

The Reef Knot



**December
2017**

**12th Aylesbury
(1st Buckingham Park)**



Chairman's Chat



During the last few weeks I have chosen to stand down as your chairman with immediate effect. I hope that whoever takes on this important mantle can help the group in the ways they feel they can to help them grow and develop.

James Petty, Chairman



GSL's Gossip

Well what a busy term this has been, the beavers have been focusing on lots of badges and managed to have several Chief Scout Bronze Awards completed. they have good plans for 2018 so please watch this spaces and help where you can. Also Welcome to Ayo who has joined the leader team. The Cubs have had a great run of Chief Scout Silvers an well done to these aswell.



Its with great please that one of our long term projects here at the 12th Aylesbury has now come to an end with some success. This being opening up the Scout Section for 10.5 to 14. We have a small leader team that we will be looking at strengthening and in our last meeting we invested 7 into the section with more due to come up and from the joining list shortly.

In the Christmas break please have a think about how you or any of your family or friends might be able to support the group as we are always looking for new volunteers to join some of the leader teams, and also the exec team. i will happily discuss any thought and see if we can find a place for you. The group can not function without more help and we are growing fast with a long joining list which is growing too. So please have a think and get in touch.

In the background the exec have been planning a fundraiser with an advert in this edition, this is something we will be looking at doing more of and in different styles as in order to grow we need to continually work at grants and our own events.

The are some extra notices in the edition that i have emailed out but not had much response back on so would like if you could take your time to read the information and all respond.



We are making progress on our other long term projects and although key to our growth will take time to complete and there are several hurdles to jump through. Some of these are large projects and we would like to try and find someone to help push these forward as part of a team to try and keep the momentum needed to make things successful.

Finally I would like to say thanks to all leaders on 2017 for all their hard work and patience in working with the young people, They are all brilliant at what they do and, know they all want to do more. Also those parents that have helped when they can.

There are a couple of bits of information in this edition that we would like to draw your attention to and ensure you have answered

Iain Stanley, Group Scout Leader



Group Website

We have our own group website which is being designed and updated as we go along and a good source of information from badge location, badge requirements, the basic information about the sections program to basic group history and other scouting related information like forms and images of things we have got up to. Please take a look and pass any comments on and suggestions.

www.12thaylesbury-scouts.org.uk



Fundraising

For those who do lots of online shopping then please consider using this application which give the group a percentage of what you spend. You don't pay any extra the company pays the difference. This is a great and easy way to support 12th Aylesbury.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/12thaylesburysg



Funding

We are looking at doing a few fundraising events over the year as well as applying for some grants so please watch out for further information, However, in the meantime please get signed up to the Easy Fundraising to start helping us in this way.

In the not to distant Future we will be looking at getting our own charity status to allow us to claim Gift Aid to again help with Funds.

If you have any ideas then please contact our GSL.

Facebook

We have a closed Facebook group for parents and leaders only in order to help display activities and pictures, comment and discuss activities and pass messages quickly. Please if you are not sign up to it and use Facebook could you request to join. The membership is managed closely by the leader team and Exec to ensure only parents who have a member are using it.



Use the codes below to find the site





BEAVERS



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This term we covered a wide range of activities with the beavers.



We covered topics such as safety in the home and street, using a variety of games, materials and role play, in order to get the information across to the beavers in a fun way which they would remember.

We engaged them in topics about health and fitness, by having them create fruit kebabs and playing games where they were to decide what was healthy and what was not.

Outdoor pursuits undertaken included gardening and mini beast hunts.

We also had our first indoor archery session using kid safe bow's and arrows which the beavers really enjoyed.



Our section continues to grow with new beavers joining as others move up to cubs which is great :)



Next term we plan to have sleepovers, hikes and more archery, as well as district events!

Vince, Marta, Stacey, Ayo, David



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cubs



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At the start of our term we took the Cubs to ASAP Camp. (Activities Spectacular at Phasels camp). This was a fun weekend the Cubs had an amazing time trying the many different activities on offer from abseiling, shooting, bumper cars, caving, go karts, zip-wire to name a few of the 50 plus activities on offer, followed by an impressive fireworks display and a disco in the evening. It was a fantastic weekend and the Cubs are really keen to go again next year so we have re-booked already! So save the date (2nd weekend of September) Not only did this camp offer many activities but the Cubs had a taste of independence as they explored the site and activities ensuring that they stayed in small groups and they arrived on time for our lunch and dinner slots. This was also the first camping experience for many of the Cubs and they did very well keeping their tents and kit tidy.

At start of the term we held a forum for the Cubs to tell us what they would like to do this term and what badges they wanted to work on. They came up with many ideas and we tried to incorporate as many of them into our meetings as possible. The Cubs were keen to having a bowling night so we took them bowling for the night. They were keen to do the astronomy badge and film making. Along side this the Cubs towards their team work challenge badge and for some the team leader challenge badge.

In November we took part in Parliament week and cubs learnt about how Parliament was formed and the differing levels of government. We even watched a clip of the youth parliament debating which surprised many of



our Cubs especially as some of the topics are relevant to their lives. Our oldest sixers were invited to run for a senior sixer position and they rose to the Challenge and prepared their pledges and the Cubs cast their votes into the ballot box. Taiya was elected senior sixer and we're very proud that she has risen to the challenge and kept her promises turning up early to help set up the meeting and creating a worry and ideas box which Cubs can post in.

This term has seen us welcome a lot of new beavers, Sophia, Erica, Jan, Jamie, Ethan, Chloe, they were invested at the end of term. It was also a time of celebration as some of our Cubs have achieved their Chief Scout Silver Award which is the highest award you can receive in Cubs. They will be invited to a presentation award in March. So congratulations and well done, Annabel, Taiya, Eleanor, Harrison, Archie, Zoe, John, Charlie and Zee. This is an amazing achievement and knowing how close they were to achieving the award they working hard at home to finish off any missing badge work.

Finally we say a fond farewell to Charlie and Zee. Zee has moved onto Scouts and we wish him well and many exciting adventures and challenges.

We finished off the term Carol singing at the Buckingham Park Care home. Which was enjoyable for the residents and the Cubs. After the singing the Cubs chatted with the residents and they were very pleased with their hamper of goodies which the Cubs kindly donated.

We'd like to thank you all for your continued support help support and we wish you a very Merry Christmas and New Year..

Emily Hyland, Akela (Cub Scout Leader)



CUBS

Camping With Cubs

At Cub Camp the weather was a little bit soggy and cloudy but cleared up in the end. We got to wear our own clothes but had to wear our cub scarfs. At night the weather got colder and I would recommend fuzzy pjs and warm socks.

Activities at Camp

The activities at camp were:

- 39 GyroScope
- air riflles
- cresta run
- Abseiling
- archery
- cube
- aeroball
- Bungee trampoleen
- Garden games
- Human buzzwire and batarac
- land Zorbs
- Human table football
- low ropes Etc



The activities were fun if they didn't
shut before you got to the
front of the line or if they
shut the line before you
even get to the back
which kinda makes you sad.

By Eleanor

Nights out and fun!

On the first night we went to
bed early because most of us were
tired so in the morning we weren't
grumpy (most of us stayed up until
late at night). The second night there was a
amazing DJ and fireworks and loud
by Annabel

IT WAS AMAZING!!!





SCOUTS



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The end of 2017 saw the opening of the scout troop. We have a small group of 7 scouts that have been excellent with helping us establish the new troop, they have played a big part in starting this by choosing the patrol names, creating ground rules and learning how to correctly start and end a scout meeting. In our first few months we have covered a wide range of activities ranging from first aid to navigation. We have also learnt about scouting history and what they can look forward to in their scouting life. At our final meeting of the year we were joined by Chris from Gilwell' resource Team who had been helping to start up the group and visited many schools to try and raise awareness and the Deputy County Commissioner Mark Rutland to invest two of our leaders and 6 of the scouts. Looking to the future we are hoping to increase our number so if you are aged 10 – 14 and up for an adventure then look no further. We have a strong leader team who all have their own qualities that will allow us to lead a very broad programme for our scouts and we have a lot of plans for the up and coming year. As a leader team we would like to thank the scout for their resilience and patience as we continue this journey.

Laura Sinclair, (Assistant Section Leader)



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Executive

The executive committee is working behind the scenes to plan and manage the operations of the Scout Group and to ensure its success, to the benefit of all the children.

They have had a few stand down in the last few months with out secretary stepping back to focus on personal things, however still involved and our Chairman standing down as well. Whilst we look for new if you are interested please let me our GSL know. We have in the mean time managed to recruit a couple of new members who will find a place to assist with in due course, so we welcome them into the group and look forward to working with them.

As we have mentioned before we are looking at fundraising events and would like to send you a notice about our first of many events.





STOP PRESS.....SAVE THE DATE!

The Exec Committee are planning our first group fundraising event and you don't want to miss it!

Friday 23rd February – Cheese and wine event in the Cellars of Waddesdon Manor

It's an adult-only event so book your babysitters early! More information to follow shortly.



Family Camp

We are planning our first Group Family Camp for members of 12th Aylesbury (1st Buckingham Park) Scout Group and their families. We feel this would be a great opportunity to get together and start an amazing tradition within the group. It is open to everyone, providing that you have been through a DBS check if you are over 18 and staying overnight, and we hope you will all come along - Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, brothers, sisters and parents.

It is very much a family camp, a family tent would be preferred option, we have a limited stock of our own tents in needed but these are small and in a very low quantity. If Parents cannot attend for any reason, then we can supply tents if required and unless requested to be looked after by another family we will talk nicely to the leaders of the relevant section.

The idea of the camp is to have a great weekend, with good food and usually have lots of activities planned including, shooting, archery, campfire and much more.

One thing to mention is that everything is run by volunteers, however it takes an enormous effort to organise an event like this, so any help leading up to and during the event would be great.

The event was advertised on our Facebook group to try and get some initial interest on time of year etc. but with little response we have had to go with the feedback we had. Therefore we have settled on the below date and at the moment the campsite stated however this might change when we come to book a location.

The costs are very dependent on numbers attending and activities run however the costings another group have used in the past are outlined below in case this helps in any way to understand what we are looking at.

- £160 for a family (2 adults and 2 children) others combinations will be discussed
- £40 for a Member without Family in attendance
- £50 for an over 18
- £25 for Scout Group Volunteers

These prices will include the cost of the campsite, and all food and activities, could also in-



clude some evening refreshments.

Leeswood Scout Campsite

13th – 15th April 2018

What to do next?

Please reply with an interest of numbers so we can confirm things with the campsite ASAP. With numbers of Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Under18 and over 18 and parents, all by 19th Jan 2018 please, this is the last extension of the deadline as currently still not enough interest.

GSL@12thaylesbury-scouts.org.uk or on <https://goo.gl/forms/mtdrh1BCIBp0w7iP2>



Competition Time

The group has been officially going now for around 18 months and now is the time I feel to move forward with some plan and thoughts. The first of which all are involved that's right Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Leaders, helpers, brother's, sister's, mum's and dad's.

Since the start we have been using our scarf as our identity on all flyers letters and official paperwork. I feel the time has come to have our own logo or motif. Some groups have them and others don't. I would like to see what we all can come up with and go from there.

It would be nice to have something that brings both areas of where we cover together. This is Watermead and Buckingham Park. It should also work well with the group colours but does not have to incorporate them.

The logo will be used on flyers, poster's, marketing, feather flag's for camps and most importantly I think is what I class as social kit (will explain later). It will become our identity as well as our scarves.

The social kit is things like polo shirts, hoodies, soft shells and I would be looking at trying to roll these out next year. This is all things that help make the group be one when on camps and out on adventures like trips.

So... Put your creative minds to work, be it on paper and handed to your leaders or on the computer and sent in. We want them in any form you want and can do. With as much explanation about your design. This needs to be sent in by the end Feb 2018.

We will then review them with each leader team picking their favourite and the exec team as well and from this fair way of reviewing a winner will be found. You never know there might be a prize in it for the winner!!!!



Census 2018

Each Year the Scout Association ask us to complete a census and the is some information missing from you records which we need to collect. This information is to help not just 12th Aylesbury but Aylesbury District and beyond ensure we are correctly representing the demographics of the area and also we are inclusive to all the link below is a simple form asking about the Ethnicity and Disabilities and is require buy all leaders, exec and members. If you have more than one child please enter the details individually as well as ensuring if you are an occasional helper with us you also have completed the form.

The options given are directly from the Scout Association. this form i have set up is confidential in terms on on myself as GSL can view the results and i will ensure to discuss with the parents concerned if i feel we need to understand any response further before seeking further advice.

<https://goo.gl/forms/lz1zlk58FnpBFGw2>

Please if you completed this last year could you please do it again this year as things do change.



Group Events

Group Fundraiser

23rd February

Group Family Camp

2018?

District Events

All awaiting confirmation from the sections, however the District and County have some large plans coming up that we will endeavor to be at.



Leader Team

Group Scout Leader

Iain Stanley

(gsl@12thaylesbury-scouts.org.uk)

BEAVERS

Assistant Beaver Leader

Assistant Beaver Leader

Assistant Beaver Leader

Assistant Beaver Leader

Group Section Assistant

Marta Metko-Skocylas

Vince Alcindor

Stacey Corbyn

Ayomide Dina

David Yates

cubs

Cub Scout Leader

Assistant Cub Scout Leader

Explorer Young Leader

Emily Hyland (Akela)

Kate Christensen (Hathi)

George Leaver (Kaa)

SCOUTS

Assistant Scout Leader

Section Assistant

Section Assistant

Don Macdonald

Laura Sinclair

Karl Crosby

We are always looking for more leaders, helpers and if you would like to know more please contact out GSL.



Exec Committee

Group Scout Leader

Chairperson

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

Iain Stanley

Vacant

Vacant

Petra Elsmore

Daniel Hyland

Kathryn Hobbs

Nicki Kaenzig

Edward Durroch

Sophy Davies

The exec committee are a group of people who help ensure the smooth running of the group, looking out for funding opportunities, organizing fundraising and looking at ways to grow the group. As the group grows so will the need for the exec to grow we are already looking to the future and what might be.



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Meeting Times



Buckingham Park Community Centre

Tuesday: 18:00 till 19:15



Buckingham Park School Hall

Tuesday: 18:30 till 20:00



Buckingham Park School Hall

Tuesday: 20:00 till 21:30

www.12thaylesbury-scouts.org.uk

