



“THE COOT”



Founded 1994

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PIONEER TROOP

First evening back after the summer holidays saw 4 cubs, bright eyed and bushy tailed, join the old hands of Pioneer Troop. Also, new comer Ryan Fuller (2nd from left) is seen below with the cubs making up the tenderfoots. (TCREW). Ryan is following in the footsteps of his brother, Daz, a very early member of the Group.



Left to right (back row)

Michael Lundy helping the TCREW, Ryan, Sam, Adam & Jonathan (ASM), with Natasha and Charles in front



Pioneer Troop, 1st evening back

FAIRWELL KAREN

Karen Coates (Nee Ranger) has been a leader with our Group since its inception at the beginning of 1994. She started with the 1st Scout Troop (Discovery), moved on to be an assistant Wolf Cub Mistress (Trafalgar Pack), helped form and run the first Girl Scout troop (Endeavour) and then became Scout Mistress running Pioneer Troop when the boys and girls joined together in the same troop. Karen helped with all aspects of running the Group and will be sorely missed. She and her husband Todd are moving to Yorkshire to work and have bought a cottage in the Lake District. Good luck Karen, and thank you.



Bob and Karen prepare the BarBQue



ABOUT THE HUT

Our garage store. Dark? Mysterious? No, leaky yes! but that's another story. So what's inside, you've guessed! our new lawn mower (unable to be photographed because Bob does not have a key for the padlock). Lawn mower kindly donated by the Hoodless family and GSM will get Bob a key so that he can cut the grass.

SITUATIONS VACANT



The families and friends of those in the Group run our Group. Like our Association, all are volunteers. If you can help and participate in running the Group to keep our flag flying in any way please step forward.

At the moment we need:

- **Croup Committee Chairman**
- **Hut Maintenance Coordinator**
- **Small minibus manager**
- **Large minibus manager**

HASTINGS PACK

Second meeting of the term and the Wolf Cubs are into the Army training grounds on "Out of Africa" (Area E1 to the Army) courtesy of our license from the MOD. Clues were set, compasses bemused and maps confused. However, a successful evening was had by all.



"Chill" moved out of her bastion of the Scout Hut kitchen to ensure drinks were available for the Cubs at the end of their evening exercise on the ranges.



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SAMUEL CODY BEAVER COLONY

Started back two weeks ago and have also been into the Arm training grounds and are planning to get up there again and cook sausages over fires in woods very soon. Meetings on Monday evenings starting at 18:00 (6 pm)

NOVA SCOTIA BEAVER COLONY

Started back last week. Meetings on Wednesday evenings starting at 17:00 (5 pm)

MEMORY LANE

The Newsletter of the Blackwater Valley Scout Group

The Coot

Baden Powell Scout Association Issue 16. October 1998

Endeavour Troop Summer Camp

This year's summer camp was spent at East Ashling in West Sussex. We had been allowed to camp in a field beside the East Ashling Nurseries. The campsite was large enough for us to spread ourselves out, with water and toilets already laid in. The plan for the week was quite ambitious with a very full programme. We arrived on camp just before lunch on the Saturday and once everyone had had their lunch and a drink, it was very hot, we set about setting up camp. With so much space to choose from the scouts were really very spoilt and spent some time choosing the sites for their patrol camps. The rest of the day was spent setting up camp, making gadgets and preparing to cook dinner. Sunday dawned hot and sunny. The plan for the day was to go out and explore the local area and visit one of the local beauty spots. Unfortunately this involved a very steep climb but the view of Chichester that was had from the top almost made up for it. What really made up for it was that on the way home we found the bodies of the local village selling cream tins and of course had to stop and support them. After a little bit of wheedling and dodging (I don't think they expected 17 hungry scouts to turn up and afterwards) a mouthwatering apple pie was agreed on. I have to say that the amount of food that was served up to the scouts was incredible and after the third cream scone and piece of chocolate cake most of them were refusing any more. On the Monday, we had arranged for everyone to go horse riding for the afternoon. The morning was spent collecting wood for the camp fire and then it was off to the stables. We split into 3 groups, two beginners and one more advanced. The more advanced group set off first with the aim of being at least 2 hours to ride. One of the beginners groups set off next whilst the other went in search of the local animal rescue sanctuary. The centre is funded entirely by donations from visitors and has a very high standard for its charges. Tuesday was spent visiting the local town of Bosham (pronounced bossum) where the scouts had an opportunity to buy presents to send home and of course the odd ice cream. The evening was spent singing songs and acting out skits around the camp fire. Wednesday was to be spent on the water. The morning was to be spent doing as much windsurfing and as much canoeing and then in the afternoon we would all get to go walking on the sea. The weather was really very good to us and kept sunny throughout the day, which was just as well because in the morning most of us spent more time in the water than on it. Everyone managed to do very well with both the canoes and wind surfers and the games played with the canoes were great fun.

Pond Clearing

Many thanks to the adult Scouts who came pond clearing on the 1st and 2nd of October. I hope you enjoyed it enough to come again on the 17th and 24th October. The purpose of the project is to fully transform the pond to its former glory by clearing out some of the weeds and by the Spring plant more interesting plants. Hastings Wolf Cubs have already made nesting boxes which will be put in the trees and will hopefully be hatching a few foxes as well. These ponds are becoming very important sites for our dragonflies, frogs, toads and newts. Once the pond is cleared it will be used by our sections for pond dipping and nature studies. If you wish to get muddy, wet and sandy, don your waders and come along at 10:00 hrs. (10 a.m.) for two hours until 12:00 hrs (midday) on Saturday the 17th October and Saturday the 24th of October.

Future Events	Remembrance Sunday
8 th November	Christmas Fayre
15 th November	



And - Your starter for 10 points – who, when and where?

USEFUL NUMBERS

- Membership** - Margaret Young 01252 835014
- Fundraising** – Angela Hoodless 01276 22897
- Treasurer** – John Lewis 01252 650066
- Q'master** – Gerry McGeehan 01252 679244
- Uniform** – Michele Llewellyn 01252 836127
- GSM** – Richard Llewellyn 01252 83612