



A Happy New Year to all our Members. We look forward to another action-packed year at Weddington Scouts.

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Items for the next newsletter to Carol Cottrell, 76387375 or news@11thnuneaton.org.uk please.

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Items for the website to info@11thnuneaton.org.uk please.

Subscriptions:

It is time to renew subscriptions for the session January to May. January is the month of the Scout Association annual census, so it is important that we prepare an accurate record of our membership.

Prompt payment and information of any change of details will be appreciated.

We particularly need to know of anyone who has decided not to renew membership before we pay his or her capitation fees.

Subscriptions remain at £20 per term for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. We require an ANNUAL payment of £25 from all Network Scouts (including those who will be 18 before September) who wish to retain membership of the Group.

This will also be the last payment of the tax year and we will be asking those who have not already done so to complete a gift aid declaration. We are pleased with parents' response to this appeal and look forward to announcing a further substantial boost to funds when the tax is reclaimed. Apologies to anyone who has been asked again for this where it is not relevant to their circumstances.

Charity Stall:

Many thanks to those of you who contributed to our Charity Stall in December. We raised £400 for Group Funds. We are grateful for the very hard work put in by several Committee Members in preparing and manning the stall and especially to Scouts Stephen Sambrook, Victoria Wale, Charlotte Wale and Cub Richard Wale who succeeded so well in attracting the 'customers'. Thanks to them!

We were a little disappointed with the response for cakes and tombola items for which we appealed in the last newsletter. Stalls and car boot sales are an ongoing fund-raising activity for the Committee and we would be grateful for any suitable donations AT ANY TIME, so if you have any unwanted gifts we could certainly make good use of them as prizes. Please take them to any evening meeting in a bag marked 'Prizes' and they will be collected. Thankyou.

Carol Service:

Our annual carol service was again very successful and very well attended. Thanks to Matthew Archer for organising this.

www.11thnuneaton.org.uk

Download your 2005 Scouting Calendar today!

info@11thnuneaton.org.uk

Dates for the Diary:

Saturday 22 January:
Our annual New Year Group Party. Beavers and Cubs will celebrate between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. and bring their own picnic tea. Scouts and Explorers will party from 6.30 to 8.30 with a supper provided. The Party is always great fun, so do come and join us.

4th – 6th February:
Scout Winter walking trip to South Wales.

24th – 26th June:
Family Group Camp, Shugborough

23rd – 30th July:
Summer Camp, Bodmin, Cornwall

NEWSLETTER

February 2005



Scouts on their Winter Walking Weekend in the Black Mountains

Winter Walking Weekend

Report by James Cruickshank:

"Last weekend we went to a camping barn in the Black Mountains, South Wales. The journey was almost as hard for the minibus as the 8 mile hike was for us up the mountains, when we took a wrong turn up a steep and windy track and we soon smelt the minibus's brakes burning! When we got to the bunkhouse, we had a snack and went to bed, which was hard because it was so cold, but we slept through the night and in the morning we got up and made breakfast and packed for the walk. As we walked through the fields, up paths, through thick forest and over streams, the weather took a turn for the worse and it started to rain and snow. As we were walking along the mountain



ridge we were suddenly greeted by a sheep giving birth, we didn't stop, but it seemed to lift our spirits. When we got back we cooked dinner, played some games and went to bed. The next day we packed up and went home. Overall I enjoyed the camp and might think about doing it again!"

Presentation Evening

The Group held a very successful presentation evening in January during which **Andrew Shorter** and **Matthew Price** were presented with their **Queen Scout Awards** by the County Commissioner, David Braine. This represents the highest achievement in Scouting for youngsters and they gave an interesting and entertaining insight into the hard work and commitment involved in the completion of the Award. Many Congratulations to them. Other presentations made were to Anna Evans, Jamie Bourne, Matt



Green, Daniel Holmes, Steph Hopkins and Richie Morgan who have achieved their Chief Scouts Challenge. Tom Ind, Claire Gilchrist, Jon Ellard, Phil Allred and James Boucher were presented with their Platinum Award and the same five Explorers, plus Jonathan Richards, also achieved their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Awards. The Group was pleased to welcome Keith Asbury, North Warwickshire D. of E. Liaison Officer to present this award.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The annual **Group Party** was also held in January. Again those who attended enjoyed an afternoon or evening of fun and games which again proved a great success. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make this possible: the party is becoming an established part of our annual calendar.



The **Annual Census** returns have shown that once again Weddington Scouts can boast the largest Group in the District. Thanks to all who have returned subscriptions so promptly this term and also to all of you who are helping us to reclaim gift aid from the Inland Revenue.

The District **Swimming Gala** takes place this Saturday, 26 February. Hopefully the next newsletter will be congratulating our swimmers on another great victory!

Our next **Charity Stall** has been postponed until Saturday 2 July. Please try to donate items for tombola and home-made cakes to help us raise funds from a source outside of the Group, it's members and relatives.



Beavers would like to welcome Jamie Wilson, Paul Bruce, Oliver Lea, Joshua Mackereth, Oliver Grainger and Jacob King. These Kits are due to be invested shortly. Goodbye to Jonathan as he moves to Cubs. Jonathan received his Two year joining in badge and has also achieved a 200% attendance record in his time at Beavers. Congratulations to him and to all the Beavers who recently completed their Friendship Challenge and also to those who have completed their first year at Beavers: Adam, Joseph, Jack, Richard and Elliot.

The Colonies are now moving on to the Discovery Challenge and also hope to attain the creative and experiment badges before Easter.

On Saturday 12 March, there is a **Wildlife Day** for Beavers based at the hut. They will need FULL uniform and warm outdoor clothes for the morning. Please sign up at the registration table.

Finally we will be closed on Monday 21 & 28 March and Friday 25 March & 1 April.

Cubs have had a busy start to 2005. We hosted the District Quiz in January and had an enjoyable evening and the teams managed a very creditable joint fourth place. Four Cubs took part in the District Activity Day recently and completed some challenging tasks that contribute towards the gaining of their Activity Badge.

Monday Pack members have been working for their Fitness Badge. Congratulations to Cubs Faye Cruickshank, Lauren Wainwright, Luke Worthington, Edward Ford and Stuart Missen who planned and ran a very successful evening meeting as part of the service required for their Silver Chief Scout Award.

Thursday Pack has been looking at the stars and enjoyed an evening of making the batter to fry and toss

their own pancakes. They will be preparing for the annual road safety competition and look forward to a visit to the Gang Show at Bedworth in March. The Pack has invested four new Cubs – welcome to them.

Scouts participated in their first expedition of the year. Fifteen Scouts and seven leaders stayed in a “cottage” near Abergavenny at the beginning of the month to experience some walking in the Black Mountains. James Cruickshank’s account of the weekend can be seen on the front page of this newsletter, alongside the group photo. More photos can be seen on the website.

Tuesday Troop have invested Jonathan Hughes. Welcome to him. Both troops have been cooking pancakes this term, with some ‘colourful’ results from Friday Troop! Scouts will be walking to Fox Coverts on Saturday 5th March and staying overnight. Some older members will use this as practice for their expeditions later in the year.

Explorers have also been out and about. They held a winter walking weekend based at Capel Curig in North Wales at the beginning of the month during which James Dixon was invested on Moel Siabod. They have been climbing, cooking pancakes in the middle of a field in the dark, on a rope challenge and managed to get very lost on a night hike in Bradgate Park!

Explorers have also enjoyed their postponed Christmas Party at Fox Covert. Many thanks to Tom Ind for organising this, a great time was had by all.

Thanks to James Boucher for setting up the new Explorer Website.



Explorer Rope Challenge

Dates for the Diary

March 5th - 6th 2005

Scouts walk to Fox Coverts

March 12th 2005

Charity Stall - now 2nd July!!

April 15th - 17th 2005

Older Scouts Expedition Camp

April 24th 2005

St George’s Day Parade

June 24th - 26th 2005

Annual Family Camp, Shugborough

July 23rd - 30th 2005

Summer Camp, Bodmin, Cornwall

Finally, apologies to Jon Ellard and Jessica Smedley who were omitted from the credits of those who helped with our Charity Stall before Christmas. Both worked hard all day to aid the success of this fund-raising activity.

Also thanks to Hannah Fox for organising the music at the Carol Service.

Uniform Stockist!

Our local camping and outdoor shop, Jacksons of Old Arley, now stock Scout Uniform! This should make getting uniform much easier, and as an added bonus, they offer 10% discount off anything in store to all members!

Jacksons can be contacted on 01676 540878 ex 4 or on the web at

www.jacksonscamping.com

Items for the next newsletter to:

Carol Cottrell, on 024 7638 3735 or carol@11thnuneaton.org.uk

General email:

info@11thnuneaton.org.uk

Group Website:

www.11thnuneaton.org.uk

Explorer Website:

www.11thnuneaton.org.uk/explorers

Network Website:

www.11thnuneaton.org.uk/network

NEWSLETTER

BEAVERS have been extremely busy in the last two months and have many more activities planned in the near future. They staged a very successful Activity Day in March with the National Environment Team and 34 Beavers gained their Experiment Badge as a result. They enjoyed visits from Warwickshire Wildlife Team when Beavers were able to handle ferrets, rats and other small animals. On Saturday 7 May, 40 Beavers will spend the day at Fox Covert working on all kinds of outdoor challenges to earn their Explorer Badge. Congratulations to AMY SIZER, DYLAN REYNOLDS, DYLAN SIMMONS, NAOMI KUMAR, SAM STRETTON, RICHARD SIGGEE and JAMES CAKEBREAD who have been awarded their Bronze Chief Scout Award. Two Swimmer Badges, twelve Outdoor Challenges and seven Friendship Challenges have also been awarded. Well done to all of you who have worked so well to earn this very impressive number of awards. Beavers say farewell to Calum Cheshire and Ben Payne who have moved to Cubs and they welcome Amelia Green, Henry Simmons, Thomas Gregson, Sam Whitfield and Matt Archer.

CUBS have been in competitive mode. A team from each Pack travelled to Leamington last month to take part in the Annual ROAD SAFETY QUIZ and although they were not in the top three, they did well to qualify for a competition open to all Cubs and Brownies in the County. Teams were entered for the District Scavenger Hunt on 9 April and Watling Pack were joint winners of this event. Congratulations to Fosse (Monday) Pack who were awarded the Silver Wolf Trophy for runner-up District

Cub Pack for the Year and who were also awarded the Conservation Trophy at the recent St George's Day Ceremony. Cubs are busy working towards additional Badges: Fosse are involved in the Artist's Badge and Watling are learning to find their way around by various methods for the Navigator's Badge.

The older Cubs from each Pack are looking forward to their annual CAMP at Fox Covert the weekend 10-12 June.

SCOUTS have continued a busy camping season. Well done to Jenny Deakin, Chris Denney, Heather Hill, Emily Haggie, Abbie Fitzgerald and Andrew Gilchrist who completed a tough expedition challenge in South Wales last month. Scouts plan another Fox Covert Camp 13-15 May. Preparations are underway for ANNUAL SUMMER CAMP in Cornwall 23-30 July.

Well done to the five footballers from Tuesday Troop who won the District Five-a-Side competition. The Troop welcome Jessica Smedley, Christopher Johnston and Nathan Whitehead. Friday troop welcome Rachael Hill.

Congratulations to everyone who swam so well to win every section of the DISTRICT SWIMMING GALA in February. There will be an opportunity for swimmers (cubs, scouts and explorers) to gain STAGED SWIMMING BADGES on 7 May when the Pingles has been booked 4-6p.m.

Many thanks to all who turned out for the ST GEORGE'S DAY PARADE on 24 April. 11th Nuneaton was once again awarded the Premier Memorial Trophy jointly with 1st Attleborough.

All members and their parents are invited to our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at the Headquarters on Wednesday 18 May at 7.30. This is an opportunity to raise any issues of interest or concern and acknowledge the commitment of our leaders and committee members who work so hard on behalf of our youngsters. There will be refreshments at the end of the meeting. It would be encouraging to see a number of parents present.

You will shortly be receiving invitations to our annual GROUP ACTIVITY CAMP at Shugborough Hall in Staffordshire 24-26 June. As those who have joined us in the past will testify, this is a not-to-be-missed weekend with the chance to try climbing, abseiling, canoeing, archery, caving, a blind-fold trail and crystal maze. There is a camp-fire and barbecue on Saturday evening. The cost will remain as last year – Day Visitors £5.00; Campers wishing to be catered for £20; Campers self-catering £15; Children under 6 years of age, free.

Beavers and Cubs are welcome to camp with their OWN parents or to join us, again with their parents, for the day on Saturday. We are usually home by lunchtime on Sunday. So do consider joining us – it has always proved a very enjoyable get-together in the past.

The next fund-raising event is the CHARITY STALL on Nuneaton Market on Saturday 2 July. We sell cakes, plants and run a Tombola and would appreciate any items you could donate for these, particularly bottles which would add to the attraction of the tombola display! We also rely on volunteers to man the stall and always do well when we can persuade some of the youngsters in uniform to help us.

The Group is very pleased to extend its congratulations to cub leader TONY FREARSON who has been awarded the prestigious Medal of Merit for services to the County.

FINALLY it is SUBSCRIPTION time again! All Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer Members owe £20 for the Scouting session May to September. Please fill in the details on the attached envelope and return to any evening meeting. Thank You.

11th NUNEATON (WEDDINGTON) SCOUT GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO 53 SEPTEMBER 2005

We welcome all Members and their families to a new scouting session. Welcome to those joining one of our Groups for the first time: we wish you a long and happy time with 11th Nuneaton. Good luck, also, to those who are moving to a new section this Autumn and to those Network Scouts who start their University courses. We ask them to make sure they keep in touch and join us for some of our Christmas activities.

Almost one hundred of our Scouts, Explorers, Network Scouts and their leaders and Committee travelled to Cornwall in July for another very successful Summer Camp. Although the weather could have been sunnier for them, they enjoyed the usual wide range of activities including canoeing, climbing, cycling and archery. A particularly successful activity this year was sea fishing. Scouts caught their fish, gutted and prepared them and cooked them in camp. They had some days on the beach and visited Newquay for their recreation day. Several members were presented with badges and awards – well done to them.

Leaders are preparing varied and interesting programmes for the new term as most of the sections welcome new members. Additional help from anyone who feels able to help with one of the evening sessions would be VERY MUCH appreciated. Please talk to a leader if you feel able to offer even occasional assistance.

One date for the diary is the proposed RACE NIGHT on Saturday 15 October. This proved to be a very popular and enjoyable evening last year, so please watch out for the details of company sponsorship and individual purchase of horses which will be circulated to you soon.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are due once again. All Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer Members owe £20 for the session until the end of the year. Please fill in the details on the attached envelope and return to any evening meeting – one envelope per family.

The Gift Aid scheme is an important fund-raiser for us. If you have not completed one of these, please consider doing so: it is worth about £5 of each subscription of £20. Apologies if you have been asked before and this is not relevant to you. (If you let Carol Cottrell know, a note of 'Not-applicable' can be attached to the records). Thank You.

NEWSLETTER

November 2005



Our members on the Remembrance Parade, 13 November

The End of 2005

We are nearing the end of another busy scouting year during which our members have been engaged in a wide variety of events and activities, earning their badges and awards and many of them moving on to an older section. The Group continues to show a healthy increase in membership and acknowledges the continuing commitment and hard work of all



Leaders and Committee members who make this success possible. Weddington Scout Group must also recognise the commitment shown by several of our Explorers who regularly help with younger meetings and indeed in looking after the building and its grounds. Their assistance has proved invaluable: thank you to all of them.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Many thanks to Cubs, Scouts and Explorers who turned up for the **Remembrance Parade** on 13 November. Lovely weather helped to make this a memorable event and to ensure the Scout section of the March was very well represented.

The **Race Night** in October raised £250. Thanks to those who participated and special thanks to Julie Canavan and her family who worked hard to organise the event. We will be looking for more sponsorship of our races next year!

We are hoping to arrange a **bag-packing session** at a local supermarket one Saturday. This is a profitable fund-raiser, so please look out for details of this and help if you can.

Advance notice of our annual **Group Party**: this will take place on Saturday 21 January, so please make a note of this now. Details later.

Finally the Group wishes all Members and their families a very enjoyable **Christmas** and a flourishing **New Year**.

Headquarters:

The buildings are in need of some cleaning up and some minor repairs. It is intended to organise a day's working party in the near future to improve the hut. Please offer some help with this if you can; we are particularly looking for someone who can lay the carpet tiles we have ready to cover the floor of the extension building. Again, details will be sent out soon.

Carol Service:

We hope many Members and their families will join us for our annual Carol Service which this year will be staged in St James Church Hall Weddington. It will be led by our Beavers with input from the more musical of our Members. The Service will begin at 6.30: it promises to be an enjoyable evening.

Lost Gear:

We give final notice that the gear including a sleeping bag and sleeping mat which were never reclaimed from this year's Summer Camp will be disposed of before Christmas. Please speak to a Scout leader if you think any item may be yours.

Cars on the Drive:

We issue our regular reminder: **PARENTS PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR CARS UP THE DRIVE AT THE BEGINNING OR END OF MEETINGS.** Thank you all for your cooperation with this.



Beavers would like to welcome all the new Members who joined them in September and November. Goodbye and good luck to all who have moved on to Cubs in September and more recently – Adam J., Elliot, Paul and Alex. Goodbye also to Amelia and Luke who move to Cyprus very soon.

The Beavers have tackled their Friendship Challenge this Autumn: many have already gained their badge and others are nearly there – well done. As part of the badge the Beavers visited the Library and completed a ‘Cheeky Monkey’ Challenge. The Challenge was a mile long treasure hunt and the Beavers raised an amazing £970 (!) for Children with Leukaemia. There will be press coverage in the ‘Evening News’ in early December’s Scout Log.

The carol service is being fronted by the Beavers this year – the date to remember is Friday 16 December at 6.30p.m. at St James Church Hall. We intend to have a dress rehearsal at the hut on Saturday 10 December – please keep these dates free if possible.

Congratulations to Thomas Hoyle who recently gained his Chief Scout Challenge and his Musician Badge. Well done, also, to Henry and Ryan who have gained their Animal Friend Badge and John and Jack who achieved their Swimmer Badge.

The Carol Service will be the last Beaver Meeting before the New Year.

Cubs from both Packs joined together for a very successful Fireworks Party: thanks to Leader ‘Mac’ and his assistants for this. Monday Pack have been looking at home safety, emergency situations and they also made some very

scary masks for Halloween. They have completed the Book Reader Badge which combined with the ‘Reading Voyage’ run by Nuneaton Library over the summer. Fosse Cubs would like to thank Mr Read for organising a very interesting visit to the Library and running the activity badge. The Pack has invested Luke Wagg, Jessica Barratt, Amy Sizer, Naomi Kumar and Saul Bache. Welcome to them and to others who have recently joined them: Paul Bruce, Alex Cooke, Elliot Godfrey, Adam Johnston, Sam Stretton, Dominic Grainger, James Cakebread and Holly Kendall. Two older Cubs, Stephen Ball and Nicolas Cole ran an interesting meeting doing origami: they are presently linking with Scouts. Finally Fosse Cubs would like to thank Watling Cubs for inviting them to share their firework display. They loved the refreshments!

Thursday Pack have enjoyed an evening of indoor archery, they have made diwali lamps and had a very messy and fun-filled Halloween Party. Many of the Pack have gained First Aid badges since the summer; well done to them and also to those who have worked for a variety of activity badges. Watling Cubs welcome Dylan Reynolds and Robert Aston to the Pack and will soon say farewell to Joe Pefers and Daine Morrow who are currently linking with Scouts.

Scouts Sarah Sambrook, Nicola Igoe, Chantelle Sutton, Chris Denny, Ian Barber, James Cruickshank and Carla Bramham were presented with their Chief Scout Gold Award at a recent presentation evening. This is the highest Award to be earned in the Scout Section of the movement so very well done to them all. They are now moving to fresh challenges in the Explorer section and as part of this link 20 of the older Scouts took part in a weekend ‘moving on’ camp at Fox Covert.

Friday Scouts welcome a number of new members: they have invested Joanna Quigley, Luke Bagnall, Philipa Saunders and Rebecca Bilbie. Best wishes to Scout

Luke (Smiler) Worthington who is leaving Nuneaton in December. Members of the troop visited Nuneaton Fire Station while working towards their Community Challenge Award. The Troop look forward to their annual Christmas Dinner to be cooked and served on 9 December.

Friday Scouts are sorry to have lost leader Louise Cotterill who has left to live and work in Manchester. Weddington Scouts acknowledge the many years of service given by Louise to the Group: we will miss her hard work and commitment but hope she will continue to join us in some of the Camps and activities. We thank her and wish her well.

Explorers are experiencing an upsurge in numbers as many older Scouts ‘move on’ and are proving to be a flourishing section of our Group. They have been following their usual varied programme of activities: they have cooked in a field (in the pouring rain), competed in a Scavenger Hunt and undertaken other challenges. Three Members attended the District camp in Wales in September where they were involved in walking, climbing and canoeing.

Uniform Stockist!

Our local camping and outdoor shop, Jacksons of Old Arley, now stock Scout Uniform! This should make getting uniform much easier, and as an added bonus, they offer 10% discount off anything in store to all members!

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