

**Leaders** - Sadly we have just said goodbye to Jane Clemence & Jon Dallimore, who have been leaders with the troop, for a very long time. Jane started in 2007 and Jon in 1978. Jane helped with troop meetings, camps, MTB & canoeing, and Jon with camps, hillwalking & rock climbing. They have both been a great asset to the success of the troop and their retirement will leave a huge hole to fill.

## **Fund raising    Group Bonfire and Campfire Sing-a-long**

On **Tuesday 5th November** - 6.30 doors open, 7.00pm fireworks, 7.30 Campfire sing a long, - inside if its raining again! 8.00pm close. This is always a tremendous night, enjoyed by the whole family.

**Tickets are £4 per person - £15 for group of 4.**

As always a selection of refreshments will be on sale. Offers of help in selling the refreshments would be welcomed. If possible please book by replying to [rexh@btinternet.com](mailto:rexh@btinternet.com) or this email to book - payment can be made in cash on the night - no need to pay in advance.

## **Section news**

**Scouts** - The first week of the school holidays has long been the time for the Scouts of the 29<sup>th</sup> to go on their summer camp and this year, despite the absence of Rex, was no different. 19 Scouts together with the volunteers needed to make camp happen headed west to Roch near Haverfordwest where our soggy summer did not detract them from days on Newgale beach, sailing and paddle boarding at Llys y Fran, as well as undertaking badgework on meteorology, nature, orienteering and camp cook, ending with a day out at Oakwood. Whilst at camp, 3 of the Scouts achieved their Gold Chief Scouts Award, the highest award available to Scouts, marking 4 years of effort and commitment. Congratulations to Isobel, Jonathon and Jamie. Everyone's webbed feet have now fully recovered and the order of sunshine is already in for next year's adventure!

**Explorers** - In August, nine Explorers attended a Summer Camp at Youlbury Scout Adventures near Oxford. We were lucky with weather and enjoyed various on site activities, including fencing, high ropes and archery. We visited an aqua park where we did an inflatable obstacle course and Stand Up Paddle boarding and also did a hike into, and tour of, Oxford city.

**Kestrel Cub Camp** - In Sept, the pack held its annual camp at Scoutbase. Cubs and leaders had a great time - full of fun and adventurous activities! Lovely weather - the cubs did all their usual activities - hikes, crate stacking, scout cars, bivvi building, cooking on a wood fire etc and archery (which we can't do at Miskin) but closer to home!

## **Waiting Lists**

We are always kept very busy with requests from parents for their children to join the 29<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, we aren't always able to accommodate new joiners because all sections are already full, as despite the fact that we have 2 beaver colonies and 2 cub packs, our numbers are high. With only 1 scout troop it is the largest in the area! Occasionally, spaces arise, but if you have friends who wish their children to join - the younger they put their name down the better their chance of getting a place.

## **Annual Subscription**

The Group Exec has decided that due to a considerable increase in the Scout Association fee, the Group subscription for 2024/25 will be £120 with a £10 discount, so **£110**, if paid by 1<sup>st</sup> December. Look out for a subs email from [rexh@btinternet.com](mailto:rexh@btinternet.com) shortly

## **Help with Sections**

**URGENT!** At this time of year, there is always a turnover of leaders as people go to University or change jobs etc. To maintain our programme we need a lot of adult help, so if any parent is interested in helping please let us know.

**Security** After the break in, in June, the police report suggested some measures we could take to help prevent it happening again. So does anyone know a sign writer or mobile welder please?