

# Press Release

## Otto the Otter helps eager beavers learn about saving water



A HAND puppet called 'Otto the Otter' played a starring role when Hampshire beaver scouts learned about the importance of saving water and looking after the environment.

Youngsters with the Milford and Keyhaven group had a short talk from Otto's 'handler' David Harrison of Sembcorp Bournemouth Water (SBW).

He highlighted the advantages to the otter population and other wildlife of healthy rivers. SBW, which supplies drinking water to approximately half a million people, takes three quarters of its water from the Rivers Avon and Stour.

The beavers, aged six to eight years, then took part in several water-saving experiments involving the use of barrels and taps.

SBW also presented the youngsters with water-saving packs and a booklet highlighting the importance of using water wisely.

Beavers group leader Rachel Wilkins, who is a self-employed plumber, said the session had been both informative and entertaining.

"We're very grateful to Sembcorp Bournemouth Water. Our beavers learned a lot and also had great fun seeing for themselves how to save water," she added.

Roger Harrington, Sembcorp Bournemouth Water's Managing Director, said, "Educating children is very rewarding – they are quick to learn, ready to adapt, and take what they learn home with them. They also remind us that learning can be fun!"