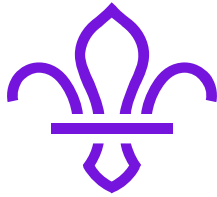


Scouts

1st Northwood



Group Lead Volunteer's Report

The Summer term begins or should I say "Jumble Term Starts" after Easter. Yes it is that time of year when we roll up our sleeves and get on with all the work that is needed to have a successful Jumble Sale. From the funds raised by the Jumble Sale we keep the minibus operational and our headquarters heated, clean and tidy and a safe place to hold our regular section meetings. There are close to a hundred and twenty young people who use the building so it is important that the Jumble Sale is a success and this is down to the young people from all sections and you the parents. If you haven't already heard from Roxana Peters, our volunteer co-ordinator for the Jumble Sale then please contact her. You will receive an email via On Line Scout Manager (OSM) with details of the jumble sale process which will include Roxana's details.

As some of you know, in the lead up to Jumble there are lots of ways for you to help. These include assisting on collections, sorting the donated goods, delivering leaflets, helping to set up on the two days prior to the sale, helping on the day and assisting with the big clear up on the Sunday. Please don't wait to be asked, just VOLUNTEER.

All the sections have been busy over the last term and report on it in their individual sections below but I would like to highlight the Beavers activity day, facing the challenges of some of the activities on offer at PACCAR.

The Cubs and Scouts took part in their respective District swimming galas; congratulations to both teams who came second overall – the Cubs even get a trophy to show for it. We were once again invited to join the congregation at Holy Trinity Church to celebrate Mothering Sunday. Thank you to those that represented us and to Tim for supervising.

We have good relations with the Northwood Lions and they asked if they could use our building for a Race Night they were planning. You will have seen the email inviting you to the event and for those who attended it was an entering evening. Hopefully they will use our building for similar events in the future. Some of the funds that they raised are being donated to the Group with the rest going to Young Lives vs Cancer. The Lions were generous benefactors towards the fundraising cost of the new building and it was nice to see them be able to use the hut themselves.

St Georges Day is on the 27th April at Ruislip Lido; details have been circulated to all sections. It would be good to see as many of the Group there as possible. I can't promise the weather will be as nice as it is as I write this but I am always hopeful in this regard.

Mike Bennett
Group Lead Volunteer

Scout Centre Heating Update

In the last newsletter, I reported that fitting our proper heating was imminent. Well, it was indeed fitted well before Christmas, and seems to be doing the job OK., once we got the times for switching on and off sorted.

There have been one or two teething problems, but they are under investigation.

I also reported that we are considering the installation of Solar Panels on our roof. This project is turning out to be quite complicated, and getting good quotations is proving difficult. More work still to be done, so watch this space.

Richard Plume
Executive Committee Member

Jumble Approaches!

Jumble Sale **Saturday 31st May**.

Setting up on **Saturday 26th April at 14.00**

Please spare a couple of hours to help with the heavy work of preparing the hut for the sorting..

Small electric items need checking .Please consider coming to help check these items during the collection month so that we can be confident selling them.

Everyone who has given me their email address should have received a very useful email detailing all the times we need help and providing them with a route to let me know when they can help.

If you would like to help, or you are a parent who needs to register support, please contact me on roxana.peters@virginmedia.com for up to date information.

First Van collection is 3rd May and all hands will be welcome; **14.00 - 18.00** at the Scout Centre.

Roxana Peters
Volunteer Co-ordinator

Cub Collation

This term has seen the Cubs working towards their Environmental Conservation badge. This has included learning about recycling and sorting rubbish; investigating alternative energy sources; a visit to WRAP including constructing a robot who could eat rubbish; and going out on the Hogsback litter picking. They now need to reduce energy and increase recycling at home to complete the badge.

The Cubs also found out about Burns Night, St Patrick's Day, Founders Day and Easter with a range of activities from Ceilidh dancing to green kebabs and egg rolling to chocolate nest making.

The Cubs went swimming at Highgrove to show how good they were and then some took part in the District Swimming Gala and came second.

We had a night hike around Pinner Hill and Oxhey Woods followed by hot dogs and a film at the Scout HQ (thanks Mike and Luke for cooking) before a sleepover. They all slept well and were ready to make their own breakfast - egg banjo or more sausages. Those that had the egg fried it themselves and actually didn't make too much mess eating it in a roll. The leaders faced the challenge of packing up the pop up tents which they did in record time with the help of You Tube!

Veer still had energy on the Sunday to bring his sister and grandparents on the District Cub Hike with Akela, Raksha and their dogs. Akela had planned the walk which went from The Drive via Copsewood to the Lido and back across Poors Field. It was good afternoon helped by an improvement in the weather!

After the Easter break, the Cubs are looking forward to helping with jumble and lots of outdoor activities.

Christine Bennett
1st Northwood Cub Pack - Leader
Ruislip Eastcote Northwood

Below we see Cubs at their swimming gala, making fruit kebabs, at WRAP recycling, and litter picking.



11/03/2025



Scout Report

Scouts have been busy over the last term with many varied activities. They have spent a few evenings building bird boxes which will be going home with them once painted next term. It would be great to see photos of them up on a wall or in a tree in your gardens.

Following an evening at a local pool, we had a team attend the annual Swimming competition at Northwood College. They came a respectable second overall. It was really close and they missed first place by only two points.

The annual Chilly Goat Camp back in January was exceptionally cold this year. Those that attended had a great time.

A Night Hike from deepest darkest Hillingdon back to the hut was successfully completed by the Troop. A full report on this is found below by Eden, one of the Scouts.

Many badges have been awarded over the last term so I must apologise to all the parents for the time needed to sew them on the uniforms. If you can't get your young people to sew them on, then I am sure they appreciate you doing it for them.

Mike Bennett

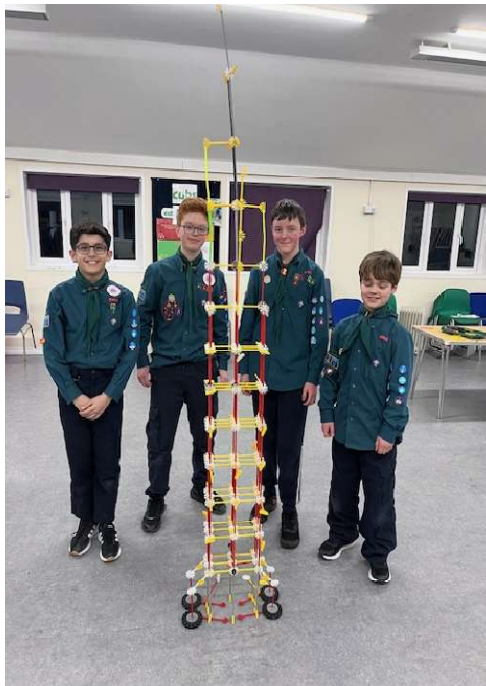
Group Lead Volunteer

Recently, I went on a night hike with my Scouts group from Hillingdon back to the 1st Northwood Scout hut. We firstly took the minibus to the location where we would start our hike. Then we split off into two groups and found where we were on the map. After that, we started walking using a series of roads and public footpaths. The route took in a variety of roadside and woodland areas. Throughout the hike, we took turns using the map to navigate ourselves back to the Scout hut and in some instances, we used a compass to figure out where we were going because we were in a field with no buildings to help us find where we were on the map. The hike took around three and a half hours and was a very good experience.

Eden Edlin

Scout

Below are Scouts displaying the result of their construction efforts and members of the Group participating in the Mother's Day service at Holy Trinity Church, Northwood.



Beaver Blog

The Beavers have been doing lots of badge work this term in the colder, wetter months. We started the term learning about Scouting history and all about the new Chief Scout, Dwayne Fields. We had a session on money skills with special guest leader Mike Bennett, two sessions each on Health and Fitness and communications, and a visit to Northwood Hills Library to complete the book reader badge. We had a creative session designing and building machines with K'nex, a delicious session cooking pancakes for pancake day and a craft session making Mother's Day cards.

Our final session of the term involved an Easter Egg Hunt on the Hogs Back. It was wonderful to be able to go outside finally in the sunny, warm weather. The Beavers could not wait to go out and run around!

Unfortunately, the usual District Ramble at Ruislip Woods was cancelled because of poor weather but we are looking forward to joining the district at camp next term.

Our first Activity Day with the current leaders went very well, with the Beavers enjoying zip wires, crate-stacking and the Nightline. The Beavers were really well behaved, showed excellent teamwork skills and were very brave!

We are extremely proud to have awarded a Chief Scout's Bronze award to Noah Robinson this term. He has worked hard to achieve all six Challenge Badges in Beavers as well as a sleeve full of activity badges. Congratulations Noah, you're a star!

Congratulations also to Parth and Yuvi who swam up to Cubs at the end of term. We know they will enjoy Cubs every bit as much as Beavers.

We would like to extend a huge thanks to Samuel Holbrook who has been an excellent young leader this term. Thanks also to all our parent helpers who have made Beavers possible. We would not be able to do it without you!

We are still looking for more leaders; please be in touch if you can help every two weeks or more.

Bluebell (Gabrielle), Hedgehog (Victoria) and Luke

Here are the Beavers crate stacking, and learning money skills, together with Noah Robinson receiving his Chief Scout's Bronze Award..



Explorer Round-up

The Spring Term has seen the Unit start preparing for the Expedition season with local hikes, map reading and 1st Aid when out and about. They also worked towards their Chief Scout Awards by progressing their community project at Hillside School - this term they have made planters and sowed seeds to (hopefully) plant out next term. We watched Touching the Void, a film about a climbing accident in the Andes used to discuss values and a talk on personal safety. Other activities have included a visit to Wealdstone Football Club to watch a mid-week game against Tamworth; pancake cooking; an Egg Challenge (how far would it travel with their structures/creations); and a visit to Harrowall for some climbing.

Alongside all of the weekly activities, eighteen of the unit attended the February Freezer camp at PACCAR enjoying a range of activities and some downtime from school work. It wasn't too cold this year so they didn't mind queuing for some of the activities which ranged from the usual High Ropes, Archery and Zip Wire to Clay Pigeon Shooting and Digger driving.

On a mild March Saturday, forty of us made our way into central London for the annual Monopoly Run - Doug has provided a report on this later in the newsletter.

As we approach Easter, we have twenty members preparing to take part in Silver Duke of Edinburgh practice or assessed expeditions over the Easter weekend in the Peak District and around thirty mixed Explorers and older Scouts getting ready for their Bronze expedition next term.

Christine Bennett
Poindextor ESU - Leader

Below are the Explorers hearing about personal safety



Explorers' Monopoly Run 2025

It's that time of year again for Scouting to take over central London to play a massive Monopoly game, around eight thousand took part across multiple games.

The game follows the traditional rules but with a twist: instead of a board, you're walking, taking buses, or using the tube to visit properties. You start with a set amount of money and a list of properties to buy. If someone else owns a property, you pay rent. At the end, you're fined for any properties you missed. Extra funds can be earned by completing the quiz on British Sweets, submitting photos for team challenges like the "photo with fresh fruit below" and visiting Free Parking.

After meeting at Northwood Tube Station we made our way to this year's start in Regent's Park (one of three possible starting points). We had four Explorer teams and one leader team. Each set off for the day, travelling by foot, bus, and tube. The Leaders included the important things, stopping for coffee at an Italian café and lunch with a view of the Thames. Not surprisingly, we quickly found ourselves paying more rent than buying properties although we were lucky with some stations and Water Works.

The weather was warm, so the Leaders walked most of the day (about 28km!) but opted for the Tube at the end, hopping on and off to collect some stations before meeting the Explorers to hear about their day as we travelled back to Northwood.

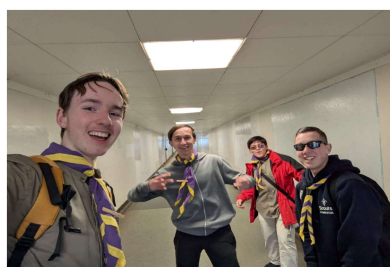
It was a fun day exploring London and playing this massive game of Monopoly.

Doug Horgan

Assistant Explorer Scout Leader



01/03/2025



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