



TOM TOM



The Newsletter of Hastings, Rye & District Scouting November 2011

News From The DC

I would like to start by congratulating the 7th Hastings Scouts for recently winning the Mayor's Youth Challenge. The Scouts (and Leaders), stayed the night in cardboard boxes in the graveyard of All Saints Church, to raise awareness for the homeless. Although I don't think they got much sleep! They were sponsored for this and collected about £400, half of which was presented to Shelterbox. The Award was presented by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Roberts in Priory Meadow during the Hastings Week Celebrations. Congratulations everyone.

The Beaver's Birthday Bash, organised by Sarah Griffin ADC Beavers was a great success, it was a shame that more Groups didn't give their Beavers the opportunity to go. Thank you to the 4 Groups that did and I know that the Beavers had a good afternoon. Well done Sarah, and Thank you.

I have already had some invitations to visit Groups, and if you are planning anything special with your Group for Christmas please let me know and if possible either Stuart, myself, or maybe both of us if you are lucky, will try to get there.

The last Drop in Training for this year will be on Wednesday 30th November, and then on Tuesday 10th January 2012. I would like to say a huge Thank You to our Training Advisors, Peter Clark, Stewart Hayler, and Trudi Adams, also to Cliff Wilson, District Commissioner of Senlac District. Their time and help is very much appreciated.

Not long now until the Gang Show, I hope you have booked your tickets, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Judith

dc@hastingscouts.org

Judith Collins 07742 950636



Information from the DDC

cubs Information



Paris Trip

The next instalments of £50 per person is due by the 10th December. Leaders, please could I ask that you collect this payment from the cubs in your pack and get it to me by this date. Also, for anyone that missed the parents evening, please find attached the two forms which I require back asap. Please could you get these completed and returned to me asap.

Auction of Promises – Open to all Saturday 10th December 2011

Venue to be confirmed

Please put this date in your diary and make sure you bring along some money and friends. Final details will be in next months Tom Tom.

District Information - Swimming Gala

Swimming Gala

Date for your diary, the Swimming Gala will take place on Saturday 10th March 2012.

Beavers and Cubs will race between 5.30pm - 7.45pm, Scouts, Explorers and Network will be from 7.45pm to 9.45pm.

Stuart Old DDC

ddc@stuartold.com. 07734 861796.

Hastings, Rye & District Beaver Scouts Birthday Bash

I had the pleasure of being invited to the District Teddy Bears Picnic Beaver Bash on Sunday 23rd October. 40 Teddy Bears of various shapes and sizes arrived with their Beaver Scouts in tow. My Teddy Bear was very pleased with the company, as was my Beaver. Everyone had a fabulous time playing numerous party games ending with 5 pass the parcels. The Teddy Bears then joined the Beaver Scouts for the great spread of picnic food.

A big thank-you to Sarah for all her hard work in planning and running the event, including changing the venue due to the lack of support. Filling party bags and wrapping 5 parcels for the pass the parcel games takes up a lot of time!

I am sure that this is the first of many exciting events for the Beaver Scouts that Sarah will arrange. Please make sure that your Colony is represented at the District Beaver meetings so you can have your input into the activities that are being planned, and pass the information on to your Beaver Scouts. It would be a shame for the young people to miss out on the opportunity to mix with others as well as taking part in fun activities.



Once again thank you Sarah. My Teddy and Beaver had a great time!

Frances Gibbs
ACC Beaver Scouts

7th Hastings (Old Town) Cubs Pack Camp

As you may know the Old Town Cub pack recently restarted. At present we have 13 members and over the weekend of the 14/15/16th October we had our first pack camp. 11 of the Old Town Cubs and 5 from the 1st Hastings Pack shared a Normans and Saxons themed weekend to coincide with the 945th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings. Spookily enough we have a William and a Harri in the pack.

After a mammoth night hike on the 14th to get back to camp you would have thought that the Cubs would sleep well, but, as so many of us know, Cubs do not sleep on the first night of camp, and it was well into the small hours of Saturday before the camp was quiet.

Saturday was a glorious day and after making flags, shields and helmets the Cubs 'fought' long and hard in the woods to secure their opponents flag. This was followed by a heavy bombardment by ballista fire before a well earned dinner and songs around the campfire, with everyone joining in.

Another glorious Sunday saw the skies full of (dutch) arrows and later the Cubs tracked stragglers in the wood before honours were bestowed and camp broken.

The Cubs all had a fantastic time. Thanks to Angela and Lizzie for their support and sterling work in keeping the opposing tribes fed and watered.

Mike (Akela – 7th Hastings (Old Town) Cubs)



It was a blast at camp. It was my first time at cub camp. When I came I was really scared but when I got there I was really happy and I made my promise at the end!!! campfire was really fun. I learnt new campfire songs and I can't wait till next Time. Great experience!

By Joseph Marks. 7th Hastings Cub Pack.

At Cubs we went to a Cub Camp for the first time, and it was great! We had campfires and we got to learn new camp songs. We went on a night hike we got to walk through a wood and listened and looked out for night animals and sounds. It was a bit scary, but we really really liked it. We all had torches and Akela was in the lead.

We all worked together collecting wood and bark to make fires. We waited for the fire to burn down, then we put potatoes covered in foil in the embers to roast. And we sang songs.

We made a special kind of javelin called a Dutch javelin and had a competition to see who's could go the furthest. With the free time we did anything wanted, we climbed in the trees, chatted with people. At night time it was a bit scary and cold, but each of us had a partner so we could look after each other and we had hot chocolate and cake to keep us warm.

We worked on our badges, like nights away and camping and some of us were invested as new members of the cub pack. We would like to say thank you to Akela, Harti, Baloo, and the other helpers for taking us.

We would like to go camping again, it was great, fab and fun! We got to learn new stuff.

Tom, William and Harry 7th Hastings Cub Pack



**Hastings Gang Show from
Thursday 24th November to
Saturday 26th
Book your tickets now!
See you there....**

<http://www.hastingsgangshow.org.uk/>

TOM TOM

Traditionally there is no December Tom Tom.
Articles for the January 2012 edition should go to tomtom@hastingscouts.org
no later than
Wednesday 4th January 2012

1st & 24th Cubs Go To Adamswell

Once again the 1st Hastings & 24th Hastings cub packs joined together for a half term cub camp.

This year we went to Adamswell Campsite in Tunbridge Wells. The cubs stayed in the scout hall and Roger, Kieron and Alfie the 2 scouts who came with us camped outside. (It was wet and cold!)

After settling in and settling down, we went on a hike, through the site following the river, under the railway bridge and up to the High Rocks climbing centre and then back down via the roadway. It was raining and we had to dry all the coats and shoes off on the heaters when we got back to the hall. We had arranged for someone to take us on a Ghost Walk later that evening but there

was such a hailstorm it flooded the area and

we had to cancel, we spent the rest of the evening telling ghost stories and watching a film on Craig's laptop.

The following morning we were up early, (now that's a surprise!) and headed off across the fields to Groombridge Place and the Enchanted Forest. There was so much to see and do during the day. We climbed the Dark Stairway, which is a truly amazing obstacle course, and at the end there is an arial runway and we all had a go even the adults.

Next we headed off into woods to find the wigwam and totem pole.

The Story Teller was next on our stop and he told us many tales whilst some of us had our faces painted by a Gypsy Lady sitting outside her caravan

When it was time to leave he made us march down the hill while he played a tune on the Fife and Drum. On our way down past the Blue Pool we had to creep past the Dragon in case we woke her up!

We finally made it back to the river and played on Robinson Crusoes Tree Boat and Long Boat before heading for the river boat which took us back to the beginning of Groombridge Place and the walk home. On the Friday we headed for the Station at High Rocks to catch the Steam Train into Tunbridge Wells where we had a look around the train sheds and had drinks and chocolate in the Buffet Bar.

Soon it was time to leave there and head back to High Rocks Station.

When we arrived back at the station we had lunch in the grounds of the hotel before heading across the road to the High Rocks Centre. We weren't allowed to climb on the rocks but we did cross all of the eleven bridges that were quite high

up and sometimes a bit scary if you looked down through the cracks.

Eventually we left there and headed back to Adamswell and dinner!

We were all very hungry! And wet and tired!!!!

After dinner we had an indoor camp fire sing song by torch light and then we put our coats on and went outside to watch the firework display that Ian, Craig, Kieron and Alfie had set up for us and it finished off another exciting day. We finally went to bed after hot chocolate and biscuits.

On the last day Roger cooked us bacon for breakfast while we packed up our kits, but we had no idea that a final activity had been planned for us. We went abseiling! We also went on the assault course nearby! So we were nice and wet and muddy when our parents came to collect us at 1pm.

We had great fun and everybody had a good time. The food was good and so were the sweets and cakes and we all helped with the washing up and keeping the hall tidy.

We would like to say thank you to all the adults who made this possible for us. (Where are we going next!)

THANK YOU!

From,
Lewis, Jude, Layla, Harvey, Bradley, Joshua, Adam, Cameron, Christopher, Ryan K, Kyle, Callum, Megan, Arun, Ryan L, Lauren, Jamie, Kiera.





9th Hastings Cubs Information and News



This term, 9th Hastings Cub Scouts are doing their Community Challenge badge, & are raising money for a local charity, Playsense.

It is a charity that is not only local, but is in its beginning stages, with lots of plans, but not so much cash. We've chosen Playsense because as a Hastings group, we feel it is important to help support those locally.

Our Cub pack has been really lucky, so far, as we have had Tina, representing Playsense, come to talk to us about who they are, what they aim to do, & how they've started. She brought her 3 year old son, who suffers with Cerebral Palsy, & his adapted pushchair. The Cubs found it all really interesting, & agreed that this was the charity they wanted to fundraise for. We also had Ian Mantel, from Hastings Lions Club, who came to visit, & talk about ways to fundraise, & also, how a Club as renowned as the Lions, have been raising money locally, Nationally, & Internationaly for many years.

We decided to have a Quiz Night. Unfortunately, there isn't the room, in the hall, for enough teams to make it a successful fundraiser. We discussed an auction, or car washing, or several other ideas, & have now decided that we will hold a table sale!!

So, 9th Hastings Cub Scout pack are holding a table sale which will be during our meeting time, 7pm - 8pm, Wednesday 23rd November 2011. We understand that some of you have meetings of your own, & would like to invite you anyway, as doing stuff with other Cub packs sometimes helps towards other badges!!!! We will also have squash & biscuits (at a small cost). Also, if you have any items you don't need/want any longer, that you feel like bringing along, on the night, to add to a table, that we can sell, to increase the total, please do bring them along!!

We will have representatives from both **Playsense, & Hastings Lions Club** there, if you have any questions, & in the mean time, there is more information both on their facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Playsense/167854739891644> & their official website, <http://www.playsense.org.uk/>

Please do support this great evening, & a wonderful charity.. you never know, you may even find a bargain!!

See you there, & don't forget, it's Wednesday November 23rd, 7pm - 8pm, Christ Church Parish Hall, London Road, St Leonards On Sea, TN37 7BG



Catherine Southgate
Akela, 9th Hastings Cubs
caffcatt@hotmail.com



Beaver Chat

A big thank you to all of you who came to the 25th Beaver Birthday Bash Teddy Bears Picnic.

Unfortunately we had to change the venue due to a low uptake but a fantastic time was had by all those 50 beavers that came.

Pass the parcel, relay games, musical statues and an impromptu conga

were among the things that went on. We also raised £50 for Action Medical Research for Children. Well done Niamh, from the 4th, for winning the Paddington Bear. So once again thanks to the 1st, 4th, 6th and 18th and all

their wonderful leaders and helpers for making it an absolutely brilliant afternoon and thanks to Judith and Francis for their support.



On the 4th November I was honoured to be a judge at the 4th Hastings Groups Got Talent. What a group of talented people! The standard was exceptionally high, which made picking a winner extremely difficult but we did and well done to Jonathan Clare for being that winner. This talent show got me wondering (yes it did hurt!) whether perhaps next year all groups could do this then the winners from each group go into a district final and perhaps, Fiona, the winner could perform their winning act at the Gang Show. Just a thought but what do other leaders think? Answers on a postcard, sealed down envelope, text or email.

There will be another Beaver Leaders meeting in January, hope you can all attend. We can start planning more events for 2012. Events which will be taking place are a District Sleepover, Smugglers trail and a Diamond Jubilee Street Party.

I hope to get round as many groups as possible before Christmas.

Sarah Griffin

ADC Beavers

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