



GROUP NEWS

March 2025



With the clock changing later this month, the evenings are starting to get lighter; the sections are starting to do activities outside.

Help with organising the Raffle at our Summer Fair; we are looking for a volunteer to help with this and the Silent Auction.

Our Fundraising events this year are:

- Summer Fair on Sunday 22nd June
- Jumble Sale on Saturday 20th September.

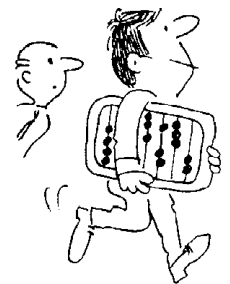
PG Annual Subs

Due to the fabulous fundraising events held by PG we have been able to keep subs as low as possible at £85 for the past four years, despite an annual increase in capitation by Scouts HQ. As from 1st April 2025, we are having to increase subs to £90.

Out of the money raised through subs we pay the annual capitation £65.50 to the Scout HQ (this covers the national safeguarding, child protection, insurance of every young person, national program and our leader training etc.), remainder £24.50 goes on ongoing costs of running the Scout Hall and hiring Littlewick Hall, badges and costs associated with individual meetings. These have to be paid regardless of how often a member attends.

Please could we ask that subs are paid promptly when requested.

As you will hopefully be aware, we are able to claim back tax via gift aid - it costs you nothing but adds valuable funds to the group. Please could you ensure you return your gift aid declaration when asked! Thank you!



- Any Subs Queries, please contact our Subs Secretary *Peta Almond* pgsubs@hotmail.co.uk
- Copy of PG Gift Aid Form <http://www.pgscouts.org.uk/GiftAidForm.docx>

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 child's team leader**, if you are not sure.



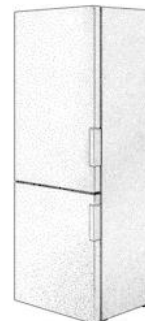
PLEASE DO NOT PARK ACROSS OUR NEIGHBOURS' DRIVEWAYS

Fridge / Freezer or Freezer

Due to Fridge / Freezer breaking down we are looking for a replacement.

Do you or do you know of anyone that has a *Fridge / Freezer* or an under-counter *Freezer* you or they no longer require.

If you can help us, please contact Simon simon@pgtips.org.uk



District St Georges Day Event

All members of PG (*Littlewick and Winter Hill*) Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs, plus Scouts are invited to join Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers from all over Maidenhead at this year's District St Georges Afternoon Event.

Parents, if available, are invited to join us, as well as the youngsters, more details near the event.

Don't forget the date

SATURDAY 26th April 2025, 2pm - 4.15pm.

Summer Fair

Volunteers - We would like some volunteers to help with the summer fair.

Raffle prizes – Organise printing and distribution of raffle tickets.

If you can help email our GSL *Erica Hunter* erica.hunter2@btinternet.com

Gardeners - Gardeners, can we please ask for any plants which people are splitting, or any extra seedlings left over to save them for the Summer Fair plant stall. Please ask grandparents & neighbours as no gardener likes throwing plants out.



Fair Date is Sunday 22nd June

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/

Uniform - District Scout Shop

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

The shop will be open every Thursday evening, from **7pm – 9pm** and Saturday 8th March, **10am – 12noon**

Outgrown your Uniform or Moved Section

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, so it can go in the second-hand uniform box.

Parents – Can you spare 45 Minutes - Once a term

We are looking for more parent volunteers to join a Parent Rota to clean the hall, toilet area and kitchen area and a quick sweep over the main hall floor, wash the kitchen Mitchell room and toilet floors a couple of times a year.

We have slots to fill 1st April, plus from 10th June. 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, Thursdays before 5pm after 6pm) and Fridays before 5pm.

If you have not done this job before and would like to know what is involved, please contact our cleaning coordinator cleaning@pgscouts.org.uk or talk to a parent who has already done it.

Thank you goes to all the parents who have already signed up...





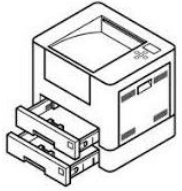
BURCHETTS GREEN PARISH – SUNDAY SERVICE ROTA

March 2025

Week	St Mary the Virgin, Hurley	St James the Less, Stubbings	St John the Evangelist, Littlewick Green
Week 1 Sunday 2 nd March (Ordinary Time – Green)		4:00pm BCP Evensong	9.15am Holy Communion (with Sunday Club)
Wednesday 5 th March (Ash Wednesday – Purple)	7pm – Ash Wednesday Communion	10am – Ash Wednesday Communion	
Week 2 Sunday 9 th March (Lent 1 – Purple)	10.30am Holy Communion	8.00am BCP Communion	4:00pm Family Service
Week 3 Sunday 16 th March (Lent 2 – Purple)	10.30am God in Quiet	11.00am BCP Communion	9.15am Holy Communion
Week 4 Sunday 23 rd March (Lent 3 – Purple)	10.30am Holy Communion	9.00am Come to the Table	
Week 5 Sunday 30 th March (Lent 4 – Purple) Mothering Sunday			10am Parish Communion

Looking For → Laser Printer

We are looking to replace our colour Laser Printer, which we are struggling to get to print.



If your company is upgrading theirs or you know where we can get one for a reasonable price, then please let Simon know Simon@pgtips.org.uk

SQUIRREL NEWS

Littlewick Drey

A fun-filled February as we continued to work towards our Challenge badges and make sure our older Squirrels had the opportunity to complete their Acorn Award before moving on to Beavers!

We learnt about our senses with a test between sugar and salt using all five senses. As well as showing our independence with tooth brushing and putting on hats and gloves for a team game! We also learnt about the



Scouting movement all around the world ahead of Thinking Day.

Some of the Squirrels also had a fabulous day at the Mardi Gras! A great event, a nice to have representation from our drey!

A sad month as we say goodbye to a few of our older Squirrels, Srinika and Arthav. Thank you for being part of our Drey and we wish you all the best for your future at Beavers!

Tufty Littlewick (Hannah Smith)

Winter Hill Drey

The squirrels have once again been busy. The Squirrels have enjoyed celebrating Luna New Year, by making dragons and doing dragon dancing, then trying some Chinese foods.



The following week the Squirrels had a visitor - Miss Charlotte, who runs a drama School. The Squirrels had a workshop learning different techniques and styles of drama. They played different games and learnt a dance. Watch this space - maybe one day we will see one of them on the stage!

The last week of the half term, the Squirrels enjoyed a trip to the fire station.

The Squirrels also enjoyed a District Squirrels event this month. This is where all the Squirrels from across Maidenhead are invited to take part in activities. This month's theme was Mardi Gras. The Squirrels enjoyed making floats which were then showcased in a parade.

Tic Tac, Winter Hill (Tom Beynon)

BEAVER NEWS

Littlewick Colony

February has been a busy month for the Beavers as we welcomed in the Year of the Dragon, making window displays and learning about our Chinese Zodiac signs.

We brought in our favourite stories and made up a few short stories of our own in National Story Telling week. Finally, we recognised incredible women on International Day of Women in Science with the Beavers drawing a well known female based on description alone!



Malak, Littlewick (Phil Franzen)

Winter Hill Colony

The first week of the month the Beavers discussed what aircraft need to fly. They were then given a paper straw and two pieces of paper, the Beavers had to work out the best design for their aircraft.

We had a week celebrating Luna New Year. The Beavers made some Chinese lanterns before we said goodbye to our eldest Beaver who moved to cubs.

The Beavers made Valentine's cards for someone they care for or love. We spoke about different kinds of love and that it doesn't have to be romantic love.

Tic Tac, Winter Hill (Tom Beynon)



CUB NEWS

During half term the Scouts ran a special meeting for both Cub Packs, on the green and in the woods opposite the Scout Hall.



Littlewick Pack

Littlewick Cubs have had a wonderful few weeks. We learned about Chinese New Year and tried a variety of food. The chopstick challenge was attempted by everyone. They all participated in completing a large part of their cyclist badge, gaining lots of hands-on experience. We also completed, what was for many of them, their first hike. They did an amazing job at representing the group in public and completed the rather muddy hike with a positive attitude. A massive thank-you to all the parent helpers, we wouldn't be able to give such a varied programme without your support and dedication. The challenges arranged by Scouts for half term were a huge success, and massive thanks is sent to the whole team from all the LW pack that were able to attend.



It was an honour to present *Zach* with his Silver award as he moves up to Scouts. It was also a wonderful experience for *Noah* and *Alice* who competed in the district cooking competition. They did the pack and group very proud with their teamwork and cooking ability. We look forward to investing our new Cubs in the coming weeks and will also be welcoming another two young people into the pack.

Kaa, Littlewick Green (Sam Lewis)

Winter Hill Pack

Cubs enjoyed the evening hike and litter pick from Farm Road to the Scout hut with lots of litter collected. The Cubs worked hard, earning their chips waiting for them at the hut although they didn't last long. The next week they all took part in a Yoga session provided by *Sally*, lots of interesting shapes and poses. But good engagement and the occasional quiet moment to find the joys of meditation.



Knot tying again the Cubs got stuck in and practiced a Bowline, Clove Hitch, Reef and shoe tying were worked through and they even found time to put the knots into practice. A Half term break and a session provided by the Scouts, the cubs enjoyed getting out in the forest and working together.

Akela, Winter Hill (Matt Bolton)

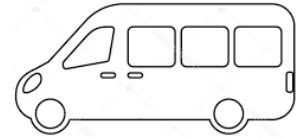
SCOUT NEWS

Cub Half term Meeting - A big thank you goes to all the Littlewick & Winter Hill Scouts and 5 Scout leaders who helped run the Cub meeting during half term. We were lucky it was a dry evening; over 40 members of PG took part. The activities were a Matchstick Puzzles using 6ft poles, an assault course on the green and a blind trail in the woods. At the end of the event everyone had hot drinking chocolate and biscuits in the Scout Hall.



Troop Weekend Camp – All *Littlewick & Winter Hill* Scouts and Cubs moving up to Scouts, will be receiving details about our Scout Weekend Camp, **16th – 19th May 2025**. If you don't receive a copy or have any questions, please contact Simon.

Still 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 for more details



Littlewick Troop

For one meeting, the scouts split into small groups to design and build a prototype of a new board or card game. After about 40 minutes of planning, drawing, and construction time they then rotated round to play another group's game. This worked really well and we ended up with quite a few successful and original games for the other scouts to play.



The next meeting the scouts learnt about good sleeping habits and we shared what our normal routines were with each other so we could see how much everyone's sleeping requirements varied.

The following meeting was a higher concept one. We did an experiment and did a Turing test. This is a test to see if a computer can successfully fool a human that it is human and was devised by Alan Turing around 1950 (the field of AI is almost as old as computers themselves). To do this the scouts played the game 20 Questions against another scout sat in front of a laptop. The scout sat in front of the laptop was either interacting with a Large Language Model and reading out its answers or playing the game themselves whilst pretending to interact with a computer. The scouts doing the guessing then had to decide if they were interacting with a human or a computer. Out of 4 rounds, Chat-GPT convinced a group of scouts that it was the human once. The scouts sat in front of the laptops but playing as themselves had quite a difficult acting challenge.

During the period we have also invested *Jamie* and *Zach* to the Troop.

Scout Leader Littlewick (*Mark Courtier*)

Winter Hill Troop

We started last month by celebrating the Chinese Lunar New Year; Scouts made paper lanterns and completed Chinese word searches and puzzles. The following week, the Scouts used their other 'Senses'- touch, and hearing. This included a game of crab football blindfolded using a ball with a bell in it.

As Littlewick Scouts had got the laptops, we also did the same as Littlewick, The Turing Test - seven bases run by PLs. The Scouts did struggle to prove they were human over the computer! In Half-Term week the PLs, with their patrols, designed and built a maze using equipment in the hall. Then the challenge was to see which Scout could crawl around the maze the fastest, without taking a wrong turn in the semi-dark.



We would like to welcome *Max Hofton* and his family to the Troop, *Max* has made the Scout promise and been invested as a Scout.

Scout Leader Winter Hill (*Simon Wheeler*)