



THIS IS

1st CUFFLEY

SCOUT GROUP

2014 – 2015

GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE and LEADERS
As at 31 March 2015

Chairman	David Holt
Secretary	Christine Parker
Treasurer	Elizabeth Ward
Group Scout Leader (GSL)	Maureen Ward
Assistant Group Scout Leader (AGSL)	Diane Cracknell
Explorer Scout Leader (ExpSL)	Paul Kaye
Scout Leader (SL)	Alex Bedwell
Cub Scout Leader (CSL)	Jean Holt
Beaver Scout Leader (BSL)	David Gill
Scout Active Support Manager	Peter Cracknell

Committee Members
(Denise Young
(Tony Mayo
(Lynn Samuelson

Honorary Scouters

Ken Stroud
John Parkes –Vice President

We invite you to attend
1st CUFFLEY SCOUT GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
to be held on
Sunday 6th September 2015 at 1st Cuffley Scout Group HQ at 4.30pm
This will be after the Treasure Hunt and BBQ

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last AGM held September 2014
3. Reports (circulated)
4. Adoption of the Accounts (circulated)
5. Election of the Executive Committee:-
 - Approve the Group Scout Leader's nomination of the Group Chairman.
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Section Leaders' Confirmations:
(Paul Kaye ExpSL, Steve Rowsell SL, Jean Holt CSL, David Gill BSL)
 - Existing Committee members available for re-election
(Denise Young, Tony Mayo, Lynn Samuelson, Peter Cracknell)
 - Elect any new members and approve any nominated members
6. Appointment of Independent Examiner
7. Any Other Business.

The following are entitled to vote at the meeting:-

Leaders, Recognised Supporters, and the Parents or Guardians of Explorer Scouts, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers.

Minutes of the 1st Cuffley Scout Group AGM

3:00 pm Sunday 28th September 2014

1. Introduction & Welcome to the AGM, apologies for Absence

- i. David Holt formally opened the meeting at 15:10 and welcomed those attending
- ii. The names of those attending were recorded.
- iii. Apologies for absence – Cesca Gullick

2. Minutes of the last AGM (8th September 2013) AGM

- i. The Minutes of the 2013 AGM, the reports from each of the sections and the accounts had been circulated previous to the meeting
- ii. The minutes of the 2013 AGM were adopted as presented

3. Reports

- i. Reports from each of the sections were as circulated
- ii. David thanked all who had supported the varied activities

4. Adoption of Accounts

- i. The accounts were presented by Liz Ward and adopted as presented. A healthy balance sheet was presented following a good year of fundraising and gift aid recovery.

5. Election of the Executive Committee

- i. As is the custom the Chairman, David Holt, stood down and was re-appointed, un-opposed, by Group Scout Leader Maureen Ward

Chairman	David Holt	Appointed
Secretary	Christine Parker	Appointed
Treasurer	Elizabeth Ward	Appointed
Deputy Chairman		Open

Existing Committee Members Available for re-election

Mrs Denise Young	Appointed
Mr Tony Mayo	Appointed
Lynn Samuelson	Appointed

Leaders who had agreed service as an ex-officio member of the 1st Cuffley Scout Group Executive Committee

David Gill
Jean Holt
Alex Bedwell
Peter Cracknell

New executive Committee member

Diane Cracknell, Assistant Group Scout Leader Approved

6. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Christina Knight was approved as the Independent Examiner

7. Any Other Business

i. *Presentations*

Margaret Roper ADC Beavers presented the following awards;

Chief Scout Gold Awards:

Connor McGuigan

Daniel Harris

George Payne

Matthew Kaye

Aidan Hilton

Chief Scout Platinum Awards:

Joshua Mayo

Rachel Kaye

James Cracknell

Chief Scout Diamond Award:

Emily Young

Pip Collis

ii. *Introduction to the 1st Cuffley Scout Group Crew (Peter Cracknell)*

Peter provided an overview of the active support group for those over 18

iii. Songs by the Beavers

iv. *Our Fundraising (Denise Young)*

Denise explained the need for fundraising, in its many forms, for the prosperity of the group and encouraged further participation by a wider group of parents, with a special request for help for the M&S bag packing

v. Songs by the Cubs

vi. *Vote of thanks*

David Holt led a vote of thanks to:

- Leaders for their many hours running the sections, working on the site, fundraising
- All the executive committee for their skills, time and fundraising, building projects and maintenance
- People who have helped at jumble sales, point to point, Elm Court, bag packing and donations and many other activities
- The 1st Cuffley Scout Group Crew
- The Explorers, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers
- All who have attended the AGM

vii. Finally David led a further appeal to people to help – in time money or skills, and to advise their ability to help and put their details on the skills register, or to approach any of the leaders or members of the executive committee.

The AGM was formally closed by David Holt.

Group Chairman's Report 2014 - 2015

It's been another successful year for The Scout Association and for 1st Cuffley Scout Group. It is particularly exciting as we have improved our facilities and continue to adapt our programmes to ensure Scouting is shaped by young people in partnership with the adult leadership. Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

The activities offered continue to inspire many and will continue to be a foundation for future generation's positive contribution to society. The leader's reports provide an insight into some of the achievements. It is particularly satisfying to see the adventure, achievements and awards. Some of the highlights of the year have been the record number of young people undertaking challenging activities pursuing their Queens Scout Awards and one of our members being selected to go to the World Scout Jamboree in Japan.

The Beaver, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Sections have continued to have strong membership and are enjoying a wide range of activities. The 1st Cuffley Service Crew is actively providing key Scouting skills assistance and supporting the Group. It is a pleasure to see how young people's individual contribution evolves as they undertake their journeys through the sections.

We have a strong team of very proactive leaders and assistant leaders driving the vision of scouting forward with enthusiasm and many creative new ideas. The challenge as always is to uphold the aims of the Scout Association and promote fun, friendship and ultimately self-sufficiency for our Explorers, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers. I offer my thanks to all the leaders of 1st Cuffley who do such a tremendous job in delivering an excellent Scouting programme on behalf of the Group. Their dedication, time, commitment and support for all the young members are what make 1st Cuffley such a success.

We have met the challenge to bring the main facilities on site to a better state of repair and to better reflect the image we want to portray to our members and the community. We have invested in painting the inside of the hut, installing new lights and making other significant and essential repairs to the main building. We will now embark on new fundraising initiatives to repair the main garage, provide group transport, improve the grounds and invest in modern technologies required by today's youth.

The Group continues to be financially strong and is able to hold a contingency in line with policy. This is due to donations and the hard work of the people who have supported successful fundraising activities in addition to subscription fees. Contingency is prudent since the average income fluctuates depending on the success of fundraising and numbers in the group. The overall income this last year was lower than the previous year. With this in mind we will have to further diversify our fundraising and get broader support from our membership to continue to improve standards.

The most significant risks we face as an organisation and Group are the Scouting programme not attracting future generations of young people to join the Movement and the failure of Scouting to attract and retain adult volunteers.

Our 1st Cuffley leaders are all volunteers; they do not get paid for their contribution to scouting. To ensure the group continues to be such a success and to maintain the standards of 1st Cuffley Scout Group we rely on people offering their support. We need to have help from new volunteers who can contribute possibly time, money or a skill to this highly successful Group. A broader vibrant support system will allow leaders to spend more of their time delivering the programmes.

The Scouting adventure comes in many forms. It's through everyday adventure that we enrich lives and help our communities.

I offer my sincere thanks to all the 1st Cuffley executive committee team and leadership who provide an excellent service on behalf of the Group.

David Holt

Group Chairman

1st Cuffley Scout Group

Group Scout Leader's Report 2014 - 2015

Another year gone and in this Booklet we have all attempted to record most of the activities carried out by our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Crew. I hope you will all be impressed by the wide variety of events etc. that have taken place across the board.

This year there have been some leadership changes – Peter Cracknell is focussing on and working with the Crew but still maintains contact with the Explorers, who are now in the capable hands of Paul Kaye with help from his wife Jayne who is now an Assistant Explorer Leader as well an Assistant Cub Leader

Steve Rowsell has taken on Scout Leader and Alex has stepped down. Young Leader Becky Harvey (who has reached her majority) has become an Assistant Scout Leader joining Diane Cracknell and Pam Staunton. It is good to see a good age range within the Leaders.

Leadership within Cubs and Beavers has remained the same but both sections have a Young Leader helping, Josie with the Cubs and James with the Beavers.

All Sections are coming to terms with the new Programme and the new badges and we all look forward to seeing another excellent array of Awards next year in all Sections.

On behalf of the Group, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all those at District and County level who provide many Activities and Competitions during the year for our youngsters to participate in. I would also like to thank all of our leaders for their commitment to 1st Cuffley, also the parents who give us time and help when we ask, and of course all the youngsters without whom, we would have very lonely evenings in the Scout Hut.

Maureen Ward - Hathi

Treasurer's Report for year ending 31/3/2015

As you can see from the attached accounts, we have an excess of payments over receipts this year. As previously reported, the majority of works relating to the new buildings at the Scout hut premises have already been completed. However, during this financial year, we have invested in the maintenance of the main Scout hut and this necessary expenditure has greatly benefitted all those who use it. We have spent £1,952 on decorating the hut, £8,246 on new windows, £800 on new light fittings and CCTV and £312 on new blinds. We also invested £415 on new tents during the year. Our subscription income has decreased, reflecting lower numbers during the year, and Explorer income and expenditure continue to be amalgamated into the Potters Bar group reporting. Unfortunately we did not supply and erect tents for Cuffley school this year but we did have another donation from HSBC of £500 via Peter Cracknell. We also received a very kind charitable donation from Peter of £400 to help fund the set-up of Cuffley's Scout Active Support Group (the 'Cuffley Crew') in December. The Scout Active Support is a Group for any adults aged 18 and above; 1st Cuffley Active Support Group meets every Friday evening and currently has around 8 supporters. If anyone is away at University, for example, there is the facility for them to join in via Skype if they can't be there in person. Unfortunately our investment income continues to be low and this is, of course, due to the continuing low interest rates available. In addition, we have asked for, and received, an increase of £100 in the donation made by both Guides and Brownies for the hire of the Scout Hut for the year. This review was certainly due as these donations had remained the same for many years despite the rising costs of hut usage such as electricity etc.

As you can also see from the accounts, expenditure and income relating to activities and trips continues to be high and this is due to much being organised for the benefit of all our young people both in terms of days out and also camping expeditions. Camps/hikes/activities included PACE camp, Scout Summer camp, Cub County Night Hike, County Scout Triathlon, District Cub camp, Campers' badge camp, Backwoods Cub camp, Beaver Fun Days at both Gillwell and Tolmers, Explorer beach weekend and a Hallowe'en weekend, a Scouts' Scuba TryDive, Scout water activities at Stanborough and a Scout trip to Funzone.

Our fundraising activities continued throughout this year and whilst we have seen a decrease in the income from Jumble Sales, due in part to less people buying and also, unfortunately, less people helping, it still remains one of our constant sources of funds. Extra help at the jumble sales can only mean extra revenue so do try to volunteer if at all possible. Many thanks to those who have worked so hard in this regard. We continue to generate some income from the hire of the scout hut including donations relating to table tennis, guides, brownies and karate. In addition to this, we also raised £1,000 from helping at the Point-to-Point at Northaw, £350 from the car boot sale, £413 from the Camp Fire with Carols event and £1229 from the Christmas M&S bag-packing. Another excellent year for fundraising activities;

thank-you so much to everyone for contributing and working so hard to raise such a large sum of money for the group.

Other income includes £2,210 relating to one year's Gift Aid claimed and received in the period.

In terms of expenditure this year, we have seen a slight decrease in the cost of utilities and insurance and unit funding includes costs of running our section meetings each week and providing activities at the Scout hut that are both rewarding and stimulating for our young people.

Overall, a very pleasing year in many ways; the continuing high level of activities and trips has been well received and enjoyed by all concerned. In addition, we have funds carried forward of £31,874 which is an excellent end to the year and gives us the financial scope needed to continue with any further upgrading or maintenance of the existing buildings at our premises as necessary. Many thanks to all those who have worked so hard to generate income and support the work and aims of the group.

Elizabeth Ward

Treasurer, 1st Cuffley Scout Group

1ST CUFFLEY SCOUT GROUP EXECUTIVE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 302555
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
RECEIPTS		
Subscriptions	8,365.50	9,238.00
Investment income		
Barclays Bank	14.05	14.76
Donations		
1st Cuffley Guides	300.00	200.00
Brownies	300.00	200.00
HSBC	500.00	500.00
Table Tennis	181.50	169.50
Cuffley Lodge	-	-
Karate Club	360.00	360.00
Scout shop	-	253.15
Cuffley School	-	600.00
Other	410.00	100.00
Fundraising		
Jumble sales	1,528.55	3,013.93
Other	2,992.74	3,314.73
Activities and Trips	4,581.50	5,639.77
Scarves & handbooks	86.70	57.00
Other income	2,230.47	2,159.68
	<u>21,851</u>	<u>25,821</u>
PAYMENTS		
Scout Association subscription(net)	2,992.00	2,958.00
Premises		
Utilities	1,497.80	1,588.16
Insurance	2,472.28	2,526.05
Maintenance	13,039.49	1,772.90
Fundraising		
Jumble sales	629.34	845.22
Administration expenses		
Unit funding	2,148.60	2,932.15
Activities and trips	4,800.92	7,287.27
Sundry payments (badges, books etc)	1,149.24	666.07
Donations	50.00	100.00
Building Project	-	1,986.27
Other	-	-
	<u>28,780</u>	<u>22,662</u>
EXCESS OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR	-6,929	3,158
Funds brought forward from previous year	<u>38,802</u>	<u>35,644</u>
Funds carried forward	<u>31,874</u>	<u>38,802</u>
Funds per Balance Sheet	31,874	38,802

1ST CUFFLEY SCOUT GROUP EXECUTIVE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 302555
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 MARCH 2015

ASSETS	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Balances at Barclays Bank :		
BPA	26,634.98	29,620.93
Current	5,278.49	9,402.14
Building Project	741.55	241.55
	£ 32,655.02	£ 39,264.62
 (Surplus)/deficit on Explorers' account	 (781.47)	 (462.41)
	£ 31,873.55	£ 38,802.21

The above accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

D Holt
Group Chairman

Elizabeth Ward
Honorary Treasurer

Dated

Signed versions will be available for the AGM.



EXPLORERS

1st Cuffley Explorer Scout Report 2014 - 2015

This has been a year of transition for the Explorers. Taking over the leadership from Peter Cracknell at the turn of the year was always going to be a challenge, particularly with the Scouting expertise and commitment that Peter demonstrated, and continues to demonstrate in his new role with the Service Crew. Several of the Explorers have now transitioned to the Crew, and we have welcomed new members from Scouts; Gordon Lee, Luke Simpson, Daniel Harris, Connor McGuigan, Nick Mann and Matt Kaye. The great thing is that the Crew are still around, and we are gaining the enthusiasm and drive of the new joiners from Scouts.

We have run a full programme throughout the year. Highlights have included a Beach Weekend, an overnight stay in a Scary Shack, Robot Wars with very aggressively modified remote controlled cars, a Master Chef competition, a space hopper challenge and traditional scouting events such as pioneering and wide games. Other successful activities have included Gilwell 24, which involves fun and activities, for a full 24 hours (no sleep), cycle rides, and to come, a camp with Potters Bar District to Lochearnhead.

Matt Kaye has been fortunate in being part of the Potters Bar contingent, who with many others from around the UK will represent the Country at the World Jamboree in Japan in August. He found it to be an amazing experience, not only with the event itself, but also the many training camps and team building activities that led up to it. He has made great friends. Matt appreciates the fund raising behind this which successfully raised all of the required funds.

Trips out of Cuffley are an essential part of the Explorers activity. We have utilised the Potters Bar minibuses for this, having one of our own would bring significant benefit. Other ambitions for the coming year include adding the option of Duke of Edinburgh awards to go alongside the Scouting Awards such as the Queens Scout Award. We look forward to a good year to come.

Paul Kaye - Explorer Scout Leader.



1st Cuffley Scout Report 2014 - 2015

Another year passed, and the Scouts have taken part in more fun and challenging activities.

Our Summer Camp in Norwich was a wet start, with rain all on the first day, perfect weather for setting up camp!! Luckily the rest of the week was drier. During the week we took part in rock climbing on an indoor wall, had a crazy golf competition, an afternoon on the beach at Great Yarmouth as well as the usual Scouting Activities. The scouts also had to plan an expedition for a day, walking along the Norfolk Broads. A very nice place to walk in the sun.

Eighteen scouts also took part in the PACE (Patrol Activity Challenge Experience) camp at Tolmers, where each patrol was responsible for its own camping and meals and had the opportunity to try out various activities including canoeing, rifle shooting, archery, branding and woggle making, trek cart racing, backwoods cooking, bungee run, zip wire and many more.

Once again we took part in the Mid Herts Night Hike, with the theme of James Bond. This is a good experience for walking at night, with a map and compass and completing bases on the way round.

More adventurous activities included Scuba Diving at a local swimming pool, a great experience for them and one we will be doing again, and a day at Stanborough Lakes kayaking, body boarding and rafting. There was also a New Year's Eve sleepover – not so adventurous but pretty sleepless!

A team of scouts competed in the Potters Bar Swimming Gala and came 3rd, a great effort from all those who took part; two teams entered the County Triathlon which consisted of running, cycling and rifle shooting and 8 scouts completed a Forester Badge course held over three Sundays at Tolmers.

It was great to see everyone at the St George's Day and Remembrance Day Parades looking very smart. Thank you to you all for making the effort.

We discovered that some of our Scouts have Talent in our very own "Scouts Got Talent". A very interesting evening of magic, music, comedy and also a dance.

During the year, three scouts have moved to the Explorer Unit and three more will make the transition during the summer. Five scouts completed the Chief Scout's Gold Award (the highest award for the Scout section) and at least six will complete the award this summer. There have been a number of badges gained including camper, camp cook, forester, communicator, martial arts, nights and hikes away, hobbies and model maker as well as a number of challenge awards.

Many thanks to you all for your support and help with events, activities, hut maintenance and allowing your children to take part in these activities.

Steve Rowsell Scout Leader



1st Cuffley Cubs Report 2014 - 2015

It's hard to believe that we've completed another year at Cubs. When I think back over all the things we have done this year I realise how busy we have been. Several Beavers have joined us along the way, as well as some new to scouting. I am delighted to say that most of the Cubs who have left us have progressed to Scouts. They seem to be having a great time as they move to the next stage of Scouting. It is fantastic that we now can offer scouting from Beavers at 6 years to Explorers up to 18 years and beyond at 18+ in the service crew. Their scouting is tailored to their age group and allows them to grow their skills and knowledge.

Cubs enjoy getting badges, and our program is designed for them to achieve this. There are numerous Cub badges, and many of the activities that they take part in both in and outside meetings can help them to gain these.



Examples of the badges we have worked during the year have included the Disability Awareness badge and Creative Challenge. For Disability Awareness the Cubs undertook various challenges with some of their senses impaired to understand how difficult these tasks can be. We also had a visit from a dementia champion who talked about the problems people with dementia experience and how we can become dementia friends.



Throughout the year many of the Cubs have gained badges on trips and camps. In the summer Emma (Baloo) ran a camp at the hut where some of the Cubs got their Backwoods Cooking badge.



They planned and went on an expedition as part of their Outdoor Plus Challenge.



Those Cubs who played music at the camp fire with carols gained their Entertainer badge and in some cases their Musician badge as well.



We took a group of Cubs to the Bayford observatory where they learnt about asteroids, among other things, to get their Astronomer badge.



Ten of the older Cubs joined a camp with 4th Potters Bar to gain their Campers badge. For this they had to light their own fires and cook their meals on them.



For the 1st time we entered 2 teams into the County Cub night hike. With the help of Matthew Crowdy and Becky the Cubs completed all the bases to gain their Communicator badge.



In the summer, with the help of Steve Rowsell some of the Cubs earned their Cyclist badges.



As part of the Global Challenge we learnt about the work of UNICEF and spent one evening making paper bags out of newspaper to try and understand one aspect of child labour in India. The Cubs also prepared meals from different countries for everyone to try.



Throughout the year there are various activities organised by the district which 1st Cuffley join in, these include the swimming Gala, the 6-aside football tournament and the model making and indoor games. We had a good turnout for the swimming gala coming 3rd overall. This enabled several of the Cubs to get their swimmers badge. Our team won the model making cup with a model of the international space station, no mean feat! This award is a measure of how well the Cubs worked as a team, as well as well as the quality of their model, so a great achievement.

One of the main events of the year was the district camp which took place last summer at Well End camp site. This gave lots of the Cubs the opportunity to try out new activities and learn new skills as well as getting to know Cubs from different packs in the district.

I believe one of the most important aspects of scouting is getting out and about, and this year we have been at Tolmers Scout camp doing activities and wide games. As well, we have been on several walks in the local area and tried orienteering in the Lee Valley Park.

We attended the Remembrance Day service at Northaw and the St Georges day parade in Potters Bar. There was a good turnout at both these events and I was yet again impressed by the good behaviour of the Cubs.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped and supported the Cubs over the year. We now have our own Active Support Group who have helped us in many of our activities. These have ranged from coming to camps, running 1st aid courses, organising wide games and many more. This help is invaluable and a great asset to the group.

Our regular Cub meetings could not be achieved without the support of the other leaders and helpers. My thanks go to Maureen aka Hathi, Jayne aka Raksha, Emma aka Baloo, Becky and all the parents who support us on the rota.

To keep us all on our toes the Scout Association has come up with a completely new badge program. Your children are now working towards this new set of badges. This may mean that for some of you, they come home with a mixture of badges. If this seems complicated, it is for all of us too. The new set of challenge badges look like this:-



Please come and talk to me if you have any ideas for activities, any hobbies or skills that you feel we could incorporate into the program. I would also like to know if you have any suggestions or criticisms.

Last but not least, thanks to the Cubs for their enthusiasm and energy. It would not be the same without them.

Jean Holt aka Akela



1st Cuffley Beaver Leader Report 2014 - 2015

I'll get the not-so-good bit out of the way before blowing you all away with all the amazing things we got up to this year! Numbers have fallen slightly this year compared to last year. It seems to be the same problem of clashes with football and other activities, increased school work taking up time in the evenings and the logistics of getting children to the Hut on time. However our numbers are still good and we have been taking on new starters during the term. We have also started to think about ways to promote Beavers and Cubs, such as advertising at the school.

In the summer term we switched to the new Beaver Badge System. While many of the existing activity badges remain, a few have been lost and new ones added. The greatest change is with the challenge badges. While there are still six, which we can do one a term for two years leading towards the Bronze Award, these new badges will take a little bit of time to fully integrate into our two-year system.

Six beavers attained their Bronze Awards during the year.

In September twelve Beavers attended the District Beaver Sports day at Morven in Potters Bar. They all had a lot of fun taking part in the various races and especially the tug-of-war with the grown-ups! Following on from this, while others went home, twelve of our colony stayed on for the District Beaver Sleepover. This included a wide game before supper, a campfire and singing then hot chocolate and biscuits before bed. In the morning there was a nature-related scavenger hunt before leaving camp.

Six Beavers came along to the Annual General Meeting and entertained the meeting with a couple of songs learnt at the start of term. This was followed by Nerf guns in the annexe.

We had a good attendance for Remembrance Sunday in November with eleven beavers all marching smartly up the road to the church and memorial.

Nine attended the Group Camp Fire with Carols that was held at the Scout Hut. Several were brave enough to play their musical instruments in front of the crowd and earned themselves their first-stage music badges.

Another nine came along to see Father Christmas at the District Christmas Walk in the Woods at Well End. This followed the usual pattern of collecting CDs hanging from trees in the dark by torchlight, then wandering around a field in the dark looking for each of Santa's reindeer. After warming up with roasted marshmallows and singing round the campfire it was back to base for hot chocolate and cake while waiting for Santa who duly arrived in a brightly lit sleigh and presents were handed out.

The Final event of the year was Bag Packing at M&S just before Christmas where we had six Beavers who spent time at the tills handing out sweets and hoping for donations in return.

Seven lucky Beavers attended the District Beaver Fun Zone in February. Lucky because the other beaver colony they were to share their time with in the play area, did not turn up and so they had it all for themselves.

Six of our colony attended the St George's Day Parade in Potters Bar this year to renew their promise very loudly in front of all.

We made use of Tolmers for a couple of meetings over the summer term. We are very lucky to have this facility so close to us.

The big event of the summer was the Gilwell Park Funday in June where we had seven Beavers join in the fun. It was a lovely day and we made good use of the Group's event shelter as a base and somewhere to eat our picnic. The crate stacking was one activity that went down very well with a lot of competition for who could stack the highest before gravity took over and crates toppled over.

The year ended with a first for the current Beaver leadership team. After a lot of perseverance and determination Alison obtained her nights-away permit this year. This allowed us to run our very own Beaver Summer/Sleepover camp, which we ran at the Scout Hut at the end of term. We had nine in our pirate crew of which eight slept overnight, many of them experiencing their first nights-away. Activities included making their own sandwiches for lunch, pirate craftsmanship, pirate balloon swords, many games, supper followed by pancakes, a roaring campfire with a singsong, roasted marshmallows squished in chocolate biscuits and hot chocolate before bed. In the morning after an early breakfast of cereal and hot dogs there was a scavenger hunt, trail laying and artwork. The weather was just about perfect with just a little rain overnight and early morning.

Alison is looking to extend the camping next year to include some of the colonies close to us in the District,

I would like to thank the parents who have helped us in the meetings throughout the year as part of the parent rota and also to those parents who helped at the extra events we organised.

Finally, immense gratitude to Alison (Chil), Maureen (Hathi), Joel (Akru) and our young leader James, for all their help and support throughout the year.

David Gill (Phao)

Cuffley Service Crew Report 2014 - 2015



The Cuffley Service Crew is the informal name of the First Cuffley Scout Active Support Unit, a group of adults with extensive scouting experience who commit personal time to the ongoing delivery of Scouting in Cuffley. The Crew primarily meets on a Friday evening although this can vary according to the whereabouts of its members, their university and working commitments and the tasks they perform.

Crew members are either warranted leaders, members of the Potters Bar Network Scouts, occasional helpers, stand-alone Scout Active Support members or any combination of these depending on which way the wind blows. Between them they have a wide skill base and earlier this year five completed the Queen's Scout Award, the pinnacle of Scouting achievement.

In the reporting year, members have assisted a wide variety of fundraising and HQ maintenance projects for the First Cuffley Scout Group and have run and supported events such as camps, hikes and special meetings for each of the group sections. Other activities have included Hill Walking, Bell Ringing, Camping, Mountaineering, First Aid Training, and one member spent three weeks in South Africa undertaking community work in a Scout led environment.

Peter Cracknell
Scout Active Support Manager

August 2015

