



## GROUP NEWS

### CLEANING ROTA – Can you help

**We are looking for parents to go on the 2015 Rota.** To replace the parents who sons are no longer in the group.

Do not worry if you have not done it before...full training is given! You need about 30 to 45 minutes of your time.

A big thank you goes to the 36 parents who have cleaned the hall so far this year

For more details and information, please contact PG's Parent Cleaning Rota Coordinator. *Pauline Patel*  
Email: [cleaning@pgscouts.org.uk](mailto:cleaning@pgscouts.org.uk)

August 2015



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## BEAVER NEWS

### Winter Hill Colony

Well, what a year it has been at Winter Hill Beavers - we have had a fantastic year and summer term of activities and are very excited to have welcomed our first girls into the group. We have loved joining up with Littlewick Green for lots of evenings this term and being able to enjoy the outdoors has been fantastic. From all of us at Winter Hill, we would like to thank all our parents who continually support the group and hope that everyone has a lovely summer break. We will see you all in September!

**Hathi** (*Catherine Weeks*).

### Littlewick Colony

We've had a good few weeks. We are mostly joining up with the Winter Hill colony again, making use of their availability to go into the woods at the Thicket. We have been practicing fire lighting and cooking over the fire. Thanks to *Scott Rendell*, who taught the Beavers all about how to build a camp fire and what wood to use etc. The Beavers then cooked sausages over the campfire. The next week, again at Winter Hill we did tent pitching. The fact that it had rained on and off all day did not deter us, as we went inside the scout hall instead. We were taught how to correctly put up and take down a patrol tent (minus of course the tent peg bashing in!) and all about the names of the parts of the tent and how it is used at camps. We then got out the parachute and we played the cat and mouse game for a while. For our last week of term we will again be going into the woods to sing songs around the camp fire with Winter Hill Beavers.

As this is going to be my last PG Tips report I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped me fulfil my role, especially *Simon Wheeler*, *Sheila Stinton* and *Erica Hunter* who have always been very helpful and have answered any questions that I have had. Thanks also to *Hawkeye (Veronica Martin)*, who is a very enthusiastic and super-organised leader! I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as an Assistant, each week is varied and exciting and for anyone thinking of helping out in the future, it is a really rewarding role. I will still help out at the jumble sales and summer/Xmas fairs, so I look forward to catching up with you all then.

**Bubbles** (*Ruth Ford*)

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## CUB NEWS

### Littlewick Pack

We had an active second half of the summer term. Most of the cubs earned their water activity badge by kayaking on Taplow Lake with Engage Watersports and dragon boating at Longridge. Both activities were fun, full of teamwork and wet as the cubs attempted walking along the kayaks or jumping straight off the pier at Longridge ☺

We enjoyed the woods with lighting fires, cooking (marshmallows remains the favourite!), tracking, pond dipping (where we caught and let go of a fish!) and learnt/ built a shelter from what we could find around us.

Looking forward to an equally fun and adventurous Cub Camp!

**LG Akela** (*Nathalie Watson*)



### Winter Hill Pack

We have thoroughly enjoyed spending the last few weeks outside. Cubs have taken part in tent pitching, laying trails and fire lighting. The last week of term was spent building shelters in the wood.

I am sure all the cubs have enjoyed these outdoor activities, the weather has certainly worked in our favour.

Cub Camp will take place on 4th-6th September and we will be camping at Furze Platt Scout campsite in Cookham. Please return your medical and permission forms as soon as possible. More information will be sent out during the holiday.

Best wishes for a relaxing summer break!

**WH Akela** (*Rob Harris*)

## SCOUT NEWS

### Littlewick Troop

The LW Scouts finished the term off with an outdoors month including two weeks of map reading/navigation and two weeks of fire lighting/cooking. Having learnt how to light a fire the first week, we cracked open the sausages and marshmallows the week after to great success. My apologies to the parents for returning their Scouts smelling of smoke! Unfortunately our final meeting of term which was planned to be games on Littlewick Green was forced indoors as the heavens opened, but it didn't stop the fun.



As the year draws to a close it is a good time to say thank you to all the volunteers who have supported the Troop in its first two terms. There are too many to mention individually, but starting a new section is never easy so requires a team effort. Finally many thanks to everyone who attended or assisted with the Summer Fair - it was a great afternoon and a great advert for Scouting and PG. I hope everyone has a great summer and I look forward to kicking off again in September.

*LG Scout Leader (David Barns)*

### Winter Hill Troop

#### Summer Holidays

As normal, Scouts will continue to meet during the School Summer Holidays. We hope to be arranging some activities - Friday evening 6.45pm - 9.15pm -. Don't forget to check your emails on a Thursday - for any changes.

Uniform is not to be worn during August just Activity Dress (PG Tee Shirt, plain shorts and old trainers) don't forget to bring a coat, if it looks wet.

#### Beaver Meeting

A big thank you goes to the eleven Scouts and Young leaders who helped run a special Beaver meeting in July for Winter Hill and Littlewick colonies. The Scouts had to put up two patrol tents. It was a challenge with the Beavers & mallets knocking in the pegs, half way through the evening the skies opened, everyone got soaked before we carried on putting them up in the Scout hall. Once the tents were pitched the Beavers were told a story about camping.

#### District Land Activities

WH Scouts, will be taking part in this year's District Land Activity event, on Saturday 19th September. Activities will be Climbing, Archery and Shooting. Cost £15. Any Scout interested in taking part, please contact Simon for more details.



#### SUMMER CAMP – Brecon

Special Thank you goes to farmer Mr Phillips for allowing us to camp on his farm, near Brecon.

Nearly fifty members of Winter Hill Troop are currently camping in Wales for two weeks, at their annual Summer Camp, so far the weather has been fairly good, they had only a day of rain.

The Scouts have a busy programme of activities, which include Gorge Walking, Pony Trekking, Mountain hill walking as well as normal PG camping activities. Photos are being updated while the Scouts are at summer camp, on PG's web site [www.pgscouts.org.uk](http://www.pgscouts.org.uk)

Full report in September's PG Tips

*Simon Wheeler* Scout Leader

### 23rd World Scout Jamboree

Three members of PG *Grace Marshall*, *Patrick Ashe* and *George Knott* joined 30,000 Scouts from nearly every corner of the world and took part in a once in a life time opportunity of fun, challenge and adventure at the 23rd World Scout Jamboree in Japan. After years of planning, preparation, Scouts from over 200 countries were camped together in a tented-city near Kirara-hama, Japan, following a spectacular Opening Ceremony that started the global event.

Throughout the event, which involved almost as many young people as the Olympic Games, the thousands of Scouts had the opportunity to take part in literally hundreds of activities focused on discovering new cultures, the environment, sustainable development and global issues.

The PG members have spent 18 months planning and training for this unique cultural exchange. Each had to fundraise £3,000 in order to experience the Jamboree, with part of this fee supporting Scouts attending from Bhutan, Botswana and other developing countries across Eurasia.



### Berkshire Project Africa

Two members of PG *Ben Williams* and leader *Kieran Patel* joined 70 other Berkshire Scouts for three weeks to work on two rural schools in Uganda, building new buildings. A full report will be in a future PG Tips

Photo of Kieran at Terminal 3 Heathrow on his way to Uganda

Produced monthly by Pinkneys Green Scout Group, Winter Hill Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 6NS Tel: (01628) 771 991

Line Sketches by Scouting Web Site: [www.pgscouts.org.uk](http://www.pgscouts.org.uk) Copy to Simon email: [pgtips@pgscouts.org.uk](mailto:pgtips@pgscouts.org.uk) Registered Charity Number 300501



## GROUP NEWS

September 2015



### Jumble Sale

We need some helpers to assist with the forthcoming Jumble Sale at the Scout Hall. We are looking for drivers to help collecting Jumble on Friday 12th September 6.30pm at the Scout Hall, A car or van would be very useful. We also require help on the morning of Saturday 13th September 10am-12noon selling the Jumble, clearing up afterwards and to take the remainder of the Jumble to the Tip !

We also are **looking for help** at our second Jumble Sale. Friday 25th September, 9pm sorting Jumble and Saturday 26th September, 10am selling, 12noon clearing up and taking rubbish to the tip.

If you can help at all, even if it is only for an hour, then please contact our Jumble Sale coordinator Arti Mehta, email: [jumble@pgscouts.org.uk](mailto:jumble@pgscouts.org.uk)

**We really need your support.**

**JUMBLE SALES: Saturday 12th & 26th September**

### Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival Service at Stubbings Church on Sunday 27th September at 3.25pm, we hope that all Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Young Leaders will make the effort to attend this special service. Families of our members (& friends) are also invited to attend. our special service. More details will be sent out via section meetings

### BEAVERS

#### Winter Hill Colony

Please remember that beavers should be dropped off and picked up from inside the hall and that full uniform including navy trousers or shorts should be worn. Our first meeting of the Autumn term will be 6.15pm prompt on Monday 14th September. I hope you have all had a lovely summer break,

*Hathi* (Catherine Weeks).



#### Littlewick Colony

We hope that everyone has enjoyed a good summer and are well rested and ready to start another year's worth of fun at beavers! We have a lot to look forward to this term at beavers, with our remembrance service, our Halloween and Christmas parties along with lots of exciting and new activities for the beavers to try!

Due to Bubbles retiring we are looking for help at Beaver meetings in order to have enough adult supervision during our sessions. If you feel you could contribute your time more regularly, and would be interested in becoming a sectional assistant in the group that would also help us out greatly. Beavers is great fun for adults and children alike and we want to ensure that we can still run the engaging and active activities that we know the children love

Please remember that beavers should be dropped off and picked up from inside the hall and that full uniform is worn. Don't forget to use our one way system, when bringing and collecting your child from Beavers. We start back on Monday 7th September at 6pm

**Hawkeye** (Veronica Martin)

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### CUB NEWS

#### Littlewick Pack

Hello and welcome back! I hope you have had a wonderful summer break and you're ready for what is going to be a fun packed programme this Autumn!

We have a lot to look forward to this term with cub camp in our first week back and some important dates already for your diaries including two Jumble Sales on Saturday 12th September and Saturday 26th September, which will give you a great opportunity to clear out any unwanted items!

**LG Akela**

#### Winter Hill Pack

New term begins back on THURSDAY 3rd September when we will be at the Cub Camp site (Furze Platt Scouts site) pitching the tents for Cub Camp which starts the next day.

**WH Akela**



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### SCOUT NEWS

#### Littlewick Troop

A new school year brings big changes and new challenges for the Littlewick Troop, but I am sure we will rise to them! As parents of the Scouts will already know, I have agreed to take on the role of Scout Leader for the Littlewick Troop following the departure of Kate and Ian Marshall at the end of last term. I have great plans for the Troop, and am keen to offer really exciting Scouting, but in the short term there is a shortage of adult leaders that urgently needs to be addressed. While I am currently ably supported by Charlotte Green as a Scout Section Assistant, we desperately need at least two new Assistant Scout Leaders to run the Troop on a

sustainable basis. All parents will have received a letter on this topic over the summer, but if anyone else is interested in becoming a leader or knows someone who might, then please ask them to contact me or Group Scout Leader Erica Hunter.

The second big change for the Troop is that we have moved from the Village Hall in Littlewick Green to the Scout Hall in Winter Hill Road. This is driven by the increased need for equipment that a Scout Troop has, and while we will keep our links with Littlewick Green (and particularly LW Beavers and Cubs), the Group's equipment being stored at the Scout Hall has necessitated the change.

At the time of writing the Autumn Term programme has not been set, but it will be active and adventurous for sure. Please remember to wear full uniform to Scouts each Monday and follow the one-way system as the nights get darker.

**WH Scout Leader (David Barns)**

### Winterhill Troop

#### **SUMMER CAMP – Brecon**

Fifty plus, members of the Troop attended this year's camp the first couple of weeks of the summer holidays in Wales. We managed to update the PG web site [www.pgscouts.org.uk](http://www.pgscouts.org.uk) all but the last two days at camp were dry, with photos of the activities and events we did.

**Congratulations go to Panthers - PL Callum Kunchur , on winning both the Cooking and Camp competitions**



**I would like to thank Philip Kersey, Ian Miller, Ian Ruffell and Lawrence Ratcliff for driving the 7.5 ton lorries. All the parents and friends for helping with photocopying & binding the camp booklet and supplying various items for camp, and unloading the lorries after a long camp. I would also like to thank all the other parents and friends who helped us this year with donations and time.**

**A Special thank you goes the Leaders and Helpers who camped for the whole Camp; John Bannerman, Myles Rankin, Graham Wolfe, Jordan**

**Day-Hunt, Jordan Flynn and plus the leaders and helpers Alex Robins, Rob Ayre, Edmund Otun, BoB Weingarth, Matthew Milston, Jon Corbitt, Aidan Milston, James Carr, Nicolette Smith and Toby Ayre who were able to help for part of the camp.**

This year as well as Scouts putting their Scouting skills training in to practice, they will be Pony Trekking, Climbing & Abseiling, Gorge Walking, and Hill walking up Pen-y-fan

**Simon Wheeler (WH Scout Leader)**

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### **23rd World Scout Jamboree**

Myself, George Knott and Grace Marshall, arrived back to the UK, after the most amazing 3 weeks at the world scout jamboree.

We joined 40,000 other Scouts from around the world in Yamaguchi, Japan, and whilst we were there we experienced a host of activities, and made friends from all over the world, whom I am sure we will stay in contact for the rest of our lives.

Other highlights included Home hospitality, in which in pairs we went to stay with a traditional Japanese family, who treated us to delicious food and culture, including going to a waterfall, and some beautiful shrines. We also spent a few days in Tokyo, and went to the earthquake and the Skytree (second tallest building in the world), just to name a few, which were both amazing.



There will be a larger report in the next edition of PG tips, but this is just a quick note to say thank you so much to all the leaders, parents, Scouts and friends of PG who made this event possible, thanks to all their fantastic fundraising efforts.

It really was an amazing and life changing experience.

many thanks Patrick Ashe