

November 2013



Queen Charlotte Wood Camp

District Website: <http://www.westwirralscouts.org.uk>

From the District Commissioner

This has been quite a month - so much going on. I attended the special weekend for disabled young people at The Old School Lodge, run by the Rotary and supported by the Explorers. They went up Snowdon on the Mountain Railway, well so did I. It was a bit cloudy at the top so we stayed in the shop/cafe until we were due to come down. We then had lunch and split the group into two so that each could have an experience of canoeing on the lake, and going to the slate mine. The canoeing was eventful in that the one girl who did not want to go canoeing, lost her glasses overboard. Two leaders went in and managed to find the glasses and she was so overjoyed her celebration tipped her into the water. My thanks to 2nd West Kirby for organising the canoeing. The second day was the Rotary Disabled Games held in Chester, where lots of events were put on that they could have a go at. The Explorers, who were buddies to the disabled young people, took them round the games. Some had a hard job persuading the person they were buddying to do something, but when eventually they got them to do it, they couldn't get them to stop. Unfortunately the games were cut short due to bad weather. I would like to personally thank the Explorers who took part:-

Lee Draycott Dan Pickett Emily Harrington Anne Price
Harry McNeill Niamh Tennyson Joe McNeill,

I would also like to thank Ann Coulson in charge, and Dave Coulson and Alison Sterling for the catering.

This event was closely followed by the World Scout Jamboree Selection Day. What a hard job those young people gave us. See separate article.

I also went to the Cub Camp on the Saturday at Queen Charlotte's Wood. The weather was good and the Cubs were doing bases for their Camping and Cooking badges. They certainly seemed to enjoy the cooking bases and were eating lot of things, but it didn't spoil their appetite for lunch. All the Cubs and Leaders were having a great time. Thanks to Sue Flush for the organisation and for feeding me and keeping me supplied with coffee.

The other great news is that we have agreed the opening of an Explorer Unit in Heswall, which will open after the half term. The first meeting will be Thursday the 31st October. Adam Walton, an existing Explorer Leader, will work with Jo Day from 2nd West Kirby supported as necessary by leaders from the Heswall area. We wish them every success in this new Unit.

The rest of my busy month was more formal events. I attended three Group AGMs all of which were quite different from each others and I did have the pleasure of presenting some awards. There was the GSLs meeting, the County DCs' Meeting and the County AGM and Conference which was up to the usual standard with the County's Morecambe and Wise act of Peter Oliver and Mike Hussey acting as MCs.

I still have a number of presentations to make and will be doing these over the next few weeks.

Brian.

23rd World Scout Jamboree – Japan 2015

We asked the young people who had expressed an interest in going to the Jamboree to write in saying why they wanted to go and what benefit they expected to get out of it. Seven young people applied.

I asked and am indebted to the following for helping me on the Selection Day. Liam O'Malley, who has been to two Jamborees, one as a young person and one as a unit leader, Alan Bennett, who went to the last Jamboree as a unit leader and Phill Richardson, who was able to give the parents point of view having had both of his sons attending the last Jamboree in Sweden.

We organised a Selection Day at 4th Moreton Scout Headquarters. We asked the parents to stay for the first half hour so that we could explain what was involved in going to a Jamboree and gave details of this particular Jamboree.

When the parents had gone home we all played some games that helped us all to relax and get to know one another. The young people then carried out a number of projects including feeding us all. During the cooking of the meal they each had three one-to-one interviews with my three colleagues rather than have them undergo a panel interview.

At the end of the day when the parents came to pick up the young people we had a Question and Answer session to cover those things that they may have thought about during the day.

Then came the very difficult part of choosing three out of seven candidates to represent West Wirral at the jamboree. After much discussion and soul searching we selected the following three people:-

Archie Boulton from 2nd West Kirby

Dan Callaghan from 1st Thurstaston

Damon Taylor from 1st Frankby Greasby.

I know that they will find this experience will change their lives. We also know that they will do us proud when they go, not only to represent us at the Jamboree but also Merseyside County and the Country.

We wish them all success in the lead up to the Jamboree and in their fundraising and I hope you will all support them in any fundraising events they put on. Those who were not selected should not be too disappointed, they were all good candidates and it is never easy to pick only three from seven.

We will keep you posted on their progress.

Brian.

A pause for thought

WIRRAL HORN NOVEMBER 2013.

The 11th of this month is the time we remember those who have fallen in battle during the many conflicts that have been and yet are still taking place in distant lands. Many of us will wear a poppy as a token of our respect, the money raised will go to support the vital work of the Royal British Legion. Scouting will play a role on the 11th; Scouts will form a guard of honour as the Queen walks out to lay the wreath on behalf of our Nation.

“In Flanders field the poppies blow between the crosses, row by row, that mark our place, and in the sky, the larks, still bravely singing, fly scarce heard amid the guns below.”

That is the first verse of the poem penned by John McCrae in 1915.

Major John McCrae was a doctor in the Canadian Army and whilst the Chaplain was away he engaged with several funerals. John McCrae, as the Brigade Doctor, conducted the funeral for a fellow officer; who was also his friend

It was later that day, after this profound event had impacted upon him so deeply, that he wrote his famous poem.

As we remember those who have lost their lives on our behalf, so do please think of them; the members of our great movement that did not and will not return to their loved ones.

“May your God grant you His compassion, mercy, love and support you in your hour of need.”

“AARON”





Queen Charlotte Wood Camp

Over the weekend of 27th - 29th September Cubs from six West Wirral Packs took part in a camp at Queen Charlotte Wood near Alvanley, Cheshire. Packs represented were 4th Moreton, 4th Heswall, 6th Heswall, 1st Thurstaston, 2nd West Kirby and St Andrew's, Meols. Cubs attending worked towards their Chef badge and the Camper Badge. Other activities included a camp fire, wide game and a tug-of-war competition





Scout Section Report – Wirral Horn November 2013

2nd Greasby Scouts Win Local Award!

Congratulations to 2nd Greasby Scouts who have won the Environmental Living Award courtesy of Magenta Living & Sodexo.

The award was presented by the Mayor and Mayoress on Friday 27th September 2013. They have received a prize of £1000 which will be used towards materials and labour to renovate their new field, enabling them to provide many more future adventures for the troop.

Well done 2nd Greasby on this fantastic achievement!



Two very happy Scouts receive the award!

Patrol Leaders Training 2013

On 14th September patrol leaders from Overchurch Upton, 3rd Heswall, 5th Heswall, 4th Moreton, 7th Moreton & 1st Frankby Greasby attended the annual PL Training & forum day, this year themed "This Is My Space!"

Scouts took part in variety of group activities and challenges where they not only had plenty fun but also learnt the value of teamwork and friendship. To start the day we had a newspaper costume challenge where each patrol dressed one member up as a famous Scout, here we have Steven Spielberg, Richard Branson, David Beckham & Paul McCartney....well the Scouts interpretation of them anyway!





The day continued with activities including the balloon balancing act, the throw out the rubbish challenge and sessions where Scouts got chance to explore their programme, badges and have a go at planning a troop night for themselves.

Scouts had opportunity to say what they thought about Scouting in West Wirral, as they were invited to write on a graffiti wall, in their own words Scouting here is: **adventurous, fun filled, exciting and EPIC!**

Many thanks to 3rd Heswall for hosting the event and to all the leaders who helped to run the activities, it was a great success!





This month I have enjoyed being welcomed on several troop visits. I've been backwoods pizza cooking with 4th Moreton, making and testing can stoves with 2nd Greasby and hearing all about Operation Christmas Child at Overchurch Upton. Thanks to all those troops for making me feel so welcome, I can't wait to get around some more troops and find out what everyone has been getting up to!

We are looking forwards to continuing with a very busy term in the run up to Christmas, we have our five a side football and photo competitions coming up as well as the first annual District Scout Campfire and County PL Day in November. Plans are also in place for the Scout and Explorer Christmas celebration in December.

Jenny Peek ADC(S)

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<http://www.westwirralscoutteam.com>

<http://www.twitter.com/WestWirralScout>

<http://www.facebook.com/WestWirralScout>





The Activity Centre

Number Club Draw

The draw has taken place and the winners are:-

October

1st Ann Coulson

2nd John Pownall

3rd Steve & Ruth Wynn

4th Richard Twemlow

Their cheques are in the post

Congratulations

So have you got your numbers yet?

If you don't have your numbers yet contact

Christine Kenyon

0151 677 1820

christine.kenyon@talktalk.net



Old School Lodge Accommodation Charges - effective from Jan 1st 2014

There is a minimum charge based on the cost of 12 visitors - Additional visitors will be charged at the appropriate daily rates.

Non Scout /Guide Individuals or Organisations		Members of Scout and Guide Associations		Members of Wallasey / W. Wirral Scout Districts	
Cost /pers/night		Cost /pers/night		Cost /pers/night	
First 2 nights (per night)	£ 18.00	1st 2 nights (per night)	£ 10.80	1st 2 nights (per night)	£ 9.00
Each extra night	£ 13.10	Each extra night	£ 8.45	Each extra night	£ 6.55
Quick Calculator		Quick Calculator		Quick Calculator	
Length of Stay	Total Cost /pers	Length of Stay	Total Cost /pers	Length of Stay	Total Cost /pers
2 Nights	£ 36.00	2 Nights	£ 21.60	2 Nights	£ 18.00
3 Nights	£ 49.10	3 Nights	£ 30.05	3 Nights	£ 24.55
4 Nights	£ 62.20	4 Nights	£ 38.50	4 Nights	£ 31.10
5 Nights	£ 75.30	5 Nights	£ 46.95	5 Nights	£ 37.65
6 Nights	£ 88.40	6 Nights	£ 55.40	6 Nights	£ 44.20

Please note that accommodation charges for bookings over the Christmas and New Year periods are subject to a special rate. Please check with our booking secretary for further details.

2014 Special Offer Bookings made before November 1st 2013 will be charged at 2013 rates

Dates for your Diary

2013

November

12	ADC's	DHQ	20.00
19	District Executive	DHQ	19.45
22	Charity Post stamps on sale		
23	Getting Started Course	Fire Service HQ Liverpool	
24	First Response course	Liverpool	
28	AGM	6 th Heswall	

December

9	Charity Post Sorting offices open.
14/15	First delivery of Charity Post.
18	Last date to post Xmas cards.
21/22	Second delivery of Charity Post.

Please remember to let me have the dates for your planned activities.

Please let me have articles for the
next Wirral Horn by the 10th
November.

The Editor's Bit.

Shops and Garden Centres have had Christmas decorations displayed for some weeks, but it was the note from Joyce MacLeod asking for my support at the Charity Post Sorting Office that made me realise just how close we are to Christmas. I look forward to meeting up with members of the "Royden Sorting Team" again.

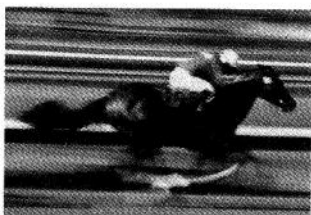
I remember that in the early days of the Charity Post we met in each others houses to frank and sort the cards. Now the Charity Post deals with more letters in one day than we coped with for the whole scheme, when the Charity Post first started.

Eddie.



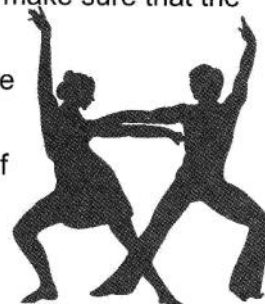
RACENIGHTSRUS

Race nights are fun, exciting and a great way to raise money for any reason. Servicing the North West of England, we aim to provide the complete race night service and will supply everything you need to make your event a great success. A well put together race night is tremendous fun for everyone especially if raising money for charity or associations.



To book a disco/karaoke call 07960 388144
or email racenightsrus@ntlworld.com

Mobile discos and Karaoke for all occasions, Music to Suit All Tastes, Fantastic Light Show and Smoke Machine, Highly Recommended. Not only do we want to make sure you & your guests have a great night, we also want to make sure that the Mobile Disco or Karaoke Disco you hire from us is worry free, and that you, and all of your guests, have a night that you will



To book a disco/karaoke call 07983 626045
or email racenightsrus@ntlworld.com