



# Wargrave Woggle

## Forthcoming events

12 <sup>th</sup> June	Wargrave 10K – water station manned by Scout Group
25 <sup>th</sup> June	Wargrave Parade and Fete – Scout Group tea tent
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Social event – Pig Roast at Wargrave Rec.

## Committee News

This year saw some significant changes to the committee at the AGM. After 6 years of chairing the committee, Tina Oty has stepped down this year, and so I have taken on this role. Wendy Dowling is the new secretary taking over from Jenny Simpson. Our thanks go to both Tina and Jenny for all their hard work over the past few years. Both Janet Moseley and Pennie Withers continue in their roles as treasurer and membership secretary, respectively.

Peter Fry and Nigel Board are going to act as Assistant Group Scout leaders (GSLs) this year, with the plan that Bill Bookless will stand down from the role of GSL at the next AGM in 2012 and Peter will take over. Nigel will still retain his current role of Scout Troop Leader, in addition to Assistant GSL. Peter will also be our Quartermaster, taking over from Matt Warms.

Earlier this year, Wendy had also taken on administration for CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) checks. Since we run parent helper rotas for all the Beaver and Cub packs, all parents need to fill in one of these forms. Katie Blades has taken over the Scout Hut bookings from me and can be contacted on 940 3119. We also welcomed 2 new members to the committee at the AGM; Lesley Thomas and Julie Wheals.

Chair	Helen Vonka	940 1139
Secretary	Wendy Dowling	940 6460
Treasurer	Janet Moseley	940 3254
Subscriptions/2nd hand uniform	Pennie Withers	940 6037
Quartermaster	Peter Fry	940 1134
Scout Hut Hire	Katie Blades	940 3119
Exec Member	Matthew Gingell	940 1662
Exec Member	Mairead Duke	940 2510
Exec Member	Jackie Colvin	940 1768
Exec Member	Lesley Thomas	934 2810
Exec Member	Julie Wheals	01628 825087
Exec Member	Bruce Glasby	940 1504
Group Scout Leader	Bill Bookless	940 4441
Scout Leader	Nigel Board	934 4390
Cub Scout Leader - Pumas (Tues)	Jon Black	940 1749
Cub Scout Leader - Wildcats (Thurs)	Simon Smith	940 6110
Beaver Scout Leader - Lumberjacks	Jane Austen	940 3038
Beaver Scout Leader - Woodchucks	Paul Worthington	940 6599

Each of the Beaver, Cub and Scout Leaders produce reports on their year's activities for the AGM. They are attached to the end of this Woggle for your interest.

## Wargrave Festival – Scout Group Tea Tent –Help Needed

As is customary, the Scout Group will be running the tea tent on Fete Day (Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June). We need cakes to be provided by as many families as possible and also parents to serve hot drinks/cakes during the afternoon. The Cub Scouts are traditionally the waiters. Please contact Mairead Duke on 940 2510. (Email [maireadduke@mac.com](mailto:maireadduke@mac.com)). It really is an important event for the Scouts, both in serving the community and as a fundraiser. The Scout group will also be taking part in the Parade on Fete Day and we will also be manning the first (and last) water station on the 10K route on 12<sup>th</sup> June. As in previous years this will be a good opportunity to raise the Scout Group's profile in the community, as well as a lot of fun for those involved.

## Subscriptions

The price of subs has remained the same since 2007 while costs have been rising, so unfortunately as from September we must increase subs to £30 per term. If you pay before the end of September you will get a £2 discount on this to £28. Please send all subs to Pennie Withers 20 Langhams Way, Wargrave tel no 940 6037. (Email [charlie.pennie@btinternet.com](mailto:charlie.pennie@btinternet.com)).

## Uniform

Uniform is available from the Scout hut at Addington School in Loddon Bridge Road, Woodley, however you may want to check with Pennie Withers on 940 6037 if there is any second hand available before you buy new. If anyone has any old uniform they would like to donate for selling for Scout funds please leave it in the Wargrave Scout hut in a bag labeled for the attention of Pennie with your name and phone number.

The dark green "1<sup>st</sup> Wargrave" polo shirts are uniform for Beavers and Cubs and optional for Scouts. They are available from the scout hut for £10, please pay your leader.

## Hire of hut

The Scout Hut is available to be hired out to people in the village, eg for birthday parties, at £10/hour (2 hour min). The hut has a fully equipped kitchen, trestle tables, chairs, etc. Contact Katie Blades on 940 3119, for more information (Email [home@bladesfamily.me.uk](mailto:home@bladesfamily.me.uk))

## Easter Egg hunt

A very successful Easter Egg hunt was organized by members of the Executive Committee in the run-up to Easter. Many families, with children in the Scout group and others from around the village enjoyed the afternoon's activities followed by a tea at the hut. We hope to make this an annual event. Well done to Edward and Wendy Fry who were the winners this year.



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**Helen Vonka**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Wargrave Scout Executive committee**



The reports produced for the AGM from the various groups are attached here for your interest.

**1<sup>st</sup> Wargrave Scout Group**  
**Lumberjack Beaver Colony**  
**Annual Report - 2011**

The Lumberjack Beaver Colony continues and remains a strong, united, and vibrant colony with the current registration roll containing fifteen young people. We have our first girl beaver who has fitted into the colony very well and is thoroughly enjoying the experience.

As usual the Lumberjacks activities during this year have been varied and great fun. We have made lots of things, played many games, but the favourite activities still involve making things to eat whether iced biscuits or silly sandwiches.

We held our annual spooky walk through Wargrave in the dark – ending up at the Church on Mill Green where we scoffed hot sausages and drank warm juice.

With the help of Mole we have had some exciting science programmes to gain our science badges.

At Christmas time we brought in a huge pile of presents for the under-privileged children. It was great fun wrapping the presents and writing messages on the labels. We had a great Christmas party and Father Christmas took time off from his very busy schedule to drop in and chat with us; and he distributed presents to one and all.

One of the best evenings we enjoyed was a pancake evening with a pancake tossing race and then decorated pancakes to eat. We had a Chinese evening trying to pick up smarties with chopsticks and playing Chinese whispers. Our Vicar's wife Camilla came to visit and tell us about the raindrop project at the church to raise funds for water wells in Africa.

We had our 22<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Party at the Seven Stars and had lots of fun playing skittles. It was very competitive between the lodges; and we enjoyed a wonderful Birthday tea made by Heron.

As summer term approaches we focus on the “out” in Scouting.

We went up to Bowsey Woods this evening following a flour trail and some exploring. We also plan to go swimming, have a football evening and some more visits to the woods, finishing traditionally with the water evening and lots of water bombs.

Many thanks to Grace and Abby our two Duke of Edinburgh Award girls who have been a wonderful help and hopefully will stay with us for a while. Thanks also to the parents on our parent rota. We hope you enjoy your visits the Lumberjacks on a Wednesday evening.

Aslan, Otter and Heron

**1<sup>st</sup> Wargrave Scout Group**  
**Woodchuck Beaver Colony**  
**Annual Report - 2011**

The Woodchuck Beaver Colony has had a great year

Last summer term we managed to complete our outdoor challenge badge and healthy eating badge. We had several excursions to Bowsey woods to explore, a trip to Bix nature reserve, a picnic outing to Henley and a swimming evening with BBQ and lots of sausages!

In the Autumn terms and darker nights we moved inside and worked on our creative challenge badge and our safety activity badge, the highlight of the term was a trip to Wargrave fire station where the boys go to go in the fire engine and try on all the firemen's uniforms!

The Spring term saw us working on our global challenge badge and we learned about different cultures and countries around the world via role play. We once again joined in fair-trade fortnight with the usual games and quizzes, the boys also enjoyed to

a spooky walk around the recreation ground in January, which made them quiet for a short while! In spring we had two boys swimming up to Cubs who were both replaced.

This term it looks like all change, as seven boys have decided to take up cricket on Thursday evenings together. It seems a shame that these activities are no longer part of the school curriculum and that boys are forced to choose between important mainstream sports and the more traditional extra-curricular activities such as scouting.

As always we have a healthy waiting list for beavers and we have recruited more new starters who are all really excited about joining the colony and we are looking forward to welcoming them to the movement.

This term sees us starting on our adventure activity badge which is a perfect match for lots of summer evening outings to the woods and we shall also be working on our friendship challenge badge and trying to build relationship and find friends in other beaver packs across the world. Now that's a "challenge"!

Badger and Fox

## **1st Wargrave Puma Cub Pack REPORT – 2010/2011**

Puma cubs continue to meet on a Tuesday with Jon Black, Patricia Vella, Fiona Keen and John Wheals as leaders. We currently have a strong group of 20 cubs with active parent support. Our objectives are to provide a safe environment where our cubs have fun, are able to make lots of noise, get muddy, gain some bushcraft skills and learn more about the world around them.

Inspired by a facebook post from friend and comic book artist Mike Collins (Dr Who and Judge Dredd) about a literacy campaign he was involved with, the book reader badge was launched as a Pumas Comic book reader challenge. A number of cubs have now gained their book reader badge and some previously reluctant readers have discovered a love of books. An eerie silence descended on the scout hut the evening the book reader challenge was introduced as boys happily sat around the hut in various corners rummaging through the box of books and reading. The second half of the planned evening activity had to be scrapped as the boys wanted to continue reading. Whilst the comics read included Beano and Dandy books they also included comic strips of Greek myths, history of space and the stories of famous figures from history such as Julius Caesar and Anne Frank. A number of non comic books were also provided, with Diary of a Wimpy Kid proving particularly popular.

The Global challenge badge was linked with the Chef badge for a superb evening of Chinese cooking where all the cubs participated in the preparation and cooking. The cubs had previously perfected their chopstick techniques by picking up (and eating) a variety of sweets. The Chef badge was completed by pancake making on Shrove Tuesday.

The Global challenge badge also included an evening on earthquakes where we looked at a map of the ring of fire and had a discussion on what causes earthquakes, how to build for earthquake resistance and the impact of earthquakes on people in Japan and Haiti. The global charity aspect of the Global challenge meant the boys learnt more about the work of Shelterbox as well as the Harvest Raindrop project St Mary's church are involved with. To demonstrate how difficult it is to carry water for a distance the boys enjoyed staggering around with water containers of various sizes and all agreed it was much more difficult than they had thought.

Other badges worked on over this year have included the Mapreader badge and the Artist badge. The boys drew a map of their own as well as following an orienteering trail around the village.

Hikes, campfire cooking and games have continued to be popular activities. Whilst the usual campfire cooking has been sausages, toast and marshmallows it has on occasion been supplemented by a whole chicken cooked on a campfire and making hot drinks using a billy can and a tripod.

Patricia Vella  
April 2011

**1<sup>st</sup> Wargrave Wildcats Cub Pack  
Report - 2010/2011**



The Pack continues to go from strength to strength. Over the last year we had lots of new Cubs joining, including two girls. Neil has been a great help sending emails and organising the parent rota for me. We now have two more new assistant leaders to help us, Clair and Richard. Clair has already sorted out our pack cupboard with everything in labelled boxes and Richard who is a vet should be able to answer those strange questions Cubs can ask when we go on our farm visit later this term.

We have 24 Cubs; at the moment although we will be losing some after the summer. We are going to be giving our Sixers some more responsibilities and we are giving the rest of the Cubs the chance to become seconders but this depends on their behaviour and how they help their Sixer and the Leaders.

With lots of new Cubs we have tried to make our programmes varied and interesting and Neil has come up with some good games and ideas at short notice.

- The Cubs are working towards some new badges, map reading and navigation and we will be looking at some of the badges that we have done before. All the Cubs who took the recent emergency aid 2 badge passed, although some are not so keen to “kiss” the resuscitator dummy!
- Our Christmas party was fun with traditional games lots of food, drinks and presents for the cubs. Its hard to believe so few children can make so much noise and mess!
- We still try to uphold the traditional scout values that Buddy held so dear and the time he spent in giving the Cubs an insight into Baden Powell and how the Scouting movement was formed is something we will carry on.
- For Pancake Day we cooked pancakes in the hut, this proved to be very enjoyable evening with lots of pancakes and some successful flips.
- We are planning lots more trips out to Bowsey woods, fire building, cooking, tracking, wide games map reading and navigating.
- We are looking to have a sleep over camp at the Scout Hut but as there is the Wargrave Festival this year and the Leaders work commitments we will be doing this after the summer break.
- At the end of the summer term we will again be holding our very own version of the Cubs against Parents Olympics which incorporates Akela’s handicap system!!

I would like to thank Neil, Clair and Richard for their help and support, the parent helper team without whose help it would be very difficult to run the pack and finally all the Cubs whose energy and enthusiasm is fantastic and then there is the feeling we get as Leaders when they suddenly have a light bulb moment as something new is explained to them makes it all worthwhile.

Akela Simon Smith

### 1st Wargrave Scout Troop

### Annual General Meeting Report 2010/2011

Here we go again, this year you have an A to Z of what we have done.

We did:

Archery

Baking (biscuits in a cardboard oven)

Cycling (one of the bases in the Summer)

Dinner (we have had 2 meetings of the PL's and APL's on a night away from a normal Scout night as a working dinner to discuss Scouting topics over Pizza and Chocolate Cake)

Entertainment (who can forget the Creative Challenge sketch show organised so excellently by Caroline)

Fire lighting (as part of what we hope will become an annual event at our Summer camp known as the Buddy Rose Bowl Challenge)

Games (indoors and out)

Hikes (for example to the Cranleigh Show from Bentley Copse in Surrey)

Investigations (of various themes for the Global Challenge)

Jokes (well that is part of the fun of Scouting)

Knots (making pioneering projects at Camp)

Laughing with one another (some of the aforementioned jokes were good, so was the 'Wargrave has Talent' night at camp, who can forget the contributions made by Richard (Simon Cowell) Arnold as a judge)

Map reading

Nutrition assessments (as part of a menu planning session)

Outdoor Challenge Badge (and several were awarded to some of the older Scouts)

Photography (as part of the Creative Challenge, thanks to Pennie Withers for leading this activity)

Question and answer sessions (on homelessness as part of the Global Challenge Award)

Rowing (at the Wargrave Boat Club, OK it was dongolling but give me a break, writing in this format isn't easy)

Safety assessments (as part of the Fire Safety Badge, including assessments of the home)

Ten pin bowling

Uniform inspections (they all know what is acceptable, e.g. no white socks)

Various cooking nights, pancakes, Chinese, BBQ's

Widegames

Xploring (OK, we all knew I would have to cheat to keep the flow going). We have explored International Themes including a talk from Ceri about the forthcoming World Scout Jamboree

Yankee night (themed for 4<sup>th</sup> July)

Zany things too numerous to mention but including a Sponsored Silent Games Hour which raised just under £400 for Comic Relief and £115 for World Scout Jamboree

So loads of things, lots of badge work, a whole bunch of fun and it was (largely) enjoyed by between 30 and 35 Scouts in each term.

None of it could happen without the continued support of the many parents who help out (e.g. by running the Scouts here and there) and of course the commitment of Richard, Caroline and Jordan who have had such a large involvement in delivering all of the activities throughout the year.

We are currently starting to think about the next wacky idea for the Troop which is an International camp every 4 years so each Scout will always get a chance of at least one international experience in their time with us. So, 2013 is the planned year, we have only to think of what and where and it will be nearly sorted!

Nigel Board, Scout Leader