

Scouting

1st Edition – November 2016

1st Ince and Elton Scout Troop



NORD 2017

We're very proud to announce that two of our Scouts – Mackenzie Tudor and Jess McKay, have been selected to join the Mersey Weaver contingent heading to NORD 2017 – the world's northernmost Jamboree!

Here's what Jess had to say about the upcoming adventure...

"NORD 2017 is a world Jamboree held in Norway. Scouts from all around the world will be attending this great experience."

"Out of the whole of England, only 29 people are going, but only if we raise enough! In total, we have to raise £33,000 – so every penny we raise counts."

"At Norway, we will be doing many things – including experiencing the life of a Norwegian. The first week will be spent at a beautiful campsite found in the centre of a few mountains."

"During the first week, we'll be taking 2 days out to go on an expedition. Where we'll be hiking out into the mountains to camp elsewhere for a night, before heading back to the main camp."

"From cooking for ourselves, to trying not to die, we are all very excited! Where we'll be camping, there will be 23 hours of daylight – so sleeping will be very difficult!"

"After a week camping, we will be going to a Norwegian home as part of our Home Hospitality, where we will live with them for a week, experiencing the life of a typical Norwegian teenager!"

If you would like to find out more about NORD 2017, please visit the event minisite on our District Website, where you can also send a donation to help with the fundraising efforts:

<http://www.merseyweaverscouts.org.uk/nord2017/>

In this issue

Welcome to the first edition of our Newsletter!

We tasked our Scouts to write several stories relating to events and activities that they have done in the last few months, or events that are coming up.

This newsletter is the result of their work – we hope you enjoy it.

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Diary dates

November

25 District Night Hike

50th Cheshire Hike

In April, some Scouts participated in the annual Cheshire Hike. It was a fun, but tiring experience for us all!

We had to carry our backpacks (containing everything we needed for the weekend), follow routes and look out for OB's to earn points along the way. At checkpoints, we earned points by completing challenges.

At the end, we all collapsed on the floor waiting for all the other participants to complete their routes. Once everyone had arrived at the finish, there was an awards ceremony where we received the results. We all did very well!

Written by Cody



About the Cheshire Hike

The Cheshire Hike is an annual competition open to all Scouts and Guides in Cheshire.

The 2017 Hike will be our 51st and will be held from the 1st April to the 2nd April.

Cheshire Hike is real challenge for all those who take part but with careful planning and good training you can succeed. There will be a real sense of achievement when you complete this special challenge.

Teams must be made up of 2 Scouts or Guides and enter in one of these categories:

- Junior (11 – 12½) – Distance: 19km Sat; 12km Sun
- Intermediate (12½ - 14) – Distance: 25km Sat; 16km Sun
- Senior (14 – 16) – Distance: 29km Sat; 19km Sun
- Senior Plus (16 – 18) – Distance: 34km Sat; 19km Sun)





Adult Volunteers - Leaders

Leaders are a very important part of the Scouting movement, mostly because they generously give up their own time to inspire a generation of young people to experience fun, friendship and real adventure.

We asked our Scouts what they think that the Leaders do – here is what they come up with...

Paddy wrote:

"Scout Leaders use their personal time to create days out for Leaders and Scouts alike. Sometimes it is a small BBQ or a big event like the Water Weekend Camps."

"They make sure activities are fun, and more importantly safe! When activities involve an element of danger, they take every precaution to ensure is safe."

"Not only do the leaders focus on safety aspects, but they also have to be mindful of allergies and also what we dislike. They also ensure our badge progress is kept up to date and have regular meetings to plan the activities we do."

Ryan wrote:

"The adults at Scouts are an interesting bunch. Sometimes they are friendly and organise engaging activities for us to take part in (this is most of the time). However, on occasions, like when you don't cook them any sausages on camp, or when you don't wake up on time – they can be reasonably unhappy."

"Considering the fact that the leaders volunteer their own time, they are happy to give it up for our benefit (as long as we cook them breakfast)."

"Each leader has their own individual traits, that make them amazing as a team and great fun to be around! Carl is kind (as are all of the leaders here at 1st Ince and Elton) and great at listening to our ideas for future activities. Steve is amazing at planning activities and everything else."

"Ashley is great at refereeing the games we play and cracking awful (yet funny) puns. Callum, well Callum likes to joke around and makes even more awful puns, whilst he and Ashley laugh about said puns. Buy every so often, Callum 'asserts his authority' when it is needed."

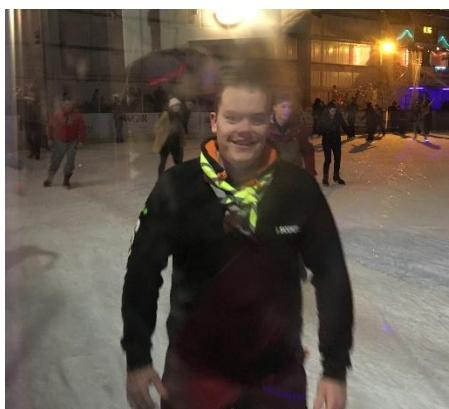
"This does however, make them great fun to be around, but also an incredibly efficient team when it comes to getting hikes and activities that tick off our badges off, done – to name but a few."

Amber wrote:

"The leaders set up camps and day trips to enjoy. They don't just work hard doing thing for us, but also the public – like the Bonfire and Firework night."

"Our leaders help us with camping skills, backwards cooking, using an axe and saw, and basic survival skills."

"I really like our leaders because they help us with things that we need help with – this can range from camping to assisting with completing badge work."



Interested in joining our adventure as a volunteer?

Our volunteers get involved on their terms, and not all roles involve working with young people. If you can give a little (or a lot) to help improving young lives in your community, we'd love to hear from you!

Get in touch via our website:

<http://www.1stinceandelton.org.uk/join/>



Trip to Velocity, Widnes

For our first meeting back in September, we took the Scouts to the Velocity trampoline park in Widnes, here's what one of our Scouts had to say about the trip...

"At Velocity, there is a foam pit to jump in to, trampolines to bounce on and 2 dodgeball courts. Also, there is a basketball area, arcade and a shop."

"My favourite part was jumping in the foam pit because you can jump in and flip. However, my least favourite thing was basketball, because I couldn't do it."

"Velocity was a fun experience."



Group Camp at Dunham Massey

In May, we joined the rest of our Scout Group for a camp at Dunham Massey Scout Camp.

The Scouts cooked for themselves, learned how to use an Axe and Saw, built rafts and joined in with activities with the other sections – however in true British fashion, the weather really wasn't on our side for this camp!

Here's what Stewart had to say about the camp:

"At Dunham Massey, we made and cooked our own food, but it rained for hours on end."

"We made rafts, which we think worked very well – however the leaders had to try them and got a little bit wet!"

"Due to the amount of rain, we were tasked to make the campsite a little more bearable by spreading some shredded pine trees across our campsite using wheel barrows. It worked in creating a path through the sludge however as the rain continued, it became less effective."

"Another thing we did with the Beavers was, we went down a hill with small toy cars. It was fun."

"Camp would have been a lot better without the constant rain – it was a nightmare."



**SCOUTING PROVIDES A
SECOND FAMILY TO
LOTS OF YOUNG
PEOPLE...**

- Bear Grylls, Chief Scout

