



## GROUP NEWS

As all face-to-face Scout meetings, activities and events are still suspended the sections are organising some virtual scouting for their members to do at home, via emails and their Facebook. We have no idea when we will be getting back to normal Scouting.

Thank you goes to one of our readers who sent us a photo of the Scout Hall to remind those who are not within walking distance of the Scout hall / National Trust land, for their daily walks what it looks like.

Below are some ideas for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Young leaders to do at home including taking part in the World Record attempt for **#CampingAtHome**

### Camp At Home – World Record

Northumberland Scouts have organised the attempt to break the world record on **Thursday 30th April**

You need to register at [www.campathome.org.uk/register-individual/](http://www.campathome.org.uk/register-individual/) to get you Nights Away to count toward the record challenge. If you take part you need to take a photo of you camping and send a copy to [pgscouts@gmail.com](mailto:pgscouts@gmail.com)

Here are the “Rules” for Young People interested in joining in the fun to:

- Pack a bag
- **Build a den at home** (as weather does not look very good) / pitch a tent in the garden/ hang up a hammock (whatever you can)
- Sleep in your shelter of choice
- Build a ‘campfire’ (real or virtual)
- Take part in a “Scouty activity”
- Help with cooking a meal



Everyone who participates will also get a virtual certificate for joining in. Additionally, if you take part on 30/04/2020 and we get enough participants you’ll be part of setting a world record!

A lot of Beavers, Cubs & Scouts have been taking part during April in the **#CampingAtHome** – see report on page 3.



### #The Great Indoors

The Scout Association have set up a special web site for Beavers, Cubs, & Scouts for activities you can do at home. The number of activities they have as we go to press is over 200, new ideas are being added every week

[www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors](http://www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors)

There are different activities for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

## GSLs Report

This is not something you could ever have imagined, a pandemic that locks down most of the world, only a few planes flying over head towards Heathrow. Schools shut and no face to face scouting. Whilst most of us are thankful we have a garden to sort and play in and that we also live close to National trust land that we can walk and exercise to.

Our Sections leaders have been feeding you various activities via email and Section Facebook groups, badge work and events to join in with. I have seen some of the photographs of “nights away spent in tents, dens and even a trampoline covered in to a high rise tent!. The Winter Hill Beavers have been running a bake off this week and Tik Tak will judge it later, I am absolutely amazed at how many took part, very well done to all of you.

If you haven't yet joined your sections FB group or tried some of the activities emailed to you please do. The “Easter holidays” will be ending soon and back to home schooling.

Group News – We have had to cancel some fundraising events.

Spring Jumble sale - So our next Jumble is now in September and October, please keep any jumble that you have on your lockdown house sorting until then. WE DO NOT have any space at the scout hall.4

Summer Fair Cancelled– We have decided that even if the lockdown has finished, holding a large public event may not be well supported by the public, also that obtaining prizes for raffles/tombola's and other donations may be difficult.

The future –

Troop Summer Camp, a decision will be made in June as to whether we can run this camp, it thought that if able, scouts and parents would probably both like the opportunity of some freedom, we will be governed by Government and Scouting.

Cub Camp – early September, again if we can this will happen, more information to follow.

Subs – At a recent committee meeting via Zoom we have decided to give everyone a free term. You will be advised accordingly when subs are due.

I look forward to seeing the many FB photos of your activities over the coming week

Stay home and safe

*Erica Hunter* (Group Scout Leader)

---

## Can You Help Us

We have some items that we would like to digitise



**Old PG Tips** (Printed copies) – they were typed on typewriters before we had computers – has any one got a scanner we can borrow to convert them to PDF

**Kodak 35mm Slides** – Before we had digital cameras we used to take photos on slides so we could show them at parent evenings – Does anyone know how to convert them to computer images – do you have a device we can borrow or can you do a few slides for us

We also have some **VHS videos** of the pantomime which we would like to convert to a digital file, any does anyone give us advice how to do this or have a dive to do the conversion or know where we can do it



If you can help or have ideas where we can get any of the above done please email [help@pgtips.org.uk](mailto:help@pgtips.org.uk)



## JOTI – Jamboree On The Internet **Special Event**

The first weekend in April, due to the shutdown, the World Scout Organisation organised special edition of the largest digital jamboree where members were allow you to connect to others, learn new skills, take good care of ourselves and others and build new friendships during this challenging time. Members of PG took part this year at home using their computers to make contact.

### **Report on Special JOTI:**

*On the Jamboree on the internet I spoke to various cubs and scouts and asked them what their favourite scouting things they had done. I also asked some leaders and explorer scouts what their most memorable moments of scouting was. This year's special edition of JOTI has been really fun to do and I hope I can do another Jamboree*



*Struan Haley*



## St Georges Day Thursday 23rd April

*St George* as well as being the Patron Saint of England, *St George* is the patron Saint of *Scouting*. Every year members of Scouting renew their promises, normally at a District Event.

This year due to self-isolation PG held a zoom event, where PG members connected together via zoom using 50 devices (69 members) and renewed their promise together. The different promises were led by:

**Keo** (Sheridan Stone) *Beaver Promise*

**Akela Rob** (Rob Harris) *Cub Promise*

**GSL** (Erica Hunter) *Scout promise*, for Scouts, YLs and leaders



At 8pm on Thursday 23rd April, those that been taking part in the Zoom meeting went outside their houses in uniform and took part in *Clap for Carers*



## Camp At Home – 1st to 30th April

During April, PG Beavers, Cub, Scouts, Young leaders & leaders have been taking part in Northumberland Scouts Virtua Camp at Home challenge for this special event they had to sleep either in their garden if they have one or build a den at home (other than a bed)

To gain a nights away towards their badge they also had to build a ‘campfire’ (real or virtual); Take part in a “Scouty activity” and Help with cooking a meal

### **Report from a Cub:**

*We decided to pitch our tent in the garden over the Easter weekend and spend Good Friday night in it. I located a place to put the tent which was flat and dry with no stones so that we didn't have an uncomfortable night.*

*I got the tent out and aired it during the day and then pitched it in the early evening. The tent was quite small and quite easy to pitch as there were only two poles and it wasn't going to be windy so that I didn't need to hammer in too many guy ropes.*

*While I was pitching the tent, my dad lit the barbecue, and then when the coals were white hot, I used a frying pan to fry some bacon which we ate with rolls and loads of ketchup!*



The night was quite warm but we woke quite early with the sounds of the birds. Being in the garden meant we could easily have a hot drink and breakfast before I packed away my sleeping bag and took down the tent. Once aired and dried, I folded it up and put it away ready for another night under canvas soon.

**Jude Foley (LG Cub)**



## **BEAVER NEWS**

I hope everyone is staying safe and well in these unprecedented times, we have had to do things differently as there have been no face to face meetings. This month we have been setting the Beavers tasks at home via our Facebook page which can be found by searching Pinkneys Green Beavers on closed Facebook. The most popular task has definitely been the Beaver bake off. We had loads of entries. I was really impressed with all the cakes. Well done to Reuben who took first prize with his design. Some beavers have been taking part in the **#CampAtHome**



Keep an eye on your emails or our Facebook page to find all the latest badge work and tasks the beavers can do at home. Stay safe and hopefully see you all soon.

**WH Tictac (Tom Beynon)**



## **CUB NEWS**

### **Littlewick Pack**

I hope everyone is well and staying safe during these unusual times. Its been rather quiet in the lead up to and during what would have been the Easter holidays. We've now started a new term and although we're at home and cannot meet as usual, we are still thinking of you all.

We're using our closed Facebook group to share ideas and activities for Cubs to complete at home. Recently several of our Cubs have taken part in JOTI, normally run in conjunction with JOTA in October, this special edition of JOTI enabled us all to connect together from 3-5 April and turned this challenging time into an opportunity which connected millions of young people around the world.



We've also been taking part in **#CampAtHome**, a month-long Virtual Camp from the 1st to the 30th April. So far six of our Cubs have slept in tents in their gardens and amassed twelve nights "under canvas" between them, this is a fantastic achievement and we look forward to hearing more reports of camping adventures. Remember that **#CampAtHome** doesn't have to be outside, an indoor den is just as much fun and all count towards our Nights Away badges. Additionally, everyone who takes part on 30th April and registers at <https://www.campathome.org.uk/> will be part of setting a world record!

Other Cubs are actively working towards their Silver Chief Scouts Award which is great news. Cubs can work towards many badges at home, both Activity and Challenge badges, for example the Our Skills award has a number of skills that can help around the home. Details of all badges can be found at <https://www.scouts.org.uk/cubs/>

If your Cub does take part in any activities remember to share photos and stories either in our closed Facebook group or let me know via email so I can keep badge records up to date.

**LG Akela (Pete Matthews)**

## Winter Hill Pack

We hope that everyone is staying safe and well. I am sure many of you will have enjoyed the good weather over the Easter weekend and spent lots of time in the garden. I just wanted to keep in touch and let you know about scouting opportunities for the cubs during these unprecedented times.



**St George's Day - 23rd April** - As we will not be able to meet up to celebrate this event, we challenged all cubs to renew their promise at home! They had the chance to take part in PG St Georges meeting before taking part in the NHS clap for carers at 8pm on Thursday 23rd April.

**The Great Indoors** – a few cubs have been taking place in the ‘Great Indoors’ programme activities. Well done to the cubs who have been in touch – their achievements are shared on our Facebook Page.

**Nights Away** - If your cub sleeps somewhere other than his/her bed (tent in the garden, blanket tent in the living room etc.) this can count towards their Nights Away badge! Just let me know and I will add it to the badge records.

**National Nights Away event** - We are joining scouts across the country in a World Record Attempt on 30th April. This is an initiative that has been happening all month but the World Record Attempt will take place on 30th April - <https://www.campathome.org.uk>. Let me know if your cub takes part!



**Other badge ideas** - cubs can continue to do parts of their badge work at home. Please just let me know when you have completed something - a photo for the Facebook page would be fantastic! Suggestions: Book Reader, Skills Challenge, Home Help and Artists badges. All cub badge requirements can be found here: <https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/search/?cat=12,67,776>

Please do keep in touch and contact me if you have any questions or any badges that your cub would like to complete. I will continue posting ideas, resources and links to our Facebook page so please make sure you give us a follow!

*WH Akela* (Rob Harris)

## SCOUT NEWS

### Littlewick Troop

Unfortunately we have not had any scout meetings since the last PG Tips article. We were due to be going to Coral Reef in Bracknell for an evening's swimming on the 16th March, but due to government announcements during the day, we had to cancel the trip last minute. The coronavirus pandemic is obviously going to have a major impact on our scouting for the rest of the year. Much of this is uncertain at the moment but one event which is definitely postponed is WINGS. This was to be our major camp of 2020 so this is a real shame. It is intended by the organisers that WINGS event will instead be held in 2021. Out attendance at this is to be confirmed.

On a more positive note, we have some plans for fun things the scouts can do at home. Parents please watch the closed Facebook group.

**LG Scout Section Assistant** (*Mark Courtier*)

### Winter Hill Troop

We hope everyone is well and staying safe during these strange times. We have continued to email the Scouts with their weekly Thursday Email with suggestions of what they can do at home.

Some Scouts took part in the Special JOTI event at the beginning of April, talking to Scouts around the world using *mirac* and taking part in other challenges and games. The event was organised by the world Scout organisation, with Scouts from hundreds of countries taking part.

Also the Scouts have been taking part in **#CampAtHome**, a Virtual Camp which Scouts can take part for the whole of April. Scouts have been camping in their garden, also some who don't have a garden have made a den somewhere at home. This counts towards their night's away award. Scouts can also take part in the challenge to set a world record on Thursday 30th April, you need to register at [www.campathome.org.uk/register-individual/](http://www.campathome.org.uk/register-individual/) don't forget if you take part with the world record attempt to send us a photo.



Some Scouts have completed their Personal Challenge award are working towards their Chief Scouts Award. Scouts have the choice of 60 Activity badges to a lot they can do or start at home: <https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources/search/?cat=7,64,779>

Don't forget to send me photos and let me know what you have been doing at home

*Simon Wheeler* (WH Scout Leader)