

# Scouting

January 2015

Poole District Scouts

  
poolescouts.org.uk/leaders-newsletter



## 2014, it was a great year!

It's been another very busy year and once again Poole has grown in numbers. One of my highlights from 2014 was opening a new group at Burden Hall where we started from scratch with parents stepping forward to become new leaders. They now form the new leadership team with a strong Beaver Colony and Cub Pack.

We have had some great events over the year with more young people enjoying the experience of meeting scouting friends from across the District, County, Country and World! I am so lucky to have such a fantastic dedicated team around me supporting my vision for scouting here in Poole.

Moving forward into 2015 we have District Camp to look forward to (3rd till 5th July) and it would be great to see every group attending an event that promises to be very special.

I would like to thank everyone who helped with Scouting in Poole this year and wish you all a Happy New Year. I look forward to another stupendous year of Scouting here in Poole.

Ragen

## Beaver Family Camp 2014

**"Family camp is SO good, they should be twice a year, not just once!" - Josh, Branksome St. Aldhelms**

Poole District Family Camp was held on the first weekend in September at Butchers Coppice. We were lucky with the weather and it was gloriously sunny for most of the weekend.

The camp kicked off on Friday night with a pea hunt, which was a big hit with both adults and young people alike.

We had a full programme of activities on Saturday which included archery, catapults, rock climbing, orienteering, back woods cooking and crate stacking. The young people made their own knight costumes during the craft activities, making their own tin foil swords was a particular hit. On Saturday evening some of the adults collected in the main tent for a quiz which was lots of fun (but quite difficult!)

On Sunday morning after a Full English we had a fun filled morning of mini

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## Diary dates

### January

- 14 YL Training (Module E)
- 20 Beaver Family Camp Meeting
- 22 SAS Meeting
- 24 Cubs Scrap Heap Challenge
- 31 Beaver Painting Competition

### February

- 2 District Team Meeting
- 4 AAC
- 9 Open Surgery
- 10 GSL Meeting
- 10 YL Training (Module A)
- 22 Founders Day
- 24 Module 3 Training
- 26 SAS Meeting

### March

- 3 Beaver Leaders Meeting
- 5 AAC
- 10 All Scouters Forum
- 11 YL Training (Module J)
- 14 Cubs Football Competition
- 16 Explorer Leaders Meeting
- 24 Beaver Family Camp Meeting
- 26 SAS Meeting
- 27 Cub Leaders Meeting

games, my children certainly enjoyed pelting their Dad with wet sponges when he was put in the stocks! The catering volunteers were amazing, serving great food cheerfully and enthusiastically, despite not having much rest, they got up around 4 am to start cooking breakfast.

Among some of the great feedback from the camp, Bethany aged 5 said "I really liked making the cakes they were yummy" and Thomas, age 7 said "I liked drinking hot chocolate with my friends before we went to bed". Beaver Family camp is set to return in September 2015, watch this space!

## Carol Concert

Poole Scouts Carol Concert was held on Tuesday 2nd December in St. James' Church, Poole. Each group was tasked with putting together a reading on their given topic which the representative Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers managed fantastically & we were even treated to a flying visit from Father Christmas at the end of the concert! The retiring collection was held in aid of Gully's Place, which you can find out more about below.

## Collection in aid of Gully's Place

Gully's Place Trust a Fund was launched in October 2013 and since then volunteers have raised in excess of £50,000 for this worthwhile cause including the wonderful amount of £583.00 from the recent Scout concert at St James' Church.

Gully's Place is special, it's a suite of rooms at the end of the children's ward in Poole Hospital where parents and siblings can have complete privacy during what is a traumatic time for the family.

Gully's does not only offer end of life care but supports children with life limiting illnesses all over Dorset. Up to 40 children and young people pass away year and up to 400 are treated in their own homes. Gully's aims to support them and their families in practical ways supplying things like extra bedding and equipment over and above NHS remit.

Our shopping list is endless and can only be achieved by public support. If you feel you may be able to support us either through sponsorship or you would like to volunteer please contact Annie Mcgrath, Volunteer Coordinator, on [mygullysbuddy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mygullysbuddy@hotmail.co.uk).



Gully's Place Suite provides privacy and dignity its our patients and their families



Ann & Maureen from Gully's Place with Cllr Philip Eades and Brenda Grove (Broadstone Scout Group)





District Camp 2013



Mayor's Youth Escorts



District Camp 2013

## So what does being the Mayor's Youth Escort Involve?

### Louisa from 1st Lilliput tells us what they get up to

You may remember in the last newsletter we mentioned about Jamie & Marieanne from 1st Hamworthy Scouts who were two of the Mayor's youth escorts this year, unfortunately we forgot to mention Louisa from 1st Lilliput who is also a Mayor's Youth Escort, so apologies to Louisa for missing her out! She's told us a bit about what they get up to below.

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"If you ever get the chance to be a Mayor's Youth Escort, grab it. I've been a Youth Escort for the Mayor of Poole Cllr Peter Adams since May and have had some great times that I will never forget.

This year the Mayor chose 3 Youth Escorts; Jamie & Marieanne from 1st Hamworthy Scouts and me from 1st Lilliput Sea Scouts. We attend formal events such as the Civic Parade, Remembrance Day Service and, this year being the centenary, other World War 1 commemorations held in Poole.

Our role is to be a useful extra pair of hands by helping the Civic Party, representing the youth of the town or even reading a speech at a church Service, which I did at the WW1 Church Service in August.

I've also met some interesting people; the High Sheriff of Dorset, the Police & Crime Commissioner and other Mayors from Dorset. Everyone has been really friendly and made us feel very welcome. I have also learned a great deal about our town of Poole and its history.

But I've never had to polish my shoes so much!...even though that doesn't really sound very appealing it's worth it because you are representing your scout troop and are spotted in photos, like in the Daily Echo, for example, and have to look extremely smart!

Our next event is the Christmas Lantern Parade at Poole High Street. If the opportunity ever comes your way, say yes please - I'll do it."

Louisa 1st Lilliput Sea Scouts.

## Compass

### Setup your login now!

Compass (the new membership system for the Scout Association) is now open to all adults in Poole. To login you need to visit the [scouts.org.uk](http://scouts.org.uk) website and click on members, then click compass. You will need your membership and email address that HQ have registered for you. This year's Census is now online and section leaders have been asked to upload youth data by 31st January. Compass offers many tools to leaders like welcoming adults and young people, tracking badges, keeping in contact, organising camps, managing payments and more. These are tools that will be released into the system in phase 2 and 3.

## Buddens

Kit vehicles are now allowed on to site to drop equipment.

## All Scouters Forum

### 10th March 2015

We are holding an All Scouters Forum on 10th March open to all leaders and adult supporters in Poole. Come along to find out where we are in our development and chat about other hot topics. To have your say on what we cover on the evening let us know online at [www.poolescouts.org.uk/forum](http://www.poolescouts.org.uk/forum)

## District Camp

### 3rd - 5th July 2015

District Camp is taking place this year from 3rd - 5th July. It would be great to have every group in attendance as it already looks set to be a great event. More information to follow about the online registration process this year. Keep your eyes peeled!

## New Scout Troop

### BSA St. Francis

Branksome St. Aldhelms - St Francis are opening a new Scout Troop in the next few months. They have a new section leader but we need some support for them with the programme. If you fancy being a part of this exciting project supporting a new scouting provision



District Camp 2013

please get in touch with Ragen (pooled.c@hotmail.co.uk). Any support will be greatly received.

## Vacancies

### Fancy a new challenge in 2015?

We're keen to hear from anyone who would be interested in taking on either of the two roles listed below, young or old, experience or a fresh faced leader, we'd love to hear from you if you think you have what it takes! Email Ragen on pooled.c@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

#### Group Scout Leader - Branksome St. Aldhelms

To manage and support the Scout Group and its Leaders to ensure it runs effectively and that Scouting within the Group develops in accordance with the rules and policies of The Scout Association.

#### Assistant District Commissioner - Scouts

As an Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts you are responsible for supporting all our Scout Troops in the District, working with the leaders to make sure they have the help they need and a quality programme is being delivered.

## Online Calendar

The District Calendar (as in the Directory) is now available online and as an 'ics' link so you can subscribe to it on your phone. It will also allow us to update it automatically if any changes occur. Find it at [www.poolescouts.org.uk/calendar](http://www.poolescouts.org.uk/calendar).

## Brain Teaser

Last issues Brain Teaser was: 'What mathematical symbol can be placed between 5 and 9, to get a number greater than 5 and smaller than 9?'. The answer is a decimal point giving 5.9!

This issues Brain Teaser is: What word starts with 'e' ends with 'e' and only has one letter in it?

Check next issue for the answer!



This is your newsletter! If you have something you'd like to include in the next issue (April 2015) please email it to [anthony.dakin@poolescouts.org.uk](mailto:anthony.dakin@poolescouts.org.uk).