

1ST HERMITAGE GROUP SCOUT GROUP

Chair's Report – April 2021

To say that Scouting in 2020/2021 has been a little different would be a bit of an understatement. The Group has had to adapt to a very different way of providing Scouting, ensuring that they were able to run meetings in a safe manner whilst being fully compliant with Government guidelines. There has been a lot of effort put into running enjoyable and engaging online Zoom meetings as well as the face-to-face Cub meetings when restrictions allowed it. Some of the fun online activities that the cubs participated in over these Zoom sessions were: baking scones and pizzas, catapult making, map reading, code breaking, science experiments, celebrating Chinese New Year, a virtual Easter egg hunt and lots of quizzes. We are extremely grateful to the Scouting Leadership team who have coped very well in challenging circumstances and have been able to carry on with Scouting activities and doing an amazing job.

We are a relatively small pack in Hermitage and our numbers currently stand at 16 cubs and we do have capacity for more Cubs, so if anyone is interested in their son or daughter joining the pack please get in touch with Helen at hermitage.cubs@hotmail.com

Although the Cub hut has not been used so much in 2020 for obvious reasons, we still ensure that the hut is in a good condition, especially now that we are able to resume face to face scouting. A very special thank you to Chris Genge for providing handman services to the hut when repairs are needed.

Thanks once again to Hermitage Parish Council for the generous grant in 2020 that allowed us to repave the rear area of the hut. All we need now are some cubs to test it to destruction! We are also very grateful for the Parish Council for installing CCTV equipment at the hut to allow us to monitor the security of the premises and report any instances of vandalism.

Finally, I would like to thank both the Cubs and the parents for their support through a challenging year. The motto of the Scouting Association is 'Be Prepared' I think that it is suitably fitting given the year that has just passed. As the Cubs and Leaders were prepared to adapt to the challenges of COVID I look forward to them being prepared for a more active and a hopefully more normal Scouting experience in 2021.

Best wishes,

Mark Kerry

1st Hermitage Chair