

1st Stoke Row Scouts Newsletter

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- Summer term: 21 April to 14th July
- Sunday 13th June: Stoke Row Motor Club Rally, Vanalloys Park, Stoke Row



At the end of last term we said goodbye to Jessica Roberts, John Higgins, Elias Madzar and Kester Jacob as they went on up to Cubs, having all received their Chief Scout Bronze Award. This

term we have welcomed Indigo Gow, Rufus Shanagher, Jack Lambert, Joshua Day and Finlay Colin who are all settling in very quickly, with the help of their Beaver Buddies Emma, Hannah, William, Freddie, Archie Barribal and Michael.

This term we are completing the Outdoor Challenge Badge and working on our Adventure Activity Badge. We shall enjoy doing these as we love keeping the OUT in SCOUTING. We have been on a scavenger hunt round the Recreation Ground, followed a tracking trail of chalk, stick, stones, leaves and grass around the village and done our bit for the community by litter picking – sadly, there was plenty to pick in the woods off the Reading Road, and some has already reappeared.... We have had a great fun riding our bikes round the Recreation Ground and bashing down a wall of boxes - a couple of Beavers really increased their confidence on their bikes. We are learning how to put up a tent and pack a back pack in readiness for our Colony Fun Day and Family Camp on 5 June.

Archie Nelson made us some delicious meat balls as part of his Hobby Badge and also told us how he looks after his dog – he has been awarded his Hobby and Animal Friend Badges. Archie Barribal has earned his Swimmers Badge Stage 2. Well done Archie and Archie! The Promise Challenge Badge has been earned by Archie Barribal, William Hybert, Emma Mortimer, Michael Croft, Archie Griggs, Billy, Arche Nelson, Max Roberts, Tim Wilks, Alex Dambrough, Nathan May, Nicola, Hannah and James. Well done Beavers!



The Cubs have had a very eventful first half of term, with lots of fire-lighting, marshmallow toasting and sausage sizzling, as well as learning serious skills including map-reading, using a compass, and general aspects of outdoor survival, as well as how to put up tents and having lots of fun in the woods!

In addition, eight of our Cubs recently took part in a really exciting District Go-carting Competition against other packs in the area, equipped with go-carts built by our very own Scouts! We didn't win, but we had a great time - and the carting squad (Art, Joel, Will, Harry, George, Dan C, Dan P and Sam) showed great spirit and determination even in the face of buckled wheels and some dodgy steering technology. And our Stoke Row pit crew have already been discussing our technological refinements for next time - so hopefully next year, we'll be better positioned to deal with the mud, trees and tricky bluebell clumps (I bet Ross's team don't have nearly such an interesting range of hazards in F1!).

The pack is still very full, with all 36 very keen Cubs giving it their all every Weds evening, and with lots more activities planned for the second half of term, as well as two exciting weekend camps planned, the leaders look set to remain busy! We are therefore extremely grateful to both Chris (Shere Khan) Lee and Diane (Mowgli) Lee who are now helping out on a regular basis, despite the very demanding professional responsibilities and family commitments that they both have. A very warm welcome to them both!



The Group is holding its AGM on Wednesday 19th May, when four parents and helpers will be presented with their Scout Thanks Badge. This is presented for support beyond normal to the Group and its Beavers, Cubs and Scout Sections. The Group remains bouyant and vibrant with full sections. However, we do have a Leader problem, with the Scout section in particular, and Cubs could do with at least 1-2 Leaders.

The Scout section has almost completed raising funds for Children with Leukaemia, our target of £1000 is looking promising. Scouts have taken part in a 26k hike, 26k cycle and 26 lengths of a swimming pool to raise their sponsorship.

Two Scouts have achieved their Gold Award, which is really fantastic. At least 6 others are working towards their Gold Awards.

The Scouts will attend two sessions at Longridge for kayaking and wall climbing.