

Jamboree Newsletter.

Unit 56. Merseyside and Isle of Man

Japan 2015.

Welcome to the first, and hopefully not the last newsletter for Unit 56 – Merseyside and Isle of Man Jamboree unit.

Our Unit began in July 2013, with the selection of the unit leaders. These are, Rich Matthias – Unit Leader, Emma Davies – Deputy Unit Leader, Matt Townend – Assistant Unit Leader, and Julian Ashcroft, know to us as Ash – Assistant Unit Leader from the Isle of Man.

Following leader selection, all 11 Districts across Merseyside were asked to select 3 young people to join our unit during September / October 2013. We are joined by 3 young people and 1 adult from Isle of Man.

December 2013 was the first time that the whole unit were able to come together and meet. We held a training camp at Tawd Vale which saw us spending a day helping with work on the site, followed by an evening and day of general introductions, teambuilding tasks, camp fires and discussion about our journey to Japan.



Key Facts:

What? 23rd World Scout Jamboree.

Where? Kirarahama, Yamaguchi City, Japan

When? July 24th – August 12th 2015.

Who? 33 Merseyside young people with 3 adults, and 3 young people and 1 adult from Isle of Man.

Numbers? Approximately 40000.

What will we be doing?

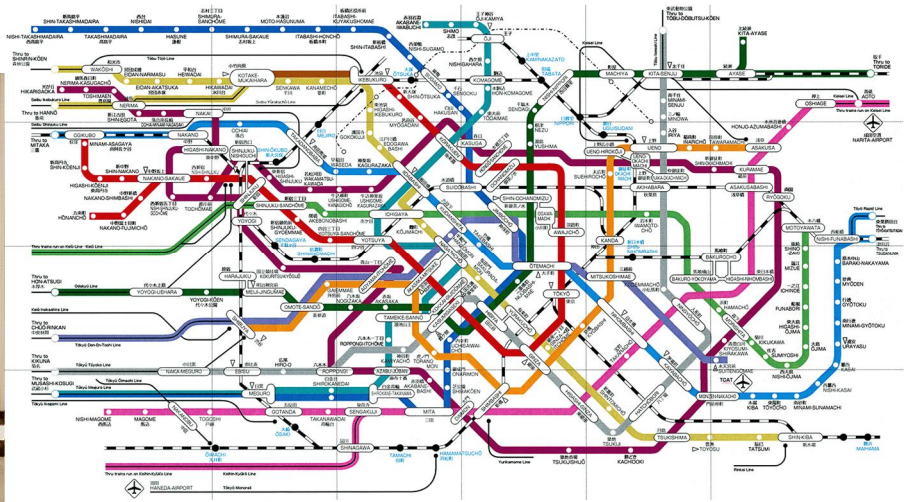
HO-HO, or home hospitality will be our first port of call. We will be staying in a Prefecture (county) called Gifu. Here, unit members in pairs, will live in a Japanese home for 3 days. They will get the opportunity to immerse themselves in, and explore their way of life, with food, culture, house rules, and social activities, and how Japanese embrace living together as an extended family.

The Jamboree.



Crossroads to culture – The exploration of global cultures.
Global Development – What issues are present in the world?
What can we do to influence them?
Faiths and Beliefs – understanding of others values and religions.
Activity – Water sports, exploration of nature.
Ceremonies – Opening and closing.
World peace – All unit members will visit the Hiroshima site for a day, and take part in activities. It will be 70 years since the dropping of the atomic bombs while we visit.

Tokyo experience – Mimasu Tokyo.



3 days in Tokyo. Travel by bullet train.

Staying in either a hotel, or the national youth hostel.
Visit to the national earthquake centre .
A UK contingent extravaganza with opportunity to try, taste, and talk all things Japanese.
Sky Tower – view the city from the viewing platform 350 meters up!
Attempt to navigate our way round the subway.
Experience the famous street food sellers and the huge divide between modern and traditional Tokyo.

What have we done so far?



April 2014.

The unit travelled to Isle of Man for the weekend, travelling by Seacat from Liverpool.

The weekend was a great success, although the weather was too wet to allow us to see much, or do the planned walk up Snafell. Activities included, Viking centre visit, short walk in the fog, tram ride, zorb footballing, and a visit to a very wet and muddy high ropes, climbing and go karting centre.

A great weekend was had. It also gave the unit members the experience of travelling as a large group, with some having their first journey abroad.



Wirral Coastal walk.

Contact us

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Liverpool Monopoly. The unit, in their 4 patrols were given the task of going round Liverpool to find and photograph many iconic buildings and venues. We were fortunate enough to be able to get the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Erica Kemp to set the day off.

Fundraising

The unit and districts have been busy raising the needed funds . They have, washed cars, bag packed, held raffles, wine tasting evenings, Chinese meals, raffles, race nights, quiz nights, bag packed again, car boot sales, Wirral costal walk, barn danced, discos, sold badges, auctions, bingo, written off for grants and sponsorship, round district hikes, run group and district activities, kept ebay busy, bag packed yet again!, and numerous activities besides.

Between fundraising activities, the unit have also found time to support the County Wingding camp, running the bushcraft area of it, attend the Feast of Lanterns, and attend several working days at Tawd Vale. We have been to Scouts Speak up, while Matt, Callum, David, and Luke attended a Communications training weekend at Linnet Clough last summer. Along the way we have learnt how to use chopsticks, bits of Japanese culture, that it is going to be very hot and humid (40 degrees c and 80% humidity), that most of the unit don't like traditional Miso soup, as well as more about ourselves and what the Jamboree is, and will give us. Members have also met up themselves for trip shopping, to cinemas etc, and regularly talk through facebook and similar.

Currently we have our 'Japan in a box' touring the county, and will be in your District soon if it has not yet visited. This is a box full of activities and ideas, so that we can share the Jamboree with all sections and groups, either running a full night, or part night for sections.



Where are the unit members from?

Unit Leaders:

Rich Matthias – Bebington.
Emma Davies – Liverpool North.
Matt Townend – Bebington.
Julian (Ash) Ashcroft – Isle Of Man.

Altside: Anthony Comaish, Josh Scott, Ola Olsen.

Bebington: Caitlin Lloyd, Jason Burrows, Mairead Stewart.

Birkenhead: Alistair Baker, Jack Sanders, Ryan Clegg.

Crosby: Anna Ashcroft, Emily Bird, Michael Gibson.

Formby: Alex Fieldsend, David Callow, Lucy Chapman.

Liverpool North: Emily McDonough, Jack O'Donnell, Joseph Cain.

Liverpool South: Luke Hawkes, Matthew Collett, Sam Russell.

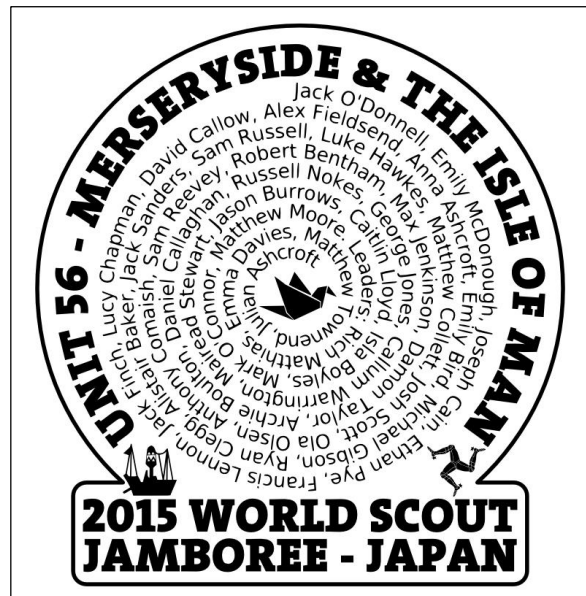
Southport: Max Jenkinson, Robert Bentham, Sam Reevey.

St. Helens: Ethan Pye, Frankie Lennon, Jack Finch.

Wallasey: Callum Warrington, George Jones, Russell Nokes.

West Wirral: Archie Boulton, Damon Taylor, Daniel Callaghan.

Isle of Man: Mark O'Conner, Isla Boyles, Matthew Moore.



A quick insight from two of the guys.



Hi, my name is Sam Russell and I am an Explorer from the Aarvarks based with the 3rd Allerton Scout group which I have been a part of since a Beaver. When selected for the Jamboree I was honoured and made up that I was going to get a once in a life time experience but also get the the chance to represent my scout group, district, and county in front of scouts from all over the globe. Since being selected I have done a number of fundraising activities such as bag packs, fairs, starting a tuck shop at my troop, sweepstakes, badge selling, selling old stuff and sending off letters for small donations. I am hoping to get out of the Jamboree memories that I will never forget and hopefully make new friendships with people from around the globe as well as having already made friends with my unit that i am sure I will know for years to come. I am looking forward to learning about scouting from different cultures whilst telling others about scouting in Merseyside.



Hi, my name is Russell Nokes

Being selected for the Jamboree was the first step on journey that has already been amazing, with new experiences around every corner and there's still 4 months to go! There's been none stop fundraising, camping and most of all having fun. Some of my most memorable moments have been on the training camps where we have met and got to know everyone from the unit. As well as meeting great people they have left me with stories that I will cherish for a lifetime.

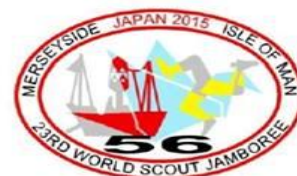
The Jamboree itself will be an exciting, thrilling and amazing adventure. I look forward to getting stuck in, having a go, meeting people and enjoying the opportunity I have been lucky enough to receive. However I hope that I will also take a lot from the experience, along with making many new friends. I know I will learn from experiencing a new culture and it will make me more globally aware at the same time as expanding my scouting knowledge.

WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE 2015

Merseyside & the Isle of Man



UNIT BADGE COLLECTION



Here we have for sale, our cloth badges and also metal pin badges. The cloth ones are available in Red, Blue, Green, and Pink, and may be worn on your uniform. The metal ones are on a silver background with pin fixing, and measure approximately 1 inch square.

These are all available either through the unit members in your district, or by using the order form below. All monies go towards supporting our unit.



Merseyside and Isle of Man unit badge order. All badges £2 each. Please make cheques payable to 'Merseyside Scouts'

Number of Badges required:

Pink cloth X

Green Cloth X

Pink Cloth X

Blue cloth X

Metal pin badges X

Total:

Total cost @£2 per badge:

Address for delivery:

Name.

Address:

Email:

Please send orders, with your cheque to:

Matthew Townend.

49 Sutherland Drive, Eastham, Wirral. CH62 8DY.

Matthew.Townend@merseysidescouts.com.