

GROUP NEWSLETTER

November 2011

Whilst Summer Camps are a distant memory now, the mild autumn weather has enabled our Beavers, Cubs & Scouts to continue to be out and about. It may have rained a bit at Group Camp but everyone seemed to have a good time, and it's not often we have almost all our tents pitched for one weekend. The Harvest Festival Parade, Scout District Quiz, Cub and Scout Swimming Gala, Scout practice hike, Remembrance Day Parade – there has been plenty going on in the sections already this year.

However, it was with great sadness that we learnt our Vice President and great friend Andy Humphrey passed away recently after several years of courageous fighting against a debilitating illness. Andy made a huge contribution to the 19th Group, to Scouting and to the lives and adventure of all the young people for whom Andy was their ASL. He was a true inspiration to the Scouts, and to all of us who had the privilege to know him. Our thoughts are with his wife Debbie, their children James, Sarah and Adam and all of Andy's family.

Group Camp

Back in September, about 80 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Leaders went to Walton Firs for the weekend Group Camp. It was a bit wet at times, but they still did activity bases all day, a camp fire Saturday night and climbing, caving and the maze on Sunday. Many thanks to all the leaders, parents, Explorers, and 'Friends of 19th' for helping to put up & take down 30+ tents and for running the camp. A great weekend!



District Cub Handicraft Competition



On Sunday 6th November, both our Cub packs entered teams into the District Handicraft Competition. Here's the Burlington Pack team with their model of a coral reef. Well done Jacob, Carman,

Oscar and Luke for coming in 3rd place.

Scout Summer Camp

It seems a long time ago now, but have a look at the Scout Summer Camp Log picture diary on the website to see what they got up to – it's in the Scout section - www.19thwimbledonscouts.co.uk

2011-12 Group Calendar

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| Sun 20th Nov | District Scout Incident Hike. Scouts are entering some teams. |
| Mon 5th Dec
6.30pm | Group Carol Service. Our popular annual service at St. Matthews, enjoy some singing, followed by mince pies. |
| Sun 29th Jan | District Cub Communicator Badge. |
| Fri 3rd -
Sun 5th Feb | Scout Winter Camp. Scouts brave the elements & test their skills at Frylands Wood. |
| Sat 25th Feb | President's Dinner. Reunion event for past members & friends. |
| Sun 26th Feb | District Cub Chess Competition. 19 th Wimbledon are hosting this event. |
| 21st July -
4th August | Scout Summer Camp. Save the date! |

See our web site for latest details:

www.19thwimbledonscouts.co.uk

Group Headquarters News



During the summer our local MP, Stephen Hammond, came down to the HQ to learn about our plans to rebuild the old Phoenix hut, and to give his support. As you know, with his help and that of the local councilors, (plus a good speech from Dick, our Chairman!) we were able to get our Planning permission approved, extend our land to include the tennis courts, secure £60,000 towards our campaign from Section 106 funds, and get a further donation of £10,000 from Berkeley Homes.

Its a great, great start ... but a hut rebuild of this size will cost significantly more. So we are looking at various alternatives for the rebuild scheme, and looking at potential sources of grants or other fundraising. All ideas & help welcome!

Hut TLC Day

Parents, leaders and even a few sons & daughters were out with their brooms, gardening gloves and handyman skills on November 5th for Hut TLC Day. Lots of leaves, rubbish, brambles & weeds have been cleared, also the Fire Exit door hinge has been repaired and some bulbs changed in the overnight lights. I'm sure you'll agree the site looks better for it and is safer to use.



This year, we would like to have a parent from every family help out at least once, for a couple of hours. Look out for the next TLC Day next term – its actually fun in the sun in our little leafy corner!



Group Carol Service – Monday 5th December, 6.30pm

Our annual Carol Service will be taking place at St. Matthew's Church, Spencer Road starting at 6.30pm. All Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and their families are warmly invited.

After the service there will be mince pies, biscuits and drinks.

Mayhew Beaver Colony – re-opening January 2012

We are pleased to announce that the Mayhew Beaver Colony is re-opening in January 2012. Liz Strutt has kindly volunteered to lead the section, and they will be meeting on Tuesdays between 5.30pm and 6.30pm at Sacred Heart RC School, Burlington Road, New Malden. There are still places available if you know of children between 6 and 8 years old who would like to join. Please contact Liz on 07811 353380 or send an email to secretary@19thwimbletonscouts.co.uk.



The Burlington Cub Pack also meets at the school on Tuesdays, between 6.30pm and 8pm – and has some vacancies also for boys & girls aged between 8 and 10 ½. Please contact Rebecca at akelaburlington@19thwimbletonscouts.co.uk.

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Would you like to get this newsletter and other notices electronically?
Then please e-mail our **Group Secretary, Ian Haynes**: secretary@19thwimbletonscouts.co.uk