



Beacon Flame

Issue 2

October 2006

**1st Beacon Hill
Scout Group
Registered Charity
No. 1016151**

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Special points of interest:

**Folk-Rock Barn
Dance!**

**Book your tickets
now!**

Welcome Back

Welcome back to an Autumn that promises some exciting events for everyone.

Firstly, many thanks to all the dedicated Leaders for organising the splendid summer camps and sailing activities. I know all the scouts and cubs had a great time and some articles are on the web-site with lots of pictures, including some of Dads trying to put up tents!

Also, hats off to John & Barry and team for organising the site work. Many parents have commented on the new hut floor, which I think looks fantastic. Lots of other jobs are also planned and the site conservation day is the 4 November, all day with hot food at mid-day & 3.00 - come for the morning or afternoon or just for an hour - it all helps!

The big Autumn fund raiser is the Barn dance on November the 18th (see flyer enclosed). With fish & chips, a live band and some quality auction prizes up for grabs this event is already proving popular so please do book early as there are limited tickets.

I hope you enjoy this 2nd Beacon Flame edition: please keep the articles flowing.

Kind Regards

Karl

Cub cycle tour of local area.

With our safety helmets and reflective jackets we prepared for our journey. We were in groups of 2 or 3, each group with an adult. We were going to travel from the Scout Huts and through a circuit in Wickham Bishops and back round to the start. We had a questionnaire to fill on the way. Each group started two minutes after the previous one.

We pedalled furiously in the golden rays of light. It was a cool breezy evening. We rode past the Mitre pub and along past the library and (after finding the right way) continued towards St Bartholomew's church. Our group cycled down to the Snow's Corner cross-roads where we paused to scan the Wickham Bishops village sign. On the sign had an incredibly detailed pheasant, flashing its colours before a mill. The mill was sitting on the bank of a running river with a bridge over it. At the river there was a hill with a church standing on top, probably St Bartholomew's, with the spire and a sheaf of hay.

Back to the cycle, we continued down, just outside the Green Man's pub and stopped for refreshments...mmm! After that we headed back to the Scout Huts, passing the war memorial which the Cubs once did a service at on Remembrance Sunday last year. We reached the Scout Huts (at last), weary but happy.

I'd say that it was a challenging evening and a good experience because we rode 2 ½ statute miles overall. I hope all the other cubs enjoyed it as much as I did and also enjoyed reading this.

Daniel Furn

Wolves Pack

News

Christmas Post

'Chief Post Master' Paul Mutton has called it a day after several seasons - Many thanks.

It raises about £350 per annum. The bottom line is if anyone out there wants to help organise this job, please give Karl a call - realistically if we don't have any volunteer coordinators we might have to give this one a miss.

Site update from the Site Maintenance Team

We owe thanks to the Community Payback Scheme, whose team painted creosote on both huts and scraped and painted the ceilings. Thanks also to Les Peck and Martin Griffin for hanging the new safety door in the small hut where a new window and cill has been fitted. The large hut floor has been sanded and varnished. Thanks to Mat Goodwin who worked into the small hours to get the job done! Mark Evans of Witham Road has donated a kitchen (including a cooker) for the small scout hut. Mark also provided a mountain of scrap wood for the scouts to burn. It is very satisfying for all to see the site improvements taking shape on time and within budget: No mean feat! Our grateful thanks to all those that continue to help make it

happen.

Site Conservation Day

We still have a number of tasks on the agenda, such as tree surgery, laying slabs and painting of windows and fencing to help the reestablishment of our hedgerows. So please find time to come and help at the next site conservation day on **Saturday 4th November**. Open from 10am with food at Midday and 3pm.

Webb Ivory Xmas Catalogues

These will be distributed shortly. Please keep an eye out for your copy.

Recycling Waste Paper

Please do not forget to drop your waste paper into the 2 bins on site for recycling. We get paid for waste!

Jumble Sale

We are gearing up for the Biggest Jumble Sale on Earth (well, probably). So, please start putting aside your old clothing. With the change of season this is a good opportunity to have a de-clutter of your wardrobes!

Website & Online shopping at www.1stbeaconhill.org.uk

Website

We have now uploaded photo galleries of all the Sections recent activities. Go and take a look!

Fundraising Online

Do you shop online regularly? What about your work colleagues, friends or family members? Without any additional cost to you, the Group receives anywhere between 2–15% of the value of your online shopping order. It's incredibly

easy to use, just click on the red box on the homepage of our website and then choose your retailer! Bearing in mind we all tend to spend a small fortune at Christmas, please consider using this facility as it so easily provides income for the entire Group.

**USE OUR
ONLINE SHOP**  **click
here**

Events Diary

14th October 2006 District Swimming Gala
4th November 2006 Site Conservation Day— Free BBQ!
12th November 2006 Remembrance Day Parade
18th November 2006 Modern Rock Barn Dance
22nd November 2006 Group Executive Meeting
3rd February 2007 Giant Jumble Sale
26th May 2007 Centenary Camp
4th August 2007 Sunrise Breakfast

Sectional News

Welcome to Wendy Westwood who has kindly taken on the mantle of the Eagles Cub Leader.

Wolves/Eagles Cub Packs

The Cubs are doing their road safety badge this term, also some science activities and taking part in the District Swimming Gala on the 14th October, hoping to defend their championship status!

Beacon Hill Scout Camp, 22/09/06 - 24/09/06

On Friday 22nd September 9 Scouts arrived at Prances; ready to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Prances as a District Scout site. Having already eaten tea at their houses, the Scouts helped put up a tent, unpack their stuff and then went to go and sit by the fire.

At 7:30am on Saturday everyone was getting up and making their way to the Dining Shelter to have a lovely cooked breakfast. Not long after that the Cubs arrived and soon the Michaelmas Fair was in full swing. As the Fair slowly died down for lunch the Opening Ceremony was starting to take place. Brian Mills, a former Beacon Hill Senior Patrol Leader, who had been there 50 years ago 'Breaking the Flag', this time he was supported by Ian Smith, current day Beacon Hill Patrol Leader as both came forward to Break the Flag and officially open the 50th anniversary camp. Then Bill Meehan (the group president) and the youngest cub both put their hands on the black cloth to unveil the plaque commemorating the 50th anniversary of Prances.

The Scouts were quickly whisked away in the church minibus ready to go to the Blackwater Sailing Club, all set to be "guinea - pigs" for the afternoon. The reason was because Andrew Goodwin was doing the R.Y.A. Sailing Level 2 Instructors Course along with 5 other people and they needed novices for their final assessment. We obligingly went along. Everyone had a great time and thankfully all trainees passed (hooray!!!!).

When we got back to Prances everything was closing. Then it was time for a fish 'n' chips supper (yum!) Once everyone had finished we headed to the camp fire to sing some new and old songs with Rod Sandys, a Scout Leader from another troop who lead this event. After about an hour and a half everyone retired to their tents only to be brought out again for cake, biscuits and drinks!

Sunday started for the Scouts at around 8:00am with another cooked breakfast and yet another pile of washing and drying up. Instead of going round the Michaelmas Fair again the Scouts went into the archery range to try and complete their Master at Arms badge. It was a great way to use the morning - especially as we all passed. Next was lunch - spag bol! After washing and drying up *again* it was time for the closing ceremony so everyone gathered round the flag; but before anything started Ian Williams was presented with his Scout Leaders Warrant. The ceremony then got underway with Tom McFarlane doing the traditional Scout Flag Down.

As the weather had been kind to us during the weekend we had actually managed to pack the tents up dry (for once). Soon everything was over - the Scouts got their "goodie - bags" and waited for their parents to arrive to take them home. This camp was great and helped remind people of 50 years ago when Prances was first opened by Lady Prance.

By Megan Williams, Tornados



Yellow Jackets and Red Faces

Tuesday 4th July was the day we had our cycling evening. 18 scouts took part. The route included a few local hills and these natural obstacles started to split the group. A timed race up Goat Lodge Lane sorted the experienced cyclists from the casual ones. Bright yellow jackets and red faces meant there was no risk that we would not be seen. A few scouts and an adult helper actually travelled further than the rest of the group. Poor communication on my behalf helped that along, thank heavens for mobile phones! A special thank you to John McFarlane for his help on the evening. I had said we would be stopping at the Green Man for a drink half way round the route. We did but I don't think John thought the drink would be blackcurrant squash!! Oops, did I not make that clear! Sorry John

Due to the hot weather we stopped at a local shop for an ice cream. The shop staff looked concerned as 18 bikes were "dumped" at the door and a rush was made for the freezer.

Thanks to all who helped make the evening a success.

Andrew Goodwin, Tornados

A Word Search designed by Timothy Logue

D	B	M	B	R	S	H	W	E	W	K	M	E	M	B	V
G	A	Q	E	I	F	E	O	D	S	B	E	A	C	O	N
D	S	W	A	G	I	R	L	R	X	J	U	G	D	E	I
H	L	S	K	A	T	O	V	H	H	I	L	L	F	A	P
G	E	A	D	M	W	I	E	P	C	H	T	E	Y	C	H
B	E	A	V	E	R	K	S	C	O	U	T	S	R	L	O
O	J	U	E	S	C	H	L	Z	F	G	R	A	T	U	I
Y	I	J	R	S	M	B	O	A	R	V	E	S	R	R	G

Beacon
Beaver
Boy
Eagles
Games
Girl
Hill
Scouts
Wolves

Essex Police Helicopter, Boreham Airfield

On the 18th September Beacon Hill Wolves Pack drove all the way down to Boreham Airfield to watch the Essex Police Helicopter take off. Mr Furn showed us into a room that used to be a WWII bunker. A room where visitors could watch a DVD of what the Essex Police helicopter did. After, we went into the equipment room which is fitted with all the equipment to take on the helicopter. The helicopter went on a call out to Billericay and we saw it take off and later return. When it landed all the wind went flying into our hair because the rotor blades were spinning so fast.

We went back inside the visitor's room where Mr Furn came in and said they will be refuelling now and after we will be able to get up close to the helicopter and have a good look. The pilot showed us around the helicopter and we asked some questions. We also had our photograph taken. A BIG thank you to Mr Furn and the crew of the Essex Police Helicopter for inviting us.

By Timothy Logue & Samuel Hodgkinson, Wolves Pack

A Letter of thanks from Sean Gannon

After many years progressing from Beavers to Cubs and finally to Scouts, Sean Gannon has sent the following letter to Andrew Goodwin and myself which shows the enjoyment and experience he gained from being involved in the Scout Movement.

We wish Sean all the best for the future.

Ian Williams, Scout Leader

Dear Andrew and Ian,

I came to beavers as a toddler and I loved it! I loved listening to stories from Akela and I loved the fun activities we played. It was great fun.

Then it came to cubs. I really enjoyed cubs, for the same reasons as beavers but also because of the camp fires, the camp trips, the new games and just having a great time with my friends! The leaders were always nice to me and I used to like the idea of the jungle book theme. I still remember going on my first camp to mega camp, that was awesome.

Then finally came scouts. Scouts was great because we had all grown up and matured (a bit...!) and we got to do things that we couldn't do in beavers. i.e. could go on more camps, go on bike rides and even more cool trips. And of course there were more quality games (especially sumo!)

Although I am leaving I did enjoy my time very much at scouts and I thank the leaders, mums and dads who made scouts as fun as it was.

From Sean. P.S Be Prepared!

P.S BE PREPARED!

Who's Who at Beacon Hill

Leaders:

Group Scout Leader: *Janet Richardson (Tel 893060)*

Scout Leaders—Tornados : *Andrew Goodwin, Ian Williams*

Cub Scout Leaders—Eagles: *Wendy Westwood, Sue Lucas*

Cub Scout Leaders—Wolves: *Lucy Bettley, Andrew Garrett, Jerry Read, Jennine Pook*

Beavers Leaders—Captain's Wood: *Maureen Webber, Linda Wyman*

Executive Committee:

Chairman: *Karl Jarvis (Tel 892825)*

Secretary: *Alison Dempsey (Tel 891701)*

Treasurer: *Paul Anderson (Tel 892089)*

Membership Secretary: *Emma Hodgkinson (Tel 853205)*

Waiting List Secretary: *Brenda Heal (Tel 891874)*

Quartermaster: *Barry & Rita Martin (Tel 891813)*

Other Committee Members:

John Richardson (Tel 893060),

Graham Finch (Tel 891945), Steve Dempsey (Tel 891701), Brian Kennedy (Tel 890039), Gordon Knott (Tel 858367)

Finally, a grateful thank-you to all our Adult Volunteers!

Please feel free to contact any of the above by phone, or email at info@1stbeaconhill.org.uk .