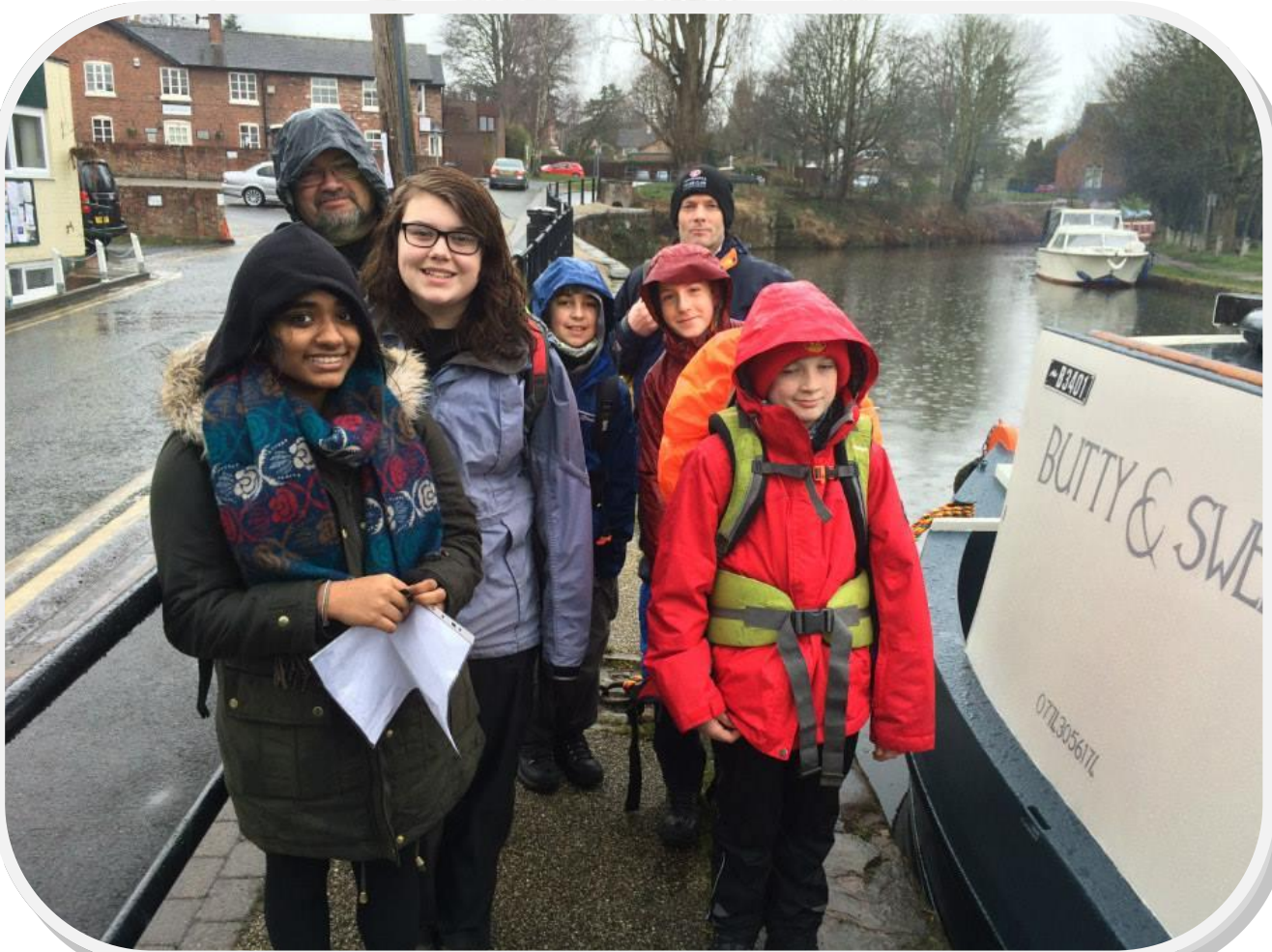


**May 2015**



**1<sup>st</sup> Barnston on the City & Dam Trail**

**See page 8.**

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

# From the District Commissioner

March has been a quiet month for me because I somehow picked up a virus and was basically out of action for most of the month. Not being one to keep things to myself I passed the bug on to Maureen so we were a sad pair. I have tried not to attend too many things as I did not want to pass on my germs to others.

I had to cancel going to a number of things not only in Scouting but also in Lions and socially. I mentioned some in last month's Horn. I was supposed to be at the Safeguarding Course on the 10<sup>th</sup> March but had to cry off. I did manage to present the first of the two Getting Started Courses on 18<sup>th</sup> March and it was always planned that Chris Carlson would do the one on 1<sup>st</sup> April. Thanks Chris.

I also went to the Thanksgiving Service for Muriel Davies held at Heswall Methodist Church and afterwards in the Church Hall. It was in the Hall, at the inauguration of 5<sup>th</sup> Heswall, that I first met Jim and Muriel Davies.

I had to cancel a weekend away that was booked for the 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> on March which was a great pity, but I did manage to get to the Cub Poster Competition on the Wednesday. That was a great evening with a talk from the Coastguards who brought along their four wheel drive vehicles and a lot of equipment. The talk was very informative and the person doing the talk got plenty of interaction from the Cubs. I guess that the leaders present also learnt a lot. I certainly did.

The following weekend was the Great Escape and six of the Groups were represented there. I didn't go because I was on a morning of planning for another Charitable Organisation of which I am a Trustee. Still being a bit under the weather I knew I wouldn't be able to cope with tramping around Tawd after that. I also missed the Scout Quiz and the Bowling but I was ably represented by my deputies.

Coming up we have the Cheshire Hike the weekend of 18<sup>th</sup>/ 19<sup>th</sup> April. I know that we have some teams in that event and I wish them well. I hope the weather is favourable. I will be at the finish to see them come in and to present the West Wirral Trophies.

We also have St George's Day coming up, and it will be very different this year as we are, weather permitting, going out to Hilbre Island. I look forward to seeing you all there and leading you out there. Thanks in advance to Phill and Liam for the idea and organisation.

Before the next Horn we will have the District AGM on the 7<sup>th</sup> May at Heswall Hall please make the effort to come. You will find some difference this year. Courtesy of you know who - Phill and Liam.



**Brian**

# A pause for thought

WIRRAL HORN MAY 2015.

I wonder if you kept the photographs of you when you were at school, well I apparently did. Last week I was looking for something entirely different when I came upon a box that I didn't recognise. Upon lifting the lid I found a collection of old photographs and amongst the collection was a series of my school days.

In one a class photograph there was I complete in uniform even with my house and prefect badge staring back at me, looking on the back of the photograph was the date it was taken. I must have been about sixteen years old, where did that boy go!

I was fascinated by it and I struggled to recall the other boy's names and remembering those memories of my school days.

One of my school friends I did remember had the task of leaving fifteen minutes early each lesson to ring the electric bells that signalled ten minutes before the end of each lesson, play times, lunch hours and the end of the day. We were all so envious of him especially during maths.

I was allotted the task of messenger delivering written or verbal messages between either the teachers or to and from the headmaster, in hindsight this was quite a vital role.

The vital task is to deliver Scouting's message to all young people, with the ethos of all that it entails, it is indeed a very special and unique message.

***"May your God deliver to you His message of love, devotion and bring you eternal happiness "***

**"AARON"**





## **District Safety Poster Competition - 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Following the above event, the odds are looking very good for a white Christmas this year, with White Sixes being successful across the board on the winners rostrum, but well done to all the sixes from 12 Packs who took part in the above event. This year the theme was "Water Safety" and resulted in many varied posters. In an earlier review session, the best poster from each Pack was nominated for the Grand Final, at which the Coastguard gave a very entertaining presentation on their role in providing water safety around the coastline of the Wirral, whilst cubs tucked into pizz. In summary, after nearly ½ hr of assessment, the judges decided that the final places were as follows;-



**Overall Winners – 1<sup>st</sup> Thurstaston (Fletcher) (Red & White Six)**

**Runners Up – 4<sup>th</sup> Moreton (White Six)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place – 1<sup>st</sup> Newton (White Six)**

**4<sup>th</sup> Place – 1<sup>st</sup> Thurstaston \*Fletcher)**

## **Up & Coming Events (Hopefully not over by the time you get to read this)**

### **District Cub Outing – 16<sup>th</sup> May, Greenwood Centre, North Wales**

Cost £15 per person, first pick up 09:00, location of pickups to be advised once we know how many and which Packs attending, looking to arrive around 11.00 hrs, departure 16:00 hrs returning to Wirral around 17:45 is. To take packed lunch, wet weather gear,

Final numbers and money will be needed by 26<sup>th</sup> April 2015

### **District Cub Skills Camp (Cubs Challenge and Adventure Camp)**

Dates: Sat 9th - Sun 10th May 2015, location: 1st Thurstaston Scout HQ

Time: Sat 9:30 arrive for 9:45 Flag and Opening Ceremony

Cost: £40 per team - each pack is allocated 1 team space with a reserve space list if you would like another team. (First come First Served for reserves).

Email to register or for more information [matthewjones.DCSL@outlook.com](mailto:matthewjones.DCSL@outlook.com)

Deadline for Applications: Friday 24th April 2015 (Non-Negotiable!)

### **Cub Camp – Queen Charlotte Wood, 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> Sept**

If you are interest in the activity pack, pre planned weekend of cub scouting fun in ideal wooded environment please contact Sue Flush for more details.



## Brownsea Island

As part of the 100ys of Cub Scouting Celebrations during 2016 the District are planning to hold a camp at the birthplace of Scout Camping on Brownsea Island. See separate email for more details, but if you are interested in going please let me know asap (if not sooner)

**Alan Bennett (ADC Cubs), 0151 606 0335 (07920 496 929)**

[alan.bennett@bamnuttall.co.uk](mailto:alan.bennett@bamnuttall.co.uk)



Do you need ?

Badges ? Programme Resources ?  
Group Name Tags ?, Outdoor Equipment ?



Uniform ?, Outdoor Clothing ?  
Scouting Publications ?, Outdoor  
Footwear ? Leaders Clothing ?  
In fact, do you want anything that is  
advertised on



<http://shop.scouts.org.uk/>

If yes, then the **West Wirral Scout & Badge shop**

can get it for you cheaper,  
Friendly service, prompt delivery,  
bulk buying discounts up to 30%

You save, we save

**A Win Win situation for all of  
West Wirral Scouting**



For orders or more information please contact

Alan Bennett

[alan.bennett@bamnuttall.co.uk](mailto:alan.bennett@bamnuttall.co.uk)

0151 606 0335

07920 496 929



On a Monday in March I was invited along to 5<sup>th</sup> Heswall Scout HQ for a cubs entertainment evening. The audience was treated to a medley of songs, carols, limericks and mimes accompanied by Cubs playing musical instruments and puppeteers. It was evident that a lot of hard work had gone into the production and it was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. It is not easy getting on stage in front of parents and guests, but each and every cub did themselves and the pack proud with many great performances. Solo performances ranged from the "*Pink Panther*" theme on the keyboard to "*Jingle Bells*" on the recorder and "*Funki Mikki*" on the clarinet. I can see that there is a lot of latent talent here just waiting for the next gang show. Well done and BRAVO!

I was delighted to present 5<sup>th</sup> Heswall cub entertainers with their entertainer badges at the end of the evening.

**Christine Gorman,**

**West Wirral Cub team**

**West Wirral District Scout Council**

**Invites**

**All West Wirral Uniformed members, All Non Uniformed Members, All West Wirral Committee members, District Officials, Friends and Readers of the Wirral Horn**

**To the**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**At Heswall Hall**

**On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

**Doors Open at 7.15pm      Prompt start at 7.30pm**

**The AGM will be followed by an Open Reception and refreshments**

**\*\* Please note that individual invites will not be issued \*\***

## RESULTS FOR THE RECENT DISTRICT SCOUT QUIZ

Team	Total	Rank
1st Barnston 1B2win	47	1
Martin Troop A Team of no name	43	2
Martin Troop C The cereal killers	43	2
3rd Heswall	43	2
Richardson Troop A Quizbecathalon	38	5
4th Heswall FHRITP	37	6
St Andrews DAFT	37	6
4th Heswall Quiz Lizards	35	8
St Andrews Still Thinking	34	9
1st Frankby Greasby Elite	33	10
Richardson Troop B Born survivors	30	11
Marin Troop B The leading leprachauns	29	12
1st Frankby Greasby BJA	24	13

### 2015 Group Annual General Meetings

Please can I ask all groups to advise me of the date for your 2015 Annual General Meeting, so I can ensure members of the District team will be available to attend.

As the DC has asked that there be no more than one AGM on a specific date, can I ask that you have a couple of dates in mind.

Many Thanks.

Ann Ledson

District Secretary – 0151 678 8777

Annledson@aol.com

## 1<sup>st</sup> Barnston on the City & Dam Trail

1<sup>st</sup> Barnston scouts followed straight on from their runs in the orienteering event with a Sunday hike, this time in north Cheshire. The trail took an 8-mile route on footpaths and the towpath of the Bridgewater Canal around Thelwall and Lymm.

Sunday weather was very different to Saturday's; it was wet! The weather forecaster's 'optimism' that the overnight rain would clear early morning was very misplaced as we set out from Grappenhall and at Thelwall we picked up the Transpennine Trail footpath (which we had cycled in our Mersey expedition 18 months ago).



[Thelwall claims to be the smallest city in England; it isn't as that title belongs to the City of London, however, it's also not a city. In 923 Edward the Elder, son of King Alfred, visited the area and for some time made it his residence with soldiers garrisoned there. He ordered a 'burh' (a barrier made from wooden stakes) to be built as a defence on the important crossing point of the Mersey. It was a mistranslation of this word 'burh', which means military fort (maybe with 'burgh', which means large town or city), which might have led to Thelwall wrongly being called a city.

City or not, the rain was relentless as we left Thelwall and headed for Lymm. The route into Lymm took us along the towpath of the Bridgewater Canal and led to a welcome stop for hot chocolate in the narrowboat café. The next part of the trail headed south along the banks of the Dam. The Dam is now the name given to the lake in Lymm but was originally the 'dam' built for the toll road that crossed the once small pool that was here. In time the name has transferred to the lake that grew from the dammed pool.



Finally, the sun came out – better late than never! - as we hiked through The Bongs (woodland) at the southern end of the Dam and then northwards to join the canal again, which was followed all the way back to Grappenhall.

**Maya, Oneli, Ben, Thomas, James and George (YL)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Barnston Scouts**







# The Activity Centre Number Club Draw

The draw has taken place and the winners are:-

April

1st Janet Taylor

2nd Eddie Snell

3rd Maureen Tucker

4th Chris Hughes

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](mailto:christine.kenyon@talktalk.net)

# Dates for your Diary

2015

May

7	District AGM	Heswall Hall
9/10	District Cub Skills Camp	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurstaston
15 5 <sup>th</sup>	Heswall's AGM	
16	Beavers trip to Gullivers World	
16	District Cub Outing	Greenwood Centre
23	First Aid Training Course	TBA

June

1	7 <sup>th</sup> Moreton's AGM	
12/14	West Wirral All Section Camp	Sandiway
19	1 <sup>st</sup> Newton's AGM	
19	2 <sup>nd</sup> West Kirby's AGM	
20	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurstaston's AGM	

July

14	District Executive	DHQ	19.45
25	Amsterdam Adventure		

August

September

11	Beaver Camp	Sandiways	
24	District Executive	DHQ	19.45
25/27	Cub Camp	Queen Charlotte Wood	

October

17	Beaver Skills Day	St. Andrews
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**Any articles for the next Newsletter should be with me by the 10th May.**

**Eddie**



The stop press news is that Bear Grylls has agreed to continue his role as Chief Scout beyond the usual 5 year term to help achieve the 2018 Vision. Between now and 2018 he will do all he can to help the Movement grow.



# The Editor's Bit.

As we approach our AGM I would like to thank Brian Tucker for the help and support he has given me in my efforts to produce an interesting Newsletter each month. Brian has served our District for many years, holding a variety of roles. I wish him well and hope that he and Maureen have a long and happy retirement.

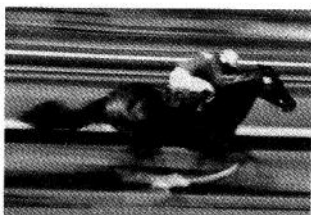
The newsletter is a little short of news this month as not many articles came my way. Do remember that this is your newsletter, and that past & present members of West Wirral are interested in what your particular Group or Section are doing.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:racenightsrus@ntlworld.com)