

Pontygwaith Scout Group Newsletter

Well done to the Cubs who took part in the District Swimming Tournament



Dispute only being six in number they competed against other Groups who had at least 10-15 young people more than what we did.

Scout Hall Grounds

Now that the fence and gate have been installed, we are able to make a start on improving the scout hall grounds. Our first project on the 17th April will be to clear the ground to the right of the car park and build some raised beds to enable us to plant flowers to the entrance of the hall. We will also be using the day to have a general clear up of the hall and any help would be much appreciated.

Shop Online and Raise Funds

easyfundraising is a shopping directory listing some of your favorite online stores including Argos, Next, Debenhams, John Lewis, Toys R Us, HMV and over 600 others. Just use the links on the easyfundraising site whenever you shop online and, at no extra cost to you, we'll receive a free donation of up to 15% from every purchase you make. It really is that simple!

It's completely FREE to register and you won't pay a penny more for your shopping when you use the easyfundraising site. In fact you can even SAVE MONEY as many retailers offer discounts, special offers and even 'e-vouchers' exclusive to easyfundraising. If you shop online all you need to do is visit

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/Register/?char=18671> and when you register, select 1st

Pontygwaith Scout Group as the organisation you wish to support.

Cub Camp



This years Cub camp is being held at Islwyn Scout Park over the weekend of 16th 18th July and the cost of the camp will be between £25-£30. Further details to follow but please make a note of the date. Please see the following link to the Scout Camp website.

<http://www.islwynscoutparc.org.uk/index.htm>

Scout Camps

Please note the dates of the camps that have been organised for the Scout Section

Date	Venue	Cost
May 14th - 16th	Brecon Hike	£20.00
June 18th - 20th	All Wales Scout Camp	£40.00
July 23rd -25th	London	£90.00
September TBC	District Camp	£30.00
October 15th -18th	Bisley	£40.00

Money for nothing!!!!!!

Gift Aid is a Government initiative that allows charitable organisations to reclaim tax paid on subscriptions and donations. All that is required is the name and address of the person making the payment who must also be a tax payer.

Under Gift Aid we can currently reclaim 28p for every pound of subscriptions paid. This money is used to directly benefit the young people and all you have to do is fill in a form. This scheme is more beneficial and more appealing than raising subs or increasing the number of fund raising events.

What would we like you to do?

Our objective is to maximise this income and we ask all of you who are tax payers to join the scheme. All we need you to do is to complete and submit a form but currently we have no one to co-ordinate the scheme on behalf of the Group. If any parent is interested in organizing this for us it would be much appreciated if you can let John now.

To clarify some of the concerns often raised with the scheme:-

1. Subs are still collected on a monthly basis in the normal way.
2. The Gift Aid is automatically cancelled should your son/daughter leave the Group.
3. No-one in the Group has access to any financial or personal details.
4. You do not have to make any declaration of the payment in your Tax Returns

We would be happy to answer any queries you may have.

What would you do with £4000?

How would you spend £4000, perhaps a new car or a nice holiday in the sun? Well we need £4000 to install gas into the building as we need to upgrade the current heating system in the hall. We currently have four portable calor gas heating with are both unsafe and result in some of the members feeling unwell when they attend Scouts. So with the help of the parents we need to look at how we can raise the money to install gas into the premises so any ideas for fundraising would be much appreciated.

When we start back after Easter all Beaver's Cubs and Scouts are to be issued with a challenge to collect at least ten mobile phones that we can send off for recycling to kick start our fundraising towards the installation of the gas. Once we have installed the gas we are still looking at another £4000 to install a gas central heating system.

St Georges Day Fun Day

This event is being held on Sunday 25th April at the Michael Sobell Sports Centre in Aberdare between 10am and 4pm. Further details to follow after the Easter break

If you require any further information on anything contained in this newsletter please speak to John or your child's Leader.

Easter Holidays



Please note the arrangements for Scouts over the Easter holidays

Beaver Scouts

There will be no Beaver Scouts during the holidays and we will resume after the holidays

Cub Scouts

There will be no Cubs on Good Friday but we will be having Cubs through the holidays and weather permitting we shall be going over the farm on the 9th April. Please contact the Leaders prior to this date in case the arrangements have changed.

Scouts

There will be no Scouts on Good Friday but we will be having Scouts through the holidays and weather permitting we shall be going over the farm on the 9th April. Please contact the Leaders prior to this date in case the arrangements have changed.

Happy Easter to you all and we will see you after the holidays.

