



PRO-BADGE

ANNUAL REVIEW

2017/2018



PROGRAMME



Arrive

Presentation of the Annual Review Report by the
Camp Leader

Presentation of the Junior Pro-Badge Awards

Certificates for completing all Cub courses

Presentation of the Pro-Badge Awards

Taz Award - Pioneer Badge

Percy Pig – Expedition Challenge

Presentation of the Pro-Badge Collective Award

Certificates for completing all Scout courses

Presentation of the Pro-Badge Special Award

Questions and Answers



PRO-BADGE

c/o 9 Hillview Close,
Amesbury, Wiltshire SP4 7AB
07761 912914

www.pro-badge.org.uk



Camp Leaders Report 2017-2018

This has been my sixth season as camp leader and I am pleased to say that Pro-badge is going from strength to strength. I have enjoyed myself and the feedback from the Cubs and Scouts is that they have also enjoyed themselves too. A highlight for me occurred on the April weekend when I was presented with the Award for Merit in front of all the cubs and scouts at flag break on the Saturday morning.

The first weekend took place as usual in October. The Our Adventure Challenge award course for the Cub Scouts. It was good to welcome back some familiar faces and lots of cubs who had not been on Pro-Badge before. Activities included glow stick hoopla and slacklining plus we brought back our old favourite dough twists. The cubs and scouts sang very loudly at the campfire – their voices could be heard all over the site.

Woozle, Piggy, Ashley, Lurch and Yaffle took the cubs out on a hike on Sunday morning. We also had some explorers helping as part of their young leader training. These young people are always welcome to come and help.

The Scouts took part in the Chef badge which saw the patrols cooking lunch and dinner over open fires on Saturday despite the wet and windy weather, they all coped very well. They also cooked their breakfast on the Sunday morning in the kitchen, as well as learning about menu planning, fire lighting and camp hygiene. I would like to thank Mike for helping with this course as it was his first time out with us.

In November we ran the Navigator Stage 2 badge for the Cub Scouts the activities included walks, 4 figure grid references, making their own maps and learning all about map symbols.



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The Scouts took part in the Pioneer badge which for the first time in many years was full. The weekend involved creating both large and small pioneering projects. The projects this year included a large bridge consisting of two towers and a link between them, as well as an indoor project, making ballista's and lots of practice of knots and lashings.

We also ran the Explorer Pioneer badge in parallel with the Scout Pioneer badge, this course is an extension of what is learnt on the pioneer badge with an emphasis on larger projects as well as things such as models, blocks and tackle, risk assessments and the amount of supervision required whilst taking part in pioneering. This year we only had two explorers which was a bit disappointing but hopefully we will get better numbers next year.

During the January weekend we ran the Pioneer badge for Cub Scouts along with the first weekend of the Scout Expedition Challenge course. We also ran the Forester Badge for Scouts.

It was a cold and wet weekend however the Scouts on the Forester badge enjoyed themselves learning how to coppice, fell trees, plant new ones and a bit on how to do fencing. They also learnt about wood management and the safety of the activities they took part in. This was very successful and the course was full.

The Scouts on the Expedition Challenge badge course had their training weekend. The group was a little late back on the Saturday evening after the leaders with them allowed them to get misplaced, a lesson well learnt. They all arrived back safely at Lyons Copse all be it a bit muddy and tired. The Sunday was spent planning for the second weekend and learning about safety and emergency procedures.



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The Cubs on the Pioneer Course managed to build several projects including a mini tower, ladder and a ballista using knots and lashings. They also all made a piece of rope and a knot board. We had a new team of leaders running the course this year and they did extremely well and have some good ideas for the future.

On the Pro-Badge February weekend, we ran the Navigator Stage 3 badge for both Cub Scouts and Scouts. We also ran the environmental conservation badge for Cub Scouts.

Navigator Stage 3 took place over a nice dry weekend with all the cubs and scouts still getting muddy during the hike on the Saturday afternoon. The course involved lots of map and compass work including a hike on the Saturday afternoon which also qualifies as a Hikes Away. The young people navigated the leaders round the route giving them the opportunity to get the leaders temporarily misplaced (we are never lost). The course also involved making contour models of hills using potatoes, as well as lots of practise of Grid References, symbols and setting a map.

The environmental conservation course saw the cubs learning about water conservation, and recycling. They also made models of houses with solar panels and LED lights. A number of cubs failed to achieve this badge as they had not done the prior work. This is a project and diary on water conservation for four weeks in their own home. It is a shame they failed to achieve but some were able to complete the course on the April weekend when they had finished the project.



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The March weekend was the second weekend of our Expedition Challenge course. This saw 9 Scouts successfully complete the badge in an area unfamiliar to them. This is the only weekend we do not run at Lyons Copse. The weather was very wet and the ground was very muddy underfoot in places. The Sunday however stayed dry. The Scouts also gave their presentations on what they had learned or researched for their projects. The project and work done over the weekends all contributes to the Percy Pig award which is presented at our annual review tonight.

The April weekend saw us running the Chef and Backwoods Cooking badges for Cub Scouts and the Survival Skills badge for Scouts.

The Survival Skills course was full and the Scouts spent Friday evening learning about the skills they would need over the rest of the weekend. Early on the Saturday morning they got up and walked to the Survival Skills site. They then made their shelters collected wood and lit fires before cooking their dinner, sleeping in the shelters and cooking breakfast before clearing up and returning to the main site at Lyons Copse.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the camper course this year due to low Scout numbers booking on. However, the scouts booked on were able to transfer to the survival skills course.

The Chef and Backwoods Cooking courses for the cubs saw half of the cubs cooking on a trench fire for lunch and then for the Chef Badge cooking a chicken dinner on Gas. The other half did it the other way round cooking on Gas for lunch and the trench fire for dinner. They of course also had instruction on hygiene as well as preparing the food (cutting and peeling) and clearing up afterwards.



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New Season – 2018-2019

We are looking for new members to join the leadership team, could you help, please speak to either myself, Snowy or Midge. You do not need to be a leader or have a lot of experience we can always find something for you to do.

We had some confusion on some weekends over the booking process so I have outlined it below.

- 1, Decide which course(s) you wish to attend
- 2, Contact me either by email or telephone to check on spaces and get your name added to the list. This guarantees you a place on the course.
- 3, I will email or send you the badge details and permission to camp forms.
- 4, Send the forms and monies back to me.

Next season we are keeping the prices the same. We are also keeping our early payment discount. If you pay at least two weeks before you will get an early payment discount. This is because we have had Cubs and Scouts who have booked on not turn up for weekends or book very late. We have to order things like food a week before and if a Cub or Scout does not turn up we will have already paid for this. Conversely if a Cub or Scout books on late we have to ensure that they are catered for, this can be especially difficult if they have special dietary needs.



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A lot of people have helped me through my sixth season and I would like to thank them all, specialists, experts, cub friends, cook house team, senior patrol, first aid and stores team. I would also like to thank the members of the executive committee who have supported me behind the scenes as well over the weekends. A lot of work is done by a few people to ensure that the weekends are a success for the Cubs and Scouts.

Looking forward to the 2018/2019 season and seeing you all on all of the courses.

Scissors / Clive Clark

Camp Leader

The Awards

The first awards we are presenting are the certificates for completing five Cub Scout Courses. This usually takes two seasons to complete but can be done in one if the Cub Scout is especially keen.

This year the awards go to:

Jack Bird	61 st Portsmouth
James Bryce	2 nd Fareham
Ewan Clinch	2 nd Fareham
Lilibeth Clarkson	24 th Basingstoke
Kara Nash	2 nd Fareham
Callum Sperling	24 th Basingstoke

The second award is the Taz award for the Cub Pioneer badge. This is the first year we have presented this award and it goes to the person who showed the most improvement over the weekend.

The nominations for the award are:

Jack Allen	61 st Portsmouth
Archie Davies	61 st Portsmouth
Enya Smith	5 th Gosport

The third award is the Percy Pig award for the Expedition Challenge badge. This badge takes two weekends to complete with the first at Lyons Copse and the second in unfamiliar country.

The nominations for the award are:

William Begg	2 nd Fareham
Joshua Harfield	5 th Portsmouth

The Pro-Badge Special Award is awarded to the adult or the team of adults that the executive committee members feel have put an extra effort into their role or roles. This could be for a one off event or over the season or other seasons. The members of the executive are not eligible for this award. This year it is going to an individual.

The Pro-Badge Collective is the board that is displayed on the wall in Lyons Lodge by the kind permission of the Solent Scout Training Centre. This lists the Scouts who have completed all of the Scouts Activity badges that Pro-Badge offer at that time as the number and subjects of badges change as the badges change over the years. This year we are adding two names to the board.

William Mossop	Basingstoke Sea Scouts
Jason Nash	2 nd Fareham

Junior Pro-Badge – 2017/2018 Season

I am delighted to report that cub numbers increased last season following a dip in the 2016/2017 season. Cubs have worked hard to achieve the following badges: Our Adventure Challenge; Navigator Stage 2; Pioneer; Environmental Conservation; Navigator Stage 3; Chef and Backwoods Cooking.

Memories from this season.....

October Weekend – Our Adventure Challenge

- Making rope...water rockets....bouldering course.....
....slacklining....archery....hike.....glo stick wide game....making mars bar dough twists

November Weekend - Navigator

- Cubs using an actual grid created on the hall floor and the cub cuddly animals to practice grid references

January Weekend – Pioneer

- A new team led by Mike Atkinson took over running this badge – cubs had great fun learning all about knots and lashing and putting their newly learned skills into practice building a variety of objects including a ladder and table.
- At the end of the weekend it was suggested and agreed that we should have our first cub award – The Taz Award awarded to the cub who has shown most improvement over the pioneering weekend – the nominees this year are Enya Smith, Archie Davies and Jack Allen with the winner being announced at our Annual Review on the 18th October. Congratulations to all 3 and to the rest of the cubs who all passed the badge.

February Weekend – Environmental Conservation

- I was very impressed with all the activities the cubs did and the ideas they came up with - I think the solar power model houses devised by Yaffles aka Clive Nash were brilliant.

February Weekend – Navigator Stage 3

- We run this badge jointly with the scouts - cubs enjoyed the extra hiking and more in-depth map work
- On the Saturday night cubs and scouts on both badges upcycled old maps to make coasters

April Weekend – 2 badges – Chef and Backwoods Cooking

- Cubs eating what they had cooked – both indoors and outside at the trench fire

Parents – please, please read the paperwork.....on Environmental Conservation cubs have to do a project before they come to the weekend – we had several very unhappy cubs and

parents – we don't want a repeat of this this coming season + please make sure they know what is in their own bag.

Junior Pro-Badge could not function without the support of a group of brilliant leaders, parents and helpers. THANK YOU...THANK YOU..... THANK YOU.....

Midge Clark, Assistant Camp Leader, Junior Pro-Badge

Dear Scissors

What I really enjoyed about Pioneering camp was learning how to tie various knots, and the different styles of knot use. My favourite knot is the Reef know as I found it to be the easiest, and the hardest one was the Double Figure of Eight.

As I have not been on a Pioneering camp before I wouldn't know what would be good to change.

It was a really good weekend and I hope to learn more knots in the future with Scouts and other Pro-Badge camps, and also put my skills into practice soon.

Thank you for a nice weekend.

Enya - 5th Gosport Sea Scouts

Expedition Challenge Badge

2018

By William Begg

The Expedition Challenge consisted of two weekends the first weekend was from 19th to 21st January 2018 and we were based at Lyons Copse.

This weekend was mainly to make sure that we were prepared for the second weekend where we would be left on our own as a group to get from one destination to another.

So we had to make sure that all the equipment we had brought was correct for the expedition. We checked our cooking equipment to see how fast it would boil some water, mine came second, this was fun as it was like having a race with your fellow scouts.

We also discussed what we needed to take that was essential such as a tent, good walking shoes, wet weather clothes, first aid kit and most importantly a map and compass, oh and food of course. We then discussed things that we wouldn't need to bring such as a bed !

We slept in the tents that Probadge had provided which were set up in the hall, it would have been good if we were able to set up our own tents so that we had some more practice at putting them up and down.

We planned a route that we were later going to walk and had to make sure we had food and rest stops and also try to work out how long the hike would take us.

After the first weekend I felt very excited to do the second weekend but knew that I would have to do my homework which was to plan the route that we were going to walk the second weekend so that I was prepared. I did this and got my Dad to check I had done it correctly.

The second weekend was 10th and 11th March 2018, we had to meet at Rowlands Castle Railway Station where we were put into our groups. We all had a back pack which had everything that we needed for our hike, such as a water bottle, snacks, hat, coat and some spare clothes then I had my map in my waterproof cover along with my compass and route.

The hike was the smugglers trail it was raining when we started but then it got quite warm, we saw Harris's well which was used by the Hawkhurst gang to dump Charters body. We saw lots of wildlife such as Herons, other birds, cows and horses and a variety of insects. We worked well as a team and helped each other and we didn't get lost, it took about 5 hours to get to our destination. When we got there we had to put up our tents and make our dinner which was pasta. Once we got everything ready we were free to do whatever we liked, so we played with some bean bags throwing them at each other and if you dropped it you would have to go on one knee. We then went to bed about 9ish as we needed to get a good night's sleep ready for the next day.

The next morning we cooked our breakfast which was bacon sandwich which I really enjoyed and then we all had to do our presentation. I had already prepared mine which was all about the Hawkhurst Gang, I found it very interesting reading all about what they did.

Once they were all done we then set off for our second hike this was close to where we had camped and we saw lots of farms and strangely we found about 3 car number plates just lying around we again all worked well as a team making sure we did not get lost by using our map and compass. This

hike took about 3 hours once we got back we packed up all our gear and then all lined up for a photo and then went home.

The best part of the challenge was sleeping in our own tents and cooking our food.

After the second weekend I was very tired but really pleased that our group worked well as a team and that we managed to gain our Expedition Badge.

Thank you for all the helpers that make these weekends so much fun and give us the opportunity to learn new skills

Expedition Challenge Report

By Joshua Harfield

To Scissors and the rest of the team,

On the first weekend we spent some time learning how to plot co-ordinates on a map and create a route card. We also learnt what a six-figure grid reference was and how to use them. We also did a hike one day, which helped us all to work as a team and to get to the right places. We also learnt how to use a Trangia and how to pack them away.

On the second weekend we did a day and a half hike. We had to use all the skills we had developed in the first training weekend to help us achieve our goal. We came together as a team and this helped us to navigate well, allowing for a few detours! On Saturday evening we also had to give a presentation on the nature of Smuggling.

My experience of the two weekends has taught me lots of new and interesting skills. It has led to me overcoming my homesickness and becoming a more confident Scout on a big hike. It has also helped me to improve my personal confidence and proved I can do things outside my comfort zone and achieve a goal.

What I learned:

I learnt how to safely use a Trangia and pack it away and be able to help other people in the future.

Also, the two weekends helped me develop my map reading skills for things like Kudu and being able to help Scouts on Lamps Trophy in the future.

It helped me build up my stamina for walking long distances for my DofE and future hikes. I learnt how to properly make a route card and plot it on a map.

After the camps I did a Personal Development Day at school based around the DofE award and I was able to help my friends using the skills I now have, putting up tents, hiking and map reading etc. My teachers were impressed, and my help was appreciated!!

What could be improved:

Better weather for future Scouts!!

Although it was fun possibly there could have a few activity bases along the way to break up the walking.

Finally, 'Thank You' everyone on the camp for your hard work and support, it was gratefully received.

Thanks Josh