

16th Morecambe Scout Group AGM. Saturday 9th June 2018

Andrew Blenkinson opening the meeting at 19:40 Welcome to all to the meeting and the AGM 2017 minutes were shared and everybody was happy with them, Andrew Blenkinson - also mentioned they will be published on the website. Andrew Blenkinson welcomed the special guests who were in attendance: Catherine Marsh, Alan Hague, Mrs Joyce Brooks and Tony and Sue from Australia, who are Mrs Brooks' friends from scouting.

Andrew Blenkinson introduced Paul Anderton – Group Chairman Paul Anderton - Welcomed and thanked all for coming and commenced with the formal address. He explained the chairpersons' role and the purpose of the AGM. Apologies from Group Secretary and Group Treasurer. Paul Anderton wanted to thank Adria Weaving for all her hard work as group secretary. She does a brilliant job taking the minutes; thank you for all your hard work of the last 12 months. I hope they are having a fabulous break. Paul Anderton presented the accounts for the year. Balance of about £20,000 going forward. Paul Anderton was proposed as Chairman and Robert Gill was proposed as Treasurer again by Sian, seconded by Marcus. Executive members – Louise Potter, Kate Marriott, Tony White, Roger Crewdson, Father Damian – all happy to continue. Executive committee always needs help to raise vital funds for the group. Apologies from Mrs Brooks who needed to leave the meeting. Lisa Scott – proposed as the Group auditor by Paul Anderton and second by Marcus.

AOB

Presentations and section reports. See written account. Andrew reiterated the need for more help for the group. He invited the leaders to recount why they are involved in the group.

Beavers

Beaver of the year 2018 – Ben Glenon. He has been a great role model, very dedicated. Beaver of the year 2018 – Benjamin Nicholason

Jen - I started in 2002 because the current leaders were stepping down. I couldn't bear to see the disappointment for lots of children. There is also many great events.

Debs – I do it because children enjoy what they do. It's fun! Debs thanked Donna for all the brilliant support, thank you; she presented a gift of flowers.

Cubs

Steed Memorial trophy is awarded to two dedicated boys - Freddie Gittins and Thomas Bradbren. Cub of the year – Apache – Will be awarded later.

Marcus – In 1997 whilst teaching at Torrisholme I asked to borrow a tent and I decided to give back and help out and that was 21 years ago. I love it! I respect the sharing and generosity of the group and the great memories that are created.

Paul – I just loved family camp and wanted to get involved.

Scouts

Sian, Alex, Connor, Harry and Angie Sian – We need leaders. I had great experiences as a

child so want to give something back. Alex – I have really appreciated all the experiences I have had and I believe it has helped me get my jobs. Connor – Have done exciting things as a child and I went to the World Jamboree. You make friends for life, I believe it is life changing. Harry – I started as a Beaver, then I went to cubs and scouts and so I just wanted to put back in. Angie – Always wanted to help. I know it's great for my children!

Sian added we have had a busy year. We've had 17 nights away. Won both junior and senior Knight Activity competitions. Bowlander event was a great event. We have also decided to split into two Troops. I would like to introduce Hawk patrol – Connor. Chief Scout gold award – Ollie Finally, Sian shared with the everyone that herself, Conner and Harry completed the Great North Swim – please support if you can. Patrol trophy goes to the Seagulls.

Thank you to Craig Dewar (District Commissioner).

Apologies: Andrew's report as paper

BBQ – Thursday 19th July. BBQ tickets available. Duathlon – Run – Cycle - Run This is a family fundraising event at Salt Ayre on 30th September 11-3pm. It is a flexible event – a letter will be going out to all groups next week. Andrew thanked Kate.

Andrew Blenkinship closed the AGM at 20:25.

16th Morecambe Alder and Willow Beavers

Annual Report 2018

Alder Beavers meets Monday and Willow Beavers meets Thursday at 5.45pm-7pm and each section has 22 Beavers. Both colonies strive to provide a full and exciting programme with the support of the parent rota. Their help and support is invaluable.

In the autumn term we completed the World Challenge Badge and looked at local places such as the Midland Hotel and Lancaster Castle and then had a food tasting session of regional food. The Beavers were very adventurous and tried Morecambe Bay Shrimps, Grasmere gingerbread, Eccles cakes, Lancashire cheese and Fisherman's friends from Fleetwood. We had a visit from a retired soldier who is a member of the Royal British legion and he told us about the Poppy appeal. We paid a visit to Eric Morecambe House to entertain the residents with Christmas songs and then Wendy entertained the Beavers at our Christmas Party –lots of great dancing and prizes.

In January the Beavers completed the Skills Challenge Badge- they made salt dough hands but lost a few fingers! Before painting them, made a 2D pasta house and learnt how to iron and fold their Neckers. We had a great Beaver Sleepover in March at Silverhelme and our theme was Cowboys. We had a cold but dry walk to the Quarry which took 2 hrs and then did some Easter craft arranged by Adria from the social committee and then dressed up for tea in our cowboy outfits and moustaches. After tea we had a bonfire and made wagon wheels and then watched Toy Story. Lights out went without a hitch!! We have to commend the Beavers who were an absolute pleasure to look after and the leaders had a fab time too.

Summer term is a great time to complete the Outdoor Challenge badge. We are looking forward to our sausage sizzle at Silverhelme and making bird boxes and going to Happy Mount Park and the beach. An ex –parent kindly gave up his time from tutoring paramedics to teach the Beavers 1st Aid. This year we are extending out Dementia awareness and going to visit people in their homes and completing a questionnaire and seeing who will be the oldest person.

The majority of the Beavers are with 16th Morecambe for 2 years and in that time complete 6 challenge badges and a personal challenge. We are very pleased when we can award them their Bronze Award before they move on to cubs. A big thank you to all the leaders who volunteer each week to Sue, Andrew and Debs and Faye our regular parent helper and Star our Young leader who provide young people with great opportunities and a fantastic start to their Scouting journey.

We are always looking for help so please come and chat with us if you would like to help on an informal basis or become a leader. It does require commitment and hard work but the rewards are priceless.

Jen Moore Beaver Leader

16th Morecambe Cubs

Year Review 2017-2018

A successful year has been had by both cub packs. Numbers are very healthy- 56 members at time of writing. The adult team continues to consist of Gill Briggs, Donna Pearson, Kris Devereux, Paul Spavin and Ruth Holmes. We have also welcomed a new leader to our pack – Lucy Carradus – who has thrown herself into all that we do.

We continue to run a full programme and continue to implement the new badge system. The Facebook group continues to be very useful in giving and receiving information. Other notable events have been: The Sausage Sizzle (which was extremely well attended); skills award challenge; a visit to Morecambe Football Club where I think we were the loudest support!; visit from The Children's Society; church visits; emergency aid, navigator and cyclist badges; disability awareness – complete with a visit from Galloways.

An event we are looking forward to later this year is the Cub Section Camp to Waddecar in July- let's hope the weather holds! Also, we will be holding the annual football tournament between the two packs later in the year. Hopefully the torrential rain will hold off! Last year could have been an impromptu swimming gala! Could Sioux be on another winning streak?

We have a number of boys who have completed their Silver Awards this year- the highest award in the cub section. Finally, I would like to say thank-you to all who have helped us in any way during the year with a special mention to any additional visitors and helpers.

Marcus Harding

Cub Scout Leader (Sioux)

16th Morecambe Scout Section

The Scout Section has had another successful year with several competitions and 15 nights away. We have welcomed new leaders Connor, Angie and Clare to assist us with our growing troop. Unfortunately, Connor will be leaving us in a few weeks due to job relocation, he has been a fantastic asset to the team and will be sorely missed.

We kicked off the year with a trip to Braggers Wood in the New Forest for a week. We had an amazing time and visited Brownsea Island where the first Scout Camp was held in 1907, Beaulieu Motor Museum, Splashdown Water park, Bovington Tank Museum and went cycling through The New Forest. On the last night Andrew fired up the wood burning pizza oven and we had homemade pizza and the Scouts slept under the stars. What an amazing week!

Next camp was a Christmas Themed indoor camp here at Silverhelme. We had wide games, Bazooka building, a campfire and backwoods cooking – Christmas roast and veg on the fire!

Then Competition season started. We entered the Knight Activity run by district – a hike in the dark around a course with a series of Scouting themed bases. We won both the Senior and Junior Trophies! Well done! Next came Moonlight run by Ormskirk Scouts. The Scouts were taken by bus into the countryside and had to make their way back to base without being spotted by chasers on foot or in cars whilst staying within boundaries and returning to base within a small time frame. This was a really tough competition- they had every weather possible to deal with and over 12 hours hiking but they all enjoyed it! The last competition was Bowlander – the training weekend at Waddecar was tough with a visit from the Beast from the East. The Scouts were hiking through snow, frozen fog and ice during the day and camping in temperatures of -8c overnight and dealt with frozen boots! They all coped amazingly well and hopefully learnt new skills from it. The competition weekend weather was much more pleasant! We had some tough new routes around Scorton and camped at Guys Farm. All three teams did amazing well, most had never taken part before but they all enjoyed themselves.

We then had two consecutive camps in May – the first being Patrol Camp on Melling Meadow here at Silverhelme, a very traditional camp with emphasis on teambuilding and working well as a patrol. We did lots of pioneering including building a swing and treehouse and constructed a giant scrambling net between the trees for an assault course. Dinner was cooked on the fire and we kayaked up the canal in the sunshine! County Rally, the weekend after, was a huge camp with hundreds of Scouts from all over West Lancs. There were plenty of activities on offer such as laser tag, assault courses, tug o war, climbing & bouldering, disco and talent show. Mikey came 2nd place in Waddecar's got talent performing in front of hundreds, he was amazing! Sophie, Oli, James and Oliver came first in the sedan chair building competition with some great lashing! A very proud moment for us all was

Sophie, Oli and Connie achieving their Chief Scout Gold Awards – the highest award for a Scout. We look forward to the official presentation at County soon. Next camp we will be travelling to Phasels Wood nr London and having a tour of London and Thames clipper cruise,

Harry Potter Studios, Natural History and the Science museums, RAF takeover day at Shuttleworth museum where they will earn their Air Researcher badge and lots of on site activities including ice climbing, tunnels and a cresta run. We can't wait!

We have currently capped the troop size at 40, but this term we are trialling splitting the troop into two groups of 1.5-hour sessions which if it is manageable will enable us to take 10 more Cubs from our troop – unfortunately we are still unable to accept external Scouts. A decision will be made by the Scout Leaders over the success of the trial and whether we proceed with the two troops over the Summer. Whilst we want to extend the troop and enable more of our Cubs to join us, it is a massive commitment to the current leadership team and we all have young families which come first. If you know anybody who loves working with children and the great outdoors – perhaps an ex Scout or Guide who would like to join our team please let us know!

I would like to thank the amazing Leader team – Harry, Alex, Connor, Angie and Clare and our wonderful GSL Andrew for all their help and support this year and a big thank you also to the group committee. Also, a thank you to the parents for all their help and patience and driving Scouts from many late nights and to early starts with scouts often covered in mud. Thank you, we couldn't do it without you!

SECRETARY'S REPORT 16th MORECAMBE SCOUTS

AGM JUNE 2018

Well 12 months after joining the group in the role of administrator I am pleased to report that I have also attended the cubs summer camp as an extra helper in 2017, which I thoroughly enjoyed, and was given a name by the cubs. So when you see me walking around in a bright green hoodie emblazoned with the words GREEN NINJA, yes it is really me and PROUD to wear it. This name was given to me because I was wearing a green hoodie and darting about here, there and everywhere, so this is why I received this name.

In March this year I was asked if I could help with the Beaver Sleepover because they were short of a helper. Of course I jumped at this offer and I did some craft work with the group to entertain them and give the leaders a bit of breathing space.

In my report last year I stated that I love meeting people and I have tried to get involved as much as possible to help the leaders and helpers as well as chatting with the children.

Towards the end of 2017 I attended both groups of cubs and beavers primarily to persuade mums & dads to sign up to help with the Christmas post, however I decided to stay for the full evenings and join in with the groups. This was very rewarding, thank you.

At the start of 2018 the Social & Fund Raising Sub Committee decided to try a new venture, a Family Bingo evening, and this was a great success. Following on from the Bingo evening our major fund raiser for 2018 will be a Duathlon (cycling & running) to be held at Salt Ayre on the 30th September 2018 between 11 am and 3 pm and we are looking for teams to enter

a sponsored family event. More details will be available via flyers nearer the time, so please put the date in your diaries.

One of my duties from 2018 is to look after the DBS register and therefore when yours is due to be renewed it will be me who will be contacting you.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year in my role and I am only sorry that I will not be able to attend the AGM and Family Camp this year.

On a personal note I would like to thank the Executive & Sub Committees for all the help and support that they give me, and to the children for welcoming me into their meetings and camps. Most of all I would like to thank each and EVERY ONE of you for your support to the groups.

Sincerely

Adria Weaving

Group Administrator & Secretary