



We have a strong membership in our Beaver section, and the interest just keeps growing! We could even expand to two colonies if we had the leadership to allow this! As a section we continue to achieve greater awards, six of our Beavers have achieved the highest award for Beavers this year – the Chief Scout Bronze Award. They either have, or will be attending a special ceremony later in the year, for the first time these awards will also be celebrated as part of the St George's Day parade in April.

Over the year we have had fun days and coming up - The Big Camp with both our group and the District Beavers. We shall also be holding an Outdoor Challenge Badge day at Sconce, this will enable beavers to earn this badge, as it is one of the six needed for the Chief Scout Bronze Award. District Beavers organised our Annual Fun Day at Blackhills, where a good day was had by all, especially with the birds of prey and the drumming!

We had our Christingle service and party in December; this was very well supported and enjoyed by all. We hope that there will be as much support this year, as we have our fun day arranged in October and another Christingle service in December. We shall also need to hold a sponsored event in the autumn term to try to raise some much needed funds for the group; suggestions for a sponsored event would be most welcome!

All that remains is to say a huge thank you to everyone; our section would not be as large and successful as it is if it were not for everyone's hard work. Sadly we have lost the support of Jan (Mowgli), although we do look forward to her joining us for the Big Camp weekend. Emily (Hattie), Jake (Kaa) and Adam (Sherkhan) have really helped to keep the section going; it could not run without them. A special thank you also goes out to all the parents who have helped, again the section could not run without you, especially Claire Low, who has supported Beavers so well and is very crafty! Finally, a huge thank you to the support we receive from all the parents and carers who faithfully support our group every week, our group could not run without you! Thank you and all the best for an enjoyable 2012 / 2013.

Rachel Shoulder - BSL



Amazing how time flies, we are reporting on another busy year in Scouting at 1st Shipley Cubs, here goes!

We helped again with fund raising for the group bag packing at Morrisons and Sainsburys. We went to see the Panto Red Riding Hood at Keighley Victoria Theatre. We also took part in the District Cub quiz held at Salvation Army Shipley where the cubs got chance to show off their scouting skills. As part of the group we have shared in Ten Pin Bowling, a York Railway Museum visit, activities at Sconce camp site and Fan Wood Camp, including the Group activity camp in May.

The Cubs have worked hard to complete their Global Challenge Badge, Chefs, Athlete and First Aid, 1 2 & 3 staged badges as well as Nights Away and Hike away badges. We are also extremely proud of our 7 cubs who achieved their Silver Chief Scouts Award in 2011 and were invited to the county presentation at East Riddlesden Hall in October. Also in October, they visited Chester Zoo, along with 130 cubs from Aire Valley as well as a visit to the Legoland Experience at Trafford with the Cubs from the 11th Shipley Cub Pack. Both of these visits were fantastic days made even better by the glorious weather for 1st October. We made Guys to put on the bonfire where they caused much hilarity at the Salvation Army Headquarters when they were stored in a shed (unbeknown to a member who opened it up to be 'attacked by them'!).

A new Cub pack was formed to accommodate the growing numbers of youngsters wanting to join our Cubs, so the Salvation Army came to the rescue, 1st Shipley Cub Pack No.2 was born! We join both packs once a term in various activities, everyone knows everyone.

We were sorry to see David Birkinshaw go but family sometimes has to take precedence, he does keep in touch and we all wish him well and thank him for his friendship and all his valuable experience.

I would like to thank Jenni, Jodie, Ben, Connor E, Alison and Connor S for their support and of course our other Leaders who help when needed, without them our young people would not have such a fantastic time.

Paula Wright - CSL



All in all, 2011 has been a very successful year for the scout troop. We have seen our leadership and number of scouts grow, awarded several badges including the cyclist badge to those who took part in the cycling camp; several challenge badges including the new Entrepreneur badge and several Gold Chief Scout

Awards. Congratulations to the 4 young men who moved to Explores at the start of the year - we wish you well. Summer camp has to be one of the highlights as many scouts, explorers and leaders joined together to explore Brighton, Portsmouth and London in August. Also, they had to chance to fish, visit a working lifeboat station, attend an air show and take part in archery, shooting and kayaking.

Earlier in the year they joined the group on a successful activity camp at Fanwood. The scouts have also joined the group at Church parade, on several bag packs and have taken part in a sponsored bowl and walk.

Since the last AGM the Scout Section has learnt a lot about survival and how to take care of ourselves in the outdoors. We are having a Survival Camp at the end of June in which those taking part will earn their survival skills badge, this has followed many weeks of preparation on the Tuesday evening troop programmes. This will give the scouts experience in cooking their meals on open fires as they also will earn their Camp cooks badge. To complete the above badges the scouts had to learn very valuable skills in achieving them.

Hopefully, in the next few months the scouts will also earn their fishing badge, which will include looking after the environment as well as the fish themselves and looking for dangerous things in and around the waters they are fishing in.

The Scouts have learnt a variety of skills. These, along with skills they already have, they are now able to teach others - important as we are seeing a steady flow of cubs entering the troop. We have gained a consistent number of scouts since the last AGM and as a leadership team we have continued to develop the skills within our team. A huge welcome back to Samuel and a warm welcome to Andy as new Assistant Scout Leaders.

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all scouts, parents & leaders for being supportive to the scout troop and giving of their time and effort.

Michael Stephenson - SL



2011 was a great year in the Explorer Scout section. Covering a number of activities during our weekly meetings, concentrating on some of the basic Scouting skills amongst others.

Andrew Dawson attended the World Jamboree in Sweden during the Summer and had an amazing experience. Both him and the Leadership team want to thank you all for supporting

him to attend this once in a lifetime event. Andrew has now left Explorer Scouts to join the Army. We wish him the best of luck.

We've made great progress towards achieving the Queen Scout Award and Young Leaders Awards and looking forward to furthering progress in 2012.

2011 also saw us take part in several District Explorer events including an Activity Day at Fanwood Campsite which was enjoyed by all, and the District Bowling Competition which we won!

We were also able to work together on several community events representing the Scouts in and around the Shipley area also raising money for the group by selling Survival Bracelets and Keyrings which the Scouts and Explorers have both been making.

The Explorers had several residential opportunities in 2011, visiting several new campsites and areas of the country.

Early in 2012 we attended a camp in North Lincolnshire experiencing horse riding and visiting Donna Nook beach where we were lucky to see the last of the Seal pups before they departed the area. Our Summer Camp took place in Sussex and we had a great week visiting Portsmouth, an Air Show and a day in London.

Early in 2012 Julie won a competition for her and 6 Explorers to attend the Queens Jubilee Concert in June which I know all of them are looking forward to!

The 1st Shipley Explorer Scouts began life in 2008 and at the end of 2011 saw Alison Spencer, who has been us from the beginning turn 18 and move on to become an Assistant Cub Scout Leader and Scout Network member. She will be sorely missed in the Explorer section but will be working towards her Queen Scout Award with the other Explorer Scouts so we will still be seeing her around!!

All in all, its been a great year for the 1st Shipley Explorers and we're hoping that 2012 sees more of the same!

Lee Farrow - ESL



Group Scout Leader's Report

Wow – what a year! The group has continued to grow from strength to strength.

Membership has increased and with the opening of a second cub pack, this is due to continue.

Some of our greatest achievements include:

- 1) Supporting Andrew Dawson in attending the 22nd World Scout Jamboree
- 2) Securing funding to commence the Queen's Scout Award and purchasing expedition equipment costing over £3500 to support this
- 3) Successfully recruiting new leaders into the Cub and Scout Sections
- 4) A successful week long Summer camp with our Scouts and Explorers
- 5) Supporting one of our Explorer scouts in taking part in the Rotary Club Young Leaders course
- 6) Successfully opening a second cub pack.
- 7) The setting up and use of a group website and texting service (starting to become our main means of communication).

We have seen a steady increase in the number of Group events. Personally, I regard this is vital to the growth, development and health of our group - after all our Group slogan is Together Everyone Achieves More! Events such as church parade, the AGM, group camps, the bonfire in November and the Group Christmas Party have seen anywhere between 70 and over 150 attend! Thank you for your interest and support.

To all the beavers, cubs, scouts, explorers, leaders, executive committee and parents, a huge thank you for 2011. So what's next...

2012 looks to be just as exciting and challenging. Here are my aims for the year:

- 1) Most urgently – recruit 2 leaders for the Beaver Scout Section. **I have to state here and now, this is in danger of closure as currently there is only 1 warranted leader supported by other section leaders and parents – this is not good practice and MUST be addressed.**
- 2) Successfully attend the County Big Camp with 90% of the group
- 3) Further support the Explorers in achieving the Queen's Scout Awards by 2013.
- 4) Explore the feasibility of a Group Minibus
- 5) Explore the idea of a partnership with Windhill Christchurch in order to secure accommodation for the Scout Group.
- 6) Celebrate the Olympics and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee
- 7) Increase the number of young people achieving the Chief Scouts Award
- 8) Develop the fundraising potential of the group in order to keep subs affordable

All these aims take further commitment, time, money and effort by the young people, the leaders and you as parents. The 1st Shipley Scout group is rapidly becoming a strong, positive influence on the Windhill and surrounding communities and is having an impact in around 100 young peoples' and adults' lives. Thank you in advance for your support and any further ideas for group development are warmly welcome.

Andrew Manley - GSL



Chairman's Report

The year has been one of growth and consolidation as you will see elsewhere in the reports from the various sections. We are grateful to the Salvation Army for offering the use of their premises for our expansion with the new Cub Pack.

The major challenge for the Group is accommodation. We are all agreed that if we had our own permanent base it would help in cohesion and organisation besides giving a sense of belonging and we continue to look for suitable accommodation in the area. We are also beginning to experience difficulties in transporting the various sections. We have therefore decided to look into the feasibility of obtaining our own transport. The logistical problems presented by the Big Camp throughout the year have been resolved and we are looking forward to a great weekend in Harrogate.

I again wish to formally record my thanks to all the Leaders, Fundraisers and committee members who give willingly and cheerfully their time and expertise for 1st Shipley

Les Benton - Chairman