

CESTRIAN SCOUT GROUP

Annual Review 2016

Registered Charity Number 514106



St Georges Day Parade



Delamere Cub family walk and picnic



Group Day Trip to Liverpool



Cub100 Centenary Camp



Cestrian Scout Group
Registered charity No 514106
FAMILY FUN EVENING and BBQ
and
ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING



Friday 8th July 2016 @ 6.30pm

At Cestrian Scout HQ, Thackeray Drive, Vicars Cross, Chester

AGENDA

- | | | |
|----|--|----------------|
| 1 | Welcome by Group Scout Leader | Keith Harding |
| 2 | Apologies for absence | Denise Huxley |
| 3 | Approval of 2014 AGM Minutes | Denise Huxley |
| 4 | Approval of Accounts for year end March 2016 | Nigel Browning |
| 5 | Group Scout Leaders Report | Keith Harding |
| 6 | Chairman's Report | Denise Huxley |
| 7 | Nomination and approval of Chairman* | Keith Harding |
| 8 | Election of Group Secretary | Denise Huxley |
| 9 | Election of Group Treasurer | Denise Huxley |
| 10 | Election of Auditors | Denise Huxley |
| 11 | Election of Group Executive Committee Members+ | Denise Huxley |
| 12 | Approval of Group Scout Leaders nominations to
The Group Executive Committee+ | Keith Harding |
| 13 | The District Commissioner | Jo Turner |
| 14 | Presentations / Awards | |

Note:

- * In accordance with the rules of the Scout Association, only the Group Scout Leader may nominate a person to the position of Group Chairman.
- + Nominations to the Group Executive Committee should be representative of all sections of the Group.

Chairman's Report 2016

Thank you for joining us this evening for our annual review, presentations and barbeque.

I, as chairman would like to thank all the leaders, assistants and helpers who are here every week for all their hard work during the year. They have organised lots of interesting and fun activities for the young people to join in and enjoy. This year we have several new young leaders helping out.

During the last 12 months we have held several fund raising events. The main one being our annual plant sale in May. This year again raising over £1000. I would like to say a big thank you to Peter Lloyd-Brown for Co-ordinating this event this year, a lot of hard work goes into this. Thanks also to all who sort out orders and deliver them. The sales for this year were down slightly from previous years only made up by a slight increase in price. More help would be much appreciated next year.

I would like to thank Shirley and Grahame for organising the Autumn Fayre in October. It was really good fun and raised over £300.

We also held a Halloween Party at the end of October.

In June we sold tea, coffee and squash at a local community fund raising event. This being The Vicars Cross fun day and dog show organised by the local dog walkers in aid of dogs' charities.

During February some of our young people and leaders were involved in Chester and District Gang show at the Kings School. If any of you have never been to see the show it is well worth a visit.

In May cubs from both sections and several leaders from our group joined other groups at the 100 years of cubs' county cub camp at Capesthorpe Hall. What a great weekend was had by all.

I would like to thank Keith Harding, our group scout leader, Grahame Polley, assistant group scout leader, Roland Farrington, our secretary, Nigel Browning, our treasurer and the members of the executive committee for their hard work this year.

If you have any fund raising ideas don't hesitate to come forward. We do need your help and support. and hope that every young person in the group will continue to enjoy coming and joining us and that we will be successful for many years to come.

Thank you to anyone I have forgotten to mention.

If you are interested in joining our executive committee and support our group have a word with one of us later. We hold our meetings here at the scout hut every 6 to 8 weeks.

Group Chairperson

Denise Huxley

Cestrian Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

	Year start date	Year end date
	For the year from	To
	1-May-15	30-Apr-16
Receipts and payments		
	2015/16	2014/15
	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	£	£
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Membership subscriptions	11,501	10,554
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	4,358	3,819
Net membership subscriptions retained	7,143	6,735
Donation - Great Boughton Council (JOTA)	250	661
Donation - Lions Club	220	-
Donation - Waitrose	253	-
Donation - Centurion Club	250	-
Donation - others	233	-
Group Activities	4,929	3,781
Gift Aid	2,425	2,239
Flower sales matched funding (Barclays)	0	304
Sub total	15,704	13,721
Grants		
Maintenence grant	0	-
Sub total	0	-
Fundraising (gross)		
Plant Sales	3,140	3,417
HQ Hire	1,249	1,060
Explorer Scouts HQ Hire	0	600
Necker money	125	180
Scrap metal sale	32	-
Clothing Sales	0	151
Other fundraising activities	1,119	580
Sub total	5,665	5,988
Investment income		
Bank interest	3	16
Building Society interest	0	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	0	-
Bank adjustment	80	-
Other investment income	0	-
Sub total	84	16
Total Gross Income	21,453	19,724
Asset and investment sales, etc.	0	-
Total receipts	21,453	19,724

Cestrian Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

	Year start date		Year end date
	For the year from	1-May-15	T O 30-Apr-16
Receipts and payments			
		2015/16	2014/15
		Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
		£	£
Payments			
Charitable Payments			
Youth programme and activities		4,876	3,169
Music Licence		0	271
Great Boughton Parish Council & Cheshire & Chester West		50	50
Water and Sewerage		-166	982
Electricity and Gas		812	2,352
Insurance		1,077	1,012
New bathrooms		-	11,724
District Shop		1,362	348
New Tents and associated equipment, generator, PA		760	480
Sundry expenses		383	413
AGM and trustee expenses		0	144
HQ Cleaning		94	190
Bank charges		220	26
Cestrian Scout logo clothing		-	418
Westwood shutter plus keys		1,145	-
HQ general maintenance		285	-
Sub total		10,899	21,579
Fundraising expenses			
Plant purchases		2,155	2,436
General		-	-
Other fundraising costs		380	-
Sub total		2,535	2,436
Total Gross Expenditure		13,435	24,015
Asset and investment purchases, etc.		0	-
Total payments		13,435	24,015
Net of receipts/(payments)		8,019	-4291
Cash funds last year end		12,644	16,934
Cash funds this year end		20,663	12,644

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		2015/16	2014/15
		Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
		£	£
Cash funds			
Bank current account		18,569	10,566
Bank deposit account		-	-
Building society account		-	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		2,079	2,078
Cash/Floats		15	-
Total cash funds		20,663	12,644
Other monetary assets			
Tax claim		-	-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group		-	-
Insurance claim		-	-
Sub total		-	-
Investment assets			
Investment property - detail		-	-
Quoted investments		-	-
Other investments - detail		-	-
Sub total		-	-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use			
Badge stock		-	-
Shop stock		-	-
Land and buildings		215,550	208,261
Motor vehicles		-	-
Scouting equipment, furniture etc		34,094	32,941
Steel container		4,258	4,114
Steel container contents		2,583	2,583
Sub total		256,485	247,899
Liabilities			
Accounts not yet paid		421	-
Loan - detail		-	-
Other liabilities		-	-
Sub total		421	-
Signature		Print Name	
		Chair	
		Treasurer	

Cestrian Scout Group Group Scout Leader's Report for AGM 8th July 2016

I am pleased to welcome you all this evening to our "Family fun evening and BBQ and awards presentations incorporating our AGM" well someone has to do it!!

I thought this was going to be a challenge after last year, but I am very pleased again this year to report that we have received our award for 8 consecutive years growth, the **only** group in the district to achieve this, so a huge thank you to everyone connected with Cestrian Scout Group for collectively achieving this, it is down to great teamwork and just goes to prove we are providing great scouting for our young members – next year might be a challenge though, but I said that last year as well! – but, we can but try if only we had a couple of adults to volunteer to open up a second Beaver colony this could lead to opening a second scout troop, so you see, it's not impossible, it just needs **YOU** to volunteer and help us! PLEASE give it some thought.

Our current membership numbers are outlined in Grahame's report, but needless to say we are still providing lots of great scouting and activities that our young people enjoy and want to be part of, as do many more indicated by our waiting list – there is no reason why you also shouldn't be a part of this great movement, there are roles for everyone, either uniformed as a leader or in many helper roles, please ask me or the team for more details – we all do what we do for the benefit of the young people (your children), so please give some thought to volunteering what skills you can offer.

We continue to operate one Beaver colony run by Kristy and Sam assisted by Laura and other members of our leadership team and two of our Young Leaders Vicky and Bradney, two cub packs, Tribuni Pack on a Tuesday run by Gill, Paul and Chris assisted by Danielle and Alastair and one of our Young Leaders Brandon, and Centurion Pack on a Wednesday run by Vicki and assisted by Rachel, myself and Lee and three of our Young Leaders Matthew, Alec and James. The Scout section has grown over the past year and is run by David who is ably assisted by Matt, Jay and Alex, with the help of Joseph one of our young leaders. So my thanks to you all for keeping the sections very much alive and kicking and the young people enthused.

I am very proud and privileged to work with such a fantastic dedicated bunch of people here at Cestrian and although we operate for the benefit of our young members none of this is possible without the total dedication and commitment from all the leaders and helpers and executive committee members who make Cestrian Scout Group the group it is, so I would like to say a very **big thank you to you all** as I know it is not always easy juggling scouting, work and your own family lives. I would like to thank Denise Huxley our Group Chairperson for all the support she has given me as GSL and for all her catering expertise on camps and group functions, to Grahame Polley our AGSL who tirelessly works away in the background doing all those jobs I ask of him, and for keeping things on the right track, and also to Rachel my wife for her continuous support and encouragement.

The 23rd World Scout Jamboree in Japan took place in July and Brandon Hone one of our young leaders who was one of 7 scouts from Chester and Vicki our ACSL who was part of the International Service Team, I know they both had an amazing trip of a lifetime and I very much hope we will hear more about it a little latter.

I do not wish to steal the thunder from any of our sections, so please read their reports as attached.

Members of the group took part in numerous activities and events over the year as outlined in the sectional reports including a Group Camp at Coxwood scout camp site, our long running JOTA weekend, a Group visit to Liverpool on the train, a BIG beaver sleepover and Cubs100 a County Cub camp at Capesthorpe Hall to celebrate the centenary of cubs this year. We also had our annual cub Christmas Turkey and Tinsel camp, and cubs Christmas bowling trip. We attended the St. Georges Day parade and service at the Cathedral in April, and the scouts have been very busy both in and outside of the scout hut. We also had a very well attended Cestrian group carol service at St. Peters, Plemstall in December when we were entertained by members from each section punctuated by some very good carol singing.

Sadly we say goodbye to Matt Polley our assistant scout leader who leaves us following relocation to Warrington, Thanks for all that he has done to help maintain the scout's enthusiasm, hopefully he will transfer these skills to others once he has settled in his new location. Also Alex Coker our recently qualified assistant scout leader moves off to University this year, but we are hoping he will still manage to come back and help out occasionally, so we wish them both great success for the future.

Most of our leader team have a role in helping me with my other hat on as producer of Chester Gang Show, so my thanks to them all for that **extra** commitment – I think we had 22 members of our group involved with the show this year either on stage or in various supporting roles - if you have not seen Gang Show then book your seats early next year, February half term our 60th Diamond Jubilee show this year was again a great success, or so we were told, with three standing ovations!!

Finally a big thank you to all our young members for turning up each week and enjoying your scouting, long may it continue, you will be thankful in years ahead for the skills you learnt (whether knowingly or not) during your scouting career. And lastly a big thank you to you their parents for supporting and encouraging your children so that they can enjoy their scouting and develop into well balanced young members of their community and society.

Scouting does make a difference.

Thank you all for coming and enjoy the rest of the evening.

Keith Harding

Group Scout Leader



Group Review 2016 - Assistant Group Scout Leaders Report

As I manage the Group's membership lists I have seen the Cestrian Scout Group grow consistently over the last few years. We now have 106 young people, 17 leaders and 7 Young Leaders. As of June we have 24 Beaver Scouts, 56 Cub Scouts and 26 Scouts. Our overall numbers have stayed much the same as last year even though we have had quite a few join us. Unfortunately due to other pressures we have also lost a few from all sections.

We have also lost a couple of Sectional Assistants but three of our Young Leaders have now taken full appointments with the Beaver, Cub and Scout sections.

This is the good news but unfortunately we have a few young people on our waiting list that are old enough to join Beavers but are waiting for a space to become available. The list is a little shorter than last year as we have managed to find places within the Colony. We have had several young people join our Cub and Scout sections that have not previously been in Scouting. This is encouraging. Over the next couple of months we will be having a further six Beavers moving to Cubs. This means that we will be able to invite some of those that have been waiting a while into the Group.

Our intention to join list, i.e. those that wish to join but are not old enough, is currently at 40 with new ones being added almost daily. It is encouraging that parents still feel that Scouting is an youth movement that they wish their child to join. If you could help or wish to know more please speak to one of the Leadership Team.

I am continuing to assist with the Beaver Scout Section and with our very keen leaders, Kristy Collins, Sam Farrington and Laura Farrington who are doing a wonderful job with quite a demanding age group. Under their leadership there have been several Beavers that have gained their Bronze Award. Kristy, Sam and Laura are ably assisted by two Young Leaders, Bradney and Vicki. Another excellent Beaver sleepover and party was held at Fun4All in Sealand Road to celebrate the 30 years of Beaver Scouts.

We also have 7 Young Leaders within the Group. Two help with Beavers, one helps with Tuesday Cubs, three with Wednesday Scouts and one with Scouts. We are very grateful for their help and assistance. Hopefully with our encouragement they will be our future Leaders. Previous Young Leaders are Laura Farrington who is now an Assistant Beaver Scout Leader, Alastair Browning is now an Assistant Cub Scout Leader and Alex Coker is now an Assistant Scout Leader.

Maintenance of the building is still ongoing. During the year we replaced the main door shutter with an electrically operated version. Hopefully this will save a few backs. There is still a number of other projects that we are considering, e.g. updating the storage facilities in the Leaders room, sorting out the storage container plus general decorating. If you could help with any of these projects or have any special skills i.e. joinery, building etc. please let me know.

Last year we applied for Gift Aid from HMRC which resulted in a refund of £2425. We will be applying for a refund again this year and thank all of you who have signed and returned the gift aid form. By paying your subs each term this has helped enormously in the collation of the information required by HMRC. If you pay tax and haven't returned your form we encourage you to do so. The

application to HMRC is quite easy although time consuming but there is a good reward at the end of the process. Returning the subs payment slips each term helps considerably with the Gift Aid application and also essential in making our Treasurers job a little easier consolidating the accounts.

The Group is registered with the website www.easyfundraising.org.uk If you purchase goods online and register yourselves as a supporter of the Cestrian Scout Group then providing you order goods via the easyfundraising site, we get a bit of commission. It doesn't cost anything to use but we could receive a lot of easy money. The website link is www.easyfundraising.org.uk/csgchester. So far we have only raised £140 this way but we could raise a lot more with your help.

The new Group website, started four years ago, can be accessed by using the URL www.cestrianscouts.org.uk There are links to Scout District, County and National websites. I would be grateful for any feedback relating to the presentation and content. We do have a diary page of main Group activities and a page showing hall bookings . Our hall is available for hire for children's parties and other functions.

We have been busy trying to get involved in the community and recently helped provide refreshments at the Dog Fun Day held in Vicars Cross. This was the third year of this type of event and looks as though it will be an annual event.

We had a very successful Autumn Fayre in October which raised about £400 which we will be repeating this year. Other fund raising activities have included the County Balloon Race which raised £121. Unfortunately we had to cancel the planned Beetle Drive.

We held a Group Camp in September which was very well attended and enjoyed by all (thanks to Chris for organising), and a County Cub Camp during May to celebrate 100 years of Cub Scouts. Recently we had our first Group Day out to Liverpool.

Finally I would like to thank all the other Leaders and helpers who support all our young people and as training advisor to some of them, I know they are working hard towards completing their Wood Badge training. Two special awards need to be mentioned: Sam Farrington, Assistant Beaver Scout Leader, has completed her Leader training and will be presented her Wood Badge at this AGM and Laura has completed her Young Leader training. Hopefully during the next year we will have some more awards completed.

If you have any queries or questions about any of the comments made above or wish to volunteer in any way to support the Group, please contact me or any of the team.

Grahame Polley
Assistant Group Scout Leader
Cestrian Scout Group

June 2016

BEAVERS 30

Where
has the
time
gone?

Another year has flown by! Cestrian Beaver Scouts have been busy with a variety of activities, although we aren't quite done yet this term. We have the 6 mile Beeston Hike and exploration of Beeston Castle tomorrow, July 9th.

The autumn term saw Beaver Scouts marching through Chester as Roman Soldiers, following a trail along the Walls and exploring the Grosvenor Museum! Everyone was relieved that OUR tour of duty was not the usual 25 years for a Soldier.

September was also our Group Camp where the Beavers stayed overnight and enjoyed many of the same

activities as the older Cubs and Scouts. For those who missed camp, we had Guy Fawkes night roasting marshmallows on disposable BBQ's [sending smoke signals] along with some fun games in the dark. We are especially proud of Toby M. for participating in this year's 60th Chester



Gang Show! Toby put in many hours of rehearsals for the week on stage in February. 2016 is the year for celebrating the 30th Birthday of Beaver Scouting in the UK!

Cestrian beavers can be proud to be part of one of the first groups established here in Chester! The spring term we wrote 30 postcards and posted them to 30 other Beaver Colonies within the UK as part of a big 'Beaver Postcard Swap' in honour of the birthday event. We also joined in the Chester District Beaver 30th Birthday



Party & Sleepover at Fun4All play centre in March. A little bit of sleep and a whole lot of fun for the 12 who took part. Feedback from the Beavers themselves...the only thing they didn't like was "going home". 😊 This term has been the most adventurous by far! Five Beaver Scouts participated in the St George's Day Parade & Service. You should be proud of how well they behaved during the service; we were.

We went to visit the Chester Library and had a look around the 3 floors. Everyone had a chance to look for a book, check out a book and read for a



few minutes. We also had a story at the end!

Eight Beavers joined in the Group day trip to



Liverpool. Exploring the five floors in the World Museum, touring St George's Hall



and jumping at Spring City Trampoline Park. Our visit to Tesco wainteresting,

especially watching a fish being cleaned...who knew that the heart is in the head? Also, cheese tasting produced some very funny facial expressions.

We would like to thank Grahame Gill and Denise for always being there to help. Thanks as well to the parents and our Young Leaders who have helped us during the year. Our families deserve a special mention for all of their help and support as we couldn't do it without them. Have a great summer and see you in September.

Kristy, Sam and Laura



Tribuni Cubs Report 2016

I would like to thank my leaders Paul, Chris and Danielle, Alastair and Brandon for their continuing support of our weekly activities and outings. Also thank you to Dave who has helped us at several of our pack meetings.

A big thanks to Mark Jones for coming every week and assisting us at the beginning and end of our meeting we appreciate all your help.

A special thank you to Grahame and Denise for all their support of our Tribuni pack through out this past year.

I do appreciate the help they have given us.

I would like just to say what a pleasure it has been taking the cubs to camp or on outings their behavior has been outstanding their parents should be very proud of them.

Thank you to all the parents who have helped and if any Parents have any **skills or hobbies** they can share with us at a pack meeting we would love to have you come along.

Gill

The start of the past 12 months saw us taking part in the District competition Totem Pole Congratulations to the cubs who took part and gained first place.



September we were at Group Camp this was at Cox wood. With the Beavers and Scouts this was a fun packed weekend.

A few of the activities the cubs took part in.



October we went on a trip to Drayton Manor where there was a lot of rides from the Youngest to the Oldest and the Bravest Everyone had a lot of fun.



Our next activity in October was the Jamboree on the Air was well attended from groups in the District but there were only few from our own group. The highlight of the weekend was everyone being able to take the controls to fly the Drone, which all the young people and some grown ups enjoyed. Another favorite was the 3D Printer.

November -We had the joint Turkey and Tinsel weekend with Wednesday cubs. Our visit this year was to the Ice-Cream Farm. We played crazy golf, on the diggers and had fun with a variety of water activities. We spent some time making Christmas decorations. There was also a lovely Christmas meal cooked for us by Denise and a big thank you to her. Later that evening we had a visit from Father Christmas and his Elf.



There was an excellent attendance for Remembrance Day Service at Plemstall Church and thank you to the cubs who came along.



February saw a small number of us going to see the Gang Show at the Kings School. Tuesday and Wednesday both had cubs performing in the show, however it would have been nice to see a few more cubs going along to see the show and supporting them.



In February As part of our 100 years of Cub Celebrations we had a trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach where all the cubs were able to enjoy the fun fair. The weather could have been kinder to us we still had a lot of fun.

Brandon gave us a talk on his experience when he went to the World Jamboree in Japan not sure everyone liked the Sushi well done those for tasting it



The month of May saw us heading for the Cub 100 Centenary Camp at Capesthorpe Hall. Our exciting weekend started with us travelling by coach to the campsite. We had a very full and fun packed weekend with lots of activities for everyone to enjoy. For once the weather was kind to us though very cold on the Friday night

A few Photos from camp





During May we had our local Police Community Officer Neil Denby visit and the cubs were able to try on some of their safety uniform. A lot of fun was had having their fingerprints taken



The month of June saw having another group outing this time travelling by train to Liverpool. We visited the World Museum and had a great time exploring the exhibits covering four floors of the museum, so much to see will need to go again. After lunch we then moved to the St Georges Hall and had a guided tour of the dungeons and courts. We then went to The Spring City Trampoline Park that was the highlight of the day for all the young people.



Centurion Cub Scout Report

2016

The Centurion Pack have enjoyed 2015/16, taking part in a good range of activities. This is a very important year for the cubs as we are celebrating 100 years of cub scouting.

We have included a trip to the Fire station and Group Camp in September and Cub 100 camp in May, this saw over 3,000 Cubs having the "Wildest Birthday Ever" at Capesthorpe Hall.



We also had our Group Camp last year where the Cubs were able to join in a number of activities including the usual fun games, shooting and archery, crate stacking & crafts.



During the winter months the cubs developed team skills, they also continued to work towards the challenge badges including Pioneering and Chef badges being completed.

Christmas Cub Camp was held at Beeston Outdoor Education Centre, there was a visit to Beeston Castle, lots of Christmas crafts, a visit to the Icecream Farm and the usual visit from Santa and Elfie and a lovely Christmas dinner.



The summer programme has included the International badge learning about the next World Scout Jamboree taking place in Japan, with a visit from some the contingent going. We had the usual Art with Lee evening for the Artist badge which included model making, painting and poster making and learning about the Romans in Chester.



Almost finishing the summer term with a Water Activities on the Dee.



Which was great fun even if some did get a little bit wet !!.

Many thanks to Rachel, Lee, Alec, Matthew, James and Jonny for all their hard work.



Vicki

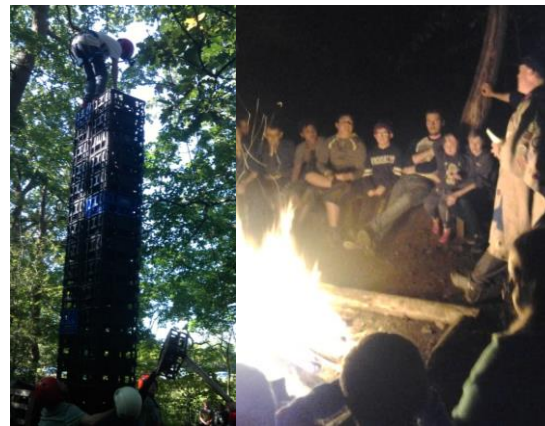


Another busy year for the scout section supported by Matt, Jay and Alex together with our young leader Joseph. Numbers continue to be healthy and we've attracted several members from in outside the group in addition to those moving up from cubs. It's also been good to see a good number moving up to Explorers to continue their scouting at the next level.

Before the summer break we spent an evening on the Dee canoeing and having a go with some home-made coracles. We scoured the city centre for geocaches before closing with an ever popular water fight



At the end of September we joined the other sections at the Group camp at Cox Wood Campsite. Activities included climbing, crate stacking, archery, go-karts, backwoods cooking, campfire, and closing with fun team games bringing the group together.



Troop nights in the autumn term covered a wide range of activities including wide games, circus skills, record breakers challenges and building rockets, rockets, hot air balloon and catapults. Brandon, one of our former scouts, who had attended the World Scout Jamboree in Japan over the summer, came back to tell us all about it and led a Japanese night based on his experiences including sushi making.

Back by popular demand, we held another sleepover at the hut just before the end of term. Once again a chance for the scouts for to chill-out with a consoles, film, games and food but this time with a Christmas theme including a full Christmas dinner for breakfast.



In the spring term we tried several new games including the well received human hungry hippos. A variety of activities focused on teamwork, we made paracord woggles, built a crazy golf course and tried our hand at pancake art for this year's pancake day. We brushed up on our first aid skills, constructed bird boxes, and made honeycomb on a night led by our older scouts

Over Easter, Ben, Joe, Connor H and Connor P undertook their expedition challenge, hiking and camping independently. The first day went brilliantly, making it to the campsite in record time but things didn't go quite as smoothly on the second, with a wrong turn leaving the site setting the tone for the rest of the day. After several further detours they finished slightly short of their intended target but had nevertheless certainly earned their challenge badge.

This was also enabled Ben and Connor H to complete their Chief Scout Gold Awards. It's tough to achieve this award so always nice to be able to see them earned.

Also over the break, Jake together with a scout from Bickerton competed in the Cheshire hike competition. They did well in this tough event and hopefully we will see some more of the troop taking up the challenge next year.



As we turned to the summer several of the scouts took up the opportunity to undertake canoe courses on the Dee working towards their Paddle Sports badge. The lighter nights allowed us to spend more time outside. We built a large scale monkey bridge and started the athlete badge (to be finished when we finally get another dry night). Several nights we spent learning about survival skills including building (and bucket testing) shelters and fire lighting skills. These skills will be put to the test on our backwoods camp at the start of July.



In June we joined the group day out to Liverpool with a visit to the world museum, trampolining at Spring city and the ever popular visit to the lego shop - all ideas from the scouts themselves.

Closing out the year we were out and about playing Monopoly around Vicars Cross landmarks, bell boating on the Dee and orienteering in Delamere.



Sadly we will be saying farewell to Matt in the summer as he is moving away. We thank him for all the help he has given over the last few years. We also wish Alex all the best as he heads to university - he's not going far though so is still hoping to be able to help us out when he can.

Looking forward to next year!

David

Cestrian Scout group AGM and annual review 2015

Date: 10th of July 2015 at 6:30pm

Location: Cestrian HQ Thackeray Drive Vicars Cross

Attendees: Committee and Leaders, 35 total including parents carers and members.

1. Welcome by Group scout leader (GSL)

Keith Harding welcomed everyone to the AGM and read a prayer.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Dave Broady, Rachel Harding, Victoria Courtney, Gemma Adams, Paul Wright, Matt Polley, Laura Farrington.

3. Approval of 2014 AGM minutes

Correction **14 Presentation and awards:** reference to Grahame Polley award for 14 years should be 40 years.

Proposed by: Keith Harding

Seconded by: Shirley Polley

4. Approval of the accounts for the year ending March 2014/ Treasurer's report.

2014/2015 accounts are not yet audited

Approval of accounts proposer: Kristy Collins

Approval of accounts seconder: Grahame Polley

Notable donations:

Chester Lions club (£480)

Waitrose (£253)

Gift aid

flower sales (Alastair Bamber obtained match funding)

Halloween party

Beetle Drive

Notable payments:

Upgrading of the HQ toilets

Gross Income £19,700

Payments HQ toilets £11,700

Refer to accounts for detail

5. Group Scout Leaders report

Refer to report in Annual Review 2015.

Thanked leadership team and asked for more helpers.

Wished good luck to Victoria Courtney, & Brandon Hone for Jamboree in Japan.

Keith finished with a reflection poem

6. Chairman's report

Chairman thanked everyone and read her report which is included in the annual review document package Annual Review 2015.

7. Nomination and approval of group Chairman

Denise Huxley

Nominated by: Keith Harding

Seconded by: Samantha Farrington

8. Election of secretary

Roland Farrington

Nominated by: Denise Huxley

Seconded by: Shirley Polley

9. Election of treasurer

Nigel Browning

Nominated by: Keith Harding

Seconded by: Chris Clowes

10. Election auditors

Paul Young

Nominated by: Grahame Polley

Seconded by: Keith Harding

11. Election group executive committee members

All existing members to continue, no new members identified at this time

12. Approval of the group scout leader nominations to the group executive committee

None identified at this time

13. The district representative

Richard Johnson. Local Training Manager Cheshire.

Commented on wonderful awards for the group.

14. Presentation and awards

Richard Johnson presented service awards to:

Denise Huxley for 10 years

Steve Huxley for 10 years

Grahame Polley Silver Acorn

Kristy Collins

Appointment to ADC (Assistant District Commissioner) Beavers

GSL finished with final reflection.

Kristy Collins gave a vote of thanks to District Commissioner and attendees at AGM

Meeting was formally closed

Barbecue and games took place on the field outside HQ

