

## Beaver Scout Report

We currently have 17 Beavers attending each week largely made up of young newish Beavers as quite a few children went up to cubs through the year. This meant we could take many children from our waiting list which now stands 6 compared to 20 we had this time last year! Although we have only had one Duke of Edinburgh student this year, I have had the support of three Assistant Leaders, the wonderful Sharon, Big Billy and Graham and of course, great support from parents.

We have had a busy and varied year working towards many badges of which 169 have been earned including 2 Chief Scout's Bronze awards, the latter of which are very challenging to achieve. We thought the previous year's total of 90 badges was excellent, but this year's total has excelled that greatly! Well done to all the Beavers and well done to the family members who have enhanced their sewing skills!

Some of our highlights include taking part in the RSPB birdwatch earlier in the year, collecting conkers then having a knock out competition (with goggles of course). We covered healthy eating & hygiene – Beavers were equally amazed and disgusted by the mould on their slices of bread that they had firmly put their hand print on without washing their hands vs the slice of bread they had put their hand print on after washing their hands! We had lots of sporting activities including tomahawk throwing, archery and crossbows. Just recently we hosted our own mini-Olympics in the local park. Testing their problem-solving skills, Beavers were asked to design a boat listing the parts they would need for construction with the following week being the actual build. We then had a racing competition with all the boats on water with some quick re-designs taking place before a final knock out competition took place, and a winner was crowned.

Last December we had a fun time at the pantomime watching Peter Pan with "Poirot" himself taking centre stage at the Hippodrome. This was a District organised event where a delicious ice cream was enjoyed during the interval. We all had a jolly time. Oh no we didn't – OH YES WE DID!!

Looking forward to the autumn term we are planning to have a one-night welcome back camp in September in what will be part of another busy and fun Beaver Scouting year.

- Sarah

## Cub Scout Report

There are currently 17 cubs with 1 moving on to Scouts and 4 moving up from Beavers in September to bring us up to 20.

A whole range of activities have taken part this term - St Georges day cardboard re-enactment, painting with natural items and a giant splatter painting, pioneering, shelter building, scooter and skateboarding, local community litter picking, learning about global issues, environmentalism and recycling, local nature and naturalist badges and athletics and games.

Thanks to Dylan also for his fantastic input helping out after staying on following his Duke Of Edinburgh award.

Personal thanks go to Steve and Alice from me for their ongoing commitment to scouting. I have had to take extended time off for medical reasons and been unable to attend meetings for the last couple of months and they have ensured our pack can continue.

Congratulations to Alice who has taken on the role of Assistant Cub Leader and is a brilliant source of activities and ideas, engages with our young people with much enthusiasm, and is formidable on badge management! :)

Parental support is much needed particularly due to my current medical situation -please get more involved - please speak to one of the leaders!

Thanks for all your support – Clive

## **Scout Section Report**

Scouts have been awarded a total of 125 Badges since this year and invested 14 new members into the group. They have earned their Fire Safety badge helped by a visit to Temple Fire Station and the Mechanics Badge following a morning hosted by the British Territorial army on Whiteladies Road. We entered 2 teams into this years Bristol Monopoly Run, fired crossbows. We've camped, we've cooked, we've hiked, played games, sang, joked and laughed our way through the year. We have taken an evening Train to Weston for our annual sandcastle building competition and more recently taken some of the Scouts underground in a morning of caving. As a troop we have also worked towards earning the International Activity badge which was led by Martina who as well as giving us an insight into Italian Scouting & Cuisine, arranged a video call with one of her old Troops. Scouts from the 58<sup>th</sup> had the opportunity to ask questions, practice some of their Italian phrases and got an answer to a very important question "Do you like Pineapple on Pizza" – The answer was a emphatic NO! 😊

Myself, Nick, Martina & Martin have been joined by Art our new Assistant Scout Leader. Martina has also recently earned her nights away permit which means more camping one of the activities the Scouts say they enjoy most. Nick has received an award for 10 Years volunteering as a leader We are always looking for activities to add to the program so if any of you reading this would have a particular skill hobby or interest you would like to share with the group, please let us know. Your support is crucial, and we rely on parents help especially when it comes to events away from the hall. We currently have 25 Scouts will be offering places to young people on our waiting list for September.

Time for the annual plea. If anyone reading this would like to offer regular help in the Scout Section please let us know.

### **On a personal note:**

I started Scouting in the summer of 2009 whilst my eldest was in Cubs, I came with no previous experience, had never been to Scouts as a child but thought id give it a go. I have had a fun filled 15 years with the group as Assistant Cub Leader, Cub Leader, Assistant Group Scout Leader & more recently Scout Leader I have made new friends, taken part in some exciting activities and learned lots of new skills. The previous Scout Leader stepped down during Covid and the section was facing closure without a Leader, so I took over in Spring 2021 have enjoyed running the Troop for the past 3 years but due to other commitments have now decided to stepdown as Scout Leader.

Martina will be taking over the Troop and we will be transitioning Leadership over the coming months. When Martina does eventually take on the role of Scout Leader I'm sure you will all offer the same support you have me during my time in the role.

As usual our first event of the year will be our Welcome Back Camp details to follow.

Have a great summer and look forward to seeing you all when we return on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

- Rob

### Group Leader Report 2024

To start the leaders need a big thank you for their commitment in delivering the Scouting programme. This programme allows the young people to have fun, adventure and hopefully a bit of education thrown in the mix. This isn't just for the young people the idea of Scouting is that the leaders get this as well. We need more volunteers to help us deliver the programme to more young people whilst taking the pressure off the current teams.

This year we have been able to expand the leadership teams. Billy and Graham have joined Beavers, Alice has left the Trustees to take a role with the Cub section and Art has joined Scouts. Sarah and Nick have earned long service awards 10 and 20 years respectively.

More work has gone into keeping the hall in good condition and giving the area more security. The toilets were modernised and decorated last summer and we had new fencing installed to the back and car park perimeter. Having our own hall and keeping it in reasonable working order allows us to rent it as a community space raising money from hire charges. We have several regular hirers plus of course the one off hires for parties etc. Part of this requires time by the Trustee board and Leaders to help with viewing for potential hirers and opening and closing the hall for some of our bookings. We are looking for new Trustees with one person to take over the Hall Manager role. As part of our community involvement we were approached and accepted the responsibility of having a defibrillator attached to the outside wall.

Another role we have to look ahead in filling is the Group Leader role. No actual Scouting background is necessary but some management and organisational skills would help. It is an important role as it links the very important work of the section leaders to the role of the Trustees. Is this you? Please have a think.

Thank you to all parents for their support and sending their children to the 58<sup>th</sup> and if you have time you can give you'll be more than welcome on the Scouting adventure.

- Simon