



GROUP NEWS

December 2021 **V2**

STOP PRESS

COVID UPDATE - From the National Youth Agency the Government have confirmed there will be some changes to the way we can deliver Scouting activities within England. Taking effect Thursday, 2 December 2021, the youth sector moves to the Yellow readiness level and the following change apply -

Scouts + Explorers & Leaders must wear a face covering when in any indoor venue, unless they are exempt



Christingle (Carol) Service



We are holding a Carol Service on
Sunday 12th December 2021 at 3.25pm

at our local Church
St. James the Less at Stubbings.

All Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Young Leaders,
parents, brothers, sisters, friends etc.
are invited to join us at this Special Service



Christmas Tree Festival

Littlewick Beavers and Cubs are sponsoring a Christmas Tree at **St Luke's Church Christmas Tree Festival**.

If you are free, pop along and see their tree and lots of others in the church.

If you are unable to go and see the trees personally, they can view the trees online from 10am on Friday 3rd December on Christmas Tree web site

www.stlukeschristmastreerail.co.uk

New Year's Day - Morning Walk

The annual PG New Year's Morning Walk will take place around the local area.



Date: **Saturday 1st January 2022**

Time: **10.30 a.m.**

Where: Pinkneys Green Cricket Pitch
N.T. Car Park,

Finish: approx. 12 noon.

St. Luke's Church Norfolk Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7AX **Christmas Tree Festival**

3rd - 5th December 2021

Visit this beautiful church,
full of decorated trees

Friday: 10 am - 7 pm

Saturday: 10 am - 7 pm

Sunday: midday - 6pm

Closing service at 6pm
on Sunday

Refreshments daily
Raffle



Also available to view
online:

www.stlukeschristmastreerail.co.uk

Used Postage Stamp

Reminder, Tarka (*Barry Palmer*) is collecting used postage stamps for RNIB

Please save your postage stamps for us. Start collecting stamps as they come through your post box or at your work. Make sure you leave a centimetre of envelope or packaging around each stamp.



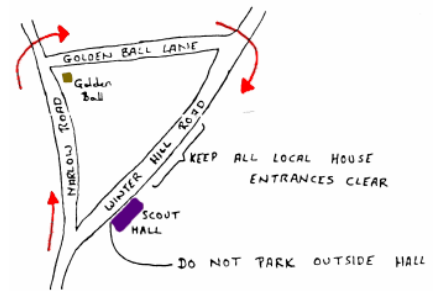
Proposed Closure of Golden Ball Lane – News!

We are glad to be able to share with you that the council have confirmed this week that the proposal has been rejected and Golden Ball Lane will not be closed. A significant factor in the decision-making process was that 76% of the survey respondents did not support the scheme – many of whom will have been PG Scout families, so thank you for taking part! In fact, it included several Golden Ball Lane residents who did not support the proposal either.

We are obviously delighted as it keeps the established PG one-way system that works so well, intact. However, it is a good opportunity to remind everyone of the one-way system and request total compliance.

We continue to observe:

- drop-offs taking place in the opposite direction, i.e. turning right off Marlow Road and driving up Winter Hill Road
- parking on the white lines outside the hall
- the use of neighbours' driveways for turning.



Please avoid these actions which cause increased congestion for our near neighbours, who are already extremely tolerant towards the Group. It is also an awkward conversation for our volunteer section leaders to have with neighbours and/or parents.

Similarly, please continue to drive carefully, considerately and, above all, slowly along Golden Ball Lane. Whilst we did not agree with the closure, we do respect the fact that some residents feel there is an issue, and we should do all we can to minimise any contribution to that perception.

Thank you once again, and if you have any questions please contact us, or your child's section leader.

Remembrance Sunday

PG was well represented at *St John The Evangelist* at Littlewick Green and *St James the Less* at Stubbing, by Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, leaders and parents.



The Scout Poppy Wreaths were laid just after 11am on Sunday 14 November, on the War Memorials outside Littlewick Green & Stubbings churches.

Our president Raksha (Sheila Stinton) laid one at Stubbing and Akela (Pete Matthews) at Littlewick



UNIFORM - All members are expected to wear correct uniform to their section meetings. These can be purchased from Maidenhead Scout Shop

Please make sure that you know your child's **Chest & waist size...**

The shop will be open every Thursday evening up to and including 9th December **7pm – 8.45pm** and second Saturday of month, **11th December – 10am – 12noon**

Maidenhead Scout Shop

7pm – 8.45pm

Plus Saturday 16th December

10am – 12noon

at

19th Maidenhead Hut Holmanleaze
(Behind Magnet)

www.maidenheadscouts.org.uk/scout-shop/

PG – ONLINE SHOPPING

We need your support; it is quite simple to **access our online web shop**,

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 percentage 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/

BEAVER NEWS

Littlewick Colony

We've been busy again at Littlewick Beavers. We attended the Remembrance service, and made poppy craft. It was lovely to hear how much the Beavers knew and understood.

We have also been busy with science experiments and decoration stations over the last few weeks. Of course with some games thrown in too!



Rainbow Littlewick (Sarah Brodie),

Winter Hill Colony

This month the beavers have been on a hike around the local area. They especially enjoyed walking whilst it was getting dark.

The beavers also reflected on Remembrance Day by making poppies for a wreath that was laid at the church on Remembrance Sunday. They cut out the petals and used a button for the middle. Visiting the church on Remembrance Sunday went towards their faith badge. To finish their faith badge the beavers wrote prayers based on the nativity

The beavers made a get well soon card for *Raksha* along with paper flowers to go on the front of the card. We hope to see *Raksha* soon and wish her well.



Tic Tac Winter Hill (Tom Beynon)

CUB NEWS

The Wednesday during half term, seven Winter Hill Scouts ran a joint Scary Halloween party for Littlewick & Winter Hill Cub Packs. The cubs wore scary costumes.. The first activity the cubs had was to bring a paper bag with something in it to scare a Scout or leader, who had to put their hand in to the bags. All the Scouts had a go at this, and found some very messy gory items. The Scouts then chose the Cub with the best costume. The first game they were split into groups and had to mummify a Cub, they wrapped them in toilet paper.

We then went outside on to the green to take part in some messy games. The first one was to get and eat as many smarties, out of a pile of flour. Each cub had their own plate of flour, so we were working within the Covid rules. They then had to get an apple out of a bowl of water, this was played slightly different. Each cub had a fork and had to get the apple out only using one hand. They then had to eat a doughnut off a string with their hands behind their back. The meeting was finished off with all the Cubs, Scouts & leaders having a cup of hot chocolate.

Scout Leader Winter Hill (Simon Wheeler)



Winter Hill Pack

We are well and truly back in the routine of cub meetings now and there's some exciting events coming up in the year ahead. Here's an insight into what's to come... Fencing, Ice Skating, Pioneering, Vegan Cooking, a Visit from a Guide Dog, trip to the Fire Station, trip to a Gudwara, Tai Chi, Hikes, Bike Maintenance, a trip to the Zoo and much more. COVID didn't just interrupt our programme, it interrupted our membership intake and unusually we do have some (limited) spaces in the Cub Pack. If you know of anyone who might be interested joining our cub pack, please feel free to pass on our email: pgcubs@icloud.com



Internet Safety Evening

This is internet safety. If you stick to the internet safety path you can avoid getting hacked and scams. At Cubs we learnt about internet safety and why it is important. To avoid getting scammed or hacked then never share your password or username with any strangers. If you know a hacker in person then confront them and tell them that it is a bad thing to hack and no one should do it. Overall, scamming and hacking is a bad thing and that it should never ever be performed.

Raffa

Paracord Woggles

At Cubs we made woggles out of paracord. Mysa gave us a short and long piece and we tied them together to make a pattern. It was hard to start off with but got easier as we got going. Finally we tied the ends together and a leader melted the tips with a lighter so they wouldn't come out. Everyone made a woggle for the colour of their six. This means everyone knows which six they are in, so no one gets confused (e.g. Akela!)

Zoe

Akela Winter Hill (Jon Corbitt)

SCOUT NEWS

Littlewick Troop

Over half term we had a meeting doing pioneering on the green. We built a full size ballista that could throw a soft football. The main frame was a tripod then to this was attached something to hold the ball and bungee cords to throw it. The following meeting we had quiz about different countries around the world. Questions included identifying countries from their outlines, guessing how many scouts were in certain countries and guessing the most widely spoken languages. After this was a meeting where the challenge was to build the tallest tower out of newspaper. Our most recent meeting was to do route planning for a hike we will do in a few weeks. The



best route will be picked and we will do that one.



Outside of our normal meetings there have been two other events. Seven of the scouts attended the outside bit of the Remembrance Sunday ceremony in Littlewick Green. Many thanks to the church for having us. We also had a team of seven scouts who took part in the District Night Hike. There were 8 bases at which the scouts had to complete a challenge as a team. We were given the route at 7:30pm, the scouts then plotted it out on the maps and we drove to the starting base for an 8:30pm start. The scouts did all of the navigating, banded together well on the bases and spirits were still high as we entered Saturday morning. We completed our final base at 1:30am and got to our finish point just before 2am.

Scout Leader Littlewick (*Mark Courtier*)

Winter Hill Troop

We have had a busy few weeks, after running the Cubs Halloween party, we had our own on the green, which was a lot messier than the Cubs one.

The Scouts made Turks head woggles out of green and yellow cable. They look very smart with new woggles.

On the Scouting front they have completed the Navigation badge, in preparation for the night hike and attended the Remembrance Sunday service at Stubbings.



Fifteen members of the Troop took part in the District night hike, we entered several teams. As we were short of leader's thank you goes to Scout parents *Antonia Spinks John Wilson, Barry Puddephatt, George Antonas and Richard Lee* for walking with the Scouts. It was a large event with over 260 Scouts and adults involved, from 11 Maidenhead groups. Well done to all the Scouts, they did very well with map reading, only one team got slightly lost they all completed the activities and challenges. We were lucky with the weather it was a dry warm night, we have put some photos on www.facebook.com/pgscouts/

We would like to welcome *Alfie Darby* and *Zack Ratnapala* to the Troop, they have just started their Moving Up Award from Cubs

This month twenty-three members of the Troop are going to see Maidenhead Drama Guilds pantomime Treasure Island. Our ex Akela Rob Harris and ex PG Scout Charlie Fiddler are members of the cast.

WH Scout Leader (*Simon Wheeler*)

WE WISH ALL OUR READERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL P.G. SCOUTER'S

& THE PG TIPS PRODUCTION TEAM

