



73rd Reading (Park) Scout Group Spring 2015 Newsletter

A fond farewell!

Many of you will know Verity Kemp who has been an integral part of Park Scout Group for many years. Among her many roles at Park she has been Beaver Leader, Group Scout Leader and organiser of the senior citizens Christmas Party. She will soon be leaving the area with her family and will be sorely missed by the leaders and other members of the group. We wish her the very best in her new life.

Verity has written a letter to all of us which is attached to this newsletter.

Upcoming events

- ❖ Beavers Sleepover - 11th - 12th April (see below)
- ❖ Park Scouts AGM - Monday 18th May 8.30pm
- ❖ Group Camp - 5th - 7th June at Youlbury

News from the Group

Beavers

We have our second Beavers sleepover coming soon! Sadly we had to change from our original date on Saturday 14th March to hold it in the Easter Holiday on Saturday 11th to Sunday 12th April, but we're looking forward to it! We know the change of date is inconvenient, but it is better that we can still run it than cancel it altogether. There will be a light supper for the Beavers and some fun evening activities before they 'camp' in tents inside the Large Hall. In the morning we'll have breakfast and tent inspections before we 'break camp'. There may even be prizes for the neatest tent!



Pictures from last year's
Beavers sleepover



We're also doing the new Gardener Activity badge, and both the Huntley and Palmer colonies have their own planter in the Church garden where we're attempting to grow sunflowers from seeds. Which colony will grow the tallest flower? Only time will tell!

Cubs

As part of the Global Challenge badge the Cubs raised £57 for Comic Relief. The Cubs collected 20p coins in Smartie tubes (other sugar coated chocolate beans are available) and sold cakes and biscuits they had decorated with sweets during the cub meeting. It was a fun evening with everyone getting very sticky. We did notice that not all the decorating sweets made it as far as the cakes and biscuits!

Scouts

"The Scout Council consists of the leaders and the PLs and the APLs. It was organised so that the scouts can present ideas for activities and camps etc. They can also say what's good or not so good so that the leaders can pick up on that and make changes so that is it more interesting for everyone. I think the Scout Council needs to be in place so that scouts have more of a say of what goes on. Not only do scout meetings become more interesting but because it is more interesting people are more likely to come." Joseph Masoero – Scout

"The Patrol Leader's Council is a chance for our PLs and APLs to help shape the group. Aside from meeting twice a term, the PLC is designed to include older scouts in key leadership decisions within the section – from helping to shape the programme and running their own evenings, through to planning camps and providing direct feedback to the leadership team. Nothing is more in the spirit of Scouting than helping young people to grow into strong diverse leaders, and we're excited to have a Patrol Leader's Council that aims to do just that!" Ben Nunney – Scout Troop Leader

News from the executive

The posts of Chair of the Park Scout Executive and Group Scout Leader will become available at the AGM in May due to Dean Jones stepping down and Woody moving away from the area. We thank them for their work and support of the group. We are looking for replacements and these will be voted in at the AGM. All parents are invited to the AGM so please come along and see how you child's scout group is run.

SENIOR CITIZEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The party, held on 14th December 2014, was attended by over 40 senior members of the church community. Entertainments were put on by the Scout troop and Francis Hayes from U3A. Tea sandwiches and cake were provided in copious amounts and the young people acting as table hosts performed impeccably. We received several phone calls and letters of thanks from the guests. Here is just one of them.

Dear Scout Leaders and Scouts,

Thank you so much for the wonderful afternoon you put on for us. The entertainment was first class, with the singers, then yourselves and finally the lovely communal singing. My 94 year old neighbour enjoyed it very much. The tea was beautifully presented and accompanied by yourselves at the tables. Also the fun of the raffle. Finally thank you for the gift and Christmas card. A very Big Thank you for a lovely afternoon.

Very best wishes for Christmas and 2015.

If you have any comments regarding this newsletter or items you would like included please send them to Moya Taylor - moyataylor@talktalk.net