



# Scouting Matters

The newsletter from the 6th Farnborough Scouts Group

March 2020

## Welcome to our new young leaders!

Since our last newsletter we are pleased to announce we have invested three new young leaders to our group. Two are in Scouts, and one in our Cub section. Young leaders are children who are usually older than 14, who come back to the group and help the adult leaders at group meetings. Or - as in the case of our new Cubs young leader - are in the process of doing their Duke of Edinburgh Award, and are volunteering at our group to fulfil the volunteering aspect of the Award.



Scout leaders welcome Olly and Lex as young leaders

Young leaders gain valuable experience of what it takes to run meetings, and learn leadership skills, and we are always happy to give opportunities to young adults who would like to pursue a young leader role, and maybe become adult leaders in the future.



Cub leaders welcome Jacala (Katy) as a young leader

If you feel like all the children are the ones having fun, then we are looking for some adult volunteers to become leaders in our Beaver section. Being a leader is a rewarding experience, and it won't be just our young people learning new #skillsforlife - you too could learn things which you can bring back to the workplace, and polish that CV with! If you are interested, please email [gsl@6thfarnboroughscouts.org.uk](mailto:gsl@6thfarnboroughscouts.org.uk)

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# Messages and updates

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## Changes to the hut

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As you will have noticed our friendly Monday Night Crew are really cracking on with improvements to the hut now. We now have some nice large storage cupboards at the far end of the hall, and they have installed new lighting in the ceiling and a proper "loft ladder". They will then re-board the ceiling which will hopefully make the hut nice and toasty before the really cold weather kicks in!



Our new storage cupboards under construction

This work could not have been done without funding from the Rushmoor Lottery - who gave the group £1,000 to help buy materials for the work. The labour has all been given to us for free, as the Monday Night Crew are a group of ex-Scout leaders who go around the District doing the odd jobs for Groups.



The Committee would like to thank, both Rushmoor Lottery and the Monday Night Crew for their generous donations of money and time to this work.

## Gift Aid forms

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We still have a 24 outstanding gift aid forms from parents - please, if you haven't returned the gift aid, please see your section leader to get the form and sign it. For every £1 we take in subscription fees, the government lets us claim back 25p - giving the group much needed money. So we are missing out on £720 a year from these missing forms. So if you are a UK tax payer, please fill in the form and help us claim this much needed money for the Group.

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If you have more than one child in the Group, we will need a separate form for each child in order to claim the gift aid.

## Committee members needed

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We are looking for a few parents to join our executive committee in non-executive roles. We meet roughly every six-weeks or so, and our main responsibilities are to ensure the hut is maintained, to support the GSL, and his team as needed. Please get in touch with our chairman if you can spare a few hours :  
chairmain@6thfarnboroughscouts.org.uk

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## Fundraising

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### Race night - Sat 25th April 2020- save the date!

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Our annual race night will be on Saturday 25th April at our Trailblazer den - doors open at 5.30pm with our first race at 6pm. Following feedback, there will be a few changes to the format this year, in that we will not be providing a cooked dinner. Instead we ask you to bring your own food to graze on during the course of the evening. We will provide soft drinks and snack bar so you won't go thirsty cheering on your horses!



Photo by [Pietro Mattia](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Tickets will be on sale soon at £5 each - and if you can not come on the night you can always buy a horse beforehand for £5. Should your horse win the race - you will get up to £20 (provided all horses are sold in the race) winnings!

The evening is usually lots of fun and there will be a raffle held half way through, so even if you don't win a race you may win something at the raffle instead! As usual we will be looking for donations for the raffle table - so any nice chocolates or wine, or something you wouldn't mind winning yourself any and all donations are welcome.



Fun had at race night last year

## **Donkey Darby - Mon 25th May 2020**

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The late May bank holiday this year plays host to the annual Farnborough Donkey Darby organised by the Rotary Clubs of Farnborough, Rushmoor and Ash & Blackwater Valley. This is held at the King George V playing field in Sycamore Road, Farnborough. As well as the main donkey races and an assortment of Trade & Charity Stalls, there is a Main Arena Act, Stage Entertainment, Fun Fair, Magic Show, Dog Show, Zany Professor Crump, Miller's Ark and Marching or Static Band to keep you entertained.

We are hoping to get a table at the entrances to give out lost child wrist bands in exchange for a donation to the group. Parents/Guardians simply write their phone numbers on the bands and should their child get lost, they can ask someone to ring the number on the band to help them find their parents/guardians again.

We will be looking for parent volunteers to man these tables should we get them - for short half hour slots. A rota will be put on the parent notice board in due course - please sign up for a slot if you can spare the time.

## **AGM - 5th July 2020**

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Our AGM this year will be held on the 5th July, and will see us celebrating our 50th anniversary! More details on what we have planned will be in the next newsletter, but as part of the AGM we hold a raffle, and we are on the look out for a quality 1st and 2nd prize. If you know of anyone - or maybe your company has a charity budget, that would be willing to donate a "star" prize for this event - please get in touch on [fundraising@6thfarnboroughscouts.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@6thfarnboroughscouts.org.uk).

## **Christmas Fayre**

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The fundraising sub committee are thinking about putting on a Christmas fayre this year, and would appreciate your thoughts and/or ideas and help with putting this on. The current idea is to have some stall holders, and fun games for children to do - maybe even some Christmas Carols!

If you think you can help us organise this event - or maybe even know of potential stall holders who might be interested - please get in touch on [fundraising@6thfarnboroughscouts.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@6thfarnboroughscouts.org.uk).

# Dates for your diary

Key : **Beaver Events** ; **Cub Events** ; **Scout events** ; **All sections events**

Date	Section / Activity
16th March	Performance for parents (Pond Beavers)
21st March	District Entertainer's badge day @ South Farnborough Infants School, 9.30am to 5.30pm
22nd March	Fundraising meeting, 8pm - at Liane Frydland's house
24th March	Green Cross Codewalk (River Beavers)
26th March	Committee meeting - at Tim Ford's house
27th March	Give it a go - navigate the group from the starting point given by the leaders to the end point then make the leaders a cup of tea!
28th March	Beaver District Ramble, Wellington Statue
4th April	Sleepover - TBC
2nd May	4 Kingdoms Adventure Park & Family Farm visit
13th June	Blackwater Valley District 20th Birthday, Herons Way Guided Campsite Tilford
5th July	Group AGM- and 50th anniversary celebration of the group
17th July	Scout hammock camp, Hannams Copse - TBC - depends on numbers
8th-15th August	Scout summer camp @ Ferny Croft

All activities are subject to the weather, and some are yet to be confirmed

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# Book Reader Badge

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As March has World Book Day - and our secretary is a Librarian! - we decided to take a look at the book reader activity badge this issue.

This is for both Beavers and Cubs, and helps children discover the joy of reading and writing of different genres, as well as how to care for books.



Activities you can do with your child to help them earn this badge include:



- Help them read six books - get them to read a variety of different books, from non-fiction, to poetry, as well as their favourite Captain Underpants or Alex Rider books!
- Get them to talk about their favourite book - why do they like it? What are the characters like? What happens in the story. Maybe compare it with other books they have read - what book was better and why?
- Have fun making a book mark, and explaining what a bookmark is used for
- Help your child find out what words in their books mean by themselves using a dictionary or thesaurus
- Take them to a library and show them the benefits of libraries to the local community. Help them find a book on the shelves - both fiction and non fiction and help them understand why they are stored in different orders

Reading is a fundamental skill which benefits all children well into their adult lives. Encouraging good reading habits when children are younger is extremely important, and will help them as they progress through school, raising their literacy levels, and encourages the sharing of thoughts and ideas.

Find out more at <https://members.scouts.org.uk/supportresources>

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