# 1st Hampton in Arden Scouts AGB

## Beaver Report

The Beavers have had a very busy 1st year.

We have been making good use of the excellent facilities here at the hut.   The outdoor space has been frequently used for teaching the Beavers about their environment such as building bird boxes and exploring nature.

They attended their first camp last September taking an active part in the country camp.  Activities over the year have included multiple parades (where they have proudly been representing HinA), rock climbing and a trip to Umberslade adventure. We have made the most of the surrounding area outside of the hut, allowing us to do pond dipping, multiple trips to the spinney to build dens, explore natural themes and have created some great artwork with natural Materials.  We have also welcomed speakers and visits from local dentists, nurses, and the police.  Craft activities also continue to be popular with the beavers getting very creative.

A theme of scouting is about learning life skills. They have been learning about fire safety and fire lighting and the past term they have focused on gaining their safety badge with a wide range of activities aimed at teaching them to be aware of different environments and how to stay safe.  
  
The numbers of Beavers attending was at the maximum almost from the start and remained so this year with a growing waiting list.  
  
We are very proud that we had our first three Beavers achieve their bronze chief scout award which was awarded to them by the mayor on the 18th May.  Our whole colony has been working extra hard to ensure that as each beaver reaches their time to move to cubs, they have completed the challenges, activities and gained the necessary skills required for this top award.  This first group of beavers did this in just one year. Most Beavers take 2 yrs to complete it!

During the year we have been very happy to welcomed two new assistant leaders to the colony, Lisa and Ailsa.  Parent support has been good and I would particularly thank Russ, Natalie, Sally and Piers who have provided regular support. Some regular attendees have now moved with their children to cubs, so getting regular parent support will be a further target for the year although just this week a new rota has been introduced.

The year ahead will bring new challenges.  We already have a number of camps scheduled including a sleep over in June, residential trip to an adventure centre in October as well as camping next spring.  A full and rewarding programme is already being planned and the Beaver colony is growing in strength and experience.

Thank you again to all the helpers who have made this past 12 months such a success!