



## GROUP NEWS

February 2021



As all face-to-face Scout meetings, activities and events are still suspended the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are organising some virtual scouting for their members to do at home, via zoom meetings, emails and their Facebook pages.

Your child's leaders will contact parents with details

We have no idea when we will be getting back to normal Scouting.

### Berkshire Scouts @home challenge

You can still have a go at Berkshire Scout Challenges for those Scouts who want to complete whilst Scouting at home. This has been developed by the 'Berkshire Scouts @home challenge', open to all members of Scouting in Berkshire. The challenge can be completed as a section, as a Group, or by individual members, but the main aim is to have fun and give leaders and young people new ideas to try.

The challenge has been adapted to suit Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. To complete it, they should complete an activity from each of the six challenge areas:

1. Helping Others
2. Nights Away
3. International Scouting
4. Youth Shaped Scouting
5. Learning New Skills
6. The Scouting Family



More details <https://www.berkshirescouts.org.uk/scouthome/>

## Invitation to join!

**PG Scouts Parents' Support Group** plays a vital role in the running of our Scout Group  
[The Group Executive Committee | Scouts](#)

We ensure that the best quality Scouting can be delivered to our young people.

Our focus includes co-ordination of:

- fund raising
- Scout hut and equipment maintenance, and repairs
- finance, census etc.

We meet once a month (on-line at the moment) for just an hour.

We're keen to encourage more people to get involved:

- ✓ **to support the group**
- ✓ **suggest new ideas**
- ✓ **make a difference**
- ✓ **enjoy volunteering**



If you would like to get involved, or want more information, please contact:

**Erica Hunter** (Group Scout Leader) [erica.hunter2@btinternet.com](mailto:erica.hunter2@btinternet.com) or  
**Natasha Medhurst** (Executive Committee Chair) [natasha\\_medhurst@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:natasha_medhurst@yahoo.co.uk)

## Annual PG New Years Day Walk 2021.

This year as we could not meet as a group and walk together on our traditional New Year morning walk.

Instead we offered two routes for families to walk one, 2.4 miles and other 3.5 miles. It was good to hear of so many members and their families doing one of them as a family unit, over the first weekend of the New Year. Even with the challenge of Dungrove Hill Road being flooded and needing wellies to get through it.



## Laptop / Tablet / Web Camera

A couple of sections are struggling to run or hold zoom meetings, do you have a Laptop with web camera, tablet or **USB Web camera** we can borrow

If you can help us please email [help@pgtips.org.uk](mailto:help@pgtips.org.uk)



During this challenging time when we can't fundraise in person and events have been cancelled, Pinkneys Green Scouts needs your help more than ever.

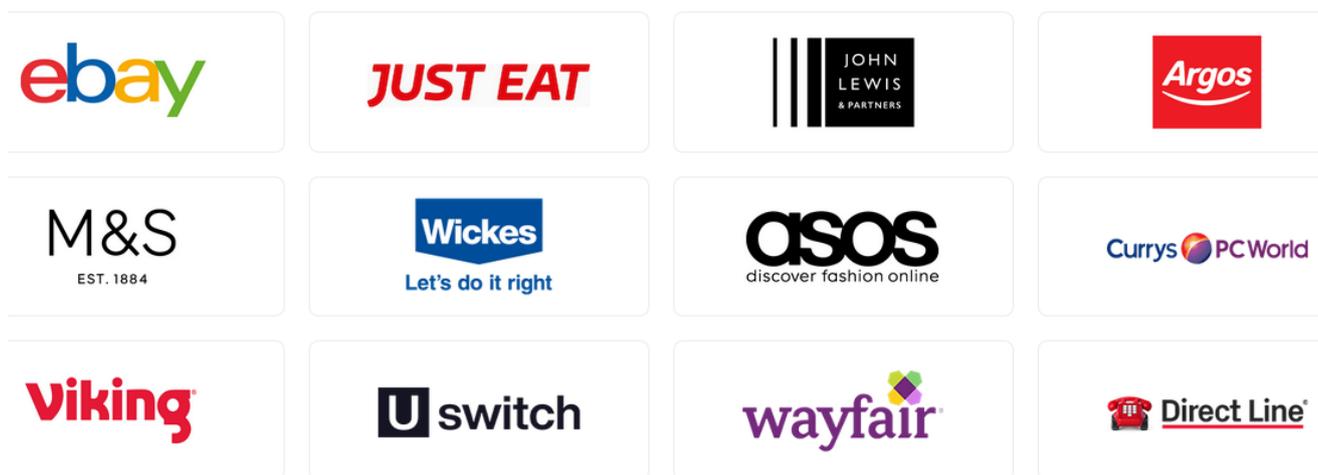
If you're shopping online for anything at all, please remember to go via easyfundraising to raise free donations for us.

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 % 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 used our online shopping page**

**Over 4,100 Brand Partners**



## 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.

## **BEAVER NEWS**

### **Littlewick Colony**

We have been zooming every Monday evening and enjoying some great interactive sessions.

We are excited to have a new member (yet to be invested) as well as our group of regular Beavers. Since Christmas we have practised using listening, describing and drawing skills as well as learning to tie our shoe laces! We have lots of fun activities planned over the next few weeks too.

**Rainbow Littlewick** (Sarah Brodie)



### **Winter Hill Colony**

I know this is not the start to the year we all wanted but at the very least I hope Christmas and New Year was enjoyable with the family you could share it with. Onwards and upwards...



We can't meet but I'm ready to start up Zoom meetings again, every other Monday started on [the 18th January at 6.30pm](#). I'd like to try and tick off some badge work as we go so check email the weekend before for invites, requests and planning if necessary.

It's a busy start to the term as we welcome our new Beavers, *Zach, Maiya, Theo, Zofia* and *Nathaniel*.

However, to make room for this lovely bunch, we sadly have to say goodbye to our oldest Beavers who are moving up to Cubs. *Alexander, Zachary, Rueben, Lucas, Flori, Cooper* and *Freddie* have already been invited to their first Cub Zoom - we wish them well and hope they are able to get stuck in real soon, fingers crossed.

There are one or two badges I'd like to share with you all. I am pleased to announce that *Flori Dunn* and *Cooper Sanders* have completed their Bronze Award just in time before their journey to Cubs.

A huge congratulation to them both! As you all know this is not easy to achieve - well done. If any of the Beavers moving to Cubs want to tick off those one or two tasks I sent you and get your Bronze Award too - there's still time! You can be awarded the Bronze Award 6 weeks after joining Cubs.

That's all for now. It's good to be back

**Keo Winter Hill** (Sheridan Stone)

## **CUB NEWS**

### **Winter Hill Pack**

At the time of writing, we've enjoyed two virtual cub meetings. An experience for us all! It's been great to start reconnecting the pack on this new platform. In a game of virtual guess who, we enjoyed ransacking the wardrobes for extravagant disguises - leaving some wandering if it would have been better to call the meeting a silly hat competition.



As word spread about our virtual meetings, we had quadruple the attendance for our next meeting: a paper aeroplane contest. After some technical difficulties getting the instructions to the pack, manufacturing began resulting in aircraft that Boeing would be proud of. *Alex Konrad* won the contest for longest distance at 10.2m. Unfortunately, we couldn't determine the fastest flyer because none of the planes were built to support the GPS units we planned to build ;-)

We will continue with the weekly virtual meetings until it is safe to return to face to face. As with the meetings so far, we will continue to build in opportunities for the cubs to interact with each other in break out rooms to enhance their connections.

**Akela Winter Hill** (*Jon Corbitt*)

# SCOUT NEWS

## Littlewick Troop

We have had 3 meetings so far in 2021, all online given the current restrictions. The first was the “professor challenge”. Volunteers had to speak as an expert on a subject matter for 1 minute, the catch being that they were not told the subject until they started. This was a bit like Just a Minute but with slightly less restrictions. The scouts were then split into groups to research a bit more about one of the topics we had heard a “lecture” on. This led to us finding out a bit more about how to travel to Mars and the pros and cons of getting a new pet during lockdown. For our second meeting we did a scavenger hunt for 26 items, one for each letter of the alphabet, and then played some game

For our most recent meeting we cooked apple crumble in a mug. This went ok but the recipe did not work as well as our previous cookies in a mug. Consistency varied and mine came out a bit like lava until it cooled! The scouts self-assessed results varied between 4 and 7 out of 10. A lesson for all of us maybe.



We anticipate we will be online only for a while yet so the leaders have been doing some planning for this. Hopefully we will manage an entertaining term even if it is not how we would normally do

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

## Winter Hill Troop

We have started the year with continuing with zoom meetings, It has been a very busy month, started off with a quiz evening where the Scouts in their teams had to answer the questions, including the last one which was who died today in 1941 (8th January) it was our founder *Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell* (BP). The 80th Anniversary of the death.



The following week the PLs had decided that the scouts would have a go at making S'mores cup cakes in a mug. A fudgy chocolatey cake, a biscuit crust and of course, tons of marshmallows. The Scouts enjoyed them, especially those that added ice cream.

Last week the Scouts had to make a bottle boat that should float. They worked out that two bottles were a lot more stable, and it was easier to add a rudder, keel and mast, with a sail. They all managed to find some where to test the boat, from the kitchen sink to a bath. Only one had trouble floating, Matthews managed to sink completely below the water, which taught him about the requirements to have something that would be buoyant. The Scouts also learnt some sailing words and



phrases so they're ready to get out on the water when it's safe again.

Some Scouts have completed their Personal Challenge award and are working towards their Chief Scouts Award.

Scouts have the choice of 77 Activity badges to a lot they can do or start at home: [www.scouts.org.uk/scouts/activity-badges/](http://www.scouts.org.uk/scouts/activity-badges/)

Don't forget to send me photos and let me know what you have been doing at home.

**Scout Leader Winter Hill** (*Simon Wheeler*)