

# The Fog Horn

Newsletter of the 1<sup>st</sup> Maidenhead Sea Scout Group

## **A message from Mike Hogg & Wayne Davie...**

As from the 1<sup>st</sup> September, Wayne has taken over from me as Group Scout Leader (GSL). I wish him all the best and ask you every one of you to give him all the support possible, in what is considered the most challenging role in Scouting. My thanks go out to all those who have supported me while I was GSL and look forward to the Group growing under Wayne's enthusiastic leadership.

Regards, Mike

Like a Doctor Who regeneration, I have now become the GSL for the group. Thanks go to Mike who, for the past 20 years has steered the 1<sup>st</sup> Maidenhead along calm waters and kept us upright in inclement weather. I intend to carry on his good work and help us continue to be one of the best groups in Maidenhead. I will, worry not, still be running the Sea Cub section for the time being.

My focus for the first term is to increase our funds and complete some vital maintenance work at the Scout Hut. With all your help (parents and section members) we can hopefully raise a good proportion of this by completing and attending the various events coming up – please do make every effort as your children can get even more from Scouting if we all work together.

Wayne, GSL, 1st Maidenhead Sea Scout Group

## **A message from your new 1<sup>st</sup> Maidenhead Sea Scouts Executive Committee...**

A huge Welcome Back to the 1<sup>st</sup> Maidenhead Sea Scout Group from your new Executive Committee and an even bigger **Welcome** to those of you joining the group for the first time. We've tried to pull together below some information we hope will be useful for all the parents and young people in the group – the Section Leaders will fill you in on information specific to their individual sections.

### **Who are the Executive Committee?**

The committee is there to help with fundraising and all sorts of other jobs which leave the Leaders free to organise their fantastic sessions for our children. At the moment the committee is:

Robin Denman (Scouts)  
David Oliver (Treasurer – Beavers)  
Catherine Oliver (Secretary – Beavers)  
Rachel Volpe (Cubs & Scouts)  
Irina Woodford (Beavers)  
Tracey Richardson (Beavers)

### **Fundraising**

The Scout Group survives on money from subscriptions plus fundraising. The Executive Committee is currently planning events during the year (see below for some early details and dates) – and these really need the support of parents & section members. The more money we raise at these events the less the subs will increase. It will also let us invest in the fabric of our building and its facilities and add activities to our programme – so please support these events!

### **How can you be involved?**

Our parents are as much a part of the group as the children, so your support is essential to the future of the Group. Even if you don't have much time to spare, there are lots of things you can do, for instance:

- Do you have ideas for fundraising? Or for social events?
- Could you help the group apply for grant applications?
- Could you help maintain & improve the Scout HQ?

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- Can you spare a bit of time occasionally at weekends to help out with some of the ways we currently raise money (e.g. by putting up tents which we have hired out to other organisations)?
- Do you have skills or knowledge you could share with a section at one of their meetings? We have parents who are fireman, policeman, vets, fishermen and swimmers (just to mention a few!) – all skills that the children can benefit from. If you have a skill or hobby that would interest a section, please do contact one of the leaders.

We'd love to have at least 2 parents from each section on the committee so we get ideas from everyone – and all our news gets through to all of you. Why not talk to one of us, or to any of the Leaders to find out what's involved? Or phone/email Catherine Oliver on 01628 780375 or [cdoliver@waitrose.com](mailto:cdoliver@waitrose.com).

We meet one evening every couple of months, together with the Leaders. We also urgently need a Committee Chair – if you'd like to know more about that role, why not speak to Wayne Davie?

## Hall/equipment bookings

If you'd like to book the Scout HQ Hall for your parties or events, it costs just £25 for up to 4 hours. Please let Catherine Oliver know ([cdoliver@waitrose.com](mailto:cdoliver@waitrose.com), 01628 780375) and she can check if it's free & make the booking. We also hire out a Marquee and tents – that raises quite a bit of money for the group over the year. If you would be interested in hiring them, or if you can think of any good potential markets, let Wayne know.

## And a message from your new Treasurer ...

Hi, I'm David Oliver, your new Treasurer. Just a few things:

### Subscriptions

You'll be pleased to hear that termly subscription rates for the coming year have not risen: Beavers - £30, Cubs - £35 (£45 for the Summer term), Scouts & Explorers - £40.

Subscriptions are now due, so can you please give your Leader a cheque or better still set up a Standing Order. I have included in the information pack a standing order form and instructions. Alternatively you can set up a standing order online or by phone. If you are going to pay in this way can you send me an email to let me know on [cdoliver@waitrose.com](mailto:cdoliver@waitrose.com). That way I can let your Leader know not to hassle you for a cheque!

### Gift Aid

If you are eligible for Gift Aid can I ask you to sign a Gift Aid form if possible so we can reclaim extra money from the taxman on the subs you pay (and reduce your own tax bill). A Gift Aid form is also included in the pack. Please send the completed form to me (Weymouth Lodge, Ellington Road, Taplow, Maidenhead, SL6 0BA) or give it to your Leader to pass on.

Finally I will also let you know separately if you owe any subscriptions from before the Summer.

## Upcoming Social & Fundraising Events

- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October - Maidenhead Boundary Walk - a fantastic event, organised by the Rotary Club, which gives you the opportunity to get a whole new view of Maidenhead, get fit, have fun and raise money for the Scout Group all at the same time. The full walk is 13 miles – and Beavers have completed it in the recent past, so there's really no excuse! – but shorter options are available too. You can find details of the route & register at [www.boundarywalk.org.uk](http://www.boundarywalk.org.uk). Come and do the walk with your fellow Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers – a group will be starting off from Boulter's Lock at 9am sharp! A sponsorship form is attached so please raise as much money as you can for the Group.
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November - Scout Group Fireworks. Details to follow.
- Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2010 – Christmas Sale at the Scout HQ – details to follow.