



Newsletter

Autumn Term 2012



Back to School, back to Scouting. What a Summer!

I personally have never watched so much sport in such a short time. Both the Olympics and Paralympics were so exciting and inspiring to watch, those athletes had to train so hard to achieve their aims and goals. Sometimes they didn't succeed, but not for the want of trying.

In Scouting, we are always trying to find a little 'something' that each child and adult has to give. Maybe it is a knack of tying knots, or perhaps it is a skill of empathising with children struggling to learn something new. Always, we try to bring a sense of fun into everything we do and I know that without our wonderful leaders, this would not happen.

Without good leaders, a Group would not be successful and that is not the case with us! We have a great group of leaders who give a lot of time to running their sections and it isn't just the 2 hours a week that you probably see. Surprisingly, this isn't a plea for help (although offers are always welcome), but a request that you thank the leaders when you see them, it doesn't take long, but they do appreciate a pat on the back sometimes. If you can support them also by returning forms and slips back on time, that always helps.

We have had a busy time with camps and days out and still have a full calendar for the rest of the year. Enjoy the rest of 2012, having experienced the Guild Procession (fantastic turnout), Olympics and Paralympics including the Torch coming through Preston and more recently a Celebration of 100 years of our own Church.

So we as a Leadership team are like the Coaches of our Olympians and Paralympians; we are there to help the children of today succeed and meet their goals and strive for Gold. Together we will succeed.

Lesley Thomas (Group Scout Leader) 01772 727877 lesleythomas01@hotmail.co.uk



Family Camp

We are going to hold another Family Camp on the weekend of 5/6/7th July 2013. So many people enjoyed our camp last year we hope to have even more participants next year. This will be one of the events to celebrate our 70th Anniversary and is bound to be a popular one! Details to follow.

Campfire Evening

Do you remember those days huddling round a campfire in your blankets, singing songs and laughing at skits? Well rekindle those days by joining us at a Campfire evening to be held on Monday 19th November at 6pm. More details to follow – this is a family event, so parents bring your children and children bring your parents!



So much done, so little space to write about it all! We've taken part in a lot of activities within our weekly Colony programme and elsewhere – the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Guild celebrations including District Guild camp, Olympic / Paralympic activities, so much to choose from it was difficult to fit it all in. Visitors to Avenham Park at the end of May would have seen us all doing exercises and playing games learning about keeping fit as a major part of our Fit-

ness Challenge efforts.

In amongst all the fun five Beaver Scouts gained their Chief Scout Bronze Awards – congratulations to Oliver, James, Ben, Aaron and Sam Croft.

The Creative Challenge is our focus for this term and we've already had fun making hovercrafts and playing with Lego Mindstorms trying to find out how things work. Look out for the individual masterpieces that will be created over the next few weeks and we'll be practising our contributions to the Group campfire in November so please come and support our budding performers

Whilst numbers currently continue to remain high within the Colony a significant proportion will be moving on to Cub Scouts in the not too distant future. So, if you know of anyone with children who will be 6 in 2013 please encourage them to get in touch and join in the adventure!

Fiona Jackson (Badger)

"I like Beaver Scouts, I like playing games and doing different activities. I like playing traffic lights and finding out which food is healthy and unhealthy. I like going on trips, my favourite trip was to Blackpool Illuminations and I also liked camping."

Declan Girvan (Beaver)

(To enquire about joining Beavers please contact Lesley Thomas (Group Scout Leader) on 01772 727877 or email lesleythomas01@hotmail.co.uk)



Yet another busy year has passed.

February saw our first camp of this year at Silver Helme, Silverdale. We had lots of fun making catapults, tracking and hiking through beautiful Silverdale.

Our Cubs entered a team in the Preston District pack of the Year Competition where they came 1st (Thomas Harrison), 3rd (Edward Millsop) and 6th (Iain Simpson) then went on to represent us in the County Competition where they came a very respectable joint 4th place overall.

Early May saw the Group go on the Guild Camp. what can I say? A fantastic weekend was had by all. The sun shone as I had ordered and the kids had a whale of a time trying new activities such as Brick Laying, Quidditch and Custard Pie throwing!

3 Silver Awards were presented to Harry Lewis, Robbie Parker & Ethan Smalley whilst on Guild camp and a further 4 were presented to Lewis Beckley, Thomas Bryson-Edwards, Jack Mercer and Nathan Kiley at the end of year family BBQ.

The Cubs have enjoyed trying various activities this year; climbing at West View, Paddling on Brockholes Nature Reserve and some cubs attended the County Camp at Waddecarr mid June, where they braved the torrential rain and competed in the Cub Olympic Games.

Cubs along with other branches of the uniformed sections walked in the Preston Guild Churches procession. Very exciting, lots of flag waving and cheering!

Can't wait to see what the next year holds for us all...

Karen Smalley (Akela)

Will you be a Scout in summer 2013?

Have a think about if you would like to go to Guernsey with the Troop... and start saving.

More details to follow. (Dates around 12-21 August 2013)

Will you be a Scout in 2014?

Red Rose 2014 will be a fantastic event for all Scouts of which our Group hopes to be a part. This is an International camp which will be held in the UK, A really great opportunity for anyone of Scout age in July 2014.



After a nice long break over the summer holidays it's time to get the adventure started again for another year!

To finish off last term we held a Troop camp at Bowley Campsite near Blackburn, this would have been a great idea for most weekends but as we all know the weather this year hasn't been the

greatest and we happened to pick probably one of the worst weekends of the summer term. It rained, and rained, and rained some more, but we put on our waterproofs, got stuck in and had a great camp.

With climbing, a trip to Waves in Blackburn (still wet but just a bit warmer wet!!) and a water slide (more water!!) being the activities for the weekend.

More recently we headed up to Great Tower on the shores of Lake Windermere for another weekend camping. There were two main activities of the weekend that included walking up Harrison Stickle in the Langdales and Sailing on Lake Windermere. The weather even held out for us on this one!

Coming up this term we are planning on a camp fire night where we'll be cooking sausages on sticks (like all Scouts

should), a trip to the Blackpool Lights and a night hike up Nicky Nook! We are also planning on taking part in the District summer camp to Guernsey next August, so watch out for info on this one!

Finally I would like to welcome 2 new leaders to the Troop, CJ and Laura who joined us towards the end of last term. With their skills and enthusiasm we can aim to raise the standard of the activities we offer even further to put on a great programme for the Scouts.

Steve Williams (Scout Leader)



**Keeping an eye out for bears!
Steve on a recent expedition to Canada.**

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 11th November 10.30am Remembrance Sunday - Parade Service

Monday 19th November 6pm Campfire Evening

Sunday 9th December 10.30am Toy/Gift - Parade Service

Water Weekend Scout Camp, Great Tower

On Friday 21 September the water weekend scout camp began! Setting up the tent on Friday night and establishing our camp was easy but it went dark very quickly so we had to be fast. We built a great campfire and sat around it eating our hotdog supper.

The following morning we had our breakfast cooked on the open fire before packing our bags to go walking. After eating our picnic by the lake we climbed up Harrison Stickle which was hard and painful for all of us but we made it! At the top we could see paragliders we were so high. Going down Harrison Stickle also proved difficult because everyone kept falling over and it felt like we were never going to reach the bottom.

After our climb we travelled to do a bit of shopping at Ambleside. Then we returned to camp and had spaghetti bolognese for tea.

On Sunday morning we packed a spare set of clothes before setting off for our sailing adventure on Lake Windermere. Luckily the weather was fine and the Lake was quite warm. Once we were in the middle of the lake, we played some games on board our boat. Also, as we were playing, Laura and Katie decided to have a dip in Lake Windermere by capsizing their boat. Of course, none of us laughed even though it was very funny, but the girls didn't seem to think it was!

On our way back to shore, Ben and I decided to have a dip in the lake so we jumped in.

We washed up on shore in the showers and headed back to Great Tower where we packed up our belongings and tents before making the journey home.

The weekend was fantastic and we all enjoyed it and can't wait to do it again – I hope it's as good next year!

Thomas Grundy (Scout)

It was awesome! We went up to Great Tower in the Lake District: this was my first time on a scout camp although I have been away many times with Cubs; this was definitely camping taken up a notch.

We did all the cooking for ourselves on an open fire, making Saturday nights evening meal and breakfast for us all on the Sunday - toasting marshmallows, in the evenings and telling jokes and playing games with the other scouts and leaders.

I really enjoyed going sailing on the Sunday before coming home. Although climbing mountains was very tiring and my feet were killing.

But all that said I can't wait for my next adventure

Ethan Smalley (Scout)

