

Beaver Scout Section Report

Beavers are ending the current year with 13 members, 5 of which will move up to cubs in September. Our waiting list is relatively short since a recent change in the rules whereby a child has had to have had their 5th birthday before they can join the list.

Since our last report we have been very busy with plenty of outdoor/indoor activities at HQ and our community.

We started the year with a welcome back camp which took the group to the Museum using public transport, we will end the year of outdoor activities with rafting/canoeing at the West Country water park.

We have also welcomed a few visitors to the hall which has included reptiles, geckos and other mini beasts, along with a spaceman, and we will conclude with a beekeeper. All this means that lots of badge work has been completed and to date, we have awarded 153 badges with some more yet to come!

Planning has yet to take place for the new scouting year except for one event in September which will be our welcome back camp - more details to follow in due course.

I would like to end this report with thanking all the leaders and parents who have helped, especially Billy who has managed to secure a contact through joining Network (the section after explorers) to enable the beaver section to complete their on the water badge.

- Sharon

Cub Scout Section Report

The Cubs have taken part in a wide range of activities this year including a visit to an indoor climbing wall, taekwondo, learning money skills, astronomy, and pancake making. Between them the Cubs have earned over 200 badges, including chef, team leader, entertainer and musician. We have awarded Chief Scout's Silver Awards to Toby, Azariah, Wren, Ivy & Rhys. Over Christmas the Cubs took part in a photography challenge with some amazing results from some of our budding photographers. You can see some of the photos on the noticeboard in the HQ. Cubs enjoyed a joint camp with Scouts in May. 15 Cubs were able to attend and took part in activities including zip wire, grass sledging, tunnels, low ropes & finished the day with a cool down on the waterslide. Despite being very tired Cubs joined in the songs and games around the camp fire. All the Cubs were very well behaved and got involved in the camp and were a pleasure to take away.

A big thank you to the parents and Dylan who volunteered to help for the weekend we couldn't have done it without you and we hope you had fun. Massive thank you to Martina for organising the camp. A big change in the Section was Clive stepping down as Cub Scout Leader after Christmas. We'd like to thank him for all his hard work and enthusiasm over eight years of service. We may need to consider the future of the Pack if a replacement can't be found. We have been very pleased to have the help of three young people undertaking the volunteering section of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. They have been a great help, and we've particularly enjoyed Dylan's digeridoo playing, Isaiah's baby impersonation and Hannah's mathematically precise (3 decimal places!) scoring system. Thank you.

We'd also like to thank all the parents who have come along to help on Tuesday evenings. Hopefully, you've all enjoyed the experience. We couldn't run the Pack without your continued support. Let's hope a new Section Leader can be found, and we can continue running a successful Cub Pack.

- Alice & Steve

Scout Section Report

This year, the Scouts have worked towards different badges, such as Astronomer, Radio Communicator, Athletics and Time on Water. For these, we have participated to our first Jamboree on the Air in cooperation with Staple Hill Radio club. This involved speaking on the radio with Scout Groups in other countries. They have built and navigated rafts in Saltford and Kayaked at the harbourside. Scouts always tell us that their favourite thing is camping, so we had plenty of camps; our regular Welcome Back Camp and May Camp (the latest with Cubs, and participating on the Trailjam. An indoor winter camp and a Survival Camp on the Summer Solstice. We are now getting ready for a longer Summer Camp! The various hikes during the year are all credits towards the Hiking badge (and some blisters...) Scouts are getting better and more confident at acting and singing during campfires, and organising activities for their peers during Patrol Nights and Individual Badge nights. Their second favourite thing cooking (or maybe eating!?) has also been widely satisfied, with lots of known and less familiar delicacies at the hall, on open fires and at camps. They have been working on cooperation and Patrol Identity, in large part succeeding in making a team out of a group of individuals. In December we have thanked Rob for his long years of service with the Troop while he was "transitioning" to his next role.

Along with Art (section team) we have had 12 investitures this year. We have been all working on the meaning of the Promise, the Scout Law and what it means to be a Scout.

We have seen the young people develop new skills, learn to cooperate, share, make communal decisions and they're taking steps towards self-improvement and self-confidence, while challenging their limits and fears, making friends and having fun outdoor and indoor.

We are always looking for activities to add to the program so if any of you has 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 32 Scouts and will be getting new members from Cubs in September, with some Scouts moving to Explorers.

- Martina

Group Leader Report 2025

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 expanded the helper team but we are still looking for more regular team members to help in particular the Cub section who need the support of a team leader to co-ordinate with the other team members. Martina has had her first year of running the Scout section as team leader with outdoor pursuits at the forefront of their activities.

Our current project is based around energy efficiency and making our hall "greener". We were successful in obtaining a grant to support having a professional survey done. Apart from some physical upgrades relating to insulation the main part of this relates to our heating system which apart from repair and servicing has been here since 1982. 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. No actual Scouting background is necessary but some management and organisational skills would help. It is an important role as it's our main source of income and helps to keep the cost of Scouting to a minimum.

After 10 years I am stepping back as Group Leader but will remain involved with the Trustees. Rob who has assisted me in the past plus has been Cub section and Scout section team leader will be taking over.

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

DOROTHY LLOYD R.I.P.

A mention for Dorothy Lloyd who passed away earlier this year. The Lloyd family have been involved with our Group since the 1980's. That includes Michael her husband and their three sons, one of which Steve, is still here. In 1991 Dorothy started the very first Beaver colony here at the 58th and was the Assistant District Commissioner for Beavers in the old Bristol North East District. When I joined the Group in 2001 as Scout section team leader she was the Chair of the Executive Committee (Trustees) but still kept her hand in helping on a Monday with the Beaver section.

She is remembered fondly not just by those who knew her at the 58th but also in the wider Scouting family

- *Simon*
(Group Leader)