

## STOP PRESS!!!

It's that time of year again, when you start picking up all of those fallen leaves in your garden and chuck them over your fence, into your neighbours garden. (Who would do such a thing?)

It's also time to celebrate – some would say mourn, the foiled attempt in 1605, to do away with Parliament and its politicians.

In any event, the 1<sup>st</sup> Olney Scout Group is celebrating Bonfire Night on 3rd November 6.45pm at

The Robin Hood, Clifton Reynes

Everyone welcome!

Tickets are available from Tony Moroney on 01234 713464 or The Robin Hood, and will cost £3.50 for adults, £2.50 for children, including food! (NOT 'BANGERS' & Mash!) - Bar available.

Must dash, someone's trying to stuff a pair of my trousers with screwed up newspaper. Wouldn't mind, but I'm wearing them!

SEE YOU THERE!

TM  
Chairman



## 1st Olney Scout Group Newsletter

October & November 2003  
Issue Nine

### Hello and Welcome

Where has the year gone, we are in to October and sad thing is that I have only managed to produce one newsletter this year. We have done so much as individual sections and as a group, but we never reported back in the newsletter. The reason why only one newsletter was produced is the fact that no one wrote any articles, I asked in the last newsletter for articles but nothing, so I will try again I will take articles of anyone in the group, they don't have to be scouting related, they can be on anything. So pens to paper, lets get another newsletter out before we break up at Christmas, and lets make it big. Submit your articles to be in any shape or format to me. If you don't see me then see your sons leader or any member of the committee and let them have the articles and they will pass them onto to me.

So sit back and read this newsletter and see your name in print next time.

Mark (Cub Scout Leader / Editor)

Don't forget this can also be viewed online at [www.olney-scout-group.co.uk](http://www.olney-scout-group.co.uk).

## Group Recycling Appeal

You may remember in the last newsletter I told you all about the group joining the recycling appeal, well let me tell you we are still in, and as I currently write this article I am still waiting for the most recent statements to come through to me, to let us know how much we have raised. I will report that in the next edition. If your company is able to donate any used ink cartridges or toner cartridges let me know, and I shall give you the details. The beauty of the scheme is that we don't have to pay for collections or anything. They will even pick up from your work place. How easy is that. So contact me for more details.

## Gang Show

Thank you to all of you who supported me at the Milton Keynes Gangshow, it was great to receive some good feedback. Unfortunately as it stands we will not be putting on a performance in 2004, hopefully the next performance will be 2005. Remember any member of the Scouting movement (from Beaver to Leader) can participate in the show. Watch out for details, regarding auditions and such like.

## Kingsmill Free Kit for Clubs.



We have just recently signed the group up for the above scheme, All you have to do is collect the tokens that are on the side of the Kingsmill loaf of bread and then pass them onto your sons / daughters section leader, when we have enough tokens we can decide what equipment we would like. We have until December 2004 to get orders in, so start collecting those tokens. Thank You

## **Contacts**

*Group Scout Leader*

Pat Pankhurst

*Beaver Scouts*

Patricia Selwood

Martin Westray

Julie Abraham

Cub Scouts

Mark Lombardo

Ruth Ayling

*Scouts*

Ann Murtagh

Heather Mc Dougall

*Group Chairman*

Tony Moroney

*Group Secretary*

Maura Gauld

*Treasurer*

Hannah Woods

Please note that you can email all the above on  
firstname.surname@Olney-Scout-Group.co.uk

## **Bag Packing**

The Scout Section have been bag packing at Marks and Spencer, three times this year. The last time was in October. When they raised a staggering £386.36. More details will follow in next months newsletter, including some photos.

## **Sixers and Seconders Day**

On Saturday 18 October, the Sixers and Seconders participated in the District Sixers and Seconders Day. Bases included map and compass work, how to programme plan, assault course, Jamboree on the Airways and Jamboree on the Internet. A further write up will appear in the next edition.

## **Money**

Please ensure that when any money is given over, that it is in a sealed down envelope, with your sons name on it, section they are in, and what the money is for, on the front of the envelope and Please also include this on the back of the cheque

It is shame to announce that not all subscriptions have been paid for this term. The money that you pay us goes towards the building hire, insurance and things for activities. Please ensure that subscriptions are paid at the latest by the second week of term. We have bills to pay as well. I can tell you we are the cheapest scout group in the area for subscriptions.

## **Fund Raising**

You will have read the diary date information, we have a fund raising stall at the Dickens of a Christmas, we require support from all parents, please see your sons / daughters leader when you are available to support us.

## A note from the Group Scout Leader.

I hope that everyone had a good summer break and those that got away had a relaxing time and are ready for the new term.

Plans are well under way for our Family Camp in 2004 and we hope that you as parents will support this and help in any way that you can. It takes a lot of organising to make such an event happen and any volunteers would be most welcome in any shape or form. More information will follow later in the year.

It has been an interesting start to the term, this is one of my busy times at work with the recruitment and enrolment of new students to University, but I have managed to get home before 6.45 pm two Tuesday to enjoy the woodworking skills of the Scout Troop. This Tuesday I helped invest seven new Scouts into the Troop, Anne and Heather did very well for their first investitures and we did a joint effort with the last young man.

I hope that the parents that attended the meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> September at the Olney Working Men's Club found it informative and went away thinking about how you as a parent can help us the leaders and the Group Executive.

The meeting had been called to explain about the future of the Group, its current members, leadership and the part played by the Group Executive Committee.

Over the past month, the leaders have been providing me with their membership figures, which I projected over the next 5 years. It was from this projection that I felt that we should meet as a Group.

We currently have 24 Beaver Scouts (6 – 8 years old), 34 Cub Scouts (8 - 10½) and 32 Scouts (10½ - 14). Beaver Scouts and Cub Scouts have reached their full capacity, Scouts are unfortunately unable to take any more due to the size of the hall. As you

will see from the age ranges Beaver Scouts are for 2 years, Cub Scouts again for 2 years and Scouts for approximately 4 years, this means that progression through the sections is only possible if we lose them from the Scout section, which is something that none of us want to happen.

This will not happen in Olney, there are 2 going into Explorer Scouts (the section after Scouts) in April 2004 and as this is a young Scout Troop there will be no onward progression for some time.

What does this mean? Anyone who is due to move between the sections in January 2004 will be unable to do so.

There are two possible solutions :

- To continue in Scouting elsewhere – outside Olney
- Or
- To open another Scout Troop before or in time for January 2004

We may also need to review our Beaver Scout and Cub Scout provisions because of the waiting lists of young people wanting to join.

I need your help as a parent of a child in the Group or with another child due to come into the Group, you may know someone who might be a possible leader, a work colleague or neighbour, a friend who may be a suitable person, without your help we cannot continue to offer the level of Scouting in Olney to the young people who want it.

In return for the commitment, we can offer full training and on-going support but, above all, incredible job satisfaction.

Please help us, this is your Group and Olney Scout Group is a success story which we should all be proud to be part of.

**Pat Pankhurst**  
**Group Scout Leader**

### **Diary Dates**

October 2003

24 October  
District Chess Competition (C,S)

November 2003

2 November  
Cub Scout Football (C)

3 November  
Annual Group Fireworks (B,C,S)

9 November  
Remembrance Day Parade (B,C,S)

21 November  
Cub Scout Night Hike (C)

December 2003

7 December  
Dickens of a Christmas (B,C,S)

13 December  
Bag Packing (S)

B = Beaver Scout Section  
C = Cub Scout Section  
S = Scout Section