

## **36<sup>th</sup> EPPING FOREST SOUTH CUB SCOUT REPORT 2019**

2019 was another very busy and successful year for the Cub section with weekend camps, outings, activity days, sports tournaments and other events in addition to the regular Monday meetings. The two highlights of the year were achieving second place overall on district Cub's sports day and winning the district Cubs six aside football tournament.

Spring term is usually our quietest term with a few additional weekend activities, but this gives the section more time to focus on badge work and to prepare for the busier summer season. During the regular meetings this term, the Cubs worked towards their Road safety, Environmental Awareness and Naturalist activity badges. Two Cubs represented the 36<sup>th</sup> in the district chess tournament in January. A team of Cubs also represented the 36<sup>th</sup> in the district swimming gala in March from which we had six finalists and achieved two podium results. Two older Cubs took part in the district karting challenge and we achieved third place. Two younger Cubs took part in the district air rifle and archery challenge.

Summer term focused on as many outdoor activities as possible. This included a Monday evening canoeing session at Fairlop Sailing Centre during which, the instructors were so impressed with the Cub's abilities, they were all awarded Paddlesport Start certificates. The Cubs also took part in a mini field gun activity during the groups Royal Navy inspection, also at Fairlop. In May two teams were selected to represent the 36<sup>th</sup> in the district sports day and six a-side football tournaments. Eleven Cubs participated in sports day and seven made the finals, resulting in five podium places. As mentioned above, the 36<sup>th</sup> Cubs came second overall on sports day.

Eight Cubs who took part in the football tournament, playing in an exciting completion which included a golden goal during extra time in the semi-final and a saved penalty in the final. With a star player, supported by great teamwork and defence, the 36<sup>th</sup> won the competition. Also, in May seventeen Cubs enjoyed a day out with the annual district outing to Gullivers World theme park. Twenty-three Cubs attended Dad and Cub Camp along with dads and two mums at Thriftwood scout camp in June. This year's theme was "Romans". The dads constructed chariots whilst the Cubs designed roman banners, made roman shields and built dens. Onsite activities included crate rafting on the lake and Cresta run. The district held Sixer and Seconder Camp at the end of June at Thriftwood scout camp during which nine older Cubs enjoyed numerous outdoor activities over the weekend.

Autumn tends to be another busy term leading up to Christmas. During this term Cubs worked towards their Communicator and Fire Safety activity badges. Thirteen Cubs took part in the international Jamboree on the

Air and Internet activity day at Gilwell Park, communicating with Cubs and scouts around the world. In November a team of five Cubs represented the 36<sup>th</sup> in the district quiz coming forth. Also, in November twentyfive Cubs attended the winter weekend camp at Thriftwood. With the dry weather and muddy conditions, the Cubs were outdoors for much of the time and enjoyed zipline, Cresta run and 3D maze onsite activities, as well as taking part in indoor games and activities for the camps "Lego" theme.

Throughout all the Cub activities, in addition to working towards activity badges, the Cubs have worked towards their challenge badges. This included a guide dog sponsorship project as part of their World challenge badge. This activity involved all three sections of the group and together, we raised over £400 to sponsor three guide dog puppies. We will be following their training progress over the next two years. Gaining all the challenge badges, plus six activity badges, leads to a Cub being awarded the Chief Scouts Silver Award. This is the highest award a Cub can earn, and fourteen Cubs were presented the Silver award this year.

The Cub pack currently has the maximum permitted thirty-six young people in the section with a balanced age range from eight to ten and a half, including four girls. Attrition within the Cub section has been minimal this year with four Cubs leaving scouting during autumn term to pursue more dedicated sporting activities.

The adult leadership team has remained very strong throughout the year with Cub Scout Leader Peter Hayward in charge, supported by Assistant Cub Scout Leader Philip Moir and Section Assistant Bart Kolosowski. Assistant Cub Scout Leader Roy Hardy cannot help with Monday meetings but still helps run Cub camps. Phil and Roy were awarded Wood badges this year having completed their leader training. The adult leaders have also been supported by Young Leader Ewan Linsdall throughout the year plus Fred Johnson and Tom Allen from the start of autumn term. We were also assisted during spring term by a Duke of Edinburgh volunteer, working towards her Bronze award. Also, special mention must be made for Assistant Scout Leader Ian Linsdall who has assisted with running the Cub camps.

With pack numbers and adult support at a healthy level, the Cub section has had another very successful and busy year with good attendance levels in all the activities provided. I would like to say thank you to all the leaders for their support in everything we have achieved this year and to all the parents for their support and positive feedback.

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