

As we say good-bye to another fun packed term, grab a cuppa, take a well earned break, and enjoy catching up on the events of the last 3 Months.

Congratulations to our newest Uniformed Leader, Izzy. Izzy has been a member of the Barton Scout Family since she was a Beaver. Izzy came back as a helper some time ago—which reminded her just what great fun Scouting is! It was so special that we were able to induct Izzy as a uniformed leader at our Winter Camp in March.



A Huge heartfelt Thank You to Richmondshire District Council for their generous Grant to help us purchase some new camping

equipment. You will be able to 'see it in action' at Family Camp in May—have you booked your place yet? See page 2 for information on how to book.

### Waiting list

We have had lots of enquiries to join the us & have had to turn quite a few children away. If your child has younger siblings, or you know of young children who would like to join, please fill in the form on our website:

Joining – 1st Barton Scout Group



# Family Camp 2023



Following the return of Family Camp last year, we thought it would be great fun to do it all again!

Once again we have managed to secure exclusive use of:

**Dilston Scout Campsite near Hexham**

**Friday 26th to Sunday 28th May**

Those who attended last year will tell you that this is an absolutely brilliant location for a family camp. We have sole use of a huge flat field with a river running through it. There are hot showers and plumbed toilets on site too!

All Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, siblings, parents, guardians, grandparents and friends are welcome to come along.

The price will be £45 each for anyone 6+ and £10 for siblings under 6 years old, and will include all your meals from Saturday breakfast through to Sunday lunchtime.

We will accept unaccompanied Scouts on camp with us. We'll place them in a patrol with a family for the weekend and they can camp in our group patrol tents with any other scouts who might not want to camp with their families; mums and dads can be so embarrassing. We'll also accept unaccompanied Explorer Scouts for the weekend. They have the option to join as participants or as members of our service crew, where they will help us run activities and generally keep the place running smoothly.

We are not able to accept camper vans or caravans. We have a limited number of patrol tents we may be able to lend you on a first come first served basis. Just ask. The site does not allow dogs.

All adults staying overnight will need to have a Scout DBS completed (if they do not already have one) before camp. We will check whether you have a current DBS when you book and get in touch if you need a new DBS or a renewal.

Rather than rely on a lot of bank transfers, we are going to take card payments for this event. Once we've confirmed your booking and all adults in your party have a valid DBS we will send you payment info.

If you have any questions about booking, paying, DBS, the format of the weekend, or anything else, drop us an email.

The booking form can be found here: [Booking form](#)

This is your chance to come along and join in the sort of fun camping activities we'd normally save to do with our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers — we hope to see you there!



# Squirrels

1st Barton has been around since 1977, and even though 46 years is a long time, we were nowhere near being the first group in Richmondshire Scout District.

We do get to claim at least one First though; we were the first group in the district to have a Beaver colony back in the late 1980s, in a time when HQ decided that the most exciting colour they could put our youngest section in was grey.

Well here we are in 2023 with our Beavers clad in a much more exciting uniform and we are ready for another first. When we return from the Easter break we will be welcoming some 4-6 year olds into Richmondshire's first ever Squirrel Drey. And they won't be grey Squirrels either!

In 2021 Scouts began a pilot project to test out an early years provision (called Hedgehogs at the time) to see whether it would work. Since the end of the pilot more than 350 groups around the country have started their own Squirrel Drey and we are really proud to be the very first in our district.

No section in this group can operate without volunteers and we are really glad to have Christine returning to lead a section and assemble a team of willing and able helpers to make our new section a huge success. Thanks for the work so far, Christine and the team. This is going to be quite a ride.

For those of you with 4-6 year olds on the waiting list, don't worry if you didn't get an invitation to join Squirrels. We picked young people who would be able to stay with the Drey for more than 6 months, so we left out some of the older ones on the waiting list. They will still be offered a place in Beavers in line with our waiting list policy, so nobody will be adversely affected by not having a place in our youngest section.

So when you see some little red Scouts lining up to join us on a Monday night before Cubs, don't worry, it's just Richmondshire's newest Squirrel Drey.

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## Scout Walk Reeth to Richmond

Our Annual walk from Reeth to Richmond is becoming a bit of a Barton Scouts tradition. Joined by family and friends we made an impressive sight as almost 40 of us met at 9am on Reeth village green and set off walking to Richmond. Who could not be blown away by the amazing views. What better way is there to catch up with friends, old and new.



'I liked all of it—it was great!' Charlie Beadle. High praise indeed!

# Scout Winter Camp, Carlton-in-Cleveland

## March 2023

This was my first winter camp and it was amazing, I loved it. The food was delicious & the fire was always lit. It was warm & cosy inside. The dorms were really cool.

The Weaselling was a new experience for me and my favourite bit!

Also, the views from the top of the mountain were breath-taking! The six hour hike was very tiring but worth it, and I learnt more about map reading.

The Leaders were lovely and I'd like to go again next year.

Henry Applegarth

Watch our video of Winter Camp—Thanks Caitie

I was really excited to be going on my first winter camp. Everyone there was really helpful. We played a lot of games. Obviously we got to stay up after my usual bedtime!

The next morning we got up and we went on a hike up the hills. We did bearings and we looked for cairns. We did Weaselling where we all got to climb through rocks. It was really fun! The way back was really long. When we I got back, we went straight to bed - I was really tired! The next day I got up and I packed my stuff and had my breakfast (which was delicious - thank you for all the food Vicky) It was a tiring, but very fun weekend.

George Denning



## St George's Day

One of the regular events that comes up in our Scouting calendar is St George's Day.

St George is the patron saint of the Scout movement, and we meet on the Sunday closest to April 23rd to reflect on the things he stands for as our patron. This is also an opportunity for us to parade our flags and uniforms in the local area to show off how big and important Scouting remains. Additionally this is a time for us to celebrate the achievements and service of those who volunteer to lead Scouting.

This year the parade falls on Sunday April 23rd. The plan is to meet in Catterick Garrison, parade to The Garrison Memorial Church of St Martin and St Oswald, and hold a short service followed by presentations.

Exact times and locations will be shared when we have them confirmed, but we expect this to take place in the afternoon. It would be really nice to see a big turnout this year as this will be the first time we have our new Squirrel section joining us on the parade with their bright red flag.

Pop the date in your diary—we hope to see you there.

## Barton Boot Exchange

We all know our children's feet grow faster than we can keep up with, and it's particularly galling shelling out for new hiking boots after one wear of the old ones.....Fortunately we have the solution!

Contact Catherine on 07786 955116 to see if we have your required size in stock. We also have a selection of airbeds, waterproof coats and trousers. if you would like to make a small financial donation you will also have the warm glow of knowing you are helping fund our activities & keeping our costs down.

If you are having a Spring clean we are always grateful for donations of clean boots and waterproofs. Please pass to your section leader who will happily pass them on to Catherine. Thank you



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## Parent Portal and Subs

We use an online system called Online Scout Manager to keep records of our young people. Some parts of those records, such as badge progress, are available for parents to view. Others, such as contact details and Gift Aid declarations are available for parents to update. We'd love it if you could take the time to drop in there and make sure everything is up to date, particularly email addresses. We get a surprising number of bounced emails. A link to Parent Portal can be found at the bottom of our website, [bartonscouts.co.uk](http://bartonscouts.co.uk)

You will have originally accessed Parent Portal when you set up subs, but if you forgot your password you can reset it on the home page of Parent Portal using the email address you have provided.

On the subject of subs, they are charged at £120 per year, split into 12 equal payments of £10. There are a few people out there who have still not clicked the link to set up subs. If you are having trouble, get in touch and we will sort it out. **Be aware that if you do sign up late, the system will immediately take all back payments owed.**

No young person will be denied scouting on the grounds of money. Just get in touch and we will arrange something with you. Failing to sign up for subs is not the best way to handle payment problems. We'd also ask that if you are withdrawing your young person from scouting that you get in touch with your section leader before cancelling your DD. We can do this promptly and it's nicer all round if we don't say our goodbyes via the banking system.

## Section news

**Beavers:** The Beavers have had another busy term. We welcomed 8 new Beavers into the group, and said goodbye to Dima, who has returned to Ukraine. Theo and Teddy moved up to Cubs!



This term the Beavers have had a Scottish night to coincide with Burn's night, and Alan Millar kindly came along and introduced the Beavers to Kilts and Scottish slang!



We had Eggpllosion! (Not a Typo!) - an idea borrowed from the Scouts. The Beavers made cradles for their eggs which were then dropped from height to see if they would survive! We only had one slightly cracked egg—much more successful than what the Scouts usually achieve...



We welcomed a special visitor, Alistair Thorogood, who came along to speak to the Beavers about his time as a pilot.

We all enjoyed our fun 'boxes and beanbags' night. The Beavers built walls of boxes and then had to knock each others walls down with beanbags!!! What's not to love!



A very busy term, which was finished with a fabulous Easter egg hunt and Smores at the field – so good to be back outdoors! Enjoy the Easter break

**Cubs:** Cubs has certainly started 2023 with a bang! We've already ticked off some great badge work this year with our communication, personal safety and first aid nights (lots of sowing for parents- sorry, not sorry!).

We've also done a tin can pancake night for shrove Tuesday and completed our first ever parents night where our cubs we're invited to bring along an adult to take part in our evening. Everyone had a great time and there have even been requests to run it again! The adults certainly didn't hold back when completing in some of the games, which just made it even better when the cubs won anyway.

We have also welcomed the latest addition to our Cub Pack with Izzy being upgraded from weekly helper to fully uniformed leader so please say hello if you see her!



Finally, we are running Summer Camp for Cubs this year, this is a great opportunity to come and do some camping and amazing outdoor activities! If your Cub would like to come then please let us know ASAP!  
Chris, Caitie and Izzy

**Scouts:** 2023 has started with a fun programme, covering several areas that the Leaders identified to help the scouts progress with a number of different badge requirements.

If you wish to see badge requirements they are publicly available on the scout website

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/scouts/activity-badges/>

In the near future we plan to publish the link to the specific badges we cover each week on our new scouts blog - more details to follow.

So, to give you a flavour of this terms activities...

- We made fidget spinners from a bike chain - hours of fun!
- We held an auction of life skills - with some competitive bidding and surprising highest bids!
- We recognised Chinese New Year with some paper lanterns
- We created an indoor challenging cave labyrinth for the scouts to explorer - and we even manage get not to loose anyone!

- We created some interesting household items from soap
- We enjoyed pancake day with our own pancakes, cooked by candle power on tin cans - with genuine Nutella!!
- Despite a cloudy night, we learnt so much about space that it was quite simply out of this world!
- The Young Leaders organised a man hunt around Barton
- We learnt basic household life skills, who knew clothes had care instructions sewn in!?! A learning curve for us all.....
- And we finished off the term with an egg hunt, with the added bonus of being back in the field

And perhaps the highlight for many of our scouts was winter camp.

A huge thank you for all the scouts for giving everything a go and simply getting involved.





## Explorers:

On the first session of January we planned what we would do for the rest of the year. We also ate pizza and played dungeons and dragons.

The next session was a games night. We played a game, invented by Mark, one of the Leaders, called Pictchaboo which involved Pictionary, Charades and Taboo. It was really fun and challenging.

At a further planning meeting we decided things like hoodie colours and which version of the 'Explorer badge' we would like. (see the finished article below!). We also discussed doing a charity fundraising event, probably a Beetle Drive—watch this space for further information. You are all invited!



The first, and only session of February, we planned how we would make our version of a famous Movie, in a 1 minute film. My group planned to do Forrest Gump and the other group planned their 1 minute version of Little Women.

For the planning we made storyboards which were large pieces of paper with squares which contained drawn out action shots of what was to happen.

And finally our most recent session was filming our master-pieces. Oh what a sight it was to see Robbie and Jay in dresses—definitely the best part of the night! The night consisted of filming the action shots and moving around all our scenery. I'm definitely looking forward to see the outcome of the filming. Pop-corn essential!

We are looking forward to Explorer Camp in York next term, and all the other adventures we have planned.

Ben Jackson