

Hi

I trust Andrew is enjoying their time on the water this term. From tomorrow we will enter our final water sessions for the year so I thought I would update you on developments and what we have planned from October.

Track & Trace QR Codes

A quick update on the government's covid track & trace app and the QR code that you may have seen.

The National Youth Agency have confirmed that it applies to all youth and community centre venues in ENGLAND and WALES. That includes Scout premises. So groups who have their own scout hut must create and print off the QR code and display it. The use of it is only by over 16s meeting indoors and who are able to read it on their smart phones or other device. As we are meeting outside for the foreseeable future the QR code does not apply, should we meet inside a venue at some point, St Peter's centre for instance, they will have their own QR code, all over sixteen years of age should scan the code if we are meeting indoors. All our existing approved processes about recording attendance for track and trace at all Scout meetings are still being carried out.

The Scout Association website has been updated, a link to which can be found on our covid homepage.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/members-area/covid19>

Harvest Festival

We usually parade at church at least once a term, the Harvest festival in October being one such occasion. As I'm certain you'll understand this will not be possible this year.

However, St Peter's parish would like us to help with their 2020 for 2020 Harvest campaign, to collect 2020 tins of food for Wirral Foodbank and Wirral Ark.

We will be collecting tins at the boathouse from tomorrow and our leaders will transfer them to church at the end of the week. The harvest festival will be broadcast live on the parish Facebook page, our group will be represented and our flags will be displayed.

<https://www.facebook.com/heswallparish/>

Autumn Programme

We have had District approval to hold several covid secure outdoor activities as follows:

- Urban Orienteering Heswall
- Night Ride to West Kirby
- Route planning & Tides
- Moonlight Hike (secret location)
- GPS Tracker Art
- Night Trails in the Dales

We are also hoping to hold a campfire event in November. I'm certain you'll appreciate it is difficult and possibly futile to plan too specifically and too far ahead, this will also avoid disappointment for the young people who are already subjected to plenty of disruption elsewhere.

Beavan Challenge

Ordinarily at this time of the year our Sea Scouts would be knee deep in mud, paddling down canals, running up rivers and shooting targets in the Beavan Challenge at Tawd Vale Adventure Centre. The challenge is quite tough but thoroughly enjoyable and is often the turning point in a Scout's development as a young person. We usually take 16 Scouts in teams of 4, last year will be forever known as 'The Muddy One' and you can read all about it here...

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/news/article/brilliant-beavan>

But If your Scout doesn't know about the Beavan, here's a video to show your new Scout what we hope to be doing this time next year.

<https://youtu.be/ym7MX8JOcyl>

Join us on Facebook

You can catch all the latest activities and see our adventures in our Sea Scout Facebook group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1119703208129836/?ref=share>

Clothing Order

Before we were told to stay at home we had a clothing order for group hoodies in anticipation of our 2020 adventures, little did we know at the time what was about to happen. As you may have expected the order was put on hold with the supplier. Since that time, some Scouts have grown, some have left and some may decide they would now like a hoodie. We have a record of who has already paid so we will start again and send an order form out, if you have already paid, please complete the form again and we will mark as paid once we receive your order. If you no longer want a hoodie and you wish to cancel your original order please get in touch and we will arrange with our treasurer Tony Hailwood to BACS you a refund.

OSM Login

As we will be outdoors in the community having the correct contact information and details is more important than ever. Please check we have all the correct emergency, medical, diet and ability details.

If Andrew has none, please write 'NONE' in OSM so we know you have completed that section.

Our full Autumn programme can be found at the link below, as always it is subject to leader availability, weather and of course any restrictions at the time.

<https://www.onlinescoutmanager.co.uk/login.php?g=26886941-6133-4111-b532-ffc107f4199-1602236055>

We will send out the new Watch/Patrol order soon, please offer any feedback on this as soon as possible before we restructure the database to suit and it then becomes difficult to alter.

Regards

Andy Everett, Sea Scout Leader

Martin, Mark & Chris