



# "THE COOT"



Founded 1994

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[www.bvsg.co.uk](http://www.bvsg.co.uk)

Dear Parents

## What The Future Holds for the 1<sup>st</sup> Blackwater Valley Scout Group.

In the last edition of "The Coot" Richard Llewellyn the Group Scout Master outlined a bleak future for the BVSG unless the parents of current beavers, cubs and scouts came forward to take over the running of the Group.

This was a theme that was emphasised at the AGM held on the 12<sup>th</sup> May at the Mytchett Centre. At the AGM the Lady Mayor of Guildford and Councillor Manning from Ash Parish Council both spoke about the value of the group to the young people it serves and the community as a whole.

It has been to Richard's, Michele's, John and Margaret's delight that they have been able to report that the take up after the AGM was sufficient to ensure the continued existence of the Group.

## +1<sup>st</sup> Blackwater Valley Scout Group+

### ++++WILL CONTINUE IN THE SEPTEMBER 2010 TERM++++

Parents have come forward to fill the many gaps that will be left in the Group when Richard, Michele, John and Margaret step aside. The Group now has 5 parents taking up Uniforms and 7 parents committing to help run the sub committees. This combined with the continuing commitment of the remaining Uniform and Committee members ensure that the Group will continue!

The support offered by the parents who have come forward is tremendous, but, as you will see the Group still urgently needs more Parental involvement.

There will be more on the changes of personnel in the next edition of 'The Coot' which will hopefully be ready for the start of the September Term.

Yours in Scouting


**Mike Smyth**





Group Scout Master (to be!)

### +++An Introduction to the Group+++

On the next page shows those people and the roles that they have undertaken to take up in support of your children.

For the new joiners enhanced CRB checks are currently been carried out and for those putting on a uniform their Warrant applications are currently being processed.

Uniformed Group		Sub Committee Members	
	Mike Smyth GSM (Warrant Applied)	UNFILLED	Chair Person
	Gareth Llewellyn Senior Scout Master	Graham Watts	Treasurer
Jonny Walter	Scout Master	Anita Merritt	Secretary
	Diane Elghor Assistant Scout Master (Warrant Applied)	UNFILLED	Admin Assistant
	Jeffrey Kingston Assistant Scout Master (Warrant Applied)	UNFILLED	Uniform Secretary
	Jon West Assistant Scout Master	Clair Richardson	Membership Secretary
	Michelle Howard Akela (Warrant Applied)	Tracey Watts	Fund Raising Lead
Sonia Walter	Assistant Cub Master	UNFILLED	Fund Raising Asst
Anita Merritt	Assistant Cub Master	Shiela Berti	Grants Lead
John Adams	Assistant Cub Master (Warrant Applied)	Lisa Godfrey	Grants Asst

	Gail Hardman Non-Uniformed Instructor		
	Mark Ider Beaver Master	David Lowery	Building Maintenance Lead
	Phil West Assistant Beaver Master	UNFILLED	Building Maintenance Asst
	Vanessa Smyth Beaver Master (Warrant Applied)	UNFILLED	Building Maintenance Asst
Sonia Walter	Assistant Beaver Master	Jacob Godfrey	Transport
Margaret Young	Assistant Beaver Master		

### USEFUL NUMBERS

**GSM** (retiring) - Richard Llewellyn 01276 63940

**GSM** (in coming) – Mike Smyth 07733 452737

**Chairman** – VACANT

**Treasurer** (retiring) – John Lewis 01252 650066

**Treasurer** (incoming) – Graham Watts 01252 641524

**Membership** (retiring) - Margaret Young 01252 835014

**Membership** (incoming) – Clair Richardson 01252 679700

**Q'master** – Mark Howarth 01252 682197

**Uniform** (retiring) – Michele Llewellyn 01276 63940

**Uniform** – VACANT

**Fund Raising** – Tracey Watts 01252 641524

## Positions Vacant

We urgently need parents to come forward and volunteer their time for the following roles:

<p><b>Chairman</b></p> <p>Description of Role To assist the sub committees in their roles by providing them with a position where they can discuss matters they are unsure of and provide direction as necessary. The role is expected to require a strong networking capacity over the next year or so as the group moves to attract funding for the new scout hut.</p> <p>Commitment To meet with the committees and the group as required and to be prepared to 'front' for the group with other organisations</p>	<p><b>Maintenance Team</b></p> <p>Description of Role The Group desperately needs parents prepared to commit to a couple of hours at a time on an ad-hoc basis to keep the Scout Hut in a safe and watertight condition.</p> <p>Commitment To be prepared to respond on an ad-hoc basis to a phone call requesting assistance to carry out some maintenance. This commitment is likely to be only a couple of hours a month.</p> <p>Parents with professional skills would be equally welcome!</p>
<p><b>Administration Assistant</b></p> <p>Description of Role Preferably someone with access to a computer and a printer who would at the request from a Section leader be prepared to print the requested number of letters, permission to camp, medical forms or other such correspondence in time for the Leader to distribute them.</p> <p>Commitment To give a couple of hours a month to print paperwork for the Group.</p>	<p><b>Fund Raising</b></p> <p>Description of Role To assist the Tracey Watts with the running of the fund raising committee</p> <p>Commitment To assist Tracey with a couple of hours a month.</p>
<p><b>Uniform Secretary</b></p> <p>Description of Role To keep uniform supplies up to date and to order them when required.</p> <p>Commitment To provide a couple of ours a month for ensuring that the necessary uniforms are available so that Beavers, Cubs and Scouts (and Leaders) are well turned out.</p>	<p><b>Any help Appreciated</b></p> <p>Description of Role To be able to assist any of the sub committees or the uniform branch in any capacity.</p> <p>Commitment Any of the Support committees will appreciate any amount of time that any parent can commit to.</p>

**++++ TEMPUS EXPERIENTIA ++++**  
**HISTORIC RE-ENACTMENT - 16<sup>TH</sup> June 2010**

BVSG were lucky enough to have a Tudor Period Historic Re-enactment in the middle of June. The enactment was given by Leon Hubbard and Steve Jones of Tempus Experientia. The kids really seemed to enjoy the experience and we hope they learned from the experience.



Wrong Period perhaps but “Charge of the Light Brigade” seems Appropriate!



In contrast the “Heavy Brigade” by any chance!!



The BIG Gun



Archery



Diane Elghor the new Assistant Scout Master  
Preparing to meet the Scouts for the first time!!

**Our thanks to Steve and Leon for a really enjoyable evening!!**

**++++The ULTIMATE TANNERS +++++**

Dear All,

It was wonderful weather, beautiful scenery, well over 500 people took part; and it was fun. There are very few events that are truly challenging in our locality that are structure to allow participants to progress through the different distances in such a relaxed, friendly and safe event. Well done and thank you to all who took part and helped. I am particularly proud of the Scouts and Cubs who took part. I started walking the Tanners when I was 13 years of age in a team from my school. All four of my sons have taken part many times over the years as have a large number of my Scouts over the years. It is a character forming event that will be remembered for the rest of their lives.

3 Scouts entered for the 30 miles (Adam Shirley, Luke Shirley & Callum Howarth) accompanied by two leaders (Richard & Gareth Llewellyn)

2 Scouts with both leaders completed in under 9 hours (10 hours limit). 1 Scout retired at 20 miles.

2 Scouts entered for the 20 miles (Paul Whittington and Aidan Howarth) accompanied by two leaders (Sonia Walter and Michele Llewellyn).

1 Scout and both leaders completed out of time in 9 hours (8 hour limit). 1 Scout had a fall and retired at 10 miles.

We entered 2 Cubs for the 10 miles (Ryan Howarth and Adam Richardson) accompanied by one new leader (warrant applied for) and our new membership secretary (Michelle Howarth and Clair Richardson).

All completed successfully.

David Richardson helped on checkpoints accompanied by his youngest son.

Gail Hardman drove our minibus Long John Silver from 09:00 until 18:00 in support of the checkpoints and recovered walkers and runners who retired.

My Mum (at 85 years of age) was at the venue from 08:00 until 21:00 helping with starting documentation and then recording finishing times until the 30 mile event closed at 19:00. The Tanners Association presented her with a certificate of appreciation for her help over the years.

Unfortunately we did not secure the Scout Trophy on this last event. Although we were the only Scout team entered, a minimum successful team completion is 3 Scouts completing the distance entered (20 miles or 30 miles) within time. However, the Group was presented with a certificate of thanks for our support since our inception 17 years ago.

We presented each of the Tanners Marathon Association with a certificate of thanks for their 50 years of service.

Yours in Scouting

Richard

Richard Llewellyn  
Group Scout Master (retiring),



Gareth, Adam, Callum and Luke on Hurst Hill



John Kelleway, Gail Hardman & Alan Virgo



Enroute



We were not alone!



**++++LEADERS TRAINING +++++****The Woodbeads**

The B-P Scouts was set up to encourage Traditional Scouting values and skills.

The B-P Scouts Association runs training courses for the Leaders so that they are able to pass on the traditional skills to the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

Recently Mark Inder the Sam Cody Beaver Master and Gareth Llewellyn the Senior Scout Master undertook the "Woodbeads" training.



Mark Inder  
(to be fair he did ask me not to use this photo!)



Gareth Llewellyn



Mark and Gareth with the other Leaders



Scouting the Traditional Way



Lighting the Fire the Traditional Way



Cooking the Traditional Way



Mess Tent



You can feel the peace and quiet from here!

The Woodbeads have a long and distinguished history and for those of you who are interested you can find out more at <http://www.scouting.org.za/seeds/woodbadge2.html>

As Mark commented on the training..

“It was Baden-Powell’s statement that ‘Any fool can be uncomfortable on camp’ and as such we are taught skills which ensure the camp is a safe, comfortable place, and above all, an educational, fun and entertaining place for all. The values of respect, team work and self-reliance are key. All of the aspects from Traditional Scouting that we want to be able to share with our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.”

“I got to gut and decapitate a fish for the first time ever. Messy, but once it was cooked on the fire with freshly picked wild garlic it was a treat. The wild garlic and nettle soup was interesting too.”