

1st Thurstaston Annual General Meeting 2019
Friday 28th June 2019 19:00

Flag raised byMatthew McGurk

1. John McBain, Chairperson - WELCOME
2. Apologies -
3. Minutes of previous AGM

Proposed by ...Caro McBain
Seconded by ...Liz Hughes

4. Chairperson Report - John McBain
5. Treasurer's report - Lynn Harrison
6. Group Scout Leader's report - Sue Flush.

Appointment of officers - Sue Flush as GSL.

John McBain has stepped down as Chair and to join leader team

GSL to duly appoint - Earle Brady as Chairperson

7. Election of officers – Earle Brady as Chair will elect
 - Treasurer - Lynn Harrison has agreed to continue in the role of treasurer for a further 12 months.
 - Group Secretary - Vicky McGurk has agreed to continue.

Election of Executive Committee officers - by Sue Flush as GSL.

To elect, Dawn Rudd, Gillian Carswell, Steve Perlaki and Wendy Wood as elected officers

These were seconded by ...Brian Young
All in favour

Co-opted members of the Group Council were Fergus Lang, Gill Burton, John Burton, Steve Hare, Dave Reed and Marjorie Reed.

8. Guest speaker – Phill Richardson DC

9. Pass over to each Section Leader for awards (see sep sheet)

Beaver Scouts

Thor Colony - Jayne Oliver

Ismay Colony - Sarah West

Royden Colony – Caroline McBain

Cub Scouts

Fletcher Pack - Liz Hughes

Reed Pack - Caroline McBain

Scouts

Brian Young / Andy Costall

The flag duly lowered by in the closing ceremony by

Matthew McGurk.

Chairman's report 2018 – 2019 – John McBain

Welcome Phill Richardson, our District Commissioner, and our other guests from District and to you all. Thank you for coming to our AGM. My report will be brief this evening:

The Group Exec is responsible for the fundraising programme of the Group, and supporting the leader team, who I have continued to work with this year, mainly with the Beavers and Cubs. On the Exec we are always looking for new members and new ideas for the group to support the Leader Team who work tirelessly week in week out for our Young People. Anyone can join - we have three meetings a year at the start of each term to discuss the events we will be running/supporting, and we get to hear first-hand what each colony/pack/troop is up to. The Exec is an essential part of the Scout Group and we really do need more parent involvement to deliver our fundraising activities.

Thank you for supporting the events led by the Exec which we put on, we wouldn't raise as much money without your contributions and attendance. We have been fortunate this year to have matched funding and Christmas & Spring fairs by parents, and I must thank Wendy Wood, who continues to take the lead in organising these events. She does an amazing job every year –thank you Wendy on behalf of the Group.

We have also had the Irby Club envelope drop and the firework night, to supplement the on-going events of the Christmas post and Easyfundraising/Easysearch. If anyone has any other ideas, then please discuss them with us.

The income from these events allows us to keep the cost of the subscriptions lower than is required to cover our running costs.

I am now asking more parents to come and join the Group Exec or offer to support the sections during the week as extra Parent helpers - we are continually growing and our section numbers are strong so it really is vital that we have more adult support from the parent body both with the Exec and Leader Team.

We have fantastic grounds and they need a great deal of time and effort to maintain. Thanks to Andy Costall, Jon Oliver and all those who have helped at the workdays we have had this year. Thanks to the team who refurbished the entrance to the Scout Hut – they've done a great job. The new Bothy that the Scout Leaders built for the Group to offer a different camping experience for our young people has been used this year on a number of Scout activities. Many hands make light work. Again, anyone can come and help at the workdays – they are great for bringing everyone together and the field always has lots of twigs that need picking up before mowing. It's also a great opportunity to get to know the whole Group.

While mentioning outside I'll briefly thank you all for your continued co-operation shown over the access issues to the site. We cannot use the Village Hall car park our landlords strictly enforce this rule so please continue to co-operate with this.

Thanks go to Ian and Nathan for continuing to maintain and update the Group website - please take a look at the archives and photo gallery. And I must also mention thanks to the Leader Team for the fantastic number of pictures they put up on the Facebook page that lets parents see what their children achieve on our activity programmes and events. I think our Young People continue to have fantastic opportunities offered to them by the Scout Group! One of the highlights this year being our first International trip which I'm sure Sue will talk about later.

A huge thanks to our Group Scout Leader, Sue, and Leader Team for their continued hard work and commitment to the Group. You are fantastic with the activities you provide our Young People and the time you also put in – not always easy with busy working lives as well!

And finally, this is my last AGM as Chair of Exec, I am passing this role on to Earle Brady. I have enjoyed my time and the opportunities it has afforded me as Chair to get to know the Scout Group Leaders and families and most importantly the Young People. I am not going far though as I will continue to give leader support at Royden Beavers and Reed Cubs and continue to support the Grounds team.

So now, I'll pass you to Lynn for her Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer's Report - Lynn Harrison

Hello, Question, is the overall group balance a profit or a loss based on last year?

Income has generally increased all around: Subs £2432.50 which is a reflection of the new Colony.

Gift aid which was received too late to be included was £4372.85 extra £500+ keep signing those forms.

The annual HQ charge or district capitation has increased by £1,291 again this is based on head count.

Small overall increase on fundraising, which includes the scout post.

Payments Small increases in utilities, water & electricity, also insurance.

Major spends are attributed to the new floor and other improvement projects

As you can see 100 club finished in Nov18 due to dwindling numbers.

Banks The current bank account balance is £8478.87

6 week saving account balance is £10280.67, this gave an annual interest of £53.13

The Scout short term investment account balance is £11849.28, this gave an annual interest of £58.68

Activities account, Income from this was £32638.44 Expense was £31523.69

Profit of £4222.51 to take into next year.

Overall the closing group balance is £4,171.15 down on the closing balance from last year.

So to end on a high note, there will be no increase in subs for the following 12 months.

Group Scout Leader Report 2019



My 12th year as GSL and delivering these reports and I'm running low on superlatives to describe this amazing Scout Group that we are all part of – one statement however sums it up rather well

'District Presidents Prize Winners 2019'

Our fantastic Scout Group was recognised by Phill our DC and the District team at the AGM in May this year – what does it mean? It means that we are the best Scout Group on the District and how lovely it is for the whole team to get this recognition and thanks for what we do. Please give a very large round of applause for our amazing team, (Leaders, Exec team and Young Leaders please stand and take a bow).

We are very proud of what we do here in the Group and know that it has a lasting and lifelong impact on the young people who come to Beavers, Cubs and Scouts every week – to coin a phrase and be totally on brand

#skills for life.

Our current enormous membership of 175 young people along with around 40 adults, Leaders and the Exec committee, is a testament to what we do. Despite opening a 3rd Beaver Colony this year we still have a thirty strong waiting list with at least a dozen of them ready to join in the next six months.

Each Section has done its own annual report and overview of the year and we will send these out to all parents and add them to our Group website, have you had a look at the website ? – it is an amazing record of our Group and its 86 year history – please have a look.

Let's look briefly at each Section

Ismay Beavers

Led by Sarah with Gemma helping most weeks and doing the admin, Helen missed us so much she decided to come back as Assistant and help Sarah each week. David still helps out as YL and he is joined this year by Tom and Alex who have graduated from Scouts to become YL's. There are currently 19 Beavers, with more to join in the autumn. There are also 2 young Cubs who come most weeks (because Mum is a Leader) thanks to India and Harry – Young Leaders in training – aged 9!

Thor Beavers

Led by Jayne and until very recently assisted by Rachel, now joined by Vicky one of the Mum's who has joined us as a Section Assistant and helps Jayne with the Beavers every week. Lucy continues to attend as Young Leader and Tom and Ben both ex Scouts of ours, are completing the Volunteering service element of their D of E and help weekly. 18 Beavers attend Thor Colony with more to join in the autumn.

Royden Beavers

With more than 20 young people on our waiting list at the right age to start and no space to take them in either Ismay or Thor, in Sept last year Akela Caro from Reed Cubs said to me – 'I'll run a new Beaver Colony for you'!

Never one to miss an opportunity I said yes please and in Sept 2018 Royden Beaver Colony was started with 24 new recruits all at once!! Those first few months were interesting to say the least with so many new ones all starting at the same time and we had the biggest mass Investiture I've ever done at the end of October. Now 10 months in, they are the keenest bunch of Beavers I've ever known, they all come every week and pretty much all attend every outing, camp, sleepover and event that River (AKA Akela Caro) and her team put on for them. Caro's husband John (AKA Hawkeye) helps every week with their son Gabe (who has no choice but seems to like it) and we have recently been joined by Kate one of our Mum's as a Section Assistant. Gemma also helps with the admin and we have Jamie and Cameron as Young Leaders also recent graduates from Scouts and Alex (also an ex Scout) who is doing D of E Volunteering Service.

Fletcher & Reed Pack Cubs

Akela's Caro and Liz run the Cub packs, with Assistants Jon, Paul, Beth and helped out by Matty now an adult leader. We have 60 Cubs between the two packs, so we need lots of help and that comes in the form of a whole clutch of Young Leaders, Adam, Alastair, Henry, Skye and Josh help with Fletcher Pack and Will, Mat, Matt and Alex (doing his D of E) help at Reed Pack. The highlight of the year was taking 15 Cubs and 3 YL's to Paris, it was an amazing trip, our first ever International trip in my time with the Group and was totally brilliant.

My thanks to Caro who planned and organised the whole thing, it was a huge success, so much so, we are going again next year with another group who are mostly Scouts and Young Leaders.

Scout Troop

We merged the 2 troops due to falling numbers and now we are back up to 38! The Scout leaders are Andy and Brian with Assistants Andy and Alan and we have recently been joined by Ian a Scout Dad who has transferred in from another Group. Lucas and Jacob are the Young Leaders and Sam has recently re-joined after a break when he left Scouts, along with Miles another ex - Scout who is doing his D of E volunteering service with us.

We have some very good news that Bev who used to be a Beaver Leader with us and had been a Cub leader before that, is coming home from America in the summer, having spent the last three years as a Leader with Boy Scouts of America and has completed her Wood Badge which is the Worldwide adult leader training programme. Bev recently has been instrumental in opening a new Girl Scout Troop – they are not yet mixed in America!

The plan is to split the Troop again in the autumn as 38 Scouts really is too many in one sitting and Bev will head up the new Troop with the younger Andy assisting her. This is all a work in progress at the moment and nothing is finalised yet but watch this space for an announcement when we have sorted it all out. I do know that Bev brings a wealth of experience to the role and they do things quite differently in America, their troops are much more Youth led, an aspiration we are very much working towards in the UK.

Thanks Section

We are a strong dynamic team here at 1st T, Phill said to me recently that he wished he could bottle what we do here and spread it around the District, what a lovely compliment for the whole team. There are a truly dedicated, hardworking bunch of people here, who work really hard to provide fantastic, high quality Scouting and we are all volunteers. On behalf of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and the Parents, I would like to thank each and every one of you for everything you do for us. We also have an army of Parent helpers who are able to help us out on an occasional, flexible basis and maybe get a taste of this Scout leadership lark, we are working on converting them – Caro is currently our recruitment queen, long may it continue.

Our Group Exec Committee also work really hard to provide the funds to run the Group, it is very much a team effort and our thanks to John our outgoing Group Chair, Lynn our Group treasurer, Vicky our Group Secretary and Wendy, Gillian, Dawn, Matt and Steve who are all parents of children in the Group. Matt has decided to step down and we thank him for his years of service to the Group. Thanks also to Dave and Marjorie, the Group President and his wife who continue to support us all year round.

As you now know John is stepping down as Group Chair and we would like to thank him sincerely for the last couple of years, I would like to present him with this gift as a token of our thanks for all your hard work. John also wears many other hats in the Group as

Hawkeye in Beavers, Baloo in Cubs and is an integral part of our House and Grounds team, thanks John we really appreciate all you do for us.

At this point I would like to warmly welcome Earle as our new Group Exec Chair and look forward to working with you in the coming years, thank you for volunteering to join us.

We are actively encouraging some new parents to join the Exec committee please see me afterwards if this is something you might consider.

A special mention and our grateful thanks to Rachel who has decided to retire as Assistant Beaver Leader in Thor Colony after a 34-year association with the Group. Rachel was also a Cub leader back in the 1980's and came back to us in 2013 when she joined the Exec and in 2016 offered to help Jayne run Thor Beavers. Rachel's twin Grandsons are now in the Group and have progressed through Beavers and recently moved into Cubs. Rachel and her husband Peter are an integral part of our Scout Post team as they make the daily collections at our Village stamp sale outlets and take the Scout Post into Royden for sorting, they also help with sorting at the hut and deliveries. I would like to present Rachel with this gift to say thank you from us all at 1st Thurstaston.

We would like to wish Mat and Jamie our two World Scout Jamboree contingent members a fantastic summer in Canada and America we can't wait to hear all about it when you are back.

Well that's it for another year – thanks again to everyone in the Group, Scouting has the power and impact to positively affect our children's lives for the better, long may it continue.

Sue Flush – Group Scout Leader

28/6/19

AWARDS – AGM 2019

THOR COLONY

BEAVER SPORTSMANSHIP AND ATTITUDE – ETHAN HALL

BEAVER PARTICIPATION – ELI NOLAN

OUT OF COMFORT ZONE – MYLO REDFEARN PRICE

BEAVER OF THE YEAR – BEN MARR

ISMAY COLONY

BEAVER SPORTSMANSHIP AND ATTITUDE – FREYA MORRIS

BEAVER PARTICIPATION – LEWIS WALLACE

OUT OF COMFORT ZONE – CHARLIE BIRD

BEAVER OF THE YEAR – DANIEL SPRUNG

ROYDEN COLONY

BEAVER SPORTSMANSHIP AND ATTITUDE – CHARLIE McGOLDRICK

BEAVER PARTICIPATION – GEORGE LEAK

OUT OF COMFORT ZONE – THOMAS KEEGAN

BEAVER OF THE YEAR - SAM CHARLTON

FLETCHER PACK

CUB SPORTSMANSHIP AND ATTITUDE – ZACHARY CREE

CUB PARTICIPATION – TOM BUNBY

OUT OF COMFORT ZONE – ELLIOTT DOUBLEDAY

CUB OF THE YEAR – JARED CROSS

REED PACK

CUB SPORTSMANSHIP AND ATTITUDE – CHARLIE LAMPKIN

CUB PARTICIPATION – INDIA MORRIS

OUT OF COMFORT ZONE – ASHLEY SMITH

CUB OF THE YEAR – SADIE CAPSTICK

1st THURSTASTON SCOUT TROOP

SCOUT SPORTSMANSHIP AND ATTITUDE – BEN GRIFFIN

SCOUT PARTICIPATION – MARSHALL ANSTISS

OUT OF COMFORT ZONE – REYHAN WELSH

SCOUT OF THE YEAR – LUKE WATSON

YOUNG LEADER OF THE YEAR – WILL BRADY

Fletcher & Reed Pack Cubs report 2018-19

What an activity packed year it has been! Have we really packed all that fun into 3 terms?? We began our year in September welcoming back our 2 packs & then talking about our summer holidays.

We started our term off by completing our Athletics activity badge across 2 weeks & then perfected our s'mores with 2 weeks of Backwoods Cooking. It amazes me the capacity of cubs to eat burnt marshmallow!!

District camp was at Queen Charlotte's Wood as always, with lots of activity bases themed around the Adventure Challenge badge. The weather gods were kind & didn't throw too much wet stuff at us!!

Cubs from both packs also went to the Scouting Around The World funday in Liverpool & had a fab time there. We also had a joint Hallowe'en party with spooky games & costumes & had a mass investiture of our new cubs in fancy dress-a first for both Akelas!!

There was a great turnout from both packs at St Bartholomew's, Thurstaston for Remembrance Sunday and much fun was had at the Children In Need Splash event at Europa Pools, raising a lot of money through our ever popular(&yummy) cake sale

December saw us attending the District carol service & sang about the 12 days of Christmas. We also took part in the District 10-Pin bowling competition where the district booked out all the lanes at New Brighton!! It was a very noisy & competitive night. We ended the term with a Christmas party at the hut-lots of festive fun!!

In January we went to the pantomime at The Floral Pavilion- oh no we didn't!! We also completed our International activity badge across 4 weeks, including a (peaceful) visit to the Kailash Buddhist centre & a Chinese theme night led by our Young Leader Alastair.

We also found time to enter 2 teams in the District 5 a side football competition- sadly this we did not progress further than the group stages. The Cubs showed tremendous camaraderie & team spirit, and were skilfully managed by our Young Leaders Alastair & Adam.

February half-term saw the inaugural visit of both cub packs to Disneyland Paris- our first abroad visit for Cubs. Those that went now proudly wear their international neckers!

We spent 2 weeks looking at beach & coastal safety & the work of the coastguard & the RNLI. This neatly tied in with the district poster competition theme of Beach Safety. Matt, another of our Young Leaders, gave us a talk & demonstration of lifeguarding skills.

There was another cub sleepover at the hut to end the term.

Summer term began with a games night- always popular with the cubs. We also went on our annual weekend trip to Deiniolen, Snowdonia. This time the weather gods threw everything at us- gale force winds, horizontal rain, sleet, hailstones the lot!!! Saturday morning saw us reverting to plan B- aka anywhere inside out of the wind & rain!! We ended up at the aircraft museum at Conwy airport & had an absorbing few hours climbing in & out of old

planes & helicopters. We even invested a new cub in a plane! Sunday was kinder to us & we spent much of the day at Greenwood Forest Park- always a favourite destination with cubs!!

We brushed up on our essential cub skills- first aid, tent pitching/striking (putting up/taking down), fire-lighting & map skills in preparation for the District competition. Sadly no trophy this year!

The district day trip was to Eureka! Children's museum- the photos looked fantastic & the cubs thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

As I write Fletcher Pack have just enjoyed a thrilling 2 hours sailing on West Kirby marine lake followed by a mass jump off the jetty, again & again & again Reed Pack are due to do this next week.

We will end our term with the annual crabbing session, again at West Kirby.

End of July sees young people from our cub packs & beaver colonies going to Beaudesert Activity Centre in Cannock for a 3 night summer camp. Lots of varied activities such as zip wires, climbing, coracling(it's a round boat apparently!) & greasy pole await. It promises to be huge fun!!

Akela Caro & Liz would like to thank our hard working leader & young leader teams who work with us delivering fun-filled scouting to the young people in our care. Thank you also to the rest of the group leaders for their continued support, especially our GSL Sue. Lastly, a huge B.R.A.V.O to our two fantastic Cub Packs who keep us on our toes & keep us alternately entertained or tearing our hair out!

Akelas Liz Hughes & Caro McBain

Summer Term, June 2019

2018/2019 Report

A New Colony!

The Autumn term got off to an amazing start with the opening of a brand new Beaver Colony! We had so many children waiting to join Beavers, that River (Akela Caro) and Hawkeye (Baloo from Cubs!) agreed to set up and run another colony. River also runs our Reed Cub Pack, so I am sure you can all appreciate how committed she is to helping all children access scouting, and all the leader team are very grateful to her. With every new colony, there needs to be a new name a few got suggested but "Royden" was certainly the most popular choice. We now have 3 colonies Ismay, Thor and Royden.

Ismay and Royden follow the same activity programme, so the Leader team can help each other with the admin and planning for both colonies. We will also enjoy some joint nights and the Beavers can make new friends from different schools.

Once again, on behalf of us all a massive thank you to River/ Caro and Hawkeye, any help you can give them on meeting nights I am sure will be appreciated.

Sarah / Bubbles

BSL -Ismay Colony

Ismay and Royden enjoyed a lovely autumnal walk to start the new term. Ismay welcomed two new Young Leaders Tom and Alex, who got initiated by 20 + beavers chasing them through Royden woods and Royden welcomed two Young Leaders initially Jamie (Tic Tac) and Cameron (Bubbles) followed a few weeks later by Alex who is completing his Duke of Edinburgh Award for Service section. Still not sure who had the most fun! The beavers also gathered materials to make both colonies Beavers, Billy and Barry a den. The beavers worked in lodges, some excellent teamwork and creativity was shown! There are still some Beaver Dens on display at the hut!

Both Colonies enjoyed trips to Hoylake Life Boat Station, it was a very informative but I think the Beavers just wanted to get on board the life boat!!

All Beavers worked really hard towards their Disability Awareness badge, by learning some sign language and taking part in games and activities designed to help them understand what it could be like to have a different range of disabilities. They also completed their Communicator badge and sent some interesting and fun messages to River!

We enjoyed a fabulous joint Halloween Party, all the beavers came dressed to impress and had a great time playing duck apple, eating sweets out of flour, eating a doughnut off a string and making monsters. We invested a record number of Beavers at the party all ghoulishly dressed!

On the run up to Christmas the Beavers went to Barnstondale to have a go at Archery and Climbing. A lot of personal challenges were gained at this activity! All the leader team were very proud of them.

A great evening was had trampolining at Jumping Josphehs, this was a joint night and the cubs come too! It was a very unique sight watching 50 + bouncing beavers and cubs!

One of our last events this term was a sleep over for all younger beavers at the hut. The beavers got a lesson in circus skills which included how to plate spin, juggle and ribbon dance. All beavers loved this activity and really got involved. They also gained their first nights away badge....lets hope its the first of many nights away and scouting adventures for them all and completed their Personal Challenge Badge!.

After a well deserved Christmas break we came back and hit the ground running with lots of activities, unfortunately Bubbles had to have an operation so the other Beaver leaders had to rally round to make sure Ismay was not disrupted too much. The beavers enjoyed working towards their international badge with food tasting from around the world, learning about Beaver Scouts from other country's and even put their dancing shoes on to learn samba and some street dancing! We finished of the Term with another sleep over. The beaver were delighted with the fabulous and informative show Phil from The Creepy Crawly Show gave us and were fascinated with all of his weird and wonderful animals and reptiles- which included snakes, spiders and an owl! Again the beavers had another invaluable "how to" step by step guide on how our camps work how they need to behave, work together, show independence, responsibility and HAVE FUN!!!... All beavers who took part made the whole leader team extremely proud of their behaviour and perseverance.

After Easter Break Royden and Ismay recognised Mental Health Awareness day and were visited by Natalie from Headstrong she taught the beavers how they can help themselves to keep their brain healthy which included drinking lots of water and keeping their bedrooms tidy! Ismay and Royden also enjoyed a joint traditional sports evening. Until you have seen a beaver racing in a sack you haven't lived ! Other adventures we have had /going to have this term are Scavenger Hunt on the beach, den building in Royden Park, time on the water and a picnic in the park.

We've had a very busy and fun year and are very proud of our Beavers and their achievements to date.

Yours in Scouting,

Bubbles – BSL Ismay Colony, River – BSL Royden Colony, Rainbow – ABSL Ismay Colony and Hawkeye
ABSL Royden Colony

1st Thurstaston Scouts Annual Report

June 2019



Scout News 2019

In short there are a lot of them! We started the Scouting year with around 25 attending regularly on a Tuesday night but this figure has grown steadily over the year. From glancing through the records the most Scouts we had attend on a single night was 37. Although some of them are quite small that is still a lot of very excitable children to fit in the hut especially if it is wet outside.

Over the last few months we have tended to split our programme into two, with two patrols doing an activity one week whilst the other two patrols doing a different activity. The following week the patrols undertaken the activity that they did not do the previous week. This helps keep the groups that the leaders are looking after to manageable numbers and that the Scouts receive a quality evening.

Girl Power

We now have 8 girls in Scouts. Our Senior Patrol Leader is Nia, Summer has become an Assistant Patrol Leader and younger girls have all matched or bettered the boys. As proof, Reyhan was best at splitting a match with an axe out of the whole Troop.



With the increase in Scout number it was really great that Ian, a leader from one of the Heswall Groups joined us in the Spring Term.

Additionally in September the Scout Leader Team will be further reinforced as Bev, formerly a Beaver Leader with 1st Thurstaston, is returning from the USA and will be rejoining as a Scout Leader.

It has been a really full year for the Scouts with many of the very young Scouts experiencing Scout camps for the first time. Our thoughts are now turning towards summer camp and the Beavan in the autumn.

Although they are no longer in the Scout Troop, we will also be thinking of Jamie and Matt who only recently left Scouts as they attend the World Scout Jamboree at Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve in West Virginia, USA.



September

At the start of the Scouting year some of the Troop spent a few hours helping with a beach clean at West Kirby organised by the Marine Conservation Society.

As far as badge was concerned we concentrated on the Navigator Badge in preparation for the Beavan Challenge Camp at the end of the month.

We took a large number of Scouts to the Beavan Challenge Camp in September, with many of them attending their first Scout Camp. Whilst at the Camp we took the opportunity to invest some of our new Scouts whilst watch on by the all the competing teams and organizers of the competition.



October

October saw the Scouts take part in a World Challenge, a wide game called Trading Post (this involves earning money by completing various challenges that quite often end up with a messy Scout) and the Scouts had a go at tie dyeing.



At the end of October, we took part in Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI) in which we spoke to Scouts around the world. We also spent some time working on the bothy and had a gaming competition. We also found time to invest Marshall.



The map above gives some idea of which countries we spoke to in a few hours that we took part in JOTI.

November

In November, the Scouts worked on their Meteorologist and Communicators Badges. They also found time to attend the District Campfire at 1st Frankby Greasby's hut.



December

The highlight for the Scouts in December was the visit to Clip and Climb for an evening of adventure climbing.



January

With New Year, the Scouts started back with a games night and can be seen in the picture playing Blind Tazers. During the month they worked on their Chefs Badge and model Making Badge.

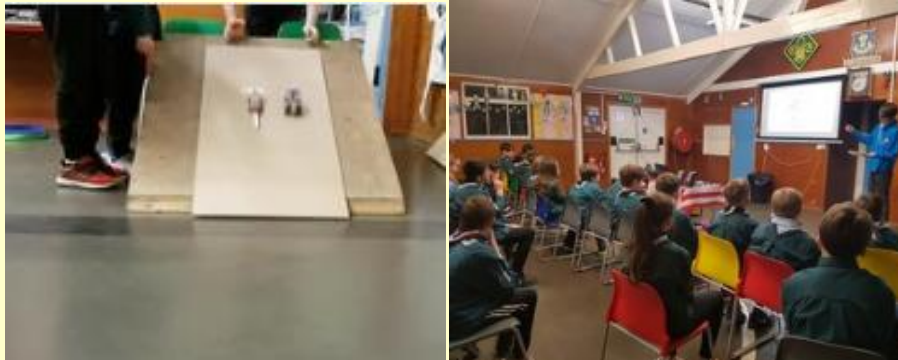
The Scouts also attended the first District Paintballing event.



February

February continued with the model making theme, this time testing the design of various Lego model vehicle the Scouts could create.

Also in February, Jamie who is going to the World Scout Jamboree in the summer came to give a talk to the Scouts about his trip to the USA and what he expects the Jamboree to be like.



March

We continued with the Model Making badge. We also looked Air Activity Badge and the design of the best paper and balsa airplanes. Although balloon modeling made an unplanned but memorable appearance on one night!



March was a very busy month for the Scouts. A patrol from the Troop took part in the Lord Darby Competition held at Tawd Vale Campsite. We also held a mini Great Escape night at the hut to prepare the Scouts for type of activity they might face when attending the Great Escape Camp at the end of March.



April

The Scouts attended the Great Escape Camp at the beginning of April and then we took the opportunity to look at fire lighting, pioneering and emergency aid.



May & June

June was a bit of a washout and badly affected the planned activities we had for the Scouts including the cancellation of Group Camp. However we did manage to fit in; mental health awareness evening, axe, saw & splitter sessions, District Challenges, Dragon boat racing, the District Cook- Off Competition & the District Orienteering Competition.

We have also supplied each Scout with a woggle for their patrol to save sewing on the patrol flashes.

It's been a busy year!



Thor Colony report 2018/19

As ever the Beavers have been very busy during the past year.

We have:-

Visited Burton Mere Wetlands, here we had a talk by the ranger and then the Beavers took part in a Mini Beast Scavenger hunt.

We enjoyed a water games evening with different relay games, finishing with a water fight using water bombs and water pistols, as you can imagine the Beavers enjoyed wetting the Leaders and each other.

We held our annual sandcastle building at Caldy beach which they all enjoy.

We have attended the Group summer camp with the Cubs in July at Queen Charlottes Wood, near Frodsham. There has also been 2 Beaver sleepovers at the hut and a District Pirate camp.

At the start of the Autumn term we have learnt how to look after our teeth.

We have had a visit from a Police Officer who came to talk about stranger danger and firework safety.

We have also had a visit from the local Coastguard. They spoke to the Beavers about water safety and did a sinking sand rescue exercise with them. The Beavers then went outside and were shown the equipment in the truck, they enjoyed sitting in the truck and switching on the flashing lights and siren.

We have learnt the Green Cross Code, Home Safety, what to do in an emergency and Railway Safety.

We have made bird feeders and learnt about the different types of birds that visit our gardens.

At the end of October we had a fancy dress Halloween party with a variety of games and a pumpkin competition.

For Remembrance we talked about the 2 World Wars, made poppies and wrote some prayers. The Beavers read these out at the end of the night and we had a minutes silence. These prayers can be seen on the wall in the Scout hut. We attended the Remembrance Day Service at St Bartholomews Church Thurstaston on the Sunday.

We have made Christmas calendars and tree decorations.

The Beavers have made different structures using spaghetti and Playdoh.

For our last 2 meetings before Christmas we had a visit to the Climbing Hanger in Liverpool and Jumping Josephs in Neston.

To start the New year off we held a Board Games night, each Beaver brought in a game.

We have Learnt about Beavers from around the World.

We talked about Chinese New Year and tasted different foods.

Mathew, one of our Young leaders has been selected to go to the North America 24th World Scout Jamboree in July. He came to one of our Beaver nights in February and brought the 'USA in a Box'. He talked about North America and the Beavers took part in the different activities that were in the box.

We had a visit from Lauren Jackson a local dance teacher, she taught the Beavers a dance routine for their International badge, this was good fun.

The Beavers have learnt how to spell their name in Morse Code, write a simple message, send a text message/email and their home phone number.

One of the parents who is a Doctor came in to teach the Beavers about basic first aid.

The Beavers have decorated and planted plant pots for Mothers day.

When we returned after the Spring break we had an Easter egg hunt and made fluffy bunnies.

We have learnt how to put on a cycle helmet correctly and why it is important to wear one. How to pump up a tyre and find a puncture. We discussed reflective clothing and why you need to have lights and reflectors on your bike.

The Beavers have taken part in Shelter building in Royden park and a Beach Scavenger hunt at Thurstaston beach.

We have had a visit to Pets at Home in Bromborough.

The Beavers have learnt the 4 cardinal points of the compass, drew a map showing the route from home to school, found where they are on a simple map and talked about what you need to wear for the appropriate activity and what equipment you will need.

We have visited the New Ferry Butterfly park, where the Beavers took part in pond dipping, had a nature / mini beast hunt and a craft activity.

Natalie from Headstrong came to talk about Mental Health awarness. She talked to the Beavers about feelings, thoughts and causes of anxiety, she did exercises with them and they made stress relief balls.

We have attended the following District events:- Gullivers World, Craft day, Carol Service followed by a Christmas party. We also attended the Skills evening and St George's Day.

I would like to thank my leader team Rachel and Vicky, Lucy-Y.L. Tom and Ben D of E's for all their help throughout the year. I would also like to thank my parent helpers.

Jayne Oliver-B.S.L.

Rusty