

The Reef Knot



Oct 2016

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



Chairman's Chat



Hello and Welcome, I am delighted to say that we have had an amazing first year. So many exciting things have happened, that it is difficult to know where to start. Our little family of Beaver and Cubs have grown and developed somewhat. We put down our paws, and now stand on our own as the 12th scouting group to have been founded in Aylesbury. This of course would not have been possible if it were not for the long time support of 9th Aylesbury, we owe you our deepest thanks.

It is fitting that in the centenary year of Cubs, some of our members were able to take part in the national celebrations at Phasels Wood. Our end of year celebration in Wendover Woods was also a huge success, with no Cubs or Beavers becoming lost, no matter how hard they tried. There have been expeditions ranging from Tring College, Watermead wildlife trail and even Tesco's Farm to Fork. Many challenges and activities have of course been completed in our home den, here in Buckingham Park.

Most important of all, none of this would have been possible if it were not for the hard work of all our Beaver and Cub leaders, parent volunteers, and executive committee. A very



special thank you goes to our Group Scout Leader, Iain Stanley, none of this would have been possible if not for his dedication and hard work. Without a doubt, he has lived up to the Scout promise, and has done his best. As long as we remember to do our best, every day, then the next few months are sure to be as exciting and as full of adventure as the last were.



GSL's Gossip

The Scout Group has been classed as a satellite for many years now of the 9th Aylesbury down on Oakfield Road and whilst they have supported and maintained Scouting in the area for us the grand plan has always been that the group should stand on its own by end of 2016. On this note it gives me great pleasure in letting you all know that we have started to take steps to make this happen. Hopefully most of you are aware and have noticed we have handed out all new colours of scarves which helps identify us as a separate group with the district now known as "12th Aylesbury (1st Buckingham Park). Having both of these steps complete means we are now classed as on our own and I am currently taking steps to finish the split from the 9th Aylesbury with just cancelling of standing orders and creating news ones to be completed.



We will shortly be sending out a membership pack for all members new and existing this will cover the basic information and also all forms that will need to be held on file like Photo Permission and health forms etc. This pack is currently under construction and will be hopefully issued soon. Information found in the pack will also be on the website eventually for a place of easy reference. Including It will also have



useful links like the Scout Shops and also campsites we are likely to use etc.

With all great groups the support of the parents is fundamental to the success of the group and experience the young people get from Scouting. With this both sections will be looking at implementing a parent rota in the near future. This is basically asking if each week a parent or few can be available to help with whatever is planned by the leaders. If for whatever reason you may not be able to help cover the night the leaders have asked then please let them know ASAP or arrange another parent to step in for you. If you need to bring other siblings along in order to help although this may not be ideal we understand that bringing them along maybe the only option, all we ask is if you can let the leaders know as they may decide to get extra help in as well.

Looking forward there will be several camps, fundraisers, events we may be looking for help with and would love the support of parents where possible. The information for these will come out from the leaders in advance and hopefully in plenty of time for people to help.

The more help we can get and the stronger the parent support the better the group will be and larger it will grow. So please let me know if you can help in any way as well as offering to help the leaders at section meetings.



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. The address can be found at the end of the newsletter. 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

 easyfundraising.org.uk
feel good shopping



Funding

Part of a new group is to gain funding to enable us to purchase new tents, stoves, camping tables, Flags for parades and investitures. As you can imagine all this adds up as well as supporting the meetings.

I would like to thank Buckingham Park Parish Council for not only agreeing our application for £750 to go towards the Flags the Group need we are very grateful as this will enable us to order all 3 section flags in one go with all the accessories needed.

We have also applied to AVDC's Community Chest to help funding for new tents. We are applying to the Rothschild Foundation for assistance for the other camping equipment that will be needed like the Mess Tent and Kitchen related bits.

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.





BEAVERS



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Last term we had 2 people from the community visit and talk about their jobs. We had a map maker and a community officer, the Beavers enjoyed asking questions and expanding their knowledge.

We undertook the cook badge covering food preparation, global aspects and traditional foods around the world. Learnt about the world map and discussed details. The Beavers enjoyed small role plays to help show what they have learnt like what good or bad behavior might be.

Learning about different disabilities, knots, basic first aid and attending a sleepover with 9th Aylesbury.

Assistant Beaver Leader **Marta Metko-Skocylas**



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cubs



Our first term... and what a busy term we have had!

During our first few week we welcomed our new Cubs and focused on fundamentals of scouting in preparation for their investitures. Much fun was had and positive feedback was received from the Cubs.

We took part in St George's Day parade with a great turn out despite short notice, excitement was had by all as our new scarves had arrived in time, all very smartly prepared by our GSL.

The Leaders went away with 5th Aylesbury to gain some experience camping during the County Cub 100 camp and during this we ourselves got invested as leaders in front of James Palin our new County Commissioner.



We took part in JOTT (Jamboree on the trail, at College Lake and those in attendance were excited to know they had gained their 1st badge (Hike Away 1).

Through the rest of the term we focus on Challenge badges (Teamwork and Outdoors), which saw them make cake for the Queens's Tea Party, Kite making, Bin Bag





Fashion.

We have held 2 forums to discuss behavior, and to find out what they would like out of Cubs, some more realistic suggestions than others.



We made a start on the Nature activity badge by learning about Bee Keeping at Buckingham Park Care Home and pond dipping around Watermead Lake.

We gained a young Leader who has brought lots of new fresh ideas.

Sot that was a busy 1st term and hopefully many more to follow.

We have many plans for the next term from trying to get away on a camp for an activity day, visiting Tesco to take part in their farm to fork evening. As well as entering the District Archery.

Cub Scout Leader Emily Hyland (Akela)



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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.

Recently the committee has overseen the transfer from the 9th Aylesbury Scout Group and the formation of the 12th Aylesbury (1st Buckingham Park) Scout Group. This has involved quite a lot of administration but its exciting that it has finally happened and we are registered as our own group.

Our Treasurer had been working on applications for funding from several sources and some have had results already.

- AVDC Community Chest, we received £900 for tents
- Scout Association Grant for new groups, £200
- Buckingham Park Parish Council, £750 for Group Flags
- Rothschild Foundation has been applied for.

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)

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 free version 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. This will ideally be in place in approximately 12 months when some of our older Cubs will need to move on. We will be looking at venue, time, for this and primarily Scout leaders so if you feel you might be interested 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

2017?

District Events

Beaver Sleepover

8th to 9th October

JOTA / JOTI

15th to 16th October

Cub Archery

22nd to 23rd October

Cubs PGL Trip

28th to 30th October

County Awards

30th October

Bierton Fireworks

4th November

Beavers Archery

19th to 20th November

Cubs Promise Party

16th December



Leader Team

Group Scout Leader

Iain Stanley

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

BEAVERS

Assistant Beaver Leader

Marta Metko-Skocylas

Assistant Beaver Leader

Vince Alcindor

Group Section Assistant

David Yates

cubs

Cub Scout Leader

Emily Hyland (Akela)

Assistant Cub Scout Leader

Nina Petty (Bagheera)

Assistant Cub Scout Leader

Kate Christensen (Hathi)

Explorer Young Leader

George Leaver (Kaa)

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



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Exec Committee

Group Scout Leader
Chairperson
Secretary
Treasurer
Committee Member
Committee Member

Iain Stanley
James Petty
Nicki Kaenzig
Kathryn Hobbs
Daniel Hyland
Alison Looker

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

BEAVERS

Buckingham Park Community Centre

Tuesday: 17:45 till 19:00

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Buckingham Park Community Centre

Tuesday: 18:30 till 20:00

www.12thaylesbury-scouts.org.uk

