



## GROUP NEWS

January 2022

On behalf of all the Leaders, we hope that you had an enjoyable Christmas

# We Wish You All A Happy New Year



**COVID UPDATE** - From the National Youth Agency the Government have confirmed there will be some changes to the way we can deliver Scouting activities within England. Taking effect from December 2021, the youth sector has moved to the Yellow readiness level and the following change apply -

**Scouts + Explorers, & Leaders must wear a face covering when in any indoor venue, unless they are exempt.** All Adults are required to wear them when inside our meeting venues.



### PG Christmas Trees

Thank you goes *Peta & Charlie Almond* for coordinating the sales and delivery of this year Christmas tree fundraising activity and to all the Parents and Scouts who delivered the trees and collecting them for recycling and of course to everyone who purchased a PG Christmas tree.

**We have raised over £4,250.**

This activity was especially important as it's our only fundraising event of 2021

### Used Postage Stamps

Reminder, **Tarka** (*Barry Palmer*) is collecting used postage stamps for RNIB

We are still collecting stamps, please save them for us when they come through your post box or at your work. Make sure you leave a centimetre of envelope or packaging around each stamp. Then either put them through the Scout Hall letter box, or give them to your child's section leader.

Thank you to everyone who has already dropped off stamps.



### The Real Maidenhead Pantomime – Treasure Island

This year Cubs, Scouts plus Young Leaders attended this year's Maidenhead Pantomime at the Holyport Memorial hall to See Treasurer Island.

Two ex. members of PG were in the cast **Rob Harris** (was WH Akela) Maidenhead Scouts DC and **Charlie Fiddler** (ex. member), **Rob** played Ma Hawkins and **Charlie** played Squire Trelawney.

The production was put on by Maidenhead Drama Guild. There were cheesy jokes, fabulous attire, it was a great pantomime to go along and see.

Well done to **Rob & Charlie** for giving us all a good evening.



## **Bill Somerville, G4WJS**

We are very sorry to hear that *Bill Somerville* has sadly passed away.

*Bill* has supported PG over 21 years, helping run our amateur radio station **GB0PG** every October at the World Scouts international radio event JOTA

(Jamboree On The Air). He welcomed hundreds of young people from across the district and introduced them to worldwide amateur radio communication.

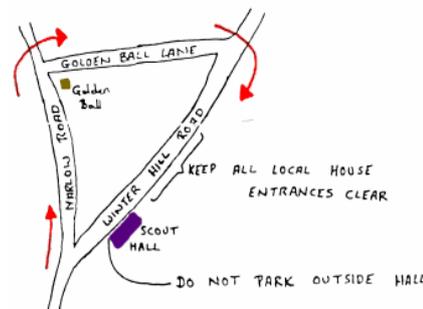
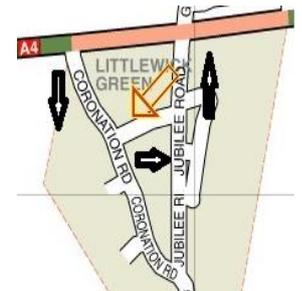
The past few years he has organised our radio station and supplied all the specialist equipment. With his help hundreds of Cubs and Scouts, gain their communicators badges. Our condolences go to his family.



## **SAFELY DROPPING OFF TO MEETINGS**

**LITTLEWICK GREEN** - Gilchrist Village Hall - can we also remind parents dropping off and picking up *Beavers on Monday evenings, Cubs on Wednesday evenings,*

**Do not park in Gilchrist Way** as this is strictly reserved for residents. We ask parents to please park a little further down on Jubilee Road or on Coronation Road and walk up; you may need a torch! **Please ask your Childs leader** if you are not sure.



**PINKNEYS GREEN** - Scout Hall Winter Hill Road -

***Can we remind Parents to operate a One Way System when dropping off or collecting your children from Beavers on Monday evenings, Cubs on Wednesday evenings, Squirrels Thursday evenings or Scouts on Friday evenings, also please don't turn your cars around in our neighbours driveways and DON'T PARK or PICK UP where the WHITE LINES are outside the hall***

***Please Drive Slowly down Golden Ball Lane below the 20mph Speed Limit***

Park on the Scout Hall side of the road facing Furze Platt Road, parking lights on when it's dark. **Don't Park** in the drive ways of Flint Lodge, Christmas Cottage or Pond House

**PLEASE HELP US TO BE GOOD NEIGHBOURS**  
**DO NOT PARK ACROSS OUR NEIGHBOURS' DRIVEWAYS**

### **Parish of Burchetts Green -Parish Administrator**

The Parish of Burchetts Green is looking for an efficient and conscientious Parish Administrator to commence as soon as possible. The role will require the individual to work independently and with the Vicar, volunteers, professional bodies, the Diocese and contractors.

Applicants should be competent in the use of Microsoft Office and financial software. Training can be provided. Good communication skills and the ability to deal with sensitive situations are essential.

Hours of work - 20 hours per week, preferably across 5 mornings but there is some flexibility for the right person.

The parish office is based in the Soltau Centre (behind St James the Less church) in Stubbings.

For further details contact the Parish Office: Tel: 01628 820077 Email: [office@burchettsgreenparish.org](mailto:office@burchettsgreenparish.org)

## **2023 World Jamboree**

The **25th World Scout Jamboree** will be held from 1st to 12th August 2023 in Saemanguem, Jeollabuk-do Province, Korea. The theme of the event is **"Draw Your Dream"**.

Berkshire Scouts will be sending two units of 36 Scouts & Explorers aged between 14-18 years old, from Groups in Berkshire. They are holding webinars to explain about the event on Wednesday 5 January and Monday 10 January, 7.30pm, where you can find out more information. The overall cost for participants from Berkshire will be £3,995. To apply to become one of the participants, you simply need to submit an application via the [Microsoft form link](#) by **Friday 14 January 2022**. The County will be running a process that combines a ballot and a final selection process. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the ballot by 17th January 2022.

For more information [www.berkshirescouts.org.uk/international/world-scout-jamboree/](http://www.berkshirescouts.org.uk/international/world-scout-jamboree/) talk to your section leader. We can get PG members to who have attended Jamboree to explain what it's all about and what they got out of it.

***It is an amazing opportunity***



## PG – ONLINE SHOPPING

We need your support; it is quite simple to **access our online web shop**,

If you're shopping online for anything at all, please remember to go via easyfundraising to raise free donations for us. Easyfundraising has over 4,000 shops and sites which will donate to us at no extra cost to you, including lots of big name retailers like John Lewis, Argos, Uswitch, eBay, M&S, Just Eat, Now TV, Domino's Pizza and Audible.



All you have to do is go through the easyfundraising website or App whenever you shop online and we'll receive a percentage of your spend as a free donation, at no cost to you or us.

We really need all the help we can get at the moment and any funds we raise will make a big difference to us.

Please remember to use easyfundraising and if you haven't signed up yet, you can find our easyfundraising page at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/pgscouts/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/pgscouts/)

**Thank you goes to everyone who has gone via this page when you shop online**

## OLD COMPUTER

Due to the old computer we are using to produce *PG Tips* and use for Scouting, which keeps on **Freezing** we are looking for a Computer to replace it.



**If you have a desktop or laptop that you no longer require** (we have screen / keyboard with old machine) **it would be a great help.**

The minimum spec it requires is:

**Windows 7 or newer,**

**Intel Core i processor (of any type) / AMD Ryzen processor**

**4gb RAM (or more)**



We will format the Disk and load a new operating system and office

**If you or you know of a company that can donate us one** it will be a great help, please contact Simon – [help@pgtips.org.uk](mailto:help@pgtips.org.uk) or leave a message on 01628 771991

## Uniform - District Scout Shop

All members are expected to wear correct uniform to their section meetings. These can be purchased from Maidenhead Scout Shop

Please make sure that you know your child's Chest & waist size...

The shop will be open every Thursday evening From 6 January **7pm – 8.45pm** and second Saturday of month, **10am – 12noon**

We do have some second hand uniform, please contact your section leader for more details.

## Maidenhead Scout Shop

Every Thursday Evening

From 6 January **7pm – 8.45pm**

Plus second Saturday of month

**10am – 12noon**

at

19th Maidenhead Hut Holmanleaze  
(Behind Magnet)

[www.maidenheadscouts.org.uk/scout-shop/](http://www.maidenheadscouts.org.uk/scout-shop/)

## BEAVER NEWS

### Littlewick Colony

We've been busy again at Littlewick Beavers. We had an evening learning about Fair Trade, and a walk around the village to look at the Christmas Lights. Also a festive fun evening, where Beavers brought a wonderful collection for Maidenhead Foodshare. Thank you Beavers for a lovely end to 2021. Have a wonderful Christmas everyone and see you next year!



## Winter Hill Colony

As the year draws to an end the Beavers of course have been busy. They have been getting in the festive spirit with a few evenings based on Christmas. They had one evening making Christmas decorations. Paper chains and glitter stars, ready for the beaver banquet. They also had another evening with a little bit of pioneering. The beavers used lolly sticks and elastic bands to make mangers. Some made ones to go on a card and some made some as part of a Christmas display.

To end the term the beavers had their traditional beaver banquet they had a visit from *Patrick Ashe* who performed some magic for them. The beavers enjoyed a meal of sausages chips and beans and a cupcake for pudding. We would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

We will return to beavers on Monday 10th January.



*Tic Tac Winter Hill* (Tom Beynon)

## CUB NEWS

### Winter Hill Pack

There's much to look forward to in the term ahead - kicking off with fencing for the first meeting back. This term will run until 16th February as the last meeting before a half-term break. We've got a trip to the Gudwara, kite making, a visit to Maidenhead heritage centre and a visit from a Guide Dog to look forward to.

Over the Christmas break, lots of cubs have undertaken the Home Help Badge challenge. Here's a reminder for anyone who hasn't yet had the chance but wants to make a start now... A little suggestion to boost those New Year Resolutions... We thought we would take this opportunity to see how many cubs can complete their Home Help Badge. To get this badge, stick photos or journal entries showing completion of each numbered step to a named page of A4 and bring it to cubs in January. Badge requirements online.



### **Here's what's been going on since the last update:**

On the 20th October, we learned how to make cups of tea. There was a table set up for each step. We all brought our own cups and started off with a teabag. Then, we boiled the water in a kettle and had to be very careful when we poured it in to our cup. At the next table, we took the teabag out and then poured in some milk. I tasted my tea, but I didn't really like it! But my mummy likes tea and so I have made her a cup of tea at home.

By Rose

Today when we went swimming it was really fun getting wet. We got to get another badge which's a bonus. The best thing was when we did 3 laps of the pool. It was challenging but it was worth it and we pushed on until the end.

By William G

This week we made Laddo sweets for Diwali celebrations. We made them by putting ghee into a saucepan and then we put it on the stove to cook and we stirred it, and then we put sugar in it and and besan flour and stirred it all together. Then we added more sugar and then we made them into balls and left them to cool down, then we did Diwali dancing for a bit. After that we eat them, I didn't like them too much because they were a bit sour. Some people liked them.

By Jack

The marshmallow towers activity was when you had to build a tower out of marshmallows. The highest tower wins. We built the towers out of marshmallows and wooden skewers. Most sixes found this a challenge due to lack of strength. The tower had to stand by itself to be valid. It was a challenging and joyful activity.

By Bertie C

We learnt about how to get into a **recovery position** and we were doing it on our partners. Then we swapped partners and did it again. Whilst we was doing it Akela was walking round so if you did not understand he will help you. Then you got called 1,2,3 or 4. I was a four so I had to go to another group. My first group was you had to try and wrap around a bandage on your arm and make sure it was right and you had to have a buddy for this so then they could practice on you and then you would swap. Next my topic was on asthma. We had to try and see if they are ok because if they do have asthma and something is happening you wouldn't be able to hear them speak. Then we learnt about what to do when you have got burnt. The final group was altogether we had to spot the dangers on the screen. I really had fun learning about first aid.

By Freya T

*Akela Winter Hill* (Jon Corbitt)

## **SCOUT NEWS**

### **Littlewick Troop**

We have a busy finish to the term. The first meeting in this series was one building devices to protect an egg when it was dropped from a height. They had to have two stages of protection (e.g. a parachute and some padding) and were then dropped from the height of the rafters. All teams' eggs survived the drop although one egg was partially damaged during construction. The following week we did a hike from Cookham Station back to the hall. The scouts had planned the route a couple of weeks before. It was a cold evening but the scouts kept up a good pace and navigated well so we covered the distance efficiently.

Our penultimate meeting of term was a combination of games and constructing a "mask" from netting to prevent Coronavirus (tennis balls) from passing through. This was somewhat successful. We followed this with some games including Colditz where the scouts have to sneak over a barrier in the dark. Our final meeting of term was our traditional Christmas party with music and lots of games. We also had the pleasure of awarding *Sam Cranch* his Chief Scouts Gold award which has been achieved during challenging times.

As this is the final PG Tips of the year, I would like to thank our leaders including *Peter Marshall* for his assistance throughout the year and *Ben Almond, Sam Gibbins* and *Wai Marland* for their help when called upon. We will restart in the New Year on the 10th January. Merry Christmas!

**Scout Leader Littlewick** (*Mark Courtier*)

### **Winter Hill Troop**

We have had a busy few weeks; the Scouts had a cooking evening and made some very interesting looking and tasty pizzas.

We then had an evening using canes, the Scouts had to build a cage that they could secure two Scouts in. that would be free standing and secure. Two teams did very well and even managed to fit seven Scouts in each meter cubed cage. They also managed to play a game, where they were in a circle, with one hand behind their back they had to pass a cane to the right and grab the cane that was coming to them from the left, this was a lot more complicated than they thought, they all managed to do it in the end.

*Alfie Darby* and *Zack Ratnapala* both have made their Scout promise and been invested as members of the Troop. We would like to welcome them both and their families.

The last meeting before Christmas the SPL & PLs organised Christmas party games.

Meetings have been a challenge, with all the scouts and leaders wearing face masks in the hall, the biggest problem we have had is the Scouts hearing what the PLs & leaders are saying.



Our first meeting of 2022 will be Friday 7th January. Thank you goes to all the parents who have been helping with Friday night activities. We are still looking for more parents to go on the parent rota.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Great New Year.

**WH Scout Leader** (*Simon Wheeler*)