

## NOVEMBER 2017

### 5<sup>th</sup> Heswall Cubs – 'Operation Christmas Child'



What a lovely Community Spirit, well done 😊

### Scouts PL Training – Congratulations to Everyone 😊



Happy Reading!

# From the District Commissioner

Well we have had a little blip with the Wirral Horn but back to normal now. By the time you will read this we will have had the last AGM, Gang show rehearsals will have started and I will be well on my way in giving out over 40 long service awards to our Leaders and there are a few biggies in there. Congratulations to Laurie Yates on his 50 years service, so if you see me arrive with a bag under my arm it may be you! It was lovely to visit so many Groups over the summer on camp and on the District Cub Camp. On my travels I did see some great activities and also some unusual gadgets, especially 1<sup>st</sup> Thurstastons' water heater. A big thank you to all those leaders for giving up their time.

Save the date 26-28<sup>th</sup> July 2019 yes you saw that correct it's the date for the 4 District Anniversary Arrowe Park Jamboree Camp. More details will come out and we will be looking for people to do certain jobs. If your young people have an activity they want to include do let us know.

At the end of September the Beavan Challenge took place and was well attended from West Wirral. You'll see my article later on in the Horn but it was back to a more traditional event with combined water and hike. A big thank you to all who helped make it a great weekend.

Can I remind everyone that we have part ownership in The Old School Lodge, which is a fantastic opportunity to take our young people away to a safe environment in the middle of Snowdonia. Close by there are a number of places to visit at reasonable prices and it's a great weekend venue. Please see details on page [?](#). Would Leaders be interested in a site visit? If so drop me a line and we will arrange one with the warden.

Finally welcome to Christine Carlson as acting GSL of Hilbre and to Jess Fogg as our new Network Commissioner, I am sure you will join me in wishing them well in their new roles

**Phill**



# A Thought From Aaron

I think that most of us have access to a computer either a home, work or even at the local library it could either a “laptop” or a “desk top type of computer. Usually as part of the word processing programme is a “spell check”. The version I have, has the habit of checking every word I ‘type’ and often replaces it with a word similar or though often is a completely different word entirely thus altering the sense of the document or letter, resulting in me having to reread the whole document all over again.

That is why I have a large dictionary on my desk alongside my computer, so not only can I make sure I spell the specific word correctly but have a wonderful definition too. Here is a long definition of a simple word. “The agency by which objects are rendered visible, electromagnetic radiation capable of inducing visual sensation through the eye;” ~ ” mental or spiritual illumination, enlightenment or knowledge.”

I have used the “abridged version” definition in my dictionary of the simple word of “light”, when I was school boy as an experiment if I put on the light and then I opened the front door on a dark night would the “dark” flood in to the house or would the light shine into the darkness beyond? You don’t have to be a scientist to realise what my findings were; light will always shine through into the darkness.

Scouting is a vital source of illumination for by your dedication you can bring a light into the lives of young people and so flood their lives with goodness and knowledge.

“May your God grant you the knowledge to change lives forever by the goodness of your light.”

**AARON**



# Editor's Patch

I apologise if you've missed your Wirral Horn for the last couple of months, it's been a strange couple of months and I think has taken people a while to get back into the swing of things since the Summer. Firstly we had very little to report and then when we did my computer decided it wasn't going to work anymore, but hopefully that's all behind us now and you'll be seeing a lot more of us from now on 😊

There's been so much happening since the summer, I've managed to capture what I can without trying to spread 'old news'.

I know we've now got the busy run up to Christmas and all the groups/leaders and ADCs have their hands full but it would be great to receive some news from the groups with a few snapshots to let us all know what you're up to rather than just relying on the poor ADCs to find the time to sit down and put together a report of all the things they've seen or been involved in. I'm aware that a lot is posted on social media and on the various groups but not everyone has the opportunity to see these and it's nice to collate it all in the one place for everyone to share as a District.

I look forward to your continued support and to lots more news landing in my inbox in the near future.

**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)

## Beavan Challenge 17

Well that went well. This year's Beavan Challenge once again held at Tawd Vale was well attended from Groups from within West Wirral. The format was changed slightly this year with activities and how we sent the teams around and this worked exceptional well, thanks Liam for all the rewrites on the programme.

The Biggest change was with the water and hike activity becoming a joint one. The young people either kayaked first then got out and hiked or visa versa. This proved to be a big success with all and is going back to the fundamentals of the original Geoffry Beavan. A big thank you to Simon and Jo Day and their team for the water and Bill Mankin for the Hike. As usual we had our regulars in the Shooting and Archery, another big thanks to Andy and Geoff Back, Ritchie Thornley and Mark Mckay.

This year saw the return of a camp project from about 7 years ago and as 7 years ago we had different views on how to succeed. Simple task light a fire and put it out by boiling water. Question was how much water and how much fire. Some though were a big fire little water some a small fire (or none at all) and loads of water. We did have a number of teams who near enough succeeded, this is a good one to try with your Troops. Thanks go to Steve Arbourn on this base.

The trusted First Aid had a makeover and was a quiz this year throwing a few teams, some of the answers were amusing and worrying at the same time, thanks to Jo for organising.

And finally the Muddy Funster was back! Bigger Better and Muddier, we will be uploading a short film of a competitor on

our facebook and website watch out for it. A really big thanks go out to Karen, Paul and Andrew, who spent over a day setting it up.

The results are below :- but the winners are Junior 1<sup>st</sup> Newton, senior St Andrews and West Wirral Explorers Heswall Unit.

My special thanks go to Explorer Service team, Sue Flush for all the bookings and enquiries and our caterers Liz and Caro, to Keiran for the Photos and Ritchie for the Drone footage on the canal, and finally all those leaders who came out to help marshal, walk or supervise :- THANK YOU!

**Let's have a few snaps shall we ☺**



### **Great Activities:**





... and the Winners were:



See you all again in September 28-30<sup>th</sup> 2018

# *News from Around the District*

## **5th Heswall Cubs**

Have recently sent 60 boxes to Operation Christmas Child to distribute in Eastern Europe this Christmas.

The cubs raised the £180 needed to cover delivery costs doing jobs at home. They covered the boxes on pack nights and then packed them all in one evening at Woodchurch Methodist Church and watched an inspiring video focussing on the lives of the recipients which are such a contrast to theirs.



Happy Christmas!

All the best

Steve Pillow



## Beaver Report

The Beavers have got the following events coming up:

- Beaver Christmas Craft day Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November, venue St Chad's Church hall in Irby.
- Carol service and Christmas party, Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, at St Andrew's Church, West Kirby.
- On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018 we have the Beaver Challenge, venue to be confirmed.
- We are planning to have a sleepover in May 2018 hopefully at Waterside Lodge Southport, a skills day and a day out to Gullivers World.

The next Beaver leader meeting is on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 - 7:30pm at Hilbre Scout hut, Elm Terrace off Elm Road, Hoylake.

Jayne Oliver A.D.C. Beavers

[westwirraladcbeavers@gmail.com](mailto:westwirraladcbeavers@gmail.com)

Here we are at the start of another Scouting year and in the Scout section we are looking ahead to another year of fun and adventure for our young people.

September began as we mean to go on with Scouts out camping and having fun. This year we have already had an international contingent camp, the Geoffrey Beavan and the Feast of Lanterns. (See the separate report for an update from the contingent.)

We have also had our annual Patrol Leaders training session with 23 Scouts from nine troops attending this year, a fantastic turn out! On the day, the new recruits took part in activities to help them to build on their leadership skills, confidence and understanding of the role of a PL. They even got cake. In the afternoon, we ended the day with a forum where Scouts gave us their feedback on what we currently do in Scouts and what they would like to see more / less of in future. This was very informative and will help us to shape a deliver a programme that is relevant and engaging for our section in future.

Scouts that attended our PL training were given first refusal on places the Merseyside County PL weekend to be held next February and we have filled our allocation. However, last year we did receive more places so we have started a waiting list. If any troops have others who are interested, please let me know.





We are looking forwards to our Scout Section campfire in November. Numbers for this have been growing year on year since we started the event in 2013 and we are sure we will see even more this year. See details on the poster and don't forget your optional crazy hat!

## *West Wirral District Scout Section Campfire 2017*



# **SCOUTS**

*Friday 10th November 2017*

*7:30pm - 9:00pm*

*1st Frankby Greasby HQ, Frankby Road,  
Frankby, CH48 1PP.*

*£1 per Scout*



*Wrap up warm and wear a smile.*

*Bring a chair.*

*Crazy hats optional!*

*Please let us know if your troop is attending ASAP and  
numbers by 08/11/17*

*[facebook.com/WestWirralScout](https://facebook.com/WestWirralScout)*

*[@WestWirralScout](https://twitter.com/WestWirralScout)*

**Jenny Peek ADC(S)**

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

**\*Dates for your diaries are in the District Dates on the back page**

## Update from the International Contingent

Well time has certainly flown since we launched our international trip last year and we are now heading towards the final countdown. Scouts, leaders and parents from the contingent have been busy in the last few months with many fundraising and contingent events.

We had a car wash at Heswall Fire Station in early September. Scouts scrubbed their way to raising £380, well done Scouts!



In September parents and supporters had a great night at a Quiz night which was held at 1<sup>st</sup> Thurstaston HQ. Thanks to 1<sup>st</sup> Thurstaston for use of their headquarters on the night.



On the same weekend as the quiz we had the contingent out for a weekend 'getting to know you' camp at Hawarden. We focussed on team work, friendship building and of course having loads of fun. Our campfire went live on Facebook on the Saturday night so you may have seen some of the fun we were having. Here are a couple of photos:







## 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 Treverryn 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 July 2017 Activity Centre Number Club  
Draw are as follows:**

**August:**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Daragh O'Malley	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Andrew Cain
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ian Wain	4 <sup>th</sup>	Jayne Oliver

**September:**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Dave Reid	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dave Roberts
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Derek Barrington	4 <sup>th</sup>	Madge Turner

**October:**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Alan Bennett	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ann Coulson
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mavis White	4 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Hughes

**Congratulations ☺**

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

Christine Kenyon:  
or Email:

Tel: 0151 677 1820  
[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 Ritchie Thornley or Mark  
Mackay by email at: [westwirral.archery@gmail.com](mailto:westwirral.archery@gmail.com)

# West Wirral Young Leader Training for 2017



## Dates / Venues for 2017:

**Nov 2017** - Module F & The Missions - date and venue tbc

**From October all training starts promptly at 7.30pm and finishes at 9pm - please arrive in good time**

## 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>

**Getting Started (Welcome and Induction)**

This informal course is intended for all new adult members within the County and will last for one evening, run every other month. The course is an enhanced getting started that will seek to offer an exciting introduction to new adults and springboard both their membership to the movement and their training needs.

- **18th November**  **Book Now**

**Pre-requisite(s):** Provisional Appointment

**Duration:** Half day

## Management and Support Essentials

This full day course is intended for all new District Commissioners, Assistant District Commissioners and Group Scout Leaders. The course offers essential information on undertaking a role whereby you have a responsibility to manage or support other adult volunteers.

## First Aid

Both of 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.

**28th January 2018** at 4th Moreton Scout HQ, up to 30 places available, book by registering at the following address -

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/first-aid-full-full-day-course-tickets-39043707781>

**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

NOV 6 <sup>TH</sup>	DISTRIBUTION OF CHRISTMAS POST EQUIPMENT FOR WEST WIRRAL GROUPS —  WEST WIRRAL HQ - ROYDEN PARK 7.30PM
NOV 18 <sup>TH</sup>	STAMPS ON SALE
DEC 3 <sup>RD</sup>	WEST WIRRAL SORTING OFFICE SET UP
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:**

### **NOV:**

- 04 Beaver Christmas Craft Day, St Chads, Irby
- 18 Cubs Children in Need Splash Party – details TBC

### **DEC:**

- 03 Beaver Carol Service / Xmas Party, St Andrews
- 05 Cub Carol Service – St Michael's, Pensby
- 14 Cub Bowling at New Brighton

## **2018 – Planning Ahead:**

### **January:**

- 11 SL Meeting, 7.30pm

### **February:**

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

### **March:**

- 3 Scout Orienteering Competition, Royden Park
- 8-10 March – West Wirral Gang Show, Gladstone Theatre
- 17 March – Scouts Merseyside Lord Derby Competition
- 23-25 March – Scouts Great Escape – Tawd Vale