

Heswall Sea Scouts Newsletter Summer 2023

I hope you have all had a fantastic summer break.

Looking back at the summer term we did so many things and made some fantastic memories.

Award Winning

We started the summer term with the District Awards Evening at Heswall Hall. Where our fantastic Beaver leader teams won the Reg Cooke Trophy for Lodge of the Year.

Congratulations to Mo Barker, our Group Scout Leader, who received a long overdue Award for Merit at the County Awards Evening. A huge and well deserved congratulations to all.

HMS Mersey

Some of our sea scouts had a unique opportunity to step onboard HMS Mersey whilst she was alongside in Liverpool. See more in our gallery.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery/hms-mersey-2023>

King's Coronation

It was great to see so many of you attending the King's Coronation parade and service. A huge thank you to all who supported the coronation cake sale, a few pictures from the day at the link below.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery/coronation-2023>

District Orienteering

A MASSIVE well done to every Scout that took part in the District Orienteering Competition, congratulations to the winning teams, and well done to Marcus and Oliver on their second place. A big thank you to the leaders who marshalled the course, not forgetting Karen, Paul, and Andrew from the District Team for running a brilliant competition.

Expedition Camp

In late May, eight of our junior scouts took on a 28km expedition hike around the Wirral with an overnight lightweight camp at Thurstaston.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery/expedition-2023>

They all completed their Expedition Challenge Award which will ultimately contribute to their Chief Scout's Gold Award.

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

The Wirral Expedition Hike is also a gentle introduction to the fully independent Cheshire Hike Challenge which takes place in April, look out for the invites. See the 2023 Cheshire Hike adventures here: <https://youtu.be/8VokcNSSmmc?si=sqIJ5Ksx97fP8v6M>

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Heswall Sea Scouts Newsletter Summer 2023

When One Door Closes...

As we all know the roller door failed early on during our on-water season. Despite this challenge, we managed to continue a water programme, with the help of many adults, by squeezing our paddle craft in and out of the rear fire door, a massive thank you to everyone who helped extract and insert the boats over the eight weeks of limited access, it was an unexpected opportunity for parents and leaders to come together and work as a team for the benefit of our young people. The group received a discount from the council on our lake license fees due to the prolonged inconvenience.

Anderton Boat Lift

On a sunny Friday at the end of May half term a few of our sea scouts visited the Anderton Boat Lift in Cheshire. We had a paddle along the canal, took part in a STEM classroom session, had a boat trip down the lift, and some of the leaders took a walking tour of the lift mechanisms.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery/anderton-lift-2023>

District Dragon Boats

A handful of Scouts took part in the District Dragonboat day out on the Marine Lake in Southport. This was originally a 4th Heswall booking until it the date conflicted with the Wirral Coastal Walk and Kayak Challenge. We will book this again as a 4th Heswall event for next year and hope we can keep it.

https://youtu.be/dwzb3Q_RKmA

Battle of the Atlantic 80th Anniversary

To mark the 80th anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic of Royal Navy Recognised Sea Scouts were invited to attend The March for the Medals, a veterans, military, and uniformed civilians parade in honour of all those that were involved in the Battle of the Atlantic.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02r3utGuprpJq9vMS56MCrrVKawi1B8FpJTV2PGFuEfmJqTYtkCJT5SHL97k8ZgQJI&id=100064489580187

SPLAT

Scouts, leaders, and a few dads had an amazing weekend at SPLAT this year. Amazing activity bases throughout Tawd Vale Adventure Centre on Saturday followed by a parade and SPLAT fest on Sunday.

<https://vm.tiktok.com/ZGJsDp239/>

Heswall Sea Scouts Newsletter Summer 2023

AGM & Awards

Congratulations to all the award winners at this year's awards evening, and a big thank you to everyone who helped and supported our summer fair, we raised an amazing £460, we were also presented with a cheque for £940 from Heswall Round Table.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery/awards-agm-2023>

Dawn Riders

We booked beautiful weather for Dawn Riders Coast to Coast again this year, thank you so much for all the support on this event, everyone had a great time.

<https://www.4thheswallseascouts.org.uk/gallery/coast-to-coast-2023>

FPL

The English Football League has started again and since covid we have had a Fantasy Premier League Tournament online. Congratulations to Emily Green on winning the 2022/23 season Scout trophy.

The online FPL Tournament is a great way to connect with young people and other parents face to face as we discuss tactics, player choices and triple captains.

Please contact Andy if you would like to join this season's challenge.

Summer Camp

Our 2023 was held again at the Mill Field in Cunsey Bridge on the shores of Windermere. All 26 young people had a great adventure taking part in unique experiences and exciting activities. Look out for this year's video coming soon.

Warhammer Club

As you may be aware, we are planning to start a 4th Heswall Warhammer club in September with Alfie Barker as the Leader in Charge.

Following our hugely popular Warhammer sessions at Brimstage Wargames Store, we starting a regular Warhammer meeting and we need the participant's parents involved in the setting up and assisting with running the club, which following consultation with those interested, we are planning on holding on Friday Nights, from around 5:00 – 7:00.

We have secured the small meeting room in St Peters Centre from 22nd September and have arranged to go to the Warhammer shop in Liverpool on 15th September to enrol all new members into the Battle honours programme.

What we require from any adults that wish to assist, is not detailed knowledge of the game, (although any knowledge would be an added bonus), but primarily an ability to assist us to achieve our required safeguarding ratios and general assistance in management of our

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Heswall Sea Scouts Newsletter Summer 2023

young people, if your child is joining the club then even better. Likewise, it may not be necessary to attend each week, and a rota (should we have sufficient adults interested), could be developed.

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

NEW Scout Hall

We're certain you are aware that The Lighthouse Church, TLC, is about to open its doors to the Heswall community. There will be an open day to which you and your scout (in full uniform) are invited to attend to have a look around, drop in any time 10am-3pm Saturday 23 September.

Our Scout troop is currently above capacity, the waiting list is the size of, if not bigger than, most other scout troops in the area, and with two Cub packs providing a steady stream of existing 4th Heswall members, 4th Heswall Sea Scouts is not going to get smaller.

From mid October we will be starting a second 4th Heswall Sea Scout troop at TLC on a Thursday evening from 7.30-9pm. It will follow the same format as the existing troop, attend the same events, and have use of the same equipment.

If you would like your child to start with the new troop from October, or you are interested in joining the leader team there, please send an email to Mo Barker, our GSL, gsl@4thheswallseascouts.org.uk If you haven't already been in touch.

Badges at Home

Make the most of the activities you have done this summer and earn some scout badges at home.

Many badges can be completed by asking an adult to upload photos of your swimming, music, martial arts and even sailing certificates. Or if you have or are working on a project, activity, or doing some DIY that qualifies simply upload a picture and tell us which badge criteria it covers.

FIND OUT MORE 

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

100 Club

The 100 Club draw was made over the weekend, the summer term's winners are:

1st. Gabe Grootveld

2nd. Euan Oakes

3rd. Seb Ellis

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Heswall Sea Scouts Newsletter Summer 2023

We will get the prizes to the winners very soon. If you wish to join the 100 club, look out for the restart email in January 2024.

Autumn Term

Things we will be getting up to this term include: Sunset Sailing, Mersey Moot, Wirral Junior Charity Paddle Challenge, Warhammer, Beavan Challenge Camp, Canal Cruise, Scarecrows, Chippy Night Ride, Gangshow sign up, Night Hike, Campfire, Heswall Lights switch on, Fireball, and the HRT Santa Wagon.

The Autumn Term starts with sunset sailing sessions at the lake for the water groups before we are back at St Peter's in early October.

WOW, that is so many exciting adventures and unique opportunities we had over the summer term and ahead of us during the autumn term, and all for a relatively small contribution each year.

All of this would not be possible without the volunteers who attend every week across all eight sections, sometimes twice a week (often more) and those who support special events, sort the administrative side of things, ensure your child's safety on the water, continually look for funding, or simply help with the little things like hot chocolate, juice, and packing away at the end of a session.

Good luck to our latest Sea Scouts who will be starting at their new schools in year 7 in the next week or so.

A MASSIVE THANK YOU to everyone who gets stuck in and helps out. We would appreciate some help kick starting our new troop at the Lighthouse Church, if you'd like to find out how you can help keep 4th Heswall a vibrant and exciting informal education space for over 200 young people please get in touch.

Many thanks

Andy

On behalf of the lead volunteer team for 4th Heswall Sea Scouts