

YEAR END UPDATE FROM HADDENHAM 1st SCOUT GROUP



Welcome to our Scout Group news page. We hope that you and loved ones are all keeping well. We have some good news from Akela to share with you:

Haddenham Cubs meet again...

We had been planning our return to Pack meetings for weeks, and now it was the Wednesday evening we had been waiting for. We'd had glorious sunshine the previous evenings and our meeting place in the orchard was looking splendid, but then it "tipped it down". Would the Cubs still come? One by one the first half of the Pack were dropped off at our rendezvous area to line up by the lime trees at the front of Linden Way.

In the orchard we had "Grand Howl" spaced out in several lines, rather than our usual semi-circle and then teams were allocated to their adult leaders – Akela, Hathi, Chil, Bagheera and Baloo. Each team was challenged to spread out and hunt for a list of nature items. Most teams managed to find some finger-length slugs, but the earwigs and woodlice had gone to find somewhere drier. As we finished with "Grand Howl" the second half of the Pack were arriving and we ran the meeting again for the fresh group of excited Cubs. The rain left off and we were treated to the setting sun casting its yellow light over the orchard and the birds starting to sing again.

The next Wednesday was the last chance to have an evening meeting before it got dark too early. As it was half term, we had fewer Cubs and so the 15 were permitted to meet together.

This time we set off down Sand Path to the New Cut to meet Rikki at the woodland that has self-seeded into the drove margin.

It was really muddy in the drove as it had just been raining hard, but most of the Cubs had wellingtons on so there was a lot of puddle jumping. In the woodland it was like another world, with orange and yellow hawthorn, maple, oak and ash leaves carpeting the ground and tree trunks crowding round. We examined the ancient maple and ash pollards with massive trunks that were in hedgerow at the drove margin and snaked our way along the narrow pathway to emerge back onto the drove. The Cubs wanted to stay longer, but with an hour limit to our time together we had to make it back up Lode Way and into Hitches Pieces to see the old elm trees. Everyone had really enjoyed themselves.

We have planned to meet fortnightly on Saturdays while the day length is short, rather than every Wednesday.



We will be taking in some new Cubs in the new year. We are all keen to start up again after the November lockdown, as both children and adults have said they feel so much happier being out and seeing each other again.

Akela

Season's Greetings

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas. We hope that the New Year will bring us all good health and much happiness. See you in 2021 with more good news to share.

Best wishes

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Photos: Meeting up again and our two 'Wreaths of Remembrance' laid at the War Memorial on the 8th November.