



## West Wirral Horn



The Newsletter of West Wirral Scouts



DECEMBER 2017



What better way to wish everyone in the District a 'Merry Christmas', than with our very own Christmas Single? Recorded live by our West Wirral Gang Show members. Check out the Editor's bit for more details.

*Merry Christmas  
Everyone*

by West Wirral Gang Show  
In aid of the  
Wirral Charity Christmas Post



Happy Listening!

# From the District Commissioner

Welcome to the last horn of 2017 as you read this you will be well into Christmas Post, Beavers and Cubs Christmas Carol concerts are only around the corner. Our Minds and thoughts are turned to either your final preparations for Christmas or you've already started.

Getting back to Scouting, and a throw back to the end of October with a big thank you to Chris, Fiona, Steve, Aaron and Adam who took up the leaders 25 hour challenge with me for Tawd 25. Though the event had teething problems it was a great event and the Scouts that went really enjoyed it. In typical West Wirral fashion we had to have something big and on FIRE! It would be good to see some of our troops there in 2 years for the next one.

November has seen most groups out and about for remembrance services across the District. I especially liked 1<sup>st</sup> Frankby's Cubs little decorated stones. It also saw our Jamboree selection Day, I wish I could have offered all 14 a place they deserved it, but we only has 6. It was one of the hardest decisions and some of the phone calls were even harder. I am sure the 6 we have selected will all come back different young people.

As a District over the last few years we have changed, we have inspired more young people and engaged more Adults to help, but we all still need more. I would like all of us to think outside our normal box and maybe approach friends and see if they will take up one of those admin roles within your Group. But also let's think of the bigger picture do they have a skill that could help more than one Group or the District as a whole? They may have a skill we could use for Gangshow, Old School Lodge, D of E or even Scout Post. This will enable us to continue to expand the activities we offer and try new ones, these new skill sets come from all different backgrounds. Let's give it a try.

Any way enough from me, I would like to thank you all for everything you do and wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Phill**



# A Thought From Aaron

This is the time of the year when proud parents used to arrive at their child's school after being invited to watch the annual Nativity Play. I know because for several years we watched proudly as our children donned costumes to perform to the assembled audience. Owing to the different ages of my children we were privileged to witness two such plays. That was sadly years ago but I still can remember them either being one of the "three kings" complete with cardboard gold crowns or a shepherd clothed in a dressing gown and the obligatory tea towel on their heads.

Research tells us that in the Middle East during the first century being a shepherd you not well thought of. Because of their commitment to watching their flocks they could not fulfil their religious duties and had the reputation of being a little "light fingered". Let us not forget that they had to protect the sheep from predators and often use their bodies to act as the gate to their fields.

Yet these poor men were the first to be notified of the birth of Jesus and not the more affluent or the religious people living in Jerusalem. These much-maligned men responded positively to the messenger of God and travelled to Bethlehem to see the Christ Child born in a stable and lying in a manger.

The names of the shepherds were never recorded but what joy those unnamed men must have felt in their hearts. It was those poor shepherds who brought the good news of Christ's birth to others. It is you that brings forth the good news of the message of friendship, dedication and commitment that Scouting to young people!

I wish you all a very Joyous Christmas and a Peaceful, Happy New Year.

**AARON**



# Editor's Patch

**Well do I have news for you . . . How brilliant is this?**

Have you seen the front cover of this Horn? Well, under the brilliant Directorship of Peter Ledson and Liam O'Malley the Cast and Crew, we recorded our own Christmas Charity Single last weekend, and it is now available to buy online via either Google Play, Amazon Music and on iTunes shortly with all money raised going to Wirral Charity Christmas Post.



It was recorded at 1st Frankby Greasby Scout Hut and it's hard to believe that members of our very own District are now on an official music single that's available Worldwide, and I am so happy and proud to have been a part of it. This is the first time anyone in Scouting has made a record, and what an achievement 😊

You can buy the song now for only 99p by visiting the website: <http://www.wirralcharitypost.org/CharitySingle> or via Google Play, Amazon MP3, iTunes, and CD Baby.

Please support us, spread the word, share on your facebook pages and let's see if we can top the charts as well as raise some funds for the Gang Show.

There's been so much happening recently on the run up to Christmas. Already we've had the Beaver Carol Service, the Cubs Carol Service and we've already been out selling our Christmas Stamps.

As you'll know this is the last Wirral Horn of the year, so please remember when you're all out there having fun on activities, and at your Christmas parties to take a moment to jot something down, snap a few photos and send them to me in the New Year. Let's see if we can start 2018 off with a bumper Horn full of interesting stories from as many groups as possible. A New Year's resolution maybe?

Anyhow before I go, I just wanted to thank you all for your news updates, section reports and to the groups who've been out flying the West Wirral flag and have taken the trouble to write about it afterwards and drop me a line or two with some photos.

Here's wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you all again in 2018 ☺

**Please remember that the  
deadline for Horn submissions  
is the 10<sup>th</sup> of every month.**

**Janet Jones  
Wirral Horn Editor**

**Email: [janetscout@gmail.com](mailto:janetscout@gmail.com)**





## **Save the Date**

**8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

Following on from the success of the 2016 'Best of British' Gang Show the 2018 Show is shaping up to be another fantastic extravaganza. A cast of nearly 90 has been assembled and rehearsals are well under way. Join us on a magical journey through the West End stopping to watch and enjoy your favourite Musicals along the way.

Booking forms for 'Ticket to the West End' will be available soon so please keep an eye out for them and book early to support the Members of your Groups and the Districts who are taking part.

# *News from Around the District*

**1<sup>st</sup> Frankby Greasby** have been rather busy lately, here's a sneak peak as to what they've been up to:

1FG Cubs had a fantastic night at The Apple Store in Liverpool One.



They were looked after by the brilliant JP and Mike, and the Cubs were split into groups of 4 to create their own Star Wars movie trailers. Much fun and inventiveness was put into their trailers and we watched them all after they'd finished.







The Cubs were able to go and play with the Games, Robots, iPhones, iPads, MacBooks and iMacs for a while before being presented with a certificate and USB memory bracelet.





Then to end the evening in true 1FG Cubs tradition of unusual places, they invested Aaron, Zac, Mason and William into the Pack.



5<sup>th</sup> December of course saw the District Cubs Carol Service at St Michaels Church in Pensby, it was a lovely service with Cub Packs from across the District all represented.

Each Pack had a theme, which was a tradition of Christmas and 1FG was Christmas Jumpers. The Cubs did great, and showed off the Jumper they all made last week as well as telling everyone what each part of the Jumper meant to them and to us as a Pack.





On Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> November we held our Annual Beaver Christmas Craft day, at St Chad's Church in Irby.



6 Beaver Colonies attended and made a variety of Christmas cards and decorations.



From the feedback that I have had from the leaders, is that everyone had a most enjoyable day.



I would like to wish everyone in the District a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

Jayne Oliver A.D.C. Beavers [westwirraladcbeavers@gmail.com](mailto:westwirraladcbeavers@gmail.com)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Thurstaston Thor Beaver Colony

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November we had a visit to the Kailash Buddhist Centre in Oxtou. When we arrived, Jo one of the teachers and Soman; a Buddhist monk greeted us at the door. After we removed our shoes we entered the Temple, we were shown where to sit, some of the Beavers sat on chairs and others chose the cushions spread on the floor. Jo then talked about meditation and showed us how to meditate, the Beavers enjoyed this, and they asked lots of questions.



At the end of the evening we Invested 3 new Beavers.



An enjoyable and relaxing visit.

Jayne Oliver – B.S.L

**Ho Ho Ho  
Merry Christmas!**



Thank you for all the kind words and support that you've given Denise and I over the last few difficult months, they've really helped to keep us going and really have been appreciated.

**District Cub Camp** at Queen Charlotte Wood was a resounding success and thanks to Sue Flush and her 1st Thurstaston leader team for the fantastic organisation.

The Cubs left having gained their navigator and communicator badges and the fiercely contested annual Tug of War competition was won by 2nd West Kirby







140 of our Cubs and leaders had a great day out at **Greenwood Forest Park**, the weather was kind and the park not too busy so plenty of time for their favourite rides!



We will have had the **Children in Need Splash Party** by the time you get this edition so I'll let you know how much the Cubs raised for this fantastic cause next time.

**The Cub Carol Service** takes place at 6.30 on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at St Michaels Church, Pensby and all are invited to join us for some festive fun and lots of carols.

The annual **10 Pin Bowling** takes place at **6.30 on Thursday 14th December in New Brighton** with 20 lanes of Cubs (The Brownies have booked the other 4 lanes) I guess

for those of a nervous disposition it's the place to avoid that night  
(But we love it)!

The **Cub 5-a-side** competition will take place on **27th January at Leasowe**. It was discussed at length at the last leaders meeting and we would encourage you to have a young leader as your team manager rather than a leader or parent and we will give an overview of the rules at the beginning of the competition.

**The next CSL meeting is on Wednesday 17th January at 3rd Heswall at 7.15. Please try and attend and I can assure you it will only last about an hour**

**CSL Meeting** - 17th January 7.15                      3rd Heswall

**Five-a-Side** - 27th January                              Leasowe

**Swimming Badge Day** -    (TBC)

**Poster Presentation** - 21st March                      1st Thurstaston HQ  
(Cooking & Food Safety - Closing date 28th Feb)

**Gang Show** - 8th to 10th March (Book early to avoid disappointment)

**District Outing Chester Zoo** - 21st April

**Skills Day** – 12th May

**Wingdings** – 15th to 17th June

Good Luck with the Scout Post and Pat, Denise and I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and all the best for 2018.

Please keep keeping us updated about what you are doing as we would love to join and support you.

**Andy Longstaff**  
**ADC Cubs**  
**07766 743074**  
**0151 648 2822**

November brings our annual section campfire. Unfortunately we had to postpone because of heavy rain, but the event went ahead just one week later. Huge thanks to 1<sup>st</sup> Frankby Greasby for use of their grounds, to 5<sup>th</sup> Heswall for supplying lighting and gazebos, to Chris Hughes for supplying his parachute and to Ian Stanley who, along with myself and Chris led the singing.

A great time was had by all who took part and we are looking forwards to next year already.

Here are a few pictures:







### **County News:**

**PL Weekend** – We have one space left on this weekend 2-4 Feb 2018. If you have a PL/APL who is interested let me know. Cost is £40 but we are paying £10 contribution for those who attend to represent West Wirral.

**Lord Derby Competition** – Sat 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Tawd Vale - Scout skills competition. We have places for TWO teams (a team is a patrol of six). If you would like to enter a patrol please let me know. Cost is £20 per team.

**Jenny Peek ADC(S)**

[adcjenny@westwirralscoutteam.com](mailto:adcjenny@westwirralscoutteam.com)

### **International 100 Club Results of the 100 club draw:**

Results of the November 100 club draw:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize £30 – Chris Hughes  
Runners up 2 x £10 – Martin James & Katy Valentine



## The Old School Lodge

**Ideal  
for pack  
holidays**

The Lodge is situated four miles from Llanberis and the foot of Snowdon. It is centrally heated and includes a fully fitted and equipped kitchen, dining room, drying room and a spacious lounge. The Lodge has an on site warden and can accommodate up to 38 persons. All rooms have full ensuite bathrooms.

### Some of the activities within easy reach of the centre

There are activities such as walking / climbing. An indoor climbing wall is also nearby. Sailing and canoeing or, for the more adventurous, white water canoeing and rafting on the Trewern at Bala.

#### Also nearby are:

- The Electric Mountain
- Llanberis Slate Museum
- Snowdon Mountain Railway
- The Greenwood Centre
- Cwm Derwen Woodland Centre
- Caernarfon Air World
- Anglesey Sea Zoo
- Caernarfon Castle



**“Excellent value for money”**

visit our website - [www.oldschoollodge.org.uk](http://www.oldschoollodge.org.uk)  
or contact Booking 632 4943

**The lucky winners for December 2017 Activity Centre Number  
Club Draw are as follows:**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Duncan Court	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Andy Longstaff
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Richard Twemlow	4 <sup>th</sup>	Pat O'Malley

**Congratulations ☺**

If you don't have any numbers yet for the Activity Centre Monthly  
Draw then please contact:

Christine Kenyon: Tel: 0151 677 1820  
or Email: [christine.kenyon@talktalk.net](mailto:christine.kenyon@talktalk.net)

**ANYONE FOR ARCHERY ?**

Archery is now available for Cubs, Scouts, Explorers & Network  
within West Wirral Scout District.

We are able to run sessions for up to a maximum of 12 per  
instructor and are available from just £20 per session (either run as  
part of an evening or on a Saturday) and can be part of your  
weekly evening programme or as an activity as part of your camp.

Sessions can be run indoors or outdoors\* at various locations  
around the district and we will come and assess your HQ at time of  
booking.

For further details and bookings contact either Ritchie Thornley or  
Mark Mackay by email at: [westwirral.archery@gmail.com](mailto:westwirral.archery@gmail.com)



# BEAVERS



# CUBS

Do you need ?

Badges ? Programme Resources ?

Group Name Tags ?, Outdoor Equipment ?

Uniform ?, Outdoor Clothing ?

Scouting Publications ?, Footwear ?

Tents? Leaders Clothing ?

In fact, do you want anything that is  
advertised on

<http://shop.scouts.org.uk/>

If yes, then the **West Wirral Scout & Badge shop**

can get it for you cheaper.

Friendly service, prompt delivery,

bulk buying discounts up to 30%

You save, we save

**A Win Win situation for all of  
West Wirral Scouting**



**Stop Press – most Group neckers available for £2.60  
(youth) and £4.25 (adult) each**

For orders or more information please contact

Alan Bennett

[alan.bennett@bamnuttall.co.uk](mailto:alan.bennett@bamnuttall.co.uk)

07920 496 929

# SCOUTS



# EXPLORERS



## Can You Afford not to use the West Wirral Scout Shop for your Clothing?

	Beavers		Cubs		Scouts		Explorer		Adult	
	RRP	Badge Shop	RRP	Badge Shop	RRP	Badge Shop	RRP	Badge Shop	RRP	Badge Shop
Uniform Top L/S					£20.00	£14.66			£24.00	£17.60
Uniform Top S/S									£23.00	£16.80
Activity Polo Shirts	£12.50	£9.16	£13.50	£9.90					£18.00	£13.20
Activity Tee Shirts										
Sweatshirt	£14.00	£10.26	£14.50	£10.63						
Hoodie	£22.00	£19.36	£22.00	£19.36					£30.00	£28.80
Trousers	£18.00	£13.20	£18.00	£13.20	£29.00	£21.26	£29.00	£21.26	£29.00	£21.26

Please make cheques payable to "West Wirral District Scout Council Badge Account" and send to the address below. If you pass the cheques direct to Roy Kenyon (or pay by BACS) please let me know you have done so via email: [alan.bennett@bamnuttall.co.uk](mailto:alan.bennett@bamnuttall.co.uk)

Alan Bennett  
 Badge Secretary West Wirral  
 Tel No: 07920 496929

\*Please be aware that I'm often out so it's best to ring or email me first to agree a mutually agreeable time for collections etc

# ADULT SUPPORT & TRAINING



## Course Information

Below you will find details of all courses currently run by Merseyside County.

Details concerning this year's courses can be found by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.merseysidescouts.com/adult-support/course-information>

## First Aid

The following courses are full day 1st Aid Courses aimed at leaders within West Wirral. They are open to up to 30 people per session so please book on quickly if you need first aid.

**17th March 2018** - 1st Thurstaston Scout HQ, up to 30 places available, book by registering at the following address - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/first-aid-course-full-day-event-tickets-39083326281>



2017

## CHRISTMAS POST DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DEC 4 <sup>TH</sup>	WEST WIRRAL SORTING OFFICE OPENS
DEC 9 - 10 <sup>TH</sup>	FIRST DELIVERY OF MAIL
DEC 13 <sup>TH</sup>	LAST POSTING DATE
DEC 14 <sup>TH</sup>	MIS-SORT NIGHT - SORTING OFFICE CLOSES
DEC 16 -17 <sup>TH</sup>	SECOND DELIVERY OF MAIL

**Any help is very welcome and much appreciated**







## **DISTRICT DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:**

### **DEC:**

14 Cub Bowling at New Brighton

### **2018 – Planning Ahead:**

#### **January:**

11 SL Meeting 7.30pm  
17 CSL Meeting 7.15pm – 3<sup>rd</sup> Heswall  
27 Cubs Five Aside Football - Leasowe

#### **February:**

2-4 Scouts County PL Training Weekend  
15 Scout Section Quiz Night, St Andrews HQ

#### **March:**

3 Scout Orienteering Competition, Royden Park  
8-10 West Wirral Gang Show, Gladstone Theatre  
17 Scouts Merseyside Lord Derby Competition  
21 Cubs Poster Presentation – 1<sup>st</sup> Thurstaston HQ  
23-25 Scouts Great Escape – Tawd Vale

#### **April:**

21 Cubs District Outing to Chester Zoo

#### **May:**

12 Cub Skills Day

#### **June:**

15-17 Cubs Wingdings