



2nd Nene Scout Group - Apollo Scout Troop NEWS LETTER 14th DECEMBER 2009

APOLLO

Autumn term 2009 is drawing to a close. Since September we have had an action packed programme that has included -

- **Rockingham Forest Hike.**
We had perfect weather for our 2 day walk through the Rockingham Forest and overnight camp in the Danish shelters at Fineshades. We even managed some experimental cooking on the open fire and a late night wide game in the woods.
- **Autumn Evening.**
As always this proved an interesting and messy evening and left some of the Scouts covered in flour.
- **Remembrance Sunday.** The troop helped clean up Orton Longueville Church Yard and took part in the act of Remembrance Sunday commemorations at Holy Trinity whilst another member of the Troop was Bell Ringing at St Mary's Orton Waterville.
- **Peterborough Gang Show.**
Those of us who saw this year's show were pleased to see 6 Scouts from Apollo Troop as featured performers along with Scouting members from all over Peterborough. If you are thinking about joining "The Gang" next year, look out for the audition invitations that usually come out in April.
- **Ferry Meadows Wide Game.**
The Orton Explorers put on a marvellous wide game in Ferry Meadows in which nearly all the troop took part and managed to catch Explorers and win prizes.
- **Tree planting.**
As part of the Sainsbury's Active Kids Project, the troop were sent a pack of 30 trees which were planted near the Herlington BMX track, on a very wet Sunday Morning with the help of Beavers, Cubs, Leaders and friends under the direction of Mark Swift Peterborough City Council's Landscape Management Officer. Mark was very complimentary of the young people and has offered to help us in further such projects.
- **Skills Training**
First aid and navigation training in preparation for adventurous activities has been going on during the autumn and will be continuing through the winter and spring.
- **Thinking and Puzzle Solving.**
Troop night games do not just involve running around like mad things. We have had some interesting evenings which have involved, puzzle solving and team building.

These activities have taken a lot of organising and preparation by a committed team of leaders and helpers, thank you very much to all of those who have made the weekly meetings and extra activities happen. Further information and pictures may be found on the website (<http://www.2ndnenescouts.uk.com/>).

Apollo Troop Membership

At the beginning of term, Oscar, Louis and Alex moved up to Explorers and continue to have a good time in the unit's very active programme. Apollo troop membership has stabilized around a manageable 36 with a few transfers in from Cubs and invested Scouts who have moved into the area. The pressure on our numbers has been alleviated by the reopening of Challenger Troop (meetings on Thursdays) and we are pleased to say that it is growing steadily.

Transfer of Cubs into Apollo and Challenger troops will be coordinated with the Cub Scout Leaders. For the time being Challenger troop will be the first option for transfers and new members, while Apollo troop will be restricted to siblings of current members and those who genuinely can't make Thursdays.

Anyone wishing to join either troop is asked to supply us with: Full Name; Date of Birth; Address; Current Scouting / Guiding unit and position; Previous Scouting / Guiding units and positions. We will not be in a position to accommodate new members who turn up to a troop meeting unannounced.

Badges and Awards

We are pleased to have awarded the following badges

- 2nd Nene Group 70 year badge - All Scouts -
- Entertainer - Jason, Jessica, Sebastian
- Martial Arts - Jack and Stephen
- Craft - Jack
- Model Maker - Jack
- IT 1, 2, 3 - Jack
- Creative Challenge - Jack
- Adventure Challenge - Jack

- 5 Nights Away - Ryan, Stephen, Sam, Matthew, Ben, Chris
- 10 Nights Away - Paul, Daniel, Thomas
- 5 Hikes Away - Nathan, Sian, Stephen, Fergus, Sam,, Thomas, Daniel, Paul, Andrew, Ben
- 10 Hikes Away - Chris, Ryan

Thanks to Glynis for keeping the record and chasing the Scouts to get their record books signed up.

Scouts: don't forget to go through your Scout Record Book and Scout Badge Book to find skills and achievements (attained with Scouts or elsewhere) that you can get signed towards Badges and Awards

PLs and APLs

We have presented PLs and APLs with their stripes and they have remade their Scout Promise in front of the troop. Since Baden Powell's first experimental camp, Patrol Leaders and their assistants have been essential to Scouting and we look forward to this continuing with our team. Congratulations and thanks to the following: PLs Chris (Eagles), Paul (Hawks), Hannah (Falcons), Ryan (Kestrels), Rebecca (Owls), Natham (Ravens), and APLs Ryan (Hawks), Jack (Falcons), Jonathon (Kestrels), Daniel (Owls), Thomas (Ravens).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 14 th December 2009	Last Apollo meeting before Christmas
Wed 30 th Dec & Sat 2 nd Jan	Scalextric Racing (See separate invitation from Challenger Troop)
Monday 4 th January 2010	Apollo Troop Leaders Planning Meeting
Monday 11 th January 2010	First Apollo meeting of the New Year
Saturday 30 th January 2010	Country Hike – ends at a chip shop
Fri - Sun 19 th - 21 st February	Weekend Camp Norfolk
Saturday 13 th March 2010	Zatego – Enter the magical world of Zatego from Ferry Meadows
Friday 2 nd to Sat 10 th April	SWAN– Bookings closed
Sunday 25 th April (TBC)	Peterborough Scouts St. George's Day Parade – All Scouts and Leaders are asked to make every effort to attend – Please keep this date clear.
May 2010 (TBC)	Peterborough Scout & Guide Canoe Club summer weekly sessions commence
May 2010 (TBC)	Cambridgeshire Scouts County Activity Weekend – Mepal
June 2010 (TBC)	Cambridgeshire Scouts County White Water Canoeing Day

Leadership, Parents and Supporters

We are pleased to announce that the team has been joined by Stuart and Emily Henderson who have recently moved into the area and that we have had further offers of help that we are progressing.

Help from parents and other adult supporters is always very much appreciated. If you would like to help with any future events please see one of the leaders. Please note that all over 18's taking part in Scout activities involving under 18's more than once every 28 days (currently under review) or overnight, must be CRB cleared by the Scout Association prior to helping regularly with activities. ***This is at no cost to you.*** Parents and supporters who would like to be CRB cleared for future activities please speak to one of the leaders or contact the Assistant Group Scout Leader Tim Burgess tim.burgess100@ntlworld.com

To find out more about what the Troop has and will be doing have a look at our website.

Just Google 2nd Nene or use the following URL. <http://www.2ndnencescouts.uk/>

Further information can also be obtained by contacting one of the leaders shown below.

***Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
Greg & Phil***

Greg Jones (SL) (01733) 232076 Mobile 0773 689 0195 110 Medeswell, Orton Malborne, Peterborough, PE2 5PD greg@wizmail.org	Philip Pearce (SL) (01733 –808147) p_j_pearce@yahoo.co.uk
---	---