



GARDEN CAMPING SEE PAGE 3



TIM'S BITS

Spring is on the way, bringing lighter evenings and hopefully warmer weather. With the government's plan to return to normality published, we can see light at the end of the tunnel for a return to face-to-face Scouting. Of course, we need to wait for the go ahead, however, all indicators are that we won't have to wait too much longer. Meanwhile, Groups throughout the District continue to do their best to keep Scouting running with a mixture of online and emailed programmes.

Having completed the annual membership census, we can see just how well we have done to keep Scouting going during the past year, and yes, it is now almost a year of restricted activities. Our youth numbers are down as expected, but by far less than we had projected six months ago. A true testament to just how important our joint efforts over the past year have been, not only to us as a Scout District, but to our youth members. Remarkably, our volunteer numbers have remained more or less unchanged. This means that once face to face can resume, we have the team

ready to get things going again. My thanks to everyone for all they have done to keep Scouting alive in Caterham District.

Sadly, we have decided that this year's St Georges Day Parade will again not go ahead. We will, however, have an online service where we will be able to renew our promises together. Those that remember

my last minute and somewhat basic renewal of promises last year, will I hope notice a slightly more professional service this year. Planning is in the early stages, however, please note the date and time: Sunday 25 April, 2.30 pm for approximately 30 minutes. I do hope you will join us.

Tim Evans, District Commissioner

GROUP REPORTS

1st Caterham

Letter to my younger self by James S, 1st Caterham Beavers

February 2021

Dear My younger self,

You are about to join Beavers and I know how you feel but Beavers is going to be fun! So there is no need to be scared or worried because you can make friends, go on lots of trips, earn badges, play games and celebrate other children joining.

You will get to go on fun trips like visiting Cub camp for the day where you can play with your friends, go grass sledging, cook on the campfire and sing camp songs. Some songs make you happy and some songs make you laugh! You will get to visit a Norman church in Caterham and will learn historical facts which are interesting. Another trip you will go on is to Gatton Park where you will go pond-dipping and investigate the creatures you find.

If you listen well and work hard you will get lots of badges and if you are lucky you will be made lodge leader! When you have got all your challenge badges you will earn your Chief Scout's Bronze Award and get a certificate for it signed by the Chief Scout Bear Grylls! To get your Bronze Award you need to complete your personal challenge

badge. For this you will work hard on your basketball skills and lead the Beavers on Zoom doing a Joe Wicks mini workout and introduce yourself as James Wicks instead.

I remember making the Beavers promise when I started. It is important to keep it because you have to be kind and helpful and to try your best.

Love from,

Older James Xx



Caterham District Scouts

At the beginning of February I challenged all the District Scouts to camp out for one night in their back garden and send a photo. This was instead of the usual winter/February freezer camp. Here are some of the photos I have received so far.

John Swanson, District Scout Leader



1st Woldingham

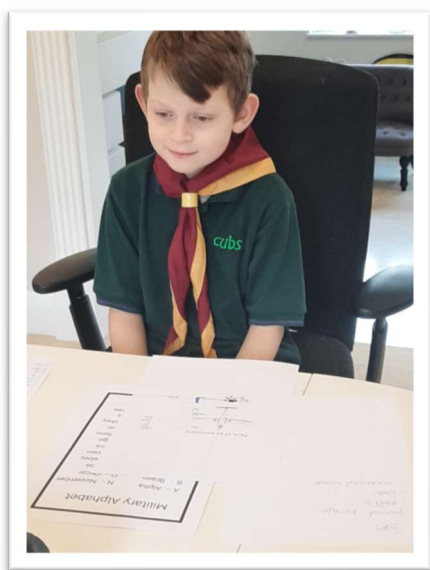


Members of 1st Woldingham Scout Group have been busy learning many fascinating facts relating to all things aeronautical to earn the Air Activities badge.

These sessions have been led by an RAF fast-jet trainee pilot, Benedict, who gave interactive and engaging sessions via Zoom to our members every Saturday when he wasn't flying. These sessions were incredibly interesting for members and parents alike!

Activities included:

- Learning the phonetic alphabet
- Designing paper aeroplanes and establishing what helps them fly further and faster
- Building chuck gliders
- Learning about different types of aircraft, runways and aircraft controls
- Learning about meteorology and the impact of the weather on aircraft



During February we focused on bird box making, pancakes (of course) and starting the Photographer and Digital Maker badges, which will continue to be progressed over the coming months. There has also been the opportunity to complete a novelty orienteering challenge and prepare for the 1st Woldingham cross country championships (Strava time trial) due to be held in early March.

When not learning about Air Activities, our members have also been busy navigating the Woldingham boundary as part of the last stages of their Stage 3 Navigator badge – you may have seen us out and about!

During March they will be progressing existing badge work projects as well as starting the Entertainer and Gardeners badges, and preparing presents for Mothering Sunday.

Abigail, Group Secretary

NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2021 EDITION DEADLINE

Please submit your articles for the April edition to Susan Dobson at Editor@Caterham-Scouts.org.uk by Wednesday 24 March. Photographs are welcomed, although we cannot guarantee to include everything.

District Commissioner

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