## **Gareth Jenkins - Bagheera**



I first joined the scout movement back in the mid 60's, first as a wolf cub and then a scout in 1st Malden. This sowed the seed as I enjoyed my time, but there was a long gap (a very long gap) till I had a chance to re-start my scouting story.

My son joined 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Addlestone, originally a beaver at 5<sup>th</sup> Addlestone. The Akela at the time said he could join, as long as I stayed and helped. Like many other leaders this is how the story starts. He left and so did I but a year later at the AGM the GSL said Tigers Cub Pack was going to shut as there was no leader to take over. I raised my hand and 21 years later I was still there as the Akela. I moved house and had to leave the group but as I knew Sandra (Akela at the time) and had some great joint meetings over the years, I asked if I could come over to 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Water – she seemed quite keen!

As I enter my 28th year I can review what makes being a cub leader special.

You get to know the cubs and parents over their time in the cub pack and it is great to bump into them years later and they say hello and still remember the fun they had.

What did/do they enjoy?

Meeting new friends, trying out stuff they don't do at school, camping, games and earning badges.

As I do, they wear their uniform with pride and can look back at their time in scouting with fond memories.

Why not come along and see what we get up to every week and what makes the cubs have fun as well as us leaders. Have a look at the posts on our Facebook page to see what I mean.

