



BLACKDOWN DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
PUBLISHED BY BLACKDOWN SCOUT COUNCIL



WEB SITE <http://www.blackdownscouts.org.uk/>

FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/pg/blackdownscoutdistrict>

FACEBOOK https://www.facebook.com/pg/huishwoods/posts/?ref=page_internal

ISSUE 54

MARCH 2019

It is short notice but we still have three spaces left for Cubs to try **WATERPOLO** on Sunday 3rd March at Taunton Pool. Anyone wishing to give it a try needs to contact Chris Pinguenet at saturncubs@trinityscoutgroup.com as soon as possible. It is free and can count towards the Cub skills badge.

FROM THE DC :-

Updates to POR

- **Archery tag** is now on the banned list
- The fact sheet on running **archery** FS120406 has been updated
- The fact sheet on **trampoline parks** FS120425 has been updated
- There is a new fact sheet FS120426 on **Terrain Zero Activities** if you are taking your young people out and about in these areas.
- **Risk assessment** made simple HQ have updated their guidance on risk assessments. https://members.scouts.org.uk/fs120000?dm_i=31ME,U2HD,3D7242,33WC8,1

YOUNG LEADER TRAINING - a Module A on Tuesday 12th March 19.15-21.15 at Tangier. This course is mandatory for all working with the younger sections either as part of their D of E volunteer section or because they are a Young Leader. It is the responsibility of the section leader to make sure that the young person has this training. Bookings to be made via Vicki Venn desa.blackdown@gmail.com

ST GEORGE'S PARADES will be held on Sunday 28th April. The Taunton theme will be 'Skills'. Full details will come out very soon.

Census Thanks to everyone who helped complete the census return. The good news is that we have had growth in the District for both young people and adults. There are more young people out there who want to join us so we need to find some more adults so we can facilitate this



JUMBLE SALE - Saturday 30th March, at Ruishton Village Hall in aid of a Young Leader at West Hatch Scout Group who is fundraising for a once in a life time trip to the 24th World Scout Jamboree 2019 in North America. Please come and support us from 12 noon. Any donations of books, toys, bric a brac, white elephant and jumble are gratefully received from 9:30, at the Hall, or taken to Tangier on a Wednesday

night. Or contact Tricia on 01823 – 412258 or email triciasedgbeer281@btinternet.com, for further details.

On recent **FIRST AID** courses there has been much discussion about **HEAD INJURIES** and how to record them. We now have a sheet where the area of the injury can be marked. This is attached as a separate document.

Also attached are details about the **COUNTY SCOUT HUNGER GAMES CAMP**. 11th – 13th October at Huish Woods

There are still a few places available for the trip to Poland next year. Full details on the attached flyer.

1st ILMINSTER CUB SCOUTS are opening their allotment on Sunday with the Mayor hopefully attending and the local press. More info in the next Newsletter **JOSH WINDSOR, ACSL**



DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES.... 24th-26th September 2021. In 2021 Huish Woods will be celebrating its 60th birthday and we will be running a District camp open to all sections. We are looking for a theme for this camp so speak to your young people and see if they have any ideas. Also, we are looking for some adults to help organise it and offer activities. If you are interested in helping or know someone who is then please contact Jo David ddc.blackdown@gmail.com

Tangier Management Committee AGM is being held on Monday June 3rd & the District AGM on Wednesday 5th June at Tangier, 7.45. Has your Group fixed their date?

HELLO FROM SUNNY SPAIN - I'm Lee a member of the Active Support Unit (ASU), based at Huish Woods. Up until September I was the Akela and Cub Scout Leader for 1st Wellington. I am now living in Southern Spain, teaching at a British School and am Head of Department - KS1 Infantil (about Beavers and Cubs ages).

If you would like assistance with planning your International Badge, learning another language, teaching children about diversity, or just how it is to live in another Country (I live here with my 10 year old Cub Scout) please get in contact to see if I can help.
LEE TROAKE, ASU Huish Woods. leetroake@hotmail.co.uk

PADDLESPORTS AT TANGIER

(CANOEING , KAYAKING ETC.)

2018 was another great year for getting young people in the District on the water in various craft. Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorers were all on the water at some point during the year and we even managed to host a Taunton Guide group. Around 450 young people were on the water over the warmer months of May to September, and I would like to thank all the permit holders who made this possible.

The main issue we face is availability of permit holders to run the sessions (Most if not all have other Scouting roles, family lives, work etc.) 2018 saw the introduction of a new system of booking the boats and kit, and providing your own permit holders. This arrangement will continue in 2019. Bookings are now being taken for evenings and weekends. Please email me with dates and I will confirm availability. Once again the cost has been frozen at £2 per young person per session to make the activities more accessible.

We are trying to recruit more permit holders for Canoeing / Kayaking, and I am happy for anyone with interest to contact me by email. All the information on the requirements are on the Scout website, however I can forward it if you are unsure of where to find it. There are also opportunities for parents /relatives with the relevant skills & experience to help out where they can within paddle sports without having to be a "leader" and again I am more than happy to chat about the process if anyone knows of Mums, Dads, Brothers, Sisters, Aunties, Uncles, Grandparents etc. who are involved in Canoeing / Kayaking and may be able to help out their own or other Groups please try to engage them. It's a great way of being involved and using a skill they have without the commitment of a leader role... I know as I am just a Dad who happens to paddle

Finally... Planks, barrels and bathtubs. Yes, raft building (or as it is now titled "traditional rafting") This has for sometime been an activity which falls under the permit scheme on most waters. I have had a couple of enquires about permit assessments and would like to see what demand would be like. Again, all the requirements are on the Scout website, but feel free to email me if you are interested.



Richard Eastman. Blackdown & Somerset County Scouts
Email canoeing@eastman-electrical.co.uk



WEST HATCH CUBS

were recently visited by the Mayor of Taunton Deane who gave a fascinating talk about her role and recent activities.

She even allowed the Cubs to try on her ceremonial robes and chain!

Lewis Andrews, ACSL



Here at **1st CHARD** we have had a busy start to the year, as a Group we ran a successful bag packing session at Tesco's in Chard which saw us raise £340.42, not bad for 3 hours bag packing.

BEAVERS have been working on their Health and Fitness badge and even took part in a visit and short session at Phoenix gym in Chard. They also did some leaf printing and took a visit to the Chard reservoir to learn about wild animals and nature.

CUBS have worked on a variety of things so far this term, we had our own Burns Night where they all tried haggis neeps and tatties (most of them enjoyed it which was surprising), they also have been working on their map and compass skills where they took part in a night hike walking only on bearings to find some badges we had secretly hidden on a route. They also took part in a hike on the Quantocks where they got to put their skills to the test with reading maps.

SCOUTS also hosted a Burns night but fewer of them actually liked haggis! We took part in a visit to Eleos our local community cafe where they spoke about fair trade and how we could make an impact to reduce waste in the community. We also worked on our map reading in preparation for their Expedition Challenge Award which also saw them take to the Quantocks to fine tune their skills map reading and cooking on Trangias. **Ben GSL**



Have you booked your **GANG SHOW** tickets yet? It is the 30th show and runs 16th – 20th April at the Brewhouse

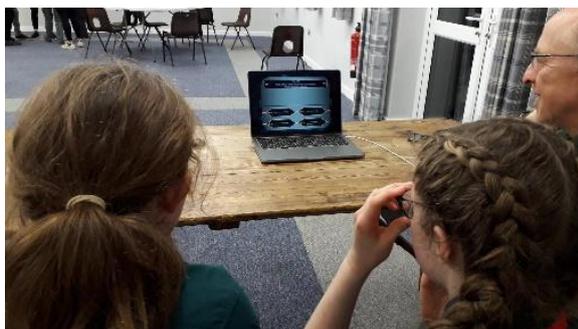
TRULL SCOUT GROUP

The **Beavers** have had a busy half term, with visits from some owls and a night hike, Burns Night (complete with Haggis pie making, Iron Bru in lieu of the more traditional beverage, a kilt and of course a Burns poem). They had a sleep over in our meeting hall, have re-discovered our parachute (it's been AWOL for the last 4 years!) They have been working towards their Skills badge, lots of knots, setting fire to things and designing machines. 2 more Bronze awards this half term – well done Beavers



Cubs have enjoyed Robot wars, an international evening (Spanish Christmas 'poo' was a firm favourite) and a First aid level 2 evening. A visit from Wessex water (wet wipes and cotton buds don't belong down the toilet!) and mini pioneering (tennis ball ballista's) finished off the half term

Scouts -Started the year with a Winter camp. Roast Chicken dinner in the Dutch oven followed by Dutch oven cake (only slightly burnt!?!?). Woodland skills and Archery and of course enjoying a camp fire The Scouts have been practising with Trangia and gas stoves, have learnt about the effects of drugs and alcohol and had a chat about this year's World Jamboree (looking forward to the post event presentation). The Patrol leaders ran the wide games evening while the leaders cooked sausages. An archery and orienteering evening at Huish woods would have gone better if the maps where up to date, they still managed to find 8!



Mountain Warehouse kindly donated items for the **SCOUTS GOING TO KENYA** this summer to raise funds for the orphans. The Scout Shop in Tangier has very kindly agreed to sell the remaining items listed below when the shop is open on Wednesday evenings 7-9pm. All proceeds go direct to the orphans in Kenya. Absolute bargains!

Item	RRP	Suggested donation
20 x kids active kids trousers – dark grey age 13	£25.99	£5
10 x kids pakka jacket black age 11-12	£19.99	£5
12 x mens pakka jackets red medium	£31.99	£5
5 x ladies pink lightweight jumpers	£29.99	£5
1 x kids over trousers black age 7-8	£35.99	£10
2 x ladies trek trouser size 18L	£34.99+£49.00	£8 + £10
Man's brown ish cargo shorts	£39.99	£5
Ladies gilet navy size 12	£39.99	£10
Ladies golf trousers size 20 light grey	£?	£5
Ladies white blouse size 18	£31.99	£5



Following the popularity of the badges last year, Trinity Scout Group are again ordering blanket badges to reward those in our Groups who attend St George's parade. We sold all 850 of the badges last year, with many disappointed as they missed out. We are inviting Groups within our District to order badges with us at a price of 50p per badge. The badges are about 75mm in diameter and as per the design opposite.

If you would like to order some badges, please complete and return the order form below with payment to Chris Pinguenet by **Saturday 16th March**. Payment can be made by cheque payable to 'Trinity Scout Group'. Badges will be distributed to Groups two weeks before the parade if they are in Taunton, or posted at cost price.

Any questions please contact me at saturncubs@trinityscoutgroup.com or 07967596173.
Chris Pinguenet, Trinity Saturn Cubs

Name

Group

Address

Email

Telephone number -

Number of badges ordered -

Please send forms and payment by **Saturday 16th March** to Chris Pinguenet , Trinity Scout Group , 16 Trinity Street, Taunton TA1 3JG

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APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

held at Tangier during February.



NEW APPOINTMENTS

Daragh Poynter	ABSL	Manor Court
Jordan Rolph	Colony Assistant	Henlade
Will Wells	ASL	Stoke St Gregory
James Burnell	ABSL	Bishops Lydeard
Matt Downton	ASL	West Hatch
Richard Hembrow	Colony Assistant	Bishops Lydeard

CHANGE OF ROLE

Marcin Adamowicz	from Colony Assistant to Pack Assistant	Staplegrave
Tara Buzwell	from Pack Assistant to Troop Assistant	Central
Becky Russell	from ABSL to ACSL	Hinton St George
Lee Troake	from CSL Wellington to ASU Member	Huish Woods