



4TH FULWOOD NEWSLETTER Autumn Term 2014



Hi Everyone,

The year is drawing to a close and it has been full on for everyone in 4th Fulwood. The camps and activities that are offered to the young people are second to none and we are certainly one of the most successful groups in the district.

The reason is because we have great leaders who are offering fantastic programmes and I would like to thank them for all their hard work this year. I have to be honest and acknowledge that there is often more to Scouting than 2 hours a week, but our leaders genuinely love what they are doing to give our young people a good time.

One of our leaders who has helped for over 9 years has now decided to hang up her woggle. Jean Reid who has been an Assistant Beaver Scout Leader is calling it a day by the time her 74th birthday comes round in January. Prior to helping us, she worked as a Brownie leader for 39 years with the URC so she is very used to leading young people. Jean has been an asset to our group over the 9 years and many young Beaver Scouts have benefited from her skills with crafts and her teaching them the Promise. She will be missed by all of us, but it is perhaps time she gave herself a rest and looked after herself. Thank you Jean for all your work with 4th Fulwood Scout Group.



Beavers making a splash!

This year we took on a new project in Highgate Woods and our second foray into the woods was to plant some very small wild flowers which will bloom from spring to autumn next year. This time it wasn't raining and the group who turned out were able to plant the flowers, do a litter pick and clear some rotting greenery to promote growth. It was a quick short stint from us but we will have something lined up for next year pretty soon.

Looking forward, we have the Family Camp in June which is in a good planning stage. The dates of the camp are 19th to 21st June and all are welcome to attend. We will send out more information in the new year so we can start on the DBS (previously CRB) process for the over 18 year olds. The other big camp for our group will be 1st – 3rd May when our whole group has the opportunity to camp with the district and this is always a fun camp.

Come and join the leadership team as a helper in uniform or not... we welcome any help that is offered, you don't have to come down every week!

Have a great Christmas.

Lesley Thomas (Group Scout Leader)
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If at all possible, the last few months seem to have been even busier for our Beaver Scouts. They have cycled the Guild Wheel (well, part of it!), explored "The Final Frontier" courtesy of Alston Observatory, learned about Scouting in other countries, had their first ever Colony swim and taken part in the magic of Hogwarts at the County Beaver

Scout sleepover to name but a few of the activities! I think you'll agree there is something for everyone within the programme.

Following the Guild Wheel sponsored ride to raise money for the Guide Dogs Association, we were able to raise even more funds for them by filling 'Smarties' tubes with loose change. As a result, when we visited the training centre at Atherton, the Beaver Scouts were able to proudly present them with a fabulous £269. Specific mention must be made



Ewan and Abigail presenting £269 to the Guide Dog Training Centre at Atherton.

of one Beaver Scout who singlehandedly raised £140 on the bike ride – well done Ewan!

Also worthy of mention are Liam, Lucy, Sophia, Hollie, Daniel, Ewan, Toby and Seth who have each been presented with their Chief Scout Bronze Awards. This has involved a great deal of effort for them, particularly those who weren't Beaver Scouts for the usual two years and so individually had some "homework" to do to achieve it. Congratulations to you all.

Having been so busy recently, you'd be forgiven for thinking we were all looking forward to taking it easy. However, not so – we don't like to rest on our laurels and plans are already afoot for more fun, challenges and adventures! These will link in with the exciting changes taking place nationally to the programme and awards scheme – look out for new style badges coming your way.

Fiona Jackson
Beaver Scout Leader

Church Parades

dates for your diary

8th February
8th March
10th May
14th June
12th July



Balsam Bashing: Soaked... Still Smiling.



Wow ... what a busy few weeks the Cubs have had already and it's not even Christmas!!!

September saw an energetic start to this term, with the Fitness challenge badge, as part of it they had to participate in a new activity, Fiona Bryson-Edwards was good enough to come in and take a YOGA session, they also undertook a gruelling 2 week fitness test, and looked at their daily diet and amount of sleep they get each night.

We had a visit from the BAT LADY, children got to see the bats up close and some even had the chance to feed them. Then a walk in the woods with the bat detectors.

Cubs loved the visit to the Gujarat Temple in Preston, we took part in one of their evening prayer sessions, learnt about the different gods, and sampled the food offerings, if you haven't been, it's well worth a visit, it's beautiful.



Cubs are batty for local wildlife

We have been to WEST VIEW LEISURE CENTRE to work on the cubs staged swimming badges and the annual cub splash night.

November saw us getting ready for Christmas with crafty activities, Carol Service rehearsals and lots more fun....

Karen Smalley
Akela

Exec Committee

Well that's another year in the life of 4th Fulwood come and gone. I am sure all our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts will look back with pride at what they have achieved. Lots of new skill, new friends and exciting adventures together with a few badges to prove it!! None of this would be possible without the continued support and dedication of our leaders. A big thank you to them.

Being such an active group we need to keep investing in our equipment. The Executive have recently approved the expenditure to purchase several items of equipment including a new mess tent, some replacement camping equipment. We have also challenged our leaders to think about a specific scouting area or activity that we can start to invest in, both in terms of training and equipment. We want our young people to have the best opportunities in Scouting and feel that if our Group can specialise in an area it will not only benefit them but will also enable us to share that specialism across the District as other Groups do.

As always, Scouting is not just about the Young People and the Adults who choose to go in to uniform. There are lots of other ways to get involved. If you have got any time to give to helping the Group it would be most appreciated. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with either Lesley or me.

On behalf of all the member of the Group may I wish everybody a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2015.

Ian Gaskell, Chairman



One of the main reasons that young people join the Scout Movement is the promise of outdoor and adventurous activities and here at 4th Fulwood we do our best to provide these events that most people just wouldn't get the opportunity to take part in outside of Scouting.

Since our last newsletter we have been through the main season to provide such activities where the weather is better and the days are longer.

Our highlight of the summer was the 8 day international Red Rose camp that 16 of our Scouts attended up in Cumbria. This was a large international camp with Scouts from all over the world attending to take part in all sort of adventurous, exploratory and global activities. Throughout the week attendees could take part in activities from sailing on Lake Windermere and caving to human curling!! Many of us made friends from all around the world that we will keep in contact with for a very long time. It was a brilliant week and one that the Scouts (and of course the leaders) will remember all of their lives.



Relaxing with a marshmallow... or two

In September we took part in a water weekend camp where all activities to do with water were participated in such as canoeing, sailing, raft building and dragon boating. We also held a survival camp over the summer where the Scouts got to build their own shelters out of things they could find in the woods and sleep in them. Luckily it didn't rain!!

We don't stop our nights away once the dark nights come in either, we have recently stayed up at Yealand Conyers on an indoor camp where we went on a walk around the Arnside area on the Saturday and swimming on the Sunday. A weekend that all enjoyed.

So as you can see we have very busy camping over the last few months as well as our Tuesday night meetings and all sorts of other activities, which I really don't have enough space to mention here. One thing that I do want to mention though is last month was the annual district swimming competition where Scouts from all over the district compete against each other. I'd like to give a huge well done to our team who took part as we came first overall!! What a great achievement!!



Steve Williams
Scout Leader