

# CESTRIAN SCOUT GROUP

# Annual Review 2019

Registered Charity Number 514106



Awards presented at District AGM



Gill has still got it – taking .....  
on the boys!



Fun on the water at Tatton Park



Picnic lunch at District Camp



**We prepare young people with skills for life**

**Cestrian Scout Group**  
Registered charity No 514106  
**ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING 2019**  
**and FAMILY BBQ**



**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019 @ 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 2018 AGM Minutes   | Denise Huxley |
| 4  | Approval of Accounts for year end March 2019                                     | Sarah Oliver  |
| 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<br>The Group Executive Committee+ | Keith Harding |
| 13 | The District Commissioner / Representative                                       |               |
| 14 | Presentations / Awards   |               |
| 15 | Vote of thanks   |               |

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.

Keith Harding – Group Scout Leader Cestrian Scout Group, Chester.  
Tel 01244 301605, Mobile: 07889 428262  
Email: [gsl@cestrianscouts.org.uk](mailto:gsl@cestrianscouts.org.uk)

# Cestrian Scout Group

## Receipts and Payments Account

	Year start date		Year end date
For the year from	01-May-18	To	30-Apr-19

### Receipts and payments

	2018/19 Unrestricted funds £	2017/18 Unrestricted funds £
<b>Receipts</b>		
<b>Donations, legacies and similar income</b>		
Membership subscriptions	9,836	9,965
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	3,771	3,390
Net membership subscriptions retained	6,065	6,575
Donation - Great Boughton Council (JOTA)	-	-
Donation - Pennies	-	750
Donation - Waitrose	-	325
Donation - Centurion Club	-	-
Donation - others	20	-
Group Activities	8,181	3,274
Gift Aid	2,372	2,299
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>16,638</b>	<b>13,223</b>
<b>Grants</b>		
Maintenence grant	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Fundraising (gross)</b>		
Plant Sales (profit £869)	2,041	2,207
HQ Hire - Gang Show	33	450
HQ Hire - Explorer Scouts	1,400	-
HQ Hire - Totally Aktive	652	664
HQ Hire - Emma Monteith (childminder)	420	-
HQ Hire - other	902	762
Necker money	146	90
Water usage reimbursed (used in building playground)	106	-
JOTA activities	113	10
Bingo evenings - Easter and Christmas (profit £470)	1,103	-
Other fundraising activities	23	117
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>6,939</b>	<b>4,300</b>
<b>Investment income</b>		

Bank interest	-	-
Building Society interest	-	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		2
Bank adjustment	-	-
Other investment income	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

***Total Gross Income***

**23,577**

**17,525**

**Asset and investment sales, etc.**

**0**

**-**

***Total receipts***

**23,577**

**17,525**

# Cestrian Scout Group

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### Receipts and payments

	2018/19 Unrestricted funds £	2017/18 Unrestricted funds £
<b>Payments</b>		
<b>Charitable Payments</b>		
Youth programme and activities	10,484	4,562
Music Licence	171	-
Great Boughton Parish Council & Cheshire & Chester West ground rent	120	-
Water and Sewerage	97	213
Electricity and Gas	894	1,202
Insurance	1,220	1,209
Website hosting (2 years)	150	-
District Shop	390	1,113
New barbecue, cooler, trolley	514	-
New Tents and associated equipment, projector	44	512
Sundry expenses	214	257
AGM and trustee expenses	200	277
HQ Cleaning	160	-
Bank charges	-	-
Replacement water boilers	0	318
JOTA expenses	120	53
HQ general maintenance	540	838
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>15,318</b>	<b>10,554</b>
<b>Fundraising expenses</b>		
Plant purchases	1,172	1,416
Bingo evenings	633	-
Other fundraising costs	0	40
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,805</b>	<b>1,456</b>
 <b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	 <b>17,123</b>	 <b>12,010</b>
 <b>Asset and investment purchases, etc.</b>	 <b>-</b>	 <b>-</b>
 <b>Total payments</b>	 <b>17,123</b>	 <b>12,010</b>
 <b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	 <b>6,454</b>	 <b>5,515</b>
<b>Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>33,749</b>	<b>28,234</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>40,203</b>	<b>33,749</b>

# Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

2018/19

2017/18

Unrestricted  
funds  
£

Unrestricted funds  
£

<b>Cash funds</b>		
Bank current account (includes £238.67 funds ringfenced for JOTA (2017/18 £246.05))	38,107	31,653
Bank deposit account	-	-
Building society account	-	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	2,081	2,081
Cash/Floats	15	15
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>40,203</b>	<b>33,749</b>
<b>Other monetary assets</b>		
Tax claim	-	-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	-	-
Insurance claim	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Investment assets</b>		
Investment property - detail	-	-
Quoted investments	-	-
Other investments - detail	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Non monetary assets for charity's own use</b>		
Badge stock	-	-
Shop stock	-	-
Land and buildings	241,299	232,018
Motor vehicles	-	-
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	38,167	36,699
Steel container	4,766	4,583
Steel container contents	2,891	2,780
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>287,123</b>	<b>276,080</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts not yet paid	-	-
Loan - detail	-	-
Other liabilities	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Signature

Print Name


Chair
Treasurer



## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

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

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

During the past 12 months we have not had as many fund-raising events as usual but we did hold a Christmas and an Easter family bingo which were great successes and enjoyed by everyone who attended. The chippy supper went down really well. We raised over £500 at these two events. Unfortunately, our annual plant sale did not go ahead this year as there was no-one to co-ordinate it. I would hope that maybe someone would come forward and take this on for next year. It doesn't have to be one person and I am sure that Peter Lloyd-Brown would help you get it up and running again.

Just before Christmas we held our annual group carol service at vicars cross united reform church followed by refreshments.

As we have for many years, during February half term, some of our young people and leaders were involved in Chester and district gangshow at the King's school. Well worth a visit if you have never seen the show. Thanks to Gill Owen for organizing tickets for members of the group to see the show.

I would like to thank Keith Harding, our group scout leader, Grahame Polley, assistant group scout leader, Shirley Polley, minute's secretary, Sarah Oliver, treasurer and members of the executive committee for their support and hard work this year.

If you have any fundraising ideas don't hesitate to come forward. We do need your help and support.

I 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 might have forgotten.

As Keith has said in a previous letter, if you are interested in joining our executive committee and support the group which is an important role in the running of the scout group have a word with one of us later. We usually hold our meetings in the centurion pub every 6 to 8 weeks.

Group chairperson

Denise Huxley



**Cestrian Scout Group**  
**Group Scout Leader's Report for AGM 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019**



I am pleased to welcome you all today to our "Family BBQ and Annual Review Meeting", I hope you all enjoyed your complimentary drink on arrival and will join us for the BBQ after this formal part of the evening.

Our numbers this year increased slightly at the date of the census in January due to how we record who is invested in the group at that time, and over the course of the year numbers fluctuate due to our members moving on, leaving to pursue other activities or school work and new members joining.

We have therefore just been awarded our one year growth award after having got to eight years previously ! Many thanks to Grahame Polley our AGSL for keeping track of all this. Also a huge thank you to everyone connected with Cestrian Scout Group for collectively achieving this continuity, it is down to great teamwork and just goes to prove we are providing great scouting for our young members.

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, and the 50,000 young people nationally on waiting lists! – 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 to help your children and others like them to develop into well balanced young members of their community and society to equip them with #skills for life.

We continue to operate one Beaver colony run by Kristy, Sharron and Brandon assisted by other members of our leadership team and two of our Young Leaders Cara and Isaac, two cub packs, Tribuni Pack on a Tuesday run by Gill, Paul, Brandon, Chris and Alastair assisted by Danielle and two of our Young Leaders Jake and Isaac and Centurion Pack on a Wednesday run by Rachel, Vicki, Alec and Jonathan assisted by myself, and three of our Young Leaders, Anna, Fiona and Nung. The Scout section has grown over the past year and is run by David who is ably assisted by Jay, Alex and Harry, with the help of Connor 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, to Shirley our minute secretary for taking notes at our meetings, to Sarah our treasurer for keeping our finances in great shape and also to Rachel my wife for her continuous support and encouragement.

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

However I want to congratulate the following for achieving their Chief Scout Award during the year ending December 2018, 7 beavers who achieved their CSA Bronze award, 9 cubs who achieved their CSA Silver award, there were no scouts this year achieving the CSA Gold award.

We wish Alec Stokes all our best wishes after being selected as part of the IST for the World Scout Jamboree in the USA which he will be flying out to shortly – an opportunity of a lifetime!

Hopefully he will come back and tell us all about it after the summer.

Many of our Cestrian 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 17 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 63<sup>rd</sup> show this year was again a great success, or so we were told, again with standing ovations!!

I would particularly like to congratulate Chris Huxley – Clowes on being awarded the Chief Scouts Commendation award for good service and to Brandon Hone for speedily completing his second Woodbadge as assistant beaver scout leader and for also gaining his Queens scout award, the highest award for scouts under 25 years old and also for gaining his Dof E Gold, both of which he travelled to London to receive, memorable occasions for him I'm sure.

And as you may be aware, I was awarded the Silver Acorn as part of the St. Georges Day awards, one of 4 in the district. Two of us and partners travelled to Windsor at the end of April to attend, by invitation, the very prestigious St. Georges Day National Scout Service and Queens Scout Awards parade in Windsor Castle, a very memorable and moving experience for all concerned, Warwick Davies, one of the newest Scout Ambassadors even came over on his mini Segway and said hello to Ellie, he is the same size as her!!

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 for life 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



We prepare young people with #skills for life

## **Group Review 2019 - Assistant Group Scout Leaders Report**

The Cestrian Scout Group has been fairly stable number wise over the last year. Our numbers from last year have increased slightly from 82 to 91 young people. We also have 17 full time leaders and 8 Young Leaders. As of June we have 26 Beaver Scouts, 36 Cub Scouts and 26 Scouts. Unfortunately due to other pressures or activities we have also lost a few young people from all sections.

We have 8 Young Leaders working with all sections. Hopefully they will take on full Leadership roles once they reach eighteen. I would like to welcome Harry Jupp-Catt who has taken on the role as Assistant Scout Leader.

Amongst his other roles as Assistant Cub Scout Leader and future District Youth Commissioner, Brandon Hone has also completed his Wood badge training for the role of Assistant Beaver Scout Leader. Well done and thank you.

We still have a small waiting list of children that wish to join the Group, mostly in the Beaver age group, 6 to 8 yrs. As we have several Leaders helping with the Beaver Colony we have increased the Colony size to 26 which has reduced our waiting list a little bit. We have had several enquiries which has resulted in young people directly joining our Cub Packs and Scout Troop.

Our intention to join list, i.e. those that wish to join but are not old enough, is currently at 47 with new ones being added almost daily. It is encouraging that parents still feel that Scouting is a youth movement that they wish their child to join but we still need adult help to make it flourish. If you could help or wish to know more please speak to one of the Leadership Team.

I have continued to assist with the Beaver Scout Section and with our very keen leaders, Kristy Collins, Brandon Hone and Sharron James who are doing a wonderful job with quite a keen age group. Under their leadership there have been quite a few Beavers that have gained their Bronze Award this year. Kristy is ably assisted by two Young Leaders Isacc and Cara and also Ben who is completing the service part of his DofE Bronze Award. Thanks to Bradney who helped us for quite some time but now having reached 18 has decided to continue with his further education.

I also help run Paddle Power Kayaking courses for the District on the River Dee during the summer months, and I was pleased to see some of our Scouts taking part and have achieved their Paddle Sports passport and Canoeist Badge.

Other Group activities during 2018/2019 have included adult support and cast members for the Chester Gang Show, supporting the Jamboree On The Air weekend in October by running various communications based activities. Unfortunately we didn't run our annual plant sale as we couldn't find a new coordinator.

Maintenance of the building is always ongoing and there are always small issues that need fixing. There are still a number of other projects that we are considering, e.g. sorting out the storage container, repairing the front entrance etc. If you could help with any of these projects or have any special skills i.e. joinery, building etc. please let me know.

A few thank you's; To Peter Bulmer and Kath Lloyd from the Parish Council who along with Denise Huxley, David Broady and myself helped produce an addendum to our current lease to acknowledge the change in the Group's name and sort out ownership of the car park. Hopefully issues with the ownership of the drains have finally been resolved.



Also to Andy and Chris Hunt of Bro Build who, at no charge, repaired the ceiling panels and the broken tiles in the boys toilet.

Last year I applied for Gift Aid from HMRC which resulted in a refund of £2372 and hopefully by this review I will have submitted this years claim . Thank you to all of the parents 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 or your spouse/partner 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 the Treasurer, job a little easier consolidating the accounts.

The Group is registered with the website [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://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 new Group website, started seven years ago, can be accessed by using the URL [www.cestrianscouts.org.uk](http://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 also have a Group Facebook page

Finally I would like to thank all the other Leaders, Executive Committee Members and occasional helpers who support all of our young people. As the Group's Training Advisor I would like to thank all that have either completed their training or continuing with their training..

Many congratulations to Keith Harding, Group Scout Leader, for receiving the Scout Association's Silver Acorn. Also to Brandon Hone who has been presented with his DofE Gold Award and has completed the Queen Scout Award, the highest award in Scouting and to Chris Huxley - Clowes for gaining the Chiefs Scout's Commendation For Good Services.

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. We would welcome any parent to come and join our small Executive Committee or form a supporters group to help on an occasional basis with fund raising, HQ and equipment maintenance etc.

This year we are looking forward to another District Camp at Talton Park. Also supporting Alec Stokes who will be part of the International Service Team for the World Scout Jamboree in the USA this year.

Grahame Polley  
Assistant Group Scout Leader  
Cestrian Scout Group  
June 2019

# BEAVERS

We had a great year full of outdoor and adventure while we learned skills for life.

Some of the highlights of the autumn term [2018] included a few cooking activities with ice cream cone cakes a big gooey success. We



tried archery indoors, went for a spooky walk in the dark at the Countess Country park and cooked pizzas on a fire. We also attended not one but two big District Sleepovers at Wizz Kidz!

Not to be put off by the

long January nights, we had a night of building machines [robots] out of recycling, learned a few new skills such as rolling our neckers and lighting a candle. We also went climbing at Clip 'n Climb which was loved by all.



We had a visit from the Deputy and the District Youth Commissioners, Grahame kindly



shared a bit of his knowledge of Space one night and who knew red, blue and green pancakes tasted so good?

Lottie participated in the 2019 Chester Gang Show! She put

in



many hours of rehearsals for the week on stage in February for not only the Beaver item, but she was in the Cub item as well. Well done Lottie! We are proud of you.

Cestrian participated in the District Beaver Challenge where we acutally came first! Well done to everyone who took part.

We then went to the County Beaver



Challenge in March where we came third. A brilliant effort Beavers!! Well done.

The summer term began with a visit to Hayrack Church Farm where we were able to pet and feed many of the animals. My favourite animal was the skunk, he was so soft and no smell.



Twelve Beaver Scouts



from Cestrian attended the first ever District Beaver Camp in May. We had a very busy 24 hours with lots of fun on the zip line, the traversing wall and the adventure playground. We went on a 6 km hike, map reading and searching for pictures of beavers along the Wirral Way.





# BEAVERS

Beavers lit a fire using a flint and steel and roasted marshmallows on their own fires.



We started our very own camp blankets!



Beavers made bird feeders as a craft activity and we all managed to get a bit of sleep as well. Special thanks to Sharron, Grahame, Brandon and Catherine for helping at camp! Cestrian beavers could not have attended this event without you. Thank you!



We had a visit to the Hoole Tennis Club at it's new site in Mickle Trafford. The weather just managed to hold out for us and we had a brilliant evening playing tennis!

This year is slowly winding down now where we had an explosive night of experiments, we made a 5\* bug hotel and made some lovely pictures using natural materials.



The year will conclude with a Cestrian Beaver Camp at Dee Banks School the end of July. Thank you Brandon for organising this and we are looking forward to a fab event.

We would like to thank Grahame, Gill, Danielle and Denise for always being there to help week in and week out. We appreciate it.

Thanks as well go to you, the parents, as well as to our Young Leaders [Brad, Cara and Isaac] who have helped us during the year. We could not do all that we do...without all of you!

We hope you have a healthy and happy summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you in September for another fantastic year of Scouting.

Kristy, Brandon and Sharron



Cestrian youth members at the 2018 District Chief Scout Bronze Award event at Freedom.

## TRIBUNI CUB REPORT 2019

### Another year packed with activities.

Congratulations to Tobias, Evan, Zofia and Jake on gaining their Chief Scouts Silver Award.

We would also like Congratulate Brandon who gained his Queens Scout Award He has also gained his Gold D.E. well done

October – 13 cubs had sleep over in the Scout H.Q. and were able to gain their communicator badge

November – We had our Turkey and Tinsel week-end away and our thanks to Alex Davies for providing us with lots of activities on the Saturday



Our Christmas meal as always was excellent with Santa visiting and chatting to all the cubs

December - we had a joint Bowling trip to Cheshire Oaks  
Mike came along and did a Martial Arts evening for us

2018 saw us celebrating the Chinese New Year with all the cubs making spring rolls.

Activities we have also done a U Shape - youth lead activities. The P.C.S.O Officers has paid us couple of visit and gave a talk on personal safety and cycle safety they also joined in with a game of rounders.

We have done pioneering and made a catapult, some more successful than others, well done everyone for trying.



Some of our other programme activities have been a Trading Post night, Interactive Quiz, Learning New Skills evening as well as completing badges – Home Help, Athletics, Navigator, Communicator, Faith, Night Away. Challenge badges have also been awarded for Skill, Adventure and Outdoors.

We had a great time Bell Boating on the river even though it was pouring with rain. We even managed to do our Backwoods cooking in the rain a couple of the leaders were rather wet by the end.

41 leaders cubs parents visit the James Richards Circus at Thackeray Drive we all had a fantastic time. The performances were great and the Artiste made us very welcome every one enjoyed themselves.



I would like to thank Dave and Alec for doing the Bell Boating for us.

My thanks to Paul, Chris, Danielle and Brandon for their continuing support not forgetting our two young leaders Jake and Isaac, thank you. Thank you also to the parents for their valued support with activities, camps and outings. If there are any parents, grandparents who have a SKILL or HOBBIES they can share with the pack please let us know, we would love you to come along and share it with us.

Gill  
Akela

# Centurion Cub Pack Report 2019



Centurion Cub Scouts have enjoyed participating in a wide range of activities during 2018/9.

During the Autumn term the programme allowed cubs to complete some badge work. Several weeks were spent planning and making a game for the Electronics badge. For the Entertainer badge each six was given a theme e.g Under the Sea and the cubs made puppets out of wooden spoons and material. They also made a backcloth to go in a home-made theatre so that they could perform a play based on the theme.

October saw a Harry Potter themed evening full of magical spells, potions and Quidditch.



We also had an I'm a celebrity cub scout activity night where cubs had to complete a range of challenges, including eating a range of 'edible' insects.

During December we had our annual Christmas camp at the Tattenhall Centre. This included a visit to a local farm, the home of one of our Young Leaders. The cubs had a tour of the farm and fed the chickens and ducks. They even saw some llamas! The day included a lunch stop complete with toasting marshmallows, a game of archery and some craft activities.



During the Spring term our Young Leaders planned and organised an excellent, fun Drama evening and also a Disability Awareness evening.

Despite the recent wet weather we have tried to get outside as much as possible. The cubs completed the Athletes badge and we visited Caldby Valley Nature Park learning about the pond, identifying trees and minibeasts to complete part of the Naturalist badge.

The weather defeated us in June, we were due to go bell Boating on the River Dee, but it had to be called off due to the fact it was so swollen and fast moving. Instead the cubs enjoyed an exciting walk along the river and a visit to the playground.

Our Young Leaders planned and delivered the My Faith badge which included awareness of different festivals.

District camp was excellent fun! The Greek theme was embraced by the cubs who attended and they took part in backwoods cooking, caving on a bus, bouldering, inflatables, orienteering, disco dancing, go karting, laser tag and boating on the lake all at the beautiful setting of Tatton Park.



Sadly very few of Wednesday cubs have attended the camps this year. We would really like to see more of you at the pack holiday before Christmas and on our camp next summer.

Many thanks as always to our committed leadership team, Jonny, Alec, Anna, Fiona and Vicki.

Thanks to all of you for your support.

Rachel (Akela)



Another active year for the scouts section kicking off with our backwoods camp at Hawarden. The scouts slept under tarp shelters and cooked all their meals on the fire.



As the dark nights started to draw in enjoyed a night of wide games out at Queen Charlottes Wood. Back in the hut we covered a diverse programme including cardboard caving, making bird boxes, pumpkin carving, team challenges, Christmas crafts and fire safety. A highlight of the term was the incident co-ordination night where the scouts had to play the role of a police team responding to a major incident testing their ability to respond to a constant flow of information.



Our Christmas sleepover packed in some festive activities with games, cooking and metal stamping along with time for facials (surprisingly popular with boys and girls alike) and the traditional full Christmas lunch for breakfast.

As we returned for the New Year we turned a night over to the PLs to teach the younger scouts some key life skills; ironing, sewing necker rolling and puncture repair.



At the end of January we once again attended the county winter camp. The scouts got to try a wide range of activities including climbing, high ropes, shooting, archery, segways fencing and zorb football.



Through the rest of the winter we continued a varied programme including the challenges of cooking pancakes from a distance with extended handle pans and on homemade tin can stoves.



We also covered drugs awareness, had fun with a Harry Potter themed night, and learnt some practical self defence skills.



As we moved into the summer our focus shifted to more outdoor activities. We practiced compass



skills, fire lighting and large scale pioneering and also got creative with a fashion night. We hosted a group of young language students from Reunion island, learning about their home and helping them to practise their English with some team building activities



In May we held our late Spring camp. We did the cave bus and archery, went rafting (with the rafts holding up surprisingly well), conquered fears of height on the high ropes and enjoyed chilling by the fire in the evening making smores and cooking popcorn



Moving towards the summer we had a go at the athlete badge, made and cooked our own burgers and learnt some bike maintenance skills. We went Geocaching in the local countryside and found the scouts entertained by a herd of cows.



Outside of group events a number of scouts took up the opportunity to develop their canoe skills with Paddlepower courses on the Dee. Several scouts also successfully applied to the Chester Scouts trip to Poland next year.

All this has once again been supported by the rest of the leadership team - Thanks again to Jay, Alex and young leader Connor along with Harry who joined us during the year.

Looking forward to the year ahead !

David

# Cestrian Scout Group AGM and Annual Review 2018

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Location: Gladstone Centre, Hawarden as part of the Family Activity Day.

Attendees: Executive Committee, Group Leaders, Parents and members.

## 1. Welcome by the Group Scout Leader (GSL)

Keith Harding welcomed everyone to the AGM and opened the meeting with a short thoughtful saying.

## 2. Apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

## 3. Approval of the 2017 AGM Minutes

The minutes were approved, seconded by Grahame Polley and signed by Denise Huxley as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

## 4. Approval of Accounts for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Treasurers Report

The accounts were approved – see Treasurers Report attached to the Group Review.

Approval of Accounts: Proposed by Keith Harding Seconded by Grahame Polley

## 5. Group Scout Leaders Report

Keith's report is contained within the Annual Review Document although a few other points were highlighted.

## 6. Chairpersons Report

Denise read out her report which is also in the 2018 Annual Review. Denise also asked if there were any parents that would be able to coordinate the 2019 Plant Sale as Peter Lloyd-Brown is unable to coordinate this fund raising activity next year.

## 7. Nomination and approval for the Group Chairperson

Keith has to nominate the Group Chairperson. Denise is willing to continue for a further year.

Denise Huxley was nominated by Keith Harding and seconded by Vicky Courtney.

## 8. Election for Minute Secretary

Shirley Polley is willing to continue as Minute Secretary for a further year unless a Group Secretary is appointed.

Proposed: Keith Harding

Seconded: Gill Owen

**9. Election of Group Treasurer.**

As Sarah Oliver is willing to continue as treasurer for a further year and there were no further nominations, Sarah will continue as the Group's Treasurer.

Proposed: Keith Harding

Seconded: Gill Owen

**10. Election of Auditors**

As the requirement to have the accounts audited by an Official Auditor is only required if the annual income exceeds £25,000, all future accounts will be scrutinised by a work place colleague of Sarah Oliver's.

**11. Election of Group Executive**

As there were no other changes to the Executive Committee the committee would continue with its current membership.

Keith asked that parents should consider being on the Executive Committee.

**12. Approval of Group Scout Leaders nominations to the Group Executive Committee.**

None identified at this time.

**13. District Commissioners Review**

This was conducted by Chester's DC Jo Turner. She praised the Cestrian Scout Group for their continuing success and wished them all the best for the following year.

**14. Presentation of Awards**

Jay Biggs was presented with her 10yr service award.

Grahame also mentioned that Brandon Hone had completed his Wood Badge training for Assistant Cub Scout Leader with the Tribuni (Tuesday) Cub Pack.

**15. Grahame thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed.**

A free BBQ was provided for all those who attended.

Signed:

Chair

Dated:

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