

1st Emsworth Scouts Section Reports 2019

Group Scout Leaders Report 2018-2019

Our group continues to thrive with all sections running very fun, active and varied programs. This year has been very successful with all sections receiving numerous Chief Scout Awards with their certificates being presented by the Mayor. This is the ultimate award for members in each section.

Due to the continued success of our sections we are still looking for more Leaders to assist especially with the younger sections where we have waiting lists. Being a Leader requires a regular commitment but not necessarily a weekly one and the rewards are priceless, great fun, a sense of achievement and knowing that you are giving something back to your local community.

As we approach the end of 2019 we will be commencing our Centenary Celebrations with a number of events planned to take us through to November 2020.

Finally it leaves me to thank all the Leaders who do such great work week after week, our wonderful team of Explorer Young Leaders and our executive committee who ensure the group keeps developing and moving forward. Well done to you all.

Michael Group Scout Leader

Millpond & Spring Beaver Colony Annual Report 2018-2019

Going into our Centenary year at Emsworth Scouts, we have had an opportunity to look back and reflect on the progression of the scouting movement within our group and celebrate the accomplishments and growth of all members, young and old(er) alike.

We have kept a steady 36 members between the colonies, and continue to have a long waiting list of eager children wanting to join. Whilst we are keen to enable as many new members to join as possible, we aim to continue to offer a high quality programme with lots of fun, activities and sleepovers. We have seen several Beavers move up to cubs having gained their Bronze Chief Scout Award, the highest award a Beaver can gain, and been awarded their badge by the District team.

After the summer term Millpond said farewell to parent helper Brenda Foot 'Badger' and Ex parent Clive Patten 'Fox' who have supported us for the last year. This left us with a vacancy needing to be filled, fortunately for us Carol Lovesey, 'Hedgehog' a former scout leader from Greater London and Matt Lovell- parent helper, stepped in to take on the challenge. Meanwhile Spring Colony has been joined by Suzanne Lewis 'Fox' who has taken on the role of Assistant beaver leader and started her training. They are joined by Patrick Kirwan, as helper, who is completing his Gold DofE award. Millpond has two young leaders, Explorers Henry Chambers, and Tom Appleby, who are also undertaking their Silver DofE award. Our thanks to them all for their support.

In June we held a joint Beaver Sleepover and Cub camp at Cricket campsite, Bursledon, where 20 Beavers took part in many activities and team games, earning their Hikes, Nights away, Navigator, Camp craft badges. We hiked to Manor farm and had an 'olden days lesson' from the school. The beavers took part in Archery and Caving! The night ended with songs around the campfire.

To end the term we had a very informative visit from Anna at 'South Coast Mermaids', who gave us a lesson in Water safety and rescues.

During the autumn term, we joined the District for a sleepover at The Submarine Museum in Gosport, the beavers took part in different activities, were able to go aboard a submarine then were treated to a late night film and snacks! In December, Emsworth House Care Home made us welcome with drinks and mince pies, the Beavers took the residents gifts and a card we had made. They sang Christmas carols to the residents beautifully. This was a very special evening to see such distant generations come together and be part of the same community.

During the spring term, we held our Mother's Day tea, when all the Mums were invited for tea and homemade cupcakes, and to watch a presentation. We also had a visit from HIOWAA Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, who gave an excellent display and left us with our own 'Teddy Medic' to look after us. In March, we took a small group to hike around the solar system at QECP!

Our thanks go to those who support our meetings, our invaluable team of leaders within Emsworth, the SAS members who provide specialist activities, our young leaders and the parents who regularly volunteer to help in and outside the HQ. Special thanks go to the Beavers themselves for their good humour and vitality- a tonic for anybody! It's been a great year and a pleasure to be part of.

Rebecca Chambers, Millpond Beaver Scout Leader & Suzanne Lewis, Spring Beaver Scout Leader

Livingstone Cub Pack report 2018-2019

The programme of activities has been extensive, interesting and stimulating with a varied program of indoor activities and visits out of the hut.

We will never forget the Fire Brigade cutting up a car for us!

There has been a lot of hard work from all the cubs with 5 attaining their Silver Awards before leaving the section. We have worked on personal and road safety, learned map reading skills and challenged our Cubs.

The Livingstone Challenge Trophy was awarded again this this year by for good turns in April and the conker challenge back in October.

We had our joint camp with Drake pack in July. This was very successful hot camp weekend. We were grateful that Harting Scouts could host us at their site as our usual site is out of action due to Ash Die-back affecting the trees. Despite the lack of sleep, everyone seemed to enjoy the camp even the long walk over the Downs.

Many thanks to Ethan our Explorer Young Leader and Kieran Breathnach who have been helping out as part of the Duke of Edinburgh award.

And finally special thanks to all those parent who have stepped up to assist in running some events as part of the parent rota for all sections. Without this help it would be very much harder to run these events.

Hilary Walker - Akela Livingstone Pack

Drake Annual Report 2018-19

This Annual Report brings an end to yet another enjoyable year for Drake Pack. It's another year that brought a lot of changes

We have had several joint activities with Livingstone including both the Halloween and Christmas parties and we won the Raft Race. This year saw the first joint Beaver/Cub camp at the Cricket Campsite in the River Hamble Country Park. Over the weekend the cubs did Paddle Boarding, Archery, Hiking, sports events and a timed challenge with two obstacle courses.

District events continue to be well attended. We had 11 Cubs join the District Cub Sleepover at the Submarine Museum in Gosport for what became a rather wet evening exploring HMS Alliance before settling down to watch a film and then maybe some sleep. Three Cubs attended the District Sixers Day at Harting and we also had 4 Cubs attend the District's Orienteering Day, held on the International Jamboree on the Trail (JOTT) 2018.

Pack events included the usual Tracking in Hollybank Woods, a nature hunt in Brook meadow to escape the voting and a new event – a night activity evening on Monks Hills, behind Westbourne.

The badge account continues to show a varied and busy program, both with Activity Badges and Challenge Awards. From growing things and healthy eating to science and astronomy, we have learnt about how to keep ourselves, our families and our homes safe. How to tie up horses, Grannies and attach safety lines. And of course Disability Awareness, not so healthy but very nice chocolate nests and pancakes, Conservation and Recycling, and how to keep the world green and protect the countryside; before going on to learn how to make paper planes, find out about flying in planes and achieve the Air Activities Stage 1 badge – a first for the Group! The cubs also found out about other countries and cultures which involving them in a bit of homework!

More homework followed with Riley Taws winning the Good Turns Diary competition and Myles Fellerman became this year's Conker Champion.

We had three Cubs achieve the Chief Scouts Silver Award – Ben Charlesworth, Alex Coles and Matthew Murphy.

I would like to thank all the parents who have given up their time to assist with the Pack evenings and also to my trusted DoE Young Leader Torin Sear for his continued support.

Peter Britton
Kaa, Drake Pack

Scout Eagle Troop Report 2018-2019

I am pleased to report another fun packed year for Scouts which has included a wide range of both indoor and outdoor activities along with visits from outside organisations to help us work towards our badges. These included the 'Solent final straw' which led to a troop beach clean in Emsworth, and we will soon be visited by the Portsmouth reptile society to show the boys a huge range of creatures. We also had 4 boys achieve their Gold award, with more soon to join them.

The troop size is now around 28 which is a very nice size for group activities and crowd control for the leaders. Although we have seen a few boys leave due to other commitments, the group continues to work well and the current number allows for more productive activities for the boys.

The parent continues to help massively, as have the young leaders helping from Explorers. We have had a lot of support from parents very keen to help and lead nights which have so far included rugby.

The Patrol leaders have settled into their roles well and have continued to develop their skills, taking the lead on several activities and planning future PL nights. As well as this we have introduced a patrol night which will give the boys the opportunity to run the night no matter their age or position within the troop.

We have had 1 very successful camp this year in Guildford and we had 3 boys from Emsworth enter the Gunnel for the first time in over 20 years, coming away with the most improved troop award and learning a lot of new skills doing it. We plan to end the year with our annual winter camp in Braggers Woods where we will give the boys opportunities to do several exciting activities including dry slope skiing.

Thanks to Jo, the parents and the young leaders for their help and support throughout the year, as well as Michael and Becca for their amazing work organising and leading camps.

Adam Westwood – Scout Leader

Gryffin Explorer Unit Report 2018-2019

This year has proved to be another busy and successful year for the Gryffin explorer unit.

We meet on a Friday night in the scout hut and like to get outside as much as possible (weather permitting or not!).

We currently have 18 members and the section is run by Michael and Nigel.

This year we've been able to fit in a lot. Most notably trips to the Snowdonia, Brecon Beacons and a summer camp held in the wonderful Gower.

Our Explorers are progressing well through their Duke of Edinburgh awards and many have now completed their Bronze after a great weekend doing their Expeditions in the New Forest.

Many of our members help out with the younger sections, so well done for all your support and hard work with is much appreciated by the section leaders and an inspiration to our younger members.

Michael

Explorer Leader