

1ST BEDHAMPTON (St. THOMAS) **SCOUT GROUP – AGM 2020**

(The information in this document was compiled on 13/3/2020, based on 2019 and early 2020 activities, AGM and Duck Race postponed).

by Ian Barbeary (Group Scout Leader)

We would like a couple of volunteer Leaders and Executive members to help with things like the Duck Race and other events.

Our annual Duck Race takes place on Saturday 28th March, get there before 11 a.m. or you will miss the start. The aim is to raise funds for the Group and have fun along way. The Reverend Max Cross will start the ducks racing down the Hermitage stream, see our website <http://www.1stbedhampton.co.uk> for details. Our Scout AGM is on Tuesday 9th June (6.15 p.m.) this year, all are welcome.

Thank you to the Uniformed Leaders, helpers other adults, Young Leaders, the Executive Committee, and thanks to all our friends for the help and support they have given over the past year. Here is what we have been up to.



BEAVER COLONY (6 to 8yrs) **by Melissa Colwell**

Once again the 1st Bedhampton Beavers enjoyed a busy 2019. Activities have included Archery, Cooking, Crafts, Games, Walks and many Outings. We joined the Cubs for a Pancake Party in February, Fireworks in November and Carol Singing in December.

For our Camp in June we had it at Cricket Camp. The Beavers had a bouncy Castle and did Pot Holing.

We also went to the Life Boat Station on Hayling Island which the Beavers had a very interesting time learning about the safety equipment and the Boats.

Thank you to all the supporters and helpers over the past year, we had a very successful 2019 with even more fun to come in 2020.



CUB PACK (8 to 10½yrs)

by Judy Colwell (Akela) and Nigel Vosper

We have a very full and active Cub Pack. In the last year Cubs have visited Hayling Beach to join the Scouts in extreme paddling and BBQ. They have lit fires, had a muddy walks, and got wet dirty and muddy at every opportunity. Cubs have taken part in Kayaking, Archery, Geocaching, Hikes, Cycle rides, Athletics, Swimming and cleaned the Rectors stream (though not at the same time) to name just a few activities.

The Cubs spiritual growth is an important part of the programme. They have taken part in Palm Sunday, Christingle and Youth Celebration

services. They also joined the District in Havant for the Remembrance Day and St. Georges Day Services. The Cubs also raised over £150 for the Children's Society by Carol singing around the Parish on an extremely wet Tuesday evening. Cubs have had several Camps throughout the year including a "skills camp" where they earned the Cub Science Badge; they did some outdoor and home skills and skilfully 'shot' each other with laser guns at night. Our Summer Camp was at Cricket Campsite in Bursledon near the beautiful Hamble River. Cubs took part in a wide range of activities including Archery, Shooting, walks in the woods and by the river and even managed some energy to play in the adventure park. Their day trip was an energetic if slightly damp (ok it was pouring down) trip to Moores Valley. Cubs climbed, crawled, slid, ran and jumped all through the woodland obstacles in spite of the weather. After a quick picnic lunch they were energised once again and completed the Go Ape rope course. We had some very tired Cubs on the way back to camp. We have also had a Group Camp at Rupert's Farm South Harting, where the Cubs helped clear the car park of weeds and undergrowth, made a sign using spray paint and power tools and had a steep climb to the top of Harting Down complete with flaming torch to play a wide game. We ended the year with fireworks and Christmas parties. Thank you to everyone who has supported us this last year and we look forward to this year's many activities.



SCOUT TROOP (10½ - 14 years) & EXPLORER SCOUTS (14 - 18 years)
by Elspeth Ringrose

As with the other sections we had had yet another busy year, although as you are aware it has been a challenge. The 2 sections run separate programs but share a leadership team, this has brought difficulties as the number of adults available has reduced due to university commitments and personal circumstances. Numbers at Scouts has seen a fall, however Explorers remain constant, and we continue to

offer a varied program while working on Gold, Platinum and Diamond Chief Scouts Awards, with a number achieving these this year, alongside Bronze and Silver DofE, either through scouting or school.

The Explorer section has been working on links with other District units, had a number of joint evenings and taken part in the first District Explorer Camp. There have also been a shorter than normal summer camp this year at Rupert's Farm. We have done pioneering in both sections, working towards challenge badges and activity badges and continued to work on our basic scouting skills, such as hiking, camping, cooking and fire lighting. The Explorers have run evenings for the Scouts on values and ethics and we have had visitors, such as the Rector come and talk to the young people too. Once again, the sections have supported the local community by delivering Christmas Cards for the Parish.

Last Summer 2 of the Explorers attended International camps, with one attending the World Scout Jamboree and one going with a group of other Scouts and Explorers to Kenya to work on rebuilding a school and installing freshwater pumps. As a leader it is great to see these young people grow, develop and achieve and make these life changing trips and is a reward for giving up time for unit/troop evenings and meeting that is difficult to put into words. I would urge you all to consider if you could spare a few hours to help these young people who are trying to make a contribution to their community and ride the, often misplaced, criticism that they face and come and help with Scouts or Explorers, contributing to your community and enjoying the fun of working with young people to make a difference.

