

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Wallingford Scout Group Newsletter – October 2019



Welcome to Scouting for 2019/2020 - and an especially warm welcome to our new members and their parents who are joining us for the first time! Here's our bumper edition newsletter!

### Top Tips for action NOW:

- To sign up to help in the Wallingford Fireworks information tent 7 – 8.30pm on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, please email [katew@2ndwallingfordscouts](mailto:katew@2ndwallingfordscouts) before Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October. This is for Parents only or Parent with Scouts.
- Come and help to litter pick the Kinecroft on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 9.30am This is for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and their parents – please bring your gardening gloves.
- Put 10<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday's Parade – in your diaries – look out for a separate message.
- Please check you can access Online Scout Manager and sign up for Gift Aid on Subs where you are eligible. If you can't access it, please email [info@2ndwallingfordscouts.org.uk](mailto:info@2ndwallingfordscouts.org.uk)
- Sign up now for EasyFundraising using the link below and we'll get £5

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/wallingfordscouts/?invite=24FCE0&referral-campaign=c2s>

### Summer Term

The Group had a busy end of term with a great Scout camp at Tolmers in July: thank you to all the leaders for organising this, to the Scouts for participating and to the many parents and carers who helped ferry young people across to Tolmers and back!

Thank you too for everyone's participation at the litter picks & Car Parking/Programme Selling for Bunkfest. It's great to be able to support local events like this and we're grateful to the organisers for providing the opportunity for us to participate. We had lots of compliments from festival-goers and from local residents as we went around the town centre and the Kinecroft: your help really was appreciated. Over the summer our Veg in the new Planters have grown incredibly well and the Scout Leaders are looking forward to making Pumpkin Soup for Halloween.

As we get back into the swing of things, remember that alongside our regular activities we'll have a few more special events taking place between now and the end of the year. Mark your calendars now for the following, and look for more details about participation coming soon:

- **Saturday Markets** - Scouts help every Saturday (with only a few exceptions) to set up and take down tables and marquees for the Local Producers' Market. Our support is always warmly welcomed by the traders... and there are often good deals to be had at the end of the morning - 8.30am set up and 1pm take down.
- **Bonfire Night** 2nd November 2019 - We provide help on the night with bucket collections and sparkler sales, and in the control tent. We also do a litter pick on the Sunday morning - it's always fun to see who will find the biggest piece of firework debris!

- **Remembrance Day Parade** Sunday 10th November 2019 - The Group is always invited to participate, and it's a special opportunity for young people to get a better understanding about the conflicts in our past and of the importance of peace and our place in the community.
- **Christmas Bag Packing** - we often help with bag packing at Waitrose: this is a great fundraiser for the Group and lots of fun as well! Can you help us with this? Minimal organisation is needed – it would help us a lot for someone to step forward to book the supermarket and the volunteers.
- **Christmas Scout Post** - a local institution! Sorting nights in the Hut will really get you in the Christmas spirit (we'll have some festive music and some nibbles to get everyone in the mood) and helping with delivery rounds is a wonderful way to get some fresh air and exercise so you'll be ready for Christmas Dinner!

These activities all help raise funds for the Group - funds which are vital for us to maintain and develop our facilities, provide equipment and support all our volunteer leaders and helpers to deliver the best Scouting experience we can to all the Young People in the Group. But as importantly, they are all ways that the Group can get involved in our local community, and that our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts can have new experiences - and lots of fun into the bargain! We're grateful for your support.

### **Congratulations**

We congratulate the brand new 3rd Wallingford Scout Group which now runs a Beaver Colony in Wallingford and may, in time, also have a Cub Pack! 5 parents have come forward to set up this Group with support from our County Scouting Team and our own Beaver Leaders. We are delighted that there is now more capacity for Beavers in Wallingford. Would you be interested to help run a Cub Pack with them? For the time being our two Groups share the same Waiting List.

### **Andrew and Wilding Awards 2019**

Well done to Rosie Archer and Zoe Earl who are the recipients of the Andrew and Wilding Medals this year in recognition of their recent personal achievements. Thank you to all leaders. Parents and Cubs who attended the memorial service this year.

### **Leader and Committee News**

We are lucky to have a couple of new Section Assistants, which is a role taken by adults who want to support leaders at evenings and camps but who do not want the full leadership role right now.

Max Oscroft, who leads Sylvatica Scouts on Monday evenings, recently had hip replacement surgery - he's recovering well but will out of action for a few weeks. We've sent out a request for help and we're grateful for parent helper support for Sylvatica until Max gets back. You'll be camping again soon Max!

Our Group is supported by the Executive Committee who act as Trustees for our Charity and who are responsible for ensuring that we have the right facilities, finances, insurance and equipment. We're delighted to welcome the following new members to our Executive Committee some of whom we intend to elect at a forthcoming Emergency General Meeting:

Sharon Frost - Membership Secretary

Caroline Newton – Treasurer (to be appointed)

Becky Davidson- Secretary (to be appointed)

And welcome back to existing members (some in new roles!):

Ruth Eve - Quartermaster	Terry Fields - Committee Member (to be appointed)
Liz Archer - Committee Member	Andrew Hindle - Group Chair
Kate Walkey - Committee Member	Helen Liddar - Group Scout Leader
Kate Maguire - Committee Member (to be appointed)	

## Uniform

We no longer have a District Scout Shop but there is a local online supplier at Harwell (Project X Adventures) - see this link <https://pxadventures.co.uk/product-category/scout-shop/>

You can buy your Uniform Jumpers/Shirts and Trousers from here. We provide new members with a necker and their investiture badges when they are invested. This may be a few weeks after they have started. You can also buy uniform from the main Scout Shop Online. <https://shop.scouts.org.uk/>

Replacement neckers are available from your Leaders at a cost of £3.00. Where your Scout moves between sections, and **after they have been invested**, please transfer their necker, world promise badge (the purple one) and the District / County and Group badges onto their new uniform. If they cannot be saved, we can replace them.

## Camps

In July 50 cubs & leaders went to Berinsfield lakes to participate in county Cub World, an exciting camp with over 2000 cubs from all over Oxfordshire completing lots of aqua activities. Watch out for details of an Autumn Camp!

Our Beavers are heading for an exciting night away in October and Yellow Beaver is leading this as she works to gain her 'Nights Away' Permit with the support of our experienced Beaver Leaders.

Our Scouts regularly enter the County Patrol Competition Weekend in October to plan and deliver a couple of days camping that is entirely led by their Patrol (without leaders directly involved, but carefully supervised). This year 3 teams entered, and one did particularly well in the competition - congratulations to them all!

## ‘♥ Your Hut Days’

Look out for "love your hut days" where we need parent & young people to help with general upkeep of the Huts 1 and 2. This may entail gardening, painting, renovating equipment. First date = January 2020 (weather permitting)

## We need your help - Gift aid

We are able to claim gift aid on subs that you pay. In order to help us ensure that our gift aid information is up to date, please log into OSM and view your child's details. There is a link to gift aid in the menu on the left-hand side.

To change your gift aid status, click the 'Update Declaration' button in the top right-hand corner. Due to the way OSM works, you need to do this separately for each child. Please take a few moments to update your details; last year we were able to claim almost £2000 which goes a long way to funding activities for the group.

## Easyfundraising - We're registered with Easyfundraising and we need your help!

Easyfundraising is a great website where you can help 2nd Wallingford Scouts raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping with over 3,600 big-name retailers like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S. Every time you shop, we receive a small donation as a 'thank you' for your custom and it's completely free too! We want to raise as much as possible so please sign up and help us at : <http://2ndwallingfordscouts.org.uk/about/fundraising/>

### Want to know more?

We have lots of exciting things planned for this year, and for the future. We're slowly bringing our 2nd hut back into full operation. This will help us provide more activities for our Group, and we'll be able to support other local community activities by providing a space they can use as well. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts will all be planning nights away and camps - and we're starting to think about another international trip, and a family backwoods day. Several of our Scouts are heading to Poland next July for EuroJam, an exciting International Camp ( <https://ej2020.org/> ) and 3 of our former Scouts (now Explorers) have returned from amazing adventures at the USA World Scout Jamboree & in Canada.

We are always looking for people to join in with the leadership of evening meetings or camps/events and with projects such as the hut.

For example, we could do with someone to help co-ordinate the small amount of regular fundraising that we do and someone to supervise our Electricity and Gas Accounts. We need regular parent helpers for our Monday night Sylvatica Scout Troop this term. Do you have building construction related skills you would be willing to share with us to help us plan the work for the hut?

If you'd like to know more about how the Group works and what we are planning, or if you think you could help, please talk to Helen or Andrew.

Yours in Scouting

Andrew Hindle - Group Chair [Chair@2ndwallingfordscouts.org.uk](mailto:Chair@2ndwallingfordscouts.org.uk)

\*\*\*Stop Press\*\*\*

Congratulations to Andi Hindle who, in his former role of Assistant Group Scout Leader has obtained his Wood Badge, which is the Leader Qualification for Scouting. This is quite an achievement, well done Andi –  
**From Helen and the Committee.**



Zoe and Rosie receive their awards



3rd Wallingford Scout Group Necker

Andrew and Wilding Memorial Service - Darcy Bennett and Joe Sibley carry the Cubs' flags for our Group



Pumpkin Soup making for Scouts this week



The World Scout Jamboree Oxfordshire Unit