



Hi everyone,

Our Scout Group continues to offer an excellent programme for many young people and in fact has grown in numbers for the 6th year running.

Since our last newsletter the sections have been celebrating. This year sees the 100th year of Cub Scouting and there are many events planned which I am sure Karen will be talking about. Also we are celebrating the 30 years of Beaver Scouting and a party has already taken place for that particular celebration.

I have just been informed that 2 adults who help with our group have been given the Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service and it is fantastic that they are being awarded.

Mike Cushing has been our treasurer for over 15 years now and this is well deserved as he does such a good job of keeping us all in check.

Steve Williams who is our Scout leader has had a tremendous impact on the group with his enthusiasm and encouragement and that section has grown progressively. He is also very deserving of this award.

I would like to thank Ted Lowe who has been auditing our accounts and he is going to audit just one more set. We do appreciate your time Ted, and if anyone would be able or willing to come forward to take over this annual task, I would much appreciate it.

I look forward to seeing an amazing turnout of everyone in Full and Smart uniform at St George's Parade in town on Sunday 24th April. Family and friends are also welcome to join in in the Guild Hall.

Lesley Thomas
Group Scout Leader



**Cubs create sensational smoothies
using pure pedal power.**

SCOUTS

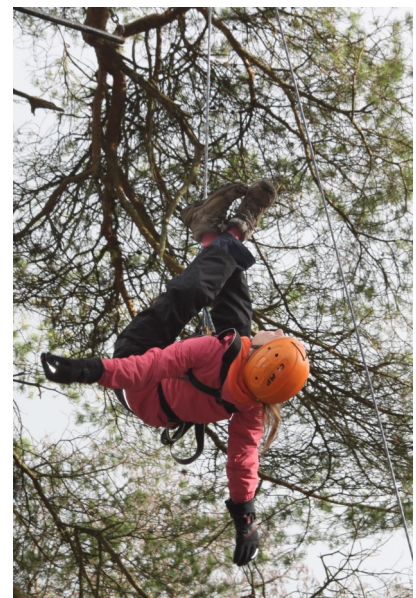
Well we've had a very busy start to 2016 in the Troop with plenty of fun and adventure being had by all. Our biggest event so far was taking the majority of the Troop away on Preston District's Winter Camp up on the shores of Windermere. Here they got to join over 160 Scouts from around Preston on an action packed weekend taking part in activities from climbing to archery and even some hanging upside down on ropes. It was a great weekend and we look forward to next year's similar camp.

Some of our Scouts also attended the Chief Scout Gold Award Camp. The Chief Scout Gold Award is the highest award that can be achieved within the Scout section and the achievement of this is quite often every Scout's crown in their time in the Troop. The weekend really helps guide Scouts in the final steps to achieve this award, so let's hope we get a few more presented with it soon.

We continue to get out of the church as much as we can on a Tuesday Scout night, mainly as that's the best part of Scouting. In the last couple of month's we've been up to Beacon Fell doing some geocaching, on a night hike up to Darwen Tower, playing laser tag in Blackpool and cooking over fires.

Troop wise we are doing really well, with currently 36 Scouts attending regularly. This is bursting point for us in terms of Scouts but really means we can put on a varied and adventurous programme for everyone.

Steve Williams
Scout Leader



BEAVERS

After Christmas, spring can seem a long way off but, far from stopping indoors, our Beaver Scouts have been making the most of the long winter nights. We have spent several weeks working on our Space Activity badge and spent a fantastic night at Alston Observatory where we were lucky enough to spot the International Space Station whizzing across the sky and got a glimpse of Orion and the Great Bear between a break in the clouds. The Observatory has also got a Planetarium where the Beavers Scouts were treated to an interactive tour of our solar system.

This term we have also been working on our Disability Awareness Badge. Beaver Scouts have taken part in a host of activities from learning to finger spell their name and sign The Promise to playing Boccia and wearing goggles that simulate visual impairments. We are also looking forward to a visit from Dogs for Good, an innovative charity which explores ways dogs can help people overcome specific challenges and enrich and improve lives and communities.

We are going to be getting our Beaver Scouts out and about lots over the coming weeks with a trip to Blackpool Zoo, a science night at Preston College and activities on the park. And with spring now around the corner Beaver Leaders have been busy planning an exciting action packed two night beaver sleepover at Bowley Scout Camp in Great Harwood. Based on a Peter Pan theme, this will be the first time that our Beaver Scouts have taken part in a two night sleepover and will be a chance for them to get outdoors and have some fun with a whole host of activities from zip wires to den building.



Catherine Simpson
Assistant Beaver Scout Leader



Wow what a way to start the Cubs 100th Birthday Centenary Year....

In January the cubs went skiing at Rossendale, they went tubing, luge, and tried their legs, bums etc. on the ski slope during a lesson.

February saw us participate in the Biggest Beach Party ever at Blackpool Pleasure Beach where thousands of cubs from all over the country gathered for a day of FUN, THRILLS and RIDES...as well as beating a World Record too. Everyone had a fab day!

March has already begun, we held a "THANK YOU PARTY" at St Anthony's' Annex, for Leaders past and present, they participated in activities alongside the children.

We have also been concentrating on Disability Awareness as part of a badge and MILLION HANDS, the Cubs have been learning Sign language, learning about braille, and other disabilities both seen and unseen. They tried their hand at the Para Olympic sport BOCCIA, as well as blindfold Bucket ball...

Karen Smalley
Akela

