

Beavers, Seals Colony (Saturday Morning)

We have been able to increase our beaver numbers and currently have 20 Beavers on our register. We had the pleasure of welcoming Stephanie Clifford, who is in the process of completing her full leadership qualification, Georgina Ely and Laura Swinchatt who have completed the Section Assistant Leadership qualification, supporting us when needed. Thank you to all three of you, for all you have done so far, as a strong team it is making running Seals a lot easier and lightens the load for me. It enables more young children and families to experience of becoming a part of Batchworth.

In September Seals took the opportunity to fit in the last few sessions on the water with some Kayaking and Stand up Paddle boarding. We had a visit from Radu who is a PCSO in Rickmansworth; he explained to the Beavers what his job involves and showed them some of the equipment he may have to use in his job. The Beavers enjoyed trying on the uniform and testing out the police car. We had 2 trips away from HQ to Rickmansworth Fire Station, where the Beavers enjoyed looking around the fire station, they found out about different equipment the firemen need, but mainly getting each other soaked from spraying the hose. We also went to Batchworth Lock Educational Centre where the Beavers learnt many facts about water safety, how the locks work and enjoyed looking out for the pirate boat while taking a trip on Pride of Batchworth. Both activities were very informative and lots of fun was had by not only the Beavers but also Leaders and Parent Helpers.

Seals have worked on several badges in detail, they are as follows:

- Safety Activity Badge
- Digital Makers Staged Badge
- Communicators Activity Badge
- Cooks Activity Badge
- Digital Staged Activity Badge

Since lockdown in March we have been running meetings via planned activities sent out to parents and several Zoom meetings (one or two meetings involved Beavers working with their parents to complete the task). Seals really enjoyed a short show and tell session at the end of each Zoom meeting. Some of Seals took part in spending a night in a self-built den; they improvised in making a campfire and enjoyed a typical camp meal. There was also the virtual Animal activity day which was run by the staff at Paccar Scout campsite - Maddison and I enjoyed busting some moves virtually with the staff to "cha cha cha slide", making craft and learning about different and strange animals.

During Lockdown Saturday Seals have completed a few badges. All badges will be handed out when we can return to normal meetings:

- Gardeners Activity Badge
- Personal Challenge Badge

I would like to say a big Thank You to all the parents that have supported Beaver Seals because most of these activities would not have been able to take place without your help and support, as well as everyone else involved with Batchworth Sea Scouts.

We look forward to seeing you all very soon,

Samantha Swinchatt, Stephanie Clifford, Georgina Ely and Laura Swinchatt
Seals Beaver Colony Leaders

Beavers, Turtles Colony (Thursday Evening)

The Beaver colony stayed full in 2019 with 24 children. All Beavers attend regularly, and during the year 21 moved up to Batchworth Cubs. Many of those who moved up were awarded their Bronze Scout Award, the highest scouting award possible for Beavers. During the year a total of 347 badges were awarded (so now you know why there's very little room on the sleeves of our older Beavers!).

During the year, our meetings are planned to concentrate on some aspect of badge work, and throughout the year we worked on the Challenge badges (My Outdoors, My Skills, Personal Challenge, Teamwork, My World, My Adventure) as well as a wide variety of activities.

During the Spring Term, we played ice games, created grass heads, made bird feeders, learned about the importance of water in developing countries and fair trade. As usual our Summer Term activities concentrated on outdoor activities with kayaking, sailing, swimming and hiking. We were invited to visit Cub Camp for a day, where we practised our camp craft skills – and a great day was had by all! Our Autumn Term programme carried on where we left off in the Summer, with kayaking and sailing. We made water filters and bread, had a great time for Halloween and Guy Fawkes night. Our year ended with a fabulous performance at Christmas party. Who knew that we had so much talent!

The big event on the Batchworth calendar is always the Remembrance Sunday celebration at St Mary's Church. Once again, most of our Beavers attended, despite the inconvenient timing.

Once again, we won the District Sports Day!

The leadership team is stable, with Claire, Jane, Brent and Gislene being regular leaders. We are very lucky to have some young leaders who attend as often as school and Explorer Scout commitments allow them. Huge thanks to Lucy Sylvester, Ivanna Lymperis and Kirstie Russell. We really appreciate their enthusiasm and involvement.

Last, but not least, we would like to say "thank you" for all the parent volunteers who come forward whenever we need them so that we're able to make our meetings as varied and stimulating as possible.

This report covers the 12 month period from January to December 2019. The report for 2020, sadly, will be quite different to this one! We're hoping that we can get back to normal soon.

Claire, Jane, Brent and Gislene
Turtles Beaver Colony Leaders

Cubs, Tempest Pack (Tuesday Evening)

The Tempest Cub Pack has had a great year, filled with a wide range of activities and events.

We started with a number of fun activities including ice skating, cooking and various physical/mental health awareness activities. An early highlight of the year was winning the District Cub Football Competition for the second year running. We also visited a Synagogue that two of our Cubs regularly attend.

In the Summer Term we did plenty of water activities as usual, but also took part in a District Cub water activity day in July. We had our Cub Camp with the Warrior cub pack at PACCAR (Chalfont Heights), where we thoroughly used their activities including the new zip line, Jacob's ladder, and rabbit run. At the end of the Summer we also went on a nature walk around Stockers Lake where the Cubs identified a load of creepy-crawlies and bugs.

In the Autumn we visited the Chiltern Open Air Museum and took part in their evening of activities alongside other groups of children. In October we went on the District Science Day, which was a great opportunity to do something a little different with the other packs from the District.

As this year was also a Jamboree year, we had Oakley Webb, Lucy Sylvester, and Zebedee Jacobs visit a couple of times, once before and once after the jamboree, to share their experiences and what they have learned through their 'Jamboree Journey'.

**Tom Smith & Denise Parker
Tempest Cub Pack Leaders**

Cubs, Warrior Pack (Wednesday Evening)

Membership: we started the year with 29 Cubs including 5 girls. By December our numbers stood at 23 including 5 girls, which we felt was a much more manageable number to fulfil our varied programme.

Leadership: Warrior Leaders in January were Cub Scout Leader (Louise), two Section Assistants (Nick & Andrea) and two Young Leaders (Chloe & Oakley). During the year Nick moved on after Easter to help out with a variety of roles within the Group but always available to us if we were short, which was much appreciated. After Easter, Rosie joined us as a Young Leader and then in September Arnaud and Orsolya joined the team. We drew up a rota, together with Andrea, to cover every meeting and to allow time off. Parent help at every meeting is much appreciated and without which we couldn't run such a full programme.

Programme: Activities this year beside the traditional knots, map reading and firelighting have included a visit to the Synagogue and the Chiltern Open Air Museum Activity Evening as well as two visits to the Aquadrome to study the bats and hunt for mini beasts. During the Summer Term we were out on the water 4 times - 2 kayaking and 2 sailing. We also had the traditional cycle ride along the Ebury Way.

Attended three District Events - the Water Activity Day, Mad Science afternoon and the Football competition when we were the runners up.

Nights Away: Took 20 Warrior Cubs away to PACCAR for the weekend in June together with Tempest Cubs when they enjoyed abseiling, zip wires, gladiator challenge and rabbit run besides learning how to look after themselves.

Silver Awards: obtained 5 in 2019 although 2 of these are still to be presented. Due to happen at our inspection but due the current situation the presentation is yet to be arranged.

**Louise
Warrior Cub Pack Leader**

Scouts, Discovery (Saturday PM) and Endeavour (Saturday AM) Troops

The Batchworth Sea Scouts Discovery and Endeavour Troops had a very active and fun-filled year in 2019. Highlights of the year include:

- The **District Cooking Competition** in January
- The Hertfordshire Scouts **Fire & Ice Camp** in January, with a total of 36 Scouts attending
- **Easter Camp** in the Peak District, with a total of 14 Scouts experiencing 3 days of walking in this beautiful area
- **Mersea Sailing Camp** at May half term with a total of 7 Scouts and Explorers (and 1 Leader gaining additional RYA sailing qualifications)
- The **District Water Activity Day** at BLYM
- The **District Kayak Polo Competition**
- The highlight of the year, without a doubt, was our **Summer Camp** in Lochearnhead, Scotland attended by 50 Scouts who took part in a number of fun and adventurous activities including: climbing, hiking, cycling, white water kayaking and sailing
- Participation in the **Jamboree on the Internet**, making contact with Scouts from as far afield as Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa and Mexico
- The **Herts County Sailing Regatta**, in which Batchworth finished District and County champions!
- The **Herts County Green Beret Competition** in November, into which we entered 5 teams for a weekend of mud-soaked challenges and fun
- **Scuba Diving** at York House School
- Supporting Batchworth **fund-raising activities** such as Jumble Sales and the May Fair
- Volunteer **litter picking** at BLYM;
- ...and of course all the great activities we do at our regular weekly meetings, including sailing, kayaking, canoeing, dragon boating, raft building, first aid training, hiking, swimming, and learning Scouting skills such as bushcraft and campfire cooking.

At the end of 2019, the section had 64 Scouts (46 boys, 18 girls) across two troops.

Adult volunteers always welcome!!!

André Roy & Matt Dawson
Scout Section Leaders



Explorer Scouts, Bograts Unit (Thursday Evenings)

We have had three new Explorers join over the last year - all from Batchworth Sea Scout Troops, and five 18 year olds leave. Explorers who have turned 18 are eligible to join the Network Scout Section. We are pleased to welcome all of our Network Scouts to Explorer Meetings, so whilst we now only have 23 Explorer Scouts, until lockdown we were regularly getting attendance of 25 to Explorer Meetings.

Easter IMC

We attend the most excellent Intermediate Mountaineering Course (IMC) over Easter at Lochearnhead. The standard of the training is excellent, really sharpening our Map Reading, Mountain & Wild Camping Skills.

Summer Camp Lochearnhead

Bograts joined the Scout Troops at Lochearnhead Scout Station for Summer 2019. We had great fun cycling and putting some of our Map Reading & Wild Camping Skills to use in the mountains. We sailed the eight miles down Loch Earn to camp for the night. Whilst camping we turned our three live chickens into chicken curry. Running wide games of Explorers vs Scouts was very popular for all involved.

DofE and ESYL

We had a Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition in the New Forest & got 15 Explorers through Module 1 of The Explorer Scout Young Leader Program. We have had our first Platinum Chief Scout Award for several years.

Royal Tournament - Field Gun Run

Just before Lockdown we managed to do a night-time dress rehearsal of the Royal Tournament Gun Run for our Royal Navy Inspection. The teams had to race the two field cannons over a course including five-foot obstacle walls and two zip lines across the River Colne. The team that could reassemble their gun and fire it first on the far bank of the Colne were the winners. Sadly, the Royal Navy postponed the Inspection just days before it was due.

During Lock Down

Bograts Cooking included Profiteroles, Scones & Ginger Cookies. Mr Crowder organised an excellent Race Night.

Bograts did a million metre challenge and ended up walking, running, cycling and swimming **3.3 Million metres.**

We did two escape rooms, Sailing & First Aid Quizzes, as well as made Face Masks with plastic window to allow lip reading.

Quentin Webb

Explorer Scout Section Leader