

The year has flown by, with lots of fun activities and badges being awarded! It started with the Beaver sleepover in the hut in May, when we completed our Scottish Thistle challenge badge, with haggis hunts, blindfold trails, and making pancakes, a Highland coo, a Scottish woggle and our own tartans, and managed a little bit of sleeping too! Shortly after this weekend, we stayed overnight at Lochters Activity Centre, where we joined the cubs and scouts for a large camp. It was amazing the activities we did – segways, water zorbing, climbing wall, kayaking, archery and zip wires were just a few of the highlights. It was a very busy, energetic and fun filled 24 hours of camping



Autumn arrived and we visited the local Mountain Rescue Service where we were taught how to read a compass, navigating around the building, and tried out the vans and equipment the volunteers use when on a call out. We also heard about some of the challenges the volunteers face when out helping people in all weathers. This term was also spent trying to get the song “Baby Shark” out of our heads, after practising the song for the AGM last year.

We have learnt about disabilities, health and fitness, building models, and been on cycle rides, swimming and learnt how to play hockey. We have had a session with Sooyang Doo instructors, attended the Gang show and been on a visit to the climbing wall. We competed in the worldwide Jambowlree challenge, the 10 pin bowling competition. We have had lots of food to make and eat including armpit fudge, haggis, neaps and tatties, fruit kebabs, pancakes, and have practised using chopsticks on jelly sweets. We have had lots of fun with science and experiments, including vortex cannons, dry ice experiments and catapult building, as well as Space robotic arms, fizzy balloons and space rockets.

We sadly said goodbye to Chris Bayne who left Amazon in January to move with his son to Cubs. We are very grateful to all the parents that have helped at beavers over the last 12 months, and welcome any parents who wish to help more regularly. Many thanks to Fi and Mel, my fellow leaders, Aaron, our Explorer Scout helper, and all the other leaders and adults who have helped make the year very enjoyable for both the Beavers and Leaders.

Cath McLaren

Amazon Beaver Scout Leader