

March 2016



#YOUSHAPE EVENT—DONCASTER

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

From the District Commissioner

I really don't know where the time goes, but by the time you read this it will be nearly March. I would first like to welcome back Ann Coulson officially as GSL for St Andrews. Ann has held this role before and I am sure she will soon feel back at home. Myself and the District would like to thank Brian Magor on his service. Brian is staying at St Andrews and swapping over with Ann as the new Chair.

Talking of new roles, I am pleased to say that two of our Explorers, Calum Towers and Kieran Murphy attended #Youthshape in Doncaster at the start of February. Kieran has submitted an article which will appear later in the Horn.

Throughout January we had Beavers, Cubs And Scouts experiencing nights away which is great at this time of year. January saw the Cubs Five a Side and as usual it was well attended and entered into the spirit of Scouting. The 2nd February saw the Post Presentation Evening and once again it was a pleasure to see all the young people collecting cheques for their Groups, as well as all the deserving Charities. The evening was finished off with a performance from the upcoming Gang Show. I have to push the forthcoming Gang Show at the Gladstone Theatre on the dates of 7th - 9th April. This is a fantastic opportunity for our young people and our not so young people to show off their talents. If a Group is struggling for Leaders and would like to attend then please get in touch with either Andy, Liam or myself. If that is not enough of a plug, you have to turn up for a laugh at your DC!

The District are looking for nominations for Leaders or Lay members to sit on the Exec. We meet six times a year. Any nominations, please send to Ann Ledson or Brian Tucker. It would be nice to have an Election. Finally, we are still looking for a SAS Manager and an Editor of the Wirral Horn. If you fancy a change of role then please get in touch with me.

Until next time

Phill

NOTE TO ALL GSL'S.

Can I please ask all GSL's to let myself or the DC know the date, time and venue of their Group's AGM for 2016 as soon as possible.

Many thanks to those who have already done this.

Ann Ledson

District Secretary

E-Mail Annledson@aol.com

Tel 0151 678 8777

NOTE TO HOLDERS OF TROPHIES

Would holders of trophies awarded at the 2015 Annual General Meeting please make sure that these are cleaned and returned to me by Friday 22nd April 2016.

Thank you.

Ann Ledson

District Secretary, 10, Dodd Ave, Greasby, Wirral. 0151 678 8777

District Executive Committee Nominations

At the Annual General Meeting, Thursday 12th May 2016, we elect the District Treasurer, the District Secretary and members to sit on the District Executive Committee.

All members of the District are asked to submit nominations for election to the District Executive Committee.

The elected members do not represent individual Scout Groups or Sections. They play a full part as members of the District Executive Committee but their particular role is to represent the interest of all members in the District.

The following qualify for nominations:

All Scouters, Administrators, Section Assistants, Skill Instructors, Advisers, Members and Associate members of the Scout Association.

Please give this matter some thought and take the opportunity to nominate a suitable person to fulfil any of these roles. Please ensure that your nominee is prepared to stand, before submitting his/her name. The Committee generally meets 5 times a year at District Headquarters.

Please submit your nominations to – Ann Ledson, 10 Dodd Ave, Wirral, CH49 1RR **by Friday 15th April 2016.**



Lions Community Award

Wirral Lions Club sponsor this award, which is presented at the Annual General Meeting, for service to the community. It can be awarded to a Group, Section or an Individual. It is accompanied by a cheque for £100 made payable to the Group.

The type of thing it has been presented for have been;

Converting waste ground near a church to a garden.

Entertaining people in a Care Home.

Working with non-Scouting Special Needs

The types of thing that could be considered are:

A Scout helping an elderly neighbour with shopping and errands.

A Beaver Colony or Cub Pack keeping a church garden tidy.

Running a fundraising event to support a charity.

Any work within the Community

Community is one of the Zones of the Balanced Programme and allows the young person to explore the community in which they live, discovering local people, places and facilities. It also gives them the opportunity to offer help and service.

Please give this some thought and get your entry in to me by 31st March 2016. Thank you.

Brian Tucker

0151 648 1714

A pause for thought

Have you ever been asked “what is your favourite colour?”, what is your favourite food?” or “what is your favourite holiday destination?”. You may or may not agree that you could easily answer these questions. However, imagine my surprise when somebody asked me “what is your favourite day of the week?” I thought that they would have expected me to answer “Sunday of course” although a very important and busy day for me. This person was quite surmised when I said “Tuesday “. “Why Tuesday they asked?” I replied” because Tuesday is the day when they collect and empty my “wheelie bin” “!

For you see that I sort my recyclable and non-recyclable waste then distribute into the appropriate coloured bin. Once my kitchen, bathroom and bedroom bin is emptied, I tackle the waste paper basket in my office {which sometimes is overflowing} and finally empty the shredder. I find this quite therapeutic. I quickly look through the ‘fridge just in case I find that foil wrapped packet that I meant to reuse but somehow overlooked.

When I retrieve the empty “wheelie bin” I am always grateful that someone has taken the trouble to dispose of all my rubbish.

We often have so much unwanted item’s and rubbish in or own lives so would’nt it be wonderful if we could have someone to unload and take it all away for you, however there is one greater who will always listen,

“May you God grant you the wisdom to know when you need a wise council and to give you peace
“

“AARON





On Saturday 17th October Newton and 1st Thurstaston attended the County event, "Scouting around the World" which was held at St Margaret's school in Aigburth. We travelled by train from Hoylake station to Aigburth station. This event started at 9:30 and finished at 3pm, the Beavers had a packed fun filled day. The event was based around five world Scouting zones:- Europe, Africa, Asia, Americas and Australia. To visit the zones each Beaver had to have their Passport stamped. Here are some of the activities that they took part in, tasting different types of food and making friendship bracelets in the Culture and food zone. At the end of the event each Beaver received a "Scouting around the World" badge.

In November eight Colonies attended the District Christmas craft day, at St Chad's Church hall in Irby. At the end of the day all the Beavers went home with a carrier bag full of their handiwork. In December we held our annual Carol service and Christmas party. The theme for the service was "Thinking of Others". To start the service all Beavers wrote a Christmas wish which they attached to a helium filled balloon, which we took outside and after a short prayer they were released, and we watched them float away. Each Beaver Colony that attended brought new toys in a decorated shoe box, with these we assembled our own Christmas tree. Barry the Pastor at Charles Thompson Mission gratefully received the shoe boxes then talked to the Beavers about the vital work of the mission. At the end of the service he took the parcels back to the mission and these would be given out on Christmas day to deserving children. Afterwards we all went into the Church hall for our Christmas party, great fun was had by all.

Our next event is the Beaver Challenge on Friday 4th March, at St Andrew's Church hall, West Kirby

Jayne Oliver A.D.C. Beavers



100 years of Cubs is here! There is a lot in the planning at both District and County level and I know many of our Cub Packs are working towards completing 100 Challenges so good luck!

There is some great support information available for the Birthday Celebrations and Matt is always happy to help you get the most out of the programme - Please just ask!

Well done to all who took part in the 5 A Side football. Congratulations to 1st Barnston who beat 4th Heswall in an entertaining final and to 1st Frankby Greasby who overcame 1st Thurstaston (Fletcher) in the third place play off.



The poster competition is "Computer Safety" and posters need to be with Matt or myself before or at the swimming gala (21 February 2016). Final judging and prize giving will take place at 1st Thurstaston HQ on Wednesday 16th March. I am delighted that our District President and one of our Vice Presidents have accepted our invitation to judge this year's competition and we look forward to welcoming them on the night. (Actually – If they could pick the pizza's up on their way in that would be a great help)

Could you please let me know if you are interested in the Cosford trip so I can start planning bus routes and times. It will be a fantastic day out and I've got the weather booked!

I've been to all packs at least once now and it's great to meet all the leader teams and to see the fantastic programmes and activities that are being provided for our Cubs in West Wirral.

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



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

Orienteering Competition Sat 5th March at Royden Park.

Great Escape 2016 18th – 20th March at Tawd Vale.

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.

We've had a busy month in the Scout section with all our troops taking part in lots of activities and getting out and about.

This month its been great to see our troops working together, growing and supporting each other. 1st Barnston and 1st Frankby Greasby have been training together for the Cheshire Hike with regular weekend hikes across the Cheshire countryside. I believe these have been memorable to say the least!



We have welcomed our newest troop to the district, the resurrected 1st Newton Troop who have started up again under the leadership of SL Alex Morrel with help from Chris Hughes. The troop have gone from strength to strength in recent weeks, increasing numbers and taking part in some fantastic activities. We joined them for a night hike that was taking place in only their second week of existence and the enjoyment was obvious from the smiles on the faces of the young people. Well done Alex and Chris for doing a sterling job getting the troop off the ground.



We have had great fun joining in at troop night meetings as well. At St Andrews we were treated to a masterclass in cooking an egg using only a wire coat hanger, tin foil, and candles; we had a cracking



time!

On 9th Feb the annual Quiz Night came around and it was the turn of reigning champions 1st Barnston to host the quiz. We had forty Scouts join in on the night which was a great turn out and we also managed to field a leader team (even though we were breaking the rules by all being over 12yrs of age!) Rounds included Scouting Knowledge, Out and About, Music and Geography. It was a closely fought competition but the winners on the night were St Andrews who beat the reigning champions by just one point! Thanks to 1st Barnston for hosting and congratulations to the winning team.



Jenny Peek ADC(S)

adcjenny@westwirralscoutteam.com

<http://www.westwirralscoutteam.com>

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

Dear Mr Editor,

Please could you pass on our thanks to all involved in the recent District 5-a-side tournament at Leasowe. 1st Barnston Cubs would like to thank ADC Andy and his team and past ADC Alan for organising a great afternoon of 5-a-side at Leasowe and to all leaders who helped score and referee. We would especially like to thank our fellow cub scouts for their friendly competition in making this a great event. B-R-A-V-O to you all.

1st Barnston Cubs 5-a-side Team

Scout Quiz Night 2016 - Special Thanks

This year the Scout Quiz Night took place at 1st Barnston and for the first time the event was handed over to the Explorer Young Leaders to organise and run.

The team of Explorers planned the rounds, wrote the questions and had everything ready. Each had their own job to do and they organised themselves very well. They executed the quiz brilliantly, kept the Scouts engaged, and they managed to stick to their time plan.

We didn't manage to get all of the Explorers on camera, but here are some of the team in the kitchen marking answer sheets and preparing refreshments and a picture of the Scouts enjoying the quiz and responding to the quizmaster!



It was an excellent quiz and was enjoyed by all participants. These young leaders were a credit to their group and to West Wirral Explorers. At a time when we are all being challenged to become a more “Youth Shaped” organisation, we couldn't have a better example. We would like to send a very big **BRAVO** to the Young Leaders at Barnston for running this years quiz!

YIS

Jenny and Steve

ADC(S)

Royal Navy Sea Scout Swimming Gala 2016 Plymouth

The trip started with a 7-hour, music filled minibus journey, we arrived at 7pm, in the wind and rain. We were briefed about the weekend's activities, only to find that, to everyone's displeasure, we were to wake up at 5:00 the next morning. We were all taken to our rooms and went to bed at 10:30pm. In the morning, we were marched to the canteen where we were given a full English breakfast. After breakfast we gathered our swimming kits, and headed off to the pool. By the end of the first day of swimming, everyone had completed their heats and the Explorers had done the rope throw. We then went back to the quarters got changed, did activities such as map reading, bridge building, rope skills and in the evening we watched a movie. After the eventful day we all marched back to our rooms and soon went to sleep. We woke at 5:30am and after another full English breakfast!! We tidied our rooms and then went straight back to the pool to participate in the finals!!!; around half the team from 4th Heswall Scouts made it into the final's, and a few of us got medals for the individual events, we then raced in the freestyle relay and won by a hair's breadth on the final sprint! The Explorers also won some individual events. Then came the presentations, all the individual medals had been given out, some of us had 4 medals! Then came the Otter Trophy announcement, we were all shocked, surprised and amazed to find we had won the overall event! We then walked back to the minibus, had our team photo and took a long, but happy 7-hour journey home.

James Youngson

4th Heswall Sea Scouts.

Pictured Scouts, Left to right :

Adam Newell, Henry Ruddock, Anshul Ramavath

Daniel Clark, James Youngson, Ollie Beenham

HMS Raleigh is currently being featured in Channel 4 program :
"Royal Navy School"



A Letter to the Editor:

All too often I do not believe we say thank you enough to those that go the extra mile to help others (it isn't all about lashing two poles together).

I would like to just say a huge thank you to Christine Kenyon for all the help she has given 7th Moreton Leaders over the last few months . She has supported not only Dave and myself in the technicalities of the DBS system but supported every leader who's renewal application needed assistance. Not all of us are IT wise but Christine has seen us all through and ensured we can continue on our Scouting path.

With regards **Alison AGSL 7th Moreton**

#YOUSHAPE EVENT—DONCASTER



The #YouShape event in Doncaster was a fantastic opportunity for 2 people of each county in the UK to be able to meet and share ideas on how we as a nation are able to change scouting with a youth voice. We were able to build connections throughout the event and discuss our thoughts on Youth Shaped scouting and possibly find new ideas to bring back to our own county to help make the difference from a Youth level.

During the main part of the event on Saturday there was a live stream, in which I was the first participant to be interviewed about my views on scouting and how the youth are able to be more involved with the organizing and planning, and also the support that we may receive and should receive from districts and counties. We had several questions to discuss during the day, all based around our views on different areas of scouting, from 'lodge leaders' at Beavers to our views on having Youth Shaped scouting as part of Leader Training. We shared our views providing possible ideas that could be used to assist the running of scouting as a whole.

During the event we had 4 break-out sessions, these were selected prior to the event in which we could decide what areas we would like to contribute to, looking to new updates on areas such as the Network Reboot, Communications, Digital age, International and many more areas, sharing our views and coming up with ideas that can be discussed at UK Scout management meetings. We were given 2 pledge cards that were to be filled out after each break out session. One we kept and another we gave to the event organizers, the one we provided to the organizers will be sent to us in 6 months time, helping us remember our pledges and urging us to take action on a pledge we created.

Overall this event was a fantastic opportunity to share views and have our say on what we thought of ideas created down at UK Scouts HQ. We were also able to make connections from all different counties for possibly being able to organize events in the future relating to Youth Shaped Scouting. I have built a strong connection with an explorer and scout group from Hull, which promotes an opportunity to meet another group from another area of the country providing the opportunity for the young people of Merseyside to share skills and learn new skills hopefully building a regular connection with them.

All I can say now is that the #YouShape event in Doncaster was a massive success and I will bring back all the new ideas and skills learnt in Doncaster back to Merseyside to help the youth voice bigger and better and I will return next year to hopefully help plan the event to open the opportunity for more of the youth in Merseyside to have an opportunity to have their say on their future in scouting.

Kind Regards,

Kieran





BEAVERS



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Alan Bennett

alan.bennett@bamnuttall.co.uk

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SCOUTS



EXPLORERS





The Activity Centre Number Club Draw

The draw has taken place and the winners are:-

February

1st Billy Pugh

2nd Maureen Tucker

3rd Mike King

4th Derek Barrington

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

Dates for your Diary

March

| | | | |
|-------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Group AGM | 1 st Barnston | |
| 3 | District Executive | DHQ | 19.45 |
| 4 | Beaver Challenge | St. Andrews Church Hall | |
| 5 | Orienteering Competition | Royden Park | |
| 14 | ADC's Meeting | DHQ | |
| 15 | First Response Refresher | TBC | |
| 15 | Old School Lodge Committee | DHQ | |
| 16 | Poster Competition Judging | 1 st Thurstaston | |
| 18/20 | Great Escape | Tawd Vale | |
| 31 | Scout Bowling Competition | New Brighton | |

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 |
| 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 | |
|----|--------------------------|-----|--|

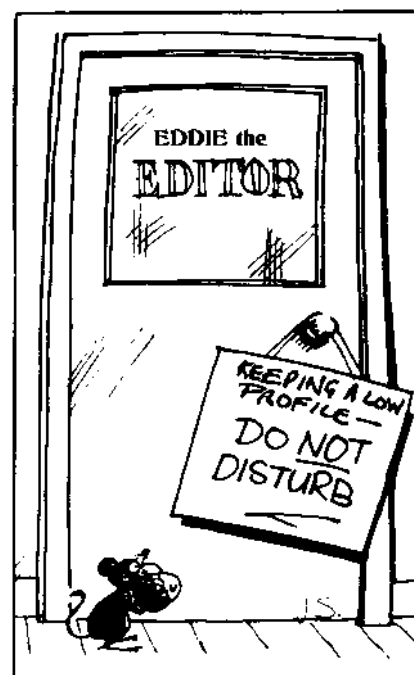
The Editor's Bit.

Please note that the deadline for articles is always the 10th of the month as this allows sufficient time for editing, printing and distribution before the newsletter's publication date. I thank everyone for their contributions this month.

Quite some time ago I indicated that I would like to step down from my role as Newsletter Editor at this years District AGM, so if anyone is interested in taking on this task please contact the DC ASAP.

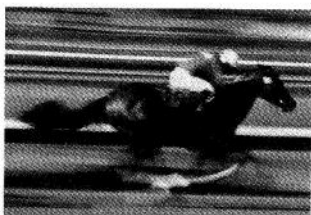
Regards,

Eddie.



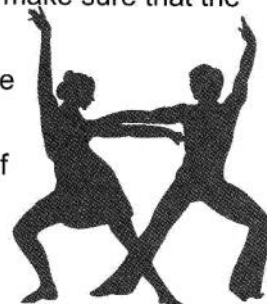
RACENIGHTSRUS

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