

Hello All

We have had another brilliant year at 4th Heswall Sea Scouts, including winning the best troop in the West Wirral District, winning the Beavan Challenge, winning three categories at the Cheshire Hike and having three of our leaders honoured at the Merseyside County Awards Evening.

BEAVAN We ended our water season in September with several sunset sailing sessions, leader commitments meant we were unable to host Saturday sessions.

October began with bang and a brilliant result at the Beavan Challenge. We entered 5 teams of 4, 2 junior (10-12.5), 2 senior (12-14.5), and 1 young leader team (14-18). The 4th Heswall Juniors finished 1st and 6th out of 14 teams, seniors finish 2nd and 10th out of 19 teams, and the young leaders finish 1st out of 7 teams, a huge congratulations to all who took part. <https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/news/article/beavan-2022>

Results analysis revealed we need to improve on target sports and first aid knowledge. <https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Results-Analysis-Beavan-2022.pdf>

Phill Richardson, Beavan Chairman, and Sue Flush, Event Secretary, presented our winning teams with their trophies at the last meeting of 2022.

TUNNEL TOUR & ROL During half term Glyn, Rob and Chris took scouts on the train from West Kirby to James St Liverpool for a guided tour of the Queensway Tunnel and then a walk around the River Of Light installation, the highlight of the evening, at least for the scouts, was the raid on the sweets aisle in the Tesco Metro. <https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery>

NIGHT HIKE Early November saw the annual night hike and hotdogs to Thurstaston. Despite the gale force winds and earlier torrential rain, 27 scouts, 6 young leaders and 17 parents took part. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1119703208129836/permalink/5029142867185831/>

WARHAMMER In November Alfie Barker organised and delivered three extra meetings over three Friday evenings at the Wargames Store in Brimstage. All 12 scouts who attended achieved their Model Maker badge, a massive thank you to Alfie on delivering a well organised series of enjoyable meetings and Mo for supporting him.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery/warhammer-2022>

There's a Warhammer competition in January, find out more on the Wargames Store Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/wargamestore>

NIGHT RIDE to West Kirby went without incident for both PORT and STARBOARD watches. <https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery/dash-in-the-dark-2022>

SANTA WAGON this year was a static display outside Isabelle's in Heswall on Saturday 10 December, followed by Santa on tour of the local watering holes to raise further funds. A good proportion of scouts and their parents assisted, thank you to those that did we raised a whopping £939 for the group despite very little footfall due to the weather. A massive thank you to the dads who donned the big red suit, they were naturals, let's hope for even more support in 2023.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1119703208129836/?ref=share_group_link&exp=93fa

SUMMING UP following the restrictions in previous years, 2022 has been a good year for getting outside and feeling alive. With only 12 indoor meetings all year, we made sure our scouts got out and about and enjoyed Scouts without restrictions.

Time on the lake was spent mostly building the confidence of our young cohort, it was clear from the start of the year some nurturing would be required. For 2023 the emphasis will be on further developing their water skills and focussing on our weaker areas in Scouting as highlighted at the Beavan, first aid and target sports.

The young leader Beavan success had been building over the years, although our inexperienced juniors won by showing excellent teamwork and resilience under good leadership, some of our other Scouts are now very determined to smash this competition in 2023. <https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery/beavan-2022>

Next year we are accrediting two experienced parents with the National Rifle & Small Arms license in youth coaching, this will lead to the acquisition of a set of .177 Air Rifles and associated equipment. If you would like to get involved as an occasional skills instructor or specific activity leader, our team can support you and the group will fund your training for accreditation, find out more. <https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/adult-support>

Summer Camp was successful despite the lack of wind for the majority of the week, a few pictures from our adventures are on our website, our next summer camp is 22-29 July 2023 <https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery/windermere-22>

COMING UP We are at Heswall Tesco this Sunday 18 December promoting your group and raising funds for your children, please spread the word with friends and family, pop along and say hi, and thank you if you are one of the volunteers who will be attending.

Don't forget you can raise funds for the group simply by completing the online Gift Aid form or choosing 4th Heswall for your Amazon Smile.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/donate/fundraising>

If you would like to help with our fundraising and be part of our great fundraising team please email fundraising@4thheswallseascouts.org.uk

Next Year, with additional funding, we hope to provide as many scouts the opportunity to complete the Expedition Challenge Badge, which is the best foundation for DofE and King's Scout Award.

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/scouts/awards/expedition/>

To enable this we will have 3 levels of Expedition hike to suit all ability and confidence levels:

- 1, Unescorted independent- Cheshire Hike in April
- 2, Escorted independent - Merseyside Challenge in May
- 3, Escorted guided - 4th Heswall Group Camp in May

Because we like to have lots of adventures, please check and update your details, emergency contact details, and dietary, medical, and ability needs [DETAILS], please type NONE where applicable so we know you have seen the data field and there are none.

In the spring term we will also cover the You Shape Award.

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-your-section/youth-shaped/youshape-award/scouts-youshape-award/>

We will cover the requirements in the hall each week, but this is mostly an independent badge with evidence uploaded through Badges at Home.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/heswall-scout-badges>

Please find attached the Spring 2023 Programme, as always it's subject to change and weather conditions, always check OSM for the latest.

Don't forget to support the group through the socials.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/news/social>

Many thanks for your support this year.

From all the team; Andy, Martin, Mark, Becky, Rob, Chris & Glyn, we hope you and your family have a wonderful Christmas, see you all in the hall, Wednesday 11 January 2023.

4th Heswall Sea Scouts RN44

t: 07917702584

e: scouts@4thheswallseascouts.org.uk

w: www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk

Registered Charity:1020985

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