

Akela says...



Hi everyone, I hope you are all well.

What a busy time we have had recently in both Cubs & Scouts. The Athletics Badge was first up for Cubs. Well done to all the Cubs who attended, all gained their badge.

The Incident Hike was next. Well done to the Scouts who took part, they came 3rd in both trophies.

Chartermark was next and Teabag went to collect our certificate for improving our numbers.

Next was Cub Camp. The weather was not brilliant but the Cubs who attended gained the Naturalist Badge and their Outdoor Challenge. Well done.

Then we had the Hike Camp. Carrying full kit, tent, cooking stuff etc. Well done to the 11 Scouts who managed to complete the hiking challenge and part of their Hikers Badge. Well done to the 5 Explorers who joined us.

June seems to be another busy month for all sections.

That's it from me, take care

Akela

August Activities for Scouts

8th August Ice Skating, Pizza Hut and Cinema
 15th August Swimming in the evening

Letters will be handed out soon. See Amy, Chloe or Daniel for details.

Cub Camp

Cub Camp was much wetter than previous years with even some rather heavy hailstones on the Monday. However this didn't stop the Cubs getting out and learning about insects, birds, trees, flowers, doing pond dipping, fire lighting, orienteering, treasure hunting, knotting and packing a lot of other games and activities.

All the Cubs who came had a great time and earned their Naturalist Badge and their Outdoor Challenge, as well as another 3 nights towards their Nights Away Badge.

Pack Holiday in August is set to be brilliant fun too and places are limited so if you have not already booked your place speak to Akela as soon as possible. The theme for this year is Reality TV and we some have some excellent activities and ideas lined up.

Scouts - www.scouts.org.uk
 District Website - www.barking-dagenham-scouts.org.uk

Scoutbase - www.scoutbase.org.uk
 Scouting Resources - www.scoutingresources.org.uk

County - www.gln-scouts.org.uk
 Scouting Resources - www.scoutingresources.org.uk

Mr T. (Group Scout Leader)
 Ken Thompson

Dagenham

Tel:

'Akela' (Cub/Scout)
 Rosemary Oakwell

Dagenham

Home Tel:

'Baggy' (Cub/Scout)
 Darren Dowling

Dagenham

Mobile:

baggy@scoutingresources.org.uk

'Gaz' (Beaver)
 Gary Collins

Mobile:

Julie (Beaver)
 Julie Morley

Mobile:

Leigh (Beaver)
 Leigh Bradford

Mobile:



Beavers & Cubs

Sunday 11th June Birthday Party

Gilwell Park
See T for details of coach pick up

Cubs & Scouts

24th June Sports Day

Mayesbrook Arena
9:30 for 10:00 a.m. start
Speak to a leader for details

Scouts

8/9th July Camping Competition

Hargreaves Campsite
Open to Scouts of all ages and abilities
Speak to Baggy for details

All Sections

Saturday 10th June 5-a-side Football

M&B Sports Ground
9 for 9:30 kick off

Hike Camp



We started in the hall at 10:00 p.m. with a quick gear check and a swift weighing of rucksacks. After essential items had been distributed we set off on our first leg (roughly 3 miles) to Hargreaves campsite. We made it in an excellent time of one hour and the group pitched tents and stowed gear with no fuss. Some of us stayed up for an hour or so in the hope of getting a cup of tea. Morning came and the Scouts awoke and cooked breakfast for the first time on the Trangias. They even managed to get all their gear back in their rucksacks. We then set off on our second leg to Chigwell Campsite (roughly 4 miles). We did have to stop once in the country park to have a quick rest and to negotiate a rather small gate set up. Watching us getting stuck or climbing over would give anyone a chuckle. We rolled up at Chigwell site only to be told the site was swimming in mud and full of people. While the guide leaders dithered we all stood around in our rucksacks feeling a little tired. Eventually we were allocated a site and lets just say I had more mud on the bottom of my boots than in the entire site. Guides! They don't know what mud is!. We stayed at Chigwell for over a day just relaxing. The Scouts got a chance to go shopping (although they still didn't buy some items they needed like washing up gear) and also took their turn on the axe, knife and saw and fire lighting bases. The assault course also seemed popular. The leaders meanwhile found a rather nice bakery and Chinese and had traditional camp food for every meal. On the Thursday one of the young crew asked if we had anyone spare, hence the reason why she had lots of volunteers to help clean the pedal karts (of course they had to test them out afterwards too). Come 4:00 p.m. we loaded up and headed off on our longest leg towards Crow Camp. We started with a nice pleasant walk through the country park and the middle of a golf course. Then however we hit the mother of all muddy paths. Balancing on an inch of grass by a barbed wire fence with a heavy load on your back threatening to pull you into foot deep mud churned up with horses spare bits was fun. The path took a long while for all our group along with some dicey moments. We then had a quick rest. It was clear by then that some of the group were struggling so we redistributed some of their stuff into the leaders rucksacks. Another mile to Havering-atte-Bower saw a couple of Scouts lag behind even more so we called in T bag to take Akela and three Scouts straight to Crow. The rest of us made our way across a long stretch over footpaths that didn't quite match the map and through fields of galloping and nudging horses. Another few hours saw us emerge, tired, on the Noak Hill road with a short walk up to Crow Camp. Those that did the complete route walked for 4 hours with just a single proper stop and covered at least 8.5 miles. It was now getting dark so the leaders decided to get a fish and chip

Deadlines



If you want to be involved in the following events you MUST express your interest or return your deposit/form by the following dates:

Survival & Fun Camp - Scouts & Explorers

Saturday 29th July 2006 to Saturday 5th August 2006
See Akela or Baggy before 20th June

Activity Day - Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorers

Saturday 5th August 2006
See Akela or Baggy before 20th June

August Pack Holiday

19th - 26th August
Deposit and form by Tuesday 6th June

supper for everyone rather than the original plan of taking them shopping. We also decided to walk the last leg on Friday without our rucksacks so that everyone could join in (although we didn't tell them that until the last minute). The last leg was actually 5.5 miles and I am glad we didn't have our rucksacks as some of the country lanes had some rather sharp blind bends and blind hills and I had to continuously rove ahead and slow the traffic down. Eventually we hit Brentwood High Street and spent an hour and a quarter shopping and eating! Once into Thriftwood we set up camp for the last time and relaxed. The Scouts were free to do their own thing and some booked up activities. On Saturday we all had an air rifle shooting competition before we finally packed up camp and headed home in the afternoon.

All those Scouts and Explorers who came did very very well considering that this was (for most of them) the first time they had hiked any decent distance let alone having to hike and carry everything they needed. Well done to you all.

Perhaps when we next do our hike you will have a better understanding of what to take and what NOT to take..

In total they walked around 20 miles over the course of the week.