

## Cub Section Report

2012-2013

We have seen another exciting year.

The pack has about 20 cubs arranged into 4 sixes. We have kept to this size, as against a size of 27 or 28 to allow the scout troop to manage its size and numbers. We have however, seen some cubs leave for various reasons while other young people have applied to join. We have about 4 boys join from the waiting list who have not come up through the beaver entry process. We also saw the first girl join 4<sup>th</sup> Newbury cubs but she did not wish to remain, despite her brother being in the pack. We have two on the waiting list but we are also expecting 6 beavers in September.

The leadership team, who are all volunteers, continues to deliver and the pack continuous to enjoy a mixed, balanced program. This is the Syllabus system that the scout association operates and this aligns well with KS2 in our case. There is considerable overlap in themes and content. We have a good balance of indoor and outdoor activities and we do try to get outdoors as much as possible once the weather/time of year permits.

The highlight of the year was the Monopoly trip to London. 4 cub packs from 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and Wash Common took part with 3 of the groups comprising 60 young people spending the night afloat on the River Thames. We also enjoyed a whole morning on HMS Belfast and a visit to 10 Downing Street. Next year may see another extended weekend camp- more details to follow. I already have 2 other groups asking what we might be up to so that they can join in too. We must be doing something right!

2012/2013 saw the opening of a new scout group in Greenham and 4<sup>th</sup> Newbury cub pack hosted a trainee leader for this new cub pack. Katherine Prior had agreed to help set up and run the new cub pack in Greenham so she spent 6 months learning the ropes and completing on the job training with us. Her son also joined us so when he moved to the new pack there was some experience of cub pack rules rather than a group of young people running round. That pack which opened in March is now over 20 strong with 3 local leaders and an experienced leader mentoring them. Beaver colonies and scout troops to follow.

The leadership team comprises myself, Mark, Jane, Sean and our YL, now adult leader Joe. Sean received an offer he could not refuse to become GSL at 1<sup>st</sup> but still comes along to help at 4<sup>th</sup> as his hands on experience. Joe is uncertain re his future plans so we actually have a core of 3 adults. Over the coming months we will be seeking to bring this back up to 4 adults plus Sean and maybe Joe so if any mums or dads want to join the team, please come along and talk to me. I will find or structure a role to suit your availability. Plus you also get the perks package! If there are no volunteers then I will have to send out the Press gang!