

1st Thurstaston Annual General Meeting 2021

Friday 25th June 2021 19:00

Flag raised by virtual (Alan)

1. Earle Brady, Chair - WELCOME
2. Apologies - read out by Vicky -Kath Callaghan, Gillian Carswell, Alastair Carswell, Liz Hughes, Jenny Peek, and various parents
3. Minutes of previous AGM – sent out by email and available on our website

Proposed by ... Lynn Harrison
Seconded by ... Jon Oliver

4. Chairperson Report – Earle Brady
5. Treasurer's report - Lynn Harrison
6. Group Scout Leader's report - Sue Flush (followed by addition from Vicky)

Appointment of officers - Sue Flush as GSL.

Earle has agreed to remain as Chairperson

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, Gillian Carswell, Steve Perlaki, Wendy Wood and Debbie Beck as elected officers

These were seconded by ...Caro McBain.....
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, who presented some district awards

The flag duly lowered by in the closing ceremony by Alan – virtually



2021 AGM – District Awards and Service Awards

Beaver Colony of the Year

Royden Beaver Colony

Young Leader of the Year

Lucy Halder

Commissioner's Commendation

Awarded by the District Commissioner in recognition of their contribution to Scouting particularly over the last 12 months.

Caro McBain

Vicky McGurk

Alan Parr



Chief Scout 20 Year Service Award

Sue Flush

Chief Scout 15 Year Service Award

Paul Oliver

Chief Scout 10 Year Service Award

Gillian Carswell

Chief Scout 5 Year Service Award

Andrew Beard

Wendy Wood

Silver Acorn

Awarded for specially distinguished service for a period of not less than twenty years.

Sue Flush

ISMAY

SPORTSMANSHIP – IZZY MASON

PARTICIPATION – WILLIAM OGILVIE

OUT OF COMFORT – HENRY STOKER

BEAVER OF THE YEAR 2021 - ABIGAIL BURKE

ROYDEN

SPORTSMANSHIP – JAKE SWAIN

PARTICIPATION – JESSICA HEDDERICK

OUT OF COMFORT – SCOTT BURNET

BEAVER OF THE YEAR 2021 – HARRY WARWICK

THOR

SPORTSMANSHIP – FINLAY LAW

PARTICIPATION – MORGAN WARBURTON

OUT OF COMFORT – BEN MIZEN

BEAVER OF THE YEAR 2021 – ROSE MARLEY

FLETCHER PACK

SPORTSMANSHIP – DANIEL SPRUNG

PARTICIPATION - CHARLIE BIRD

OUT OF COMFORT – WILLIAM BOWEN-JONES

CUB OF THE YEAR 2021 – ISLA OLSEN

REED PACK

SPORTSMANSHIP – CIARAN KEATING

PARTICIPATION – SAM CHARLTON

OUT OF COMFORT – ELI NOLAN

CUB OF THE YEAR 2021 – LUKE MARLEY

SCOUTS –

SPORTSMANSHIP – FINLAY STITCHER

PARTICIPATION – DAISY WHITE

OUT OF COMFORT ZONE – FINLEY EMMS

SCOUT OF THE YEAR 2021 – CONRAD BAKER

YOUNG LEADER OF THE YEAR

DAN PERRY



1st Thurstaston Cubs Report June 2021

Well it's been a very different year for the Cub Packs at 1st Thurstaston, after the joint night fire lighting in March we went into lockdown. We were initially setting challenges via the WhatsApp parents group. However, realizing that lockdown was not going away any time soon, we progressed to Zoom sessions and had our first one on 11th June with Water Safety following some incidents reported on Thurstaston beach. Our presenter was in London and this led the way to us having guests from around the world and outdoor locations! We gave a quick tutorial on how to use Zoom – it was new to us all – and away we went and never looked back!

Parents also found themselves joining in the sessions and discovering that Zoom hears everything if not on Mute and the camera sees everything! Everyone quickly got quite savvy on Zoom and we started a very varied and enjoyable online programme.

Favourite visitors, similar to the beavers, included Skittleman, who had everyone in stitches with his platypus and sandwich song, Liz Million and her fabulous artwork, Conrad our author who visited us three times and Mountain Girl who had the cubs dressed and ready to go on a hike and passing their Stage 2 Navigator badge. We learnt how to cook with Zoe Crow and Shiny Kitchen and produced some lovely curries and meals, another of our favourite guests and enjoyed making clay models of ourselves with Steve. 1st Virtual Facebook was found to be an amazing source of activities and guests. We visited the Alpacas, hedgehog rescue centers, every type of animal from river rodents to snakes and lizards, we went to New Zealand to star gaze, took part in and completed

experiments with Fizz Pop and had science shows and astrology sessions with Mark Thompson.

Over the 12 months we invested new cubs and moved on our cubs to scouts to their chosen scout troop – the section goes from strength to strength as our beavers moved to the packs. The Moving on Ceremony was a bit different but it was great to list the achievements of our cubs and say goodbye to them - quite touching to see them progress in their next chapter of scouting! It was fantastic to meet new cubs who started and took up the challenge on Zoom even if we weren't always recognised when doing badge drops without a frame around our faces!

Our cubs achieved a loads of badges including Nights Away for camping in the garden or building dens and sleeping in them at home. Again thanks to parents for the camp outs and minor disruptions to gardens, bedrooms and front rooms! We had cubs who achieved their Silver Chief Scout Award while completing badges at home!

Definitely our favourite sessions were when we made multiple mug cakes and pizza in a mug which we did a few times – at one point every variety of mug cake and pizza combinations was tried and tested and voted the best. Our final Zoom session was a mug baking night as requested. We had loads of exercise as well with Zumba and Martial Arts - Tae-kwon-do! We also enjoyed drumming – as did our parents –, percussion and beat boxing - amazing! Such a massive variety of sessions – please see our Facebook page for more, so much more!

As the time approached to go back to face to face we put a call out to our parents to request for help and they have replied. We have three new leaders, Kaa, Chil who was one of our brilliant young leaders (and the first Senior Sixer at Reed Pack when he was a cub!) at Reed who join Akela Caro and Rikki and Hathi another one of our brilliant young leaders who joins Akela Liz and Bagheera at Fletcher Pack and we have a lovely new group of young leaders in the section. We also have a good amount of parents who have been DBS'd and some new section assistants which helps enormously on meeting face to face. It's great to know we have this support.

Since returning we have formed our sixes, participated in loads of team activities and model making, and are looking forward to our Sports days over the coming weeks.

It was also fabulous that Rikki has completed fifteen years in scouting and received his award from our GSL Sue. Akela Caro received a Commissioner's Commendation Award for outstanding help and support at 1st Thurstaston which was also fantastic.

We are so pleased to be back to face to face scouting even if it's raining! We are looking forward to the challenges this year will bring!

Yours in Scouting

1st Thurstaston Cub Leader Team

GSL AGM Report 2021

I am going to show you the video we did for the District AGM last year, it was an overview of the previous 12 months - pre lockdown in March 20! So I thought it might show the new children and parents to the Group what to expect when things get back to normal and to remind the rest of us what we missed and hope to do again next year. This has been another difficult year in so many respects, but most of the Scouts of all ages have stuck with us and we have had some amazing visitors and activities on Zoom, the leader team have been totally brilliant and the kids resilient and that's what it's all about for me.

A few words of thanks –

As ever my most important role at this event is to say thank you – we are a fairly large team at 1st Thurstaston and the success and popularity of the Group is largely down to that team, so I would like to thank them each personally.

My support team of Deputy Group Scout Leaders, Andy, Brian and Caro

The Section Leaders, Andrew, Andy, Brian, Caro (Beavers & Cubs), Jayne, Liz and Rich.

The Assistant Section Leaders, Alan, Beth, Claire, Helen, Gayle, Gemma, Ian, Jon, and Paul.

The Section Assistants Alastair, Diane, Gaynor, Iain, Matt, Matty, Mel.

The Young Leader Team, Alice, Ben, Dan, Henry, India, James, Lucy, Luke, Nat, Nia, Sam and Skye.

It might sound like a lot of names but we have 152 children currently over the 7 Sections we operate each week. You will note that some of the team have several roles and quite a few have other roles outside of the Group on the District Team as well.

Thank you all for everything you do week in week out throughout the year be that on zoom or in person you are all amazing.

Over the last year a few leaders have sadly left the Group and we would like to thank them for everything they did for us: Sarah West, Kate

Harrison, Krista Herbert, Sarah O'Connor, Dan Callaghan, Ed Rudd and Jenny Bradshaw.

Thank you to Earle our Chair, Vicky our Secretary and Lynn our Treasurer, and all the other members of the Group Executive Committee Debbie, Gillian, Steve and Wendy for supporting the Group so well in the background, Dawn Rudd has decided to step down after many years of dedicated service and support on the Exec, thanks Dawn. We would like to invite any parent who can give us some time to join the Exec, we meet three times a year and provide the back up support to the Group and Leader team. Please let me know if this is something you could be interested in.

Finally, my thanks to our parents for your unwavering support and all our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Young Leaders. Together as a team we make 1st Thurstaston the great Scout Group that it is today.

ISMAY ANNUAL REPORT SUMMER 2021

Overview

The past 12 months have been extremely successful for Ismay Colony, and we have gone from strength to strength. Summer 2020 saw a change in the Ismay leader team with former BSL Bubbles stepping down and new BSL Malak taking over and joining ABSLs Rainbow and Sunshine.

During lockdown, the Ismay leader team worked alongside the other section leaders to provide a packed and engaging programme of online meetings and activities with every Beaver registered with 1st Thurstaston given the opportunity to take part in as many as three weekly meetings. These sessions covered a wide range of topics and activities which gave Beavers the chance to discover new talents, try new experiences, earn a variety of badges and, most of all, have fun! Over the past 12 months, Ismay Beavers have been getting active whilst practising circus skills and street dance; they have shown their creativity by engaging with a number of author-led sessions and recording and illustrating a performance of Jack Prelutsky's poem 'As Soon as Fred gets out of Bed' ([click here to watch the video](#)); they have discovered their 'inner scientist' with our hands-on Super Science night; and they demonstrated their building skills with our Lego Bricktopia event. This is just a snapshot of the exciting activities that our Beavers have joined in with this year, but it gives you a flavour of everything that we have achieved during lockdown.

The Ismay leader team are supported by one Young Leader, one Scout, one Cub and volunteer parent helpers on a rota basis.

Attendance and Registrations

In the autumn and spring terms, we invested 10 new Beavers to the Ismay colony, and 3 Ismay Beavers moved on to Cubs. Since returning to face-to-face meetings, we have invested 3 more new Beavers, and we now have 20 Beavers in the colony.

For our online sessions, numbers were consistent throughout lockdown with between 7 and 13 Ismay Beavers regularly attending our weekly meetings. We have had full attendance since returning to face-to-face meetings (apart from a small number of COVID-19 isolation cases).

Although a small number of Beavers chose not to take part in online sessions, they remained registered with 1st Thurstaston, and have now moved on to Cubs.

Face-to-face Meetings

Our return to face-to-face meetings has been extremely successful. We have had full attendance for our summer 2 programme (apart from a small number of COVID-19 isolation cases), and we have made full use of the outdoor space at the Scout Hut. Our Beavers have taken part in a Sports Day challenge, a 2-week programme of activities linked to the European Football Championships which gave them the opportunity to earn their International Badge, an orienteering challenge which formed part of the Navigator Badge and a Water Games night (which I think some of the parent helpers enjoyed even more than the Beavers!). We are already busy planning our autumn term programme, and are looking forward to another incredible year for Ismay Beavers.



Royden Colony

Report

June 2021

Well it's been a very different year for Royden Colony and the 1st Thurstaston beaver section, after the lockdown started at the end of March we were initially setting challenges via the WhatsApp parents group. However, we progressed to Zoom sessions and had our first one on 11th June after a quick tutorial in how to use Zoom – it was new to us all!

Parents found themselves joining in the sessions and discovering that Zoom hears everything if not on Mute! Everyone quickly got quite savvy on Zoom and we started a very varied and enjoyable online programme.

Favourite visitors included Skittleman, who had everyone in stitches with his platypus and sandwich song, Liz Million and her fabulous artwork, Conrad our author who visited us three times and Mountain Girl who had the beavers dressed and ready to go on a hike and passing their Stage 1 Navigator badge. We learnt how to cook with Zoe Crow and Shiney Kitchen, another of our favourite guests and enjoyed model making with Steve. 1st Virtual Facebook was found to be an amazing source of activities and guests. We visited the Houses of Parliament, New Zealand, an active volcano and had science shows with Mark Thompson.

Over the 12 months we invested new beavers and moved on our beavers to their chosen cub pack – the colony goes from strength to strength. The Moving on Ceremony was a bit different swimming from their front door to the back door but it was great! It was fantastic to meet new beavers who started and took up the challenge on Zoom even if River was not recognised when doing badge drops without a frame around her face!

Our beavers achieved a loads of badges including Nights Away for camping in the garden or building dens and sleeping in them at home. Again thanks to parents for the camp outs and minor disruptions to bedrooms and front rooms! We had beavers who achieved their Bronze Chief Scout Award while completing badges at home which included knots!

Some of our favourite sessions where when we made multiple mug cakes and pizza in a mug which we did a few times but we danced or Tae-kwon-do'd them off! We also enjoyed drumming – as did our parents – and beat boxing! Such a massive variety of sessions – see our Facebook page for more!

As the time approached to go back to face to face we put a call out to our parents to request for help and they have replied. We have a new leader, Fox, who joins Echo, Owlette and River at Royden Colony. We also have a good amount of parents who have been DBS'd which helps enormously on meeting face to face. It's great to know we have this support.

Since returning we have formed our lodges, participated in loads of team activities and are looking forward to our Sports day next week.

To cap off a fantastic year Royden won the West Wirral Beaver Colony of the Year! A fabulous achievement for a hardworking Colony. We look forward to the challenges this year will bring!

Royden Leader Team

1st Thurstaston Scout Group

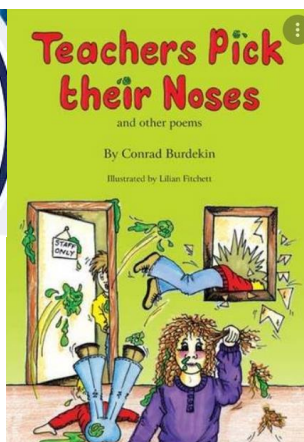
Scouts Newsletter 2020/21



Zoom, zoom, zoom!

A year we will not forget. Apart from all the really bad things that happened due to the pandemic, how did it affect Scouts. No camping, no face-to-face Scouting, events cancelled, all pretty grim.

Well maybe it was not all bad. The Scouts embraced a social distanced electronic programme via Zoom whilst the pandemic restrictions prevented us from meeting face to face. This gave us the opportunity to have at our meetings guests from different parts of the country (and even different continents) to teach the Scouts new skills and entertain them. Here are some of the highlights.



So, we cannot meet up face to face in the winter term, well what did we do?

Apart from a lively debate about Black Lives Matter, a Lego challenge and trying to learn Makaton, what did we do? We had a night with the Skittleman, spoke to a former Metropolitan Police crime scene investigator, had a poetry evening and a presentation from the Army Flying Museum, learnt how to draw a dragon's eye, drew cartoon characters and even learned how the digestive system works.

Lockdown continues into the New Year and so did the Scouts!



We started the year learning how to do handstands (well the Scouts did, a bit too energetic for the leaders! The instructor, Francisco, was in Colombia, South America in 30-degree heat whilst we shivered at 5 degrees! The Scouts did quite a bit of cooking this term with mug cakes and Chinese on the menu. Balloon modelling was extremely popular as was a Task Master evening. Other highlights included an evening with Mark Thompson from BBC's Stargazing Live to talk about astronomy and a game of virtual Cluedo.

Spring Term...and the return of face-to-face Scouting!



During this term, the Scouts made some fantastic plasticine model Scouts,
Escaped a Harry Potter puzzle, carved soap and made camp donuts.

Then we got back face to face! At the Scouts requests we have concentrated on fire
lighting...crazy fire starters (sometimes!)

So not much was done in the pandemic then!



Thor Beaver Colony 2020/21

We have set challenges so that the Beavers can earn badges at home. The Beavers have taken part in the following Zoom sessions;

In September, they drew cartoons with Liz Millions and did different science experiments with Crazy Science and had an animal session with Little Zoo.

In October, the Beavers learnt:- Code Breaking, Compass and map skills and made chocolate chip cookies with Raspberry kitchen, they have had an Alpaca session, dressed up for a Halloween and poetry session with Conrad Burdekin and taken part in different Lego Challenges.

In November, we had a talk about the work of Parliament (for Parliament week), learnt about Firework safety and made bonfire biscuits, taken part in a Makaton signing session, as well as Space and Astronomy. We also had a talk from Megan about the Guide dogs for the blind association and about assistance dogs. Megan introduced her own guide dog called Rowley and told the Beavers about her disabilities. We had a Performing arts session and made Christmas decorations.

In December, we had a virtual Santa visit, learnt about the flags of different countries and the Beavers designed and made their own flag. They have painted a Christmas tree decoration supplied by the Potting shed. Taken part in a District Beaver Christmas event, with a Christmas quiz, made rocking snowmen and Reindeer hands, the Christmas story was told by Ken our County Chaplin and Father Christmas Zoomed in and had a quick chat with the Beavers, finishing with 'We wish you a Merry Christmas'. On our last Zoom session before Christmas we had a Christmas party with Skittleman, who was very very funny.

When we returned in January after the Christmas break, we carried on with Zoom sessions. On our first night back the Beavers learnt about Disability Awareness, Max, one of the Beavers told us about his cousin who is a Paralympian and showed us a powerpoint presentation. They wrote their name using their opposite hand and drew a house blind folded, the results were interesting!! We have had a Birds of Prey session run by Paul of Horus birds of prey, again this was very interesting. Learnt about Road, Water, Home and Rail safety.

In February Paul from Blue Cross animal welfare talked to the Beavers a little about the charities history then talked about pet care. They have learnt about Chinese New year and they found out what their birthday zodiac sign was, most of the Beavers were the Snake. They learnt Kung hei fat choi – chinese for "Congratulations and make a lot of money" and made a lantern. We had a fun Fitness session with- star jumps, sock throw and catch, sock basketball and a sock jump, these are just a few of the activities that the Beavers took part in that night.

In March - They all enjoyed the Fizzpop science session, each Beaver was a detective for the night and carried out a number of experiments to track down the culprit from a list of suspects, this was a very exciting night. The beavers had a Percussion and Drumming night with Tim from Rhythmicity, which they all enjoyed, making different sounds with their

musical instruments; made of pots and pans. We have had a cooking night with Zoe from Shiney kitchen making Rock cakes, which were very tasty. Steve from the Dinosaur Museum in Hull, talked to the Beavers about the museum and the different types of Dinosaurs that can be seen there, he told the Beavers that if they wished to visit with their families, he would be very happy to show them around the museum. After the session the Beavers got their pencils and paper and drew their own baby dinosaur with Draw with Rob on Youtube, we have got some very good artists.

In April after the Easter break the Beavers learnt how to Pack a bag for a day and a sleepover with Lucy one of our young leaders. They had a list of items and they had to decide what they would take and what is not required. River from River Rodants spoke about and showed the Beavers the following animals - Corn snake, Tortoise, White Rat and a Guinea pig, again this was an interesting night and the Beavers asked lots of questions. The following week we had a visit from Lizzie known as the Crazy Chicken lady, she spoke to the Beavers about her different types hens and the eggs that they lay, she did a quiz, showed them 2 'eggsperiments' that they could do after the session at home. At the end of the session Lizzie showed the Beavers her 2 hen's and explained that she had them as her ring bearers at her wedding. She also told us that she is going to be doing a wingwalk for charity on the 21st of September this year, we wished her luck and hope it goes well.

In May the Beavers did the Air Activity level1 badge spread over 2 weeks, they found out about different types of Aircraft, spelt their name using the Phonetic alphabet, coloured and put together a glider and flew it across the room (minding the ornaments!!), these are just a few of the things that they did. They have talked about their different hobbies and showed their Collections. Our last night on Zoom the Beavers Designed their own robot and made them from different types of recycled materials and we finished the night with some code breaking, run by Lucy and Ben, the young leaders.

In June we returned we returned to face to face sessions at the Scout hut. On our first night back we had a Games night and invested 5 new Beavers; Henry, Alexander, Bella, Esther and Leighton, it was lovely to meet them all face to face. On our second week back the Beavers took part in a Minibeast hunt, they all enjoyed finding different types of creepy crawlies and we welcomed Ben and Rory to the Colony. The following week we had a Nature hike and learnt about the Country code, again this was another enjoyable night. Coming up in the next couple of weeks is a Sports night, picnic and a pasta night. We will weather permitting finish with a Water games night. All the Beavers have enjoyed being back with their friends and seeing their leaders.

I would like to thank my leader team, young leaders and parents for their support and help over this last 15 months. I would also like to welcome Iain, Ian, Jane and Jenny to the Thor leader team.

Jayne Oliver - Beaver Scout Leader

Rusty