



# Newsletter Autumn 2018

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There is a big difference between a human being and being human. Only a few folks really understand that.



The Editor's Bit

Welcome to the latest edition of the Newsletter. As usual we have reports from all the sections. See if you can find all six ditties that Doug has provided. These are interspersed between the other articles. Have a great read!

#### Keith Day, Newsletter Editor

# PRESIDENT'S POTTERINGS

Whenever we are enrolled into the worldwide family of Scouts, into which ever section we are joining, we learn and say that sections promise. We also like those joining the Scout Troop to know the Scout Law – a set of values to live by. Our Chief Scout Bear Grylls has a method of remembering them and here is a short article he wrote about that.

"From my wacky way of remembering the seven Scouting principles (Ten Little Fat Fingers Caught The Rat), we're on to Fat, and the F stands for friendly and considerate.

As Scouts we are beacons that people all around the world look up to. People admire Scouts because of what we do and how we act – and our day-to day attitudes are fundamental to whether people come away from meeting us with a good or bad impression. Make a good impression and it can last a lifetime – ditto the other way.

Being friendly and considerate means listening to people properly; it means looking them in the eye and saying our pleases and thank yous.

A smile lights up our faces and has been medically proven to make you feel better. I like that!

So, let's all help keep Scouting great and be the best ambassadors we can for our Movement.

I like the quote: 'People don't care how much you know, they just want to know how much you care.' Oh, and remember, a real friend walks in when the rest of the world walks out.

Let's live like that."

Everyone needs friends – we would be very lonely without them. So, let's do our best to live up to the 'Fat' in Bear's way of remembering the Scout Laws.

Don't walk behind me, I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me, I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend.

#### Doug Sullivan President

P.S. When referring to our meeting place, please, we have a HEADQUARTERS, not a hut! P.P.S. 2019 will be the Groups 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Any special events planned?

If you just want to walk fast, walk alone; but if you want to walk far, walk together.



# CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



At June's Annual General Meeting I had the pleasure and honour to become the new Chairman for the 3<sup>rd</sup> West Wickham Scouts.

Many of you will know me already as a parent and a member of our Executive Committee. My son has been in the Group for many years, first as a Beaver and now as an Explorer. I remember him "helping" me to volunteer and join the Executive Committee a few years ago. His passion and dedication for Scouts are the threads common to all the people in Scouting, whether volunteers or leaders, that make the movement such an incredible community and our 3<sup>rd</sup> West Wickham is no different.

It is the dedication of so many people that help us as a team prepare our sons and daughters with the skills they need for life. As a professional, I see first-hand the changing challenges of working life. Uncertainty is now more than ever part of our day to day. Our Scout community is here to help our young people develop character skills like resilience, initiative and tenacity; employability skills such as leadership, teamwork and problem solving; and practical skills like cooking and first aid.

I want to thank all of you who make time to accompany our young people on their life journey. Thank you, Mike for keeping the Group going for the last 17 years; thank you to all our volunteers, from the maintenance team to our supporters network and executive team members; thank you Alys and all our leaders for the remarkable work you do week in, week out with our children. You are all an inspiration, and I am delighted to be part of the team.

Of course, we wouldn't be successful without our young people, parents and families, and the members of our local area. So, I would like to invite you to join our children and experience first-hand their journey to growing-up while having fun and learning. Whether you are a young adult and would like to gain experience and further develop your skills for leadership; or a parent or a member of our community who wants to be inspired and make a difference, everyone is welcome to take part.

There are many ways to make a difference for our young people – not all require you to dedicate regular time. Check our diary at <u>http://3rdwestwickham.co.uk/diary/</u> and maybe join one of the section's session for an evening, or, come and meet with our community at the numerous events we organise. Finally, you can also take the opportunity to share feedback, thoughts or opportunities to further our children's experiences and contact me at chairman@3rdwestwickham.co.uk.

I am looking forward to working with you all to ensure that the 3<sup>rd</sup> West Wickham Group continues to thrive and make a significant contribution to our local community!

# Askold Jacura chairman@3rdwestwickham.co.uk

What do you call a robot that always takes the longest route? An R2 detour.

4 3<sup>rd</sup> WW Supporters

#### Auction Saturday 13th October – Alan Priestley's retirement

The October Auction went ahead as planned, raising £700 for the Group. However, it was most notable as the first Auction since Alan Priestly decided to hang up his gavel and step down as chief Auctioneer. Alan, started the auctions more than 40 years ago, and has been Auctioneer since the beginning. So by reckoning, Alan has officiated at more than a hundred auctions raising something in excess of £50,000 over the years. An inspired idea, and a tremendous achievement.

Dom Lillywhite, who has been an assistant cub leader in the past, took up the gavel alongside Mike Dobson, doing a splendid job in keeping Alan's legacy alive. And of course, Jean, Alan's wife, was there handing cards out to successful bidders during the auction as she has also always done.

Just before the start of the Auction I thanked Alan for his services and presented him with a thankyou gift on behalf of the Group.

#### Auction Helpers – An Appeal!

Alan's retirement does remind us that we are reliant on the commitment of a dedicated band of long serving group of volunteers. I'm sure they would like to think we can keep fund raising activities going for the next 40 years! But this needs more helpers to get involved. If you could a spare an hour or two, or more, twice a year, that would be really helpful. Please contact me if you would like to help. Our next Auction is on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> of March.

#### 2019 Events

As well as the regular Jumble Sales and Auctions we hope to arrange another Family Quiz evening and another Band Night during 2019. Dates to be announced soon, so keep your diaries to hand ...

#### Terry Newman, Chairman, Supporters Committee

When I was a child I thought "Nap Time" was a punishment. Now, as a grown up, it feels like a small vacation.

# FAMILY CAMP 2019

#### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 28 June - Sunday 30 June 2019

Once again, we are going to Blacklands Farm for a fun packed weekend open to all families in the Group. Blacklands is a Girlguiding run site with onsite activities plus the opportunity to participate in Kayaking and Canoeing on the Weir Wood reservoir.

So, make a note in your diary, keep the weekend free and look out for the invitation email early in the New Year – limited spaces and we usually sell out quickly!! **Alys Helm** 

Six Best Doctors in the World: - 1) Sunlight 2) Rest 3) Exercise 4) Diet 5) Self Confidence 6) Friends

#### 5 Jumble Sales

As always grateful thanks to all the helpers at our jumble sales. The September sale, sorry I was not there, went extremely well raising a **fantastic £808.69** to boost our funds so keeping annual subs down and our programmes for the youngsters varied and interesting.

So many people are involved, and everyone plays an important part. Our young people (frequently with parental help) deliver the leaflets to hundreds of houses. This is a vital job as without it no one would know the event was on! On the day many people drive the streets looking for notices in windows indicating the householder has a bag to be collected. This is actually quite difficult to do particularly when the weather is poor and, occasionally, a bag is missed for which I can only apologise – we all Do Our Best.

Back at HQ 15 or more people are sorting the jumble onto the correct stalls – the better the display the more we sell. A short break time for a cup of tea and sandwich (or sometimes fish and chips!) before we open the doors at 2pm, welcome our buyers and rush around trying to help them. In the kitchen tea, coffee, squash and biscuits are produced for our thirsty buyers (and those working on the stalls if we can get through the crush). By 3.30 or 4 everything calms down and the clearing up can begin. Left over clothing, shoes and handbags are collected from HQ, we receive cash depending on the quantity.

The following Monday Mike Tully organises the books into boxes which go to the Air Ambulance charity shop in Hayes and then starts sorting and loading everything else into his (and hopefully lots of helpers' cars) to be taken to the Council recycling centre.

Our next Jumble Sale is on 24 November and I will be emailing all families soon asking for help – please try to do your bit and see if we can beat our September total!! Our young people (wearing group T shirts or Uniform) are extremely welcome to come with parents on the day. **Alys Helm** 

## Greenacres Maintenance

Although the H.Q. outwardly appears in good shape there are a number of items, not immediately apparent to the passing eye, that need attention. The bottom of the frame to the up and over door suffers some decay and needs cutting out and a new section of timber piecing in; the gap between paving and the bottom of the door need to be sealed to prevent the ingress of rodents and we never actually got to grips with the external decoration, but it is not too late to catch up. I am afraid the MDF board, used for the kitchen hatch door, has not proved fit for purpose, and we need some kind carpenter/joiner to make a replacement that can stand up to vigorous handling.

With the onset of the winter months we can perhaps continue with the internal decoration and sundry items that are in the programme but do not get done because more urgent matters have to be dealt with. With more hands on the brushes etc., we could have everything complete by Christmas – this year!!

I was quite encouraged at the last maintenance morning, when several cars pulled into the site, thinking they may be volunteers for the working party, alas they were merely dropping off items for the jumble.

I look forward to welcoming some new faces to help just for a couple of hours once a month.

#### Ron Ockelford

#### 6

# Music Mini Festival 28 September

After months in the planning, Greenacres Scout HQ played host to 4 exciting acts on the Friday night of 28th, with the place rocking from 7pm to 11pm!

First performance on stage was George & Jon from Searching for Cecilia, coming back to show us a more mellow, acoustic set, although promising to get the full raucous band sound up for

the next outing! They also got to entertain the Beavers whilst warming up, as well as impressing Bev enough to suggest that they give lessons, now that they're both back from University!

Next up were a rocking 3 – piece band called Apoplexy; playing their own songs in fine style to a very appreciative audience were Lexy on Vocals & Keyboard, Roger on Drums and David on guitar. I was even fortunate enough to get one of their CDs!

Third on the bill was local singer-songwriter Andy performing on acoustic and electric guitars, and singing some Mod-style classics, as well as some of his own material. Despite having a froggy throat, Andy got the crowd on their feet, and warmed up for the headline band...

Idle Hands, playing only their second ever gig, really brought the house down, with something for everyone to dance to, in an hour-long, high energy tour-de-force that left the crowd on a real high, and definitely wanting more! Fine performances from Phil and Kevin trading licks on guitar, rhythm section Jim on bass and Steve on drums keeping the performance tight, and Yours Truly having the time of his life on vocals, harmonica and acoustic guitar.

Thanks especially to the Supporters group, Terry and Anna for helping to host the evening; George & Jon for coming back and helping to tidy up on Saturday; all those who gave up their time and energy to produce a high-quality evening of musical entertainment, plus all those who came and danced their socks off whilst raising over £200 for Scout funds!

All of us that played are looking forward immensely to repeating the dosage at some stage in 2019; keep reading the website and national press for more details, and anyone that would like to book any of the performers for their own parties, please feel free to contact us directly or via Scouts.

Photos are on our website: www.3rdwestwickham.co.uk. Enjoy Yourself; It's Later Than You Think!

#### Geoff Webb, Scout Leader

The Isle of Dogs bank has collapsed. They've called in the retrievers.

# 100 Club

Are you a member of the 100 club? Would you like a simple way to support our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers? Each year we raise over £350.00, which directly subsidises the vast range of activities they are offered.

The cost of a ball in the 100 club is just  $\pounds$ 12.00 for the year, and each month two cash prizes are drawn. Currently the prize money each month totals  $\pounds$ 35.00, and we have a super draw in the summer for a  $\pounds$ 50.00 prize.

If you would like to purchase a ball, or want to know more about how the 100-club works, do please contact **Nicola Tunstall**, <u>100club@3rdwestwickham.co.uk</u>

#### 7 JOTI/JOTA 2018

October 20<sup>th</sup> was the day Ciaran, Eben, Roan and me (Seth) went to celebrate Joti 2018 at Scout Headquarters at Gilwell Park. JOTI / JOTA stands for Jamboree on the Internet and Jamboree on the Air. The day was divided into 2 halves – our morning was spent doing adventure activities - Climbing, Jacobs Ladder, Archery and a 3G swing and in the afternoon, we took part in the JOTA/JOTI activities. Our first task was to build a radio aerial this was then tested to see whether it would work – We learnt all about how radio waves travel around the world and about HF and VHF amateur frequency bands.

Next, we were able to contact Scouts from all over the world via an internet facetime link. It was great fun seeing who would answer our call. We spoke to Scouts in Japan, then Malta (who were very excited to see us) and later on (because of the time difference) we were able to contact Scouts in Mexico and the USA. It was amazing to think Scouts from all round the world were able to speak to each other and everyone was so friendly and happy to see each other.

We were also able to enter chatrooms with other Scouts on the web and ask them questions about where they were from, liked to eat and what films they liked – Harry Potter was very popular. Roan learnt to use a Morse code oscillator and how to work out a short message, while we learnt the phonic alphabet to be able to use the HF frequency band to speak to a radio operator in France who thankfully spoke perfect English!

Over

#### Seth (Sierra, Echo, Tango, Hotel) 3rd West Wickham Scouts



# BEAVER BITS

Brook Colony

This half term at Brook Beavers, we have welcomed new Beavers to the troop. All new beavers have been received a warm welcome, and fun evening was had by all with many name themed games and team building as they all go to know each other.

So, let's hear form the Beavers their favourite activities from the term so far:

'Being with everyone and having fun' Ben M

One of our new Beavers, Ben B, who started September 2018, said that he really 'liked that we do different activities each time'.

Arty said he really enjoyed 'going to soft play and the rope making – I like doing lots of different activities!'. Joseph also really enjoyed the soft play night and 'grass sledging was lots of fun. I also really enjoyed the time we did rope making'.

Luca, another new Beaver, said about the session on rope making with the rope man 'I liked twisting my own rope and choosing my own colours'.

8

Others focused on the pathway through Beavers, earning recognition for their achievements towards the programme:

Ethan said, 'I really like getting loads of badges and sewing them on.'

As part of the Colony working towards their Environmental conservation badge, the Beavers also spent an evening outside learning about endangered animals, building a water filter and

trying this out. Toby said he "enjoyed this session and seeing if he could make the really muddy water all clean."

The Brook beavers have lots more planned for next term, including a game of human hungry hippos to look forward to!

#### Laura (Lemur) Assistant Beaver Leader



#### River Colony

River Beavers have had a very exciting start to the new term this September and we have lots of fun activities prepared for the rest of the term for the children!

The River colony now has 22 Beavers, and 3 Leaders, Stef Tame left Beavers just before the summer holidays and we all miss her, I would like to say a very big thank you for all her hard work, help and support over the last few years. This term we welcomed three new Beavers this term and it's been fun getting to know them all.

This term will include lots of Badge work as the children try to work towards several badges, these include the Space, Communicator and Experiment badge we will also include lots of fun activities that go towards the children's Challenge badges.

The Beavers were very excited to be back after the Summer Holidays and the first evening was great, as we enjoyed learning about plants at the local allotments. We also were able to look at an empty Bee hive and taste some locally produced honey, a big thank you to Paula Carvell for organising the visit.

There was a better turn out for this year's Church parade with 5 River Beavers in attendance their donations for the Harvest Festival were gratefully received by St John's Church.

What other exciting activities have we lined up to wear the Beavers out this term?

We have had lots of exciting experiments to look forward to on our Experiment evening, and I'm really looking forward to our Egg evening where the children have to make a container out of recycled items to hold an egg and then drop it from a height without the egg breaking! We will also be enjoying an exciting bird flying evening, the children will be able to get up close to some exciting rescued birds and watch them fly around HQ. We have a Christmas Craft evening towards the end of term and last but by no means least we will have a Christmas Party on our last evening together, which usually takes a few weeks for the leaders to recover from!

9

A few of the Beavers went along to Beckenham Spa swimming pool to take part in the district swimming badge event, well done to all the Beavers who took part and managed to get their swimming badges.

The Beavers really enjoyed our space evening it was very loud and raucous! The children were able to look through a VR mask attached to a phone to view Space, they also enjoyed building flying rockets with straws, empty water bottles and paper. Once their rockets were complete

they all competed against each other to see whose rocket could fly the furthest, lots of fun was had by everyone!

The River Beaver Team would like to say a big Thank You to all our parents for their continued support we would not be able to continue running such successful evenings if you didn't come along to help.

#### Ash (Ant), River Beaver Scout Leader



# CUB PACK CAPERS

Seeonee Cubs

Autumn is here and changes to our Cub pack are inevitable as children grow & gain age.

A hello to Six Beavers joining to our Cub section: Elliot Bull, Henry Copper, Victor Ivanov, Jack Roump, Noah Seward & Rufus Williams. We have also had some Cubs transfer from Wontolla; Samuel Djan-Krofa & Tristan O'Keefe – welcome to you all. We said goodbye to three who have moved up to Scouts, Dylan & Marco Oliveira & Isaac Mould.

Last term we said goodbye to Hathi (Sue) who retired. This term we welcome Asher Waysome, still to decide on a Jungle Book name for our new leader, who is undertaking his Scout training, but Asher has been through the ranks of Cubs, Scouts & Explorers, before joining us as a leader.

Then came the Sixer & Seconder promotions within the Cub Sixes! We try to let each Cub have the potential in their 2.5 years as a Cub to become a Sixer or Seconder. This allows them to learn and demonstrate leadership, communication skills and being part of a team, which are linked to the Team Work Challenge Badge & Team Leader Challenge Badges. Congratulations to new Sixers: Alexander Noe, Nell Martin & Aiden Maher.

Congratulations to new Seconders: Luis Brewood, Ted Mason & Thomas Barnes.

So what have we done (or got planned) since the last exciting instalment of the adventures at the 3<sup>rd</sup> West Wickham Seeonee Cub Pack? We have undertaken the following, all to give our Cubs a challenge & experience, not to mention the badges!

- Learning the Cub Scout Promise with familiarisation to Cub Scouting
- Outdoor Challenge of Fist Aid, Gadget making & shelters
- Well Woods to HQ Hike
- Swimming Practice for all at West Wickham Pools
- District Swimming Badge evening at Beckenham Spa

10

- Wilberforce Wide Games
- Beckenham Fire Station Visit
- Fire Safety Badge Activity Evening
- Remembrance Evening
- Remembrance Parade Annual Remembrance Parade at Cork Screw Hill

Our first evening of this term was to welcome our new Cubs and introduce ourselves showing them how we do things at 3WW Seeonee Cub Pack. Then we talked about the Personnel Challenge Badge & I gave all Cubs my challenge to "Help around the house at home" for at least a term. This entails keeping their bedroom tidy, making their beds, help lay the dinner table, help clear up after dinner etc. Some Cubs do this for pocket money, but the aim is to make them more helpful like a good Cub should be and increase their skill set. Some cubs have already come back to agree their chosen challenges of looking after a pet for several months.

We have finished off some outstanding activities for the Outdoor Challenge Badge including First Aid at a camp. We also built a camp gadget - a stretcher used to carry an injured cub. Plus put up a shelter as a practice to complete badge work. This helped 13 Cubs gain their Outdoor Challenge Badge.

Our Swimming practice at West Wickham Pools hopefully took the Cubs through what to expect and gave an appetiser to undertake the District Swimmer Badge evening. Three Cubs attended gaining their Staged Swimmer Badges level 2, 3 & 4 – well done. Remember this event runs every year, so your Cub child can practice their swimming skills with you ready for next year.

It was now dark enough for our evening of Wide Games at Wilberforce Scout Camp. Cubs were given team building games & lots of exercise running around trying to gain points for their Six. The weather was fresh & dry and Cubs love to shine their torches when they are searching for another Six who have treasure.

We ended the half term with a visit to Beckenham Fire Station to learn about what Fire persons do for our community. This is part of the Fire Safety Activity Badge that we are undertaking this term. The visit also counts towards part of the Our World Challenge Badge.

We started the second part of the term with a Fire Safety Badge evening, where all the Cubs had to assess a Fire escape plan for home and were asked to check your smoke detectors. They were shown causes of fire and had to identify this, which is very useful in life skills & keeping Fire safe.

Our WW1 Remembrance evening is to remind the Cubs about remembrance and what it means with practice of a two-minute silence. This is followed by the Remembrance parade.

We still have a Cub Forum evening where the Cubs choose what they want to do for an evening and we try to comply given money and time constraints. We have a "Life Skills" evening where Cubs get to clean shoes, tie shoe laces, iron their scarf & lay a table – all life skills. We have an Astronomer Activity Badge evening where if you are interested in space and stars, can earn the badge after doing a little home work. We still have a Cycle Maintenance evening, sleigh rides before a traditional Christmas party with Wontolla Cub Pack.

Throughout the term there is usually a Jumble Sale, a Scout Auction or possible Bag Packing to

help raise funds for the Scout Group. We always ask if any Cubs can attend these weekend activities as volunteering to help does count towards badges. This could be sorting jumble, collecting cups at the auction or packing bags at an organised Scout Group Supermarket visit under leader supervision. All funds gained from these activities helps to keep Cub fees minimised and makes funds available each term to do lots of activities throughout the term.

<sup>11</sup> 

So, we have a term with varied activities to keep a Cub's interest. Many will gain a badge or two from attending all events and you parents are likely to have to sew them on their uniform.

Once again, our Cub Pack can only survive with your continued help and support, so a big thank you. I would like to personally thank all the Cub Team members and the parents who support our pack on a regular basis, as we could not do all this without you. We are still actively looking for a female leader to support girls attending our section, so if you know anyone, please pass on their name.

#### Kevin (Hawk), Seeonee Cub Scout Leader



#### Wontolla Cubs

We have had a great start to the winter term, completed a lot of activities and got through an amazing amount of badge work.

This term started back with a windy, but fun evening at Dragon Quest Crazy Golf. This was then followed by two weeks at HQ, so we could work on our first aid badge, and then on our communicator badge, where the cubs invented their own secret codes.

We then had a slight change to the schedule and spent the evening

in Coney Hall Park; learning how to correctly hold a compass and then how to take an accurate reading from it. Once we mastered this we went for a short, enjoyable walk in the dark up past St John's Church and down into the fields beyond.

We finished the half term off by making poppy bowls out of clay. We also discussed the meaning behind the Poppy and why it is used as the symbol of remembrance. We will be finishing off and painting our bowls during the first week back after half term, just in time for Remembrance Day.

We have also had to say goodbye to three of our cubs; Amy, Adam and Mateo. All of whom will be starting Scouts next term, the whole of the Wontolla team wish you all the best for the future and know that you will have a great time in Scouts.

#### Next Half Term

As well as finishing off our poppy bowls we will be having a camp fire evening, enjoying some camp fire stories and maybe a few toasted marshmallows. We will also be enjoying the now traditional (and super noisy) duck race, having a film night (any suggesting welcome) followed by a paracord evening. This is going to be followed by another change of schedule where we are going to swap our night hike for another yearly favourite; The Great Wontolla Bake Off! Always a fun evening. That will take us nicely to the end of term where the plan is to go trampolining and then finishing off with a Christmas party.

12

This year six of our Wontolla Cubs took park in the 2018 Supreme; a box kart race held at Goodwood race track. This was extra special because they were the first team from our group to have ever taken part. It was an amazing weekend where we raced our homemade box kart against 41 other cub teams from 12 different counties; from as far away as Northern Ireland, Manchester and Cornwall. Whilst we didn't make it through to the final race offs we did come away with some silverware; having won the second-place award for the best kart. We are

already looking forward to next year and may hopefully be able to enter two teams. Some Cubs comments -

"I enjoyed the practice sessions because they were fun and I was happy that we won a trophy!" Henry.

"The Supreme was when 6 Wontolla cubs went off to Goodwood to compete against 42 teams and 12 counties in our first Go Kart race. This was the 11<sup>th</sup> running supreme yet the first one we went to. The coach drive was 2 hours long and we were all very excited to be staying the night. When we had got there we spotted a Rolls Royce factory and a Ferrari factory. Not only that, but we could also say that our cart was part made of Rolls Royce cars as the screws were sent by the Rolls Royce factory. On top of that our cart was laser cut with our team name being the Wickham Wolf.

When we got there we had to do some practise runs so we were ready to go. When we got back to the centre we went to a nearby ruin of an old church (which we weren't clambering all over) and eventually headed back after a game of hide and seek. Later we watched a bit of the Godfather and then watched all of Ferdinand and had our tea of sausages and chips.

The next morning, we were up bright and early, wearing our new hoodies and t-shirts. When we arrived, the place was packed with people and we were ready to start. After one heat (6 races)

we sadly lost coming 38 out of 42 but we all had great fun and got a medal each. We all really enjoyed our time at the Supreme." Matthew B

to Karting !! liked the Supreme because it was really cool doing all the racing. My parourite part was looking at all the añ designs Candalso main course)! On the first day we slept in a little hall inside on apartment by two old churches And we had sausages and chips. We watched Ferdinand in our bess. On sunday, when I woke up I get changed and then. we had breakpast. Next we climbed onto the Mini bus and drove act to Goodwood. At the end of the day we came 17th out of 42 teams and we got a trophy for one of the best looking karts. It was brilliant 116.



Oliver

As always, a big thank you to all the parents who have helped us this term all your help really does make a big difference to the evenings. I would also like to give our Young Leader Ellie a special mention, she helps us every week and makes running the activities a lot easier for me.

All the best from the Wontolla Team.

#### Adam (Akela), Wontolla Cub Scout Leader

#### Scout Shout

Well doesn't the summer seem a long time ago!

We kicked the programme off and welcomed Autumn in with a very pleasant weekend at Bewl Water, with 9 brave Scouts fearlessly sailing their craft to be awarded several badges for Sailing, Paddling and Windsurfing, under the watchful eye of Doug and Geoff. Top marks awarded for the new event shelter / mess tent; a much to transport and erect.



Already this term we have had outdoor sessions at South Norwood Country Park with Meike, the Bat Ranger, and a new night hike venue behind Frylands, where we all got slightly lost! Also, away from HQ we have taken part in swimming at Beckenham Spa, Church Parade at St John's, and most recently climbed and shot air rifles at Downe, whilst sneaking in a little tying of knots such as bowline, round turn & two half-hitches, clove hitch and figure of eight, just to keep the sailors and paddlers up to scratch!

At HQ we have also had fun making "paddle steamers", and learning valuable survival skills, the best being how to de-scale, gut, fillet, cook and eat some very tasty fish: thanks Steve!

Looking forward to more fun, games and adventures after half-term, particularly Erik, from Coney Hall Cycle Works for some pre-Christmas bike maintenance, and ice-skating. We also look forward to more silverware coming back to Greenacres after the District Swimming competition on 10<sup>th</sup> November. Also, we wait with bated breath to see what the Scouts have chosen for their "We're In Charge" evening on 27<sup>th</sup> November.

#### Yours in Scouting Geoff, Jen, Doug & Steve



### Ravens Reports



In Explorers this term (which has moved from a Friday to a Wednesday evening), we have been doing many fun activities such as a baking evening and a fish and chip shop walk. We have also been helping to restore some of the equipment (such as a fire oven) back to its former glory for use throughout the other sections. Thanks to Adam and Kevin stepping in whilst Paula was on holiday, we were able to have an entertaining air rifle shooting evening at Frylands, we were all very competitive trying to beat one another. We are also looking forward to planning some exciting activities and camps in the weeks to come.

Big thanks to our Explorer Leader Paula and many parents that have helped us out in order for us to do all the fun activities!

#### Joseph Jacura, Explorer

In my last newsletter we were just getting ready to attend Gilwell 24 none of us made the full 24 hours but we all came close (not counting the little lunchtime nap by one of the Explorers). We all managed somewhere between 15 and 21 hrs (the explorers longer than the leaders). It was a great weekend, the explorers were great company and a credit to 3rd West Wickham.

This term we changed our meeting night and now follow Wontolla Cubs on Wednesday evenings 7:45 to 9:30 we are still in need of another full-time leader but as always, the parents and other leaders help keep the session going so a big thank you from me and the Explorers. This term we have more new members, but we have sadly aid goodbye to 3, Rob, Cameron, and Alex who have all turned 18 recently, you will all be missed.

The term has started with lots of planning, a night hike and the annual bake off with star bakers going to Max & Kieran well done! 2 Explorers are doing the young leader training course plus already working with River, Brook and Wontolla hopefully the first of many Young Leaders!

#### Paula Carvell, Explorer Leader



Our aim is to prepare young people with skills for life. Why not join the team of leaders and assistants, have fun yourself whilst helping our young people to develop into well rounded citizens of our society! Contact Alys to find out more gsl@3rdwestwickham.co.uk 07702962805





#### DIARY DATES 2018/19

November	Saturday	10	3.00-8.00pm	Swimming Gala, Cubs & Scouts
	Sunday	11	9.40-11.00am	Remembrance Day Parade West Wickham
	Saturday	24	2.00pm	Jumble Sale HELP NEEDED am & pm
December	Sunday	2	9.40am	Church Parade St Johns Church
February	Saturday		2.00pm	Jumble Sale HELP NEEDED am & pm
, v	Fri-Sun	22-24		Scouts Winter Camp
March S	Saturday	2	TBC	Auction
	Sunday	3	9.40am	Church Parade St Johns Church
May	Saturday	11	2.00pm	Jumble Sale HELP NEEDED am & pm
June	Fri-Sun	14-16		District Cub Camp
	Fri- Sun	28-30		FAMILY CAMP
July	Sunday	7	9.40am	Church Parade St Johns Church
September	Saturday	21	2.00pm	Jumble Sale HELP NEEDED am & pm
October	Sunday	6	9.40am	Church Parade St Johns Church
November	Sunday	13	9.40-11.00am	Remembrance Day Parade West Wickham
	Saturday	23	2.00pm	Jumble Sale HELP NEEDED am & pm
December	Sunday	1	9.40am	Church Parade St Johns Church

Email items for next issue to: <u>newsletter@3rdWW.org.uk</u> before 1st February 2019.

#### District Scout Shop

BROMLEY HQ, The Frank Rhodes Centre, 15 Prospect Place, Langdon Road, BR2 9HL (Parking outside)

Saturdays 9.30am – 12.30pm (not school holidays)

Crofton Oak Scout Hall, Crofton Road, Orpington BR6 8JE Saturdays 10.30am – 12.30pm and Tuesdays 8.30pm - 9.30pm

ANY ITEM SHOWN IN THE SCOUT CATALOGUE OR NOT IN STOCK CAN BE ORDERED