



The Fog Horn

Newsletter of the 1st Maidenhead Sea Scout Group

Welcome to the End of Term Special!

Fundraising Update

Hot water at last! We found out in December that we were successful in getting a Grassroots grant of over £2800 to allow us to replace the old & unreliable water heater at the HQ. The new heater has now been installed and we're sure you'll all agree that it's a bit improvement to wash up - and wash hands - in warm water! There's more we'd like to do to improve the HQ - if you have any ideas for grants we could apply for, or would like to get involved in any way with fundraising or grants, please let anyone on the committee know.

Upcoming Social & Fundraising Events

Please put the dates below in your diaries!

Fun Day, BBQ & AGM - Sunday 15th May at Longridge: An afternoon of watersports fun for all the family including a BBQ down at Longridge. More details to follow after the Easter break, but please put the date in your diaries.

Family Camp - 17th/18th September at Longridge: we'll be camping out for one night & there'll be a host of fun activities

Family Quiz Night - Saturday 15th October: thanks for your feedback about quiz nights - we've rescheduled to the Autumn & we're planning an early evening event with questions for all the family

T-shirts

As the warm weather rapidly approaches, don't forget to get your son or daughter a 1st Maidenhead Sea Scouts t-shirt, they are part of our uniform. They're available from your section leader for just £7 for smaller sizes or £8 for larger ones.

If you need any other items of Scouts clothing, you can get them from the Scout Shop which runs every Thursday in term time from 7pm-9pm at the 19th Maidenhead Scout Hut, Holmanleaze Maidenhead SL6 8AW - just behind the Magnet. They can also provide, or order in, much of the equipment you may need. All the profits go back into Scouting - and some of them come to the 1st Maidenhead.

Hall, Marquee & Tent hire

Don't forget you can hire the Scout HQ, our marquee or tents for your events. For members of the group, the Hall costs just £10 per hour - and for that you can use the kitchen too. For non-members the rates vary depending on how long you hire it for. If you're interested in hiring the hall, please contact Catherine Oliver (cdoliver@waitrose.com, 07717 753450).

If you're interested in hiring the marquee or tents, please contact Bryan Barnard on 07899 791170 or bryan.barnard@landyman45.org

Subscriptions

Thanks to everyone who has set up Standing Orders - this will make all our lives much more straightforward. If you haven't yet done this, please email David Oliver on cdoliver@waitrose.com and he'll provide you with any information you need. At the moment only 20% of parents pay subs by Standing Order. Ideally we would like



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100% but it would be nice to say that this time next year we might have moved to 50%. Whatever you can do would be much appreciated.

We also need as many people as possible to sign the Gift Aid Forms, so we can reclaim extra money from the taxman (and you can reduce your own tax bill). Again contact David if you need the form or more information.

Would you like to get involved?

If you would be interested in helping out in any way with the group, please do let any Leader or member of the committee know. It's a lot of fun and even if you can only spare the occasional hour that would be great! The Beavers are in particular need of an Assistant Leader to help out at their weekly Thursday meetings - no experience is necessary and please do speak to Elizabeth Hogg (aka Hawkeye) if you'd like to know more. Also - see the section reports below for other opportunities to get involved in Cubs or Scouts.

Section Reports

Beavers

Beavers are growing fast! We are now up to 19 until a group swim up to Cubs in May. Those Beavers going to Cubs are expected to attend at least 3 Cub and Beaver meetings before being welcomed up to Cubs by Akela or assistant. When they make their Cub promise, they will be presented with their moving on award.

We meet back on the 28th April when we will celebrate the Royal Wedding! Next term, we have a walk to Cookham planned. The St George's Day parade will be on Saturday May 7th. All Beavers are expected to attend if at all possible. Parents are welcome to walk with them if they wish. Details will follow next term.

Have a good Holiday, and don't eat too much Chocolate!

Sea Cubs

Woo Hoo the nights are lighter at last...although we have been out and about throughout the dark months, but lighter evenings mean it's nearly Longridge Time!

Over the past term we have concentrated on badge work and training for the various District Events. We had fun and took part in the Swimathon, Swimming Gala, Flag Competition and next month is the District Hike Competition - a team will be picked soon.

As per the other sections, we are struggling for leaders - if you know someone or would like to commit to organising a small team to run a badge work session for a couple of weeks a term please let me know - I have several little people desperate to join in the fun, but cannot take them without more help...



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Scouts

We started the New Year with the District Swimming Gala where we came 3rd from all the teams that entered from the whole of Maidenhead district. Well done to the team of, Holly, Anna, Harriet, James & Emily.

We have worked through a couple of activity badges also during the spring term including the Guide & Fire Safety. We also have a team of six Scouts about to complete their Expedition Challenge Badge, and once completed, we may soon be able to award our first Chief Scouts Gold Award for the first time in a couple of Years. This is a major achievement and is the highest award for the Scout section.

The weekend of 6-8 May, a number of the Scouts will be travelling to Rockley, near Poole again for a weekend of Sailing. We are taking experienced and novice sailors and it is hoped that they will gain some experience to achieve a pass in the relevant RYA training scheme.

Summer camp has been planned and final details will be sent in the next few weeks. We are going to Ferney Crofts in the New Forest to a week of activities, joined by Scouts & Leaders from the 19th Maidenhead.

As with the other sections, the Scout section is also in desperate need of some assistant leaders. If you or a friend may be interested in helping me, please contact me for further details of what's involved.

Finally, may I wish all parents and Scouts a happy Easter and don't eat too many eggs!!! Kevin

Dates for your Diary

- 9 Apr 3 Towers Hike - **Explorers**
- 6-8 May Rockley Trip - **Scouts**
- 7 May St. Georges Day Parade - **Group**
- 7 May Exmoor Challenge - **Scouts & Explorers**
- 15 May Fun Day, BBQ & AGM - **Group**
- 11/12 June Sleepover at HQ - **Beavers**
- 1-3 Jul Summer Camp - **Cubs**
- 6-13 Aug Summer Camp - **Explorers**
- 20-27 Aug Summer Camp - **Scouts**
- 17/18 September Family Camp - **Group**
- 15 October Family Quiz Night - **Group**
- Feb 2012 Winter Camp Switzerland - **Explorers**

Leader Team & Key Contacts

Group Leader: Wayne Davie	wayne_davie@yahoo.co.uk
Explorers: Bryan Barnard	bryan.barnard@landyman45.org
Scouts: Kevin Stanley	kevin.elaine@tesco.net
Cubs: Wayne Davie	wayne_davie@yahoo.co.uk
Beavers: Elizabeth Hogg	elizabeth.1136@btinternet.com
Hall Bookings: Catherine Oliver	cdoliver@waitrose.com
Chairman: Robin Denman	rsjedenman@btinternet.com
Treasurer: David Oliver	cdoliver@waitrose.com
Secretary: Catherine Oliver	cdoliver@waitrose.com
Fundraising: Rachel Volpe	rachel_volpe@hotmail.co.uk