

EARLSWOOD, 2nd REIGATE (ST. JOHN'S) SCOUT GROUP

Headquarters: - Earlswood Road, Redhill



W E L C O M E

to our

FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH

&

AGM

15TH June 2003

ANNUAL REPORT 2003

MENU

Introduction:

Welcome to today's event – an opportunity for the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorer's to show what they can do and in particular to thank their Mum's & Dad's for your support of their Scouting!

Starter

Designed & prepared by the Explorer Scouts

Formally served by Beavers & Cubs

Main Course

BBQ Style buffet cooked & prepared the Scouts.

Desert

Cooked & prepared by the Cubs & Scouts

Speeches

Annual Report of the 2nd Reigate Scout Group

Written & prepared by the Group Executive C'tee.

Election of new C'tee.

Closing comments of District Commissioner.

Coffee & Biscuits

AGM - Annual Report 2003

Agenda

- Minutes of AGM – 2002.
- Group Scout Leader's report.
- Section reports
 - Beavers
 - Cubs
 - Scouts
 - Explorers
- Treasurer's report
- Chairman's report
- Appointment of Chairman
- Appointment of Treasurer
- Election of new Group Executive C'tee.

Highlights of Year

- Four Earlswood Scouts gain Chief Scouts Award
- New Age ranges & programmes launched
- Explorer Scout Unit launched
- Successful & eventful Summer Camp
- Cubs win District Swimming Gala
- Beavers enjoy day-out at County Fun Day.
- Highly successful “bag-packing” fund raising event.
- Cubs continued despite loss of Leader(s) and low numbers
- Hosting District St Georges Day Service & Parade.

Group Scout Leader's Report

This has been both a very successful and difficult year.

In September last year we were suddenly faced with a Leadership crisis in the Cub section – quickly followed by a numbers crisis in the Cub section – as 9 boys moved up to join the Scouts and only one moved up from the Beavers.

This problem had been coming for a couple of years – but nevertheless thanks to the determined efforts of Julian Shepherd & Trevor Comber we have managed our way through this – numbers in the Cubs are still far too small and we would like all your help in recruitment for this section.

Please take a batch of flyers on your way out today – and drop them through your neighbour's doors – preferably those with children!

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On the successful front – we have had real success in the Scout section and started what we hope will be a gradually growing Explorer Scout section.

The recruitment of Leaders & Helpers remains difficult – but I know that those Mum's & Dad's who have recently helped me with Cub & Scout events – have all really enjoyed themselves – so hopefully we'll be able to sign up some of you TODAY.

Lastly I would like to thank all the Leaders who put in so much of their spare time to make Scouting in Earlswood a success – believe me it is worth it!!!

I'd also like to thank Keith, our new-ish Chairman, Ros our Treasurer and Jane our Secretary – their help & assistance in keeping the Group “moving” has been invaluable.

Adrian Jackson
Scouter-in-charge
Earlswood, 2nd Reigate (St John's) Scout Group.



Beaver Leaders report

Sharon Pannell Beaver Scout Leader
Nikki Watkins Assistant Beaver Scout Leader



Cub Leader's report

Despite the lack of numbers of boys – caused by problems in our Beaver Colony two years earlier – we have maintained an interesting programme of activities.

These have included:

- Camping at Perry Wood – at the District Camp
 - Tracking and local knowledge with a little Map reading exercises.
 - Skate Boarding - Badged
 - Handy Man - Badge – the boys built Bird boxes & Flower boxes.
 - Evening hikes and wide games
 - Cooking - Lots & lots Sausages!
 - Cooking – Scary coloured pancakes!!
 - Roman Catapults evening.
 - First Aid Kits
 - Making Go-Karts for the District Go-Karts comp.
 - Joining the Scouts for their Guy Fawkes Night
- Big thanks to Trevor Comber & Jenny Best for all their support.

All we need now is at least one more Leader and more boys!



Julian Shepherd
Assistant Cub Scout Leader.



Scout Leaders report

The year has had a number of highlights- notably the achievement of the “old style” Chief Scouts Award by Paul Davies, Paul Irving, David Holdaway & Robert Bryson. Their awards were first presented locally at a packed evening here in Earlswood – when we reviewed our 2002 Summer Camp and then at a County ceremony in Guildford – where the boys were presented to the County Commissioner & various other VIP’s!

The boys have now moved on to form the nucleus of our new Explorer Scout Unit.

Summer Camp 2002 was held in Derbyshire and had everything – a broken down mini-bus – a heatwave – lightning storm – three days of torrential rain – 15 Scouts abseiling down a 70ft railway arch – as well as the surreal experience of Scouts singing Monty Python songs 50ft underground while wading through muddy water!!

Other Activities included:

- Patrol Camp at Fryland’s Wood
- Activity Camp at Perry Wood
- Night Hike
- Guy Fawkes Night
- Bag Packing at Sainsbury’s with the 17th Reigate.
- Electronics Badge
- Laser Quest
- District Camp
- Climbing at Blacklands Farm climbing wall.
- Wide Games on Redhill & Earlswood Common
- Local Knowledge evening
- Outdoor & Adventure Challenge Badge’s
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I would like to thank Steve Pfeil & Trevor Comber – my regular assistants - and Robert Burch, Mark Davies, Dave Johnson & “Mr” Latham for their help – particularly recently.

Troop at District Camp -2003



Explorer Scouts Leader report



Our new Unit has gradually “been finding its feet” – we now have 5 members with three more likely to join from Scouts in September.

Activities have been a little patchy recently due primarily to GCSE's & my own decision to start my own plumbing business!

An Assistant Leader is a real necessity!!

However we have undertaken some activities jointly with the 7th Reigate Explorers and also with our own Scouts – as well as on our own.

These include:

- Laser Quest
- Bag Packing
- Computer Games evening
- “Tramps” Camp
- Survival Camp
- Wide Game
- Video Night
- Music evening
- Chinese Cooking evening

We are looking forward to September when an increase in numbers will encourage a wider range of activities.

Mike Vines
Explorer Scout Leader.

Chairman's Report

It's a strange thing being asked to act as chairman for a Scout Group. I had enjoyed helping out as a "dad" with a bricklaying demonstration, constructing menus for camp cooking competitions and hosting a ready steady cook evening, and driving scouts to and from various camps, and fixing bits of the hall and and.... and....

But being chairman has shown me just how hard the leaders work, they think up all these ideas and take the responsibility for our sons. And despite all their moaning and groaning, the boys really do enjoy themselves when they get stuck in.

My two main tasks are to co-ordinate the work of the committee (at which I have succeeded) and to involve more parents in the life and work of the Group. In this latter task I think I have failed. This Father's Day lunch is the first step in putting that right. We need 3 more people to join the committee to add their ideas and to share the work. When we get stuck in (just like the boys) we find it's quite enjoyable really.

There are about 4 meetings a year. Our main concerns are the safety of the hall (electrics, gas, roof etc) overseeing the finances, organising events which involve parents and boys and providing commitment and support for the leaders.

You have read in the other reports about the highlights of the year.

You have also heard about the need to ensure a succession from Beavers to Cubs to Scouts. We must not rest on the terrific success of our 4 Chief Scout awards this year but work to rebuild the younger groups.

You don't have to join the committee if you hate that stuff, but you might be able to provide some practical help for the leaders on one or two evenings or organise a social or fund raising event.

If you would like to help, speak to me after the AGM.

Keith Holdaway

Treasurer's Report

Projects for 2003/2004 for which we would like parental help & support

- Group Web Site
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- Decorate Explorer Unit Den
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- Recruit Assistant Explorer Scout Leader
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- Recruit Assistant Cub Scout Leader
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- Recruit “Helpers” for Beavers & Cubs
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- Appoint Group PRO to write & publicise articles in local press.

- New signboard for HQ

- Investigate inclusion of girls! into Group.

Chief Scouts Award presentation



The four Scouts in front of a map showing their route and photographs of their hike



The boys presented their achievements to Parents and Scouts ...

... While Adrian looks on.





The formal presentation of their Chief Scout Awards. Well done!!