



“THE COOT”



Founded 1994

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www.bvsq.co.uk

LEADER TRAINING

Scout, Cub and Beaver Leader training courses certified by our association and run by National and regional training teams made up of experienced leaders, all volunteers, are provided. The main courses are:

- Preliminary Training Course (2 days)
- Wood Beads Part 1 (Theory) (corrosp)
- Wood Beads Part 2 (Practical) (4 days)
- Safety In the Hills (4 days)

Most leaders also hold the St. John Ambulance 1st Aid course (2 days).

Three leaders attended the PTC at 'Paddicks Patch' Scout campsite in Reading recently. Phil. West (Beaver Master), Dianne Blanchard (Assistant Beaver Mistress) and Jonathan Walter (Assistant Scout Master) spent their weekend studying the association policies, guidelines and organisation as well as practicing practical skills related to running their respective sections.



Johnny Walter working on rope maintenance for pioneering.

These Leaders give this additional time freely as volunteers to receive this training to ensure that they are running their sections properly. **Please support them with any practical help that you can give with maintaining our Scout Hut and equipment. With all the parents in our group it would only require a day or half day on a weekend every couple of months from each parent to make a really great difference to the building and vehicles**

and thereby reassuring our leaders that their efforts are genuinely appreciated.



Certificates presented by Area Commissioner.



OUR GROUP VEHICLES

Currently our group own two minibuses. These are ours, bought and paid for. Not exceptionally pretty but they belong to 1st Blackwater Valley B-P Scout Group. These vehicles are funded solely by **fund raising** so that the costs of travel are not included in the cost of outings, hikes and camps. This makes a huge difference to the activities that our sections can contemplate. It means that the Beaver, Cub and Scout leaders can ask the question "do we want to do this?" rather than "can we do this?"

Just like the Scout Hut, these facilities take time and effort to maintain and there is a vast difference in cost if we can effect maintenance and repairs ourselves rather than pay commercial rates.



"Matt" (minibus minor) in Truman Coaches workshop for repairs prior to MOT



"Cubette" (minibus major) being steam cleaned at Truman Coaches yard prior to MOT.

Again this is where parents can help. This work often falls to leaders who know how much effort has gone into getting these vehicles and how much they mean to the programme that can be offered to the children in our group. If you are willing to

give any time to cleaning, servicing, maintaining or repairing these vehicles it would reassure the leaders within our group that their time and effort is genuinely appreciated. It would also not detract from the time that they give to running their sections.

Our grateful thanks to Truman Coaches and their workshop manager for the access that they allow us to their facilities. Their generous support is much appreciated.

AROUND & ABOUT THE HUT

Garage

We should see a new roof on the garage shortly. Apologies for the timber on the pathway in the interim.

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.

- **Fund Raising STILL NEEDS HELP**

Dawn Bradley has started but needs more support from other parents.

- **Gardening and painting**

STILL NEEDS HELP

The Howarth family spent a day at the Hut. They are willing to give such help but we need other families to give some time so that the Hut appearance outside can be maintained.

- **Hut Maintenance**

STILL NEEDS HELP

Please can anyone willing give a little time to making the repairs that our Hut needs from time to time to keep it weatherproof and safe until our new Hut is built.?

And help with the:

- **Small minibus ("Matt")**
- **Large minibus ("Cubette")**

USEFUL NUMBERS

Membership - Margaret Young 01252 835014
Fundraising – Dawn Bradley 01252 323062
Treasurer – John Lewis 01252 650066
Q'master – Gerry McGeehan 01252 679244
Uniform – Michele Llewellyn 01252 836127
GSM – Richard Llewellyn 01252 83612