



# “THE COOT”



Founded 1994

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www.bvsg.org.uk

## “GONE HOME”

Granddad Walter, much loved and sorely missed. Thank you for coming on Cub camp.

## GROUP SECTIONS & UNITS

BEAVER Section (5-8 years):

Samual Cody Colony – Monday evenings

Nova Scotia Colony – Wednesday evenings

WOLF CUB Section (8-11 years):

Hastings Pack – Wednesday evenings

SCOUT Section (11-15 years):

Pioneer Troop – Wednesday evenings

SENIOR SCOUT Section (15-18 years):

Wednesday evenings

## SAMUEL CODY BEAVER COLONY

### Conkers

Sam Cody Beavers took advantage of the plentiful supply of conkers recently and enjoyed the time honoured tradition of playing conkers. Many a ‘death crack’ was observed and strings snagged as the search for the ‘king’ conker was pursued.



*Missed it that time*

### Sausage Sizzle

Wood Elves were again spotted in the woods in Out of Africa. The Beavers followed a trail of light sticks up through the dark woods of the Monday evening up to Weathertop where

they found two Great Elves at a campfire. The Beavers persuaded the Elves (Mike & Jim Young) to cook their sausages for them on the fire at the top of the hill. After nicely browned (not burnt!) sausages had been eaten the Beavers moved back down in the Group Minibus (minor) for home and bed.



*Samuel Cody Beavers on Weathertop*

## PIONEER SCOUT TROOP

### The Rock

October half term saw Pioneer Troop Scouts camping at the Rock Centre, Chudleigh, in Devon for a long weekend. Early Saturday morning they departed in Cubette (minibus Major) for the journey.



*Sam took the limelight on this one*

The Troop arrived in time to have lunch and set up camp in among the limestone cliffs and apple trees at the centre.



*Camp established early Saturday*



*.....to the smallest*



*Kit inspection Sunday morning*

Then it was time to kit up on Sunday morning for abseiling and climbing.



*1<sup>st</sup>, the nursery slope....*



*The centre has equipment for the biggest...*

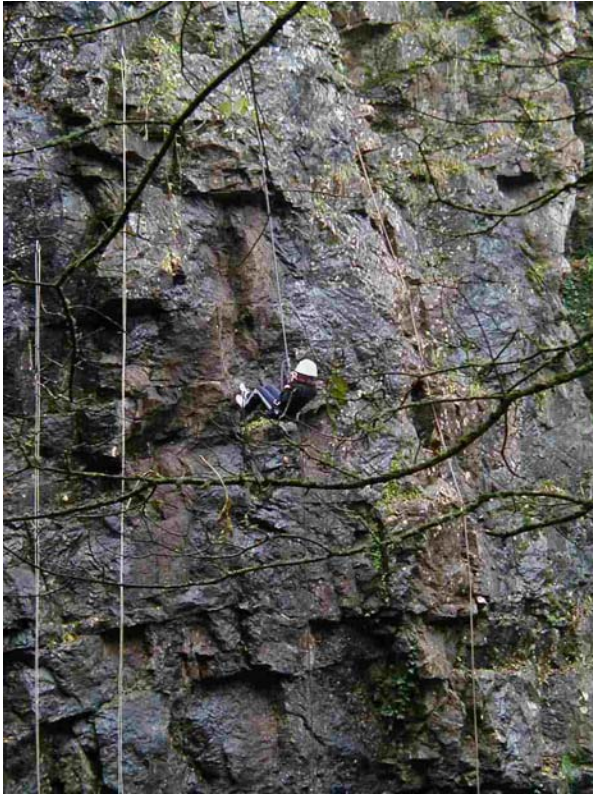
The Troop was instructed in proper use of the equipment on the nursery slopes and then went off to tackle some vertical under the supervision of the centre instructors with safety ropes in place to cater for enthusiasm (see "Look Mum!, No hands!").

Hanging off a thin rope on a vertical drop is not everyone's cup of tea, but all managed.



*..then, look Mum!, no hands!*

Some spectacular abseils were achieved with Natasha and Ryan successfully going for the eighty foot vertical. The reverse process of climbing was engaged and by the end of the morning there were Scouts going up and down all over the place! In the meantime, Chill (Gail Hardman) was working steadily away at lunch and dinner with an occasional comment to the effect of "daft bunch...."



*Half way down*

The afternoon was spent underground in the Pridersleigh caves. The Troop split into two teams that ventured several hundred feet underground into the wet and muddy cave system; sometimes with little more space to squeeze through than was absolutely necessary. For some of the leaders this became a physical as well as psychological challenge!



*Before going underground*

Boots, coveralls and lights were provided by the centre and three instructors accompanied us. They explained the history of the caves, gave us the names of each chamber.



*Inside the caves*



*Some parts were smaller than others*

Sunday dinner was most welcome and Chill commended for her efforts. Wendy Sampson who runs the The Rock Centre joined us for dinner with one of the instructors and voted the meal as 'excellent'.



*....and after*

Monday saw a relaxed morning with a sandwich lunch around the campfire.



*Breakfast*



*Lunch by the campfire*

### Davey Crockett

Having got home, bathed and two nights rest, Pioneer Troop travelled down to Kent in Matt (minibus minor) to the West Kent Shooting School for an afternoon of shooting clays with shotguns (12 gauge, 20 gauge & 410).



*Hotshots!*



*Dead Clay! (12 gauge)*

### ROUND & ABOUT THE HUT

#### Car Park & Road

Ash Parish Council is in the process of improving the condition of the access track and car park at the Scout Hut.

#### Additional Storage

Granddad Walter has left us his garden shed as a store fund raising equipment and materials. Our grateful thanks to his family and also to John Welling for getting it here.

#### Garage needs repair

The garage store needs a new board and fibreglass roof and new doors. **IS THERE A TEAM OF FATHERS WILLING TO TAKE THIS ON?**

### 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**

### 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