



SMOKE SIGNALS



The Newsletter of 2nd Farnborough Scout Group

"From The GSL" Annual Review 2017

Welcome to this year's edition of Smoke Signals. The Cubs 100 year and Beavers 30 year celebrations continued to the end of 2016. The Beavers had a picnic and a camp, the Cubs had a party on December 16th and everyone renewed their promise at 7.16pm the exact time that Cub Scouts started. I am pleased to say that 2nd Farnborough have had another brilliant year. We have welcomed Tallie and Josh as young Leaders and Lee as Assistant Cub Leader. Kodiak completed his training and was presented with his Young Leader Belt a few weeks ago. I am pleased to say that he has decided to stay with us as a Beaver Leader. Blackthorn is now Assistant Scout Leader and Bosun is Assistant Beaver Leader. Mang Mayo and Tom have also been with us all year.

Numbers are up again and we are at capacity in all sections. During the Autumn term we will have 7 Beavers moving up to Cubs, 4 Cubs moving up to Scouts and a Scout joining the Beavers as Young Leader. We have a healthy waiting list of people to take their places. We now have 10 girls in the group 7 of them Scouts which outnumbers the boys, I am delighted that all sections have entered most of the District competitions gaining several individual certificates. The Cubs were the most successful winning the District 6 aside football and coming 2nd at Sports Day. The Scouts also did well finishing in 3rd. place at Sports day. Well done everyone.

I really enjoyed attending all the section camps during the past year it was good to see everyone enjoying all the various activities and using the skills they had learnt. I am looking forward this year's Tolmers camp in a couple of weeks and hoping the weather is as good as it was last year. It was great to attend the Beavers 30th Picnic and The Cubs 100th Party both events were really enjoyable and well attended by our group. The group was well represented at the Chief Scout Awards presentation evening to see Anthony, Jay, Jonathan, Izzy and Owen receive their certificates. We will have some recipients at next year's ceremony. Word has got round about us and we have had lots of enquiries about joining, it would be great for us to be able to take everyone but we will need another Leader in each section. Numbers at the Alternative St Georges Day Parade this year were less than normal but this is because it fell at the end of the Easter holidays. Those

that did attend did our group proud. I also received recognition with The Chief Scouts Commendation Award for Good Service We have continued with our fundraising efforts this year, which has helped with the refurbishment of the hut and to keep the subs down. Thanks to everyone who has supported us with the sponsored Fright Night Hike sponsored climb and obstacle course. We have continued to support Farnborough Foodbank our dedicated charity this year. Our biggest income is from Gift aid if you are a taxpayer we can claim 25p in the pound back against subs. All you need to do is fill in a form so if you are new and have not signed up yet please ask your leader for a form.

Our hut is looking good both inside and out this year the Monday Crew have refurbished the Wendy House to provide additional storage space. We still need a few minor repairs done to the roof. We would like to thank them for all their hard work again this year.

Finally thank you to all my leaders Young Leaders and helpers for all their hard work over the past year making this group what it is today. Thank you Bosun, Blackthorn, Bagerra, Mayo, Mang, Kodiak, Tom, Tallie and Josh. A big thank you to all the parents who

helped at meetings, fundraising events and with transport. Thank you also to Becky Emma and the District team for their support. and to my executive committee Henrietta, Coral, Kenna, Sue, Sharon and Marisa who have been busy helping make the past year a resounding success.



"The Beavers Log" Annual Review 2017

The Beavers have been really busy as usual and have welcomed Tallie as a YL to the Colony this year. The day after last year's review, all our Beavers attended the special party at the 6th Form College to celebrate 30 years of the section. It was a very noisy afternoon as the Beavers were allowed to sit in a police car and use its siren and lights. They also enjoyed the giant slide, water rockets and the wet sponges. Everyone



had a special cake before having their photo taken in the shape of 30 and went home with a special woggle which could be worn till the end of the year.

The first couple of weeks of term were spent finishing off the Gardeners Badge which the colony started in July. The last meeting in September was spent preparing for the Beaver Sleepover which was held at 1st Frimley's Hut in Frimley Lodge Park. This year all the Beavers who attended stayed over and took part in all the activities which included codebreaking, scavenger hunt, leaf printing, dreamcatcher and icing model making, team games, obstacle course, a glow stick hike and a campfire. Congratulations to the Beavers who completed their Outdoor Challenge badge over the weekend.

October was spent completing the various parts of the experiment badge. The Beavers really enjoyed the floating tea bags making coloured patterns with M and M's and dispersing colours in milk with fairy liquid. Nothing was going to stop us doing the annual sponsored Halloween fright Night Hike around Southwood Woodland at the end of October. There were some amazing costumes worn. This year we took a different route which took a lot longer so we were not able to fully complete the observation boards but this did not spoil the fun. Thanks to everyone who came along and walked with us and sponsored the Beavers to complete the course,

After half term the Beavers started the new Health and Fitness Badge. Over a few weeks they took part in various activities monitored their heartbeat made smoothies and fruit skewers and designed a poster to promote healthy eating. We concluded the month with a caving experience at Runways End. For some this was a scary experience but everyone completed all the tasks and really enjoyed the session.

Also during the term we had visits from Hampshire Air Ambulance and Farnborough Foodbank who both told us about the work they do. We helped both charities as part of the World Challenge badge, the colony collected money for good turns for the Air Ambulance and for Foodbank they made up sweet parcels for the Xmas food hampers. The District Christmas Campfire at Runways End was well attended and our Beavers did us proud by singing our song beautifully..For the Christmas Party the Scouts joined us at Lazer Run and a brilliant time was had by all a lovely way to end the year.

The Spring term is when the beavers concentrate on badge work from the skills and creative parts of the programme. Part of Kodiaks training as a Young Leader is to cover the criteria for one of the badges. He chose the Skills Challenge which is the badge with the most parts to it 14 in all. During the term Kodiak prepared programmes such as healthy eating, fitness, tying shoe laces, folding scarves, learning knots and problem solving. He did a great job and everyone gained the badge.

Also during this term all the Beavers gained both their safety and Communication Badges, sorry for all the phone calls and text messages the colony sent to parents once the Beavers learn't how to do it we couldn't stop them. Making pancakes and cooking them over a candle was also a popular evening. To end the term the whole group went to Alpine Ski Centre Aldershot for Donutting. Congratulations to Jonathan Jay and Anthony who collected their Chief Scout Award Bronze Certificates at the Awards Evening at Samuel Cody School in March well done.

Due to it falling in the Easter holidays only half the colony were able to attend the alternative St Georges Day parade at Aldershot Military Stadium. The theme was "Making a difference" and after hearing about the work the Red Cross does across the world, everyone wrote a pledge of how they were going to make a difference. The evening ended with the parade of flags well done to Phoebe who was our Flag bearer.



"Cubs Howl" Annual Review 2017

On a beautiful day in May 7 Beavers completed the annual District Beaver Hike. This year we walked around the Wellersley Trail from The Wellington Statue. During the hike we completed several parts of the outdoor badge by building a den, searching for bugs, crossing a log bridge and climbing a tree. Where we stopped for the snack there were some great trees for climbing and den building. All the Beavers who took part gained their Hikes away and Explore badges. The Summer term is when the majority of the badge work is done as a high percentage of it is outside activities. We welcomed 2 new Beavers this term and they were able to experience indoor and outdoor archery, bug hotel, miniature gardens, darts, parachute games sports, teambuilding and rehearsing for the show tonight. We are not at the end of term yet so have a few more activities planned which includes an evening canoeing at Aldershot Lido. We did well at the District Sports Day again this year coming 4th only 4 Beavers were able to enter but they all gained places in the finals just missing out on a certificate Well Done Beavers

A few hours after Sports Day 6 Beavers attended their 1st Beaver Sleepover, After some glorious weather a few minutes after being dropped off the heavens opened which mean't we had to put the alternative programme into action. Before our Mcdonalds tea the Beavers played team games and set out their tents. After tea they played a few more games before settling down to a film and some snacks and bed. All quiet by 11pm amazing. After breakfast the Beavers had to catch up with activities planned for the previous day they went fishing and caught 4 fish collected wood for a fire, built and lit the fire and then cooked marshmallows for smores. After presenting their nights away badges they all went home very tired.

During the year we had 5 Beavers swim up to Cubs and welcomed 5 new Beavers into the colony. We have 8 Beavers due to move up during next term and have people on the waiting list to replace them. A few Beavers are close to achieving the Bronze Chief scout Award and I am hoping they will be presented with their badges soon.

"Cubs Howl" Annual Review 2017

We like to keep the Cubs active and we certainly have done that this year. Mang and Mao continued helping with the pack and have kept them busy too. The section officially welcomed Blackthorn as Assistant Cub scout Leader. The pack welcomed 2 new Cubs from Beavers at the beginning of term and they were able to experience following a trail, shelter building, pioneering and fire lighting. Map reading was popular the pack planned a route which they walked around in the woods the

following week. Their route planning must have been good as all went without a hitch apart from a heavy rain shower half way round. Because of the events in the news we did not do the annual Fright Night Walk so instead the Cubs took part in a sponsored climb on the indoor climbing wall at Runways End. For most of the Cubs this was a new experience but all took part and really enjoyed it. Thanks to everyone who sponsored us.

In November a few Cubs gained their swimmer badge during an evening at Farnborough Leisure which was good preparation for the swimming Gala where our team did their best by all gaining places in the heats we came away with certificates in both the swimming and the fun events which the Cubs really enjoyed.

In the following weeks the Cubs attended a talk by Foodbank and then got involved with collecting foods for the Xmas Appeal. The following week Hampshire Air Ambulance visited to talk about how this service differs from road ambulances. 3rd Farnborough Beavers and Cubs joined us and learn't how to make an emergency call and how the call is processed. During the Christmas holidays the Cubs did good turns and with the Beavers contribution we were able to send off a donation of £80.00. The Cubs also used the indoor cave course built by the Scouts and also made some of their own modifications.



On 16th December the whole District attended a special 100 year party at Samuel Cody School. At 16 minutes past 7 every Cub renewed their promise at the exact time Cub scouting began 100 years ago. After the Mcdonald's meal, the special cake and the Mayor's speech there was a disco which was enjoyed by all. A lovely way to end the term. At the beginning of term we said cheerio to Blackthorn who moved up to the Scout section.

The Cherokees had a very busy Spring term doing badge work the first 3 weeks were spent doing 6 experiments the most popular ones were building a model out of marshmallows and pasta and constructing balloon rockets. The pack also did the Road safety badge which concluded with a ramble around the local area identifying different types of Road signs.

"Cubs Howl" Annual Review 2017

The pack entered the District 6 aside football competition as usual but when the day came we could only just get together enough players as most did not play regularly I was just happy we could put out a team. The knockout went quite well we won one, drew one and lost one and went through as runners up to the semi final. We won the semi by 4 goals and this saw us through to the final. We came up against 5th Farnborough who had beaten us in the knockout but this time we outplayed them and won 5-3 and came away with the trophy. We were unable to go on to the County Final as it was on Mothers Day and most players already had plans.

Well done to Keyen who scored every goal and Izzy who offered to play for an opposing team to even up the numbers. Also well done to Jack, Thea, Alistair, Bayley and Owen who played brilliantly. The trophy is on the top table this evening.

The pack joined the other sections donnutting for the end of term activity. Half the pack were able to attend the alternative St Georges Parade in April;

The summer term is when all, the outside activities happen. This term we spent the first 3 weeks inside. The first week we had a presentation from CEOP about internet safety, the second week the pack learn't about bike maintenance at Halfords. The third week the older Cubs joined the Scouts indoor Go Karting in Farnborough. I thought the Scouts would dominate as they had faster karts but that was not the case the Cubs did more than hold their own. I know they had a great time as they have already asked when we can do it again. The younger Cubs were treated to an evening of Archery to make up for not going karting.



The Cubs also took part in outdoor archery, darts and made launchers and balistas. Before the end of term we will be spending an evening canoeing and another finishing off the practical part of the cyclist badge in a safe area.

Well done to all the Cubs who attended Sports day. Everyone who took part gained a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place certificate which enabled the pack to match last years achievement of overall 2nd place, Well Done Cubs

We have a very young pack so only one Cub has successfully moved onto scouts we hope that 3 more will move up during next term., 4 Beavers will swim up in September., with another 4 during the term. A few Cubs close to achieving their Chief Scout Award and I look forward to presenting them.

"Scout Adventures" Annual Review 2017



Straight after last year's Review the Scouts headed off to Tolmer's for their week long camp. It was another brilliant Camp and the weather couldn't have been better. The Scouts took part in all the activities which included, canoeing, zorbing, climbing, abseiling, go karting, trampolining and hiking. This year some tried new activities such as slippery slope, gyroscope, CTT radio and journalism where Sarah wrote an article which was published in the camp newspaper. This years visit is in 2 weeks, the new scouts are really looking forward to it.

The troop started the term learning about their health and the dangers of drugs, smoking and alcohol. The rest of the half term was spent updating their knotting, pioneering and cooking skills in preparation for the Scouts District Camp which was aimed at those who were not able to attend Tolmers. In the end only 3 girls attended the camp which was at Garners Field in Farnham. Only 6 groups from the District attended which was nice as everyone mixed together and some made new friends. The activities laid on were Trek karting, sedan chair building and racing, rifle shooting, team building events such as sheet volleyball and water bucket blind trail. The evening ended with a brilliant campfire which everyone joining in the actions to the songs.



Hike the Scouts fine tuned their map reading, 1st aid, pioneering and teamwork skills. 2nd Farnborough entered an all girl team who completed the course and all the above activities . An evening of Bowling at Farnborough bowl was popular and competitive . The troop continued with the skills spending the next few weeks making emergency stretchers and shelters .On the last day of term the whole group gathered for an evening donutting at the Alpine Ski Centre. There was a good turn out for St Georges Parade you all did 2nd Farnborough proud.

Soon after camp was the Swimming Gala. Due to illness our team was very depleted but Tallie and James did us proud by either winning or being placed in all the races they entered. In the run up to Christmas the Scouts completed a sponsored obstacle course instead of the usual Fright Night hike and this inspired them to build an indoor caving course that all the sections got to use. The troop also worked towards the creative challenge by doing some decorative knotting, carving and making a puzzle out of wood. The week before Christmas everyone got involved with Farnborough Foodbank's Christmas Appeal as part of the World Challenge. For a few weeks the Scouts collected foodstuffs and clothing from a list and spent an additional evening helping Mick from Foodbank put the Christmas hampers together and sort the clothes into different categories. The term finished with a Christmas party at Lazer Run.

The Summer Term began with troop going back to basics. The first week was knife and axe skills followed by different types of fires and basic cooking. By the end of term they had built a fire pit and cooked a whole meal on it. The Scouts took one week off to take part in Go Karting with the Cubs I think they found the 1st race quite frustrating as the Cubs were



In the Spring term we welcomed Blackthorn to the troop and Bosun took over as Assistant Beaver Leader. and we were very pleased that Izzy moved up after Receiving her Chief Scout Silver Award. There will be 3 more Cubs joining in September. The first 3 weeks of the term were spent preparing for the District Night

much slower in adapting to the karts and kept crashing. The second race was totally different it was very competitive and was very close. 5 Scouts represented us at District Sports Day, they finished in overall 3rd place with everyone gaining certificates the best for many years not bad for the smallest troop in the District well done everyone. Last weekend a few scouts attended a prep for Tolmers Camp where they were able to put into practice all the skills they had learnt during the term in a camp situation. Everything went to plan and we finished 30 minutes early not expecting that to happen again. By the time you read this canoeing kayaking and paddle boarding will have taken place – as popular as ever. The Scouts have been working hard on their badge work all gaining a challenge and 2 activity badges and we have 2 Scouts who we hope will gain their Gold Chief Scout Award during Tolmer's Camp.



Join The Adventure @ 2nd Farnborough

Every year Scouting helps 400,000 young people in the UK enjoy new adventures, to experience the outdoors, interact with others, gain confidence and have the opportunity to reach their full potential. 2nd Farnborough always has it's doors open to new members, whether they

want to be a Scout, volunteer to be a Leader or join the Executive Committee. If you would like more information about joining, please speak to a Leader. Alternatively, you can email us at: info@2ndfarnborough.org.uk.

About This Issue

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