



## GROUP NEWS

January 2026



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



## We Wish You A Happy New Year

Our Summer Fair is on Sunday 28 June, and we have a family camp in September, where Squirrels and Beavers can camp with their families and Cubs and Scouts with their sections. All families are welcome to camp with us for the weekend.

Attached to PG Tips is PG's 2026 Diary, please make a note of dates that affect your child.



### 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.

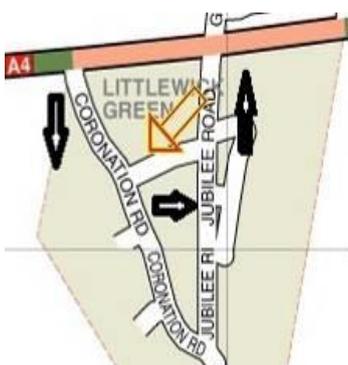
## SAFELY DROPPING OFF TO MEETINGS

**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 leader** if you are not sure.

**PLEASE HELP US TO BE GOOD NEIGHBOURS  
DO NOT PARK ACROSS OUR  
NEIGHBOURS' DRIVEWAYS**

## From our Group Lead Volunteer

There is now a wooden bench on the green by the Scout Hall. We are delighted it has finally arrived and been installed, the project initially started in 2013.

There were various delays due to Covid, changes of NT staff. Carved in the wood are the Scout and National Trust logos.

I would like to thank some individual sponsors who contributed, to the bench: Bhupendra and Pauline Patel, the Knott family, Scout Troop fundraising. The balance was paid by group fundraising.



We hope you have all had a good Christmas and wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Thank you all for supporting your children and our Leaders.

We look forward to seeing you all in January and hopefully at our New Years Day Walk.

*Erica Hunter, (Group Lead Volunteer)*



## Christmas Trees

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the group ordering their trees from us. Particular thanks to the volunteers who helped unload, sort & of course our fabulous elves who delivered them all! We are pleased to announce we raised a total of over £4,350 for the group so thank you again!

If anyone who hasn't already booked us wants their trees picked up for recycling, do please give us a shout at [PGtrees@gmail.com](mailto:PGtrees@gmail.com), by Friday 2nd January 2026, for collection on Saturday 10th January

*Peta & Charlie Almond, (PG Christmas Tree Coordinators)*

## World Jamboree 2027

Around three weeks ago, Unit 52, the Berkshire contingent heading to the World Scout Jamboree in Poland came together for the very first time as a full unit. This special meeting marked the beginning of an exciting two-year journey and gave everyone the chance to get to know one another and learn more about the adventure we'll be heading on.

As this was our first full-unit meeting, the focus was on building connections and confidence. We took part in lots of icebreaker activities, which helped everyone feel more comfortable and excited to be working together. With Scouts coming from different groups it was a great opportunity to meet new people who we'll be spending a lot of time with over the next two years.

We also began the process of designing our unit logo and scarf. This activity really got us thinking about Berkshire and what makes our county unique and interesting, while encouraging teamwork and creativity within the group.

The meeting also helped us start develop important skills that will help us in Poland. At the start, everyone introduced themselves to the group, which involved a bit of public speaking and helped improve communication skills. Working in new groups challenged us to speak up, listen to others, and share ideas — all essential skills for the Jamboree experience.

It was especially exciting to meet almost all of the leaders who will be travelling to Poland with us, helping us feel more prepared and supported as a unit.

Overall, the meeting was a fantastic start to our Jamboree journey. There was a real sense of excitement, pride, and happiness about what's to come. We're all looking forward to seeing each other again soon and taking part in more team-building activities as Unit 52 continues to grow and prepare for Poland.

*Edie Wespieser (PL, WH Scout)*



**POLAND 2027**

World Scout  
**26<sup>th</sup> Jamboree**  
Scout Mondial





## Christingle (Carol) Service

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

Special thanks go to Revd. *Tom Etherton* for arranging the service, the Scouts and cub that did the readings and to *Linda, Claire* and *Hazel* for organising the refreshments served afterwards in the Soltau Centre. We had traditional carols as well as the Christingles.



## BURCHETTS GREEN PARISH – SUNDAY SERVICE ROTA

### Black Sacks

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 you are going to the tip, and you see a black rubbish sack, please help us by taking it.

### JANUARY 2026

<u>Week</u>	<u>St Mary the Virgin, Hurley</u>	<u>St James the Less, Stubbings</u>	<u>St John the Evangelist, Littlewick Green</u>
<b>Week 1</b> Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	10.30 am God through Music	4.00 pm BCP Evensong	9.15 am Holy Communion
<b>Week 2</b> Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	10.30 am Holy Communion	8.00 am BCP Holy Communion	10.00 am Songs of Praise & Sunday Club
<b>Week 3</b> Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	10.30 am God in Quiet	11.00 am BCP Holy Communion	9.15 am Holy Communion
<b>Week 4</b> Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	10.30 am Holy Communion	8.00 am BCP Holy Communion	

### Have You LOST A COAT !

Since September, we have managed to collect 9 coats and could not find their owners.

We have managed to return lots of other items, as they had names in them. The coats vary in size from Squirrels to Scouts.

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

*(We have disagreements with unnamed scarfs)*



## We Are **HIRING!** Dog Walker

Requirements

- Enjoys working outdoors in all weathers
- Excellent reliability & Professionalism
- Great communication and dynamic problem solving skills
- Keen to maintain high standards and safety
- Love of animals and relevant experience
- Work in a team environment & Independently
- Driving licence and confidence driving vans
- Adaptable and willing to learn

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### Chewing/ Bubble Gum

We have just cleaned and polished the hall floor. 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. The reason is that Chewing & Bubble gum can be dangerous if swallowed. It is also VERY antisocial when left on the Scout Hall floor, tables, chairs etc.

**SOLTAU CENTRE**

**ST JAMES THE LESS STUBBINGS**

The Soltau Centre is available for hire at reasonable rates

Our versatile space can be used for exercise classes, meetings and social meet ups

There are new toilets and excellent kitchen facilities

The Centre can offer broadband for hybrid or online meetings

Please contact Claire at the office on 01628 820077 for further information

## 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?



We practice every Wednesday at 8:30pm from January to May. You are welcome to come along any evening to see what we do!

Why not 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)



## Parents to Help Clean the Scout Hall

We are looking for volunteers to clean the hall this year from March and are looking for some new parents to help.

Areas include the toilet, kitchen and a quick sweep over the main hall floor, wash the kitchen, Mitchell room and toilet floors and if time the main hall.

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.

## 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.

## SQUIRREL NEWS

### Littlewick Drey

Littlewick Squirrels have had a busy month.

They made Christmas cards, then the following week delivered them to elderly residents in the village and sang a carol.

Finally a Christmas party in the Sunday school cabin at St John's church, Littlewick.

*Baloo, Littlewick Green* (Erica Hunter)



### Winter Hill Drey

The first week of the month the Squirrels enjoyed a spot of cooking. They made peppermint creams. We spoke about kitchen safety and the importance of good hygiene and hand washing. To get in the spirit of Christmas the Squirrels had an evening making Christmas cards and decorations.



The penultimate week of the year the Squirrels visited *St James The Less Church*, they explored the church, learnt about the true meaning of Christmas, and had a short service.

The last meeting of the year The Squirrels enjoyed a Christmas party with games, dancing, and cupcakes.

I hope everyone has a great Christmas and a relaxing New Year. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2026. Our first meeting will be on Thursday 8th January.

*Tic Tac, Winter Hill* (Tom Beynon)

## **BEAVER NEWS**

### **Littlewick Colony**

We fully embraced the Christmas spirit in December, with the Beavers making Christmas tree decorations to dress our tree at St Luke's Christmas Tree festival.



We also made delicious 'melted snowmen' out of snacks, we watched a Christmas movie at the Hall and finished the term with a Christmas party. Thank you to all the Beavers, Young Leaders and families for their support in 2025 and we'll be back on 5th January for our new term.

*Malak, Littlewick* (Phil Franzen)

### **Winter Hill Colony**

To kick the month off and get in the festive spirit the Beavers made Christmas decorations. They made paper chains and cutout snowmen and Christmas trees. With the help of a couple of scouts and a lovely parent the Beavers did some sewing. They made Christmas tree tags. The following week the Beavers got creative and painted jam jars and made tea light holders.



The last meeting of the Year the Beavers and their guests enjoyed our traditional Beaver banquet. They enjoyed sausage chips and baked beans followed by cookies and ice cream. We would like to wish everyone a lovely Christmas and a great New Year we look forward to returning in 2026, on Monday 12th January.

*Tic Tac, Winter Hill* (Tom Beynon)

## **CUB NEWS**

### **Winter Hill Pack**

Cubs have embraced the indoor activities well this term and have worked through a number of big, responsible topics. Disability Awareness completed their badge work where they met Lucy, a partially sighted lady living locally who shared lived experiences having been born with limited vision. The adaptations, gadgets and obstacles to overcome in day to day life were great to see and we were lucky to have a go with a number of them. Wearing glasses to visually restrict eyesight in different ways, the Cubs completed various tasks and learnt about Braille, audible alarms, assistance dogs and games specifically adapted for limited sight users. The Cubs asked great probing and sensitive questions throughout.



We decorated Christmas cards in various styles and these will be delivered to patients in a local healthcare setting as we did last year and were shared with patients at Wexham Park Hospital.

Personal Safety was another big topic where Cubs discussed how to deal with scenarios talking to strangers, dangers signs, peer pressure, coming across hazards and what to do in order to deal with them all safely. Hopefully you have had some good questions and discussions at home with their new found knowledge. The Cubs acted out short scenes including a stranger approaching them in a shopping centre and at the park as well as what to do if they are lost at Legoland or there is a genuine emergency. Although carrying a friend who has just fallen off their bike and told you he has broken a bone was not the best option at the time, nor was giving the stranger a poisonous pen instead of shouting for help but many other great displays of making positive decisions. We discussed what 3 things you must tell the emergency operator if you needed to dial 999 as well as what to tell your parents if you are going out with friends in order to stay safe.

Our final session this term will be watching the Maidenhead Drama Guild's performance of Robin Hood at Norden Farm.

With Schools returning on Monday 5th January 2026, our first session of the Spring term will be Wednesday 7th January 2026. Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year from all of the Cub Leaders at Pinkneys Green. We have had a great term and enjoyed new leaders getting involved and learning the ropes. I am excited for the Spring term, getting outdoors more when possible and some exciting visitors coming in for sessions as well!

*Akela, Winter Hill (Matt Bolton)*

### Littlewick Pack

The Littlewick Green Cubs had a wonderful end of the year over the last few weeks, with all who attended adjusting and engaging well with the various sites we used. We celebrated the season with a fun evening of Bowling in their amazing variety of Christmas jumpers. We then covered their disability awareness badge, looking at the restrictions of older buildings. The Cubs showed an impressive understanding of invisible impairments and supporting people. A massive congratulations to our Young Leader Tom, who was presented his belt buckle, having completed his training. Finally, we had our Christmas party. With party games and a very generous supply



of food from all our wonderful families, thankyou.

We wish everyone a wonderful festive period and look forward to welcoming the Cubs back on the 14th January with a Pack Forum.

*Kaa, Littlewick Green (Sam Lewis)*

### SCOUT NEWS

This term we have organised some joint activities and training courses for all Littlewick and Winter Hill Scouts.

We are starting off with a joint **New Year Party** on Friday January 2nd, something to look forward to, parents can also have a few hours break as well. There will be some interesting party games and food.

**Training Courses**, Scouts will sleep in the Scout Hall, and be taught Scouting skills. A lot of the activities will be outside, on the green or in the woods. We are holding a course for each year group.

23 January 2026 – **Year 6** Course

13 February 2026 – **Year 8** Course

27 February 2026 – **Year 7** Course

6 March 2026 – **PLs and APLs** Course



## Littlewick Troop

The first of our meetings in the run up to the end of the year was on code breaking. In small groups, the scouts had to crack letter substitution codes of increasing difficulty.

The next meeting first featured a presentation from two leaders from Dragons (one of Maidenhead's Explorer groups) where the scouts found out about one of the possible paths they can take in scouting for ages 14 to 18. We then made Christmas cards.

After this we had an open book quiz about the COP30 summit. At this meeting it was also a great pleasure to be able to present Chief Scout's Gold Awards to *Isla, Max* and *Jackson*.

Our final meeting of both term and the year was our Christmas Party which consisted of very many traditional party games.

We will restart meetings for 2026 on 5th January.

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

## Winter Hill Troop

Last month we welcomed *Arti Roberts, James Hamon, Tommy Dunn* and *Elvie Comrie* to the Troop

Thank you goes to Scout, *Max Hofton* for carrying the Scout Flag and *Varsha Vishak* and *Jack Harris* for doing the readings at our Christingle service at Stubbings.

This month began with a training weekend for the older Scouts. They slept at the Scout Hall and organised their own training activities, including one of their favourite games 'stinger' and watched a film together on the Friday night. On Saturday they were given a partridge or pheasant each and learnt how to pluck, gut, prepare, and cook it. On Saturday evening we all sat down to a lovely game stew, with plenty left over, so they were able to take some home, for their parents to sample.



Our Troop meetings last month included, a *Dragons Den* evening. Using pens, sticky notes, and scrap cardboard, The Scouts invented a new piece of kit for camping, then presented for 2 minutes "Dragon's Den style". The winning Patrol was *Panthers*, with their new camp gadget, a device to put wooden tent pegs into hard ground. Due to number of Scouts numbers passing forty, we have had to rearrange the patrols and get the Scouts to sew on their new Patrol badge. We were impressed with some of the Scouts sewing skills.



The final meeting of the year, the Friday before Christmas we had to start the meeting outside, so the Scouts fell in around our new bench, before having a Christmas themed evening run by *Callum* our leader, who was in Maidenhead for a few days from Scotland.

*Peter Cox* has completed his Moving up award from Cubs and made his Scout promise and been invested as a Scout. We would like to welcome *Peter* and his family to the Troop.

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

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

# PG Outline Events

## 2026

1 January	<b>Group</b>	- <b>New Years Morning Walk</b> - 10.30 am
23-25 Jan	Scout	- Scout Training Course (Year 6) <b>Both Troops</b>
31 January	Scout	- District PL's Training Course
6-7 February	Scout	- Scouts <b>117th Birthday</b> Event
13-15 February	Scout	- Scout Training Course (Year 8) <b>Both Troops</b>
18 February	Cub/Scout	- Both Packs Incident Hike (Run by Scouts <i>PL's &amp; APL's</i> )
27 Feb-1 Mar	Scout	- Scout Training Course (Year 7) <b>Both Troops</b>
28 February	Squirrel	- District Squirrel Chinese New Year 10:30am-12:30pm
6-8 Mar	Scout	- Scout Training Course (PLs & APLs + Year 9) <b>Both Troops</b>
7 March	Cub	- District Cub Flag Competition
14 March	Beaver	- District <b>Beaveree</b> @ Altwood school
25 April	District	- ST Georges on a Saturday - 1.55pm All Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & leaders
9 May	Cub	- <b>JOTT - District Cub Incident Hike</b> run by the Scouts
15 - 17 May	Scout	- <b>Troop Camp</b> - <b>All Scouts</b>
27 May	Cub/Scout	- <b>Both Packs</b> Half Term Activity on Green (Run by Scouts <i>PL's &amp; APL's</i> )
5- 7 June	Scout	- County PL / APL Camp
5- 7 June	Cub	- <b>Cub Camp</b> - <b>All Cubs</b> (Provisional)
6 June	Squirrel	- District Squirrel <b>Teddy Bear Picnic</b> 10:30am-1:30am
13 June	Squirrel	- District Squirrel <b>Bell Boating</b> 2pm-6pm
28 June	<b>Group</b>	- <b>Summer Fair on Green</b>
18 Jul - 1 Aug	Scout	- <b>Summer Camp</b> - <b>All Scouts</b>
11-13 September	Cub	- <b>Family Camp</b> - <b>Everyone</b>
12 September	<b>Group</b>	- <b>AGM</b> at Family Camp 6.30pm
26 September	Squirrel	- District Squirrel <b>Birthday Party</b>
16-18 October	<b>Group</b>	- <b>JOTA &amp; JOTI Jamboree's</b> - PG Scout Hall <b>(All Welcome)</b>
22 October	Squirrel/Scout	- WH Squirrels Halloween Party (Run by WH Scouts)
28 October	Cub/Scout	- Both Packs Halloween Party (Run by <b>Scouts</b> )
2 November	Beaver/Scout	- WH Beavers Halloween Party (Run by WH Scouts)
9 November	<b>Group</b>	- <b>Remembrance Sunday Parade</b> - 10.35am ALL Members
13-14 November	Scout	- District Scout Night Hike - Parents Welcome
14 November	Cub	- District Cub Chef Cooking Competition
22 November	Scout	- District Scout Chef Cooking Competition
28-29 November	Scout <b>WH</b>	- Older WH Scout Backwoods Weekend
13 December	<b>Group</b>	- <b>Carol (Christingle) Service</b> 2.55pm at Stubbings Church

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