

## 1<sup>st</sup> Emsworth Scout Group

### Group Scout Leaders Report 2014-2015

Our group continues to thrive with all sections running 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.

Work has continued at our Harting camp site to make the site safe and we have installed a new pedestrian access gate. More work will be scheduled in the year ahead to help us develop and maximise the use of this wonderful resource.

A new hut roof has been installed to stop the endless leaks we were experiencing and we are looking forward to giving the hut a coat of paint to brighten it up over the summer.

We had a fantastic group camp, held at Gilwell this year. With 100 members in attendance and no rain, fun was had by all. Activities included High Ropes, rock climbing, Low Ropes, sledges and go karts to name just a few. Our annual group games were as crazy and entertaining as ever with plenty of water to get everyone wet.

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.

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 Beaver Colony Annual Report 2015

Working closely with Spring colony and continuing to provide a shared programme has meant we have again been able to offer an excellent programme of activities to both Beaver colonies this year. Millpond continues to be very popular, with at points, over 20 members and a long waiting list to join. We are keen to not only enable as many new members to join as possible but also to have a high retention level by providing a high quality programme.

We have been ably assisted by young leaders Lauren Tibbetts and Freya Grant also known as 'Deer' and 'Aye-Aye' They both completed their voluntary service with us as part of their Bronze D of E and Lauren has decided to continue her service to complete her Silver. My thanks to them both for their help.

This summer saw the roll out of several new badges available to Beavers and then in the autumn, the introduction of an entirely new Beaver programme and set of requirements.

This was not without its problems but by January we were beginning work on the new challenge badges and old requirements simultaneously.

In June we held a joint Beaver sleepover and cub camp with Livingstone cub pack at Lyons copse, where they had a climbing session, went pond dipping and learnt some basic pioneering. I was very pleased to complete the new camp-craft badge as well as the usual nights away, hikes away, outdoor challenge, adventure and explore badges.

Over the summer we booked an 'underwater explorers' session with Hampshire and IOW wildlife trust. The Beavers took part in snorkelling games and activities in St Anthony's school indoor pool.

The wildlife trust also arranged a trip out on the solar boat from Emsworth harbour, after travelling out to sea the Beavers were able to take water samples and inspect for wildlife and have a go at taking scientific measurements of speed, air and movement.

In September we held our annual group camp, this year at Gillwell Park, where we took 16 excited Beavers by coach and enjoyed games and activities with the rest of the group, including, grass sledding and midnight hikes!

I am pleased to report that we have seen 13 of our members move up to cubs having worked hard to complete their Bronze Chief Scout Award - well done to them all.

My thanks, as always, go to those leaders and volunteer helpers that support our evenings and enable us to get out and about and especially to the Beavers who make our evenings such good fun.

Rebecca Chambers

Millpond Beaver Scout Leader



### Spring Beaver Colony Annual Report 2015

Spring Colony has had another very successful year. There has been the usual healthy turnover of Beavers, with 6 moving up to Cubs and lots of new starters who have come on board with energy and enthusiasm.

In July last year 6 hard working Beavers were awarded their Bronze Awards by the District Commissioner. Congratulations to Joseph Slade, Oscar Riddington, William Davies, Kian McDonald Hughes, Ethan Skelton and Tom Robinson. We hope to award more during the forthcoming year. In addition to this, many Activity badges have been earned including Cooking, Space, Animal Friend and Cyclist.

Like previous years Spring Colony has continued to follow the same programme as Millpond Colony. The lion's share of planning and organisation is done by Becca Chambers and we really appreciate the work she puts in to this.

The Beavers have had some great opportunities to take part in different activities. In particular, they have enjoyed nights away at Beaver sleepover last June and Group Camp last September. In both cases we have joined Millpond Colony for a whole range of activities including grass sledding, pond dipping and climbing. We have also enjoyed a wide range of outdoor activities at our usual meetings including treasure hunts, games in the park, litter picking and star gazing.

We have had various people helping out over the year. We are grateful to Jack Patten who was able to join us for several months before moving away from the area. Since then we have had brilliant help from Katy Loh as well as some fantastic willing parents. Many thanks to all who have helped both in and out of the scout hut. The section could not continue without you.

Finally, a big thank you to our fabulous Explorer Scout helpers – Joe Allen, Jack Ford and Eliot Patten who all give up their time every week to help run the evenings. They all willingly muck in with all activities, and are great role models to the younger members of the Scout group.

Chris Riddington – Spring Colony Assistant Leader



## Livingstone Cub Pack report 2014-2015

This year the section has been led by the GSL(Michael) and Jo Appleby.

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

As part of our Air Activities badge we had a great day out at Tangmere Air museum, built kites and made model aeroplanes.

We have worked towards personal and road safety, learnt map reading skills and challenged our Cubs to cook a meal for their family.

In the summer we had a great camp at Lyons Copse and attended the annual group camp at Gilwell. Cubs enjoyed learning camping skills, cooking over fires as well as having fun with pioneering their own chariots to race!

We have awarded numerous fitness and sports enthusiasts badges, and completed our astronomy badge which included visiting QE park which has the largest scale layout of the solar system in the uk.

Many thanks to Matt our Explorer Young Leader and all the parents and helpers who help us provide the fun and adventure week after week.

Michael

Acting CSL



## DRAKE PACK ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

This Annual Report brings an end to yet another enjoyable year for Drake Pack.

We had our usual outdoor events. Both Rough Camp and Summer Camp went very well. As did the night hike through the back fields to Westbourne (and the bag of chips walking back to the hut). We've also been tracking in Hollybank Woods and of course the visit to Brook meadow to escape the voting.

Our Halloween, Fireworks and Sausage sizzle night and the Drake Pack Christmas Fancy Dress parties continue to be the social events of the year and produced some amazing and unusual costumes. We have also continued to help the community with the cubs running the coconut shy at the Emsworth Show. Last year we had rotten coconuts, this year we had the deluge!

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 how to keep ourselves and families safe, how to maintain our bicycles, how to tie up horses, Grannies and attach safety lines, how to keep the world green and protect the countryside, how to Conserve and Recycle resources and how to be Disability Aware. We weren't always healthy! We made very nice chocolate nests and ate lots of sugary pancakes. We made a mess of the hut with Messy Painting. The cubs also found out about other countries and cultures which involved them in a bit of homework!

This year we had 9 cubs attain their Chief Scout Silver award: Torin and Lysander Sear, Todd Riddington, Jamie Drew, Sam Kershaw, Joe Robinson, and Nathan Rowan who are all now in Scouts and James Livermore and Alex Tessem-Cotton.

Group and District activities have been well attended. We attended Group Camp at Gilwell and a few of our Sixers & Seconders took part in the District Sixers day at Harting, which Drake Pack hosted. Maybe one year we might win the Group's Raft Race without getting stuck on a bank or being disqualified!

As can be seen it was a full program of events and activities, and an excellent and enjoyable year. The cubs wouldn't have had this experience without the help of all the Leaders (the Group Scout Leader, Explorer, Scout and Beaver Leaders) and those parents and others who have joined in and assisted with our activities and my thanks to all of you and my excellent support team Peter, Philip, David and Connor.

John Forster

Drake Pack Akela

### Scout Troop Report 2015

The troop has continued to expand & we currently have 36 scouts attending

I am pleased to report another fun packed year for Scouts. Each term we have included a wide range for activities both inside and out. We have had several themed evenings including Astronomy, Electricity, Circus skills, and even creative writing. Who will forget the Christmas show they put on at Glenwood School.

We invested 5 new scouts at the home of Scouting in Gilwell last September on Group camp: Torin Sear, Lysander Sear, Aiden Whitlock, Todd Riddington and Joe Robinson

The Raft Race was an entertaining event. The skill of knot tying needs honing, so better luck this year. We may have rafts that don't fall apart.

For the Photography challenge in the spring we entered a display into the Emsworth Arts Trail. Thanks to all those who took part.

Summer camp saw a return to the Gower in Wales. We were blessed with hot weather the whole week. Scouts undertook a range of activities during the week, including climbing, snorkelling, as well as a bbq on the beach, surfing and our traditional camp cook competition.

Our Patrol leaders have continued their development programme and we took the Scouts away on a Winter Camp before Christmas, to Braggers Wood. Here they learned the value of teamwork and friendship as well as having a go at snowboarding

### Gold Awards

This year we have had 2 Scouts achieving their Gold awards.

In May the Scouts attended the County Presentation award eve in Chandler Ford

Nathan Whellams

Henry Chambers

Congratulations to both of them.

Thanks to Hilary, Adam, Luke and David for all their help and support throughout the year.

Richard Jarczyk - Scout Leader

Annual report 2015- Griffin Explorer Unit

This year has proved to be another busy and successful year for the Griffin explorer unit at 1st Emsworth.

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

We currently have 15 members and a leadership team of 3 and are very lucky to have the help of many other adult volunteers.

This year we've been able to fit in a lot. Most notably, trips to the Brecon Beacons and Dartmoor. Our Explorers are progressing well through their Duke of Edinburgh awards and we hope to plan Bronze and Silver expeditions over the summer. We also have 'Gilwell 24' and summer camp coming up soon!

Come August I intend to leave the country to travel for some time, in the mean time Dave Hardcastle will take over and run the unit with the help of the other leaders.

Special thanks to all the adult support and leadership team that have made our camps and week nights so much fun over the last year.

Jon Puttick  
Explorer Leader