

April 2016



Cub Scout Swimming Gala Winners

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

From the District Commissioner

Once again another month flies past and our Facebook and Twitter social media goes mad with all the activities that this wonderful District puts on for our Young People.

The past month has seen the Scout Quiz, Scout Orienteering, Scouts Out Hiking across Cheshire (leaders getting stuck in the mud). Our latest Troop 1st Newton being invested and they have even done a night walk to Little Eye. We have had young people out on the beach, costal walks along with other everyday activities. Explorers have spent a weekend at Tawd helping prepare the Site for reopening after the winter break. Once again we had a massive turnout for young leader training. Both the Cubs and Beavers have not missed out either with Groups doing joint activities, Beavers had their Beaver Challenge and the Cubs have had their Swimming Gala.

As a District we have started our first Bronze D of E group please contact Peter Wallace pete.wallace8@gmail.com for details.

I am pleased to say that we have finally found Eddie's replacement as the Wirral Horn editor, Janet Jones has accepted the role and is looking forward to this new challenge. On behalf of the District I would like to thank Eddie for all his work on the Newsletter over the past 21 years.

Finally congratulations go to Calum Towers and Jess Fogg, who have both been appointed Deputy County Youth Commissioners.

Phill



A pause for thought

There was a minister who was renowned for his extremely long sermons, which his congregations often had to endure, sometimes lasting for 45 minutes. On this particular day the minister launched into his usual lengthy sermon. Half way through it he noticed a young man stand up, walk to the back, and leave the church. This obviously annoyed the minister, for no one in the congregation had ever disrupted his homily. That somebody had had the audacity to walk out, in his opinion, was quite rude.

Just before the end of his sermon the same young man walked back in and resumed his seat. At the end of the service the minister waited at the back of the church to bid farewell to the departing congregation, when the young man approached, the minister said "I noticed that during my sermon you walked out then returned just before I had finished". The young man replied "Yes I did".

"What was so urgent that you felt you needed to leave?" asked the minister. The man replied "I went for a haircut". The minister then asked "why didn't you go before the sermon?" to which the man answered "I didn't need one before I came in!"

Do you think the minister had missed the fact that he was too busy talking that he forgot to realise that he needed to listen to what people needed or wanted?

I sure that, in your Scouting life, you all listen to what your young people need and deliver that to them.

"May you listen to your God and He will deliver by His love all that you may need each day"

"AARON"



DAVE GARDNER

You will recall from a previous newsletter that Dave Gardner, who scouted as a boy and a leader and held other roles in the District, had passed away. Dave was a supporter of the District and had a particular interest in Jamborees following his life changing experiences when he attended the Jamboree held in Canada.

I am pleased to announce that we have received a bequest of £5,000 from Dave's will, specifically for helping young people to attend Jamborees. The money is now in the Jamboree Fund and will be used as he would wish. **Brian Tucker**



Beaver newsletter

On Friday the 4th March we held our annual Beaver Challenge at St Andrew's Church hall in West Kirby, with 7 colonies attending. Most of the Beavers turned up wearing red, as the charity we are supporting is the Children's Heart Foundation, we made £30 for the charity.

We had a variety of different games ranging from Bowling, Knock the cans, Pin the woggle on the Beaver, car tunnel challenge and the Malteaser game, these are just a few.

Congratulations to the following Colonies:-

1st place 7th Moreton

2nd place 5th Heswall

3rd place Hilbre

And well done to all the other groups.

The next Beaver leader meeting is on Wednesday 27th April at Hilbre Scout hut, Elm Terrace, Hoylake, 7:30 for a 7:45 start.

Yours in Scouting

Jayne Oliver A.D.C. Beavers

oliverjn@talktalk.net

0151 648 1754 / 07949457622





The full results are in from the Fantastic **swimming Gala** and congratulations to all that took part!

The overall winners this year were 3rd Heswall and they were closely followed by 1st Newton in 2nd and 4th Heswall in 3rd well done to you all.



Our thanks go to the organising team Alan, Dave and Christine who helped make the event run so smoothly.

The entries are in for the Computer **Safety Poster Competition** the first round of judging has taken place and as ever the standard was high. The Cubs invited to the Final judging & presentation are:-

Drum roll please.....

St Andrews – Reece Ogden

5th Heswall – Black Six

1st Thurstaston (Fletcher) – Blue Six

1st Thurstaston (Reed) – Yellow & Black Six's

2nd West Kirby – White Six

4th Moreton – Megan & Warren

1st Newton – White Six

1st Barnston – Team effort

7th Moreton – William, Joe & Ashton

Good Luck to our finalists and the final judging and presentation will take place at 1st Thurstaston on Wednesday 16th March starting at 6.30 with Pizza and drinks provided.

I am delighted this year that our District President and Vice President will be joining us and judging the competition. **Cosford** on 23rd April will be here before we know it so please let me know your numbers as soon as possible so I can sort the busses out. Updated work sheets are available on the website www.rafmuseum.org.uk/cosford (These replace the ones I sent out in January)

Full details about **St Georges Day** will be circulated separately to the news letter

Wingdings is now fully booked so I hope you all got in early and got the places that you wanted. Matt is working with the County team and will provide updates when available.

With a new musical team, this year the **Gang Show (Best of British)** at the Gladstone Theatre looks like being another great show. Please give it your support; it would be great for the young people involved to perform to a full house.

Andy Longstaff
07766 743074
0151 648 2822



5th HESWALL CUBS WEEKEND CAMP

Over the last weekend of January, the older cubs of 5th Heswall had an indoor camp at Sandy Lane.

On Friday evening they joined the troop meeting and got stuck into a trading post for the first time, resulting, miraculously, in cooking and eating pancakes, (and, hopefully, a strong desire to go on to scouts).

An early start on Saturday by train to Liverpool from Spital for a bracing stroll along the waterfront and Albert Dock, before 36 holes of indoor golf in Liverpool 1 at the Jungle Rumble Golf centre. We negotiated the same fee as we would have paid for 18 holes as we were before midday - if anybody else is thinking of going.

After healthy (?) eating at Burger King we set off for the 79 bus to the Williamson tunnels. The driver pointed out he was going to charge us the best part of £20 to go 2 stops so we walked up past the university and finally found our way to this fascinating curiosity. With our hard hats securely in place we went into this subterranean, early 19th century, network of tunnels apparently built as employment for the large number of redundant soldiers from the Napoleonic wars. Certainly worth a visit. By the time we came out it was hailing and sleeting so we succumbed to the expensive bus ride to avoid hypothermia and back to the Wirral.

Work towards the Navigator Stage 3 plus some craft and games filled the evening and no problems of settling all to sleep at an early hour.

On Sunday the weather had improved being clear, cold and crisp. We followed a 4 mile route required for the badge and took the opportunity of clearing up an eyesore on the lanes leading to Heswall beach. Both verges were covered in bottles, cans and other litter which filled two large bin bags and are now no more. A drinks stop at the café at Thurstason was very welcome before ascending the Dungeon and back to camp.

The camp was devised and planned extremely well by our two explorers on the Young Leader training scheme, Harry Brown and Ben Turnbull who now have another Mission under their belt – our thanks to them



Steve Pillow CSL 5th Heswall

Live Life Safe

In February the Home Office released the latest national crime statistics on stalking, which continue to show a steady increase in reported incidents. Four areas of Merseyside found themselves topping the table with Wirral in the top spot for the highest rate of reported stalking incidents. Coincidentally on the day I read about these crime statistics in the national press, I was booked into a leader training course on Personal Safety.

The Personal Safety course was run by Kayleigh Eggleton from the Suzy Lamplugh Trust at the invite of Youth United, which includes scouting, and supported by Merseyside Scout County. Back in 1986, Suzy Lamplugh, an estate agent in London was booked to show a client round a house in Fulham. She was seen going into the house with the client, a Mr Kipper, but was not seen afterwards. Her disappearance was not reported until many hours later. By then her trail had gone cold. She was never found. The Suzy Lamplugh Trust set up by her parents in her memory campaigns to improve Personal Safety in many areas.

Statistics show that 1 in 6 women and 1 in 12 men in the UK have been victims of stalking in some way. Many reported victims come from people in 10 occupations: Nurses, Benefit Advisors, Teachers, Paramedics, Fire-fighters, Librarians, Public Transport Staff, Vicars, Shop Staff, and Home Visitors. While some of these may be apparent, the likes of librarians and vicars in the list may come as a surprise to many. Everyone can be a potential victim of crime. While these figures are of some concern there is no need for paranoia in our response but neither should we be complacent. A common theme among these occupations is that the roles have a high degree of exposure to people in stressful circumstances. But stressful circumstances can occur in many walks of life from lone working to interacting with difficult parents. 'It will never happen to me' is a fallacy. An aim of the Suzy Lamplugh Trust is to work with people and groups in the community to raise awareness of the importance of personal safety and to provide positive practical guidance that makes people feel safer and more confident.

But surely personal safety is all about using common sense? It is, but common sense needs to become common practice and everyone sometime will experience lapses. The approaches to personal safety from the Trust largely focus on being prepared, identifying risks (from PET – people, environment, task), and dynamically assessing risks. As leaders we regularly do this as part of our activity planning within our duty of care for our young people, but we do this for ourselves and our fellow leaders and adults working with us?

During the course we looked at many aspects of personal safety working as leaders: preparations, planning, risk assessments, safety equipment as well as considering approaches to safety sometimes as lone workers, when working at night, working in HQs which are tucked away out of sight, when we travel, and when we may need to interact with challenging parents or the public.

The course certainly raised a greater awareness of Personal Safety among attendees without also increasing the fear factor and worry. The clear message was that if you prepare you will lessen worry and lessen the risk of you becoming a crime statistic. The course was presented at late notice, which didn't help leaders in attending, but it was disappointing to see only six attendees, two each from Liverpool, Wallasey and West Wirral. I found it a very useful addition to my ongoing learning as well as a useful life-skill, which I can also use in work and travel circumstances outside scouting.

For more information about Personal Safety and the work of the Suzy Lamplugh Trust go online to:
www.suzylamplugh.org

Christine Gorman, ACSL

1st Barnston

West Wirral Scouts & Explorers Orienteering Championships 2016

This annual event, now in its eighth year, was run on the first Saturday in March in Royden Park and succeeded in achieving its highest entry with 92 young people in 41 teams of scouts and 4 teams of explorers taking part. This year also saw the highest number of troops taking part, 12 in all.

Four tricky courses, one for each of the age groups: Junior Scout, Senior Scout, U25 Combined Age Scout, and Explorer Scouts, tested a wide range of micro-navigation skills. Once again there was an improvement in skills with proportionately more teams completing the courses, though some teams were a little too careful and their times were on the slow side.

This year's champions were:

Junior Scouts: Aiden Simpson & Frankie Thelwall, St Andrew's;

U25 Combined Age Scouts: Annabelle Robinson & Thomas Gallons, 1st Frankby Greasby;

Senior Scouts: Ben Perez & Sam Johnston, 1st Frankby Greasby;

Explorer Scouts: Corrina Friel & Charlotte Dawson, West Wirral Explorers;

Compass Trophy and champion troop: 1st Frankby Greasby.

Our thanks to all 12 troops for taking part; to Network and SAS for their marshalling support on the day; the district team for the presentations and use of DHQ; and to Wirral Council for letting us run the event in the park.

Scouts can count this event towards their gaining the Orienteering Activity badge. Jenny, ADC Scouts, presented 9 badges on the day to successful scouts.

As with all skills, you get better with regular practice. If anyone would like any training activities in navigation and orienteering please don't hesitate to get in touch.

We are always looking to expand this event and would encourage all those who took part this year to go back to their troops and tell other scouts of their achievements.

Dave Gorman, GSL

1st Barnston

david.gorman54@tiscali.co.uk

David Blackwood, AGSL

1st Frankby Greasby



Scout Section Report – Wirral Horn April 2016

Scout leaders, here are some diary dates for section events that are confirmed:

Bowling Competition Thurs 31st March, New Brighton.

Scout Leaders Meeting Thurs 28th April, Hilbre HQ.

Merseyside Scout Section 5 A Side Football Sat 11th June, West Park Rugby Club, Prescot Road, St Helens.

Further details on all events will be distributed to SL's.

March is a busy month in the Scout section as it brings around the annual Orienteering Championships.

After Wirral was dusted with snow the day before, we had concerns about this year's event, but on Saturday 5th March 2016 the sun was shining and we had our highest ever turn out for this event as 92 young people took part. We had participants from 14 of our 17 troops, it was great to see so many troops joining in.

The Active Support Unit were ready for duty as ever and they provided us with marshalling and safety support throughout the day. We couldn't run an event of this size and scale without that vital support, so huge thanks indeed to all involved.

Orienteering is a sport of both speed and skill, so it is not necessarily the quickest to the finish that will win. Teams also have to find the control points along the route and record them; so a team that finishes in super quick time but has not got all of the controls would be placed below a team that took longer but got more of the control points.

The Results

Juniors

1st Aidan & Frankie, St Andrew's, 20:20

2nd Alex & Alfie, 1st West Kirby, 24:03

3rd Ed & Dan, 1st Frankby Greasby, 24:20

U25 Combined

1st Annabelle & Tom, 1st Frankby Greasby, 76:20

2nd Ben & Euan, 1st Barnston, 47:03 (12/13 controls)

3rd Freya & Olivia, St Andrew's, 70:52 (12/13 controls)



Seniors

1st Ben & Sam, 1st Frankby Greasby, 22:57

2nd Niamh & Sophie, 3rd Heswall, 52:55

3rd Will & Ernie, 4th Heswall, 66:52

Explorers

1st Corrina & Charlotte, West Wirral Explorers, 27:12

2nd Dan & Charlie, 2nd Greasby YLs, 46:27

3rd Ethan & Abi, 2nd Greasby YLs, 72:27

Troop Trophy

1st Place - 1st Frankby Greasby 1814.2 points

2nd Place - St Andrew's 1360 points

3rd Place - 1st West Kirby 1200 points



At the presentation of results after the Orienteering Championships, I had the pleasure of investing an entire troop! We welcomed 1st Newton Scout Troop to West Wirral as they were invested en masse in Royden Park. I know their Scout Leader was very proud of the troop for their achievements on the day! Congratulations to the troop, we look forwards to seeing you at many more events in future.

Jenny Peek ADC(S)

adcjenny@westwirralscoutteam.com

<http://www.westwirralscoutteam.com>

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

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



Managing Behaviour

At a recent district GSLs' meeting the topic of the sometimes challenging behaviour of young people was discussed and many present showed a desire for more awareness and training in behaviour management. Coincidentally, just a week or so later, Merseyside Scout County, announced that they had arranged a training event on the subject of 'Challenging Behaviour'.

The 2-hour evening course was held on 1st March at the Holiday Inn, Lime Street, Liverpool, and was attended by nearly 40 scouters from across Merseyside, with four attending from West Wirral. The course was given by Jason Bangbala, a leading educational consultant who specialises in the areas of behaviour management, circle time and coaching and structured play. Jason has a unique style of engaging people and his approach is practical, interactive, has high energy and is very amusing.

The first task of the evening for attendees was to identify the range of behaviours in young people that we adults find challenging. It was a very long list! But it can be simplified into four broad categories: attention-seeking; behaviour influenced by relationships; controlling behaviours; and behaviour where self-esteem is important.

The main part of the evening focused on strategies for managing behaviour and Jason presented some key strategies with learning points for attendees to take away to use and develop:

- 'Make the extraordinary out of the ordinary'
- 'Catch them being good'
- 'Don't take things for granted'
- 'Think positive, be positive'
- 'Establish clear boundaries'
- 'Invest to receive'
- 'Influence young people's behaviour, don't try to control it'
- 'Do is always better than don't'
- 'PIP and RIP; praise in public, reprimand in private'
- 'Keep things short and simple'
- 'SMILE: scan, move, interact, learn, encourage'
- 'Do not let distraction behaviour deflect you'
- 'Young people have choices and with choices come consequences'
- 'Non-verbal gestures and body language are important'

A key learning point that Jason stressed in managing behaviour in young people was to build a whole 'toolkit' of strategies. A final reflection session identified over 20 strategies that were covered in the session to use back in our

groups. Jason stressed that often there isn't one solution or a fixed, demarcated approach; the most

effective

leaders assess the nature and context of the situation before dipping into their toolkit and selecting the most appropriate skill or strategy to use. And practice is always needed! Reflect, take feedback, keep learning, hone your skills, and don't forget to give yourself credit for your success and achievements. As adults we do not give praise enough!

Not only was the session very light-hearted and entertaining, it was a good learning experience and certainly raised awareness in all the attendees of many positive strategies that have been tried and tested and do work and are useful in working with young people.

Praise was given to Jason Bangbala for a well-presented, thoroughly enjoyable learning experience.

Dave Gorman, GSL

1st Barnston



Network Horn

By the time you're reading this its likely that we're all in the Lake District taking in the views at 'Gathering' the national network camp, so I wont try to drum up more interest for that. However, on the 23rd of April we are holding our launch event (again). We'll be Bowling and camping, food and camping is all free. Any one aged 18-25 is free to come along, even if you're unsure about whether network is for you. Come along and give it a try. For more information, or to be added to our Facebook page email me on jimmi.richardson@westwirralscouts.org.uk

Thanks,

Jimmi Richardson

West Wirral Network





BEAVERS



CUBS

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

0151 606 0335

07920 496 929

SCOUTS



EXPLORERS





The Activity Centre

Number Club Draw

The draw has taken place and the winners are:-

MARCH

1st R M Lee

2nd Tony Fletcher

3rd George & Mary Dutton

4th Norma Campbell

4th 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

On behalf of the OSL committee, I would like to say a massive thank you to Chris Hughes and his team. At the end of February they did a magnificent job of carpeting the downstairs corridor and 4 of the bedrooms, making the place look bright and cheerful. Unfortunately I haven't got any photos to show you, but you will see for yourselves when you go out to the Old School Lodge with your groups.

Thanks

Christine

Dates for your Diary

April

2/3	50 th Cheshire Hike		
16	First Response Course	TBC	
18	CSL's meeting	1 st Barnston	20.30
21	District Executive	DHQ	19.45
27	BSL's Meeting	Hilbre	19.30
28	SL's Meeting	Hilbre	

May

6	Group AGM	5 th Heswall	
8	Shelterbox Challenge	Liverpool	
12	District Executive AGM	Heswall Hall	
15	Group AGM	4 th Heswall	
21	Cubs District Skills Day/District Hike		

June

11	Scout 5 a side football	West Park Rugby Club, St. Hellens	
11	Group AGM	2 nd West Kirby	
14	GSL's Meeting	DHQ	
13	ADC's Meeting	DHQ	
18	Group AGM	1 st Thurstaston	

July

August

September

15	First Response Refresher	TBC	
----	--------------------------	-----	--

October

10	ADC's Meeting	DHQ	
19	GSL's Meeting	DHQ	
29	First Response Course	TBC	

November

December

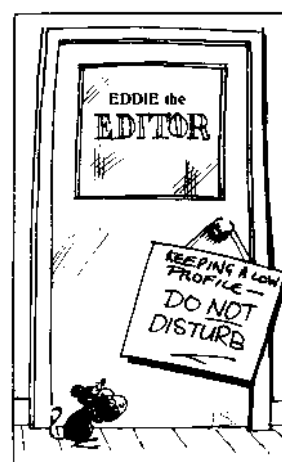
The Editor's Bit.

I have edited the District Newsletter for the last 21 years and I feel that the time has come for me to hand over the task to someone new. I believe that Janet Jones has stepped forward to take over from me after the District AGM. Hopefully next month's Newsletter will give new e.mail addresses and contact details for anyone wishing to contribute articles for future editions.

I have really enjoyed my time as editor and have been involved in the many changes to the Horn's format. I thank everyone who has contributed in the past and to those who have helped me strive to make our newsletter one of the best.

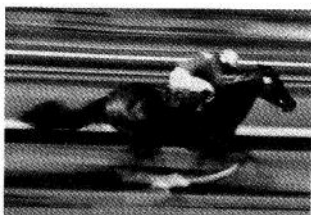
Yours in Scouting,

Eddie.



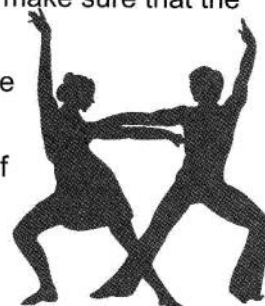
RACENIGHTSRUS

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