



FirstNews New Year 2015

Group Scout Leader / Chairman's Report

From all the Leaders and Executive Committee members at 1st Wokingham we hope you had a thoroughly enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

2014 was a great year for our scout group with all sections enjoying fun and very fulfilling programs. We would personally like to thank all the section leaders, assistant leaders, young leaders and occasional helpers for their hard work and dedication. In addition we would like to thank all of our executive members for their continued support of our group.

The group is in very good health aided by some fabulous fund raising events during 2014, all making record amounts for our group. These events could not have been successful without the help of you our young people and parents so a big thanks to you all.

One area that has not been well supported during the past year is cleaning of the hut. This needs to be done regularly so that the children always have a safe and clean environment to develop in. Please look at the schedule below and let Keith know if you can do one on the sessions. It takes a maximum of 2 hours on a Saturday or Sunday at a time to suit you.

Now that 2015 has arrived, each section is preparing for the new term and looking forward to welcoming the children back. Please have a read of this newsletter, which contains a few reminders and announcements, and if you can offer any help, ideas or suggestions they are always welcome.

Wishing you a happy and prosperous Scouting in 2015.
Darren, Shane and all at 1st Wokingham

Start of Spring Terms

Please note that the first meeting of the spring term for the various sections is:

Beavers	Tuesday	13 th January
Cubs	Wednesday	14 th January
Scouts	Tuesday	13 th January

Save the Date

Please save the following dates, more information can be found at the [events calendar](#) .

Monday	4th May	Wokingham Town May Fayre
Sunday	29th November	Wokingham Town Winter Carnival

We had great days at the Wokingham May Fayre and Winter Carnival this year, the weather was good for both events and there was a big turn out. These fund raising efforts are a major source of income, which means we can maintain our great facilities and keep subscriptions down. Thank you so much to all the helpers we could not have done it without you.

Latest News

The web site <http://firstwokingham.org.uk> has been updated as follows:

Beaver and Cub detailed programmes for spring term posted.

See [Beaver Programme](#) and [Cub Programme](#)

Scout dates for spring term posted. [Scout dates](#)

Pictures added from:

Beavers see [Christmas crafts](#)

Beavers see [Christmas Party](#)

Group see [Group at Wokingham Armistice Parade](#)

Beavers see [Den building at The Lookout](#)

Beavers see [Pond dipping at Dinton Pastures](#):

Facebook

The group now has a Facebook page that has been set up as a closed group so only members of the group will be able to access it. We will put reminders of events and useful information on it but the bulk of information will stay on the web site (www.firstwokingham.org.uk).

If you would like to access the Facebook page then please email info@firstwokingham.org.uk and we will arrange for an invite to be sent to you.

Termly Subscriptions

Payment is due at or before the first meeting of each term as this ensures that your child is insured and also helps with our banking. If there is any problem with payment, please contact us so that we can discuss other arrangements.

Our preferred method of payment is by online banking (details on Subs Request letter). Any other payment by cheque or cash should be deposited in the box on the wall inside the main hall doors attached to an information slip with the name of the child and his/her section. Other payments may also be made by these methods if full information is attached. For security reasons the box will be emptied at the end of each session.

For payments from January 2014, we will be registered to claim back Gift Aid on subscription payments. Forms will be going out with the subs request letters and we ask that you look out for these and return them as soon as possible.

Hut Cleaning Help

Whilst the main hall gets a clean after some section meetings the whole hut does need a proper clean about every four weeks. It takes two people about 1 1/2 hours to clean the hut.

We need a minimum of two adults (over 18 years), but more people will speed up the process. Also you can volunteer for more than 1 session!

The hut will be available for cleaning all day on Saturday, all day the following Sunday.

For 2015 the cleaning sessions that we are seeking volunteers for are:

Cleaning Session	Saturday	Sunday	Response so far
1	10 Jan		Volunteers found
2	14 Feb	15 Feb	Help Please
3	21 Mar	22 Mar	Help Please
4	Apr	Apr	Not being Cleaned
5	16 May	17 May	Help Please
6	20 Jun	21 Jun	Help Please
7	18 Jul	19 Jul	Volunteers found
8	Aug	Aug	Not being Cleaned
9	5 Sep	6 Sep	Help Please
10	10 Oct	11 Oct	Help Please
11	14 Nov	15 Nov	Help Please
12	Dec	Dec	Not being Cleaned

If you can help us the please contact Keith Winter via email at keith@firstwokingham.org.uk or telephone on 0118 978 8518 and state:

- which session you can do, which day and start time you prefer, and the names of people

Keith will then ensure that the hut is reserved for that day/time and generate the rota.

We will of course ensure that the keys to the hut are available at the time you need them and all cleaning materials you will need are ready for you.

Please look at your diaries and volunteer.

Thanks in advance

Keith Winter

Vandalism and Anti Social Behaviour

Please can we ask anybody who sees acts of vandalism or antisocial behaviour at the hut to report to the police and get an incident number. Send incident numbers to Keith Winter via <http://www.firstwokingham.org.uk/contact/> who will keep a record.

The police non-emergency number is 101 and the hut address is

1st Wokingham Scout Hut

Redlands Farm Park

Evendons Lane
Wokingham
RG41 4DX

Newsletter Input or Comments

If you wish to submit material for the next edition of the newsletter, or have any comments about this newsletter then please contact the Editor at firstnews@firstwokingham.org.uk