

1st Thurstaston Annual General Meeting 2022

Friday 24th June 2022 19:30

Flag raised by virtual -Alan

1. Earle Brady, Chair - WELCOME
2. Apologies - read out by Vicky -
3. Minutes of previous AGM – sent out by email and available on our website

Proposed by	Sue Flush
Seconded by	Caro McBain

4. Chairperson Report – Earle Brady
5. Treasurer's report - Lynn Harrison
6. Group Scout Leader's report - Sue Flush

Appointment of officers - Sue Flush as GSL.

Earle Brady will remain as Chairperson
GSL to duly appoint – Earle Brady as Chairperson

7. Election of officers – Earle Brady as Chair will elect
 - Treasurer - Russ Williams
 - Group Secretary - Vicky McGurk – request to step down in next 12 months

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

To elect:- Wendy Wood, Helen Cross, Nick Emms, Laura Mason, Steve Perlaki

These were seconded by:- Lynn Harrison
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 – Jess Fogg – Deputy District Commissioner.

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

AGM 24June22

Hello everyone,

The accounts have been verified by our external auditor.

Just a few things to note:

Increase in new members has brought a £1600 increase in subs.

Which has also increased the capitation contribution to District.

There has been no gift aid claim for financial year 21, which will mean there are 2 in financial year 22.

There has been an increase in expenses nearly £13k (2k new equipment, £1k increase in insurance, £3k maintenance costs, £1k hospitality) and the increase in utilities that we have all been noticing at home as well.

There have been some fun times courtesy of the group, a trip to the maize maze, a group camp, new T-shirts and I believe we are now welcoming squirrels !!

So just to finish up my last ever AGM, last yet we closed our books on £50,982.78 this year we are closing on £45,912.72 a loss for the year of £5070.06.

Over to Sue

Annual Awards 2022 – 4/11/22

HILLBARK Squirrels

SPORTSMANSHIP – Austin Smart

PARTICIPATION – Evelyn Ogilvie

OUT OF COMFORT – Louis Cummings

SQUIRREL OF THE YEAR 2022 – Joseph Kilty

ISMAY Beavers

SPORTSMANSHIP – Bertie Bridgelock

PARTICIPATION – Eddie Mason

OUT OF COMFORT – Jack Breen

BEAVER OF THE YEAR 2022 – Isla Stubbs

ROYDEN Beavers

SPORTSMANSHIP – Isobel Morse

PARTICIPATION – Rory Green

OUT OF COMFORT – Evan Nolan

BEAVER OF THE YEAR 2022 – Reuben Ford

THOR Beavers

SPORTSMANSHIP – Joshua Reynolds

PARTICIPATION – Seren Warburton

OUT OF COMFORT – Tom Brown

BEAVER OF THE YEAR 2022 – Bella Gustafson

Annual Awards 2022 – 4/11/22

FLETCHER PACK Cubs

SPORTSMANSHIP – Jack Hughes / Max Everett

PARTICIPATION – Bobby Myatt

OUT OF COMFORT – Jacob Wise

CUB OF THE YEAR 2022 – Harley Emms

REED PACK Cubs

SPORTSMANSHIP – James Lee

PARTICIPATION – Verity Bissette

OUT OF COMFORT – Nathaniel Hedderick

CUB OF THE YEAR 2022 – Thomas McKenzie

MARTIN TROOP SCOUTS

SPORTSMANSHIP – Josh Hughes

PARTICIPATION – Erin McGurk

OUT OF COMFORT ZONE – Elliot Doubleday

SCOUT OF THE YEAR 2021 – India Morris

RICHARDSON TROOP SCOUTS

SPORTSMANSHIP – Sadie Capstick

PARTICIPATION – Jared Cross

OUT OF COMFORT ZONE – James Bell

SCOUT OF THE YEAR 2021 – Finlay Stitcher

YOUNG LEADER OF THE YEAR

Nia Jenkinson

Ismay, Royden and Thor Beaver Colonies report 2021/22

Since our last reports the Beavers have been busy joining in and having fun with different types of activities, events and sleepovers.

When we returned in September after the summer break the Beavers joined in with the Cubs and Scouts with a trip to the Maize Maze in Brimstage. They enjoyed finding their way out of the Maze and coming across signposts telling them about the different things that they had to look out for along their way and having their picture taken with some of the statues. They went on the Go carts, a giant inflatable, Zip wire and many more activities.

The Beavers have learnt how to do basic First Aid e.g. - what to do in the case of an Emergency, how to get help, how to treat cuts, grazes, apply bandages and bleeding. They have been cleaning up the local area with a litter pick around Irby park and surrounding area. All three Colonies had a visit to the Adventureland in New Brighton. The Beavers learnt about Parliament and Remembrance, painted pottery; which was brought in from the "Potting shed" in Hoylake. In October and November Sue brought in Guide dog "Lily" who she is training, and talked about the important work that the Guide Dog association do, this was a very interesting evening. Some of the Beavers and their leader team attended the District Beaver Carol Service, which was held at St Andrew's Church in West Kirby, the theme of the service was "Light of the World". After the service the Beavers took home a bag of Christmas gifts and there was a collection in aid of the Guide dogs. In March they attended the District activity afternoon which was held at 1st West Kirby Scout hut, where they learnt different skills, e.g. building and lighting a fire, tent pitching, packing a sleeping bag & rucksack, for a hike or camp, tying shoelaces and knots, these are just a few of the activities. The Beavers have been taking part in team games and problem solving as part of some of the meetings. We have had a visit from Professor Bunsen at our sleepovers, he

showed the Beavers different types of science activities and had them making coloured slime, sherbet and glow sticks, which they all thoroughly enjoyed making. This was followed by singing camp songs around the fire and making Smores, before watching a film and going to bed. The Beavers have also been climbing at the Boulder hut, been on a hike along the Wirral way from Thurstaston to West Kirby, with chips at the end which were enjoyed by all. Some of the Beavers have been on a bike ride from Thurstaston to Ashton Park in West Kirby and back to Thurstaston, this again was enjoyed by all. We have been Shelter building in Royden park and learnt how to Navigate. These are just a few of the activities that the Beaver Colonies have been doing over the last year.

Jayne Oliver - Thor Colony, Caroline McBain - Royden Colony and Richard Morris - Ismay Colony.

I would like to say a big thank you to the Thor Colony leader team, Iain, Helen, Lucy and my Young leaders, Nia and Sam for all their help during this last year. I would also like to say a big thank you to my parent helpers for all their help during the past year. It is much appreciated.

GSL Annual Report 2022

I looked back on my report from this time last year and we were still talking about Zoom and online meetings, hopefully they are now things of the past.

Each Section does its own annual overview of all the exciting things they have been up to over the last twelve months, we will send those out to everyone soon and load them onto our Group website.

Despite everything that has happened over the last couple of years our Group has grown in the last twelve months. With Beavers, Cubs and Scouts holding their own in terms of numbers and then in January we had the exciting addition of our newest section 1st Thurstaston Squirrels, Scouting for 4 & 5 year olds.

Today across all the Sections we have 196 Youth members, 10 Young Leaders and 32 Adult Leaders, with a further 8 parents serving on the Group Executive. The Section details are as follows:

Squirrels – 22 children, Leader team - Jenny, Rachel, Claire (admin) and Ella - YL

Ismay Beavers – 21 children, Leader team - Rich, Gemma, Andrew and Rachel with India and Freya (still Scouts but acting YLS's)

Royden Beavers – 21 children, Leader team - Jay, Gayle, Mel, Lynne and Emma. James – YL, Eli (Scout acting YL)

Thor Beavers – 19 children, Leader team – Jayne, Helen, Lucy and Iain. Nia and Sam - YL's

Fletcher Cubs – 33 children, Leader team – Phil, Holly, Jon, Emma and John, Luke and Ben - YL's

Reed Cubs – 35 children, Leader team – Paul, Gaynor, Iain, and Jenny, Dan and Alice - YL's

Martin Scouts – 25 Children, Leader team – Andy, Alan and Ian, India – YL Vicky who does admin for both Scout Troops

Richardson Scouts – 20 children Leader team – Andrew, Liz, Alex and Nat – YL

Saying Thank you, supporting and encouraging our adult and young leaders are some of the biggest and most important parts of my role.

Caro has been an enormous support this last year and has opened the new Squirrel Drey and recruited our new leaders across the team, as well as leading a Beaver Colony and Cub Pack. Thank you for everything you do for the Group. Andy as ever has supported us both in the Deputy GSL role, thanks.

Each and every leader (young and older) are a massive asset to our Group and make it what it is today, a hugely successful, welcoming, inclusive and fun place to be each week. They put on amazing activities and events for the Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts. Thank you for volunteering, thank you for everything you do for the Group, we wouldn't be here without you. Please give them a massive round of applause.

Thanks also to our Group Executive who run the Group behind the scenes and support our fundraising. Earle our Chair, Russ our new Treasurer, Vicky our Secretary, Wendy, Helen, Steve, Laura and Nick.

We have said goodbye to a few people in the last twelve months and thank them sincerely for their support over the years they were with us. Brian, Diane, Gillian, Derek and Cristina and Debbie. Many thanks also to Lynn our outgoing Treasurer after many years of sterling service.

Vicky has indicated she would like to stand down as Group Secretary but will hold the fort until we find a replacement and she will continue to do admin for the Scouts for the foreseeable future.

Thank you to all our Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Young Leaders and Adult Leaders and all the parents

for your enthusiasm and commitment to Scouting.
Together we are an amazing Group and team and
provide skills for life through Scouting at the very time
when we all need it the most.

Thanks

Sue Flush

1st Thurstaston Scout Group

Scouts Newsletter 2021/22



Scouts taking part in JOTI, in which they made contact with Scouts across the globe.

Lots of New Faces in Scouts this Year

Following the disruption of the pandemic, many of our older, more experienced Scouts chose to leave Scouting. We hope they come back to us in the future. A steady influx of new Scouts from Cubs throughout the year means that both troops have around 24 Scouts currently. This

has meant we have reverted to two troops. Martin troop meeting on a Tuesday and Richardson troop meeting on a Thursday.

We have even managed to acquire some Young Leaders, India and Nat joining Dan to help the Leader Team. However we are always looking for more help!

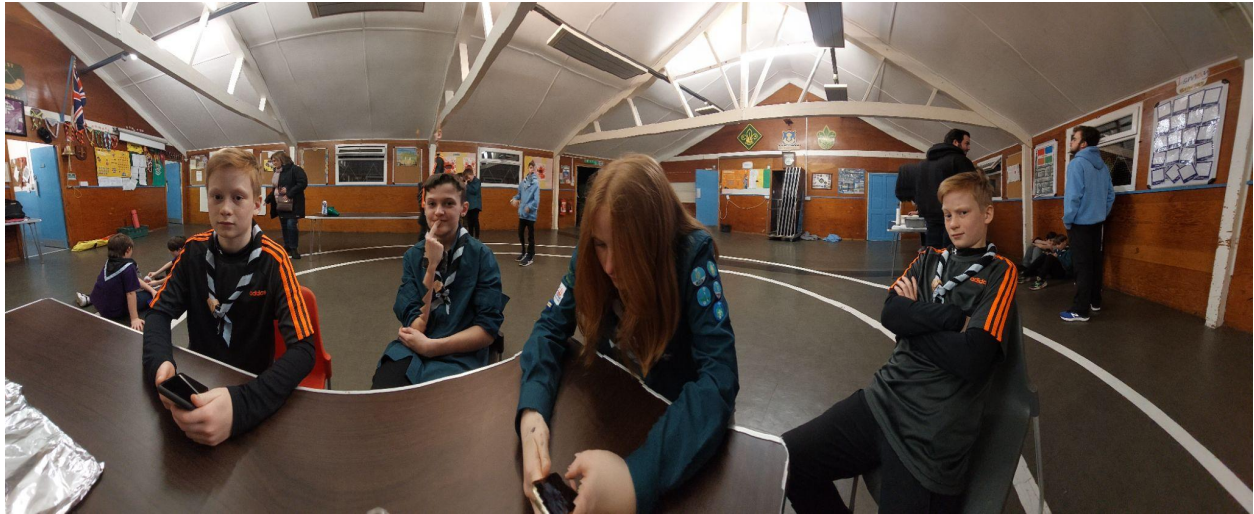
As we have many Scouts with minimal experience, we have focussed on increasing their Scouting skills throughout the year concentrating on navigation, tent pitching, pioneering and first aid. At the end of the Autumn term, the Scouts went climbing and we invested Joshua, Harriet and Aarna.



In the Spring term we again focussed on increasing the Scouts skills to get them ready for The Great Escape Camp at Easter, our first camping experience since the pandemic began.

Early in the term the Scouts looked at photography and produced some fantastic light paintings and trick photography.





Cooking was also on the menu at the start of the year with an evening looking at hygiene in the kitchen then making little cakes.





The Great Escape Camp

In the weeks leading up to the camp we practiced the similar activities that the Scouts would take part in during the Great Escape and also how to put the tents up as quickly as possible. The time we spent practicing tent pitching was clearly well spent as the Scouts managed to put their tents up at the camp in record time!



At the Great Escape Camp, we were joined by our friends from 3rd Heswall. All the Scouts had a great time (apart from the cold at night). Some of the Scouts were able to brush up their skills with different axes.

Considering how inexperienced the majority of the Scouts were they all rose to the challenge. One of our teams even achieved ninth place (out of 75 teams), which is our highest finish for many years.

District Events

We have taken part in more District events this year. So far we have attended:

- St George's Day hike to Hilbre Island (where Daniel was invested).
- The District Orienteering competition at Royden Park (where Dan and Conrad won their age group competition and Joshua was in the top three in his age group).
- A District Scout Skills day at our hut. At this event the Scouts looked at fire lighting, axe and saw work, first aid, navigation and pioneering.
- Dragon Boating - involving a train journey for 45 Scouts plus leaders to Southport. The weather was too windy for the dragon boats but the Scouts had a great day doing other activities on and in the water.



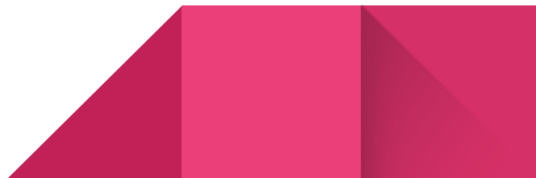


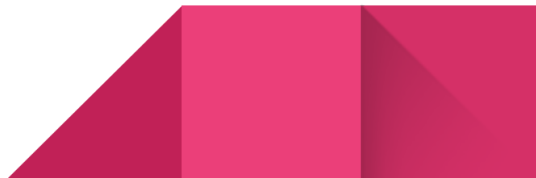
And we have another winner

Andrew, one of our Scout Leaders, was awarded the Young Adult Leader of the Year Award at the District AGM



Congratulations to Andrew.





Reed & Fletcher Pack AGM Report 2022

This year has been a great year for both packs as we endeavoured to get back to normal and not on Zoom.

Since our last AGM, both Cub packs spent an evening making boats using recycled items and then tested them in the paddling pool.

We had a sports day on the field and finished off with a picnic to end the summer term.

On the first night back in September both packs went to the Brimstage Maize Maze, along with the Beavers and Scouts. A fun night was had by all.

The Cubs started working on their cycling badge.

They learnt how to maintain their bikes, checking that their tyres were pumped up, brakes worked and that their seats were at the correct height.

On another night the Cubs went round an obstacle course in St Chad's car park.

They learnt all about "Day of the dead" and came dressed in Halloween costume and made 'Day of the dead' masks.

The Cubs learnt all about Parliament week, with fun activities and games.

Fletcher pack had a visit from Wendy Clement who is a local councillor, she talked to them about what it was like to be a councillor. They had to vote for their senior sixer.

The Cubs learnt all about Remembrance Day and made poppies.

We had a creative night thanks to the 'Potting shed'. The Cubs painted a Christmas tree decoration.

We had a hike along the Wirral way from Thurstaston to West Kirby, with chips at the end.

Fletcher pack made Mini Christmas trees using a small log as the base and a pinecone, which they decorated with glitter.

A few Cubs from both Fletcher & Reed attended the District Beaver Carol service at St Andrews in West Kirby.

The last Cubs before Christmas was spent at Adventureland, this was a joint night with both Cub packs. A lot of fun was had by all.

This was also Akela Liz's last night as she was moving over to Scouts.

Thank you, Liz, for everything you did during your time as 'Akela' and as 'Hathi'.

January 2022

Both packs attended Jack & the Bean stork at the Floral Pavillion.

First night back was a board games night and Reed also had a mass investiture of 9 Cubs.

Both packs have made Bird feeders, using recycled juice cartons.

Both packs had a Creative minds session with Steve Gordon.

In Professor Bunsen guise Steve also made Bath bombs with them.

The Cubs were challenged in groups to build the tallest tower using only spaghetti and marshmallows.

Both packs took part in the Liverpool University Science jamboree.

Just a few of the experiments – LED greeting card, Ocean currents and how the ocean darkens as the depth increases.

As part of the Navigator badge, the Cubs learnt how to read a map, follow a compass, and how to use the key.

They had to draw either their journey to school or to Cubs.

Reed Cubs spent the evening at Thurstaston visitors centre Geocaching and following an Easter egg trail, they were all rewarded with chocolate eggs at the end.

Fletcher Cubs followed an Easter egg trail around the Scout hut grounds.

Cubs from both packs had a 1 night “Wizarding Sleepover” with Prof Bunsen which involved making glow in the dark slime. They made Smores (Chocolate biscuit and marshmallows) on the fire before watching a film before bed.

The summer term started with Cub Scout Survival skills as follows: -

The Cubs made their own water filters and learnt how to use them.

Made and cooked their own pizzas on an open fire.

Learnt how to light a fire using a flint and steel.

Learnt how to play the human knot game/challenge, lots of fun was had by all.

Made a pioneering structure to balance a bucket full of balls.

The Cubs had to cook “beans on toast” in a billy can on an open fire.

Another night saw the Cubs at the Boulder hut in Ellesmere Port, enjoyed by all.

Most recently the Cubs cycled from the Green hut at Moreton shore to New Brighton and back.

Have visited Heswall fire station, with the obligatory squirt of the hose, some Cubs got slightly wet (very). Two Cubs where invested.

During the year, we have awarded several Chief Scout Silver awards. This is the highest award in Cubs.

Thank you to all the parents for their help and support this year.

Thank you to all the adults & young leaders, for all your help and support this year.

Akela Paul & Akela Caro

Squirrels has had an amazing 6 months so far. We have 22 children on the register and a healthy parent rota running. We have 3 leaders consisting of River, Rio, Foxy and Young leader Fern.

Since January the children have been involved in a variety of activities.

We have....

Listened to stories

Been on a nature walk

Made musical instruments and found instruments in nature

Recycled bottle tops to make our very own 'hungry caterpillars'

Designed and built rafts

Had a campfire

Learnt new songs

Had a carnival night and games night

Celebrated the jubilee

Celebrated neurodiversity week

Celebrated shrove Tuesday

Had a science night with Professor Bunsen and made popping sherbert and couldrons of glowing slime

To name but a few!!

3 of the squirrels took part in the coastal walk and 2 completed the 8 miles!!

9 of the squirrels have achieved their Chief Scout's Acorn award and 4 more will complete it this term.

Plans for September are already well underway.