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## THE SCOUT TEAM

Kevin Hodgkinson

Nick Haynes

Greg Julian

Dan Smith

Lisa Stec

Grace Roberts

## Update on the Group Expansion.

As you will all be aware, the group opened a 2nd Beaver Colony and a 2nd Cub Pack in January. Both new sections have been working extremely well thanks to the support of the new leaders, along with help and guidance from the existing leadership team.

Membership has remained extremely healthy in both new sections and as we finished the term we had 18 beavers and 15 cubs. This is set to increase to 21 and 18 respectively for the summer term.

By opening the two new sections all children of Beaver and Cub age were accommodated into scouting and the waiting list was removed. However, we do still operate a joining list for children too young to start scouting. We now have 35 chil-

dren under the age of 6 who want to take part with the group some on the list are as young as two, which is great news for the future.



### Investiture Night for Red Colony

Looking forward we now need to manage the movement between sections to even out the numbers across the two packs and we'll be looking to do this over the next two years.

In the shorter term we need to start a 2nd Scout Troop, this will have to commence in September 2012. We are expecting to start the troop with around 7 children from the waiting list, and from Red and Gold Packs.

We are now actively seeking adults to run the troop which will take place on a Tuesday night between 7pm and 9pm, once again this will follow the same program as the existing troop. We will continue with the colour identity and the Friday night scouts will become Gold Troop and the Tuesday night will be Red Troop.

If anyone is interested in helping at the new troop or in any role across the group including the executive please contact a leader or Andy.

## Diary Dates for the Summer Term

Please see some of the Key Dates for the Summer Term, more details will follow from the relevant section leaders;

Sunday 22 April - St George's Day Parade (cancelled)

Saturday 28 April - Fun Day/AGM from 2pm

Sunday 6 May - Donna Louise 5K Fun Run (cancelled)

Friday 18—Sunday 20 May - Group Camp @ Kibblestone Scout Camp

Tuesday 12 June - Race for Life Trentham Gardens (Scouts Only)

Saturday 16 June - Trip to RAF Cosford (Scouts Only)

Saturday 16 June - Athletics Badge Trentham High (Cubs Only)

Friday 29 June - Sunday 1 July - District Beaver and Cub Camp

Wednesday 11 July - Canoeing Trentham Lake (Beavers Only)

Friday 13—Sunday 15 July - Troop Camp (Scouts Only)

W/C 19 July - Last meeting nights before the school holidays.

## A review of the Winter Term



The winning poster from a cub competition.

What a busy time the sections within the group had during the winter term, apart from the expansion, the sections took part in the following activities.

This term the Beavers have taken part in road safety as part of the safety badge, they've made pancakes and held a race, they had the chance to make mothers day cards and did some sewing on a mothers day gift, there was also a trip to another beaver colony in Stone. The term

finished with a joint meeting between the two colonies. Not forgetting a day as a pirate at our very own Beaver Bash on a gloriously sunny Saturday.

Meanwhile in Cubs, they have been working on the Creative Challenge badge, learnt about road safety for the activity badge, had a Joint pack night at Awesome Walls, The Cubs talked and shared information about their hobbies, planted many seeds for our garden, and held a weekend

sleepover at the Scout House, where the Cubs planned then walked their own hike!

Finally in Scouts, a fitness night was held to work off the Christmas excesses, followed by a program of cooking scones, learning Emergency Aid towards the activity badge and the Outdoor Challenge, more planting of seeds, and a special 'porridge' night where a local Prison Officer gave a talk on life behind bars, an 'Olympic' sleepover was held in February before all the scouts got the opportunity to tie dye their own t-shirts.

## Meet the Scout Team

*"Kevin who has been with the Group ....becoming a leader with the group in 1981"*

The Scout Leadership team has a great blend of experience and youth. The section leader is Kevin Hodgkinson who has been with the group for many years as a Cub and a Scout before becoming a leader with the group in 1981, Kevin is supported by Nick Haynes who has been with the Group as a leader for 5 years, before that Nick has experience as a Cub and Venture Scout with the group as well as taking part in Duke of

Edinburgh expeditions. Assisting Kevin and Nick are Assistant Leaders Greg and Dan, Greg has been with the group for 5 years too and has a wealth of knowledge with the outdoors having spent 22 years serving the country in the Royal Air Force. Dan has joined the team within the last year, but has experience as a Cub and Scout. The final piece of the jigsaw is Section Assistant Lisa Stec who has

held a number of roles within the group. Lisa keeps everyone in check by keeping the records of the achievements for the scouts in order to issue badges and this ensures that the Scouts cover all the relevant topics on their way to the chief scouts gold award.

The troop is also very fortunate to have the support of Grace, a former scout now explorer Scout who comes and helps each week.

## Trentham Scouts are on Facebook!

Keep up to date with us on Facebook



As some may be aware, Trentham Scout group are making the most of modern technology and have created a Facebook Group. Membership to the group is strictly monitored as are all posts! The privacy settings for

the group pages are set extremely high, only those accepted to join the Facebook Group are able to see any posts, these posts will not appear on individuals own walls ensuring complete privacy and protection for our young people.

We only allow parents/carers

of existing members to join the facebook group. We also do not allow any members under the age of 13 in line with facebook policy. We currently have c40 members who have found the page very informative.

If you would like to join please search for 'Trentham Scout Group'.

# What's coming along in the Summer Term?



**Group Camp 2011, Crate Stacking activity.**

So what is there to look forward to during this summer term... As a group we have our fun day in April closely followed by the Group Camp, Beavers and Cubs are having a joint camp with dis-

trict and the scouts will also hold there own camp.

This term the beavers will be finishing their creative challenge badge, playing tag Rugby, covering

the ICT badge, and going on a litter pick,

Over in cubs, they will be reviewing the code of conduct, working towards the navigator activity badge, taking part in some fitness nights, and learning 5 new skills towards the Outdoor Challenge

badge, finishing off with an end of year disco.

Scouts will have the opportunity to build a structure to boil water on over a fire, they will be making a surprise gift, learning some more cooking skills. Some of the older scouts will be preparing a 5 or 6 mile hike for our troop camp, while others will learn some circus skills. We are hopeful to join forces with the Air Scouts and have a go at a simulated parascending adventure.

So lots to look forward to for all.

**“an increase of 23% on the previous year and 21 adults an increase of 10%”**

## Scouting Census Figures

Every year the Scout Association runs it's own census to establish numbers of members within the organization. This includes both the young people and adults supporting scouting.

The Census data is based on actual members at the end of the calendar year. Trentham Scout Group disclosed figures of 85 young people (an increase of 23% on the previous year) and 21

Adults an increase of 10%. As a district Three Towns has also seen an increase in membership of 5% to 609 young people across the 14 groups.

Since we declared the figures our youth membership has now increased to 115 and our adults now stands at 32, so a very big increase in the region of 30% from the previous year, this is obviously

fantastic news for Trentham Scout Group and a testimony to the hard work of the section leaders in providing top quality scouting for our young people. Nationally membership has grown by 5% too.

Numbers of people taking part in scouting had increased nationally over the past 7 years. Possibly due to our high profile Chief Scouts Bear Grylls and his predecessor Peter Duncan..

## My First Explorer Scout Camp by Matt Amos

Over the Easter weekend, I went on my first camp with 89<sup>th</sup> Lawrence Fleet Explorers, (and the 89<sup>th</sup> Sea Scouts), at their site at Rudyard Lake, from Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> to Monday 9<sup>th</sup>. At their site they have a hut with a kitchen and bedrooms, a jetty, and a large fleet of both sail and rowing boats. On the Saturday, we set up tents and the Explorers spent the day cooking on an open fire. On Sunday we all

went sailing on the lake, in *Wayfarer* boats. It was the first time I had ever tried sailing, and I can't wait to do it again! There were two of us to a boat, and one instructor. When the wind picked up we sailed down the 2 mile lake to the dam and back up again. In the morning on Monday everyone went out rowing. Unfortunately I was feeling ill so I missed it, but it looked like good fun. After the

activities, the meals were brilliant, thanks to the full kitchen in the hut; spaghetti bolognese on Saturday and meat & potato pie on Sunday. Overall I loved the camp, it let me try new things and have a great time!



**Matt, on the jetty at the Sea Scouts HQ on Rudyard Lake**



## 114th Trentham Scout Group

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**Don't forget, the Scout House is available for hire. Why not have your Children's Birthday party here, Competitive rates only £10 per hour (minimum hire 3 hours).**

**Full use of the building and the grounds. For more information and booking form visit our Website.**

**Be Prepared**



# A View of Explorer Scouts

This article has been written by Jake Harley a former scout who now attends the local Explorer Scout unit for young people aged between 14 and 18 years.

When I left Scouts I only had a couple of options, I could give up on Scouts all together or join an Explorer Unit which I did, and what a great decision I made.

Within the first few nights of being there I had made new friends and taken part in activities like Chinese Culture night and Pimp my Biscuit which involved making a delicious party ring that was the size of a BIKE wheel!

The Explorer Unit I am in is called Lawrence Fleet and it is

based in Hanford at the 89th Sea Scouts Headquarters

. It is a fun and lively group with around 9-10 members which meet up every Thursday night. The whole group are a great laugh but I think it would be slightly better if more people came along. The group have



**Explorers is the section for the older members of Scouting, these are based in the district.**

already arranged Easter and Summer camps but I am only going on the Easter camp.

As our group are mainly Sea Scouts, the activities at the camp will be sailing, kayaking and many others. The Summer camp is slightly different however because it is a week long camp and costs a little more money, but it's still a great chance to get into the great outdoors.

Moving up to Explorers was a great decision and I hope more people will think about joining us.

Jake Harley