

# *The Reef Knot*



**June 2017**

**12<sup>th</sup> Aylesbury  
(1<sup>st</sup> Buckingham Park)**



# Chairman's Chat



## It's Party Time!

Well what a year, and it's almost time for those long summer holidays. As a big thankyou to all our Beaver and Cub Leaders and assistants, the exec committee is throwing the end of year party. This year in a change to our usual venue, we have been generously offered Ridgebarn Farm to use (details for members are with this issue of Reef Knot).

Naturally weather depending, we have arranged some exciting adventures. These will work so much better if parents would like to help and join in the activities. It may be joining in activities such as Frisbee Golf, or treasure island, or 'It's a knock out' style Gymkhana, or perhaps if the weather is not so good, helping with arts and crafts. So, with PARTY @ THE FARM coming up, this is an ideal chance to find out how you could be an occasional helper, and get to enjoy the activities with your family.



For those that have never been to an end of year bash, we invite the family of our Cubs and Beaver to come along and take part in our celebration. We also have access to a swimming pool this year, but don't worry, you don't have to get wet, there are plenty of things we can do while the Beavers and Cubs can splash around. All our events are in timed slots, and many of our volunteers will be there early to set up, so if you would like to come a little early, you are more than welcome to do so.

Details of becoming an occasional helper will soon be displayed each Tuesday at Buckingham Park, in the meantime, please ask about how you can help with any of our leaders.

Look forward to seeing you there, it's going to be great!

**James Petty, Chairman**



# GSL's Gossip

The Beavers have been going from strength to strength and they have gained a new leader! I would therefore like to welcome Stacey Corbyn on board. She is working though her training and learning the ropes. She is a great asset to the team and we wish her all the best. The Beavers attended the District trip to the Science Museum in London and they have also attended the County Beaveree. The Beaver colony is also planning a sleepover soon. I have noticed an increase in the interest of parents helping out, this is great as the section can't function without a good stable parent rota. Thank you!



The Cubs have also been busy with sleepovers, visits from Community Officers and plans for a Water Activity day coming up, to name but a few. The Cubs are looking at going on a large camp with other Scout Groups in September. This will be great as it will be the first time the Cubs have camped outside in tents! We look forward to hearing how they got on in the next Reef Knot Newsletter edition!

The Group had an excellent attendance at St Georges Day, so I would like to thank all of you who attended and looked so smart! Our Beaver and Cub flags were blessed at this event and I would also like to thank our flag carriers for what I understand was an excellent and well executed role for the group. I was disappointed I could not be there for this landmark occasion however family life was in the way. So lets keep up the good attendance and appearance and ensure next year is bigger and better and who knows possibly with a Scout section as



well...

The Executive Committee undertook a decision to start planning a few group events for us. The first event organised by the Exec was the 'JoTT' (Jamboree on The Trail) which is simply a long walk with the group and all family and friends are invited too. This took place in the grounds of Waddesdon Manor on a beautiful day. With attendance from both sections and friends from other Scout Groups in the country, this was a big success and enjoyed by all.

On the 4th May we held out 1st AGM (and my first as GSL) so it was a rather daunting role of organizing and setting this up. This was soon overshadowed by an excellent turn out from invited guests and also the parents and some members as well. We will have our AGM pack online via our website soon for all to read over and look at if you were unable to attend. In the future AGM's I would like to expand this and ensure members get recognized and this becomes an event for all.

The planning and organisation of the new Scout section has been a little slower than predicted so the launch has been postponed until September onwards. Please watch this space.

Please if you are interested in helping in any way please make contact and we can see where you can fit in. This might be just as a helper in a section or to use the skills you have to help manage, organise, or plan something. There is really a wide range of areas the group are looking for help with, and we would like to try and grow and improve over the year..

**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](http://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](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/12thaylesburysg)



 [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk)  
feel good shopping



# 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



23

Beavers have had a busy half term, we enjoyed a trip to the fire station, where we were given a tour, a demonstration of the equipment and different uniform, the beavers each enjoyed having a turn to sit in the fire engine. This has also completed their fire safety element towards their safety badges.

We have very kindly had some parents coming in to run activities and provide new opportunities to the beavers. Daniel and his dad come in and did some football coaching with the beavers and taught them some new football skills. Asyrah and her mum came in did some finger knitting with the group, we all learnt something new with this. We also have been making cards that were designed by one of the beavers. Just before St. George's day we were looking at flags from around the world. The beavers got to decorate biscuits as flags they had picked, then describe which flags they were. We had some very creative colourful flags and the beavers enjoyed making these to take home and show their grown ups.



We have been doing work towards their gardening badges, so they have made some green house gardens in bags with seeds and the beavers have been invited over to a local care home to do some planting and help look after the garden. They have come up with a plan of things we can do to help in the garden.

We looked at music and learning about different types of music and how we can make music and sounds without instruments the beavers had fun making music in their groups and performing it to the other groups. This has counted towards their music badges.





We have also had a sleep over and all the who attended have earned their nights away badge. We enjoyed tracking activities with David, making place mats, problem solving team games and of course no sleep over would be complete without a game of Bingo!



Some of the beavers attended the JOTT arranged by the executive at Waddesdon Manor, this was a great day enjoyed by both Beavers & Cubs and one of the beavers was invested in to Cubs on the JOTT. The beavers who attended the JOTT earned their hiking badge and a special JOTT badge.



Last but by no means least the Beavers had the county Beaveree, where they have been completing a selection of activities to achieve their spaces badges. They were building rockets & launching them, space hopping relay to arrange planets, making space pictures, rockets and spaceships. They watched a stunt bike show, and got to see an animal display as well picking their own

stamps to personalise their wooden slates.



Vince, Marta and Stacey



Beavers at the Science Museum

1





# BEAVERS



23

## County Beaverree

The Beaverree was great. My favourite things were launching the water bottles and painting.

There was a show with bikes, they did tricks, it was good.

The was a activity with animal where they put a snake on the floor and we stroked the snake.

I had fun with my friends.

Emily C,  
Beaver









# cubs



23

It's been another busy few months for our Cubs. We enjoyed our first sleepover in April. We hiked from Marsworth along the canal back to the 9<sup>th</sup> Aylesbury Scout Hut. The cubs had great fun setting up their tents, playing bingo and singing campfire songs and roasting marshmallows around the fire. It was all quiet by 11.30pm so I think we managed to wear them out!

This term the cubs are working towards their Outdoor Challenge badge. The Cubs have started to learn different types of knots and lashings, reef knots, clove hitch, timber hitch, diagonal and square lashings ready to make a camp gadget next week. The knots have proved tricky but we're really proud that the Cubs have really tried their best to



master them. The Cubs have also enjoyed tracking pitching tents.



The Cubs helped out at the Buckingham Park School Fete where we raised

money for the school and our Scout Group. Well done to Eleanor





and Annabel who made sweet cones to sell at the fete raising £50 for Cubs. They will be able to decide what the money is spent on, whether to subsidise a trip, purchase some equipment or perhaps towards running a special meeting.



We are really looking forward to the Water Activity Day on the 24<sup>th</sup> June when Cubs will be trying canoeing, paddle boarding and raft building.

**Emily Hyland, Akela ( Cub Scout Leader)**



Stall set up ready  
at the Buckingham  
Park School Fete!



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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.

In the future we are looking to promote our Group by getting involved in local events in the community. This will help raise our profile to help with further fundraising, attract new members and importantly foster community spirit. It may be that members can earn community impact badges as these type of events. We, together with the leaders are looking at running our own fundraising events in the near future as well e.g.: Quiz nights, Race nights.

As part of our commitment to Health and Safety, we have been working to create a log of risk assessments for the new group, to cover all activities we do. These will in time be available on our group website.

([www.12thaylesbury-scouts.org.uk](http://www.12thaylesbury-scouts.org.uk))

Along with this our Group Scout Leader has been ensuring that all executive committee members, leaders and other helpers have completed their relevant training and DBS checks are all up to date.

Online Scout Manager is an administration tool to help the leaders manage attendance, badges and the program whilst in the section and when they move up. In due course we



are looking at upgrading from the version we are on to the highest level which will enable you as parents to log in and view your young persons record and keep the contact details up to date. This will help you understand what you might need to do for badges at home.

### **Long Term Plans**

We are working on making arrangements to set up a Scouts section for the Cubs to move into and continue Scouting in 12th Aylesbury. We are aiming to begin the Scout section in September 2017, when some of our older Cubs will need to move on.

We are in the process of recruiting Scout leaders and if you are feel you might be interested in a leader role or assistant leader role, please contact or speak to our GSL about how you may be able to help.

We also are looking for Storage facility and will be buying equipment in the not to distant future to allow the sections to go camping.



# Group Events

Group Fundraiser

TBC

Group Family Camp

2018?

# District Events

District AGM

10th July

End of Year Bash

18th July

The Big 'O'

14th October

County Awards

29th October

Bierton Fireworks

3rd November



# Leader Team

Group Scout Leader

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

Iain Stanley

**BEAVERS** 

Assistant Beaver Leader

Assistant Beaver Leader

Assistant Beaver Leader

Group Section Assistant

Marta Metko-Skocylas

Vince Alcindor

Stacey Corbyn

David Yates

**cubs** 

Cub Scout Leader

Assistant Cub Scout Leader

Assistant Cub Scout Leader

Explorer Young Leader

Emily Hyland (Akela)

Nina Petty (Bagheera)

Kate Christensen (Hathi)

George Leaver (Kaa)

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



9



# Exec Committee

Group Scout Leader

Chairperson

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Member

Committee Member

Iain Stanley

James Petty

Nicki Kaenzig

Petra Elsmore

Daniel Hyland

Kathryn Hobbs

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.



6







# Meeting Times

# BEAVERS

Buckingham Park Community Centre

Tuesday: 17:45 till 19:00

# cubs

Buckingham Park Community Centre

Tuesday: 18:30 till 20:00

[www.12thaylesbury-scouts.org.uk](http://www.12thaylesbury-scouts.org.uk)

