

# Scouts

## 5<sup>th</sup> Skipton Scout Group

### District Carol Service



#### District Carol Service

On a cold winters night (the heating was not working), the South Craven Scout District held their Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church.

This was well attended by all sections, and parents who rose the roof when they sang the Christmas Carols, especially when singing, While Shepherds Watched their Flock by Night to the tune of On Ilkley Moor Bart'at. Try it its surprising how well it fits.

#### Notice to Parents/Guardians.

Now that the nights are cold and wet, please feel free to come and stand in the entrance lobby, so that you are warm & dry. This will also help the leaders to ensure that the Beavers, Cubs, & Scouts are met by their parents/guardians before they leave.

#### GSL REPORT

Although a little belated may I wish you all a Happy New Year.

I'm Gary Sorsby and as you may or may not know I have taken over the Role of Group Scout Leader following Colins exit.

There's a bit more about me over leaf, but it goes without saying that I am honoured to take on the role of Group Scout Leader and to have been invested by the District Commissioner, Andy Stronach at the Christmas Carol Service.

With everyone's help I aim to make the 5<sup>th</sup> a great group again.

So, let's get cracking. OK !



#### Group Contact details

Group Scout Leader - Gary Sorsby - [GSL@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk](mailto:GSL@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk)

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts - Catherine Walton-Brown - [Catherine.WaltonBrown@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk](mailto:Catherine.WaltonBrown@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk)

Assistant Scout Leader - Euan Hilton - [Euan.Hilton@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk](mailto:Euan.Hilton@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk)

Chair of Board of Trustees - Mo Djavanroodi - [chair@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk](mailto:chair@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk)

Group Treasurer – Mark Smith – [treasurer@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/TheDumpSkipton>

## Cubs



A Pack meeting was held recently when the Cubs listened intently for nearly an hour to Katie a Childrens Author, & Jonny an ex-soldier. This was a question-and-answer series forming research for a new book, with this one focusing on 'why do we have wars'. The Cubs were so well behaved, and they joined in asking lots of questions.

## The future

Our priority is to increase our leadership and volunteer team to provide the Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts with the programmes that will help them to develop their life skills. We would like to set up a parent rota for meeting nights in order that the leader has some support. If you are at all interested or even curious, please speak to any leader. To be able to do this we need more parent support to help at meetings. Oh, Aunties and Uncles, not forgetting grandparents, would be welcome. The pleasure it will bring you will be immense.

## Scouts



We also need help with management skills such as:

Publicity – production of newsletters (Facebook etc.). Liaison with newspapers, to visibility of the group within Skipton & the local area.

Fund raiser – to help plan, run fundraising events (sponsored walks, Chocolate Bingo etc. etc. etc), and in seeking grants so that we can complete the building project to provide new bunk rooms and toilets so that other scout groups can hire them.

Quartermaster – to help look after and manage camping and other equipment.  
Building manager – to help with bookings for the hall, organise any maintenance, service of alarms, boiler etc.

Trustees/Parent representative to attend Trustee & Executive meetings (6 per year) to help with management of the group..

As you can see the amount of work that goes on in our group is immense, and currently being carried out by a few people, mainly parents like you, so can you all please consider helping in some capacity or other.

## GSL REPORT - Continued

So, a little bit more about me: I joined Cubs 61 years ago (so you can work out my age), and progressed into Scouts, Venture Scouts, eventually becoming a young leader. I became scout leader at the age of 22 of a scout group in Bradford West with a membership of over 100. I then became Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts, then ADC for Scout Fellowship before becoming the District Commissioner for a period of 5 years.

Following that I stepped back & I took up the role of Group Chairman at the 1<sup>st</sup> Silsden, where with the support of the parents and leaders we built up the Group to just under 100. We were very active in the Village and sent scouts to the World Jamboree.

Following a total break of 13 years, (working on my business) I introduced my grandson to the 5th Skipton (but unfortunately football got in the way), but not to worry grandson No 2 has just been invested into the Cubs.

I volunteered for the Group Executive, and I prepared the drawings etc, for the renovation and reroofing of the HQ. I was the cleaner for 18 months and I was on the group committee for 5 years before stepping up to being the Group Scout Leader.

## Beavers



The Beavers also had an enjoyable evening, junk modelling rockets.