



The Water Rat

The Newsletter of Leander Sea Scouts

May/June 2013

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Beavers do Adventure and Fitness!

After what seemed like a very short Easter break, the Beaver Colony has actively jumped into the Summer term and is busy working towards the adventure activity badge and fitness challenge badge.



We welcomed seven new Beavers into the Colony including a couple of siblings.

So far this term the Beavers have been learning about what happens to their heart rate after doing exercise. Healthy foods and eating in colour have also featured. A firm favourite of the Beavers is making and sailing paper boats. Due to inclement weather this had to be split over two sessions and a few took their boats home to help make them more waterproof with sellotape, although the added weight was evident.

In May six Beavers were able to attend the District sleepover event at Polyapes (near

Cobham). Ed Orrell, Harriett Williams, Sam Longhurst, Sam Brickwood, Daniel Pullen and Daniel Wallington joined around sixty other Beavers from across the District for a day and night of fun learning, including pitching a tent, making cork streamers, cooking marshmallows, making a fire, following a trail, slime and even washing up!

Swimming has continued at Teddington pool with several Beavers successfully completing their stage 1 and stage 2 swimming badges.

We have been very fortunate to have been supported by three Explorers this term, so many thanks to Dominic Jackson, Eleanor Washington and Max Talman. It always makes a huge difference to have extra helpers on a regular basis.

If you would like to support delivering our active programme the Colony would welcome you as an occasional helper, so please do not hesitate to let me know.

*Richard
Beaver Scout Leader*



Harriett, Sam, Ed, Sam, Daniel and Daniel having just survived washing up after dinner

Leander (Kingston) Sea Scout Group

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www.leanderseascouts.co.uk — Registered Charity Number 290029



Pack Pack Pack!



Yellow six suddenly realised that the only thing people could see during the Wide Game was their woggles!



Cubs were interested to discover that one of their leaders was in fact a mad scientist!

Naming the 'Gordon Dodge'

The Group's new safety boat, a Whaly 370, with a double skin, moulded polyethylene hull, was 'named' *Gordon Dodge* after the AGM on 8th June. Gordon was a long-serving member of Leander and the Guild.



AGM

At the AGM on 8th June, the GSL reported that the Sections had been busy and achieved many activity and challenge award badges. The Group has grown in size and continues to be popular and over-subscribed. She thanked the dedicated team of Leaders on behalf of the Executive and parents. All our Leaders are on their way to completing the Leader training modules to gain their Wood Badge.

The Chair reported significant work undertaken on the HQ building: replacement of the skylights (supported by a £10k National Lottery Grant), installation of hot water in the toilets, hot air ducting on the boiler, new emergency lighting and a new safety boat and launching trolley.

The following were elected to serve on the Executive for the current year: Penny D'Souza, Nigel Duffin (Chair), Fiona Firth, Andrew Jackson, Les Lidington (Secretary), Paul Lomas-Clarke (Treasurer), Keith Maund, Dick Riches.

The minutes, Trustees' report and accounts will be available on the website.

Bench for Bruno

After Peter Burton's funeral at Kingston Crematorium on Monday 22nd April, a large number of former Leanders met at HQ to reminisce. Over £900 has been donated in Bruno's memory so far.

One memorial we are planning is a second bench for the balcony, facing the river, with a view which he so often enjoyed. The bench is being made on the Isle of Skye by Mark Partridge, another Leader from long ago!

