

# 9th Warwick Emscote Scout Group Annual Report and Statement of Accounts

For the period of 1 February 2019 to 31 January 2020



**Scouts**



9th Warwick  
Emscote

#SkillsForLife  
#EmscoteScouts

# Teeth-gritting, award-winning, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays

We're 9th Warwick Emscote Scouts, and everyone's welcome here. We'd love you to join our team of go-getters, doers and give-it-a-goers. Find out how you can make Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights even better.

Volunteering is easier than you think. You can give as much or as little time as you like.

**Give young people the skills they need to succeed and find out how Scouts can be just as rewarding for you.**

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**Scouts**   
9th Warwick  
Emscote

# A warm welcome from Andrea

## The Chair's Report

Well, what a year it has been! There's been a few changes. We sadly said farewell to Penny "Penguin" Hefferan, our Beaver Leader and Group Scout Leader as she moved on to her new role as a grandparent. We were able to carry on, however, as Jo Kelsall along with Leanne Hewitt, stepped into the breach as leader and assistant leader to ensure Beavers could continue. This meant, however, that we had to keep the GSL role vacant for a while.

All three sections were able to participate in some fantastic activities over Autumn 2019 to Spring 2020 until weekly sessions were stopped by the ongoing coronavirus situation. Any upcoming events for sections also had to be cancelled/postponed – the Peak District group camp in March 2020, the planned trips for Beavers to the Big Bang Fair, Cubs' trip to West Midlands Safari Park, and the large county Cub Camp "Cubs Together" in June 2020. This has continued to challenge us all in many ways. Nevertheless, this did not stop us Scouting, there were weekly badge challenges for Beavers and Cubs, as well as many of the children working independently on badges at home with their families.

There were also virtual group challenges during lockdown – Hike to the Moon, some camps at home (both inside and out), with many great photos shared on WhatsApp. As a group, we held a successful "Camp at Home" in June 2020 and, if the situation continues with no camping allowed, we will look to run another. These were organised by our group leaders and also Kristine Diffen, our secretary. Some of the Cubs participated in the Cubs Together Virtual Camp organised by the county on the weekend they should have been camping.

Sadly, however, one of our longest serving members, Sue Burton (Liquorice) passed away in June after valiantly fighting a long illness. She had held numerous roles in the group over the years (Beaver Assistant, Chair, Cub Assistant, Assistant GSL). The Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, leaders, volunteers (past and present) and parents did her proud, I think, when they (socially distant, of course) were able to line the route into Oakley Woods to bid her farewell – we are sure she would have loved the pots, pans and whistles.

She will be sorely missed.

On another note, we have been delighted to restart sessions this term (after a number of socially distant planning meetings in my garden over the summer). Well done to all who have worked hard to make that happen.

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who has continued to ensure that the group has kept running over the year. A special thanks to All Saints School for hosting our weekly indoor sessions; Mick Davidson, who runs many of our bushcraft sessions, and lastly but not least, to all our amazing volunteers/parents who support us all behind and in front of the scenes.

We look forward to this year and some exciting changes as we welcome new roles for Leanne Hewitt (Beaver Leader) and Anthony Williams (Group Scout Leader).

**Andrea Kampta**  
**Group Chair**

# Our Amazing Volunteers

The Group Executive Committee and Section Leadership Team

## Group Executive Committee

The charity trustees who managed the charity between 1 February 2019 to 31 January 2020

Position Held	Name	Appointed	Resigned
<b>Ex-Officio Trustees</b> (those who are a trustee by way of the position they hold in the Group)			
Group Scout Leader	Penny Hefferan	Jun 2017	Jun 2019
Group Scout Leader (Acting)	Jo Kelsall	Jun 2019	Sep 2019
Group Scout Leader (Acting)	Andrea Kampta	Sep 2019	Sep 2020
Chair	Andrea Kampta	Jul 2018	-
Secretary	Kristine Diffen	Sep 2016	-
Treasurer	Angela Reed	Feb 2015	-
Leader Representative: Beavers	Jo Kelsall	Sep 2019	Sep 2019
Leader Representative: Cubs	Sue Burton	Oct 2013	Dec 2019
Leader Representative: Scouts	Gareth Stephenson	Sep 2015	-
<b>Elected Trustees</b> (those who are elected as a trustee at the Annual General Meeting)			
Parent Representative: Beavers	Rebecca Nash	Jul 2018	Jun 2019
Parent Representative: Beavers <sup>a</sup>	Paula Williams	Jun 2019	-
Parent Representative: Cubs	Louisa Clarkson	Jul 2018	Jun 2019
Parent Representative: Cubs <sup>b</sup>	Rebecca Nash	Jun 2019	-
Parent Representative: Scouts	Jo Kelsall	Sep 2017	Jun 2019
Parent Representative: Scouts <sup>c</sup>	James Horn	Jun 2019	Oct 2020
<b>Nominated Trustees</b> (those who are nominated by the Group Scout Leader and elected as a Trustee at the Annual General Meeting)			
Grants Officer	Jo Kelsall	Sep 2019	-
Quartermaster	Mike Hefferan	Jan 2017	-

<sup>a</sup> Paula Williams will be standing for re-election as the Parent Representative for Cubs.

<sup>b</sup> Rebecca Nash will be standing for re-election as the Parent Representative for Scouts.

<sup>c</sup> James Horn will be standing down at the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

## Section Leadership Team

From 1 February 2019 to 31 January 2020

Position Held	Name	Appointed	Resigned
<b>Beavers</b>			
Beaver Scout Leader	Jo Kelsall	Sep 2019	Jul 2020
Beaver Scout Leader	Leanne Hewitt	Sep 2020	-
Assistant Beaver Scout Leader	Natalie Barber	Sep 2019	-
<b>Cubs</b>			
Cub Scout Leader	Robin Warnock	Mar 2017	-
Assistant Cub Scout Leader	Emily Catling	May 2019	-
Section Assistant	Keir Hefferan	Jan 2018	Jul 2020
<b>Scouts</b>			
Scout Leader	Gareth Stephenson	Sep 2014	-
Assistant Scout Leader	Mark Whitehorn	Sep 2016	-
Assistant Scout Leader	Matt Thompson	Sep 2018	-

## Advisers

Individuals and organisations that advise the Group

Bankers: HSBC UK.



# Structure, Governance and Management

A description of the Charity's trusts

## Charity Name, Principal Address and Registration Number

9th Warwick Emscote Scout Group is a registered member of The Scout Association, with registration number 47253. Our principal address is All Saints CofE Junior School, Nelson Avenue, Warwick, CV34 5LY.

## Governing Documents

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association, consisting of a Royal Charter granted on 4 January 1912, as amended by supplemental charters dated 28 March 1949, 18 February 1959, 5 May 1967 and 19 July 1991, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

## Constitution of the Charity

The Group is a trust established under its rules, which are common to all Scout Groups.

## Trustee Selection Methods

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

## Additional Governance Issues

The Group is an educational charity, managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the Charity Trustees. As trustees, they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, the Chair, the Treasurer and the Secretary, together with the Group Scout Leaders, individual Section Leaders who have opted to take on the responsibility, parent representatives and other elected members, and typically meets six to eight times per year.

Members of the Executive Committee complete the *Essential Information for Executive Committee Members* training within the first 5 months of joining the committee.

The Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finances
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment
- Group public occasions
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support
- Appointing any subcommittees that may be required
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected

# Risk and Internal Controls

The risks the Group is exposed to, and the mitigation controls in place

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed to, has reviewed them and have put systems in place to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern identified are as follows.

## Reduction or loss of leaders

The Group is entirely reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the Group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section or, in the worst-case scenario, the complete closure of the Group.

## Reduction or loss of members

The Group provides activities for all young people aged between 6 and 14½ years of age. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section of the group as a whole then there would need to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section or, in the worst-case scenario, the complete closure of the Group.

## Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members

The Group, through the membership fees payable annually, contributes to The Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken and approved by the Group Scout Leader on behalf of the District Commissioner before all activities.

## Damage to the building, property and equipment

In the event the Group's HQ were to become uninhabitable or otherwise unusable, the Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations, including the infant school, the church and the church community centre, as well as other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group has sufficient insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

## Material mismanagement or loss

The Group has systems of internal controls in place designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss; these include clear budget setting, two signatories for all payments, a robust finance policy with spending authorisation schedule and well considered and scoped comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that all insurable risks are covered.

## Reduced Income

The Group is primarily reliant upon income from membership subscriptions. The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

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*The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.*

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# Summary of Objectives and Activities

The objectives set out by the Group's constitution

Our Group Constitution is the governing document of the charity. 9th Warwick uses the model constitution as set out in Scouts POR 3.23, The Constitution of The Scout Group, and a suite of Group Policies that focus on additional topics.

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*Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.*

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## The Values of Scouting

As Scouts, we are guided by these values:

### **Integrity**

We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

### **Care**

We support others and take care of the world we live in

### **Co-operation**

We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

### **Respect**

We have self-respect and respect for others.

### **Belief**

We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

## The Scout Method

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and enjoy what they are doing and have fun; take part in activities indoors and outdoors; learn by doing; share in spiritual reflection; take responsibility and make choices; undertake new and challenging activities; make and live by their Promise.

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*On my honour, I promise that I will do my best, to uphold our Scout values, to do my duty to the Queen, to help other people, and to keep the Scout Law.*

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Membership to The Scouts is open to all those who share our fundamental values. The Scout Association's Equal Opportunities Policy outlines what we do to ensure the movement is open and accessible; and that people are treated equally and with respect. This is just one version of the Promise for those born in the UK who are atheist or of no faith background. Other versions are available, for different faiths and countries of origin, and our members are always invited to choose the Promise they feel most comfortable making with their families and leaders.

# Angela's Financial Review

The Group Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31 January 2019

I have been acting as Group Treasurer since 2015. Our accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis. The accounts are available on page 12, and include comparative figures for the year to 31 January 2019.

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*I am happy to report that our accounts continue to be in a healthy position, although the total value is down from the previous year end from £9,200 in 2019 to £5,838 in 2020.*

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Following the year end, we have suffered from the fallout of the coronavirus lockdown measures, which restricted our income until Scouting resumed in September 2020.

We asked for voluntary subs in the summer term 2020, which at the time of writing this report, had approximately 75% contributions from parents – which helped towards the ongoing fixed costs of Scouting during this period.

Unfortunately, The Scouts are increasing the membership fees in the upcoming year.

We will continue to monitor our income and expenses ongoing to ensure we have reserves in hand to help cover the ongoing costs of Scouting.

## To compare year on year

Total receipts (income) for the year is £12,870 (£1,072 per month) compared to £15,236 (£1,269 per month) for the previous year.

- Subs have reduced to £5,848 in this period, compared to £6,534 in the previous. Membership was down in both the Beaver and Scout sections for a time in 2019 but is increasing again. Reduced subs for volunteers' children was introduced in January 2017.
- We have received no grant money this year. However, we did receive a small donation of £150 from Warwick Rotary Club following the Group's help at the Warwick Half Marathon in Spring 2019.
- We have claimed Gift Aid as usual in the year. The Gift Aid recovered in this year amounted to £1,317 and this was for the year to January 2019. We claim Gift Aid annually in line with the financial year. We can claim 25p for every £1 received in subscriptions or donations, providing we have a completed Gift Aid form, so this is a great and easy way of boosting our funds – at no extra cost. The Gift Aid claim for the year to January 2020 has recently been received (£1,052).
- Our camp income was £5,161 for the year - £2,640 was from our Group Camp held in June 2019 and the remainder was for other section camps. £160 was advance deposits for a Cub Camp due in June 2020 – these have now been refunded as the camp was cancelled. During the year, all were given the opportunity for at least 2 camp events, which is an increase from the previous year.

- Fundraising income is zero in the year.

Total payments (expenses) are £16,232.75 (£1,353 per month) in the year to January 2020, and £15,740 (£1,312 per month) in the year to January 2019.

- Over the year we spent £3,248 on equipment. This is shown in the accounts as £2,355 under payments, plus £893 on a large gazebo which has been capitalised as an asset due to value. This gazebo was funded by a donation received in the previous year from the Mayor of Warwick. The majority of the £2,355 spend is on equipment for use in meetings or camps, but £450 of the spend was to enhance our trailer, bought in 2018, with branded signage.
- As a side note – the storage container we use has been kindly provided to the group by the storage company, rent-free, saving us over £100 per month.
- £200 in the Camp spend relates to a deposit paid for a group camp in March 2020. This camp is now postponed, and the venue are holding our deposit. £170 relates to the cancelled cub camp in June 2020 – this has now been refunded. £91 relates to expenses on a prior year camp, and £205 was still due to be paid at year end for the September 2019 camp.

The camp spend is slightly over the camp income. If I adjust the figures to allow for deposits, advance payments and late payments, the camp costs for the year comes to £5,248. This is in line with expectations, as the Group Camp in June 2019 was overspent. The other camps during the year were accurately costed.

- Census payment (the payment we make to Warwick District each year) has increased slightly but this is due to both increased membership and increased cost per head. In the year to January 2020 we paid for 65 members and in the previous year we paid for 61 members. The payment per member increased to approximately £36 per head (up from £34.50 in the previous year).
- Rent has remained static. The School have not increased the charge per session. We only pay for the nights we use the school, and they remain flexible with changes.
- Training costs have increased in the year, as we needed to renew the minibus permits for leaders.

We hold a separate deposit account which currently acts as a general reserve. We also use this account to hold specific funds before spending.

We continue to make use of internet banking both for payments in and payments out. This has proved to be a great time saver in terms of administration.

**Angela Reed**  
**Group Treasurer**

# 9th Warwick Emscote Scout Group Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended 31 January 2020

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>31/01/2020</b> £	<b>31/01/2019</b> £
Activities Contribution	369.00	623.00
Camp	5,161.00	6,021
Census Rebate	-	-
Donations	158.50	1,172.73
Events	-	-
Fundraising	-	-
Grants	-	-
Gift Aid	1,137.95	870.04
Interest	£7.91	4.62
Other Income	£7.45	10.21
Sponsorship	-	-
Subscriptions	5,848.78	6,534.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>12,870.59</b>	<b>15,236.10</b>
<b>Payments</b>	<b>31/01/2020</b>	<b>31/01/2019</b>
Activities	1,765.26	2,321.09
Badges	241.11	697.20
Bank Charges	-	-
Camp	5,504.18	5,322.20
Census	2,340.00	2,101.00
Craft	-	-
Equipment	2,355.34	1,846.64
Events	-	136.92
Fair	-	-
Fundraising	-	-
Insurance	340.76	327.56
Materials	565.86	420.78
Printing, Postage and Stationery	20.07	50.00
Rent	1,319.50	1,320.00
Scouts Publications	78.99	48.54
Set Up	-	-
Sundries	346.25	184.48
Training	400.00	25.00
Uniform	146.95	269.00
Depreciation	848.62	670.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>16,232.75</b>	<b>15,740.41</b>
<b>Net Receipts for the year/period</b>	<b>-3,362.16</b>	<b>-504.31</b>
Cash Funds brought forward	9,200.49	9,704.80
<b>Cash Funds carried forward</b>	<b>5,838.33</b>	<b>9,200.49</b>


# 9th Warwick Emscote Scout Group Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at Year End


For the year ended 31 January 2020

	31/01/2020 £	31/01/2019 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Equipment – Cost	4,243.10	3,350.00
Equipment – Accumulated Depreciation	-2,188.62	-1,340.00
<b>Cash Funds</b>		
Bank Current Account	293.25	2,507.80
Bank Deposit Account	3,490.60	4,682.69
	<b>5,838.33</b>	<b>9,200.49</b>

## Trustees' Declaration


The above receipts and payments accounts and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the trustees on 30 April 2020 and will be presented to the Group Scout Council at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday 16 October 2020.

<b>Signed</b>	
<b>Name</b>	Angela Reed
<b>Position</b>	Group Treasurer
<b>Date</b>	30 April 2020

<b>Signed</b>	
<b>Name</b>	Kristine Diffen
<b>Position</b>	Group Secretary
<b>Date</b>	30 April 2020

## Scrutineer's Declaration

In accordance with the instructions given to me and as detailed in Appendix 3 – Work Programme for a Scrutineer of The Scouts Association – Guidance on the Accounting and Audit Requirements for Counties, Areas, Regions, Groups & Districts (Ref: LT900000), I have reviewed without carrying out an audit, the financial statements prepared by the Treasurer and the information and explanations supplied to me. The statements give a true representation of the information provided.

<b>Signed</b>	
<b>Name and Address</b>	Steven Mugglestone BA (Hons) FCA Michael Harwood & Co Chartered Accountants Greville House 10 Jury Street Warwick CV34 4EW
<b>Date</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2020

# Young people are amazing. It's our role to help them realise this.

Young people are the future. They're the doers, the dreamers and the give-it-a-goers.

As a volunteer, you can put your skills to use and learn new ones, while giving something back to your local community.

And, with full support and training, you can volunteer in a way that suits you.

Speak to us and find out how.

#SkillsForLife #EmscoteScouts

**Scouts**   
9th Warwick  
Emscote

# Thank you from Anthony

## The Group Scout Leader's Report

An AGM should be an opportunity to celebrate. And, despite all the challenges this year has brought us all, we have a lot to celebrate. We can be proud of our Group, and everyone in it. Our youth members who, along with our incredible Section Leadership team, and our amazing volunteers and trustees, have dealt amazingly well with the amount of change thrust upon them this year.

I'm grateful to Penny, Jo, Andrea and all the volunteers who have given up their time to help 9th Warwick, and I'm thankful to have come into a Group that has the best interests of its youth members at heart. Everyone has worked hard to bring everyone back together safely, and I'm sure all you parents, and your young people, are as thankful as I am to be able to return.

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*I've been blown away by the warm welcome given to me by all the leaders and volunteers.*

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Having worked with another Group in Birmingham that's a similar size to 9th for a few years, I have a bit of experience with helping to run a Scout Group. Before I took on the GSL role, I was told that taking the helm at an established scout group can be a challenge, but I've been blown away by the warm welcome given to me by all the leaders and volunteers. I'm really looking forward to making sure that everyone has the support and tools they need to do the best they can.

We're nearing the halfway point of the #SkillsForLife five-year plan, which brings me to another thing we can celebrate. The personal development and life skills our young members have learned to help them make positive contributions to society, now and in the future. My aim is simple: that our Group gives every young person the opportunity to achieve the top award – the Chief Scout's Award – in each of the sections they're in. Not every young person will complete all the challenges, but we'll give every Beaver, Cub and Scout the chance to do their best to achieve this award before they move on to their next section.

This is also a time to thank the volunteers who make being at the helm of this Group such a pleasure. Andrea Kampta, Kristine Diffen, Angela Reed, and all the Section Leaders and supporters can all be proud of making 9th such an amazing Group to lead. I'm also grateful to Emily Catling who will be leaving us in the coming months, having been such an amazing help to Robin in our Cub section.

As a parent of young people within the Group, I was moved by everyone's celebration of Sue Burton's life and contributions. I always remember her being the epitome of a volunteer, helping wherever and whenever she could. As Andrea has said, far better than I could ever hope to, she will be sorely missed.

As the virus becomes less of a threat to life in the future, and the measures to prevent the spread of COVID are relaxed, our lives will start to return to something that more closely resembles normal. Like many of you, I'm looking forward to being able to get my tent out and camp again, and as soon as we see signs of moving to the next phase in our readiness programme, we'll put plans in place to make sure we can all safely camp together as a Group once more.

I'm really looking forward to leading 9th Warwick through the years to come!

**Anthony Williams**  
**Group Scout Leader**

# BEAVERS

**Try new things. Make new friends. Join in and start your amazing Scouting adventure!**

If you're aged between 5¾ and 8, then get going, get thinking, and get stuck into all sorts of fun things that'll get you on your own two feet and give you real skills you can use in the real world.

**We meet every Tuesday from 6:00pm to 7:15pm.**

<https://bitly.com/join9thwarwick>

**Scouts**   
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**Develop new skills.  
Soar to great heights.  
Do more and unlock a  
whole new world!**

If you're aged between 7½ and 10½, then master new skills, try new things, have fun and go on adventures, make friends, be curious, and help to make a difference in your local community and beyond.

**We meet every Wednesday from 6:30pm to 8:00pm.**

<https://bitly.com/join9thwarwick>

# cubs

**Scouts**   
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Emscote

# SCOUTS

**Jump in. Get muddy.  
Give back and get set.  
Ignore the butterflies  
and go for it!**

If you're aged between 10 and 14, then try things you'd never get the chance to do at home or school, master the skills that will help you weather the storms of life, and achieve whatever you set your mind to.

**We meet every Monday from 7:00pm to 8:30pm.**

<https://bitly.com/join9thwarwick>

**Scouts**   
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# Our Beaver Colony Update

Jo's update on Emscote's Beaver Colony

The Beavers had a tremendous year with a variety of activities and work towards their badges and awards. We had several Beaver Leader changes throughout the year - me, Penny Hefferan and Leanne Hewitt. We've all done our best to ensure the section remained open.

During the cold, dark months, the Beavers participated in a wide variety of activities in the lovely warmth of the school hall. Sessions included junk modelling, pancake making and evenings celebrating St. Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Mothers' Day and Easter.

With the warmer weather in the summer, and longer days on their way, the Beavers headed out into the great outdoors, with activities including bike riding, kite flying, and a very successful Group Camp!

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*We've all done our best to ensure that the section remained open.*

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Penny left us, and I stepped in to lead the Beaver Colony. Despite the nights drawing in as we went into the Autumn term, we were determined to continue to enjoy the outdoors and see what fun we could have in the dark! At Newbold Comyn, the Beavers were shown how to make trail signs using nature, but the real challenge

came when the Beavers swapped groups and had to follow another trail made by another Beaver group.

We had a golf lesson at the Warwickshire Golf Club, which really brought out the competitiveness of the Beavers! The Beavers were shown how to read maps and put this into practice by orienteering around St. Nicholas' Park. We also had an amazing Bushcraft night in the woods, learning new skills, drinking hot chocolate, and eating hot dogs.

On one very wet evening, the Beavers put on their wellies and we went puddle jumping, finishing off at the Chip Shop for chips. The Beavers also learnt campfire songs and actions around the fire pit on Bonfire Night. During this term, the Beavers earned their Hobby Badge, Cooking Badge and Fitness Badge.

Boy can Beavers party! We had a Hallowe'en party, where we made piñatas, filled them and we all loved smashing them to bits! A fun Christmas party was also held, with party games, Domino's pizza, and a very special visit from Father Christmas, from whom they all received a gift.

We had an absolutely fantastic "Night at the Museum" sleepover at the Market Hall Museum in Warwick, with lots of activities and challenges, watching a film until the early hours and then camping out with the Bear and the Moose.

**Jo Kelsall**  
**Beaver Scout Leader (2019)**





# Our Cub Pack Update

Robin's update on Emscote's Cub Pack

For 9th Warwick Cubs, 2019/20 has been a great, albeit challenging year. The pack has taken all the opportunities that it has been able to find to not only learn new skills but to put them into practice! We have learned a myriad of fun and useful things, from using a compass and reading a map to lots of different ways of lighting fires and cooking whilst outdoors. This is how life works at 9<sup>th</sup> Warwick Cubs: we learn new skills by doing them and have an awesome time doing so!

The year started with September's camp at Hatton Campsite. The Cubs joined the Scouts in making dens in the woods, having a campfire and making a bridge. It was a chance to get the Cubs to take responsibility for themselves and their own organisation. They put up their own tents and responded well to tent inspections; we found order, not chaos!

The rest of the year up until lockdown also went well. We made rope and learned knots, we hiked through Saxon fields, we enjoyed orienteering courses in the local area too. We also got to the woods and tried different types of fire, like Swedish Logs. This was also a good chance for the Cubs to try skills like speaking in front of others and working as a team.

Lockdown brought with it plenty of stress and uncertainty. We had to cancel our camp in the Peak District with the other sections. This would have promised lots of fun activities like climbing and weaselling. Most difficult was having to cancel face-to-face Scouting for the six-month period between March and September. Keeping Cubs going via WhatsApp broke the boredom of lockdown. Cubs were encouraged to work on a different badge each week; parents shared pictures via the app. We saw lots of evidence of activity and adventure; it also reminded friends that everyone was still safe and well! Events like Hike to the Moon, Camp at Home 2020 and St. George's day allowed us to take part in Scouting nationally without even leaving our homes. These events also let Cubs reflect on the challenges of 2020 and how they could be overcome. We also laid to rest a leader who passed away during lockdown, Sue "Liquorice" Burton. We made lots of noise as she came to her final resting place, and we will miss her dearly.

We have now started again and are making sense of Scouting in all the existing restrictions. These do pose lots of challenges, but we are still learning skills and having fun! We still value all the help we can get from parents and our other volunteers and look forward to keeping going. With a new Group Scout Leader and a fun new programme to finish the year, we will keep pushing our luck and trying more things!

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*We learn new skills  
by doing them and  
have an awesome  
time doing so!*

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**Robin Warnock**  
**Cub Scout Leader**

# Our Scout Troop Update

Gareth's update on Emscote's Scout Troop

What a great year!

We've had expedition camps for senior scouts, our first set of Scouts have left to an Explorer Scout Unit in Chase Meadow, we've had all sorts of camps - at Blackwell Adventure, at Gilwell (Scouts HQ), near Drayton Manor, and at Hatton Campsite.

The Troop also supported the Warwick Half Marathon, made masks, tried scuba diving, gone bouldering in Coventry, had a Christmas party at Jump-In, learned how to play Golf, and safely celebrated Chinese New Year with tethered lanterns.

Our senior Scouts planned and travelled all by themselves (via train and hiking, with no assistance from Uber!) from Emscote to Coventry's Rough Close Scout camp site, where they cooked and ran their own camp for a one-night stopover, and successfully achieved their Expedition Challenge award.



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*Gwyneth, Charlotte and Abigail have now all successfully moved on to join an Explorer Scout Unit over in Chase Meadow, where they have successfully used their camping and navigation skills in a zombie camp at Hatton.*

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The Scout Troop took part in a Winter Camp at Gilwell Park, where the Scouts – and the Leaders – enjoyed the freedom of enjoying activities that were ran and organised by Scouts HQ. It wasn't too cold either!

Our Scouts also joined Beavers and Cubs by handing out drinks to make sure that Robin and I, along with the thousand or so other runners, kept hydrated along the route.

There were a whole host of other amazing events and adventurous activities that we took place in, ahead of our traditional round up to the Summer term, where we used the navigation skills learned through earlier sessions, followed by chips and a drink at the Stag.

**Gareth Stephenson**  
Scout Leader

# Take the four week challenge

Volunteer for just four weeks and be amazed at the difference you'll make.

**Week 1** See what we get up to.

**Week 2** Start to help out.

**Week 3** Get a little more involved.

**Week 4** You'll know if Scouting is for you.

We have a wide range of flexible roles either supporting young people or behind the scenes.

Any help is truly amazing.

## Interested?

Contact Anthony Williams on 07782 505 945  
or email [gsl@emscotescouts.org](mailto:gsl@emscotescouts.org)

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