



FROM THE DC

THANK YOU!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all that they have done for Blackdown Scouts over the past year. Please pass my thanks onto those who regularly help you but do not receive the newsletter. I hope that you all have an enjoyable Christmas. I wish you every best wish for 2018.

NEW RESOURCE FOR HUISH WOODS

There are now 4 Frisbee Goals and Frisbees available for use. The goals are portable so can be used around the campsite, ideal for target shooting or wide games. This will be a free play activity but if you lose a Frisbee it will have to be replaced. You will need to book this via the Huish Woods office.



CLIMBING - Would you like to gain an activity permit for single pitch climbing? Lauren David, ADC Activities, is intending to run a course in February at Huish Woods. If you are interested please contact Lauren activities.blackdown@gmail.com

2 APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEES were held at Tangier during November

We welcome to Scouting	Ruth Preater-Gillard	ABSL	Central
	Miles Wood	ABSL	Trull

CHANGE OF ROLE

Mark Maynard	from ACSL to SAS Wilton & AESL
Bob Steed	from ACSL to Pack Assistant West Taunton
Sam Rooks	from Troop Assistant and Unit Assistant to Wilton SAS
Steve Smith	from Colony Assistant to ABSL North.
Steve Pike	from District OH to District Scout Leader
Libby Heaton-Jones	from Colony Assistant to Pack Assistant Wellington
Shaun Hendy	from CSL to ACSL Wellington

GANG SHOW 2018 - Tickets on sale from the Brewhouse. We would encourage all Groups to support the 2018 show.

Show dates are Tuesday 27th March to Saturday 31st March 2018

The 2018 show includes matinee performances on Good Friday 30th March and Easter Saturday 31st March we hope that these matinee performances will encourage more Groups to include attending the 2018 show as part of the Groups 2018 programme



Gang show 2018 promises to be an exciting blend of up tempo musical production scenes and ever popular comic sketches **DAVE MULLEN - Producer**

PETER BOURNER would like to thank everyone for their good wishes during his current illness. He is coping well with his treatment and has even managed a holiday! So this year there will be no Christmas cards!

WEST TAUNTON SCOUT GROUP

Beavers - Have been working towards their World and Teamwork Challenge badge by building a junk model in their lodges. They have also learnt how to tie a reef knot...well almost! And know how to say Hello and Goodbye in a different language. As this term is drawing to a close they are looking forward to their Christmas Party.

Cubs - After a term of learning new songs, dances, jokes and sketches, its nearly 'Show Time'. They will be performing the Cub Variety Show next week to a full hall and fingers crossed; it will be 'alright on the night'.

Scouts - spent several weeks completing the Global Issues badge, thanks to our Young Leader - Jamie Everett for taking charge and running all the sessions.

We spent an evening at Huish Woods making Guys, followed by a ceremonial burning of them and some marshmallow toasting.

The Scouts delivered flyers for the Trident Christmas Fayre and many of them helped run a stall on the day to help raise funds for the hall.

All sections were proud to be part of this year's Remembrance Parade, they all looked very smart and were a credit to West Taunton.

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



CENTRAL TAUNTON BEAVERS have been busy this term working towards their Communicators Badge.

We would like to thank Norman Bambridge from Blackdown Radio Scouts for all his help teaching the Beavers different types of communication from the phonetic alphabet to sending Morse code in a variety of ways.

Nic Thompson BSL



1st HINTON ST GEORGE BEAVERS have had a very busy term. We have been doing yoga and more recently had our very own Police Officer take us through the Safety badge. We practised crossing the road safely and what to do in an emergency.

We have been steadily working through the Creative badge all term and finished this off in style last week with a visit from Dr Turberville's Morris Dancers who taught us all a traditional stick dance called "Tinnors Rabbit". It was great fun and the Beavers also got to try on some Morris dancing kit.

Catherine Sheehan, BSL.

1st CHARD SCOUT GROUP, this month visited the Fleet Air Arm Museum at RNAS Yeovilton this month. They all had a great day with all the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts learning about the world of Aviation and the history behind it. It was also very significant as Chard was the Birth Place of Powered Flight.

Its now time for us to begin planning all our activities for next year. **Ben Preston, SL**



WEST HATCH BEAVERS have recently learnt how to eat fire!



West Hatch Beavers recently combined their camping knowledge with their craft skills to make some edible fires, as you'll see in the photos. They were supposed to make two each - one to eat now and one to give to their parents...although we're not sure how many made it home!

Lewis Andrews ABSL



1st TAUNTON WILTON SCOUT GROUP would like to say a big thank you to Red Watch at Taunton Fire Station. They ran 4 different nights for our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers over the last couple of months. The youngsters learnt about fire safety and were shown what they encounter in their jobs daily. We all had a fun and interesting time and they even made the leaders dress up as firemen!
NADIA ATHERTON SL



TRULL SCOUT GROUP

A day of Caving at Burrington Combe was enjoyed by Trull Scouts (and a guest Cub) this month. After getting kitted up in the car park at the "Rock of Ages" the groups made the half mile trek to Goat Church cavern and Sidcut Swallet. Each group spent a couple of hours down each cave system. The Scouts really enjoyed slipping, sliding, climbing, wriggling and crawling their way through the caves. Thankfully the boiler suits took the majority of the mud and water so the mini bus was not in too bad a state!



A Big thank you to our guides (Will, Jack and Helen) who travelled up from Bournemouth for the day. The Scouts now all want to explore 2 more cave systems so they can get their Cavers badge!



Trull Beavers had a visit from the South West Astronomical Society, We saw the moon close up with their telescope (no clouds this year!) learnt about the space station and learnt to identify star constellations.

Remembrance Day was well attended by all the sections in Trull Church. The Beavers visited the Church the week before to learn a little about some of the brave men that gave their lives in the Second World War.

WILL PEACH ABSL TRULL