

# Still going strong 100 years on



AS the scouting movement gets ready to celebrate its 100th birthday this year, **JULIE WILLIAMS** met some of the boys and adults who find the activities so rewarding

SCOUTS at Long Sutton will benefit from the last gift of lifetime scout Walter Cook, who died at 96 in September, just missing this year's centenary of the great youth movement he loved.

Walter's son David has handed over to 1st Long Sutton Scouts more than £1,100, which was donated at his father's funeral.

At the scout hall his dad worked hard to get built in the 1980s, he met today's thriving troop of beavers (aged six to eight).

He said: "My father was a boy scout in the 1920s and a scout leader for years, then chairman of Long Sutton scouts when he moved here.

"He would be really delighted that the money from his funeral collection will go towards the recent modernisation of the scout hall.

"It was a wooden hut when he came and he made sure the scouts had a solid brick-built hall by doing a tremendous amount of fundraising and winning a grant from the Silver Jubilee fund."

Walter's gift will go into the kitty for work that was completed while the hall was shut from January to October

last year.

The roof was replaced, toilets refitted, a new kitchen installed and an extension for storage built - all except the extension paid for by another fundraising push, this time raising more than £24,000.

Apart from the rainbows, brownies and girl guides, there are three scouting groups who meet at the hall.

There is one girl among the 22 beavers, which has a waiting list, and there are four among the close to 30 lads aged eight to 11 in cubs. No females have yet braved the ranks of Long Sutton Scouts, now up to seven - but give them time...

## Appeal for help

TROOPS like 1st Long Sutton Scouts can only carry on as long as adults keep coming forward to help... and there is a shortage of volunteers throughout Lincolnshire.

If your son or daughter is aged between six and 18 and wants to join the scouts, or if you are an adult who would enjoy being part of the movement as a trained leader or volunteer helper, contact Lincolnshire's Scout

HQ at 01522 546390.



David Cook with a bunch of beavers at Long Sutton Scout Hall, where he was handing over a donation from his father's funeral. (2601071t27)



Long Sutton Beavers with the portrait of scouts' founder Robert Baden-Powell that hangs in their hall. The scout is 11-year-old Connor Hockley. (2601071t30)

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