



Newsletter

Spring Term 2013



Hi everyone,

Welcome to an exciting 2013 for our Scout Group. This year we are 70 years old and we are celebrating in style!

Our Executive committee have come up with some devious ways for you to all have fun throughout the year. My main focus will be the Family camp which is taking place over the weekend of the 5th – 7th July at Waddecar Scout campsite. Hopefully you will all have received the information about this fantastic weekend of activities for all ages, but if you haven't then please ask your child's leader. As more information becomes available we will inform you of the plans. In the meantime, please return your letters advising us of your intentions to camp, the more the merrier and we can lay on more activities. If you need more information just ask myself or the other leaders.

Our main parade of the year is St George's Parade and we do expect ALL Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to turn out for this occasion. St George's Parade this year will be held on Sunday 28th April and we meet in the covered market at 10:15am. Full and CORRECT uniform is required, including black shoes and no trainers. I have heard parents and children comment that we are too particular about this, however, we are a Uniformed Organisation and we do wish to show ourselves off in the best possible light when the public are watching us. This year we have some of our Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts on the main stage performing too. Please help us to be the best looking Group in the District (as well as being the BEST)!

Do introduce yourselves to me if you see me down at a section meeting – I'm not down every week, but do enjoy talking with you.

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



**Don't they look young for 70?
4th Fulwood scouts are 70 years old this year!**



Last term we were lucky enough to have a visit from the Bat Conservation Trust who brought along some injured bats that they were nursing back to health. The beaver scouts got to see a common pipistrelle and long-eared bat close up and found out all about the protected species. The children were enthralled as they saw that bats weren't as scary as they had thought. This term we are going to be going on a bat walk. With the help of one of Preston's Park Rangers we are hoping to catch a glimpse of some bats in their natural habitat as they come out of hibernation.

Along with the rest of the scout group, our beavers took part in the group camp fire in November. The children had great fun learning lots of funny 'animal' camp songs along with the actions and did a brilliant job at performing them in front of a large crowd of family and friends. In fact they did so well that they have been asked to open the St Georges Day parade proceedings in the Guild Hall in April.

This term we have been working on our Promise Challenge Badge and the beavers have been taking part in some Chinese inspired activities including the release of Chinese lanterns on Moor Park which was exciting if not altogether successful!

With Spring around the corner are hoping to get our Beaver Scouts out in the great outdoors more and more with den building at Brockholes Nature Reserve and a woodland forage planned so far along with an adventure day at Waddecar followed by our Colony sleepover.

Fiona Jackson
Badger



Well, it has been a busy start to the New Year. We entered a team in the Annual District First Aid Competition, which was held at Broughton. They did fantastically well and after completing all 10 bases were awarded 1st place.

Our Fulwoods' Got Talent night was amazing. The cubs had to do either a turn, jokes, dance, play a piece of music or a demonstration for their entertainers badge. I think even Simon Cowell would have approved. I never knew I had so many talented Cubs. We all had a blast and a big finale Gangnam style dance off at the end.

The Blackpool Stargazers Astronomical Society came and gave us a fabulous talk on the Moon and Space which nicely finished off our Astronomy badge.

Our Next big event is the Chess Competition on Saturday 9th March, where we are hoping to bring back the trophy after last years win..... No Pressure Guys !!

We're looking forward to the next few months especially the Global Trekking date at Great Tower .. And



The winning team:
Thomas Harrison, Katie Thom, Emma Hurst, Iain Simpson and Declan Girvan.

not forgetting the group's family Camp in July which promises to be even better than the previous one and us all celebrating the group's 70th Birthday.

Karen Smalley
Akela

Bear Says...

'As a society, we do tend to get bogged down with 'you can't do this, you can't do that' and I think it's a shame – kids lose out on so much of the magic of the outdoors. I want kids to learn how to start fires without matches, build camps, climb mountains. Our ancestors had these skills for generations and now we are in danger of losing them.'

Bear Grylls
Chief Scout



Once again the Scouts have been up to far too much to mention in a small space in this newsletter. However I will pick some of my highlights over the last few months. In September we held a Troop indoor camp at Yealand Conyers, where we went on a day hike, took part in an indoor blind fold trail, went swimming and held a film night, complete with popcorn!

More recently we joined 100 Scouts for the District Winter Camp at Great Tower in the Lake District. This was a brilliant camp with activities on offer such as climbing, abseiling, high ropes, archery, shooting, backwoods cooking, campfire, wide games, geo caching, laser tag, plus a load more. This is a great camp which is definitely one of my favourites of the year.

Other activities we have done recently include bird box making, a night hike up Nicky Nook, a trip to Blackpool lights, wide games at Beacon Fell, a quiz night, ice skating and fire lighting to name a few.

We have 14 Scouts and Leaders attending a 10 day trip to Guernsey this summer, which is hopefully going to be a trip of a life time for many of the Scouts so watch out for the report on this one later in the year!

Steve Williams
Scout Leader



What *are* they feeding them?
Fulwood scouts go toe-to-toe, sumo-style.

Congratulations!

A BIG well done to Callum Brocklehurst, Katie Gaskell and Thomas Grundy for achieving their Chief Scout Gold Awards.

This is the highest award achievable in the Scout Section and takes a lot of time and commitment to complete. Well done!!



Did you know?

Approximately 110,000 adults support Scouting in the UK (Leaders, Commissioners, parent helpers etc) The number of volunteers working for Scouting is larger than the workforces of the BBC (24,000) and McDonalds (67,000) combined.

Executive Committee

As always with the 4th Fulwood Scout Group, the next few months are going to be a busy. Not only is the diary filling up with the normal Scouting activities but we have a programme of events lined up to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Group. When you consider that the World Scout Movement was only founded in 1920 to have a Group that has been going for 70 years is a great achievement.

The first event on the agenda is a party for the all the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers. This will be held on Saturday 20th April so please put the date in your diary. We will then be holding a special thanksgiving Church Parade on 9th June where some of our young people will be actively involved in the service.

On the weekend of 5th to 7th July we will once again be holding a family camp. This was a great event two years ago and I would encourage everybody to keep the date free and come along. The final celebration will take the form of a formal ball on 19th October 2013 at Preston Grasshoppers Rugby Club. Tickets for this event are now on sale with a cost of just £22.50 per head. Please get your orders in quickly as this promises to be a great event.

(For tickets – email: ian.gaskell@gconnect.com).

Once again thank you to all the parents who show their support to the group by getting involved in the Executive Committee. We have had several new members join us recently which is great as many hands make light work. It's great to have you on board.

Ian Gaskell
Executive Chairman

Dates for your Diary

Gift Aid

Saturday 20th April	70th Anniversary Party
Sunday 28th April	St George's Day Parade
Sunday 12th May	Church Parade
Sunday 9th June	Church Parade
5/6/7th July	Family camp
Sunday 14th July	Church Parade
Saturday 19th October	Group Ball

Thank you to everyone who allows us to claim tax back on payments made to us - we can use the funds directly to benefit the children so it is a 'Win Win' situation for the Group. If we can spend the money on tents and equipment it reduces the amount of fund raising required.

Any questions regarding Gift Aid or Standing Orders can be addressed to the section leader or Mike Cushing, our Treasurer (m.p.cushing@gmail.com).

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