

# SCOUTS NEWSLETTER



## 2013 Ends with the Scout's Night Hike

The last few weeks of the winter term saw the Scouts practicing a number of skills that they were to put into use during their night hike.

Fortunately the night of the hike proved to be dry and reasonably warm (that was probably the last dry Friday that we have had since then!)

As part of the hike the Scouts took part in a treasure hunt, logic puzzle and a first aid challenge. Their route took them from the hut, through the village, past the Cottage Loaf, up to Thurstaston Hill and then over to Royden Park before returning to the hut. At Royden Park the Scouts were given the opportunity to use solid fuel stoves to boil water for pot noodles.



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## Scouts Enter Reed.Co.UK Short Film Competition

In January we started the year with a new challenge for the Scouts. Over two Friday nights they wrote and made a short film which was entered into the Reed.Co.UK 2014 Short Film Competition.

The theme for the competition for all entrants was "Family Business". The Scouts came up with a story involving the Powell Brothers Ferocious Animal Petty Zoo that became infected by a zombie dog! The finished film can be viewed on the link below.

<https://vimeo.com/84625908>



## Cyclist Badge

For most of this half term we have been concentrating on the Cyclist Badge. The Scouts have been shown how to do safety checks on their bikes including brakes and the correct seat adjustment.

We have also acquired 4 bikes for use by the Group. These were obtained from a local charity for a small donation. Two of the bikes have only required minor TLC to restore them to operational use. One of the bikes has had a new brake cable and is now up to scratch. The remaining bike when collected had no chain, no working gears and the brakes were missing some key parts. This is still a work in progress.

As part of the Cyclist Badge Requirement, the scouts need to take part in a 25 mile bike ride. This is something that we are clearly going to have to build up to. As a start we had a short bike ride along the Wirral Way.

The bike ride had an exciting start due to a seized wheel on the trailer. Hmm nice smell of burning rubber! Most of the Scouts cycled to West Kirby and back from Caldy. A few die hards then went on to the visitors centre at Thurstaston, where we took shelter to avoid the worst of the torrential rain.

At the end of the ride we returned to the Scout Hut for a sleepover. The Scouts took part in a Scalectrix competition, had a chippy tea, and DVD. And then just as the Lone Ranger was finishing the power went off! So it was cards by torchlight (for those of a certain age very reminiscent of the power worker strikes of the 1970's!). When the power was restored, there were some who wanted to carry on playing cards by torchlight.

1 Wet bikes at Thurstaston



2 The die-hards sheltering at Thurstaston



3 Scalectrix Competition in full swing