

End of Term Newsletter



1st Stoke Row Scouts Christmas Party - 7 December 2007, Checkendon Village Hall
Beaver District Party - 9 December 2007, 11 - 3 at Goring Heath
New Term Starts - 9 January 2008
Subscriptions increase to £25 per term from January 2008



In September, we welcomed seven new Beavers - Jack Broadbent, Thomas Bartlett, Reuben Lloyd, Kieran Lloyd, Adam Porter, Eleanor Lee and Holly Munoz, bringing the colony to 20 boys and girls, the largest for many years. The new Beavers were honoured by being invested by Katherine Adams - the District Commissioner for Beavers.

We welcomed a new Elsa, Jackie Robinson, mother of cub Alex and a former Elsa a couple of years ago! It is great to have Jackie back, with all the skills she brings with her. Our Young Leader, Laura Tremewan helped for a second term of community service for her Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. We finally say goodbye to her at end of term, but she will be replaced by her elder sister Emma!

Throughout the term, we continued doing activities related to the Centenary, giving Beavers who were not able to attend the Centenary Camp the opportunity to gain some of the four special Centenary Badges. In October, the Beavers collected items for a Time Capsule. A big thank you to Parish Councillor and former Beaver Leader, Kate Fotherby, who kindly dug the hole to bury it! We included comics, magazines, collectors cards, a Stoke Row News, a recording of the children talking about what they do at Beavers, toys, a Beaver scarf, some centenary badges, and a special scarf from a 1967 Boy Scout Jamboree, some 2007 coins, (including the 50p minted for 2007 with the Fleur de Lys on it) and a florin from 1907! We also included photos taken on our Bring a Friend evening. We have named all the children and leaders on the photo for the interest of the future generation who digs it up! Our centenary party was a great success and we had a cake with 100 on it made by Vixen. The candles were blown out by our youngest beaver, Holly Munoz. We made a Centenary collage by sticking lots of exciting dried beans and rice. There were more celebrations when each beaver iced a small cake to make a big 100 in the dark in the pavilion!

Thank you to the Molly, Tommy, Bailey, Callum, Edward, Antonia, Thomas, Reuben, Kieran, Eleanor and Holly for attending the Remembrance service on November 11th. Molly, as the oldest Beaver present, carried our Beaver standard, escorted by Tommy and Bailey.

Lots of badges were awarded this term: Louis earned his Joining in 1 badge; Daniel, Adam and Eleanor earned their Animal Friend Activity badge. The Join-In-Centenary and Bring a Friend badge was earned by many Beavers on the evening in October when they invited a friend along to an evening celebrating the Centenary. These were Jack, Callum, Edward, Thomas, Reuben, Kieran, Adam, Eleanor and Holly. Daniel and Billy both earned their Join-In-Centenary badge.

We made our surprise Christmas card and woodcraft gifts, thanks to Adam's dad, Charles, who is a carpenter. We all had great fun in the dark in the woods near Tarka's house on a beautifully cold and clear night, making a campfire, then cooking sausages, marshmallows and toffee apples and singing some campfire songs. We also tried to find (with difficulty!) the shelters we had made in September!

This term, the Beavers motto was:

"Try to leave this world a little better than you found it"

Perhaps you can join us and try to follow some of our energy-saving ideas!

- Turn off unneeded lights.
- Walk or cycle instead of travelling by car.
- Turn off the tap whilst brushing your teeth.
- Don't leave the TV or computer on 'standby'.
- Recycle: put plastic, metal and paper refuse in the recycling bin; take glass bottles and jars to the bottle bank; bring clean aluminum foil and stamps to Beavers to recycle.
- Build a compost heap at home, or buy a compost bin from the council.
- Close doors and windows to keep heat in.
- Instead of throwing a piece of paper away, cross through the written side and use the back.
- Turn down the heating by 1 degree and put on an extra sweater instead!
- Don't turn on the dishwasher when it is only half full.
- Use low energy light bulbs.
- Recycle Christmas wrapping paper and in the New Year, take your tree to a collection point to be shredded.



This term, we welcomed some more new Cubs - Cameron Munoz, Blake Jones and Thomas Clokey. We hope you are all having a great time!

In September, we held a fundraising **Coffee and Cake Evening** for Macmillan Cancer Support. The evening was a big success! The Cubs and their guests enjoyed an energetic game of musical chairs (one adult and two Cubs to a chair!), and a rousing chorus of 'Ging-Gang-Goolie', ably accompanied by Jordie on the guitar. Will Clarke also played his guitar to entertain the guests, earning him his Entertainer badge. It was a fun evening, raising **£146** for Macmillan Cancer Support! For more info on Macmillan's work, visit their web site, <http://www.macmillan.org.uk/>.

The Cubs learned about first aid and resuscitation this term from Mowgli, they have made dream catchers, have played lots of energetic games - including a very silly Halloween evening! - and enjoyed a night hike through the woods on a beautiful, crisp November evening.

We had a trip back in time when Sandra Wickens joined us and gave a very entertaining talk about the history of Stoke Row. She bought a selection of old fashioned and modern items to compare - a selection of dolls, candles and a torch, a calculator and a slide rule - and even a pocket plastic rain hat (does anyone remember those?!). She also showed the Scouts a pig hook, used to cure meat.

Baloo has been helping the Cubs with some secret Christmas projects ... no peeking - all will be revealed.

Our Remembrance Sunday Parade at Checkendon saw our biggest number of Cubs attending that Mowgli can remember - well done!

On the **5th December**, our last meeting of the term, we are looking forward to our **end of term celebration** with silly songs round the campfire.

 **Have you visited our Website yet?**
www.1stStokeRowScouts.net

There are lots of photos from this year's Camps and activities. You can read previous newsletters, and you can also see the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts term diaries, to keep you fully up-to-date with the plans for each week!



The Scouts welcomed six new members from both Stoke Row and Sonning Common, and in December, we will invest two more Scouts, bringing our number to 14.

This term many scouts have earned their Adventure badge. We had sessions on Emergency Aid and Fire Safety badges in November, which we will complete next year.

On the 19th October, nine Scouts and one parent went to Marchants Hill for an 8-activity residential weekend. We took part in a number of activities including abseiling, air rifle shooting, archery, big swing, quad biking and zip wire to name a few - we also watched the rugby world cup, which was good!

We will be completing our Best Patrol Competition at the end of term - Bulldog Patrol took the lead in November, but the other 2 patrols have a chance! To become Best Patrol, the Patrol members are inspected each week on parade, with marks awarded for appearance, uniform and general tidiness. Patrols also earn game points during activities such as the cooking competition. Outside activities such as Marchants Hill and Remembrance Sunday also earn patrol points, all of which are totted up to decide the winner.

Your Scout Group Needs You!!!

We are looking for some additional Scout Leaders for our expanding group. If you are interested and would like to know more, please email Barry at jb47mcgrath@yahoo.co.uk.



Tree Planting: To mark the Centenary, the Woodland Trust and Scout Association plan to plant 100,000 trees - the Scouts are funding a couple of the new Copper Beech trees that Stoke Row Club are planting in front of the new Machinery shed on the Recreation Ground.

Our **Remembrance Day Service** on November 11th saw a fantastic turnout of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Good to see so many of you there for the touching service. Well done!



Have a great Christmas!