

BEAVER COLONY

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18-19

At the start of the year, the 1st Hainault Beaver Colony had only been going to just over two months and had only a handful of members. But as Beaver Scouting celebrates its 25th Anniversary nationally, the Groups Colony celebrates its increased in its number to 21. I believe that the strength of this growth has been a direct response to the exciting and adventurous activities that are undertaken week by week. After closing the Beaver Colony the year before, the Group took the brave option to open on a Sunday afternoon, it was a brave decision to run Beavers on a Sunday afternoon, something that was the first for this District, may be even for the County but it looks like it has paid off.

We are very lucky to have 2 exceptional Explorer Scout Young Leaders in Callum and Jason. A lot has been asked of them in lieu of adult volunteers and they have met the challenge perfectly. Many of the Colony's best activities have been those that have been planned and organised by them.

In the past year, a team of Active Support Members have added a new and valuable dimension to the programme. They have also provided an essential back up, making drinks and setting up activities allowing the leadership to run the programme.

The Group prides itself on its focus on outdoor and adventurous activities and this year, the Beaver Scouts have been grass sledging, climbing, learnt mini-pioneering and developed their fire lighting skills. Our method is learning by doing and the Colony has a big focus on making things. This has included; learning about American Independence and making feather hats, Christmas Biscuits, Mothering Sunday flower pots.

The Colony has also been out and about at Hargreaves for some backwoods cooking and Claybury Park for a nature walk. They have also been climbing about on the traversing wall and celebrated it's 1st Birthday with a big party back in January. By the end of this year, we should have a stable leadership team, which means that we can really focus on recruitment for the section. It is our aim to have a full Beaver Colony of 25, we are currently at 21 so not far to go.

Finally a big thank you goes to everyone involved in the Beaver Colony: the Young Leaders, Gemma Cook, Jack Hollis, Cathy Newbigging, Kathy James, Ann Skelly and Margaret Hughes.

LEE CLARK (FISH)

GROUP SCOUT LEADER

ACTING BEAVER SCOUT LEADER



CUB PACK

The 1st Hainault Cub Scouts have had a very successful year. We started off the year with myself, newly appointed as Cub Scout Leader after taking over from Lee (Sherkhan).

Lee had increased the number of camps and other nights away experiences as well as introduced a fast paced and active programme, which soon slowed our declining numbers and for the first time we were seeing growth. It was now my responsibility to keeping this going.

The Cub Pack has been well supported with myself, James Newbigging (Baloo), Denise Small (Mor) and Jay Salter (King Louis) making this Cub Leadership team one of the strongest teams in the District. I really felt that this leadership team was going to take the Pack to a new level increasing, and aimed to increased the number of badges each that each Cub Scout achieved during their time in the Pack.

As part of the Art Challenge, the Pack visited the Tate Modern last November where they explored the nature of art, how modern art was expressed and took part in activities through out the day in the. gallery. They took ideas from the visit and translated them into works of art upon their return to The Stockade.

A photography challenge and hiking expedition were combined when the Cub Pack visited Hainault Forest Country Park with disposal cameras taking photos of all things nature. Prizes were given to the Cubs who produced the best photos after they were developed.

The Pack celebrated Chinese New Year throughout the month of February by speaking and writing in Mandarin, making Chinese lanterns and understanding a culture that was very different from our own.

As part of the Astronomy Challenge, the Pack created a model solar system by using inflated balloons and paper mache to create the planets and the sun. The challenge was rounded off with a visit to the Royal Observatory where the Pack, and some parents, explored the nature of time lines, telescopes and experienced an amazing show inside the planetarium.

We expanded our map reading skills by learning the 6 digit grid reference and put them to use at Fairlop Waters... in the dark! The Pack excelled in group work and located four markers around the field using nothing but a map and their torches.



We have experienced three camps last year totalling four nights away but hope to increase that in numbers over the next year. The first two were with the whole group at our annual AGM and JOTA/JOTI camp with our Cub camp taking place in March.

The Pack has also been involved in District level sporting events. Last November the Pack competed in the Swimming Gala where our strongest Swimmer took part in the County Competition.

The success of our Pack nights has led to great demands in membership which allowed us to plan the opening of a second Pack on Monday nights. At the end of the financial year, the Pack had 24 members.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone involved in the Cub Scout Pack, James Newbigging, Denise Small and Jay Salter.

Zia Rahman

(Akela)

Cub Scout Leader





'Every child has the right to an adventure'

