

Group Scout Leader Report 2013

I am going to open this year's report with some Hello's and Goodbyes the following leaders have stepped down from their roles and I would like to thank them for their dedicated contributions and efforts for the Group. In Beavers Pam Knight, Helen Whyte and Emily Hilton, in Scouts Julie Hobson and in Cubs Debbie Holmes.

We have been fortunate to welcome as warranted Leaders Bev Ashton to Ismay Colony, Brian Young in Scouts. Lucy Churchill has graduated from a Young Leader to an Adult Leader in Ismay Colony and had the pleasure of completing a weekend of her training earlier in the year with the Duchess Of Cambridge no less ! at Great Towers camp in the Lakes.

In Ismay Colony Helen has been 'promoted' to BSL and is helped each week by Bev, Kath C and Lucy with a strong Young Leader team of Will F, Jess J and James B.

In Thor Colony Jayne continues to be supported each week by Ellie and Lisa B with occasional help from Sue L. Freddie is currently helping each week as he completes his D of E service element. Congratulations to Jayne for her Chief Scout Commendation for Good Service at the Leader awards this year.

In Fletcher Pack Aklea Matty is ably assisted by Liz, and me ! each week with Young Leader support from Beth (who is 18 this summer and plans to join us as an adult leader), James W and Ed R. Congratulations to Matty this year for winning the Young Leader (18-25 yr category) at our District AGM.

In Reed Pack Cubs I am still Akela and have support from Jon and Paul each week with Nathan HC and Olly C as YL's. A special mention here for Nathan's creative talents as he designed our 80th anniversary logo which now appears on our hoodies and fleeces and has had some input into the website update – thanks Nathan.

In Scouts Andy is supported by Alan P and Brian Y who have both taken Warrants recently and John F helps as a YL when his band commitments allow him !

Our YL team continues to grow and is really important for the long term future of our Group – they are the next generation of Leaders. All of our Scouts who have gone up to Explorers in the last year have also returned to our Group to 'put something back' and help each week in a Section as well as attending Explorers – this is an extra and means they attend nearly as often as I do ! well.....

I would like to thank the parents who support us each week on the parent rota which works well in most of the Sections with a few prompts and reminders from the Leaders ! It is really important in maintaining good adult / child ratios and gives you a valuable insight into what your kids get up to

each week, we have so many parents it often only needs to be once or twice a year.

On the Group Exec we have been joined by Chris Perry a Beaver Dad - thanks Chris for boldly going where not many others will ! Ask him about it – we don't bite and it's a great way to support your children's Scouting activities. Jane F Vicky Mc and Steve W have agreed to continue on Exec, but 4 parents from a group of 120 is poor – so I appeal to you today can we please have some more of you join us ? We only meet once a term usually in the pub ! we need a set of new Parent reps from each Section please. Liz H continues to support us as Group Sec and is an ACSL with Fletcher Pack can anyone relieve her of the Sec role ? Please see me at the end if you would be willing to get involved – we all have busy lives but Scouting is incredibly rewarding and we have a bit of fun along the way occasionally too !

I would like to thank personally and on behalf of the Group Jayne B who has done a brilliant job as Treasurer for the last few years and before that as Chair and Vice Chair – no one can question Jayne's dedication and hard work and believe me some aspects (such as collecting subs from parents who forget every term) can be very hard work !! We welcome Lynn H to the role – thanks for stepping up and volunteering we wish you every success – you have a tough act to follow !

I would like to thank Fiona H who has served and supported the Group as Chair, Fiona has agreed to stand for another

year but has indicated this will be her last – the ideal situation would be for us to appoint a Vice Chair to shadow Fiona in her final year, who would then take over at the next AGM. Let me know if you would like to volunteer.

Dave and Marjorie, the elder statesmen of our Group, have had been less involved this year as Dave has been unwell but is now on the mend, throughout the year Dave has maintained the web site even when we started tinkering with it – and Marjorie continues her support on the Exec – Dave was awarded the Medal of Merit this year congratulations and many thanks to you both.

I would also like to thank Vicky McG for applying again and successfully receiving a U volunteer grant from her work at Yorkshire Bank and Kath Callaghan takes part in a similar scheme at Unilever. We also have another in the pipeline hopefully from Jenny Edwards and Lloyds – so if you work for a big company who have these matching funding and U volunteer grants please apply – it's usually only one form !

Fundraising has been very successful this year as you already have heard, we have also had a few new ventures as we set out to raise money for those who are attending summer camp with a bag pack at Asda organised by Alan which raised over £500, another at Tesco raised over £600 organised by Brian and the balloon race also organised by Brian raised more than £1000 split between ourselves and 4th Moreton our camp buddies ! Community week in June raised over

£500 car washing well done to Matty for organising this, we have donated £130 of this to TSA to be used to provide Scouting for communities who don't currently have access to all the great things we do.

Now a quick précis of each month and the activities we have undertaken as a Group – so you can marvel at all that we do !

July 2012 – another successful but very wet games night, Canoe taster for the Cubs, and we held planning meetings for both the summer camp and QCW. Safeguarding training for some Leaders, Scout Backwoods cooking comp at our HQ and O'Church Upton had a Scout camp on our field.

Aug 12 – summer camp with 4th M at Forest Camp Sandiways, over 80 of us when the Beavers came for their two days another fantastic camp with fairly decent weather.

Sept 12 – Group Exec meeting, CSL meeting, Getting Started training for Leaders, Scouts went sailing provided by 4th Hes. Beaver Challenge event, Thor won and Ismay came 3rd - QCW District Cub Camp - lost the Tug Of war trophy !

Oct 12 – Beavan Competition Scout Camp – GSL meeting – B'Head District Beavers had an overnight camp at our HQ, B'Head Scouts stayed at our hq and Scout Post Distribution night

Nov 12 – Reed Pack one year old , Cubs went to the Science museum for a District day out, Bonfire night, Beaver craft day, Remembrance day service, Chief Scout Awards

ceremony in Liverpool for all Sections and the Cubs Children in Need Splash fund raiser. Tesco Xmas post stamps sales begin, the Xmas Fair.

Dec 12 - Scout Post, Village stamp sales, sorting begins and 2 weekends of deliveries , all the Section meetings in Dec are held elsewhere due to the Scout Post, all attended their District Carol Services, Cubs went bowling, Scouts had their annual night hike.

Jan 13 – Group Exec meeting, all Sections return after the holiday break, all Section Leaders had District meetings and a first planning meeting was held for summer camp. Cubs in the District 5 a side competition. Leaders started looking at summer camp venues, we successfully booked for the Bear In the Air event!

Feb 13 – All Sections attended the WW Panto, Scout Post presentation evening, GSL meeting and Census, Cubs took part in the District Swim Gala, we came third - 12th Wallasey had a winter overnight camp at our HQ.

Mar 13 – First Xmas Post meeting of the year ! Great Escape cancelled due to snow , Asda bag pack and the Easter Fair, Safety Poster competition .

April 13 – Scouts to the Beavan Comp, Cubs went to Deiniolen, St George's Day parade for everyone else, District CSL meeting

May 13 – Group Camp biggest again than last year, Bear In the Air weekend for all , Cubs had Skills day competition we won !

June 13 –Bag Pack Tesco, Community week car wash, Balloon race, GSL meeting, Wild West Camp for all Sections, Gilwell Fun day for Cubs and Beavers, tomorrow canoeing !

Well I am exhausted telling you all about it – as you can see we are busy, we are successful and now officially the biggest Scout Group in West Wirral, thank you and well done to everyone involved.

Thor Beaver Colony report 2013

Here we go again, doesn't time fly!! the Beavers have learnt about the meaning of Fair trades and the right to clean water. They tasted 3 different types of chocolate to see if they knew the difference, needless to say they really enjoyed this evening.

The Beavers enjoyed the Scout groups Bonfire party, with different games to have a go on and lots of brightly coloured fireworks to watch. They attended with their families.

On another night, the Beavers were very creative, making Snowmen Christmas stockings for the Christmas fair.

We have attended the Remembrance service at St Bartholomew's Church, Thurstaston.

The Beavers have had another cookery night; with the guidance of the leaders they made mini Christmas pudding cakes.

We have found out how different things work:- an electrical circuit were they had to join 2 wires together for the buzzer to ring. Diver in a bottle where they had to sink the plasticine and pen top diver to the bottom of the bottle by squeezing the sides then letting go when it reached the bottom and watching it rise to the top, candle and jam jar, pencil in a glass of water and placing a dot in the centre of a sheet of paper with 1 eye covered; not as easy as you think. The favourite experiment was the Diver in the bottle.

The Beavers have all made a Christmas card for a family member in the shape of a Christmas pudding.

We attended the District Beaver Craft day at St Chad's Church hall in Irby. Where each Beaver made a variety of Christmas decorations to take home, this is an annual event.

Both Beaver colonies joined together for a fancy dress Christmas party at St Chad's hall, with party games and plenty of party food. A good night was had by all who attended.

The Beavers have attended the District Beaver Carol Service at St Andrews Church in West Kirby.

This was a Christingle service with a difference, we asked our invited guests to come out to the front to pose as the orange by wearing an orange t/shirt, draped in red tinsel, holding a cane with a pretend sweet on the end and placing a very large candle behind them. The Major of Wirral was part of this. Each Beaver made their own Christingle at the same time. At the end of the service Piers Roberts from our Colony was invested by the District Commissioner Ken Jones, and Sam Burkett received his Chief Scout Bronze award. Well done Sam. A Big Surprise was that Thor Colony was presented with the District Beaver Challenge trophy; which we won in September, well done to the team. After the Service we had a party in the Church hall. At the end of the party a very special person arrived in a red suit!!!

We have been on a trip to the Kailash Buddhist centre in Oxton. We learned about the life of Buddha and were introduced to Tanwa who is a Nun and Mathan who is a Monk. They were told about the meaning of each of the robes and were able to try them on. We all practised Meditation and afterwards asked lots of questions.

Our last night for the year was bowling at the new Bowling alley in Bromborough, this was a fun night.

We have had a visit to West Kirby Fire station. The Leading fireman Kevin showed the beavers the protective clothing that they wear when attending a fire, he asked one of our leaders to put the uniform on. He showed them the breathing apparatus and explained how it worked when going into a fire. Most of the beavers had a go at this. Kevin then explained about the different items that they keep on the Fire engine. Before we left to return home the Beavers all had a squirt of the hose. We have celebrated St George's Day by attending the District Parade and Service in West Kirby. The theme was St George and 3 of our beavers were part of the Dragon. One of our parents who is a Doctor came to talk to the Beavers about being a Doctor. He did a lot of hands on activities with them and showed them how to take their pulse and use a stethoscope. He showed the beavers a Pigs heart. We have had an "Agilities" evening: - walking down a straight line balancing a book on

their head, skipping, balancing a ball on a tennis racket and doing forward rolls. This was part of the Fitness Challenge.

The beavers have made their own healthy lunch, making a tuna and sweet corn, cheese or ham sandwich and a fresh fruit salad. They designed healthy eating posters and unhealthy eating posters. We have had a joint night with Ismay Colony we went on a walk through Harrock wood, and had a treasure hunt; the weather was kind to us. We have joined in with the rest of the Scout group for community week with a car wash at the Pensby Hotel; the Beavers thoroughly enjoyed this event. The beavers have made drink coasters for their dads for Fathers Day. We have attended the District Beaver day out to Knowsley Safari Park; again the weather was kind to us. A few weeks later we went again to the Safari park this time to meet Bear Grylls the Chief Scout as he was visiting the North West. We attended the District Wild West camp at Hadlow Fields Willaston, a weekend of varied and enjoyable activities. Finally I would like to say a very big thank you to all of my leaders and parent helpers for the help that they given me each week and on District events.

Best Wishes

Jayne Oliver Beaver Scout Leader Thor Colony



Our Ismay Colony has grown this year, we now have 24 Beavers, 3 Young Leaders and 4 leaders. The Leader team has seen some come and go, Emily Hilton is no longer with us due to work and family commitments. Lucy Churchill has progressed from a Young leader to Assistant Beaver Leader. Lucy is a great leader, buzzing with ideas. Also Bev Ashton joined us as an Assistant Beaver Leader, welcome on board to both of you. Kath Callaghan and myself are the remaining two, with Will Flush, Jess Jones and James Barnes as our Young Leader team.

We have had yet another action packed year. The first being Halloween party, what fun we had. Every Beaver dressed up scaring all the leaders !!!!!. The Beavers all had a good dance and party games, finished off with a Halloween tea. My favourite game has to be hanging doughnuts !!

Remembrance Day at West Kirby had a huge turn out with a wonderful service at Westbourne Church.

In December we had our district Beaver craft day. The Beavers made some beautiful Christmas tree decorations, decorated glass jars and made them into candle lanterns. The Beavers have great imaginations when it came to making faces out of potatoes !!

The Beaver Christmas Carol Service and party was held at St Andrews Church West Kirby. This year the theme being Chris tingle. Oranges were decorated to symbolize this theme using sweets and red banding. The party in the Church Hall was amazing, lots of pass the parcel etc and a visit from who else but Father Christmas, every Beaver received a lovely present.

Scout post , another great success this year, an awful lot of hours spent on such a wonderful charity. Well done to all involved.

The Gang show was Robin Hood, I take my hat off to all involved it was truly fantastic !! Group Camp in May, yet another great event. The theme being The Hobbit, we had spiders web, jousting, the famous dough sticks , wizard hat making and can you believe a magician!. The weather was very kind, so much so on the Sunday we hiked to Hilbre Island (well almost !)

All throughout the year events have been amazing, one really sticks in my mind. Yes you've got it Bear Grylls at Bear in the air . We all left early on the bus to Knowsley Safari Park. The activities were great, fairground rides, bat houses, planting of wild flowers - not to mention seeing all the fabulous animals. THEN, time to see Bear !!!!!. All the children were screaming so loud when Bear arrived (ok so were the leaders). Such a memorable occasion! . The following week we had the Beavers District Day out to Knowsley Safari Park , they had such a good time and even managed to have lunch in the sun!.

Wild West Camp at Hadlow Fields this year. Over 500 people attended, all enjoying this event. There were lots of Cowboy and Indian activities followed by a BBQ and campfire.

Tons of badges have been received this year, covering all the Challenge and Activity badges. The following Beavers gained their Chief Scout Bronze Awards , this being the highest award in Beavers Well Done !!.

Sam Bevan James Holroyd Thomas Jones Matthew Kerrigan Harvey Lunt Will Ashton
Callum Barlow Nathaniel Hughes Ben Roberts James Taylor Daniel Teasdale Ben Sharp

1st Thurstaston still has some great events to look forward to before the close of this year. Canoeing on Sunday, games night 12th July and summer camp at the end of July. I must not forget to mention 1st Thurstaston Scout Group being awarded West Wirral Presidents Award for being the best Scout group in the West Wirral, a HUGH pat on the back to everyone.

Without our leader team , parent helpers and of course Beavers , Cubs ,Scouts and Explorers things like all of the above would not happen !!

A huge thank you to a person who does so much behind the scenes, yes , Sue Flush our Akela and GSL, top lady !! Until next year.

Helen Bevan BSL

1st Thurstaston Scout Group

Yearly Report 2012/13

Fletcher and Reed Pack

In June and July we were looking at our Fitness challenge and so completed 2 week circuit training course with; squats, sit ups, skipping and running and then finished our academic year at West Kirby's Ashton Park using their Orienteering Course!

We met for the first time on 10th September 2012 with a games night and a hazard hunt and so jumped straight into our first badge of the academic year, as well as covering some map and compass work and the artist badge in the month as well.

October came about and the nights were drawing in and so we went on a night hike around Calday and Parkgate. We also looked at ironing our neckers, hazards around the home and at camp as well as recycling at Tesco. Not to mention our Annual Joint Halloween Party night.

In November we attended the district trip to MOSI (Manchester Museum of Science and Industry) and the Cubs all had a great time. We also made shoeboxes for operation Christmas child, had a China night and tasted loads of food and even learnt a song in Chinese! Moreover there was also our bonfire night party, a night all about charities and our Christmas Fair. Not to forget our Christmas Post Stamp Sales and a Summer Camp meeting! In December we attended the district carol concert and went bowling!

We started 2013 with a games night and we wrote some short stories and poems, we then looked at road safety and attended west Wirral theatre groups pantomime, Robin Hood. In February and March we had our fire evacuation whilst we had a fire fighter in talking to us! Needless to say he jumped straight out of his chair! As well as a visit from a Police Sergeant and a PCSO. We also had a tour of Tesco and looked at making maps of Heswall to get our Local Knowledge badge! We attended our district Cubs swimming Gala and went climbing at Awesome Walls in Liverpool. To round off March we had our Easter Fair and attended the district poster competition.

In April we started our Fitness challenge and finished off our personal safety challenge, we had a wide games night and an international charities night! We looked at India for our Global challenge and tasted foods as well as doing some authentic Indian artwork. In May we attended our group camp and had a great walk to Hilbrie Island. We also looked more at our Outdoor skills like map reading, knots, first aid, fire lighting and tent pitching! We attended the unforgettable event called 'Bear In the Air' where we went to the safari park and met Bear Grylls, our Chief Scout! We also attended and Won our district cub skills day as well as looking at how to save water and energy.

In June we took part in Scout Community Week by washing cars at The Pensby Hotel and attended the Wild West camp at Hadlow Fields. We then planned and walked a hike to Red Rock as well as attending the National Cub Funday at our Scouting Headquarters Gilwell Park! It was an amazing day full of adventurous activities like rock climbing, pole climbing, archery, go carting, zip wiring and loads more!

Yet again its been another busy, busy year for us in the Cubs section! Many thanks to all the team for their continued support!

Matthew Jones, Akela, Cub Scout Leader ☺

1ST THURSTASTON SCOUTS (RICHARDSON TROOP) ANNUAL REPORT 2012/13

Pictured right are the
scouts taking part in their
Fire Safety Badge



As the 28th June the troop consists of 28 Scouts,
3 Cubs currently moving on and 3 Leaders

1st Thurstaston Scouts (Richardson Troop) Annual Report 2012/13

SEPTEMBER – GUY FAWKES AND CATAPULT BUILDING



The return from the summer holidays saw us building Guy Fawkes for the Group Firework night. We build them so early to raise money with “Who’s that Guy, What’s his name game?” So please start saving your newspaper and dad’s spare old clothes as we will be doing the same after the summer holidays.

Also in September the Scouts took part in the 2012 Geoffrey Beavan competition. 1st Thurstaston were the best team in the First Aid Competition and Isaac Lancely was part of a mixed team that won the Junior competition.

In September we also had a go at building catapults as part of a mini pioneering session. As a first go it was interesting but later in the year, with some practice, we saw much better results.

OCTOBER – SCOUTS COOK AND NO FOOD POISONING!

In October we had a go at fire lighting and cooking without pans. We also touched a little on DIY and mechanic skills.

NOVEMBER – SUCCESS AT THE DISTRICT ORIENTEERING

We had double success at the District Orienteering competition in November. With second place for Edward Rudd and Jamie Parr in the doubles competition (missing out on 1st place by 14 seconds). George Rudd, Chris Baker and Adam Parr gained second place in the triples competition.

During the month we also had a Patrol First Aid Competition. The competition was one by our new Patrol, Bulldogs.

At the end of November we also went for our annual night hike. Unfortunately due to the high level of rain, rather than being a pleasant walk through the crisp evening air it became more like a particularly wet Glastonbury. Mud, mud, mud, glorious mud!

JANUARY – A CHANGE IN THE WEATHER?

With the New Year, saw a new challenge for the Scouts as we worked towards our Meteorologist Badge. We carried out observations, we did experiments and we even tried predictions.

But the weather didn't change, just kept raining!

FEBRUARY – ANDY GOES WALKABOUT

Our Leader decided to start his globetrotting odyssey in February, arriving in Boston USA just as their worst snow storm in some years made an appearance.

We completed the Meteorologist Badge and also had time to enter teams in the District Quiz Competition. If only they had known a little Scout history the glory was theirs for the taking.

MARCH – A HOT AND COLD MONTH

March saw a very busy month. We had a very hot evening looking at the Fire Safety Badge. The Scouts were able to use some fire extinguishers donated to the Group to put out some wood fires. They also saw demonstrations of how dust can easily catch light and how carbon dioxide can be used to put out a fire.

The cold part of the month came as we prepared to go to the Great Escape Camp. Although Andy had jetted in from the Far East, he had managed to have some of the snow from Boston USA dumped over the UK in the 24 hours leading up to the camp. The camp was postponed but we are going next week, providing there is no snow in July!

APRIL – BEAVAN AGAIN AND A BIT OF PIONEERING

To try to get more teams taking part in the Geoffrey Beavan Challenge the date of the 2013 event was moved to earlier in the year. We entered two scout teams and a Young Leader Team. One of our Scout teams won the shooting event and our Young Leader team came second overall in their event.

During April we started to work towards our Pioneering Badge. This will be a longer term project as we build the scouts skills up. However over the following months we have built a number of projects (many of which the leaders have not built before)

MAY – BUCKING BRONCOS!



Imagine the surprise of scouts when you tell them that with a couple of old tyres, wood rope and a tarpaulin that they will be making a bucking bronco. It may have taken a couple of attempts but when they saw it working they rather liked the idea of pioneering.

May also saw Group Camp which was a Hobbit/Lord of the Rings theme this year. The Scouts with Cubs and Beavers from the Group, took part in a number of activities including: Shelob's spiders web, a treasure hunt, Elvish bread making, jousting and learning magic tricks.

Scouts also took part in the St Georges Day Parade and the success World Wobble Boarding attempt with Bear Grylls.

JUNE – FIRE, WHO NEEDS MATCHES?

The month of June saw a variety of activities that the Scouts did. We had one session on fire lighting, with some of the Scouts starting fires without the use of matches (using a flint and steel).

We also managed to fit in the District Wild West Camp for all sections, at which we won the prize for the Best Camp Gateway (but don't mention the totem pole!)

Scouts also help wash cars as part of the Scout Community Week. Over £500 was raised at the car wash with the Group retaining 75% of this amount. The remaining amount will go towards helping underprivileged children access scouting.

With the Troop now consisting of more younger Scouts we also took the opportunity to practice some penknife and axe skills during June.

At the start of the year we tried to make small scale catapults, which frankly did not work as well as hoped. By the end of the year we had constructed two larger versions, which could hurl water bombs about 20 feet (well Rome wasn't built in a day but I have plans for bigger and better catapults!).

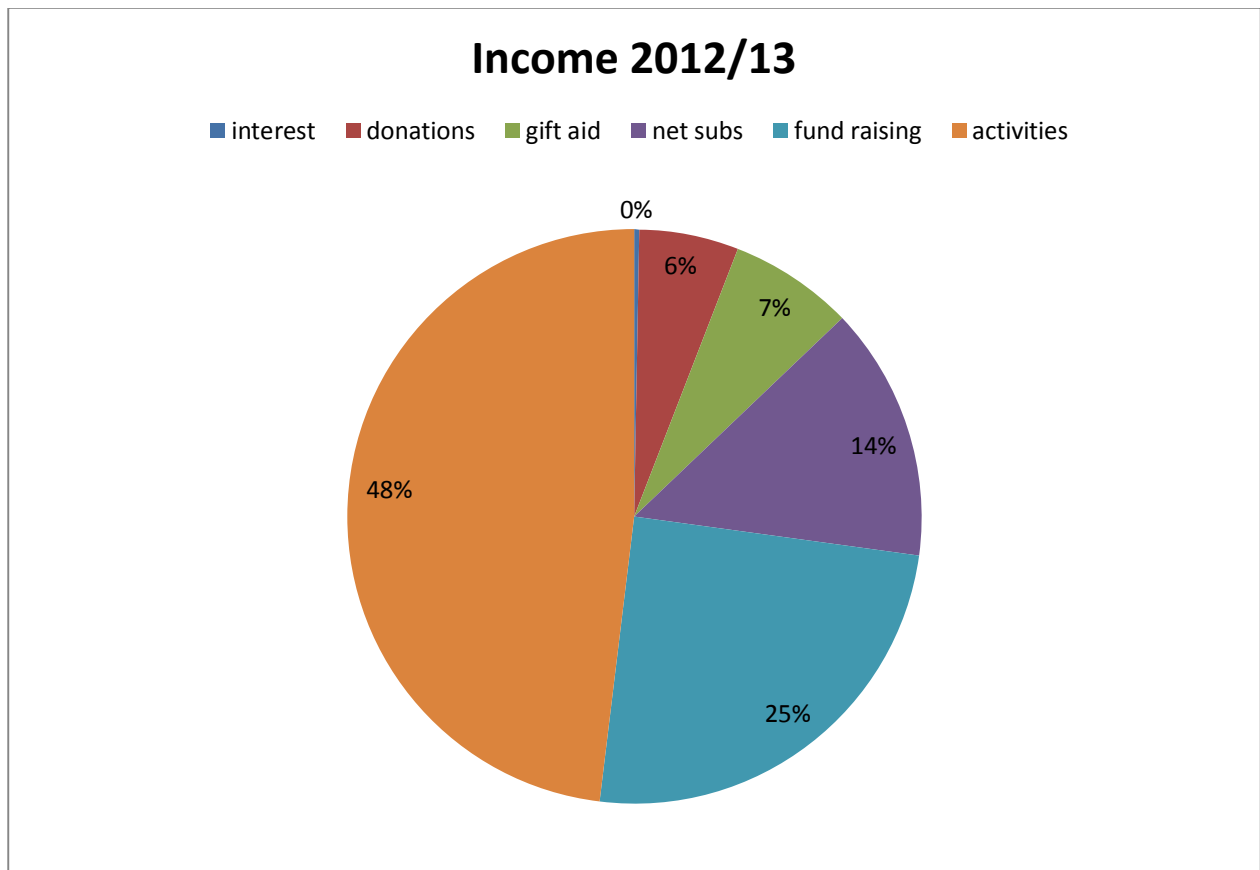


1st Thurstaston Scout Group – Treasurer’s Report 2013

Receipts

Total income for the year is £31k. We should note that this year the District membership payment has been brought forward to bring us in line with the date of the census. This means that we appear to pay twice, so financially we report a payment made last year of £3305 and this year £8670. This increased capitation also reflects the groups increased numbers. The group have recorded the Income as follows:

interest	£86	0%
donations	£1,748	6%
gift aid	£2,178	7%
net subs	£4,453	14%
fund raising	£7,723	25%
activities	<u>£14,974</u>	48%
total	<u>£31,162</u>	

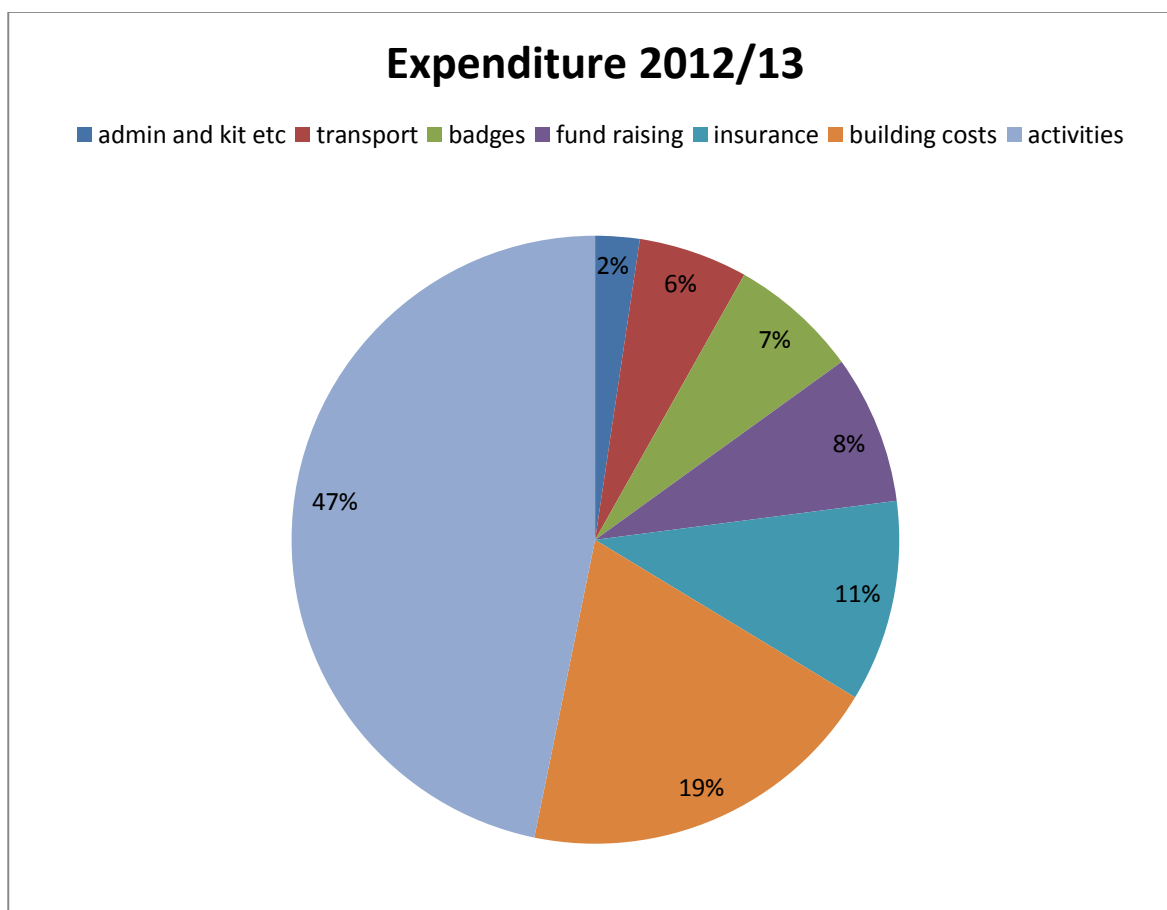


Subscription income has increased by almost £3k from last year. Additionally we have just processed gift aid claim for the new financial year of over £3k our highest claim to date. You can appreciate how valuable gift aiding is to the group so please do not forget to complete your subs forms fully.

Payments

The gross expenditure for the year is £28.5k. The expenditure is recorded as:

admin and kit etc	£663	2%
transport	£1,664	6%
badges	£1,966	7%
fund raising	£2,251	8%
insurance	£3,063	11%
building costs	£5,564	19%
activities	<u>£13,335</u>	47%
total	<u>£28,506</u>	



To summarise we have a credit balance of £2657, this is £563 less than we reported in the closing accounts for last year. However, includes the additional £5k paid update the payment District for capitation.

Due to the increased numbers within the Group, we propose that the next year's subs remain at £9 per month, and £36 for the term.

Financial Review

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £10,000.

The Group holds reserves of approximately £25,000 against this at year end. This is above the level above required for operating expenses. However, this is explained by having a contingency reserve, required for the major building work to the Head Quarters.

Full sets of Receipts and Payments accounts, and statement of assets and liabilities are available on request and the independent examiner previously has approved them.

1st Thurstaston Annual General Meeting 2013

Saturday 29th June 11.30am

1. Flag break= Nathan Harrison-Clarke
2. Fiona Hurley, Chair, welcomed the District team (Brian Tucker), committee members, parents, children and all friends of the group.
3. Apologies= Helen Bevan BSL
4. Minutes of previous AGM= Proposed by Steve Webster, seconded by Alan Parr. All were in favour.
5. Chairman's report= by Fiona Hurley
6. Treasurer's report= by Jayne Barnes. The proposal that the accounts be accepted and subs remain the same amount per term were seconded by Jane Fieldhouse and seconded by Wendy Wolstencroft, and all were in favour.
7. Group Scout Leader's report= by Sue Flush. It was agreed that Section leaders' reports be emailed out.
8. Appointment of officers= by Sue Flush as GSL.
Fiona Hurley has agreed to continue as Chair and GSL has duly appointed Fiona Hurley.
9. Election of officers= by Fiona Hurley as Chair.
Lynn Harrison has agreed to be Treasurer for this year. It is proposed that Lynn takes this role. Seconded by Jayne Barnes, and duly appointed.
Liz Hughes stood down as Secretary in July 2012 but has continued unofficially. Are there any volunteers? Rachel Colburn initially agreed, was seconded by Liz Hughes and duly appointed, as all were in favour.
10. Election of Executive Committee officers= by Sue Flush as GSL.
Appointed officers- Dave Reed, Marjorie Reed.
The Group Council(Fiona Hurley as spokesperson) elected Steve Webster, Jane Fieldhouse and Vicky McGurk as elected officers and these were seconded by Marjorie Reed. All were in favour.
Co-opted members of the Group Council were Fergus Lang, Gill Burton, John Burton, Steve Hare.
Each section has an elected representative who attends Group Executive Committee meetings- to date only Scouts have a representative in Dawn Rudd, who was agreed by all.
11. Guest speaker was Brian Tucker ADC. Brian spoke about how he first volunteered at 1st Thurstaston some 38 years ago and how wonderful it is that we are celebrating our 80th year. He is proud to be linked to a thriving group that includes so many young leaders and explorer scouts as part of its leadership team. We were ordered as a group to keep up with our fundraising work, and continue to give adventure and enjoyment to the young people in our care in the name of Scouting. He concluded with his many best wishes for the coming year.
12. Awards= Beaver Scouts- Thor Colony:

- a) Chief Scout Bronze- Christopher Brocklebank, Christopher Burdon, Aidan Wolstencroft, Noah Holland
- b) Sportmanship- Christopher green
- c) Most Improved- Aidan Wolstencroft, Joseph Rimmer
- d) Beaver Of The Year- Christopher Burdon

Ismay Colony:

- a) Chief Scout Bronze- William Ashton, Calum Barlow, Nathaniel Hughes, Ben Roberts, Ben Sharpe, James Taylor, Daniel Teasdale
- b) Most Improved- William Ashton
- c) Most Enthusiastic- Harry Jones
- d) Best Camper- Nathaniel Hughes
- e) Beaver Of The Year- Samuel Bevan

Cub Scouts- Fletcher Pack:

- a) Chief Scout Silver- Alex Bevan, Thomas Hartwell, Samuel Maxwell
- b) Cub Scout Skills- Thomas Hartwell
- c) Participation- David Burdon
- d) Sportsmanship- Joseph Cross
- e) Cub Of The Year- Benjamin Green

Reed Pack:

- a) Chief Scout Silver- Miles Bentley, Thomas Callaghan, Matthew Holroyd, Jamie Young, Kyle Lunt, John O'Toole, Ben Taylor
- b) Sportsmanship- Alastair Carswell
- c) Cub Skills- Matthew Baker
- d) Participation- Owen Allport
- e) Cub Of The Year- Matthew McGurk

Scouts- Richardson Troop:

- a) Roll Of Honour- Daniel Callaghan
- b) Leadership- Jamie Parr, Daniel Callaghan
- c) Most Improved- Matthew Callaghan
- d) Participation- Matthew Costall
- e) Young Scout Of The Year- Lucas Hughes
- f) Scout Of The Year- Carrick Hurley

Best Tree Climber & Bravery Award- Thomas Callaghan

Young Leader Awards- Jessica Jones, Bethan Jenkins, Nathan Harrison-Clarke, Oliver Courtney, John Fieldhouse, James Webster, William Flush, Edward Rudd, James Barnes

13. **Investitures-** Brian Young & Alan Parr were duly invested as Scout Leaders, and Lucy Churchill as a Beaver Colony Assistant by Brian Tucker DC.

14. A presentation was made to Jayne Barnes as outgoing treasurer with the grateful thanks of the Group.
15. Matthew Jones, Akela Fletcher Pack, was thanked for his hard work in arranging the AGM/birthday celebrations.
16. A presentation was made to Sue Flush, GSL, by Andy Costall on behalf of the Group & she was thanked for all the hard work & effort she puts in to the Group.
17. The flag was duly lowered in the closing ceremony by Nathan Harrison-Clarke.

Chairman's Report 2012 - 2013

Welcome to you all. Lovely to have so many of you here for our 80th Anniversary Fun AGM

The Group Exec is responsible for the fund raising programme of the Group, and supporting the leader team if we can. Anyone can join; we have three meetings a year at the start of each term to discuss the events we will be supporting, and we get to hear first hand what each pack is up to. In the last year we had the games night, the firework night, the clothes collection and the sponsored coastal walk to supplement the on-going events of the Christmas post, the Christmas & Easter fairs, the 100 club 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, and to provide days like to day – whatever the weather....

This year our fundraising activities have helped to fund an overhaul of the heating system and on-going internal redecoration of the scout hut and washroom facilities – for the last work day I was indoors with a paint brush – scary.

We have wonderful grounds but 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 work days we have had this year - many hands make light work and as the scouts have cottoned on - Akela is very generous with chips for lunch for the helpers! Again anyone can come and help at the work days – they are great for bringing everyone together and the field always has lots of twigs that need picking up before mowing...

While mentioning outside I'll briefly thank you all for your continued cooperation shown over the access issues to the site.

Thanks go again to Dave Reed for maintaining the group website - please take a look at the archives and photo gallery, and thanks to Matty Jones for Facebook and twitter and I know Sue will mention it, but the success of Community week was down to you too, (and the weather) and thanks to everyone here who supported it.

For now, I'll pass you to Jayne for her last Treasurers Report.