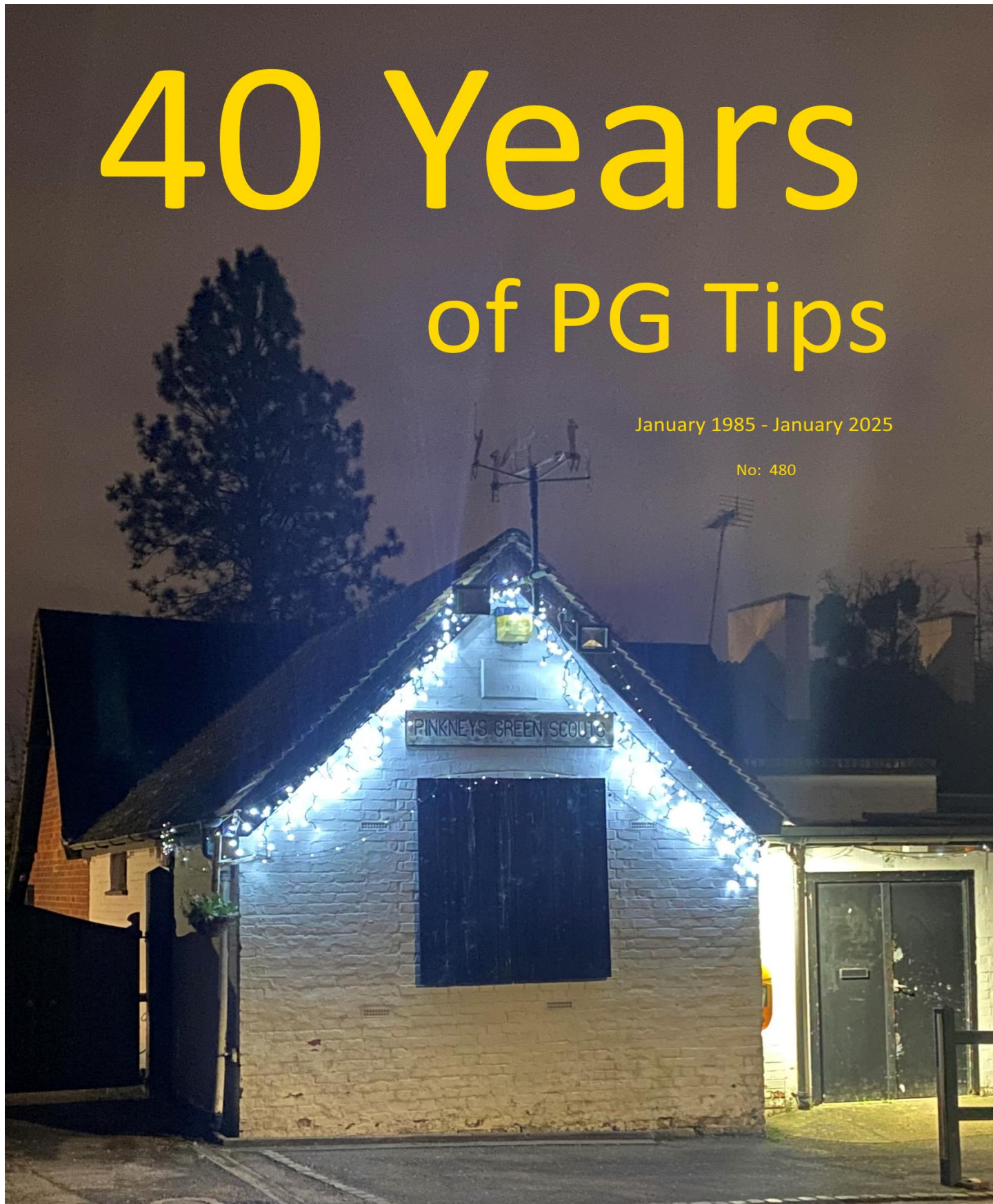




# 40 Years of PG Tips

January 1985 - January 2025

No: 480



## PG TIPS - *PG Tips* is the Newsletter of Pinkneys Green Scout Group.

The first PG Group Newsletter was produced January 1985, after all the Scout Leaders decided at a leaders meeting at our then G.S.L.'s (*Nick Hinchliff*) house. We were producing different News sheets for each section and items were being duplicated. Parents etc. we're asking to have copies of all the news sheets. August/September 1985 we decided that the Newsletter was working well and that we would hold a competition to choose a Name for it. We had over thirty entries, the judging panel had no choice as "**PG Tips**" stood out from all the other entries, as it was the only one that had "**PG**" in the title and as we are known in the local area as PG Scouts it seemed to fit. (*Simon* submitted the winning entry under a pseudonym). The first PG Tips were typed on an old, battered typewriter by *Simon* and it was full of composing errors, which made it interesting to read. **PG Tips** is now typed on a computer, which helps with layout, and most reports are now submitted by email. (*Simon* still manages to get errors in the report - he has the biggest **personal** spell checker **diconary** you could have) In 90's line pictures were added and photos in 2011. Every month PG Tips is emailed out, plus we produce some printed copies.



### Some facts:

*We email out approx. 350 copies and print off 70 copies of PG Tips each month. We have even sent a copy to Number10 Downing Street*

*We have got a permanent record of event/activities including reports written by the boys, parents and friends!*

**PG Tips** has saved the Group a lot of money, over the years, with all the items

*that we have asked for **FREE!** Everything from computers to Ice Cream Containers.*

*It also keeps everyone up to date with future events/activities so **NO ONE** has an excuse that they didn't know something was going to be held.*

**We hope that you find PG Tips interesting and that you read all the Sections - *NOT JUST THE ONE RELATING TO YOU OR YOUR CHILD !!***

### **From the Archives: PG Tips JAN 1984 - Forty years ago**

- *Link Badge - The troop welcomed Nick Segger, Matthew Milston and James Twitchen, who have just started their "Link Badge" with the Troop.*
- *Christmas Fair - 1984's Christmas Fair raised over £780*
- *The Annual Pantomime had been a great success "Jack and the Bean Stalk" had been put on just before Christmas, had been a complete sell out.*



1984 Cub Camp at Hurley



1984 Summer Camp Monmouth



1984 *Gryphon* (Our Ventures) Trip West Whittering



*Simon* Investing *Matthew Milston* (A current PG Leader April 1984)



On behalf of all the Leaders, we hope that you had an enjoyable Christmas

# We Wish You A Happy New Year

Sections will be starting back after the Christmas holidays; we have a busy year coming up. Our Summer Fair is on Sunday 22nd June, and we have a Jumble Sale on Saturday 20th September.

Attached to PG Tips is the Groups 2025 Diary, please make a note of dates.

## PG Christmas Trees

Thank you goes to *Peta & Charlie Almond* for coordinating the sales and delivery of this years Christmas tree fundraising activity and to all the Parents and Scouts who delivered the trees and collecting them for recycling (and of course to everyone who purchased a PG Christmas tree! ).



**We have raised over £4,100.**



## Used Postage Stamp

Reminder, Tarka (Barry Palmer) is collecting used postage stamps.

Please save your postage stamps for us. Then either put them through the Scout Hall letter box or drop them off at your child's section meeting. Thank you goes to everyone who has dropped off stamps to us.

## Plea for Computer Bits, etc.

To help youngsters with their scouting, we need computers, laptops (they can have a broken screen), computer monitors, disk drives and network equipment. Some of what we have is very old so we would really appreciate any help!

If you have an old computer or laptop, you no longer use or if you think that you could convince your work to donate some old equipment, please contact Simon [Simon@pgtips.org.uk](mailto:Simon@pgtips.org.uk)

We can guarantee that any information on them will be securely wiped, or if necessary, can accept machines with the drives removed – drop us an email and we can discuss it if you have any questions. Thank you for your support!



## Younger Siblings

Current PG members, do you have younger sibling that are under 4 years and not yet old enough to join. **Are they on our waiting list** so that when they reach four, they can join. We are having a lot of enquiries at the moment.

If in doubt, please check and ask. Email our Group Lead Volunteer *Erica Hunter* [erica.hunter2@btinternet.com](mailto:erica.hunter2@btinternet.com)

**Squirrels** are 4-6 Year Olds    **Beavers** are 6 – 8 Year Olds    **Cubs** are 8 – 10 Year Olds

## SAFELY DROPPING OFF TO YOUR CHILD'S MEETINGS



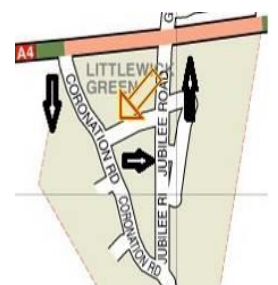
**PINKNEYS GREEN** - Scout Hall Winter Hill Road - *Can we remind Parents to operate a One-Way System when dropping off or collecting your children from Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs or Scouts, also please don't turn your cars around in our neighbours' driveways and DON'T PARK or PICK UP where the WHITE LINES are outside the hall. Please Drive Slowly Down Golden Ball Lane, below the 20mph Speed Limit.*

Park on the Scout Hall side of the road, facing Furze Platt Road, parking lights on when it is dark. **Do Not Park** in the driveways of *Flint Lodge, Christmas Cottage or Pond House.*

**LITTLEWICK GREEN** - Gilchrist Village Hall - can we also remind parents dropping off and picking up your children from *Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs.*

**DON'T PARK** in **Gilchrist Way** as this is strictly reserved for residents.

We ask parents to please park a little further down on Jubilee Road or on Coronation Road and walk up; you may need a torch! **Please ask your childs leader**, if you are not sure.



**DO NOT PARK ACROSS OUR NEIGHBOURS' DRIVEWAYS**

## Christingle (Carol) Service

It was good to see 87 Parents, Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Friends of PG at our Christingle Service at our parish church at *St James the Less*, Stubbings.

Special thank you goes to *Rev. Tom Etherton*, for arranging the service. Also, to all the parents who made the Christingles, to everyone who supplied the mince pies, for the refreshments, that were served afterwards in the Soltau Centre. We had traditional carols as well as the Christingles.



## **BURCHETTS GREEN PARISH – SUNDAY SERVICE ROTA**

### **JANUARY 2025**

<b>2025 Week</b>	<b>St Mary the Virgin, Hurley</b>	<b>St James the Less, Stubbings</b>	<b>St John the Evangelist, Littlewick Green</b>
<b>Week 1 Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>10.30 God through Music</b>	<b>16.00 Evensong</b>	<b>09.15 Holy Communion</b>
<b>Week 2 Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>10.30 Holy Communion</b>	<b>8 am BCP Holy Communion</b>	<b>09.15 <u>Advent Songs of Praise</u> <u>with Sunday Club</u></b>
<b>Week 3 Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>10.30 God in Quiet</b>	<b>11.00 BCP Communion</b>	<b>09.15 Holy Communion</b>
<b>Week 4 Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>10.30 Communion with Sunday Club</b>	<b>09.00 Come to the Table</b>	

### Chewing/Bubble Gum

Can we remind all Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Young Leaders that **Chewing and Bubble Gum is BANNED** from the Scout Hall and all Scouting activities that they take part in, as members of PG.

## Outgrown your Uniform

If you have a uniform jumper, shirt, shorts, trousers or Yellow PG Tee shirt that your child has outgrown or no longer requires, please donate it to us. Please give it to a leader or drop them off at the Scout Hall, so it can go in the second-hand uniform box.

## PG Tee Shirts

**Yellow PG Tee Shirts** £10 each, for more details, contact *Raksha* (Sheila Stinton) 01628 628160 or at Winter Hill Beavers or Cubs.



## Christmas Lights

If you have any Christmas lights you no longer require, we are looking for some to decorate the hall for the Christmas Parties and other activities.

If you got some new lights for Christmas, and looking for a home for the old one, think of the Scouts, as a good way to recycle them, for us to use to decorate the hall.

## Have You LOST A COAT ?

Since our Jumble Sale last September, we have managed to collect ten coats; we have not been able to find who they belong to.

We have managed to return lots of other coats and items that have been left at the Scout Hall, as they had their owners name in them.

All the coats that we had in the hall in September, that we could not find owners, were put in our Jumble Sale. See photo, they vary in size from squirrels, (four-year-olds), to Scouts (fourteen-year-olds).

Please make our life easier to return lost items and put **your child's name** in their clothes, **including uniform**, PG Green & Yellow scarfs.



## Maidenhead Scout Shop

Every Thursday Evening  
**7pm – 9pm**  
(Term Time)

Second Saturday of month  
**10am to 12 noon**  
at

19th Maidenhead Hut Holmanleaze  
(Behind Magnet)

[www.maidenheadscouts.org.uk/scout-shop/](http://www.maidenheadscouts.org.uk/scout-shop/)



## Unwanted Christmas Presents

If you have any unwanted Christmas Presents, we would be grateful for donations for our Summer Fair Tombola / Silent Auction. Please send them along to your child's meeting labelled **TOMBOLA**.

We are also looking for **old china** (NO GLASS) for smash china stall.



## Bag of Rubbish

A big thank you goes to all the parents who have taken home a black sack of rubbish after their child's section meeting. We have to pay to have rubbish collected and this helps us save some money.

If you have space in your black Wheelie bin or can go to the tips, and see black sack rubbish, please help us by taking it.

## Ellington Morris - FREE introduction to Morris dancing



Did you know that Ellington Morris dancers also use the Scout Hall during the winter months as they learn new dances for the following year?

There are **FREE** introductory evenings each Wednesday at 8:30pm starting from January 8th 2025.

Why not make a New Year's Resolution to try something different and come along and join us?

It is fun to learn and no experience is necessary – sticks and hankies are provided!

Both dancers and musicians are welcome.



For further details contact Chris Bell on 01628 623023 or our website [www.ellington.org.uk](http://www.ellington.org.uk)

## 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 7,500 brands 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, Morrisons and Audible.

All you have to do is go through the easyfundraising website or App whenever you shop online and we will receive a percentage of your spend as a free donation, at no cost to you or us.

**Please remember to use easyfundraising website**

**You shop, brands donate**  
It won't cost you any extra!

easyfundraising  
Help us make a difference when you shop. Visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

Booking.com JOHN LEWIS  
Argos ASOS  
eBay 7,500+ online brands

Download on the App Store GET IT ON Google Play

If you haven't signed up yet, see our page at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/pgscouts/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/pgscouts/)



## 2025 Help to Clean Our Hall

This New Year we are looking for parent volunteers to clean the hall this term.

Areas include the Toilet, kitchen and a quick sweep over the main hall floor, wash the kitchen, Mitchell room and toilet floors a couple of times a year. If you can spare approx. 45 minutes once a term, time to suit you, please complete our online form:

<https://volunteersignup.org/9WYRT>

**Anytime, between** Tuesday morning (Weds only before 5.30pm, Thurs before 4.30pm and after 6pm) and Fridays before 5pm. If you would like a parent to explain what is involved email [cleaning@pgtips.org.uk](mailto:cleaning@pgtips.org.uk)



## SQUIRREL NEWS

### Winter Hill Drey

At the start of the month the Squirrels celebrated and learnt about Thanksgiving. They played Thanksgiving bingo, tried some food, did a thankful tree. (Writing or drawing on leaves what they are thankful for and sticking to the tree) and we read a story of the first Thanksgiving.

The Squirrels enjoyed some cooking and made Welsh cakes. They weighed up their ingredients, mixed them all together then rolled out and griddled them. The Squirrels visited St James the Less Church at Stubbings. They got to have a look around, then had a short service learning the true meaning of Christmas. Then we invested our 3 newest Squirrels.

To round off the year the Squirrels enjoyed a Christmas party. There were games dancing and party food.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped at Squirrels this year it wouldn't be possible without you. I would also like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

*Tic Tac, Winter Hill* (Tom Beynon)

## BEAVER NEWS

### Littlewick Colony

We've had a busy finish to the year with a host of crafty activities, making Christmas cards to say thank you to our families and also building our button Christmas trees to display at St Luke's Christmas Tree Festival.

We finished the term with a Christmas party full of games (and chocolate) and said goodbye to five Beavers who are swimming up to Cubs in the New Year but not before they all achieved their Chief Scout Bronze Awards!



We also say goodbye to *Hawkeye* (Chris) who is standing down after two years of supporting Littlewick Beavers, thank you again and enjoy your retirement!

*Malak, Littlewick* (Phil Franzen)

### Winter Hill Colony

The first week of the month, the Beavers got in to small groups and practiced, then acted out, the nativity.

The Beavers made Christmas decorations ready for our Christmas banquet at the end of term. They made paper chains and baubles, Then our newest Beavers were invested



The following week Beavers had some special visitors. In the form of some lizards, snakes and ferrets. They learnt about how to care for them and got to hold some.

The final week of the year was our annual Beaver banquet. The Beavers and their guests enjoyed sausage, chips and baked beans followed by cake and ice cream. It was such a wonderful turn out.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helps with Beavers, and wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

*Tic Tac, Winter Hill* (Tom Beynon)

## **CUB NEWS**

### **Littlewick Pack**

December has been a wonderful month for the young people. Many of the Cubs earned their Astronomy badge, including using a telescope to do some star gazing. We also learned about Hannukah, whilst making paper dreidels and playing the traditional game.

We did a local exploration, learning the history of Littlewick, including it's blue sign and the Maidenhead coat of arms. This was especially beautiful at this time of year, considering all the beautiful Christmas lights. We finished off the term with our Christmas party, a fast paced evening of traditional party games and lots of prizes.

We hope you had opportunity to see the Beaver and Cub Tree at the tree festival. Between us we managed to fill the tree with amazing decorations, the YP did amazingly.



We look forward to welcoming back all our Cubs in the New Year, including lots of new faces, and planning another exciting term of activities.

*Kaa, Littlewick Green* (Sam Lewis)

### **Winter Hill Pack**

Four Cubs, Peter, Finlay, Jack and Tommy represented the Pack in the District Chess competition, they all joyed a great evening. All involved played great games and we were successful with Peter winning the evening with a great effort.

We had a festive December, decorating and creating Christmas cards to be given to patients at Wexham Park Hospital. A range of messages with blank recipients inside ready to go to those who could do with a boost at this time of year.

We also enjoyed a festive get together wearing our finest Christmas Jumpers and celebrating the season before our break.



*Akela, Winter Hill* (Matt Bolton)

## SCOUT NEWS

**Looking For Help** - We are looking for a parent to drive a minibus at Summer Camp for a few days between **19 July - 1 August 2025**. To drive a minibus, you need to complete a MIDAS course, which we will pay for. If you can help or think of anyone who can help us, please contact Simon [simon@pgtips.org.uk](mailto:simon@pgtips.org.uk) for more details



### Littlewick Troop

For the first meeting in this period we had an evening doing a science experiment and made bioplastics. We had the instructions to make three different ones, two that produced films and one that produced a foam like structure. There was a moment where I thought we might have ruined all the pans in the scout hall, but they actually came out quite well. Thanks to leader *Ben* for doing the background research for this meeting.



Our next meeting was a troop forum where the scouts could give feedback on our meetings for the year and make suggestions for what we do in the future. We have a lot of material to work with for planning now. The following week we had a cooking evening and made Welsh cakes.

We then had an excellent evening where *Kaa* and family brought some of their reptiles and ferrets to visit and for the scouts to learn about. *Kaa* is very knowledgeable so we and got to handle a variety of snakes, lizards and the lively ferrets. Rarely have I seen the scouts so enraptured. Also, that evening we invested *Jack* and *Joshua* into the troop and the team that won the Night Hike were presented with the trophy.

Our final meeting of the term was our Christmas party which featured a range of traditional party games and was a very fun way to end the year.

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



### Winter Hill Troop

This month began with a training weekend for the older Scouts. They slept at the Scout Hall and organised their own activities, including one of their favourite games 'stinger' and watching a film together on the Friday night. On Saturday they were given



a pheasant each and learnt how to pluck it, gut it, prepare it, and cook it. On Saturday evening we all sat down to a lovely pheasant stew, with plenty left over to take some home.

Other Troop meetings this month included a personal fitness evening and an evening of inventing games and crafts using hundreds of empty water bottles. They played skittles and made models of transport objects like helicopters and rockets.



They also had a pizza-making evening, creating their own toppings and cooking them. Another week they built a cube 'jail' out of garden canes and sisal, which had to be free-standing, big enough to fit six Scouts in, and secure enough so they could not escape. Unfortunately, we had to let them out at the end of the evening!

On the Friday between Christmas and New Year the Scouts held their Christmas party, where they played party games, ate party food and did a Christmas music quiz. One of the Scouts, Edie, made a beautiful cake in the shape of a P.G. Scout shirt and neckerchief.

Winter Hill Scout Troop wishes everyone a very Happy New Year!

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



# PG Outline Events

1 January	<b>Group</b>	- <b>New Years Morning Walk</b> - 10.30
1 February	Scout	- District PL's Training Course
8 February	Squirrel	- District Squirrel <b>Mardi Gras</b> 10:30-12:30
19 February	Cub/Scout	- Both Packs Incident Hike (Run by Scouts <i>PL's</i> & <i>APL's</i> )
28 Feb- 1 Mar	Scout <b>WH</b>	- Training Course ( Scouts Year 8 & above)
2 March	Beaver	- District <b>Beaveriee</b> @ Altwood school
7-8 Mar	Scout <b>WH</b>	- Training Course (Year 7)
22 March	Cub	- District Flag Competition
28-29 Mar	Scout <b>WH</b>	- Training Course (Year 5 & 6)
26 April	District	- ST Georges on a Saturday - 14.00 All Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & leaders
10 May	Cub	- <b>JOTT - District Cub Incident Hike</b> run by the Scouts
16 - 18 May	Scout	- <b>Troop Camp</b> - All Scouts
28 May	Cub/Scout	- <b>Both Packs</b> Half Term Activity (Run by Scouts <i>PL's</i> & <i>APL's</i> )
14 June	Cub	- District Cubs in Canoes
<b>22 June</b>	<b>Group</b>	- <b>Summer Fair on The Green 12noon</b> - Opposite Boundary Arms
28 June	Squirrel	- District Squirrel <b>Gruffalo day</b> 10:30-13:30
<b>19 Jul - 1 Aug</b>	Scout	- <b>Summer Camp - All Scouts</b>
14 September	<b>Group</b>	- <b>AGM</b> on Green Opposite Scout Hall <b>Change Of Date</b>
<b>20 September</b>	<b>Group</b>	- <b>Jumble Sale</b>
17-19 October	<b>Group</b>	- <b>JOTA &amp; JOTI Jamboree's</b> - PG Scout Hall <b>(All Welcome)</b>
23 October	Squirrel/Scout \	- WH Squirrels Halloween Party (Run by WH Scouts)
29 October	Cub/Scout	- Both Packs Halloween Party (Run by both Scouts)
3 November	Beaver/Scout	- WH Beavers Halloween Party (Run by WH Scouts)
<b>9 November</b>	<b>Group</b>	- <b>Remembrance Sunday Parade</b> - 10.35 ALL Members
14-15 November	Scout	- District Scout Night Hike - Parents Welcome
22 November	Scout	- District Chef Cooking Competition
28-29 November	Scout <b>WH</b>	- Older WH Scout Backwoods Weekend
14 December	<b>Group</b>	- <b>Carol (Christingle) Service</b> 15.00 at Stubbings Church
<b>2026</b>		
1 January	<b>Group</b>	- <b>New Years Morning Walk</b> - 10.30

Check [www.pgscouts.org.uk](http://www.pgscouts.org.uk) for latest diary

Email: [info@pgscouts.org.uk](mailto:info@pgscouts.org.uk) Scout Hall Tel: (01628) 771991