



1st St Albans Scout Group

www.firststalbansscouts.org.uk

Spring Newsletter 2017

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Community Fund Raising.

The Group is pleased and proud that over the last few months we have supported and instigated a number of Community Fund Raising events. Led by Penelope Compton, our Riverbank Beaver Leader, we hosted the first Rennie Grove Hospice Craft Fair on 9th October 2016, our Scout Leaders served hot food all day, and the incredible sum of **£1,400** was raised, enough to fund 7 shifts of Rennie Grove's specialist Hospice at Home Nurses. This means that around 28 patients in and around St Albans will be visited in their own home, ensuring their symptoms are kept under control and their families feel supported! Encouraged by that success Penelope working with their fund raising team are running a **QUIZ NIGHT, on Saturday 25th February**. Tickets are just £8.00 per person (teams of 8 if possible) from 01727 731028. Lets see how much we can raise for this great cause. Meanwhile our tough Scout Leaders Rick Adams and Sally Mitchell took part in the St Albans Abbey Sponsored Sleepout to raise money for Herts Young Homeless. They slept out in the cold and rain, and boosted by a donation from the Group raised the magnificent sum of £1,179.80 up from the £869.00 in 2015, and the £771.75 in 2014. Impala Cubs supported Children in Need, via a sponsored Ball Bounce 1 minute challenge, raising the amazing total of **£250.44**—well done to both them and their parents & friends

Remembrance Day Service.

As has become our tradition the group once again supported the Remembrance Day Service at the Park Street War Memorial organised by St Stephens Parish Council. All sections laid wreaths at the end of the service. This service has been growing each year, and they now close the road to allow it to take place safely. Our wreath layers, this year, were :- Dante, Tommy, Ashley, Joseph & Ronan.
(*YP surnames are removed from web*).

Phasels Wood Activity Centre / Annual Group Camp 2017 !

Yes, the dates have been agreed for 2017, to ensure we get the facilities / campsite etc that we want, so as a result of our forward planning , we can confirm that this years Group Camp will be held over the weekend of the **9th—11th June 2017**, at **Phasels Wood Activity Centre**, off Rucklers Lane, Kings Langley WD4 9NA. See www.phaselswood.org.uk for full details of the adventures we will all be having! The centre is owned and operated by Hertfordshire County Scouts. Full details will be available nearer the date, but all Beavers, Cubs and Scouts should keep their diaries free for that weekend !

Annual District Swimming Gala

This years Gala took place at Westminster Lodge on Saturday 28th January, and once again our Scout team did extremely well, coming second overall to the 4th St Albans team, and thus had to hand over the Dymoke Green Shield, which they have won for the last two years. 1st Impeesa came joint 5th in the cub section.

Heritage Centre

Hertfordshire Scouts have their own, very well established Heritage Centre, at the Well End Activity Centre, run with huge passion by the County Archivist & Historian Frank Brittain. He has recently opened a new facility at Well End, and he would be very happy to show parties round. He can be contacted at frank.brittain@ntlworld.com

Family Quiz Night.

Julie Crossley hopes to run a family quiz night for our Beavers, Cubs and their families on Sunday 19th March 2017. The cubs have already chosen the charity to benefit, it will be St Albans PHAB. Full details shortly. It should be a fun late afternoon / evening.



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Hertfordshire Scouts Peak Assault

This county competition reaches its 50th anniversary this year, and will take place between the 13th to 15th October, at an unknown venue, and its for Explorers (14-18,s) Network (18-25,s) and has a new Senior Team Competition. We are delighted to learn that a number of our “old” Ventures / Fellowship members have decided to don their boots, pick up their rucksacks and take part ! They will be known as the “ 1st St Albans Old Boys Peak Assault team”. Their last participation was on the 40th anniversary event, ten years ago, when it was based in Caldbeck in the Lake District. We will follow their attempts to get fit, their training etc. Steve Bunn who now lives in Inverness will be ensuring they are competitive ! Full details will be available on the County Website—currently being updated at www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk

Cub Football 2016 / 17

We are delighted that Philip & Sarah Beasley, and Michael Gleeson have agreed to carry on running our 1st Impeesa and 1st Impala Cub Football teams this season. Both teams take part in the League & Cup competitions, run by St Albans District Scout Council. Their results / reports are posted onto our website within hours of the matches being finished, so no excuse for not checking on their progress, along with any photos. Interestingly, on the 28th January they played each other, with Impeesa coming out the winners by two goals to nil. An excellent match on a sunny afternoon on our How Wood home ground.

County Website

The County website is currently being updated, and will soon be full of great news and information about what happening in Scouting in Hertfordshire. This site covers all sections—Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Network.

Take a look, you will be amazed about the range of activities and adventures, that our young people can get involved in. There is also information on all our local Scout Activity Centres, at Phasels, Tolmers, Well End and Harmer Green Wood.

Try The Giving Machine & support the 1st

Do you buy goods and services online, and want to support the 1st , ok, with two extra clicks you can generate income for the 1st. To date we have recd over £400.00 from just 14 registered supporters. Just register on the **Giving Machine** website, with **1st St Albans Scouts** as your chosen charity, and then when you wish to make a online purchase, go to the Giving Machine website, and click on the store of your choice Amazon etc, and we get a small percentage of the income from your purchase at NO extra cost to you ! Just two extra clicks is all it takes !

Group Website.

Parents can also check what happening in the group, by going to the Group Website. The opening page highlights the latest group news.

Our thanks to Martyn Culling for his work, keeping this up to date, week by week.

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