



**5TH BECKENHAM SOUTH SCOUT GROUP  
AND VULTURES EXPLORER UNIT**

**"EVERY CHILD DESERVES AN ADVENTURE" - BEAR GRYLLS - CHIEF SCOUT**



**5<sup>th</sup> Beckenham South Scout Group  
Trustees Annual Report**

**2012-2013**

**reg. charity number 1011301**

**[thefifth.org.uk](http://thefifth.org.uk)**

# 5<sup>th</sup> Beckenham South Scout Group – Section Reports

## Beavers

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Beavers were run this year by Lisa and Elaine with great success. They had young leader help from Madison, Sean and Liam and were often helped by cub and scout family members of the leadership team.

Running at capacity and with a sadly massive and increasing waiting list, activities included a visit to Eagle heights with lots of help from parents, sleepovers at Bears Wood and Wilberforce, weekly meetings that had the beavers making aeroplanes, learning circus skills, playing in water, earning awards, showing off their talents and having wonderful new experiences with their friends.

The photos from the year show smiling faces in every picture and are testament to an excellent leadership team and a brilliant programme.

## Cubs

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Our Cubs year started with the Creative Challenge and homemade blow football pitches. Chil Pack particularly enjoyed this and had a couple of meetings of intense tournaments. The usual program favourites of Chinese New Year and pancakes followed as the Cubs love a cooking evening.

Our Cub Scout promise was reaffirmed on St George's day and we attended the district St George's parade as part of our Promise Challenge.

Our build up to Whitsun camp involved joint wide games at Frylands Wood, fire lighting, backwoods cooking and tepee erection, camp itself was a fantastic success despite the wet weather during the advanced party. Fortunately the Cubs arrived with the sunshine and we enjoyed a weekend of water activities, shooting, archery and go kart time trials not to mention an "epic" water slide as described by the Cubs.

During the summer months our program led us outside for evenings of cooking, kite building, games and water fights. The autumn was kept busy with a local knowledge quiz, making and racing elastic band cars and Cubs did the first part of their Science Activity badge by learning about simple circuits and LEDs and then making torches from component form.

Christmas camp rounded off our year nicely at Downe with a Scoutcraft theme of fire types and uses mixed in with some basic compass work and orienteering games.

## Scouts

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Both troops continued to flourish. Thunder is still led by Chris Elmer but Jack Biddle and Nick Chrumka are increasingly taking on responsibility and developing from Young Leaders, to young Leaders. A fine distinction but as they turn 18, they become adult leaders within the group. We are

grateful to both of them for their hard work. Sam, Adrian, Oliver and an array of other helpers are vital to the section.

Simon is leader of Lightning and has a solid team of help from his wife Elaine as well as Don, Alex and Adam. Andy has also been down to help. Mike's young leadership has been a great help.

A special mention goes to John without whom both sections would struggle and who makes so much possible.

A busy 12 months has included (in chronological order)

- Scouts of Steel (a district assault course)
  - chopping wood and cooking on fires at the hut
  - A night hike from Bears wood where many of lightning earned their first Nights Away Badge.
  - Meths Rockets (yes, as explosive as they sound)
  - A trip Thorpe Park
  - Whitsun camp and Narrow Boating for the y9s
  - A district lifesaving badge course attended by Gina and Caitlin.
  - The Apprentice ( "The scouts had to design an ad campaign for shower gel for children, each patrol (led by PL of course) had to: \*name the product \* give it a USP \*design the packaging \*write a 30 second TV ad and pitch it to a panel of supermarket buyers.")
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- Summer Camp at Betteshanger (the 'e' is not pronounced in the middle, we learned). We visited Deal, Joss Bay, Dover Castle, Fowlmead, Dover Watersports and made great use of the hammocks and tarps that we bought for the camp.

A huge thank you to all the adults and young leaders that made the camp possible and to the scouts for playing the game so well.

- We made spike trolls and painted them.
- We entered the District Cooking Competition.
- We did zombie make up.
- Mystery cooking was order of the day with 'ready steady cook'.
- A weekend in Belgium at the War Graves was a powerful reminder of the need for peace.
- Borax was used for bouncy balls.
- There was a Christmas Party (of course)
- We went to Geek in Margate (a computer games show)
- We took part in The Monopoly Run and entered teams into the Jambowlree (an international 10Pin Bowling Competition)

And that was in addition to wide games, silly sports, scout craft, chinese cooking, pancakes, air rifles, archery and more.

Over 50 super scouts and a brilliant team of volunteer leaders making it happen.

## Trustees

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