

Hello everyone! In the autumn the Group has been very active - as usual!

Beavers - Birch and Maple - Both colonies have had a very busy and fun filled time. A group of Maple and Birch Beavers enjoyed a Space themed sleepover in October! They have visited Ely fire station, where they had a great evening, completing their Safety Badge and My World Challenge. Two guide dogs, and their owners, visited our colonies together with a puppy in training. An excellent activity, the beavers learnt a lot and we raised about £100 for Guide Dogs for the Blind!

Bagheera, from Birch Beavers, has been presented with her Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. BRAVO! Malak, from Maple Beavers, starts her Maternity Leave on Jan 31st. All the best, Malak!

Cubs Kingfishers - An exciting Escape Room night was held, where teams of cubs solved puzzles in order to escape. They all made it out. Success!! The main autumn event was the sleepover at scoutbase when the cubs visited adventure golf, completing Hikes Away and Nights Away Badges. It was a brilliant weekend!

Cubs Kestrels - A group of cubs and leaders visited the excellent Cardiff Scout and Guide Gang Show at the New Theatre in November. One of the Kestrel cubs, Belle, was in the show and performed brilliantly! In December, the Cubs enjoyed an activity evening at Boulders Indoor climbing Wall. Amazing climbing skills, cubs!

Scouts - The troop held an autumn camp at scoutbase - the highlight of which was the very muddy obstacle course at Taff Valley activity centre. They also went mountain biking at Blaengwyn, did the cyclist badge, raised money for Water Aid, and did a new year hike to try and find the dinosaur footprints at Sully - we might have!

Explorers - An Easter camp at Woodhouse Park in April is planned

Fundraising - Dates for your diary

The Fete

We are planning to run the annual fete at scoutbase this year on **Saturday 10th June** p.m.

. Watch this space for further details

Baseball & BBQ

A return to lighter evenings - this year's event will be on **Sat 8th July** 6 - 8pm

Bonfire night & campfire

As usual this event is on the 5th November

It's a Sunday so at least we won't have competing rugby games this year!

Help with sections - we are looking to see if any parent might be able to help on a regular (or irregular!) basis with a section. We are particularly short of adult(i.e. over 18) help on a Wednesday evening cub night

Committee vacancies - 2 stalwart committee members have just retired from the Group Executive committee. It meets about 6 times a year - usually by zoom - and is responsible for fund raising, management of scoutbase, etc. Anyone interested?

New Joiners. There is a waiting list for Beavers for children under the age of 6. Names need to be registered as young as possible to guarantee a place.

We do get a very large number of enquiries for older children. These are very hard to accommodate as the sections are usually full - occasionally someone moves away or can no longer attend and we can fit them in. However, it is a matter of luck. If friends ask, please make the situation clear to them - there is no guarantee of a space.

Marilyn holds the Reserve List for beaver/cub age children. There is no waiting list for scouts.. Please check with Rex or Marilyn before giving contact details to other people.

Buying Beaver, Cub or Scout uniform - you can order on line from Cardiff Area scout shop and they will then deliver. scoutshoponline@cardiffandvalescouts.org.uk

Or, you can shop in person at Scout Shop, CAV Area Hub at the end of Maitland St (off Whitchurch Rd). Saturdays 10.00 - 12.00 and Tuesdays 5.00 - 7.00.

Census- We recorded 144 young people at our January census - Absolutely amazing! Last year we had 137. The scout troop is the largest it has ever been with nearly 60 members.