



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 , fun packed, term.



Congratulations, and a heartfelt thank you, to our fabulous Leaders and non-Uniformed helper on being awarded their Long Service Awards at Family camp.

Jon 5 years, Vicky 10 years, Anth 15 years and Sam 10 years—though in reality they have all dedicated many more years to Scouting —these awards just represent the 'official' years!

On a warm Saturday in June, Caitie, Izzy and Rich, supported by Anth and Gav, spent the day at the field in Melsonby. Joined by Leaders from all over the District, they learned how to plan and execute a successful camp, and earn their 'Nights away' permits. Once again a huge thank you. Without this level of dedication and effort our children would not get the range of experiences that they enjoy at Barton Scouts.



Family Camp 2023

With memories of last years camp still shining bright, we all headed back to Dilston Scout Campsite for Family Camp 2023, and boy—it lived up to our expectations!



Family camp.....



Richmondshire District St Georges Day Parade

Once again we had a fabulous turn out for the St Georges day parade in Catterick Garrison. We were by far the best represented Scout Group with smartly dressed, and well behaved members from all our units—including our very new Squirrels (they had only formed as a group the week before!). Our Explorers Hannah, Emma and Robbie had the honour of carrying the St George Flag, Richmondshire District Colours, and Union flag. Once again we demonstrated one of the reasons why 1st Barton Scout Group is the best Group in Richmondshire, North Yorkshire, UK, The world!



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



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
(bartonscouts.co.uk)



Save
the
Date

26th October 2023.

Carve out your chance to be the fastest in Barton.

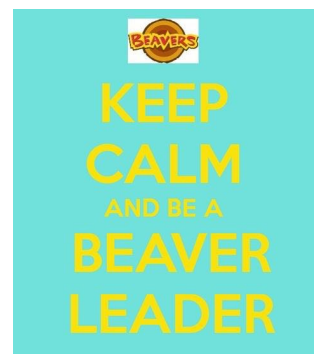
More information coming this summer.....

Can you help?

Barton Scouts has an amazing team of leaders and helpers. Since becoming a leader Caitie has been helping at both Beavers and Cubs, but with a new job and other commitments, she is taking a step back from her Beaver role. Thank you for all your help at Beavers Caitie.

This is where we need your help. Are you willing to join a committed and experienced team of leaders? Do you have the time, patience, and sense of humour required to help deliver the Beaver programme?

If so Gav would love to talk to about the role and answer any concerns you may have. Please email bartonscouts@gmail.com to arrange an informal chat.



Section news

Squirrels

Our first ever term..... and what a term it has been.

Extra special firsts for Barton Scout Group were 4 squirrels in attendance at this years St George's Day Parade and 2 squirrels at Family Camp.

Our 10 squirrels have had a fantastic time exploring, cooking, making, building, playing, singing, helping and having a lot of fun! They were invested in front of the District Commissioner and their



families in the Melsonby field- it was such a proud moment hearing them say their promises out loud.

Some of the activities we have all enjoyed are:

- building boats and sailing them down the back
- cooking on the campfire
- teddy bear hunt
- helping with gardening
- making our own sandwiches for a teddy bears picnic
- Scavenger hunt

We are starting to see individual characters shine through and have already witnessed confidences rising as they contribute to suggestions and choices

and willingly develop new skills.

We have awarded 31 badges in this first term and have many plans for next terms programme.

We are lucky to have a regular team of adult helpers, three young leaders (Eva, Ben and Daniel) and we're starting to meet friends from other sections too to find out about the rest of our Scout Group.

Looking forward to much more squirrelling fun, Christine, Sally, Lucy, Ella, Lucy and Megan

Beavers: The Beavers have had a very busy summer term at the field. They enjoyed various activities from the Beaver Olympics and an obstacle course, to string trails and lighting fires and of course cooking s'mores!



And not to forget our summer camp at Mark and Sally's. The weather was fantastic (not too hot) and 15 very excited Beavers, some on their very first night away had a wonderful camp. The leaders got some sleep too!

Thank you Mark and Sally for your wonderful hospitality.

This term said goodbye to Emmeline and Charlie and welcomed Sebastian, Ben, Harry and Jack.

All in all a very busy term was enjoyed by all. Wishing you a well deserved summer break and we look forward to the Autumn term in September.

Cubs: We have had a great term at cubs with lots of fun activities making plenty of use of the field and the summer weather!

This term we met some new slithery friends when an old Barton Scout member came back with his reptiles (thank you David!), our young leaders have played plenty of games with our cubs at the field and helped the cubs complete their athletics badge.

We have also tested the cubs shelter building skills in the wood and I think it is fair to say a few cubs went home a bit soggy when Chris made it 'rain' over their shelters! We are looking forward to ending the summer term with our annual water fight at the field, which the cubs love!



Finally we topped our summer term off with our Summer Cub Camp at Moorhouse Activity centre. It was a fabulous weekend packed with outdoor activities including The Leap of Faith, a cave bus, shooting and archery.

The leaders also got involved in the activities and we almost lost Chris and Sam in the tight tunnels of the cave bus!

We hope you all have a lovely summer holiday and we are excited to see you all again in September!

Scouts:

This term at scouts we have had lots of fun, lots of games and lots of time outside enjoying the weather!

We started of the term learning about the local area, having to walk around Barton, memorise the layout, and any important features - even to the detail of benches! Then it back to the Hall to draw a detailed map of Barton. As always it got very competitive - but was lots of fun.

We have also done some very tradition scouting evenings such as making fires and cooking (or burning) some very lovely bread twists and marshmallows.

The rest of the term included pioneering challenges, games, and planning for the amazing expedition that the some of the scouts were taking part in.



All in all, I would say that the term has been enjoyed by everyone and I just want to wish everyone a great summer and we will see you back in September.

Scouts Expedition 2023

“When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it.” – Henry Ford

2023 is the second time we have run the Scouts Expedition challenge. It should happen every other year, but the pandemic put paid to any chance of running a 2021 version. In preparation for this year’s edition I found the notes for the briefing we give to the teams in July 2019 just before they set out on day one. Point 3: “Possibility of thunder storms.”

You’d get long odds on the same thing happening 4 years later, but there we were, two days before the start, looking at some grim and stormy forecasts. It wasn’t until the morning of the first day that we actually decided to go ahead. Unfortunately it was one of those rare times when the forecast was completely correct.

Day one saw one team starting in Piercebridge, walking south, and another starting in Moulton, walking north. The plan was for them to meet in Melsonby at the end of the day and camp in the field, and then on day two they would walk in the opposite direction. The teams were unaccompanied (but monitored) and happily their navigation was really good. No-one used their emergency radio, or needed to call a leader for help. That’s despite the weather throwing an horrendous summer storm at them.

The teams took between 4 and 5 hours to complete the day and arrived at the field wet, but happy to be done for the day. All that remained was the small matter of pitching tents, setting up a kitchen and cooking dinner. All of this passed without much incident, although one team will be sure never to pitch with their tent door into the (very strong) wind again.

Dinner was cooked and eaten at a rapid pace and the rest of the evening was spent under the parachute, round the fire getting good and smoky. There was no noise at all after bedtime. Maybe the teams were tired out, or maybe the ongoing wind and rain was blocking out a party at the bottom of the field. We’ll never know.

The morning saw a huge change in the weather and after a slightly groggy breakfast the teams set off on their final leg without the need for waterproofs. The weather must have put a spring in their step because both teams finished ahead of the earliest estimate we gave them without major incident. Did some people veer off route over the two days? Yes. Do some people have a better appreciation that their waterproof jacket isn’t? Probably? Are we proud of everyone? Absolutely.

This is a great example of us allowing our Scouts to go out, with the skills we have helped them learn, and do something independent for a couple of days, resolving their own problems as they go. They have had a much harder weekend than they would have had on a nice warm July weekend, but in overcoming the extra adversity they have achieved so much more.

Many thanks to Anth, Rich, Sam, Rachel, Robbie, Emma, Al, Bex and Paul for their contributions to making this happen.

See you in 2025 for another July thunder storm, **Gavin**



