



**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**

**2014 - 2015**

**reg. charity number 1011301**

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

## 5<sup>th</sup> Beckenham South Scout Group – Section Reports 2014/15

### Beavers - Merry

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This has been another successful year for Merry Colony. Lisa was assisted by Kate and Christopher, and supported by four young leaders, Madison, Luke C, Luck B and James. We had a regular number of 24 Beavers.

The Beavers have been working towards different Challenge badges and have taken part in a variety of activities such as survival den making, secret agent writing, making salt dough puppets and indoor team games. Outdoor activities have included cooking on fires, water slides and team obstacle course challenges.

13 Beavers were awarded their Chief Scout Bronze Award.

Along with the older sections of the group, 17 Beavers attended the Remembrance Day Parade in November 2015.

The Pirate themed Summer Sleepover in June was attended by 21 Beavers. This was a very enjoyable event and we were lucky to have beautiful weather. Activities included grass sledging, learning how to make fires, a delicious barbeque party and everyone enjoyed sleeping outside in Tepees. The Christmas Sleepover in December was attended by 18 Beavers and for many this was their first night away from home. We all had a fantastic time taking part in a variety of Christmas crafts, a visit from Santa and a delicious Christmas feast which was beautifully presented by our parent volunteer cook, John Hayes. We are very grateful to John for the time, energy and humour that he provided on that weekend.

The team ensured that all meetings and activities were interesting and fun, encouraging Beaver scouts to try many new challenges. Feedback from the Beaver scouts and their parents has been very positive.

### Beavers – Pippin

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Having only formed in October 2013, this report represents the first full 12 months for the colony.

The section was run by Dave & Spencer and assisted by Alison, with support from young leaders Sophie, Becky and Lizzie.

As well as the weekly meetings where the beavers played games and learnt such things as the Green Cross Code, Fair Trade and so on, they also attended a number of external events, some run by us and others by the district.

These included our first Summer Camp at Frylands Scout Centre in May with 16 Beaver Scouts attending. Activities included the assault course, underground tunnels, nature walks, pond dipping and the camp fire.

In June, the colony attended the Animal Fun Day at Frylands; in October, a number achieved their swimming badges at Trinity School; in November we visited the local Fire Station and, with our other

colony, attended Legoland; December saw our Winter Camp with, of course, a Xmas theme; and in April, we attended the first district Easter Egg hunt which was a great success even if very cold!!

The year started with 16 Beavers Scouts and closed with a full compliment of 24.

During that time, 9 Beaver Scouts achieved their Chief Scout Bronze award.

The colony attended all church parades and, of course, represented the group at the Remembrance Day Parade meeting with other groups and local dignitaries.

The help and support of the parents is acknowledged and great appreciated – their participation helped to make many of the events so successful.

## Cubs

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Easter term 2014 saw us have two combined pack meetings at Frylands Wood, first celebrating St George's day and the Cubs jostled against dragons as well as re affirm their promise with Akela Helen. Then upon the second visit we lit fires and cooked sausages and s'mores.

Whitsun camp was Pirate themed and Akela Keeley decorated the mess tent as a pirate galleon whilst Cubs enjoyed searching for buried treasure and finding their sea legs on a ship wreck raft.

During the summer nights Cubs earned their Athletics activity badge and produced bin liner kites towards their Creative Challenge before unwinding with some delicious Raksha campfire cones and thanks to Simon and Oliver had an evening of archery.

Come the autumn term Cubs earned their navigation activity badge by planning a local route taking in specified points of interest and then navigating a driver through that route in real time. They also earned their Science badge by making vinegar volcanoes and then ice cream in a bag which was almost successful. We also celebrated Guy Fawkes with barrel fires and sparklers. Then as Christmas drew in they made CD clocks as gifts for someone special.

Christmas camp was held at Wilberforce and Cubs made cardboard ovens and cooked crumpet pizzas as well as make Christmas stars and paper bag lanterns.

In the spring term Cubs learned some basic pioneering and made mini marshmallow catapults. Then using shoe boxes they created blow football pitches and held tournaments with chocolate footballs until mysteriously all of the balls disappeared.

To round up the term we went to the Pavillion Bromley for an evening of ten pin bowling.

## Scouts

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Both troops continued to flourish. Thunder is still led by Chris Elmer with Nick Chrumka as his able assistant. We are grateful to all our Thursday leaders for their hard work. Adrian, Oliver, Viktor 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.

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)

- electronics - making joule thieves
- pioneering
- meatball making for Swedish Night
- an expedition challenge to Brentwood,
- an overnighter at Frylands,
- a Nerf Night,
- pancakes and Chinese new year
- Summer Camp at Betteshanger (the 'e' is not pronounced in the middle, we learned)

We visited Deal, Joss Bay, Fowlmead, Dover Watersports and had a mammoth assault course built for us by Adam and Debbie. 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.

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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THE REV CANON JOHN MADDEN

MR JOHN BLAIR POTTER

MR PHILIP COLE

MRS HELEN ARMSTRONG

MRS ELIZABETH JONES (Treasurer)

MRS LISA STRATFORD

MRS KEELEY DAWE

MR CHRIS ELMER

DR CHRISTOPHER MARTIN (Secretary)

MR ADAM YOUNG

MR SIMON GREY

MR DAVE BARBER