

SEPTEMBER 2013



*Patrol Leaders Survival Weekend 2013
(West Wirral Contingent)*

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

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& our District Commissioner

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To: The West Wirral Team

Dear all

I am delighted to advise that Brian Tucker has accepted my invitation to be District Commissioner for West Wirral.

Brian has served the District and the County for many years and I know he will gain your support in this new role. Please join me in welcoming Brian to his new role.

Alan Seeley

County Commissioner

From the District Commissioner

When I wrote my piece in the last issue of the Horn, I thought it was going to be a one off and here I am again writing the opening article but this time as District Commissioner. Alan Seeley our County Commissioner has asked me to take on this role, not for ten years you will be pleased to know, but for at least a year maybe two, to lead the District forward until the new DC is found.

I will work with you all to ensure that the District grows so that we will be giving more young people the benefits that Scouting provides. So it is not growth for growths sake. It is not a numbers game. If we believe that Scouting is good for young people then we should be trying to reach out to more in our community.

Publicity is often hard to achieve but if we provide a good programme that is varied, exciting and most importantly fun, the young people will recommend it to their friends.

I attended the Scouts backwoods cooking competition and the four teams had a great time and turned out some good menus and good food. I also went over to Tawd Vale for the Patrol Leaders Survival weekend. Eight PLs from our District attended, and I believe survived.

I trust that all those of you who went to camp had a great time whatever the weather provided. If the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers had a good time that is what matters. I would be interested to hear how the camps went.

As you read this it will be back to school and back to Scouting. I know that the Explorers didn't break for the Summer so it doesn't apply to them

Brian Tucker

District Commissioner

A pause for thought

Have you noticed that the noun “Industry” (which according to the dictionary means quantity of being diligent: steady in labour), is now often prefixed by the words “service” or “hospitality”. The “hospitality industry” to me conjures up a vision of hotels and restaurants, where highly trained staff extend a welcome and serve their paying customers with a professionalism the customers expect.

Like me, I expect that you enjoy the occasional meal out with friends at a local restaurant, enjoying pleasant company, good food and excellent service.

The word hospitality means welcome and entertainment of guests, so putting these two nouns together you have an industry of welcome.

The welcome you extend to the young people within your care cannot be described as an industry.

That young person, arriving for the first time to your meeting, will be met with a warm and friendly greeting; hopefully he or she will remember that first evening for ever.

“May your God welcome you and extend His love and care from this day onwards for ever”

“AARON”



cubs

National Cub Fun Day 21st to 22nd June 2013 – being a National Scouting event this was held at Gilwell, therefore 3 Packs set off early Friday evening to travel down and stay overnight at a local Group HQ. After being fed and watered, the 42 cubs and Leaders from West Wirral joined 3,000 others in experiencing the wide range of activities available across the Gilwell campsite. After a hectic day of grass sledging, climbing, shooting, bouncing, running, stacking, catapulting, sliding and swinging, 3 minibuses full of tired cubs and Leaders set off north to arrive home safe and sound with memories to remember. Many thanks to the Leaders who gave up their weekend to enable their cubs to visit Gilwell, perhaps the only time that some will go there.

Up & Coming Events

Cub Camp – 27th to 29th September, Queens Charlotte Wood, please contact Sue Flush if you'd like to attend.

Next District CSL meeting—Monday 9th September 2013, 20:30hrs at 7th Moreton's HQ

Alan Bennett (ADC Cubs)

0151 606 0335 (07920 496 929)

alan.bennett@bamnuttall.co.uk





Patrol Leaders Survival Weekend 2013 **(See cover for photograph)**

On Friday 12th July, a party of around 60 Patrol Leaders from the county of Merseyside and the Isle of Man descended upon Tawd Vale campsite for a survival weekend, and what a fantastic weekend it was! Eight PL's from West Wirral were selected for the weekend, they came from 3rd Heswall, 5th Heswall and 4th Moreton troops. From the moment they arrived the PL's were on their survival mission, allocated new patrols for the weekend, they all had the chance to make new friends and learn new skills. Survival skills bases including shelter building, axemanship, first aid, wilderness survival and fire lighting were carried out on Saturday. The Scouts getting the chance to implement their new skills through backwoods cooking their own meal and constructing bivvy shelters in the forest where they slept overnight. Of course there was chance for a brilliant campfire on Saturday night (well we couldn't go to camp without having one!) On Sunday some Tai Chi in the early morning sunshine got everyone off to a great start. This was followed by a PL's Forum where Scouts had the chance to have an input into the Scouting programme, and discuss their thoughts about being a Scout. This is part of our Vision for 2018 as we are encouraging young people to have their say and drive the Scouting programme to be more relevant and engaging for today's young people. The event came to an end at the closing ceremony, all PL's attending achieved the Survival Skills badge which they received together with a certificate and survival kit to take away. One of the PL's who took part summed up his weekend by saying *"This has been like the best camp ever!"*

Backwoods Cooking Competition

On 22nd June 2013 we held the annual Backwoods Cooking Competition. At this event a patrol of Scouts construct their own altar fires using barrels and then have to cook a two course meal and hot drink on the fire, using only the ingredients provided. The patrol has to serve seven people, the Scouts in the Patrol and the guest judge. This year we were joined by professional chef and catering lecturer Stephen Otty who was the guest judge. Stephen also got stuck in giving the Scouts hints and tips on cooking techniques along the way, huge thanks to Stephen for joining us. To add to the excitement of the day, Wirral based internet radio station Crash Radio UK joined us, The Scouts were interviewed during the afternoon and these were broadcast in the community show that afternoon, Crash also took some wonderful photos for us which you can see in our online gallery. One of the DJs from Crash was the judge for teamwork and all of the invited guests together decided who would receive the McClure salva for most outstanding Scout on the day. All patrols who took part did exceptionally well and produced some wonderful dishes, well done Scouts!

First - 1st Frankby Greasbby

Second - 1st West Kirby

Joint third - 7th Moreton & 4th Moreton

Winner of the McClure salva for Most Outstanding Scout - Kieran from 4th Moreton



Backwoods Cooking Competition

At the time of writing many Troops are busy enjoying their summer camps and I look forward to hearing all about those adventures after the summer break.

We have some new events planned for next term including a Scout section camp fire and hopefully a winter fair; if successful we will be adding these to our annual events programme.

Next SLs meeting is Thursday 12th September, 7:30pm at 3rd Heswall HQ, Marks Way, Pensby.

Jenny Peek ADC(S)

adcjenny@westwirralscoutteam.com

<http://www.westwirralscoutteam.com>

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



This year the decision was made not to hold Explorer meetings during the month of June due to the fact that most young people now have their exams during this time and instead we would continue running meetings throughout the summer holidays. We will discuss the outcomes of this idea at the Explorer Forums in September to see how they themselves felt it went.

We have held our annual awards evening and this year the newly appointed ACC Explorers Lee Cook attended.

We have taken part in a few events during July which have appealed to a variety of Explorers.

1. Dragnet - this is basically a wide game of Hide and Seek. The Explorers are dropped off at a location in Cumbria and are then taken to a secret location to start the challenge. It is one of the toughest challenges that is organised for Explorers and our team came 2nd out of 58 teams. This was a massive achievement, so very well done to Aaron, Harry, Adam and Rikk.

2. Gilwell 24 - we took 14 Explorers to an annual event at Gilwell for Explorer, Network and Rangers. There were 5000 Young People in total at the event which has a huge array of activities for them to try e.g. Trapeze, fishing, surf boarding, high ropes, driving lesson, scuba diving to name a few. The evening was mainly a disco and funfair. The challenge is to continue doing activities from 9am Saturday to 9am Sunday, but it was felt that more activities should have continued throughout the night. A mini-bus of extremely tired Explorers returned to the Wirral.

Summer Camp - a survival camp was held in August at

1st Thurstaston's Group HQ. The Explorers did backwoods cooking and on the second night had to make their own shelter and spend the night in it.

During the summer meetings they have done an evening of cooking in a "Ready, Steady, Cook" style competition and also had an evening of being taught Circus Skills.

September as usual is a busy month with two separate weekend events organised.

Ann Coulson
DESC.





The Activity Centre Number Club Draw

The draw has taken place and the winners are:-

July Winners

Ray Head
Derek Barrington
Alan Bennett
Joyce Macleod

August Winners

David Hulme
Pat O'Malley
Mabel Wynn
David Cross

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

Return to Brynbach

Regular readers of the “Horn” will recall earlier articles on F.O.Paul and Brynbach.

The Scout Association sold Brynbach Camp Site back to the Paul family in 1952 after it became uneconomic to continue with camping and to maintain.

The facilities were stripped from the site and the large Storm Hut (capable of holding 800 boys in bad weather), was split into sections and transported to Gilwell Park, where it remained until around 2000.

Camping, albeit in a restricted form was allowed in the ensuing years, but since 2000, it has been stopped, due to the strict health and safety regulations that apply today.

I recently revisited the site and it is amazing how things return to nature.

A thriving site that between 1930 and 1950, boasted of over 25,000, camp nights a year, now shows little sign of its Scouting past.

The “portcullis” entrance gate, designed by Baden Powell, has gone, leaving only two vertical tree trunks, that once supported the pulley system.

The man made boating lake is still there, but it is so overgrown with weeds , that it could be easily missed.

The ablution block, having been stripped of sanitary goods is now demolished, as has the large stone chimney breast that remained after the Storm Hut was removed. Similarly, the Convalescent facility has gone after it rotted and fell down.

Although the swimming pool is still there, it is now drained and the surrounding area has become overgrown. The chapel and camp fire circle have long since disappeared.

When I visited, I met Richard Tilby (grandson of the late F.O.Paul), and was made most welcome. He still uses the summer house on the estate.

Perhaps one of the biggest surprises of the day was when I went into a stone building that would once have been a grain store. There, fixed to the walls was a memorial plaque and camp notice.



The memorial plaque was in commemoration of Frank Oscar Paul, Chief Scout's Commissioner and County Commissioner of Cheshire West, donor of Bynbach and many other gifts to Boy Scouts.

Whilst the camp notice board displayed the camp rules etc.



How fantastic that these remain after such a long time.

As you look out from the site, towards the hillside, no longer can you see the fleur-de-lis planted in green larch or the "Arrow" that was 200 yards in length, planted in golden yew, that was intended to guide the scout airplanes to the safe landing place. Instead there are an abundance of wind turbines.

How, time changes things, how nature reclaims the land, but if you look at a large scale Ordnance Survey map of the area, the site is still marked as "Scout Camp" – long to be remembered !!

"mr gooley"

Brynbach is located at Map Reference: SJ: 021 588 and Post Code LL16 4SW

TRY SOMETHING NEW
 OPLE LAUGH SING DANCE ACT TRY SOMETHING NEW
 NCE ACT TRY SOMETHING NEW MAKE PEOPLE LAUGH SING DANCE
 G NEW MAKE PEOPLE LAUGH SING DANCE ACT TRY SOMETHING NEW
 SING DANCE ACT TRY SOMETHING NEW MAKE PEOPLE LAUGH



COME AND JOIN OUR GANG!

2014 Gang Show Auditions
 Sunday 13th October 2013



The West Wirral Gang Show is a great opportunity for members of Scouting and Guiding in West Wirral and Wallasey get together on stage and have a great time entertaining a theatre audience!

You don't need any previous experience of theatre or stage activities to join...
 So what are you waiting for? Send in your Audition form today!



www.wwgangshow.org.uk



*Only open to members of Scouting or Guiding born before the 27th March 2005. Scouts must be a registered member of a West Wirral or Wallasey Scout Group or Explorer Unit. Guides must be a registered member of an Arrowbrook, Deeside or West Kirby Guide Division Brownie Pack, Guide Unit or Ranger Unit. Rehearsals start November 2013. Performances March 2014.

Copies of this application form are available at the website listed below.

I want to join the Gang!

Name

Address

.....

.....

Post Code **Date of Birth* (if under 18)** / /

Telephone **Mobile**

E-mail

Scout Group/Guide Unit

(Note - Cubs, Scouts & Explorer Scouts must be a member of West Wirral or Wallasey Districts, Brownies, Guides and Ranger Guides must be in Arrowbrook, Deeside or West Guide Divisions, Network Members must be registered with Merseyside County Scout Network. The Gang Show is also open to all Scout & Guide Leaders and we would love to see you audition too! If you would like us to visit your Pack/Troop/Unit to talk to you and your young people about the show, please let us know)

I am a Cub / Scout / Explorer / Network / Brownie / Guide / Ranger / Leader / Helper

(Please circle the correct one)

Have you taken part in a Gang Show before and if so please let us know which one(s):

.....

The following statement MUST be read and agreed to by the parents/guardians of ALL UNDER 18's, this is a requirement of entry into the Gang Show.

I give permission for my son/daughter to attend the Gang Show Auditions on Sunday 13th of October. If successful, I understand that he/she is committed to Sunday afternoon rehearsals starting in November 2013 and that photographs of him/her may be used in the Programme and for other publicity materials. Cast members will be expected to attend a further rehearsal weekend with a date to be advised. I also understand that all cast members will be expected to sell tickets for the performances. *It is a requirement that all cast members are 9yrs old at the time of the performances, therefore all cast members must have been born BEFORE the 27th March 2005.

Signed(Parent/Guardian) **Date**

Please return this form no later than the 1st October 2013 enclosing a stamped addressed envelope to -

Pete Ledson (Gang Show Auditions), 19 Adelaide Street, Wallasey, CH44 4EB

You will then be sent the a time for your audition along with full details for the 13th October. Further copies of this form and accompanying information sheet can be downloaded from our website at <http://www.wirralgangshow.org.uk> or by searching for "West Wirral Gang Show" on facebook

Please attach a
passport sized
photograph.

Dates for your Diary

2013

September

7	Getting Started Course	Fire Service HQ Liverpool	
9	CSL's meeting	7 th Moreton	20.30
10	St. Andrews Group AGM		
10	District Executive	DHQ	19.45
12	SL's Meeting	3 rd Heswall's HQ	19.30
18	ADC's	DHQ	20.00
22	First Response course	TBA	
27/29	Cub Camp	Queens Charlotte Wood	

October

3	GSL's & AGSL's	DHQ	19.30
6	First Response course	Wallasey District HQ	
10	Safeguarding course	Lowlands, West Derby	
19	Management & Support Essentials	Waterside Lodge Southport	
26	Section Essentials	Fire Service HQ Liverpool	
27	Residential Experiences Mod16	Tawd Vale	

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	

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.		

The Editor's Bit.

I welcome Brian Tucker as our new DC, and wish him well. I have known Brian for many years and know that he will bring a great wealth of Scouting experience to his new role.

I look forward to hearing about Group Camps, and other events which have taken place over the holiday period—please attach photos which I might be able to use.

Please note the appeal for anyone who would like to take part in the next District Gang Show (on pages 12/13).

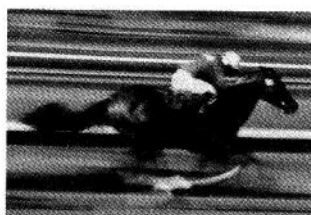
Remember that the deadline for articles for next months newsletter is the

10th SEPTEMBER 2013.

Eddie.

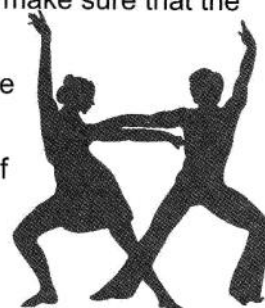
RACENIGHTSRUS

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

