



The Newsletter of 2nd Farnborough Scout Group

“From The GSL” Annual Review 2019

Welcome to this year’s edition of Smoke Signals. I am pleased to say that 2nd Farnborough have had another brilliant year. We have welcomed Emily as a young Leader and recently Megan and Sarah are preparing for young leadership by helping in the Cub section. We have also welcomed 2 section assistants—Rama in Cubs and Gunner in Scouts. Bosun has moved from Beavers to Cubs and Bagheera (now know as Sparks) has moved up to Scouts. Numbers are up again and we will be at capacity in all sections in September.

During the year we had 5 Beavers move up to Cubs, 2 Cubs moving up to Scouts and a Scout joining the Beavers as Young Leader. We have a healthy waiting list of people to take their places. We now have girls in all sections. I am delighted that all sections have entered all the District competitions over the past year and had many section and individual successes. The Cubs retained the District 6 aside Football Trophy for the second time Well done All the Beavers gained a 1st 2nd or 3rd place certificate at the Swimming Gala which saw us take 3rd place overall. All the Cubs took home a certificate but unfortunately we were unable to enter both age groups.

I really enjoyed attending all the sections camps, the District Camps, group sleepover at Gravity Force and the Expedition camp during the past year. It was good to see everyone enjoying all the various activities and using the skills they had learnt. Tolmers camp is in a couple of weeks I am hoping for cooler weather this year. It was great to get an invitation to attend the Beaver/Cub trip to Marwell Zoo pity about the weather good job we could shelter in the new indoor exhibit. I also enjoyed the shooting, archery and the various water activities.

It was brilliant to have recipients at the Chief Scout Award Ceremony in March. Well done to Luke and Jacob who



achieved Bronze and Santino who received his Silver.

This year St Georges Day was part of District Camp we had a good turn out despite it being held over the bank holiday weekend. Each group was set the task of building a

mobile dragon. The guys worked really hard with the Scouts completing the head, the Cubs built the body and the Beavers added on the wings. Excellent teamwork.

Word has got round about us and what we get up to and we have had lots of enquiries about joining it would be great for us to be able to take everyone but in order to do so we will need more Leaders in each section.

As a group we have continued with our fundraising efforts this year, which has helped with the refurbishment of the hut and to keep the subs down. Thanks to everyone who has supported us with the sponsored Fright Night Hike, Rushmoor lottery, CSSEF’s Summer and Christmas Fayres and The Donkey Derby. The group have also supported Hampshire Air Ambulance and Chloe’s and Sophies Special Ears Fund by raising money, by attending their fundraising events and behind the scenes in their shop. Our biggest income is from Gift Aid. If you are a taxpayer we can claim 25p in the pound back against subs all you need to do is fill in the new form.



Our hut is looking good both inside and out due to The Monday Crew We still need a few minor repairs done so I hope they will soon be free to complete them. Thank you again for all their hard work again this year. Finally thank you to all my leaders, Young Leader’s and helpers for all their hard work over the past year making this group what it is today thank you Bosun, Rama, Sparks, Gunner, Dan, Tallie and Emily, A big thank you all the parents who took their turn on the parent rotas helping at fundraising events and providing transportation. Thank you also to Emma and the District team for their support. and to my executive committee Henrietta, Kenna, Sue, Sharon and Marisa and who have had a very busy time helping us to make the past year a resounding success.

“The Beavers Log” Annual Review 2019

2nd Farnborough Beavers is a small but active section of our group our year runs from September till July when we have our annual Review and Prizegiving where we tell you all about what we have achieved during the past year.

The first District event was the District Beaver Picnic which was Fairground Themed and was on one of the hottest days of the year. Activities were a giant slide, tin can alley, beaver shy, ping pong bowls, water shooter and assault course. There the Miniature Garden competition, part of Rushmoor in Bloom, was judged and we came a brilliant 2nd.

On a rainy day in September 6 Beavers and Cubs attended the special Scouts day at Marwell Zoo. We joined 1st Aldershot in their minibus to travel down. The group had to follow a trail and answer questions on the way round. We did get to see most animals but the lemurs decided they didn't want to get wet. The new Tropical House was a great place to shelter although we did venture out for a ride on the train. It was lovely day which was not spoilt by the weather.

The next District event was the Beaver Sleepover in Frimley Lodge Park. The beavers completed activities based on space, had a go at archery, a glow stick hike and an assault course. They also had a ride on the steam train. For Remembrance Day the Beavers attended the District Service in Aldershot.



The District Swimming Gala was in November where the colony entered individual swimming races and a team fun event. We came 3rd overall.

It was a wet evening in December when the colony went to the District Campfire Carols at Runways End Scout Activity centre. The weather did not spoil the evening with all the beavers singing enthusiastically.

The District St Georges day celebrations were part of the Camp this year and the Beavers attended for the day. Most of the day was spent building a dragon which we paraded around the camp to the area where we renewed our promises.

The final District event of the year was the Sports Day, we entered a very young team and had some individual success.

Within the group our Beavers have played games that involve teamwork and individual skills and worked on their problem solving skills. Also during the past year the colony has taken part in lots of craft evenings and science experiments.

The colony has had visits from charities such as Air Ambulance, Guide Dogs for the Blind and Chloe's and Sophies Special Ears Fund. After the visits we have raised funds for each of these charities.

The Beavers have learnt skills such as building, lighting and cooking over a fire, built dens, designed and completed an obstacle course, and also learnt First Aid and knots. The colony helped the environment by building bug hotels and bee houses and also doing a litter pick in the local area. To improve our health we took part in a Fright Night walk, completed a fitness trail, a caving course, shot soft archery, prepared and cooked healthy foods and talked about how to keep our teeth healthy.

Chinese New Year the Beavers learnt about the various traditions and built dragons to mark the occasion. Beavers end each term with an activity last year we did water activities, Lazer Run and Gravity Force where the older ones slept overnight.

The first week back after Easter, Dan from “3” showed the Beavers how to make cartoons as part of their Digital badge. The Beavers really enjoyed this and we hope to be able to show their efforts this evening.

Most recently the Beavers tried dragon boating an activity the colony has not done before. Despite the appalling weather we had 100% turn out. Canadian canoes were connected together to make them stable we had 2 teams of 6. It took a little while for them to get used to the paddles but they all managed to get to the end of the course. At the end everyone was allowed to jump in and most did. We are hoping to go again to do very soon. For the last activity of the year the Beavers get the chance to gain their Entertainers Badge by taking part in the annual show.

Tonight our finalist in the miniature gardens competition will be chosen and we wish them luck in tomorrows final.



"Cubs Howl" Annual Review 2019

It certainly has been another exciting and eventful year. The last event of the Summer term was one that is always looked forward to, an evening of canoeing and paddle boarding at the Lido a great way to finish off the year.

Soon after we returned in September the Cubs joined the Beavers for a special Day at Marwell Zoo. The weather was not kind to us but we did see most of the animals and complete the trail. A couple of weeks later the Scouts joined us at the Quays Mytchett for a water activities weekend Camp. After setting up we built up a good fire for cooking s'mores which is a camp must. The following morning the group did kayaking and rafting followed by a session of jumping in. After lunch was bouldering, low ropes and fire lighting ready for dinner to be cooked. Afterwards we all hiked to McDonalds for a well earned ice cream. During the night the heavens opened and due to the site being waterlogged we packed up early but we did manage to complete the programme.

It wasn't long before the Cubs joined the Beavers on another hike, the annual sponsored Fright Night Hike around the newly opened Bramshott Farm Country Park. It was a fun night with many scary Halloween costumes on show.

In November the Cubs attended the Remembrance Service in Aldershot. They also spent an evening at the pool practicing for the swimming gala, on the day all the Cubs gained a 1st 2nd or 3rd certificate well done Cubs. The pack also entered the Indoor Games competition we came a very creditable 4th. The following week several Cubs joined the Scouts for Jamboree on the Internet at 2nd Aldershot. Between them they connected with Cubs and Scouts in 25 different countries.

In December the Cubs teamed up again with the Scouts for an evening of Archery at 4th Aldershot. It was a very enjoyable evening with the Cubs matching the Scouts in the first games. In the balloon shoot Oliver and Olek came 2nd and 3rd behind YL Em who came 1st. The pack joined with the Beavers for the Christmas Party at Lazer Run. There were some great tactics and some very high scores gained.

On a very windy day in March the pack entered the District 6 aside football Competition Although we are a very small pack we did manage to field a team of 7. Things did not start well as we lost the first game. Then 1st Ash Vale asked if we could lend them a Cub and Reece agreed to play for them for the rest of the afternoon. As each game went on we improved and eventually we got to the final match which was very hard fought with us just pipping 6th Farnborough 2-1. This meant

that we retained the trophy for another year. Reece's sportsmanship also gained him a 4th place certificate. Well done Luke, Oliver, Olek, Alfie, Phoebe, Keegan and Reece. The trophy is on the top table.



Also in March another joint activity with the Scouts, shooting at the new range at 3rd Farnborough. We were the 1st group to use these new facilities. We have some small Cubs who found the rifles a bit big when trying to shoot like cowboys but they soon got the hang of it by using the supports supplied. The following weekend the Cubs joined with the Beavers and Scouts for a group sleepover at Gravity Force trampoline park. A new venue where we enjoyed 3 hours jumping, 1 of which was exclusive, a film with popcorn and breakfast.

After Easter the Cubs joined again with the Scouts for a 4 day District Camp in Church Crookham. On the Saturday the District ran activities for each section the cubs did ballista building, backwoods cooking team games and problem solving tasks. In the morning the Cubs built up their muscles by putting together a gigantic den from tree stumps, branches and leaves and in the evening was the Campfire. On the Sunday the Beavers came for the day and helped us construct a massive dragon which was paraded around the camp to the showground here everyone renewed their promises for St Georges Day. We cooked our own tea and breakfast before departing.



The District Sports Day was a few weeks ago unfortunately we were unable to enter a full team due to clashes, everyone who took part gained their athletes badges and did 2nd Farnborough proud. At our annual evening with Blackwater Valley Canoe club there were a few 1st timers who experienced kayaking, Canadian canoes and paddle boarding. The evening felt more like a winters night but that did not spoil the fun.

As well as these activities the pack has taken part in the Air Ambulance Challenge, learnt about looking after their teeth, how to keep fit and eat healthily. They have also built an indoor cave course, completed their skills challenge badge, which included cooking, cleaning, sewing and ironing, celebrated Chinese New Year by cooking a stir fry and making ice cream to finish off the chefs badge. The pack have also taken part in lots of teamwork and individual activities and improved their problem solving skills. The Cubs helped the environment by doing a litter pick and made a film to promote Cubs with Dan from "3" which I hope we can show tonight.

The Cubs taking part in tonight's show will tick off 1 part of the entertainer's badge and some will complete this badge.

“Scouts Adventure” Annual Review 2019

Two weeks after last year's Review the Scouts headed off to Tolmer's for their summer camp. It was another brilliant Camp the weather was the hottest it has ever been. This year the scouts had the opportunity to try a new activity wobble boards. Everyone completed all the tasks so at the end the trainers went around in a speed boat trying to knock all the Scouts into the lake. Megan and Thea even managed to do a backward crab. The activities included, canoeing, zorbing, climbing, abseiling, go karting, slippery slope, gyroscope, journalism, trampolining and orienteering which we did instead of the hike.

As usual the troop spent the first few weeks of the term learning new skills. These included fire lighting, building different types of fires, backwoods cooking, knife work, axe and saw work, also updating their knotting, pioneering and cooking skills in preparation for the joint weekend Water Activities camp in early October. The following weekend some of the troop attended the Jamboree on the Internet held at 2nd Aldershot. They connected with Scouts in 25 different countries and Santino actually connected with Bear Grylls. The sponsored Fright Night Hike was used as a practice for the Expedition hike planned for later in the year. Sarah Megan and Harry safely navigated the troop across the countryside back to hut, where there was hot chocolate and kebabs waiting for them.

For the centenary celebration of the end of the 1st World War, the troop decided that they would like to attend the Remembrance Day Service at the Aldershot Cenotaph. The following week Jason from Kier came and gave us a presentation about the smart motorway and why it had caused local flooding. They took their time fixing it only coming last week to rectify the problem.

The troop were impressed by the tie dye shirts they saw at camp so they decided to spend an evening making their own. Surprisingly it was not as messy as I thought it was going to be and there were some interesting designs. You will see 2 in the show tonight.

We had some success at the District Swimming Gala—well done our team of girls and to Tallie for gaining a 1st. Just before Christmas the Scouts spent an evening with the Cubs doing archery. I don't think the Scouts realised how good the Cubs were going to be. As you can see from one of the pictures on the slide show Dan really enjoyed making armpit fudge. Good job we didn't combine this with the indoor caving session as there would have been a bit of a mess. The Scouts had their Christmas party at Gravity Force.

At the beginning of the Spring term Sparks and Gunner joined as Leaders. The troop attended the CSSEF's Charity Disney Quiz night—although they would not admit it

beforehand the boys knew more than the girls. It was the boys team who finished 2nd beating the girls into 6th. It was a great night with lots of money being raised for a good cause. In the following weeks the scouts prepared for the forthcoming expedition improving their map, bearings, compass and First Aid skills. During half term some of the troop attended another of CSSEF's fundraising evenings the chocolate Bingo.

Also during the Easter holidays Sarah, Megan and Harry joined Scouts from 3rd and 7th Farnborough on the hammock camp and Expedition Challenge weekend. 2 Scouts and 2 young Leaders from 7th Farnborough made up their team of 7. They were the 1st team off on the 16km route, and the first to get back to camp. The girls team got lost so were late getting back, so everyone was late putting their hammocks up. By the time they finished tea it was time for bed. It was a very cold night but everyone stayed in their hammocks. After cooking breakfast all 3 teams set off in reverse order and successfully navigated the 13km route back to the camp.



After Easter most of the Scouts attend District Camp as well as building the dragon the Scouts took part in a 4 competition dragon trap building, dragon designing and flying comp, catapulting and blow pipe. Our troop came out on top in the catapulting.

Recently the Scouts have been designing and decorating their T shirts for Tolmers. Everyone has a nick name at camp and we certainly have a few interesting ones this year including Dunno, Hot Choc, Floopy, Weaking, Elastgirl and Junior.

The last few weeks have been spent rehearsing for tonight's show. We had a couple of weeks out the first was for Canoeing kayaking and paddle boarding. the other was a sports night with other troops at 2nd Coves HQ.



Join The Adventure @ 2nd Farnborough

Every year Scouting helps 400,000 young people in the UK enjoy new adventures, to experience the outdoors, interact with others, gain confidence and have the opportunity to reach their full potential. 2nd Farnborough always has it's doors open to new members, whether they want to be a Scout, volunteer to be a Leader or join the Executive Committee. If you would like more information about joining, please speak to a Leader. Alternatively, you can email us at: info@2ndfarnborough.org.uk.

About This Issue

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