

# 1ST SANDLEHEATH SEA SCOUT GROUP



# WATERLINES

April 2001

*AGM Edition*

## LOTTERY GRANT APPLICATION

## APPROVED

*We've done it!*

The National Lotteries Charities Board have agreed to give us the fantastic sum of £397,191 to cover the complete costs of design and building a new Scout Headquarters in Sandleheath.

Full details of the grant and what it covers will be available at the AGM on Monday 14th June (St. Aldhelms Church at 7:30pm).

Matthew Collings & Krysia Chambers -  
New HQ Committee



**The old H.Q. - abandoned at the end of last year**

## Secretary's Report

Having now completed my first full year as Secretary I wish to thank all of you out there in 'Scoutingland' for your support along the way. I can only look back in total admiration at those of you who make it happen week in, week out. For my part the past twelve months have also been hectic. Two particular events highlight the different experiences I have encountered during the past term.

One cold and wet December weekend I found myself knee deep in mud chasing Peter Ings around his farm, with his dog not far behind me (thinking to myself, Ros never mentioned anything about ground manoeuvres when I took the job). Once I had tracked down Mr Ings we proceeded to the Old HQ for the formalities of handing over the building. It was a strange

experience handing over the keys, and yes I do know those of you who still have one, I could only imagine what this old building must have seen throughout its many years of service to the Group. I have to say that it was a pretty unceremonious end.

On the other hand the Groups participation in the Sandleheath Parish Council's Millennium picnic proved a thoroughly enjoyable experience for me. This I believe was mainly due to the fact that I was able to spend some time actually assisting with organising and helping on the day. The Sandleheath Millennium experience, as I now call it, reminded me once again that the more you put into something the more you get out!

I look forward to meeting you all at the AGM.

Nick Bunt - Group Secretary

# G.S.L.'s Report

It has been yet another difficult year for the Leaders at Sandleheath. Last autumn we finally abandoned the old HQ at Courtwood Farm, moved all the equipment into store and found ourselves temporary homes. Our thanks to Fordingbridge Scout Group who have helped to make both Cubs and Scouts welcome in their HQ. Beavers meet in Sandleheath Methodist Church and Ventures in various people's homes. Whatever equipment is needed week by week has to be kept and moved about by the leaders. However most equipment is not easily accessible, so we have been running using begged, borrowed or improvised equipment.

Matthew Collings and Krysia Chambers toiled endlessly on the Lottery Application. As we await the result of this I feel we must congratulate them on such an excellent and comprehensive application, regardless of the outcome.

Despite the problems the scouting continues and the highlight of the year was the presentation at the Mayflower Terminal of Chief Scout's Awards. Six of our scouts had achieved this accolade and were a great credit to us. Well done Helen Young, Jo Bailey, Sophie Chambers, Nick Mowbray, Richard Savage and Sally White. Our Group received many congratulations as Sandleheath scarves predominated.

Our Scouts and Venture Scouts once again showed their sailing skills at the Blashford Regatta, but unfortunately the Marchwood Regatta was cancelled due to the petrol crisis.

This year the main Regatta is due to be held at Blashford in June and the sailing Regatta will be at Marchwood in September.

The Scouts won the Scout section of the New Forest South Night Hike (SALLIE), the New Forest West Incident Hike (Pat Cross Trophy), The District Foot-

ball and the Harry Law Trophy (for First Aid). Not bad!! They had an excellent summer camp in Devon too.

I would like to thank all our Leaders for putting up with the difficult circumstances. However I am sure they would all agree that we could not manage without the help of our young Leaders and helpers. Helen Young and Philippa Morris in Beavers, Sam Bennett, Ian Jacobs and James Hunt in Cubs, Claire Ritchie, Stephen White, Tom Chase, Geoffrey White and Martin Whitmarsh in Scouts. I am sure that when we start the sailing season that will be added to (Jo Bailey, Sophie Chambers, Nick Mowbray, Richard Savage, Adam Marsh, Sally White - we need you!).

Thanks to everyone who has helped us over the last year, especially the Warranted Leaders, section helpers, the Water Activities Leaders, the Executive Committee and Caroline Morris and the Fund raising team.

We look forward to an even better year next year!

Ros White - Group Scout Leader



**Sandleheath Scouts winning the Harry Law Trophy at the District First Aid Competition**



**The Scout Troop on Camp**

# The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Back in November 2000 a group of Scouts and Ventures went to a presentation at Fordingbridge Scout Hut by Ian Greig, SW Hants D. of E. co-ordinator for the Scout Association. He told them all about the Award and explained how they could join.

Since that meeting three Ventures have re-registered, after having started the Award at School and elsewhere and five scouts and Ventures have registered at Bronze and Silver levels. Also we have two other scouts who are just waiting for their 14th birthday to arrive so they can get started too.

What is the Award you ask? I'll tell you what it is; it's finally mastering a classic calypso tune on a steel drum; it's spending a weekend cycling across the country with a bunch of mates - and surviving to tell the tale; it's freezing your delicate bits off in a tent in North Wales after walking cross country all day.

But these are just examples, the Award is pretty much whatever you want it to be. Anyone between the ages of 14 and 25 can do it and the way it's set up means you can personalise it to suit your interests. There are three levels to the Award, Bronze, Silver and Gold and you can choose the level which best suits you.

It's a great way to learn new stuff and hook up with people you've never met. It can be a lot of fun, but equally, a lot of hard work. One thing's for sure; if you do the Award you'll really feel like you've achieved something. You'll also probably need a few months to recover! Basically how you go about doing your Award is completely up to you. You design your own programme but if you need any help, we have people you can call on for a bit of advice.

Just to show you how it works here's the time line for a Bronze Award (you have to be at least 14 to do this):

<b>Service</b>	3 months
<b>Skills</b>	3 months
<b>Physical Recreation</b>	3 months
<b>Expeditions</b>	Plan, prepare for and undertake a 2 day, 1 night venture

All participants must undertake a further 3 months in either the Service, Skills or Physical Recreation Section - so it takes at least 6 months to do the Award

at Bronze level.

The award is:

- Non-competitive - a personal challenge, not a competition
- Available to all - anyone can do it!
- Voluntary - it's up to you what you do - it's your leisure time
- Flexible - your programme is designed by you for you
- Balanced - it will stretch you in all directions
- Progressive - you improve at your own pace
- Achievement focused - you cant fail!
- Marathon not a sprint - it takes more than a short burst of enthusiasm
- Personal Development - it's the taking part that matters: getting an Award is the icing on the cake
- Enjoyable - it's about getting out there and having fun!

We're setting up a team of people to help you take part in the Award and decide what you want to do and this will include instructors who can teach you skills. You may decide you want to use the skills you learn for your Scout badges towards the Award and we can help you to organise this too.

Why don't you join the others already registered and have some fun! The basic starting price is £8.50 which includes your entrance pack, a series of special offers on cameras, maps, youth hostelling etc, I/D card, CD ROM about the Award plus the record book for the level you wish to start with. If you want to visit the web site it's <http://www.theaward.org/>.

For more information contact me on 01725 510397, e-mail [pat.savage@vizzavi.net](mailto:pat.savage@vizzavi.net).

Pat Savage - D. of E. Co-ordinator



# Beaver Report

“One, two, three!” the Beavers shouted, their faces getting slightly pink. “Who are we!” they bellowed, pushing their rosy faces into the misshapen horseshoe arrangement that they had been standing in. “We are the Beavers, can’t you see!” they exclaimed as the roof of the Methodist Church Hall started to gradually lift. By now some of the older Beavers were swaying forward as they forced the words like hot bullets into the charged air. But this, of course, was only the beginning. Veterans of the Beavers traditional closing ceremony know how the chant explodes into an ear splitting call of group unity. Newcomers stare intently at the lips of older Beavers hoping that they can see how to spell ‘Beaver’ correctly. “B E A, V E R, we are the Beavers Ra! Ra! Ra!” Beavers collapse in vocal exhaustion and the roof settles back down with a comforting thump.

Whilst our closing ceremony is ‘traditional’ we try to mix our programmes with a range of new and old games and activities. These last few months have seen us venturing out in the dark to explore the mysteries of Sandleheath common on a wonderfully moonlit night, having a guided tour of St Mary’s church led by Rev Tim Daykin. We have also enjoyed making (and eating) decorated biscuits, starting to create newspaper monsters and playing a number of team and individual games.

The Methodist Church Hall is really too small for our band of Beavers and it does prevent us doing some activities. On the other hand it is great to have safe and convenient heating during those dark frosty winter nights, clean and functioning toilets and a kitchen where food can be prepared hygienically.

Thanks as usual must go to Assistant Beaver Leader, Jo Young as well as Phillipa Morris, our regular helper. We are always grateful for additional help and ideas. If you have a talent or skill to show the Beavers please do step forward - the Beavers are *always* excited to have ‘visitors’.

And so we look forward to the warmer and drier summer months, of fun in the field and sailing down at Spinnaker. But a word of warning to the faint-hearted, the Beavers call out their closing chant even louder when out of doors!

Nigel Hall - Beaver Leader

# Cub Report

It is now a year since I took over from Jon as Akela. I have enjoyed the year and hopefully the cubs have too!

Highlights have been our visit to Ringwood Police Station, where we were all fingerprinted, shut in the cells and surprisingly released again. The ever-popular bowling and laser quest. District camp, even though the weather was unkind. Summer camp, where the weather was glorious and we baked ourselves as well as the marshmallows. A couple of visits to Spinnaker, and a Chinese New Year celebration including dragon dancing and fireworks.

We have done a lot of badge work including: Astronomers, Road Safety, Collectors, Communicator, Map Reader, Music, Athlete, Community and Naturalist.

We currently have a full pack of 24 cubs and are looking forward to getting back out into the field next term for more fun and adventure.

I would like to thank Ian Jacobs, Sam Bennett and James Hunt for all their help, I could not have managed without them and I hope they will be able to fit us in from time to time next term. Also thanks to Debbie Beer, who has been a mainstay.

If there are any Scouts or Ventures who would be interested in helping out with the cubs, they will be very warmly welcomed.

Hester Hammond - Cub Leader



# Scout Report

This year has been a successful one for the Scout Troop, our numbers have remained at maximum, with the usual long waiting list. We have taken part in many district and group events, with winning teams in the football & first aid competition and the first Scout team in the SALLIE night hike. Summer camp, in Brenden, North Devon was thoroughly enjoyed by the 20 Scouts and the leaders that went. We had days sailing, cycling and canoeing, with some long and short hikes, and evening activities that included swimming, wide games, blindfold trail and a low ropes course. Unfortunately due to the Foot & Mouth problems, this year's Summer camp has not been confirmed yet. This Winter we have been meeting in Fordingbridge Scout HQ, not an ideal situation for us, it is difficult to get at any of our Group equipment, and without our own premises everything has to be taken with us, and cleaned away each Thursday. However Fordingbridge have been very helpful lending us the HQ and some of their resources, without them we would not have managed at all.

Our Scouts have gained many badges between them this year, our enforced confinement in the HQ this Winter has allowed us to catch up on some badge work - special mention of course goes to those older Scouts who gained their Chief Scout Awards last year, well done!

We have tried to plan a varied and active programme throughout the year, and hopefully the Scouts have enjoyed and benefited from the variety of activities on offer. If there are any parents or friends with a skill to offer and a couple of hours spare time we would be delighted to hear from you! We are hoping to recommence water activities at Spinnaker in May, at the time of writing the sailing club is shut, due to the Foot & Mouth, but hopefully it will be open soon, and we look forward to another varied and successful year.

Sue Chase - Assistant Scout Leader

**Scout Sailing  
during Summer camp 2000**

# Venture Unit Report

I'm going to start by mentioning the Ventures' most recent fund-raiser - yet another of our Quiz Nights. A good night was had by all and thanks have to go to everyone that took part as well as those that organised it. With the Ventures expanding all the time and more people than ever now on the books it is good to see a regular large number of people turning up to meetings. The programme this term has been varied, with everyone getting involved and taking their turn at organising an evening. We are always on the lookout for new members though, so if you know anyone that may be interested then please ask them to get in touch.

The Ventures would also like to congratulate the group on the lottery funding and are looking forward to having a fixed base - I'm sure the Venture parents would also be glad not to have their houses invaded on a Friday evening anymore!

Finally, as always, a thank-you must go to Steve for putting up with us time and time again - we really don't know how you manage it!

Karen Pickering - V.S.U. Vice Chairman



# Gift Aid - Great News!

Taxation rules have dramatically changed enabling the Scout Group to more easily claim back tax on membership subscriptions and donations. Until the start of the last tax year (5th April 2000) the only way of claiming back tax was through Deed of Covenant. Parents/Guardians of scouts were reluctant to sign a legal document which theoretically committed them to making payments for a minimum four year period. THINGS HAVE CHANGED. Parents/Guardians no longer have to make a legal commitment. All they now need to do is to provide the Scout Group with a Gift Aid Declaration. This is a straight forward form which the Scout Group will circulate after we have the scheme agreed with the Inland Revenue. The great thing is that this one declaration (or certificate) will cover all membership subscriptions regardless of how many years their children remain in the group.

The financial benefit to the Scout Group is staggering! If the subscription is £60 per year, it is really worth £76.92 to the group if we reclaim the tax back, an increase of £16.92 to the Group's funds!!!!!! This is equal to a increase in subscriptions of 28%, just for getting our forms in order. We can also claim tax on subscriptions paid since April 2000, backdate a whole year.

Even fund-raising proceeds can have tax reclaimed so long as a declaration has been signed by the person(s) donating funds.

The only proviso is that person signing the declaration must have paid at least the amount of tax being reclaimed on his/her income during the tax year in question.

The next step is to get approval by the Inland Revenue and set up an internal process to manage the recording procedures. Then we will circulate the declaration form to all parents. There is no catch! No hidden agenda!

Watch out for the forms in due course. Read the instructions forwarded, complete the declarations promptly and return them as requested on the accompanying letter.

I will be happy to answer any questions on this scheme at the AGM.

Jim Mowbray - Group Treasurer

# Editorial

Well here we are, the A.G.M. Edition of Waterlines (although the A.G.M. itself is still a few weeks away). I'd like to thank everyone who made the effort to get reports in on time, or very nearly on time, to enable me to get it out of the way so I can concentrate on revision.

The news about the lottery grant is great (even if technically it was one of the things to miss the deadline) - and I look forward to seeing the building in due course. If you want to get more information about the project then please go to the A.G.M. (there's an incentive if none other) since I haven't had time to gather the information together to publish here. Furthermore Matthew, Krysia, Ros, and many other people have been working very hard behind the scenes to bring this building from a dream to a reality, so please go along to show your appreciation for the work they have done.

The traditional publication date for the next edition of Waterlines is just after the Marchwood Regatta, however again I expect life to be fairly busy then (starting work, if I'm lucky I might have a house too) so I'm setting the **deadline for reports as Sunday, 2nd September**. I will be working for a fairly small computing company in Oxford, which is good news - especially since I avoid working in London!

Stephen White - Waterlines Editor



# Press Release

*Hot off the press ...* the Group has just issued an official press release about the money received from the lottery. There isn't room to print the whole thing here, but if you want to read it you can find it on the Group Website at <http://www.ox.compsoc.net/swhite/scouts/apr-press.html>

# Group Programme - 2001

## **May**

Thursday, 3rd	<i>Scouts</i> weekly meetings move to Spinnaker Sailing Club
Saturday 5th - Sunday 6th	<i>Scouts</i> Camping Weekend
Monday 14th	Group AGM - St. Aldhelms Church, 7:30pm
Friday 18th - Sunday 20th	<i>Cubs</i> District Cub Camp
Saturday 19th,	<i>Cubs</i> Junior Eggo
Saturday, 19th	First Response Course (Romsey)
Monday, 21st	District Executive
Saturday, 26th	District Plant Sale

## **June**

Saturday 16th	Group Regatta & Barbecue
Saturday 16th - Sunday 17th	<i>Scouts</i> Shobley (camping) Trophy (Bagger's Wood 10:00am)
Friday, 29th - 1st July	<i>Ventures</i> County Trek Cart
Saturday, 30th	<i>Scouts &amp; Ventures</i> Solent Scout Regatta at Blashford

## **July**

Tuesday 3rd	Beaver Water Activities (Spinnaker, 6pm)
Tuesday 10th	Cub Water Activities (Spinnaker, 6:30pm)
Saturday 28th - 4th August	<i>Scouts</i> Summer Camp

## **August**

Saturday 4th - Saturday 11th	<i>Ventures</i> Hampshire Venture 3
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## **September**

Tuesday, 11th	Cub Water Activities (Spinnaker, 6:30pm)
Friday, 14th - Sunday 16th	County Emlyn Camping Competition
Sunday, 16th	<i>Scouts &amp; Ventures</i> Solent Marchwood Sailing Regatta
Tuesday, 18th	Beaver Water Activities (Spinnaker, 6pm)
Sunday, 30th	First Response Course (New Forest)

## **October**

## **November**

Saturday, 10th	District Cub Swimming Gala
Saturday, 17th	First Response Course (Romsey)
Saturday, 17th	County Cub Scout Handicraft Competition

## **December**

Monday, 3rd	District Carol Service
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## **Waterlines, AGM 2001**

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## Useful Phone Numbers & Addresses

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