



Ist Old Malden (St. John the Baptist) Scout Group

Christmas News Letter December 2015

Just a few weeks ago, I had the pleasure ~ yes the pleasure! ~ of attending one of the Scout troop's evenings. They were working on their photographers badge. I think many of you know I *do* have a little experience in that field. It was a great evening. The kids showed a great amount of interest, and some very artistic ideas. I thank them for the invitation, which I enjoyed very much.

It took me back some thirty years to when I was a Scout Leader. It felt like time had stood still... that was, until I got home. My voice had gone to sleep, and my hearing was little better!

Why do I mention this? At this time of year, it is appropriate to thank all our leaders for the splendid work and all the time they give the children. They do it week in and week out, and by the way they don't get paid. The prize for them is seeing the results of their work.

This also goes for the lay people who sit on committees and help with the raising of funds that keep our great Scout group afloat. To all of you, I thank you all for all that you do.

Next time the call goes out for help, in whatever shape, please give it some consideration. I'm sure you will!

This Christmas we think of all the Scouts around the world who are not so lucky as us, especially those in troubled areas. We do hope that 2016 will be a better year for them

The leaders and the executive committee appreciate all the help that they receive.

Thanks for the great turnout at the annual general meeting, and thanks to all those who attended and helped at this year's fair on Plough Green. A special thank you goes to the Fair Committee, who put in so much work behind the scenes. Last year the fair raised the most ever!

Have a great Christmas, and may you all get thr enjoyment from the Scouting you put into Ist Old Malden in 2016.

John Eggitt Group President



We are very sad to say goodbye to Pete Churchill as our Group Scout Leader.

Pete has made the difficult decision to step down this Christmas, after nearly 3 years as our enthusiastic, hard working and brilliant Group Scout Leader for IOM.

Pete has driven the group forward, and is proud to have overseen many positive changes including the re opening of two old sections, and a brand one new one!

Pete leaves us a bigger, stronger group and we will all miss him very much.

Editor

Dear All,

I would like to wish you and all your families a very Merry and Happy Christmas . All the very best for the future, and keep up the good work in IOM. Many thanks for everyone's support during my time in the group, I really appreciate everyone's contribution. It was good fun.



All the very best,

Pete



The Beavers and Cubs made sweets this week in their meetings to sell at the Church Christmas Fair. They raised a fantastic £87.50 for St. John's Church.



At the District Rifle and Pistol Competition Jamie Farquharson of Titan ESU won Gold for Pistol, Silver for Rifle and Gold for the aggregate rifle and pistol.

Well done to Jamie, and everyone from IOM who took part.

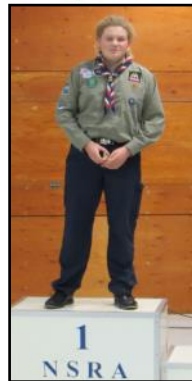
Cillian Creedon of Titan ESU is now a Young Leader with the Troop.

He is receiving his certificate and YL belt from the DC at on 8th December.

Congratulations Cillian!

If any other Explorers are interested in doing their YL training, please contact Jenny McCallum

James Farquharson of Titan ESU Won the 3 Position Sporter Rifle Gold medal at the Scouts National Rifle Championships 2015 Congratulations!



1st Old Malden Cubs won 3rd place in the District Swimming Gala!



Well done everyone!

Remembrance Sunday Church Parade

Due to our ever-growing numbers, we tried something different for Remembrance Sunday this year. Following a time of reflection in the playground of Malden Parochial School we paraded over to St John's Church in order to join the congregation for the Act of Remembrance at the war memorial. We were delighted that members from the Guides and Brownies were able to join us and it was great to have the opportunity to parade together in our local area. As always the leaders were very proud of the younger members and the way they conducted themselves. Our thanks go to Rev Kevin Scott for supporting us in our request to try something different.

Louise D



What usually happens is what always happens. Or does it?



Most of the science we learn at school is based on this idea: as far as physics, biology and chemistry are concerned, if something usually happens then it always happens. But it isn't always true. Just wait till you get to quantum physics.

And the same is true with God. Usually God stays hidden. But just once – in a spectacular way – God didn't stay hidden. God became a human being. It's what we celebrate at Christmas. And since then God has been taking people by surprise. God has been turning up in people's lives when they least expected it.

Have a great Christmas. And be prepared. Where God is concerned, what usually happens isn't what always happens.

The Revd Kevin Scott
Vicar of St John the Baptist Parish Church.

