

Happy New Year !  
Welcome back to Scouting .....

## Looking back on 2016



In January the Cubs and Beavers went to the Panto at The Guildhall ... oh yes they did ....  
The Watson Players always put on a superb show - the performance is an extra show that is exclusively for Derby South District Cubs and Beavers.

### ~ Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 ~

All three Sections had a session at Alter Rock indoor Climbing Centre.  
Brilliant fun - some tried the 'sky walk' system, even Baloo.  
One or two also had a go in the labyrinth caving system.  
The climbing session once again proved to be very popular, and all had a great time.

### ~ St George's Day ~

#### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2016 at Elvaston Castle

Thank you to those who took the time to get to Elvaston Castle.  
The District tell me that it was moved from the City Centre because of issues regarding our safety on the roads, and also due to the size of Derby South District alone it was proving very difficult for us to be accommodated in a Church within the City centre.  
There were other issues such as not all Members have a Belief, and the Movement wanted to move more towards St George's Day being a celebration of Scouting and St. George.

### ~ 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 ~ Bedding Plant Sale and Deliveries.



This is the Group's principal fund raising event - a concerted effort over two weekends (plus the endless hours of background preparation, of course, which has started already for 2017's floral frenzy) saves Sections/Members from participating in endless weekends of sponsored 'this and that', and tapping the same family pockets!

A big thank you to those who helped with the distribution of leaflets, the café, making up orders, distributing orders etc.

This manner and level of fund raising we cannot do without you giving up your time to help us - again, 'thank you'.  
2017 plant deliveries/sale is referred to later in this Newsletter.

### ~ 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 ~ Spring Bank Camp



The Newspaper produced by SBC for the weekend is still on the wall in the kitchen - can you believe Akela and Baloo in grass skirts ! They were such good sports.  
Well done to those who took part in the talent show.

The pitch was really quite good, no long grass, not too sloping, no pot holes. The Cubs and Scouts led the Leaders to believe that there was a water shortage as most did not appear to have a wash - we almost believed them!!!!

Keo still can't work out why Site Safety were watching her peel carrots!?

The food was as good as ever, of course.

A big thank you to parents/grandparents who gave up their time to help us pitch and strike camp, and the help in putting the kit back into the Quarter Masters once back at HQ - as often quoted "..... four people can do an hour's work in fifteen minutes..." .

Also a big 'thank you' to our Leadership and Site Services Team - it is incredibly hard work and our team of adults are on the go all the time usually for 15/16 hours each day.

Another brilliant Spring Bank Camp.

SBC 2017 dates are referred to later in this newsletter.

~ 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> June 2016 ~

### Activation

The Cubs and Scouts who went to this County run day of activities thoroughly had good time - they could choose from a fantastic selection of off-site activities including canoeing, sailing, caving, climbing, geocaching, mountain biking, and on site there were activities such as shooting, archery, bush craft just to name a few.

All came back suitably tired but having had an excellent day.

2017 Activation dates are referred to later on in this Newsletter.



~ 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 ~

### Leader's Camp

As Keo was unable to organise/run a camp for the Group this September so the Leaders went to camp for a few days instead.

We enjoyed a lovely meal in a nearby Restaurant on the Thursday evening, a most enjoyable afternoon tea at Tissington Tea Rooms and a walk round the village (to the sweetie shop .....), and a pleasant day in Ashbourne.

We enjoyed a game of skittles one evening, and all in all we had a lovely time.

~ Group Birthday weekend 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> November 2016 ~

Two mini bus loads - thirty four - went to RAF Cosford.

What a superb turn out - Keo and the Leaders were very pleased.

We had a picnic in the Crew Room on arrival, and then went round the many hangers and saw vehicles, memorabilia and numerous aircraft from around the world representing several conflicts over many years.

The museum is well worth a visit, and there were plenty of 'hands-on' things to do to suit all, even the adults! Members were able to gain a staged Air Activities badge during the day, and I gather that most got through the worksheet.

Back to HQ, dinner and a sleepover - why are they called 'sleep' overs, they are 'wake overs' really!

Sunday we paraded to St Thomas Chapel for our Birthday Celebration Service, presentation of awards and renewal of Promises.

The Band from the 20<sup>th</sup> Derby headed the parade, and Derbyshire Constabulary kept us safe en route - thanks also to the marshals, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Treasurer, and parents.

Thank you also to the families who came to Church to support us.

Scouts : The Stapleford Trophy was won jointly by Swifts and Owls - but only due to some points having to be deducted .....!

Cubs : Harold Winfield Trophy was awarded to Emma Walker.

GSL's Trophy for Personal Achievement was awarded to Connor McArthur (Scout).

Following the Service we had a 'cuppa', and shared birthday cake with the congregation and Minister, in the Chapel School rooms.

As always St. Thomas' Road Methodist Chapel made us very welcome.

Joint Section Halloween and Christmas parties went down well.

## WHAT'S NEXT ..... ? ALREADY PLANNED FOR 2017 .....

Sunday 22nd January, 2017 -



Cubs and Beavers -  
Panto at The Guildhall Theatre.  
Full uniform to be worn  
Please see letters distributed.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2017

St George's Day at Elvaston Castle.

Further and better information will be distributed in due course, but please put this date in your diary.

6th and 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 - Bedding Plant Sale and Deliveries.



Group fund raising - we have to do it, and the Leaders need your support, and that of your family. The Leaders cannot achieve the level of vital and necessary fund raising on their own.

Further and better information will be provided nearer the date, but to give you advance notice we will need help with

- the distribution of the bedding plant order forms during the Easter half term break
- the 1 day sale on the 6th May -
  - the café
  - making up of orders
  - distribution of orders
  - sale of raffle tickets

more importantly we will need help with the making up and distribution of the orders on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May : please note that the Group does pay mileage/fuel expenses if you wish to claim.

26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 (3 nights) : Spring Bank Camp



Cubs and Scouts

The booking form is already with your Section Leaders; please return the slip, and the £10 deposit as soon as ever possible. Total cost £56.00.

Keo needs to book **NOW** to ensure that we get a space as it is a very popular camp.

It will be another brilliant SBC.

Cubs, are you doing a play/sketch again?

Kit list and permission forms will be distributed shortly.

If you wish to pay the balance by instalments please see your Section Leader.

8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> July 2017 ~ Activation 2017 ~



Keo will be unavailable to drive the bus this year, but it doesn't mean you can't go to this excellent day packed full of activities ....

**Please have a look on line for this activity.**

Derbyshire Scouts web site and search for Activation 2017 to register.

Booking is already open, and places will go very quickly. Cost £20.00.

You will need to book on for the day you wish to go - Scouts Saturday and Cubs Sunday - you will need to ensure that you have your **own** method of **transportation** to/from Carsington.

Once you have booked on you are then contacted direct by the Activation Team as to how to make payment, and they will subsequently provide you with directions, joining in instructions, and a kit list via e-mail.

.... are there any other activities planned? - we'll have to see!!



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