

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We're looking forward to another busy and successful year. You may not be aware but we have over 100 children in our group, across every Section from Beavers right through to Network 18+. We are very fortunate to have an excellent team of dedicated and committed leaders, and a small but well formed Parents Committee (room for more!) helping bring up the rear with fundraising and supporting the various groups. As always please do step forward if you would like to help in any way. Of particular urgency is a Fundraising Committee (more below). And so to specifics

SUBSCRIPTIONS

This remains at £25 per child per term, £45 for 2 and £65 for 3. Current term runs January to Easter. Please make cheques out to WESSEX SCOUT GROUP. Don't forget to complete your GIFT AID form - presently we get 25p back from the Government for every pound you contribute to the group, whether it's subscriptions or a sponsored fundraising event, at NO COST TO YOU. All other payments to be made to WESSEX SCOUT GROUP unless otherwise advised, eg. 10 Tors (Yeovil District).

WESSEX SCOUT GROUP - WEBPAGE - <http://wessexscoutgroup.weebly.com/>

This has been lurking quietly in the background but we are hoping to make it a work of art, where you can find all sorts of info about the group. We hope to have links to the various Sections, lists of Programmes of Events, downloadable forms for events (health permissions, etc). This is a work in progress, but hopefully we can get this up and running really soon. We are also trying to put together an up-to-date email contacts list so could you please email wessexscoutgroup@yahoo.com with the address you are happy for us to use. This will help us cut down on paperwork and save lots of money and time.

BEAVERS

Beavers' day to meet has changed from Tuesday to Monday - 5.45-7pm. And they have a new leader - Tanya Wilton has stepped in with continuing help from Ricky and Chris. We wish this team all the best. Contact details at bottom of newsletter.

CUBS

Elliott Card continues to run Cubs. Tuesday 6.30-8pm. Do be sure to check your emails regularly for updates of forthcoming events, health forms to be completed and returned, etc.

Forthcoming Events:

5 Feb - District Badge Day - Great Lyde Scout Hut

31 March - Centaur Hike - we hope to put in 2 teams

15 April - Night Away Camp - please support Elliott to gain his Nights Away Qualification

SCOUTS

Thursday 7-9pm - The 2012 Events Programme has been handed out to Scouts and Explorers. Be sure to let Ritchie know in plenty of time which events you want to take part in. And be sure to get your paperwork and monies back to him in good time.

LENDINIAE EXPLORERS

This partnership group with Wessex Scouts continues to meet Wednesdays 7-9pm at Great Lyde Scout Hut. Hall hire - £480 per year - please continue to make cheques for subs to WESSEX SCOUT GROUP. Ritchie handed out the 2012 Events Programme. Please be sure to respond in good time if you want to take part and bring in monies and forms in good time.

We also have two of our Explorers going to Madagascar in 2013 - Chris Wright and Ben Mason. Hope we can help them to fundraise for this opportunity of a lifetime.

Contacts:

Group Chair - Allyson Wright - 07931 428048 - calnor@hotmail.com;

Scouts & Explorer Leader - Ritchie Scammells - 07588 029982 - Ritchie.scammells@yeovil.ac.uk

Cub Leader - Elliott Card - 07934 477228

Beaver Leader - Tanya Wilton - 07777 668082 - tanyawilton@btinternet.com

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Forthcoming Events:

Trip to Belgium - 25 Aug-1 Sept - £550

Payment schedule - £50 deposit / Nov £100 / Feb £150 / Apr £150 / June £100

Any questions do contact Simon Hawkins - 0773 441 1858 - explorerscouts@hotmail.co.uk

SOMERSET SCOUTFEST - 1-4 June 2012 -

Wincanton Sports Ground

Details have been given out to Scouts and Explorers - please

let Ritchie know by **1 Feb** if you want to attend - £30 camp fee deposit plus

£20 payment nearer the time for food = **£50 total** for the weekend - T-

shirts available at extra cost - <http://somersetscouts.org.uk/scoutfest/>

What a fantastic selection of activities - climbing, bugs, ice rink, scuba diving, etc, etc and "THE BIG LUNCH". Don't miss out on a great weekend.



BINGO - Saturday 26 November 2011

Thanks to everyone who attended. We had a great evening and raised £450 which paid for the replacement of the floor in the Scout Hut at Ilchester. Special thanks to Allyson from the Committee for her hard work in putting together all those magnificent prizes.

ICE SKATING - Dec 11

Special thanks to Chris Fry and helpers for making this another great fun event. Unfortunately Bristol Ice Rink will be closing in 2012 so we will be looking for a new venue - watch this space.

VERY IMPORTANT THINGS

FUNDRAISING

Firstly, thank you to Tanya for all her efforts assisting Allyson with the fundraising. Much has been done by very few, we have a very large group to keep afloat and it is a costly exercise, and essentially we do not have an official Fundraising Team. We would very much like to have a separate Fundraising Team to support the Parents Committee, at least one representative from each group of Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. If anyone would like to join us, please have a word with Allyson. An excellent place to make new friends too.

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Having just had the flooring repaired, there is still a long list of things to do on the Scout Hut to keep it in good working order. We need to put together a programme of works and an enthusiastic working team to get the work done. Please speak to Ritchie or a Committee member if you can help.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held in June - we'll let you know when a date has been set. Please do try to come.

SCOUT WEBSITE

Don't forget to take a look at the Scout website - <http://www.scouts.org.uk>. It has loads of useful information about how you can support your child:

So do please consider what skills you have, what time you have, and what motivation you have to help us run this great Scout Group.

Thank You. Allyson, Leaders & Committee

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