

# NEWSLETTER

February 2009



Reaching the top, Winter Camp

### Frog Race

You may by now have received an invitation to our next social event. We are staging a 'Frog Race Night' on Saturday 21 March at 7pm. Please support this family night – everyone is invited including friends and relatives. A light buffet will be provided. Please bring your own drinks. Tickets will be £2 per adult and £1 per member or £5 per family. We are very keen to see lots of new faces at our social events which also help with our essential fund-raising: this certainly promises to be a very entertaining and inexpensive night out.

### Gift Aid

We are asking all taxpayers who have not yet filled in a gift aid declaration to please consider doing so in readiness for this year's returns. The Group raises a significant sum of money in this way. A form is attached for those of you not recorded as having made the declaration. There is no need to complete additional forms for more than one child. Please let us know if the request is inapplicable to you so that we can amend our records accordingly. Thank you very much for taking the time to do this.

We are pleased to report another victory for 11<sup>th</sup> Nuneaton at the annual **District Swimming Gala** in January. Well done to swimmers from all sections who swam so well to achieve this.

Thanks to all who attended our annual **Group Party** at the end of January. Special thanks to leaders and committee members who worked hard all afternoon and evening to give everyone such an enjoyable time.

This summer 6 Network and Explorer Scouts and two leaders will be joining with Scouts from Cardiff to take part in an **Explorer Belt** expedition in Northern Italy. This involves walking 100 miles in 10 days and the aim is to mix with people of another country and through a series of challenges, learn about their culture. The young people are trying to raise money for the expedition: please support them if you can.

Once again the Group is collecting **Sainsbury's Active Kids** Vouchers. We have received some very worthwhile equipment from the last two collections. There is a box for vouchers at the headquarters. Thank you.

Please make a note of the date of the **St George's Day Parade** which this year will be on Sunday 19 April.

Another weekend to note in the diary: we have been invited to **pack bags at Morrison's** in Hinckley on Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 May. This is an excellent opportunity to raise a significant sum of money from outside the Group. If everyone gives an hour or two over the weekend we should be able to cover as many tills as possible.

We have decided to participate in a **recycling scheme** which involves the collection of old mobile

phones and used print cartridges. The Group should make some profit from this and the recycling will also form part of the Award challenges for some of our members. We only want:

*Phones with sim cards, memory cards, accessories and data removed - no chargers please  
Original manufacturers Inkjet cartridges and toner cartridges, not fax rolls or re-manufactured cartridges.*

This is a great opportunity to bring money in from outside the group, so we are asking parents to bring in cartridges and phones from work for us to recycle, rather than simply throwing them away.

Please note the following **dates**:

Family Camp and Malvern Challenge 26-28 June  
Sun Run and Cub Camp 3-5 July  
Summer Camp 18-25 July



Beavers have been working hard towards their Promise Challenge, their Health and Fitness Badge and their Faith Badge. Well done to George, Harry, Elliot, Euan, Robert and Lewis for achieving their Bronze Chief Scout Award. We send best wishes to all Beavers moving to Cubs and welcome our new intake of Kits (new Beavers) to the colonies.

A plea from the Beaver Leaders: please consider handing in any spare items of uniform which are out-grown or unneeded (if your child has moved to Cubs) and in good condition.



Monday (Fosse) Cubs have completed the Promise Challenge and are now working on the Community Badge. Congratulations to the members of the Fosse team who came third in last month's District Quiz. Older Cubs in the pack are preparing for their transition to Scouts and will be running the evening meetings for their Silver Chief Scout Awards.

Thursday (Watling) Cub Pack have also completed

the Promise Challenge and are now working on the Global Challenge. They are looking forward to a Gang Show visit in March. Cubs welcome recently-invested Sam Blakemore and Adam Robinson and are very pleased to welcome Rachel Sutton as assistant pack leader.



Scouts finished 2008 with a Geocaching day at Bradgate Park and have a full programme of camps to look forward to this year. Winter camp earlier this month was a very successful two days. Conditions were perfect for a very rewarding walk in the snow-clad hills of the Staffordshire Moors on Saturday. Tuesday troop have been practising their first response first-aid skills and some members are completing their meteorological badge. They look forward to visiting the Gang Show in March.

Friday troop welcome all newly invested Scouts. They have reported another successful Christmas meal during which around 65 scouts, leaders and guests sat down to enjoy the food prepared by them. The troop is investigating homelessness and plans to 'sleep out' in a cardboard box....



Explorers have enjoyed a range of activities: they held a curry night and took part in the District Quiz.

Scouts and Explorers will soon be receiving notification of summer camp which this year will take place at Chalfont Heights Scout Campsite near Hemel Hempstead Buckinghamshire.

# NEWSLETTER

## April 2009

**We are really appealing for YOUR HELP!**

**We have a range of fund-raising events and activities planned in our quest to replace our Scout Headquarters building.**

**We are keen to involve more adults in the very varied and active programme provided for our young people.**

**So PLEASE don't dismiss these appeals and do consider how you (or someone you know) may be able to help our very dedicated and hard-working volunteers.**

We have been invited to attend **Weddington's Football Tournament** 6-7 June at the Old Ed's Ground on Weddington Road. We intend to run a tombola Stall along with plants and homemade cakes. So we are appealing for donations for these: please save for us any unwanted gifts and plants you may have spare. We will also need volunteer cubs, scouts, explorers in uniform to help attract our customers to the stall. (Remember that any voluntary work of this kind will be recorded and might be useful for future challenge badge work). Any parents who might like to volunteer an hour or so would also be very welcome. This is an excellent opportunity to raise money from outside the Group.

There are plans to produce a **calendar** to coincide with our Diamond Jubilee next year, 2010. This will consist of photos of our Members and the many activities in which they are involved through the scouting year. We will be asking for your cooperation and permission to use photographs in the near future.

The camping season is upon us. This is an extremely busy time for our Leaders: some have no free weekends between now and August. We are appealing for **adult help** particularly with outings and camps. If you feel able to help with the occasional event at any level (Beaver, Cub, Scout or Explorer) please see the attached note. Hopefully there will be a few parents we can contact to do specific jobs at **Family Camp, 26-28 June** as there is a National Scout Camp taking place on the same dates which means

some of our leaders can not attend Shugborough this year.

Unfortunately the **bag-packing** session at Morrison's has been postponed as they were double-booked for the May weekend. This will now take place in September. Our **Charity Stall** on Nuneaton Market is also scheduled for September. We will be appealing for help and donations for these in the summer.

The attached letter seeks to clarify our policy on **mobile phones**. Please read it carefully and discuss the implications with your youngster.

**Beavers** have completed lots of challenges and badges including Faith, Hikes Away, Promise and Health and Fitness. They are still working towards the Global Challenge, IT and Adventure awards.

**Monday (Fosse) Cubs** have completed their Community Challenge which included a very interesting talk from the Air Ambulance crew. Chief Scout Silver Awards have been presented to Jack Craggs, Heather McCracken, Jack Pope and Josh Mackereth who along with Misha Patel are moving on to Scouts. Good luck to all of them.

**Thursday (Watling) Cubs** have completed their Promise Challenge and were honoured to be presented with their Chef's badge by David Branston, County Commissioner and Clive Dunn, District Commissioner for Scouts after inviting them and other Scout VIPs to a Chinese meal cooked by them. They are currently completing the task for the Global Challenge. Jack Kelly, Caleb Kinderman, and Matt Denny were presented with their Chief

### Explorer Belt Challenge

Five Network Scouts and one Explorer Scout are preparing to take part in the Explorer Belt Challenge. Taking place in Northern Italy during July and August, the challenge consists of a 100 mile journey on foot and completing set tasks on the way. A major project is also undertaken with a presentation to follow on returning home. The aim of the Belt is to encourage the international dimension of Scouting. This is achieved by exploring a different country and its culture by making contact with the local scouting population who, it is hoped, will help with the allotted tasks.

Scout Silver Awards and we wish them well as they now move on to Scouts.

**Tuesday Scouts** have visited the excellent District Gangshow and have attended a hike camp and a wood fire camp. They will be finishing off the community and creative challenges over the next few weeks.

**Friday Scouts** wish to thank everyone who supported them in their homelessness event. The night in a cardboard box was a great success and this has been followed up with a collection for the Salvation Army. They hope to present a cheque and some food parcels (for which they are currently appealing for tins) before long. Both troops are looking forward to patrol camp at Fox Covert 16-17 May.

**Explorers** have planned a summer packed with exciting scouting activities including climbing, bike riding, canoeing and shooting.

Congratulations to Leader Hannah West, and Explorers Jess Smedley and Martha Lole for taking part in the **Gangshow**, it was brilliant!

Finally **subscriptions** of £25 per member are due for the session May to September. Thanks to those who have completed gift aid forms: if you haven't, please ask for a form from the desk at headquarters.

# NEWSLETTER

## September 2009



*Kayaking at Summer Camp*

Hopefully everyone has enjoyed a good break over the summer school holidays. We are now ready to start a new term of scouting with lots of exciting programmes being planned.

Fund-raising and preparations for our Diamond Jubilee will be important considerations in 2010.

We welcome all new members to our Group and send best wishes to those starting their university careers – we look forward to seeing you at future camps – keep the dates free! *We encourage new members - both youngsters and adults - in all sections, particularly the Cub and Scout sections.*

Once again this year's summer camping season went well. **Family campers** enjoyed good weather and a great day of activities culminating in the traditional camp fire on the Saturday. We had pleasing positive feedback from those who joined us in Shugborough.

**Cub Camp** was enjoyed by all, with good weather and a varied activity programme.

Scouts have been on a **Patrol Camp** at Fox Coverts where they went climb-

ing, shooting and had a fantastic wide game. Older Scouts completed their **Expedition Challenge**, finishing on the Roaches.

This year's **Summer Camp** was held in Buckinghamshire and proved a great success. We went on a high ropes course, kayaking, climbing, bouldering, BMXing, had a day out at a water park, pizza hut and cinema and finished the week off with an evening of fun and games. The Explorers spent an interesting night sleeping on a floating platform several feet off the ground! The activities from all these camps can be re-visited by looking up the photos on the web site.

After Summer Camp, some of our Explorers and Network travelled to Italy to complete their **Explorer Belt** - we look forward to hearing all about their trip when they complete their presentation later in the year.

We shall be producing our **diamond jubilee calendar** very soon. Parental permission is needed to publish the photographs we want to use. Thanks

### Fundraising

We urgently need donations for our **Charity Stall** on Nuneaton Market on Saturday 19 September.

Please find any unwanted gifts, bottles or other items in new condition for us to raffle on the tombola. These donations can be brought to the Scout Headquarters at any evening meeting. We also run a very profitable cake stall. If you are able to contribute to this please bring cakes to Sandra Parker, 67 Shanklin Drive (76328738) or Carol Cottrell, 16 Winchester Avenue (76387375) or indeed to the stall on the Saturday morning. It is also helpful to have some youngsters in uniform to attract our customers. Cubs or younger scouts who could spend an hour or so during Saturday morning would be very welcome and the time will be recorded and can be counted towards the service section of their Challenge or Chief Scout Awards. Please ring Sandra or Carol if you need more information.

During the same weekend, 19-20 September, Weddington Scouts have been invited to **bag-pack at Morrison's** in Hinckley. This is usually a very profitable fund-raiser for us. We need to cover as many tills as possible for as many of the allocated hours as possible. Scouts over 13 1/2 and Explorers as well as leaders, committee members and indeed parents can all volunteer to help.

Again, the service can be used as part of the Awards the youngsters are working towards in scouting. In addition to this, there is once more a reward of a £20 voucher towards the cost of a future camp or activity for the bag-packer who earns the most money.

A rota is on the notice board at headquarters. The available hours are 8.00am – 4.00pm on Saturday and 10.00am – 3.00pm on Sunday. So PLEASE sign up for at least an hour and don't leave all the work to the same few.

to all who have signed the slip – please ask for one if you have not already done so.

Any members who wish to join next years **District Gangshow** should register at Bulkington Boys Club on 13th September from 2pm to 4pm.

Finally **subscriptions** are due for the scouting session September to December 2009. Beavers, cubs, scouts and explorers pay £25. Network subs will be due in January.

# NEWSLETTER

[www.11thnuneaton.org.uk](http://www.11thnuneaton.org.uk)

**Beavers** continue to work on the Creativity and Promise Challenge and also their Creative Badge. As part of the Promise Challenge, Beavers had to do something for a good cause – Greenwood Colony held a successful Bazaar evening with Monday Cubs to raise over £60 for Water Aid while Woodland Colony filled shoe boxes with gifts for Operation Christmas Child. Both Colonies enjoyed an evening at the Ambulance Station learning about the role of the emergency service.

Everyone would like to welcome our new Beavers: Ruby, Nathaniel, Thomas R, Felix, Elizabeth, Thomas A, Ryan, Noah, Finlay and Harry and say good luck and farewell to Oliver, Ethan, Thomas, George and Ellis who are all moving to Cubs and having achieved their Bronze Chief Scout Award.

Can we remind parents that our last Beaver meeting for this year will be 14 December (at the Carol Service) for Greenwood Colony and 18 December (at the Headquarters) for Woodland Colony.

**Cubs** in both packs have been working hard this term to complete their personal safety badges during which Fosse Pack enjoyed a memorable farm visit. All Cubs and families enjoyed a good fireworks party on 5 November: many thanks to all who participated in and contributed towards the evening. The last meeting of the year for Fosse Pack will be at the Carol Service on 14 December. They will meet again on Monday 4 January. Watling Pack will finish on Thursday 10 December, meet at the Carol Service on Monday 14 December and re-open on Thursday 7 January.

**Scouts** entered a joint team in the District Ghost Hunt, at Rough Close in Coventry, and emerged victorious at the midnight conclusion of the event. Congratulations to Alex, Jamie, Jacob and Jonny. Scouts have also enjoyed an activity day at Fox Coverts, and a Geocaching Camp at John Lee's Wood which proved hugely successful.

Tuesday Scouts have enjoyed a visit from world record breaking ocean rower, Sarah Outen, who came to talk about her 4000 mile journey across the Indian Ocean. Together with other members of the group, we raised over £100 which we presented to Sarah for Arthritis Care, the charity she was rowing for. They have also planted a tree each, worked on their navigation skills and will be finishing the year off with a cooking challenge. Tuesday troop will meet for the last time this year on 15 December and re-open on Tuesday 5 January.

Friday Scouts have filled boxes (as part of the 'Love in a Box' scheme) for the poor children of the former eastern bloc. Younger members of the Troop recently enjoyed a sleep over and film night at the headquarters while older Scouts were testing navigation skills on a wet and windy night hike. They will finish the year with their legendary Christmas meal. Their last meeting will be Friday 18 December and they will start the new year on Friday 8 January.

**Explorers** as ever have had an activity based programme this term. They have had driving theory lessons and took part in the District Cooking Competition. Some members have also started their Young Leader Award.

The **Carol Service** is on Monday 14 December at St James Church Weddington, starting at 7pm. We always have a lovely evening so we invite all members and their families to join us if they can.

Next year is Weddington Scouts' Diamond Jubilee. We have produced a **2010 calendar** and a **commemorative mug**. Calendars are on sale at the hut and a sample of the mug is on display with an order form to complete. The cost of the calendar is £3 and the mug. £5. If you are unable to order at the hut, please ring Carol Cottrell (76387375) for more details.

One of the presentations for the **Explorer Belt** was held on Saturday 19 November. Explorer Stephen Sambrook, and Network Scouts Jon Ellard and Richard Ball received their awards from Julian Jordan of Cardiff scouts who led the contingent on their challenge in Northern Italy in August. They gave a detailed and entertaining account of their expedition to a large gathering of family, members and leaders from Weddington Scouts and also District and County officials. An excellent supper was provided and a good social evening enjoyed. Congratulations and well done to all three of them: we now look forward to the second presentation from the other three participants on 19 December.



Congratulations to former Scout Leader Lindsey Carruthers who was presented with her **Queen Scout Award** (the highest award in scouting) by District Commissioner, Clive Dunn. We wish Lindsey well as she joins her new Scout Group in Redditch where she now lives and thank her for all she contributed to Weddington Scouts.

Once again, we must thank all of you who collected **Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers**. We have taken delivery of another very useful collection of camping and sports equipment which will be of great benefit to the programmes of our sections.

Our annual **Group Party** will be held on Saturday 23 January. Please make a note in your diary. More details in the new year.

**Finally** we wish all members and their families a Happy Christmas and join with them in looking forward to a new year of celebration for our diamond jubilee.

