st Nuneaton for bringing their longbows and cross bows for them. Cubs learned about the work of the British Legion from Don Jacques last week in preparation for their participation in the Remembrance Day Parade in Nuneaton last Sunday. Welcome to Tayo Moore who was invested last week.

SCOUTS are currently concentrating on patrol work in a series of activity evenings which include such tasks as pioneering and cooking. Tuesday troop have invested Jonathan Richards: welcome to him.

VENTURES dressed up for a Halloween Party at half term and held a Scalextric evening last week. They have planned a trip to the climbing wall at Coventry University and are hoping to do a day's walking in Snowdonia at the end of the month. They hope, in December, to go bowling and ice-skating. Dates for the diary are Saturday and Sunday 16-17 December: their annual Christmas Party at Fox Covert.

We welcome Duke of Edinburgh Bronze candidates at some of our meetings: they are working towards the service section of their awards.

The 20th WORLD JAMBOREE is to be held in Thailand at the turn of the years 2002 and 2003. Thirty thousand Scouts between the ages of 14 and 18 will attend. We draw this to the attention of those members born between 29 December 1984 and 28 December 1988 in case they are interested in this event. The Group would encourage anyone who is eligible and feels they would like to know more about the opportunity to go to Thailand to register a preliminary interest. Please speak to Doug for more details.

2. FUND-RAISING

Thanks to those who have ordered from WEBB-IVORY. The first deliveries are arriving now.

We have had a few new subscribers to CLUB 200. We need MANY MORE. You will be invited, again, to join this monthly draw at £1 per month in the New Year. October winners were drawn by Thursday Cubs: 1. J. Woodward; 2. R. Phillip; 3. D. Shorter.

3. SOCIAL EVENTS

Our GROUP CAROL SERVICE will be held at St James Church Weddington at 6.30 on Monday 4 December. The service will last about an hour. This is always an enjoyable event: one of the few occasions in the year when the sections meet together as a group. We also intend to hold an END-OF-YEAR PARTY as a finale to our special anniversary year. It has been decided to avoid the busy Christmas period and to have our celebration on Saturday 20 January. Beavers and Cubs will hold their party between 4pm and 6pm and Scouts and Ventures between 7pm and 9pm. More details to come, but meanwhile please make a note of the date in next year's diary.

A REMINDER to those who travelled to Canada in the summer. We would like each of you to donate a photograph so that we can complete our 'collage record' of the trip.

FINALLY it is hoped to create a pool of SECOND-HAND UNIFORM. Please donate any items of uniform in good condition which are no longer required. You may also know parents of children who have left the movement and will thus have spare clothing. We will then have shirts, T-shirts, trousers and sweat shirts available for those who have difficulty in getting hold of new kit as their children move up the sections.

www.weddington-scouts.org.uk

www.weddington-scouts.org.uk/canada2000

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