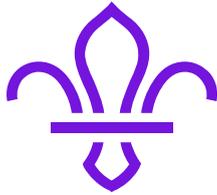


Scouts

1st Northwood



Group Scout Leader Report

The time has come for our annual Grand Jumble Sale.

Lots of planning has been put into it, in fact almost three years planning as the last two have been cancelled due to the pandemic. Hopefully nothing will stop this year's going ahead.

I know some of you will not have experienced a jumble sale, let alone our Grand Jumble sale. In fact, if you want to see a video of the day, go to YouTube and search "1st Northwood Jumble Sale" or 1st Northwood Jumble Sale from above" to give you an example of how big and busy it is. We will need lots of help during this time so please don't wait to be asked, come forward and volunteer.

I am sure you are as shocked as I am with what is going on in Ukraine at the moment. I am pleased to say that the sections have collected over £300 from a Penny collection which has been donated to the Disasters Emergency Committee and which will be used to support the people in the Ukraine.

A date for the diary, before the jumble sale. On Sunday 24th April the District St George's Day gathering returns. Save the date and look out for more details soon.

The sections have all been as busy as ever, but I'll let them report on what they've been doing.

Mike Bennett
Group Scout Leader

Jubilee in the Park

Celebrating H.M. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, on **Thursday 2nd June between 2 and 6 pm at Northwood Recreation Ground**, Chestnut Avenue, HA6 1HR

Once again, the Northwood and Northwood Hills Residents' Associations are joining forces to bring you a community afternoon of entertainment - remember *Music & Picnic in the Park* in 2016? This time we are planning a similar relaxed event with musical performances on two stages and a children's entertainer in a marquee in a separate area. We hope that you will come along for the afternoon, enjoy the music and offerings from the food stalls, either sitting on the grass or you are welcome to bring your own chairs. FREE admission. FREE off-road parking.

The musical programme will have something for everyone, including classic swing, retro vocal harmonies with the [Polka Dots](#) and well-known hits from [CJ Edwards Band](#).

Refreshments will be available from the food stalls: [Funky Elephant](#) for Caribbean street food, [B'elicious Amazing Crêpes](#), [Social Dough](#) pizzas, Joe's ice-cream, coffee & cakes, as well as burgers at Northwood Football Club clubhouse.

Members of 1st Northwood will be playing a big part in the event, providing help with event organisation as well as lending Group and District equipment. BUT we need more help! If you can lend a hand on the day, please get in touch – we need help with setting up in the morning (Herras fencing, gazebos, setting out the car park etc.) and in the afternoon meet & greet and safety marshals.

For up-to-date news follow us on Face Book:
www.facebook.com/NorthwoodPlatinumJubileeEvent

Any questions or offers of help contact Ros Plume by email:
secretary@northwoodresidents.co.uk



Chairman's Chat

Was it a dream I experienced or maybe a spell of wishful thinking? Is the Jumble Sale ever going to return to Northwood? Yes, it is definitely going to take place on the 28th May, after a lapse of two years. We hope you are pleased with this news and will use it as an opportunity to donate all those items that you have no further use for that have accumulated in various parts of your homes over the past twenty-four months.

The event will be much the same as previous years with dozens of stalls and hundreds of helpers but there will be one exception. We have, after careful consideration, decided to delete furniture from the sale. This is because the amount of work involved balance against the income it generates would even make the Chancellor shudder.

So please make a note of the date and time - **28th May at 2pm** - wherever you keep your aide memoirs and come along. We advise you to come prepared, for even if it is raining the event will still take place. Also be aware that jumlbers start queuing about 10.00am so that they don't miss out on the many bargains which will be on offer.

A number of us involved with this event have been at it for several decades and I believe it is true to say that we obtain a good deal of satisfaction from the various tasks we accomplish. However, a number of us are not getting any younger and sometimes bones are beginning to creak. New blood is needed to help us produce the same high standard of jumble sale to which we have been accustomed over the years. We ask that you give this plea for help some serious consideration and if you feel that you can helping some way, please put your hand up and contact us.

There are numerous people that you could contact with your offer of help such as your appropriate Section Leader or just come along to the Scout Headquarters anytime once **collections begin on April 30th**. Our aim has always been and will continue to be to work together so that the good tradition that this event has achieved continues for many years into the future.

That's all from me for now other than to say please try to keep well and to stay COVID-free.
Kind regards.

Paul Akers
Executive Committee Chairman

And from our Jumble Sale Volunteer Co-ordinator

The Jumble Sale. Yes, I know you know all about it and yes, I know you are all intending to come and help in the preparation and on the day.

BUT HAVE YOU TOLD ME????

Just one quarter of the volunteers we need on the day have signed up with me. That is going to make it a very hard day for the rest of us and the takings will be well down.

PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR SECTION LEADERS OR EMAIL THE ADDRESS BELOW.

Please include your names and phone number for my records (which I protect and will only use for 1st Northwood Scout matters). It would be a wonderful encouragement to the leaders, most of whom have full-time jobs and families as well, if every family could promise at least **one** adult volunteer to help prepare and deliver the Jumble Sale.

Yes, it is hard and sometimes dirty work, but it is very satisfying and rewarding and a great way to meet other parents and the leaders! All sorts of skills and tools are needed and if you have a particular ability with computers or electronics or bikes or china or books or driving or electrics or, anything else...please let me know in your initial email.

Preparation times at the Scout Centre;

Mon-Thurs: 9th – 25th May 18.30 – 20.00

Sat: 30th April, 7th, 14th, 21st May 14.00 – 18.00

Come as often as you can. Every hour helps.

Many thanks to all who *have* already emailed me.

roxana.peters@virginmedia.com

Roxanna Peters
Volunteer Co-ordinator

Cub Collation

So, we have quickly arrived at the end of another term - how did that happen?!

The Cubs have covered a range of activities this term. They have completed their Road Safety badge learning about the different types of pedestrian crossings and discovering a range of road signs around Northwood on a local walk. During the weeks when we were at the headquarters each Six took it in turns to share their collections which varied from football and Pokémon cards to old Pennies and London Underground items. Twenty-nine Cubs completed the badge with a few more to complete next term.

We took the Pack swimming over four sessions to meet Highgrove Pools restrictions where the majority passed their Stage 1 swimmer badge and two their Stage 2. Time in the pool gave us an opportunity to select our team for the District Cub Swimming Gala that took place in February. The team swam very well with some individual medals being won and everyone enjoying the evening.

We've enjoyed making pancakes and chocolate Easter nests which were quickly eaten! We had a visit to Northwood Library - they kindly opened specially for us and taught the Cubs how the books were sorted and how to find them. Along with sharing their favourite books and writing reviews the Cubs completed another badge.

Some of the Pack joined others from across the District on a sunny Sunday afternoon to take part in the District Cub hike - five miles from Winston Churchill Hall off through Ruislip Woods and back via refreshments at the Middlesex Stadium and another badge earned.

The last weeks of term saw us learning about recycling, renewable energy and other environmental matters. We finished with a visit to WRAP (Watford Recycling Arts Project) hosted by Roxana who explained where all the items came from and then challenged the Cubs to build their own windmill/wind turbine - continuing our environmental theme - which can be seen below.

Having completed so many activities and badges this term we finished the term by presenting the Chief Scout Silver Award, the top Cub award, to Eden who completed the last challenge awards that make up this top Award - congratulations Eden.

As we finished the term, we said goodbye to Dhruven, Dexter, Amelia, Eden and Aryan as they move on to Scouts and welcomed Sanvi from Beavers.

Akela (Christine) and Baloo (Parina)

Below we see Eden with her award, Cubs hiking, models made at WRAP and Cubs making pancakes



Scout Report

It's not often that I don't tell the Scouts not to close the doors to the Scouting Centre but this time I was happy for them to do so. Jon and Sharon had arranged an evening learning all about hypothermia and the symptoms and most importantly how to ensure you don't get it in the first place. The Scouts learned how to keep warm even if you don't have anywhere to stay and also what to expect at a soup kitchen.

The troop came a very respectable third in the annual district swimming gala. It is always good to see everyone leave with a medal hanging around their neck so well done to all that participated. The other groups in Northwood all did really well taking the top three places in the gala.

We had an evening where pizza and mug cakes were cooked. It was mostly successful but wow, how much mess can a group of Scouts make in the kitchen!?

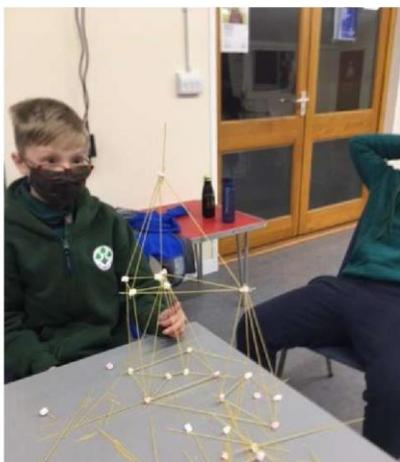
An evening was spent at PACCAR, our local Scout camp site where they brushed up their Robin Hood archery skills.

Ian provided the clay and tools for an enjoyable evening making clay models of all sorts.

The jumble sale will mean a lot more activities for the Scouts with the Scouts needed on Tuesdays and Saturdays during May along with parents if possible. That's in addition to the usual Friday night meeting which, with the Scouting Centre being used for storage and sorting, will be out and about during this time so please ensure you read the emails that are sent out.

Mike Bennett
Group Scout Leader

Here we see the Scouts pioneering and making pizza.



Beaver Blog

The Beavers started the term online back in January, and we were pleased that so many joined us online. We did an escape room, many Kahoots, a brilliant Chinese New Year (led by Lisa, one of our amazing parent helpers), and we learned about Random Act of Kindness Day.

Back in the hut after half term the Beavers got creative and made a huge, beautiful collaborative work of art which they named "The Beaver Dam", using natural objects like leaves and twigs. Next, we had a really fun night cooking pancakes which, we're pleased to say, they all got really involved in and learned to weigh and measure ingredients, break eggs and flip pancakes!

We went to Ruislip Woods on that Sunday for our annual Woolly Hat Walk, earning some of our newer Beavers their very first Hikes Away badge. The following meeting we made some cosy bug hotels to help nature in our own back gardens. Then it was back onto Zoom for a visit from the Blue Cross charity to teach us about pets and well-being.

Our young leader, Luke, led the Beavers in some new games and an obstacle course the following week and the Beavers taught us about healthy eating by creating their own posters.

The final week of term was a show-and-tell and talent evening. We were very impressed with all the Lego builds, artworks and talents on display.

We have one Beaver who has earned her Chief Scouts Bronze award this term, Sanvi Choksi. Congratulations Sanvi, you've done tremendously well. We know you will have an amazing time in Cubs.

Next term we have some adventurous and water activities, a sleepover, a camp and Beaver Bonanza planned so we can't wait!

Panda (Wendy) Beaver Scout Leader
Bluebell (Gabrielle) Assistant Beaver Scout Leader

The Beavers are making pancakes, showing their healthy eating posters, on a Woolly Hat walk and Sanvi is receiving her award.



Explorer Round-up

The Explorers have had an active programme this term. Due to the large numbers in the Unit and the high level of attendance we have been running six-way split meetings this term. The rotation has seen members go on a hike, visit an Escape Room in Watford, take part in a games evening, survival cooking, 1st Aid and planning & cooking a two-course meal for under £5 per group. Luckily, they all completed the Escape Room and we didn't lose anyone on the hikes. The choice of meals was relatively limited with the main choice being pasta and sauce each week accompanied by garlic bread and finished off with chocolate brownies, Swiss Roll or ice cream.

We had some whole unit meetings including pancakes with races and competitions as well as eating! And a science night where the Explorers tried to make a hot air balloon, ice cream and slime.

The weekend before the first Lockdown in March 2020, we took part in the Live Monopoly Run around London. This year we were able to return with four teams of Explorers and one Leader team. It was the biggest event ever with over five thousand five hundred participants! There are multiple games running at the same time so you don't know where you are in the overall standings until the final results are published.

The game starts at 9.30am at Jubilee Gardens. You then have until 5pm to visit as many of the properties on the Monopoly board as you can using bus, tube or walking to navigate your way round as efficiently as possible. If you get there first, you can buy the property otherwise you will have to pay rent; you pay a fine for any properties you don't visit during the day. Additional money can be earned by completing challenges and answering a cryptic quiz (guessing UK cities from the number of letters and a few key letters - very challenging!) The leaders didn't start very well; could be because we chose to stop for breakfast before we got going which meant we paid rent at every site we reached!

It was a sunny day in London so many of the Explorers were distracted by time in the London parks. In a busy London, we were very surprised to bump in to one of our old unit members, Rishi, who is now a leader in Southampton and was taking part in the Run with his local Troop.

Four groups have been preparing for their Duke of Edinburgh Gold and Silver expeditions over the Easter weekend in the Peak District; a mix of assessed and practice. Over three weekends, they have prepared routes, refreshed their first aid knowledge, planned menus and thought about their kit. Fingers crossed the weather settles down and they have don't have to face the cold and flurries of snow we've seen recently.

Doug Horgan Assistant Explorer Scout Leader

Above and below are some of the Explorers enjoying a games night, a meal together and the Monopoly Run

