

News

1st Bagshot Winter 2013 Newsletter

WinterCamp 2013 Report

By Alex Lifford, Scout

On the Friday 11th January this year, I went on my 2nd Scout Winter Camp. We travelled in three cars, up to Gilwell Park, on the edge of Epping Forest. I was in Shelley's car with Julian and some Explorers; we ate sweets and talked all the way.

We arrived at about 9pm, to find our tents had already been put up by Steve and some helpers, and tucked into bacon rolls. I was sharing a tent with Shaun, and went to bed at about 10pm; it was VERY, VERY cold!!! I wore all my clothes to bed in my season 4 sleeping bag, along with my beanie hat. It was SO cold I rang home to tell them.

On Saturday I woke up around 7am, but couldn't get out of bed until 8am because I didn't want to get out of my warm sleeping bag.

We had a cooked breakfast that morning made by Lisa and Steve, plus Steve kindly made me a hot cup of coffee. This warmed me up!! After having a lovely breakfast made for us, we (the scouts) had to do all the washing up. Eerr!!

Saturday was a really busy day with all the activities; I did go-karts, digger driving (see photo) and 4x4 trekking. My favourite activity was the go-karts, because they were very fast and great fun. I raced against Shaun but we both crashed, so no-one won. I really enjoyed the digger driving too; it was tricky to begin with as there were 6 levers and 2 buttons, but I soon got the hang of it. For dinner that night we had sausage casserole, it was delicious!!

I went to bed very early Saturday night, 7pm, because I was really cold and very tired from a busy day. Again I rang mum and dad to tell them how cold it was, but they were out partying!!! Sunday morning we were up early so we could pack away our camp gear.

Again we had a cooked breakfast, which I loved, and again we had to wash up afterwards. Eerr!! We left for home, after lunch, and arrived back in Bagshot after 3pm.

Even though it was cold, the best things about winter camp are, camping, camp food and having fun with my friends. Mum asked me if I would go again next year – Oh yeah!



Alex Lifford
Digger
Driving at
Winter
Camp, Jan
2013

If you are interested in seeing more, please visit <http://scouts.org.uk/news/2013/01/wintercamp-2013>

Training opportunities

1st Bagshot Scouts has opportunities for people interested in being trained to become leaders, and offers the support of some very experienced leaders. If you're interested in being involved please contact Stefan Nahajski (email chair@bagshotscouts.org.uk) Mobile 07768 305060) and as ever, more information about the group and its activities can be found on our website www.bagshotscouts.org.uk

Awards Presented

1st Bagshot Scouts have again had a fantastic term with a Gold and Bronze awards being awarded in addition to a Chief Scout Commendation being made to one of the leaders.

Chief Scout Gold Awards

Congratulations to Josh and Harvey on receiving their Chief Scout's Gold Award. Plenty of hard work went into getting all the Challenge Badges!



Chief Scout Commendation

Fraser Sampson, Assistant Cub Scout Leader, has received a Chief Scout Commendation for good scouting in recognition of his 5 years of volunteering. Fraser originally became involved in



helping at cubs when his children, Cameron and Chloe (in photo with Fraser above), were part of the group.

Leader Q&A – guess who this Scout is now?

Our leaders are familiar faces but thought you would like to know more about them and why they are involved in 1st Bagshot Scouts so can you work out who this one is?



Chief Scout Silver Awards

Congratulations to Callum Gunn and Luke Ward on being awarded their Silver Scout award.



Chief Scout Bronze Awards

Congratulations to Leo Austin, Freddie Leaky and Samuel Vinten who all achieved their Chief Scout Bronze award and have now moved up to Cubs.



- i) **When did you join?**
Over 57 years ago! I became a 'Wolf Cub' (known as 'Cubs' now) when I was eight in 1956. It was when the cubs really did say 'DYB DYB DYB, DOB DOB DOB' as they don't anymore!
- ii) **What was the best thing you did when you were a cub?** In general I loved the games and outdoor activities but the best thing was becoming a sixer in the 1st Heston.
- iii) **What was the best camp that you went on when you were a scout?** There were two. Crickhowell in Wales when we travelled down the A40 (before the M4 was built) in an Austin 8 convertible. In 1962, we had brilliant camp in Germany
- iv) **Why did you become a leader?** After the 'Wolf Cubs, Scouts, Senior Scouts then Rover scouts I started helping as there was a shortage of Leaders.
- v) **Have you met Bear Grylls?** Unfortunately not yet but enjoy watching his survival programmes on the TV.
- vi) **What is the best thing about being Group Leader at Bagshot 1st Scout Group?** The people. I really enjoy working with a great team of leaders and committee members.

In case you had not worked it out, the scout is Spencer Watson, Group Scout Leader (overseeing Beavers, Cubs and Scouts) and one of the leaders for the Scouts. Here is a photo of Spencer as he is now...



Beavers meet an 'Echo'

The Beavers have been very busy again since the last newsletter. Before Christmas, one session was dedicated to 'Hearing Dogs for Deaf People'. This charity has now been running for 30 years and trains hearing dogs to alert deaf people to select household sounds and danger signals in the home, work place and in public buildings - providing a life-changing level of independence, confidence and companionship. The highlight was meeting Echo (the hearing dog) and his owner. In order to raise some money for this life changing charity, the Beavers decorated cakes and opened a café for their families. Thank you so much for your generosity of all those that attended as this raised £50. To put this in context, £30 would purchase a Hearing Dog uniform bringing visibility to a otherwise invisible disability and £80 would cover a puppy dog starting pack.

Well done Beavers!



What's planned for Cub Camp this year? Update from Andy Woodward, Cub Scout Leader (alias Akela)



Camping is an important part of the Scouting experience as Baden-Powell made clear in his Scouting for Boys in 1907. It is often the first chance children get to sleep away from home, and sleeping in a tent in a field is an exciting time, judging by

how little sleep is had on the first night! We try to blend fun activities with some activities that allow the Cubs to take some responsibility for the group endeavour such as washing up the dishes after meals, fetching water and firewood and clearing the campsite of litter after we have packed up.

Camp this year is already well subscribed but there are still places if any other cubs would like to join us. We will be returning to Walton Firs, Friday 3rd- Sunday 5th May, in Cobham

to camp in a small clearing in the woods. Activities already booked include caving, where the cubs get to crawl through a fibreglass cave network with helmet torches on, an assault course where they can get even dirtier and a game of giant football with a 5 foot diameter ball. We will also be learning some basic knots and attempting a small pioneering project.

The older cubs will be spending some time with some representatives from the Scout section led by Lisa Brewer, the idea being to undertake some more grown-up activities and to get to know Lisa before they move up to Scouts in the coming year.

Despite the thought of the usual 4am start on the Saturday morning, I am looking forward to it!

If you are a cub and would like to attend cub camp, please contact Andy

Grant for Equipment Hits the Bullseye

Great news...1st Bagshot Scouts has received a grant to boost its activities in 2013. The funds which come to £1,200 will be used to buy lightweight expedition tents and archery equipment to support the Groups growing programme of outdoor activities. The money has been given by the Surrey Heath Local Committee as part of the Surrey County Council Youth Small Grants Awards scheme.

Stefan Nahajski, Group Chairman said he was delighted the Group has received the money adding "1st Bagshot is so vibrant and friendly, and we're growing steadily, so we are always looking to develop the activities we offer - the big adventure, that's what Scouting is all about"

Members across the three sections of Scouts, Cubs and Beavers have recently received Gold, Silver and Bronze Chief Scout's Awards - the highest award a Scout get in their section and is a result of the varied programme the leaders offer as well as lots of hard work on the part of the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers. This equipment will help this to continue.

The expedition tents have already been bought and put to good use by Scouts attending the recent Surrey Heath District Patrol Leaders Training weekend who kindly demonstrated they were snow proof!



Annual General Meeting – all welcome

You are welcome to come and join the AGM on Tuesday 14th May at 7.30pm at the Foresters Pub on the A30 opposite Notcutts. To give you some background, the 1st Bagshot Scout Group is managed by the Executive Committee which is made up of member parents, Section Leaders and the Group Scout Leader. The Committee is involved with all fundraising and social aspects of the Group and provides assistance to the Scout Leaders. There are key functions within the Committee: Chair, Group Secretary, Group Treasurer and Membership Secretary as well as positions for Committee Members. These roles are nominated each year at the AGM and any member parent is welcome to join the Committee. The only role not voted for at the AGM is that of the Chair. Please come and join us, the more the merrier!

Executive Members

The Executive Team work to ensure that the Leader Team are able to deliver a full, interesting and safe Programme to the young members. They are responsible for aspects such as Financial matters, Fundraising, Safeguarding and the social side of the group. All members are parents of members or ex-members of the Group.

Stefan Nahajski – Chairman
Spencer Watson – Group Scout Leader
Adrian Ringrose – Treasurer
Jayne Lifford – Secretary
John Bauld - Quartermaster
Ian Hill - Subscriptions
Ellie Rankin - Communications
Lorraine Gunn – Safeguarding
Steve Lamb – Scout Leader
Andy Woodward – Cub Scout Leader
Kate Cox – Beaver Scout Leader

As with all such groups, many hands make light work, so anyone interested in getting involved in any way would be most welcome

Useful Information

Our Website	www.bagshotscouts.org.uk
For general enquiries	info@bagshotscouts.org.uk
Beavers	beavers@bagshotscouts.org.uk
Cubs	cubs@bagshotscouts.org.uk
Scouts	scouts@bagshotscouts.org.uk
Group Scout Leader	gsl@bagshotscouts.org.uk

Badge Information including requirements and where to sew them on the uniform can be found at www.scoutbase.org.uk

Future Dates

St Georges Day Parade April 21, 2013 at 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm. St John the Baptist, Windlesham

Cub Camp May 3, 2013 at 6:00 pm – May 5, 2013 at 11:00 am
Walton Firs (see article)

AGM May 14, 2013 at 7.30pm Foresters Pub on the A30 opposite Notcutts (see article)

Scout Challenge Camp 17-19th May 2013 – Polyapes Scout Camp
Scout Community Week June 8, 2013 – June 10, 2013

SCRAM - Cub Fun Day June 15, 2013 Cranleigh Showground
SCRAM is a County Cub Scout event that only happens once every three years - we are expecting 2500 Cub Scouts from all over Surrey to participate in a day of fun, learning and activities. See Andy's email for more details. Need numbers by 29th March.
<http://www.surrey-scouts.org.uk/scram>

Scout Summer Camp 9th August 2013 - final details to be advised
Family Camp September 20, 2013 – September 23, 2013 Garner's Field. Opportunity for the whole family to come camping and join their kids for a weekend of activities (including crafts), campfires, camp cooking and socialising.