

4th News

PARENTS & FRIENDS (P&F) - Mike O'Donnell (pandf@4wp.org.uk)

My usual thanks to everyone that has helped at the recent Jumble Sale - £690.00, the Fireworks Night, the Auction - £740.00 and the Christmas Bazaar - £2,100.00.

The weather was very unkind this year for the Fireworks Night, but the effort put in by Charterhouse was very much appreciated. This is one of those events that is totally dependant on the weather, so thanks also to those that did brave the weather.

To the new parents that have helped recently, many thanks, and especially to the Dads that now come and help at the end of the Jumble Sales, it makes a big difference.

Our final event of the year was the Christmas Bazaar, and a great day was had by all, thanks to the hard work from Dawn, Sally and Anna.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUMBLE SALE – Saturday 31st January at 2.30pm

FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT – Saturday 7th February at 7pm

GRAND AUCTION – Saturday 7th March at 2.30pm

New members on the P&F always welcome!

What does it mean? – Gift Aid

Gift Aid is money for nothing! If you pay tax on your income and complete a simple form, our Scout Group can reclaim that tax at **NO** additional cost to yourself. This means for each subs payment of £36, the Group can claim an additional £9. If every parent signed a Gift Aid form the Group could reclaim over £3,200 a year from the taxman.

If you haven't already completed a form, please ask your child's leader for one today.

Next Parents & Friends meetings are on Wednesday 4th February at 8.15pm and Wednesday 4th March at 8.15pm (maximum 1 hour). All are welcome.

Through our website we have various links in the "shopping" page.

If you are an online shopper and you purchase items from Opodo, Tesco, iTunes, Amazon, Dabs.com, Dell, John Lewis, Halfords Direct Line and many more then you could make some money for the group with a "CLICK". If you enter these shopping sites through our website we get a commission on what you order. You pay the same prices and we make a little money for the group. How easy could it be??

So please click away in those sales and I will keep you updated on how much we make.

www.4wp.org.uk - For Shopping, News and Events

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**The guide to Scouting in
YOUR community!
GSL: PAUL GREEN
gsl@4wp.org.uk
Issue 5 - JANUARY 2009**

Happy New Year Everyone – Paul Green *GSL*

I hope you all enjoyed the festive period and had a well earned rest from work. How many of you have since joined the gym? I know I need to!! What a fantastic year 2008 was. With all the hard work and everyone pulling together we achieved a massive amount. The Parents and friends managed to exceed their fundraising target, Tina O'Donnell claimed thousands of pounds back from the tax man in Gift aid and most importantly we provided activities, training and life experiences for over 130 young people. My heartfelt thanks goes to all those who have helped in 2008 and previous years, you are what makes us a successful group for young people and I look forward to seeing you all again at our HQ. Because of the hard work and fundraising we have been able to keep the subscriptions at £36 a term. This has been the same amount for the last 3 years and we are resisting a raise despite increasing utility bills, payments to the Scout association and new equipment we are purchasing. Thank you for your continued payment of these subs and please ensure these are given to your section early in the new year.

It is with great delight that I can welcome back an ex leader of 4th Worcester Park. Martin Richardson has returned to become an assistant Group Scout leader. Many of you met him at the Christmas Scouts own. He is keen and full of ideas. The main one being the launch of the 4 Wor Par Service Crew. This will be a group that meet once a month who want to be involved with scouting but do not have the time to help or run a section. Various activities will be organized and the Crew will be assisting with events and some regular maintenance. More information will follow soon.

Enclosed with this Newsletter you will find a calendar of events. Please keep this for the year ensuring you know what is happening. There is also an online copy on the website noted below.

Try Something New Today....

Well we did, just before Christmas many of the Beavers, cubs and scouts went to Sainsbury's and helped pack shoppers bags and collect money for the group. This 6 hours of work raised over £800. A massive well done to everyone involved. We will be buying some Archery equipment with the proceeds.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HQ

WED 5th Jan - P&F MEETING 8pm
SUN 25th Jan - SCOUTS OWN 11am
SAT 31st Jan - JUMBLE SALE 2.30pm
WED 4th Feb - P&F MEETING 8pm
SAT 7th Feb - QUIZ NIGHT
SUN 7th Mar - GRAND AUCTION

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ASPEN COLONY - Anne Mays

Firstly Holly and I would like to wish all the parents, children and friends of the 4th Worcester Park Scout Group a very happy and peaceful new year.

We would like to mention Grace Poles, Hannah Mordan and Shona

Worth. These are the first 3 girls in the group who have been very successful Beaver Scouts and are the first to continue into cubs. They are now very much involved in Anglia park and we wish them well for the future. We have 5 boys moving into the cub section on January 25th, this will be the morning of the going up ceremony so please attend, all the boys will be linking with the cub packs. We have worked very hard this year to obtain badges and hopefully the children will benefit from the work they have done and will remember some of the things and carry them through to older sections. We would like to thank everyone who donated to the Christmas Bazaar and we would like to let you all know that it was a very successful stall, run of course by the Beaver leaders. We had a second successful visit to Epsom Police Station and we would like to extend our very grateful thanks to Simon Evans for all his help with the colony. To everyone on our parent rota, to everyone who offers to drive the minibus for us and thank you to you all. Last but not least a big thank you to Paul Green our Group Scout Leader who has done wonders this year, we have so much to thank him for but behind every successful man is a woman so our extended thanks to Steph and to Paul's Parents. Our Scouts own was a great success and thank you to all the children who turned up at Sainsbury's for our collections. Well done to you all.

CEDAR COLONY - Valerie Street

We have been using our imaginations recently. The Beavers created their own designs using Hama beads and we have explored the world of Super Heroes. Cedar Beavers have worked in their lodges to do a small drama based on their favourite heroes and then created a small performance for the Senior Residents Party. The moral of the story was that super heroes have powers but performing a simple act of kindness is often all that is needed.

We learnt about doing a task without getting any reward except a simple thank you when we spent a Friday evening washing the group mini buses.

We did receive a wonderful and generous thank you from Mrs Bridget Green, when she visited Cedar colony to receive all the bottle tops that we had saved over the term for a charity project that she is involved with. I was very proud that so many of Cedar Colony had become involved in such a simple but effective project. Special mention has to go to a future Cedar beaver and a former Cedar beaver for their huge contribution of bottle tops!

We ended our term with a visit to Pizza Express in Worcester Park, where we had a lovely meal and the Beavers learnt about acts of random kindness. I took small groups of beavers to each table and the beavers wished the others diners a Merry Christmas and presented them with a chocolate coin or a chocolate Santa. The beavers were very well received with a smile and a thank you.

Well earned badges will be presented at the start of term so they can be worn at the District Beaver Panto on the 18th January.

Badger



BROWNSEA - Ben Alembick

Happy new year everyone, and I hope you all had a good Christmas and are now nice and refreshed, ready for 2009. Just to update you on Brownsea's last few months worth of activities, we have been swimming, had two parties (Xmas & Halloween) The cubs have all earned themselves their faith badge, (big thank you to Les for organising and also to Patrick Jacobs and Carol Rowles for making the church visit such a success). We have also managed to run a parents evening where we managed to get the majority of parents to take part in some cub games before the premier of our summer camp 2008 film (huge thank you to John for creating another amazing film). One of Brownsea's traditional games is 'Beagle drive' which we ran alongside a Christmas special edition of bingo and also whilst rehearsing those cubs who took part in Brownsea's contribution to the 4th's senior residents party which was kindly directed by Harry. Brownsea would like to wish you all a happy new year and look forward to updating you with all the fun and achievements of 2009.

FELLOWSHIP- Peter Phillips

As forecast in the last News, we duly had the talk by Gerald Smith, Chairman of a local National Trust area. His talk concerned the large country house, Polesden Lacy, and the activities of its owners and guests! Phew! It was relief to some of us who had previously thought that Polesden Lacy was a rather nasty contagious disease. In November Graham thoughtfully organised a competitive indoor games evening, with Roger being the winner (yet again!).

On the work front, we put in some man-hours helping at the very well run Christmas Bazaar, and congratulate the three ladies who organise it for the Group. For the Senior Residents party - where some of the invitees were possibly younger than some of us - we again provided some taxi skills and a little other help, especially in the kitchen and prior setting up. Well done Peter Cornish once again, and the rest of you. Ian is still working on his bingo skills.

We have a beetle drive in January, followed by a talk from Shirley in February, this time about her trip out East somewhere.

EXPLORERS - Leigh Wicks

This last term, the Explorers have been planning and carrying out a number of different events, taking on much of the responsibility themselves. One of the evenings included a 1st aid course, meaning 11 members gained their level 3 emergency aid badge.

They have also planned & prepared their Christmas meal. For a change, I decided to give all responsibilities to the members, and this ended with us enjoying a fluorescent themed Christmas party, eating fajitas and having a mini-rave afterwards! Back to tradition I think next year!!

The unit have also been fortunate enough to gain some extra funding for themselves this term. After applying for a grant and nominating Dave Marston for being a committed and helpful chairman, I have managed to gain over £3,000 in grants. This will obviously be used to help the members have more positive experiences where possible.

...and lastly, our summer expedition has now been given the dates of the 14th-21st August 2009 - Destination yet to be decided...!

Many thanks for George Richardson becoming a regular helper with the Unit, and also to his brother Matthew for supplying much of the Christmas music equipment.

Bottle Tops - A BIG thank you for those who have collected them for us

We collect plastic milk bottle tops for a local charity who recycle them and get money to buy wheel chairs with them. If you could collect any PLASTIC MILK BOTTLE TOPS only and place them in the bin which will be provided at HQ then we can send them off. Please clean them first to prevent smells and mould.

