

1ST SANDLEHEATH SEA SCOUT GROUP



WATERLINES

June 2010

AGM Edition

G.S.L.'s Report

Some things never change. Once again Mandie has secured a number of grants enabling us buy three new Vago dinghies, 2 double dinghy trailers, to build a camp-fire circle and to fence and plant a nature area at the Scout Centre.

After the Spring Clean the field looked superb and the building was once again sparklingly fresh, thanks to all those who came and helped. Changing to a Friday evening seemed to work.

Our fleet of boats is the envy of everyone who sees it. Some new boat trailers too – so we can take our new boats on camp to Wimbleball Lake this summer.

We are still adding to our team of leaders. Recently a number of Beaver parents have been helping to run Beavers and so once again the Colony is thriving. We should have some more Beaver Leaders soon.

Now we have to find a team to take over running Explorers when Andy steps back in September.

On the water many of our Explorers are now Assistant Instructors and help regularly with Scouts. Isn't that what Scouting is about?

It has been a very special year for two of our leaders. Richard Savage and Josh Cleall have been with the Group since they joined as Scouts. This year both have been selected to go to the next World Jamboree as Leaders. As if that is not enough both have also gained their D. of E. gold award and Richard his Queen's Scout award (Josh is not far behind – and maybe by the time you read this he



Above: Powerboat day in October

Right: Richard meeting Prince Charles at the Windsor St George's Day parade (see page 8)



Left: New camp fire circle

will have that too). I hope all the leaders and helpers who have guided them through their Scouting over the years are proud of them.

A special year too for Explorer Scout Chloe Hinton (All the Scout Leaders were sad to see our Senior Patrol

Leader move on, but sadly it is inevitable). Chloe has been selected to go to the World Jamboree too.

Special thanks to Pat Savage, who has encouraged, bullied and cajoled record numbers to D. of E. awards this year. 2 gold, 2 silver and 2 Bronze – quite an achievement.

Finally, thanks to all leaders, instructors, committee and helpers for your continued support.

Ros White – Group Scout Leader

Treasurer's Report Subs. & Grants

The accounts continue in a relatively healthy state with the balance at the end of the financial year standing similar to last year at £20,770. This includes £13,776 in a savings account, which is the reserve of one year's operating costs, with the remaining £7,000 split between the 100 Club fund raising account (£2,700) and the Current Account (£4,300)

Income and expenditure have been carefully managed and were roughly equal at approximately £47,500. This includes grants totalling £22,275 for 3 new Vago dinghies and the nature area alongside the hall. Thanks to Mandie Dawson for bringing these applications to fruition.

Last year we had the shed erected at Spinnaker with the aid of a grant towards 50% of the cost, and we have transferred £1,500 from the 100 Club account to the Current Account to match these funds and maintain an operating balance.

Subscriptions were last increased in 2004 and despite increases over the last 6 years in insurance, fuel and other costs, they have not been increased since. Unfortunately we are unable to sustain this position and will need to increase subscriptions by £6 per year from September 2010. £2 of this is to cover our own increased running costs and the other £4 to cover the increase in the capitation fee from £29.50 to £33.50 per person. (The capitation fee is the levy paid to the Scouting Association who provide public liability insurance and overall services for and on behalf of the Scouting Movement, and is outside our control.)

If this increase is likely to cause problems with payments, there is a Scouting fund to assist in payment of subscriptions. Subscriptions can also be spread equally over the year by monthly standing order rather than termly. Please talk to Ros who can advise on the assistance available, and Mandie Dawson who can arrange the standing orders.

John Broderick – Treasurer



easyfundraising
.org.uk

This year we have been very successful with regards to our grant applications. We are very grateful to the following organisations:

- Hampshire Youth Opportunity Fund for £4795.00 towards the cost of a Vagos dinghy
- Comma (ACRE) for £7370.00 for our wildlife/nature area and separate camp fire
- Sport England for £9590.00 for two Vagos dinghies

We also received £2561.62 for our Gift aid, which is such a worthwhile exercise for us. I would wish to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for the time they take to complete the form on the subs letter as the money raised is of a great benefit to us.

We have had, and have, a number of our Explorers/Leaders taking part in activities with other Scouting and D. of E. groups and they have been successful with regards to fund raising, and are very appreciative of The Rotary Club, The John Barron Trust, New Forest (west) District, Hampshire Scouts, Rose Gale Trust and Elizabeth Connack of A & E Connock for their support – without which our youngsters would find it very difficult to raise the funds needed.

Mandie Dawson

Raise funds online

If you already shop online with retailers such as Amazon, Argos, Boots, Currys, iTunes, Play.com, Expedia or eBay then you could raise money while you shop!

You shop directly with the retailer as you would normally, but first you sign up to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/sandleheathsg> (for free) and then use the links on the easyfundraising site to take you to the retailer. A percentage of whatever you spend comes directly to us – at no extra cost to yourself.

Make sure you click through from easyfundraising to the retailer each time you intend to buy something to ensure that we benefit. You could even make it your homepage!

And that's not the only way to raise money. <http://sandleheathsg.easysearch.org.uk> combines the results of several search engines such as Yahoo!, Microsoft's Bing and Ask to ensure you can always find what you're looking for. But the fantastic thing

is that EVERY TIME you search, half a penny is raised for 1st Sandleheath Sea Scout Group.

Finally, anyone selling items on eBay can elect to donate part or all of the proceeds of their sale to the Scout group. For the Scout group to benefit, when selling your items on eBay all you need to do is select the charity box (which will then allow you to select the scout group as the benefactor) when setting up your item for sale. You can choose what percentage you would like to donate. You will then be asked to register your details with Missionfish which is how eBay transfer these funds to the charities. Your item for sale will then also include the yellow and blue ribbon (👉) to show that you are supporting a charity.

Thank you to David Chadwick for setting us up with EasyFundraising, and Mark Davison for setting us up as a charity on eBay.

Stephen White

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Our best year so far –
2 Gold Awards gained, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze.

Fantastic achievements have been made this year by our young people and Richard Savage and Josh Cleall have gained their Gold Awards, James Bailey and Louise Cooke their Silver and Dom Crossley and Will Hall their Bronze – well done to you all.

James, Louise, Dom and Will had their Silver and Bronze certificates presented to them at the County Presentation at Hounslow School in Totton in May by Bob Rhodes, who was in charge of DofE for Hampshire County Council for more years than he cares to remember (in excess of 30)! He has now just retired so was the guest of honour at the presentation. It was great to see our four young people receiving their awards and being such fine representatives of 1st Sandleheath Sea Scouts.

We have had lots of new participants registering during this past year so David Chadwick has been very busy training the participants and organising lots of practice and assessed expeditions for all levels of the Award and supervising them so, hopefully, by this time next year we will have an even greater number of young people having gained the next level of the Award. Ros White and Stephen White have also been very busy as Expedition Assessors not just for 1st Sandleheath but for lots of other DofE

groups as well. Thanks to David, Ros and Stephen for their continuing commitment to DofE and this is very much appreciated. If any parents in the group are able to offer their services to help our group in any way please let me know.

We are very proud of our very active DofE Group for those between 14 and 25 years of age so, if you want more information or registration forms please contact me on 01725 510397, email at pat@REMOVED or pat@REMOVED and visit the Duke of Edinburgh's Award website at www.dofe.org. We normally meet once a month so get in touch – we'll look forward to welcoming you!

Pat Savage – D. of E. Award Group Leader

Below: County D. of E. presentation. Left-to-right: Louise Cooke, Will Hall, Bob Rhodes, James Bailey and Dom Crossley



Expeditions

A good year for DofE expeditions. We had a successful silver bearhunt in May 2009.

This was followed by a bronze practice in September and a bronze horse count in October 2009.

So far this year we have practices in Dartmoor (Gold), New Forest (Bronze) and cycling in Purbeck (Silver).

David Chadwick



Above: Silver cycling expedition, Purbeck Page 3

Below: Beavers on the water at Spinnaker



Above: Liam on Cub camp during a "Total Wipeout" activity

Beaver Report

Our Beaver Colony is flourishing, with 16 Beavers rushing around every week enjoying themselves.

We have had quite a few evenings out in the field recently and have 2 evenings planned for water activities, one in June and one in September.

We have now got lots of parents involved helping running Beavers. Nigel is masterminding organising the programme and Chris and Rich are there whenever possible to run Beavers, with Nigel and myself stepping in when necessary. The parents are brilliant support and Natalie is well on the way to becoming a leader. Hopefully some more parents will follow suite. The plan is to have a team of leaders working together, new leaders supporting the more experienced ones to learn the ropes. That way we can have a gradual handover to new leaders.

Meanwhile the Colony has an interesting and varied programme and we are looking forward to joining in with some District activities next term.

Ros White – Group Scout Leader

provided valuable assistance throughout the year and thanks to you too!

Just a couple of weeks after the AGM, cub camp was upon us which followed the tremendously popular theme of "Total Wipeout" (see picture, above). The usual camp champ competition was fairly contested through a range of activities from camping skills to climbing wall and archery activities. Liam Artingsall ended the clear winner even though his time was limited on camp. Well done.

Just before breaking up for the summer we had the privilege of being in the BBC South Today's Studios whilst the live evening broadcast went out (see photo, below). The Cubs were well behaved and tucked into the food and drink laid on by the BBC canteen – Ronnie Corbett had it all wrong. Thanks to Baloo for arranging this unique trip.

Autumn term focussed on adventure as this was the New Chief Scout's watch word. We built bivouacs, planned and went on a very dark night hike, built igloos indoors and celebrated St Andrew's day in costume with Scottish fare.

Cub Report

We have been at capacity of 24 all year with quite a long waiting list. Leaders have discussed splitting the pack night in two to accommodate the demand, however, the bottom line still requires more permanent, trained leadership. This said the active members have had a very varied, exciting and educational programme delivered by leaders who *now* have jungle book names (hooray!): Bagheera – David Albury my assistant cub leader, Kaa – Ann Ringrose, Baloo – Pete Doherty, Chil – Sarah Farr. Sincere thanks to them all. A number of parent have also

Below: Cubs in the BBC South Today studio



Spring term took a different twist to the normal pancake day activities. Yes we had many pancakes (thanks to Gill Muldoon) but only after a charming explanation of why we eat them on this day from Revd Peter Murphy from the Avon Valley Partnership. At the end he set the cubs a lenten challenge of completing a good turn every day until Easter. Certainly my household had much more volunteering for 40 days – can't say it's lasted though.

Many also achieved their Global Challenge badge through a Canadian themed winter Olympics evening and all forms of navigation.

Close to St Georges day we entertained the Alderholt Brownies at a camp fire around our new circle. Brownies don't often get to have a sing song around a real fire so they were as appreciative of this as we were of all the food and drink they brought with them.

My thanks also goes to Ros for supporting the Cub Section so well, especially with the two excellent opportunities we get for water activities. This year was no exception with the added treat of all the Cubs getting a sailing experience (thanks to Richard & Jimbo).

Another excellent year and we are all looking forward to the next one.

Richard Farr – Cub Scout Leader (Akela)

Scout Report

The Scout section has been very busy over the last year. Water activities are obviously a big part of this, including the successful Solent area regattas. Jimbo has put in a lot of work to ensure that we can provide a high quality of sail training, and he has written a separate report on this (page 6). The time and skills provided by our BCU instructors must not be forgotten either, providing both canoe and kayak training and organising trips. Recently some of the Scouts had the opportunity to experience kayaking



Caving in Mendip, April 2010

on the moving water of the River Wye (report on page 11).

But we don't just do water activities. Nine Scouts went to Mendip for a caving weekend in April staying at MNRC, Green Ore near Wells. All went into Goatchurch on Saturday morning, then down Waterwheel in the afternoon (and got very wet).

On Sunday some did a trip to Swildons sump 1 and others went to Hilliers Cave in Fairy Quarry, then round the top of Swildons in the afternoon. All the Scouts on the trip gained their caver badge.

Thanks to David Chadwick, Sally White, Andy Chapman, Darrel Instrell and Bryn Phillips for leading the trips.

Also on land Scouts have been hiking and cycle trips, have taken part in the SALLIE night exercise (report on page 10), been on camp (reported in the last edition of Waterlines), and so the list goes on...

Stephen White – Assistant Scout Leader

Ros White – Group Scout Leader

Avon Valley Explorers

There are between 20 - 25 Explorers taking advantage of the water activities on Monday evenings from May until September. Most participated in the BCU and RYA training schemes and gained awards thanks to the help and dedication of the instructors and leaders helping out. Many attended and took part in the county regattas winning prizes and high placing in their categories. Our instructors have also organised many opportunities for training and activity days for sailing, kayaking, caving etc. which have been well supported.

From October we reverted to a land based program meeting on Monday that has included activities and task evenings out on the forest, cooking competitions, Scrapheap challenge, air rifle shooting and other sport and social evenings. Attendance has been excellent.

The Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, which meets on the first Monday in the month and is run by Pat Savage, Ros and David, is proving more popular than ever before with all the Explorers working towards gaining their Bronze, Silver and Gold awards as well as Scout awards.

The highlight of last year was undoubtedly the "Suisse Adventure 2009" Summer camp in

Switzerland organised and run by County. Seven Avon Valley Explorers took part, an experience they should treasure for a life time.

Many of the Explorers helped out with the Moto Guzzi weekend, which is a good fund raising opportunity for us. We provided breakfasts, dinner, cream teas, a guided walk and even arranged a rustic sports competition, which they enjoyed. The motor cycle enthusiasts, who love visiting Fordingbridge and appreciate what we do for them, have now supported us for a fourth year. Funds raised went towards buying Archery equipment, which we will now be able to use as an additional activity.

I propose special thanks to Sandleheath's team of instructors and an even bigger thanks to the Explorers that as Young Leaders assist and provide invaluable help and support to leaders and instructors at Explorer, Scout, Cub and Beaver meetings.

Andy Brooks – District Explorer Scout Leader



H.Q. Bookings

Bookings continue to be a success. Regular bookings include not only Sandleheath Sea Scout Group but also Guides, Keep Fit, Toy Library and The Masons. We are also a popular venue for Birthday Parties and Weddings etc. We have a lovely facility to offer and this often receives positive comments from hirers.

Unfortunately, revenue from bookings is particularly low this year. This is simply due to other commitments preventing me from issuing invoices and ensuring that payments are made regularly and promptly. Therefore, I would like to request the assistance of a volunteer in respect of this area of the bookings procedure.

Please contact myself or any member of the Executive Committee if you are able to help.

Many thanks,

Jacqui Ingram – Bookings Administrator

Sailing Report

2009 heralded a big leap forwards for our Scout and Explorer sailing sessions, with a revised structure, new sessions and activities, and new boats.

Working towards our RYA Recognition, we generated a new “tick-sheet” system for recording and monitoring progress – my thanks go to Bryn Phillips for helping type all these up. This new format has resulted in a much more structured approach to coaching sailing, and allows for the fact we frequently have different leaders/instructors attending different evenings. As a result of our efforts formalising Scout sailing, we were awarded RYA recognition in October, and the centre inspector commented on how impressed he was with our setup and procedures.

The Scouts spent their Thursday evenings sailing either the Picos, Feva, or the two Bahias – and with the size of the Bahias being so comfortable, this was usually with an instructor or assistant on board. This has meant the bulk of the RYA Stage 1 syllabus has been covered for everybody, right from the more mundane shore based topics, through to the ever popular personal buoyancy tests and capsizing practice! We try to run a game at the end of most sessions, and these have proved varyingly successful, with not too many collisions...

The Explorer scouts had this year the option of what they wanted to do during their sessions, and elected for a mix of “free sailing”, utilising the asymmetric spinnakers etc, and our newly formed Explorer Racing Series, competing for the newly invented “Mandie Dawson Explorer Racing Trophy”. Despite some good performances from Jack Muldoon, Bryn Phillips, and Ben Collings, Joe Liddon crewed by Dom Crossley demonstrated consistent sailing ability, and competed in all races, taking the series. Special mention must go to Becky McGillveray who has suddenly developed into a surprising sailor – well done!

Supporting the Scouts and Explorers afloat, our sailing team of David Chadwick, Laura Morgan, Peter Quinn, Amelia Phillips, Les Radford and Rich Savage have proved themselves a dedicated and committed group of individuals, who are both open to new ideas when presented, and capable and confident developing and announcing their own ideas. We also funded Gill Muldoon and Trevor White through their Powerboat Level 2 course, making them capable and cheerful assets in the safety boat.

As a result of the new ideas coming from the

team, 2010 has taken on a much more structured approach already, with an instructor briefing and debriefing at most sessions, more detailed timings throughout the training evenings, and enhanced safety for our groups afloat and ashore. We have also developed a training and mentoring system for Assistant Instructors, and are grateful for the help still provided by Joe Liddon, Jack Muldoon, Amelia Phillips, and Bryn Phillips, and pleased to have qualified Tom Collings, Becky Mcgillveray, Katrina Miller, and Christie Quinn as new Assistants. Tom and Christie get a particular commendation for displaying a high (and perhaps unprecedented in some cases!) level of maturity when dealing with Scout groups, many of whom are their peers. It's amazing the respect they command already, and I look forward to watching them develop into even better instructors.

We have also named our boats, after consultation with the Scouts, and the new names are as follows:

The Black Pig	Coypu
The Flying Dustman	Coypu
Homer	Bahia
Marge	Bahia
Bart	Vago
Maggie	Vago
Lisa	Vago
Dash	Pico
Tom	Pico
Jerry	Pico
Goofy	Pico

Sandleheath again represented themselves well at the regatta, and a separate regatta report exists for this (published in the January edition of Waterlines).

In the spirit of cooperation, our boats have been used for many different things, by groups outside or connected to Scouting. Spinnaker sailing club continue to regularly utilise our Bahias for their Women on Water sessions, and they were also used to train a team of sailors from Bishops Wordsworth School before their Fastnet 2009 campaign. This provides us with kudos from Spinnaker, and additionally many of the lady sailors have kids of a Scout or near Scout age, and when shown our facilities and craft, often encourage their children to join. Tom Collings and Tom Madgwick from our group requested the use of our Bahias for a charity



sail early in 2010, to be used by a group of eight 12 and 13 year old school friends. This trip was hugely successful (please see Tom's report on page 9) and as well as providing exposure for Sandleheath, we have also done our bit for charity. 6 of the 8 youngsters are not Sea Scouts, and several of them have as a result of their experiences in our boats expressed an interest in joining!

On a personal basis, I have been appointed as a Scout assessor for Dinghy Sailing, Powerboating, Offshore Yachting, PWC (JetSkiing), and Motor Cruising, and have been using these new roles to assess suitably qualified sailors within Sandleheath, instructors from Poulner Scout Group, and even our Chief Scout, Bear Grylls. This has benefits for our Group, as not only can we process our own permits faster, we also generate links with other groups, and can encourage favours in return!

As a reward for good behaviour over the season, we again ran a Powerboat Water Chase in Portsmouth Harbour. We used three ribs, and conducted a treasure hunt and blast session, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all involved. We will be looking to repeat a similar reward at the end of 2010.

In May, via a complicated plan, my Mother, Ros, and myself, picked up the three new Laser Vagos on their rather shiny double stacking trailers. With their fully battened racing mainsails and trapezes, these are already proving their worth on our sailing evenings, and are a popular and impressive addition to our fleet. They've drawn admiring glances from many of the Spinnaker Instructors, and should provide a challenging and exciting sail when raced in this years Explorer Series!

Finally, on to Commendations and thanks. All the names in print above deserve special mention, especially the dedicated team of adult helpers, and this year we would like to award the Scout Sailing trophy to Bryn Phillips for his personal skills, motivation, and dedication as an assistant Instructor. Well done Bryn. A special commendation goes to Tom Collings and Christie Quinn for their performance as assistant instructors, and to Becky MacGillveray for her help this year.

As I write this, we are looking at helping four adults gain qualifications including RYA Powerboat, Dinghy, and Senior Dinghy Instructor, and are planning some away from base sessions keelboating out of Southampton. We have an application to become an OnBoard recognised club, and are actively recruiting new instructors. That's just the beginning, and quite right, as there is nothing – absolutely nothing – half so much worth doing as simply messing around in boats...

Jimbo – Chief Instructor

Queen's Scout Award

Well, I finally made it after a long time. As some of you will know I have now completed both my Queen's Scout Award and Gold DofE Awards. On Sunday 25 April I was invited as a Queen's Scout to attend the St Georges Day Parade at Windsor Castle, along with all the other recent recipients of the award, to meet the Prince of Wales and Bear Grylls. The day started with an extremely early start as I had to be in Windsor by 9am ready to practise marching and to have uniform inspections. It was pretty grey and dismal with the rain and didn't make practise marching too appealing at the Royal Barracks. But soon enough the sun came out and all was well. Over all there were about 200 Scouts on parade from all over the country and from different Scouting groups, some Sea Scouts, Air Scouts and others Land Scouts. We were all split into sections with about 30 people in each section and were set to practising marching and rehearsing the ceremony. During this time Bear Grylls (the Chief Scout) came over and visited different sections and and talked to a few of us. He asked me what I had done to achieve the award.

There are 5 main sections to the Queen's Scout award and Gold D of E. Physical Recreation – for this I choose cycling to improve my fitness and to get better at cycling. This was spread over the a period of 6 months. Service – This was helping to run the Scout troop at 1st Sandleheath and to attend training sessions and complete leader training. This was over a period of 12 months. Skills – This was learning and improving my powerboat driving and achieving my intermediate and advanced powerboat certificates. This was over a period of 12 months. Residential - For this I attended both the European Scout Jamboree and the World Scout Jamboree where I was teaching sailing and leading a safety boat team for Scouts from all over the world. This was an amazing experience and met lots of new people from all over the world and got the chance to work with them as well, and as many of you may know this has inspired me to go to the next jamboree in Sweden as an Assistant Unit Leader for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The final part of the award was the expedition and I completed this with a group of people from different parts of the country who I had never met before. This was classed as an open expedition. We met and

completed our practice together and then a few months later completed the assessed as well. For this we canoed down the River Wye from Glasbury to Monmouth. This was a fantastic expedition and was certainly something different from the walking expeditions that I had completed before.

Once our section leaders were happy with our marching skills we then were free to have lunch and reassemble at the Royal Mews from where the parade started. Once we were all formed up we marched up the hill from the Royal Mews into the quadrangle of Windsor Castle with all the state apartments overlooking it. This is where we spent the next hour or so while the Prince of Wales and Bear Grylls inspected the whole parade and talked to various people. The Prince of Wales stopped in front of me and asked me about Sea Scouts, and all about Sandleheath as a group and what we get up to. He seemed really interested in it all and it was really nice that he spent the time talking to us.

Once the parade had been inspected then it was time for us all to march past the Prince of Wales and down to St Georges Chapel. In the morning I had been selected by my section leader to be calling the pace which our section should march at. It seemed a very long way from the quadrangle to the Chapel while I was constantly having to call time for the rest of the section to follow. There was then a special service in St George's Chapel to celebrate all the achievements that had been accomplished.

Finally it was a short march out of St George's Chapel and the grounds of Windsor Castle back to the Royal Mews via the High Street in Windsor with all the general public watching us. The day was amazing and it topped off all the hard work that I had put in to gain the award. I met lots of new people at the parade and we were all exchanging stories.

So next for me is going off to St James's Palace to be presented with my Gold D of E award soon.

I would thoroughly recommend that all of you aim to get you Queen's Scout Award and Gold D of E and to go on the St George's Day Parade at Windsor.

Richard Savage



Above: Bear Grylls meeting Queen's Scouts at the Windsor St George's Day Parade

Assessing the Chief Scout



Left: Jimbo with Bear Grylls

and the opportunities and skills it provides young people and volunteers alike, and with Bear's background as a Scout he has first hand experience of how this has helped

On Friday 7th May, I travelled to Ribex on the Isle of Wight, to conduct a powerboat assessment for our Chief Scout, Bear Grylls. This was in preparation for the forthcoming survival camp, where eight Scouts will get to spend a weekend with him on his own island off the coast of Wales.

Bear had opened the show earlier in the day by racing the organiser from the mainland to Cowes, in matching ribs, a hard fought race which Bear won by a small margin. Having spent the day busy entertaining visitors to the show, I could only hope there wasn't too much pressure and stress from his impending skills assessment.

At 1600, following a short briefing on what to expect, Bear slipped lines from Cowes Yacht Haven, and accompanied by two of his children, his wife, and various friends and members of the crew, we headed out into the Solent. Our route, which Bear had already planned, took us from Cowes, past Bramble Bank, and into Ocean Village marina on the River Itchen.

On the way, Bear was put under pressure as he was grilled on collision regulations, passenger safety and briefings, actions to be taken in the event of an emergency including summoning assistance, Man Overboard, crew awareness; particularly for youngsters, and general boat handling skills. Bear's navigation, fog routine, and pilotage skills were also assessed.

Throughout the session, Bear was very calm and professional, and displayed exceptionally high boat-handling and seamanship abilities. He answered every question I had for him, and it was obvious that he took safety very seriously. His attitude towards his passengers and crew was clearly demonstrated by his insistence that all on board wore appropriate sized life-jackets, and that his driving was kept appropriate for the younger passengers on board. As well as ensuring their safety he will obviously be popular with scout crew on board; evidenced by the way he coached his young son, Marmaduke, as they together brought the boat alongside Ocean Village Marina at the end of the assessment.

Bear and I chatted about the Scout Association,

shape his direction and motivation in life. I am extremely pleased that with his successful award of a Scout Powerboating Permit, more Scouts will benefit from time afloat, and his infectious enthusiasm.

James 'Jimbo' Davies – Chief Instructor

This story is also reported at:

<http://scouts.org.uk/news/296/sail-to-the-chief>

Sailing for Haiti



A small group of boys from Bishop's Wordsworth school in Salisbury decided it was their turn to do their bit and help the massive earthquake appeal in Haiti. 2 of them were Scouts at Sandleheath. With four of them having a passion for sailing, the other two having previous experience on the water, they all decided to do a water-based activity. At first the plan was to have a huge group of us, with six pedalos, six kayakers and six sailors. We quickly realised how unrealistic this was and cut it down to four kayakers and four sailors. Again we decided to revise our plan even further and turn it into eight sailors. Our whole plan was based on eight people doing it, however, unfortunately, due to the ash cloud two people had to drop out last minute, leaving six of us: Tom Collings, Tom Scott, Tom Madgwick, Dom Ellis and John Cakebread.

With Dom having never sailed before, only having kayaked, we had a big challenge a head of us. After explaining our plans to Jimbo Davies he decided

that it was a good enough cause to help out with and gave us permission to train and borrow the Scout boats for the day. We decided that Bahias would be the most practical boat we had at our disposal. He also lent us his charts and other equipment to use through the planning and throughout the sail. We had about 5 training session all together, in which everyone built up their confidence and learn how to sail properly. In one of our training sessions we loaded up the boats and took them down to Christchurch harbour, where everyone managed to get a taster of what the day might be like. It was also a chance to test our kit and to test our ability with the boats.

After 2 shore-based evenings we had our route decided and plotted. We would sail from Lymington marina to Christchurch harbour. We estimated it would take us roughly 5-6 hours. We would sail out of Lymington River, into the Solent. Then we would go round Hurst Castle and down Christchurch bay, into the harbour. We worked out that it was almost twenty-one kilometres. After some cold and wet training session, the day finally arrived.

We had loaded up the boats the night before, so decided to meet at Lymington at 09:00 to rig up the boats and leave by 12. However due to the lack of the wind we decided to leave as soon as possible, which meant we were on the water by 11 O'clock. This was a good call as it took us nearly an hour to get into the Solent! Finally, once we had reached the Solent, the wind picked up and we started to get the boats moving. We beat all the way up to Hurst Castle without any problems, and we even got some people out on the trapeze! All the way down Christchurch Bay was a beam reach, and we just cruised down there. We also got up to speeds of 11 knots! We managed to get everyone out on the trapeze and had some awesome fun!

Coming into Christchurch Harbour was a lot easier than when we had first done it on our training session, although sailing in Christchurch Harbour was hard. The mud kept on pushing up the rudder and centre plate and it meant we kept on drifting near other boats. We got the boats out, de-rigged them and managed to load them up okay. A small group of people then took the boats back to Spinnaker Lake and unloaded them from the trolleys. The others either went home or drove the powerboat back to Lymington.

We all had a fun day, which could never have happened without all the help from parents and especially Jimbo! I have to say a massive thank-you to everyone who helped and participated in our sail. In total we have managed to raise £2,660. If we add the gift aid onto that then it come to a total of £3,200 which has now all been sent off to help!

Tom Collings

S.A.L.L.I.E.

Adult/Explorer Results

Place	Team	Points
1	A6 (Lymington)	1300
2	A7 (Avon Valley)	1089
3	A5 (Avon Valley)	896
4	A8 (Lymington)	803

Scout Results

Place	Team	Points
1	S4 (Sandleheath)	827
2	S1 (Sandleheath)	817
3	S3 (Sandleheath)	816
4	S2 (3 rd Ringwood)	693

Avon Valley Explorer Teams:

A5: D. Green, S. Prior-Lettley, J. Deakin, L. Hobbs

A7: J. Liddon, R. Gracie, C. Quinn, D. Crossley, J. Collings

Sandleheath Scout Teams:

S1: M. Edwards, L. Deakin, C. Hinton, H. Harden, J. Grover (escorted by Julie Hinton)

S3: T. Collings, J. Madgwick, T. Madgwick, H. Collings, H. Currell, J. Daniel (escorted by Gordon Currell)

S4: D. White, S. White, D. Poyntz Wright, B. Miller (escorted by Trevor White)

H.Q. Maintenance

Every time I drive into the centre car park I can't help thinking how lucky we are to have such a fantastic facility. We are also fortunate that to date most of the work required, has been of a relatively routine nature, such as servicing and maintenance of heating, fire alarms etc. However as the building ages, we must expect to face bigger tasks both to maintain it and keep it safe for all those using the centre, such as the water heater that has been recently replaced. Therefore any offers of help will always be gratefully received, especially for those tasks beyond the normal level of DIY. Often, it is just a case of finding someone to open up the building in office hours, when an appointment has been made for work to be carried out. If you are able to help my number is on the back of Waterlines.

Paul Adams

River Wye

Over the weekend of 21 – 23 May it was time again for another trip to the River Wye in Wales for the Scouts to enjoy moving water. There were 9 Scouts and 4 leaders who made the trip this year. We were rewarded by fantastic weather, and great paddling conditions. Friday evening was spent on the drive to Wales and setting up camp at Biblins campsite on the banks of the River Wye.

As this camp was a lightweight camp we were eating dehydrated meals, cooking on Trangias and sleeping in hike tents. On Saturday morning we drove to the put-in further up river at Kerne Bridge, and faced a rather long queue of paddlers trying to get on the water.

We all paddled downstream stopping from time to time to play on the faster bits of moving water, and practise skills to be able to get BCU qualifications signed off. Everyone was very keen to learn as much as possible on this moving water. Lunch was had at the side of the river upstream of Symond's Yat, where we all had some time to regain our energy from the morning's paddle. In the afternoon we paddled on down to Symond's Yat where all of the Scouts were keen to have a go on the seal launches that have been made on the side of the banks. There were some pretty impressive efforts and a crowd gathered from the camp-site above to watch. Just down river were Symond's Yat Rapids which is a section of the River Wye that the BCU have made into some artificial rapids. Even

though the river levels were fairly low the rapids were still flowing well and enabled the Scouts to have several runs down.

Sunday morning was spent packing away camp and getting on the water from the camp-site to paddle to Monmouth. En-route we found a nice beach on the edge of the river to have lunch and then paddled the short distance to Monmouth where it was time to get off the river and head home.

All the Scouts really enjoyed the trip and learned lots of skills. Special thanks must go to Ros, Dave C. and Dave M. for helping me to make the camp happen.

All of the pictures can be found on the group website at:

<http://www.sandleheathseascouts.org.uk/photos/gallery/river-wye-may-2010/>

Richard Savage – Assistant Scout Leader



Group Programme

July	Saturday, 10th Sunday, 25th – Friday, 30th	Solent Sea Scout Sailing Regatta (Spinnaker) Scout/Explorer Summer Camp
September	Tuesday, 7th Saturday, 25th Saturday, 25th	Beaver & Cub water activities (Spinnaker) Solent Sea Scout Main (pulling) Regatta (Testwood) Dragonboat competition at Longridge
November	Sunday, 14th	Remembrance Sunday

Waterlines, June 2010

Editor: Stephen White, <stephen-scoutsweb@earth.li>

Produced using OpenOffice on Debian/GNU Linux.

<http://www.sandleheathseascouts.org.uk/>

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1st Sandleheath Sea Scout Group

Useful Phone Numbers & Addresses

Page not available online

Stop Press ...

Scout Report #2

Another year has flown by, and once again it has been a good year.

Meetings have not had the stress of some previous years, thanks to the parents and helpers who have supported us regularly. It has also helped that the Scouts themselves have been very well behaved, both on the water and ashore,

Gordon and Trevor have been regular helpers, without whom evenings and activities would have been much harder, also Chris and Neil and others, too many to name here, who give us the benefit of their time and skills. It goes without saying that our skills instructors and warranted leaders are at the core of our activities on the water and off, without whom many activities could not be provided.

Thanks must also go to those who came to special evenings, including the foreign students for our international evening (thanks again Sharon), Lee Mason (for the disability awareness and sign language) and Katrina and Josh for sharing their travels with us. Alex is popular whatever he does with the Scouts, and allowed the Scouts to rummage through the equipment on his police uniform and try his handcuffs for size. Regrettably he released them afterwards.



Above: Sandleheath team at the Hampshire Youth Games, 2009

Stephen White ran a hill walking weekend to Grwyne Fawr Reservoir in the Brecon Beacons, giving Scouts the chance to experience heavy rucksacks (for a while at least) and wild landscape. This year's walk looks like being another great weekend.

Summer camp at Chelwood near Bath had mixed weather, but predominantly dry. Being inland the emphasis was more land based with a number of hikes, a trip to Bristol Zoo, caving and climbing (for which we were lucky with the weather) and a backwoods day including cooking on open fires. Everyone seemed to enjoy canoeing on the canal near Bath, and we were lucky to be helped with parking by a kind farmer's wife and son. She did warn us that her husband was a bit grumpy, but that she would deal with him. Fortunately we didn't meet the farmer until the end of the second day, when we blocked the lane while loading the trailer and the welcome mat was well and truly withdrawn.

Sandleheath put in an excellent performance at SALLIE, not just with their results but also, without exception, their outstanding attitude and behaviour. Once again, thanks to the parents and leaders who



Above: Friction Pioneering on Summer Camp
Left: Climbing at Split Rock, also during camp

gave up a night's sleep to help run the event. Without you it would not be possible.

Caving and Sandleheath are inseparable, due to the great enthusiasm of Ros and David. A number of trips have been run in the Mendip hills with some Scouts going underground for the first time while others can't go often enough.

Our performances at the sailing and canoeing regattas were good, showing the quality of our young people. If we could raise a bigger team, particularly for the canoeing and pulling regatta, we could be serious contenders for the main prizes. Maybe this year...

At the end of September we took our biggest team yet to the Basingstoke Canal Challenge, and with some outstanding performances from both Scouts and Explorers took the team trophy again.

The end of water activities saw us based at our headquarters for our winter programme. There is a limit to the time scouts and leaders can be kept indoors, so it is a good thing that we have plenty of night activities on the forest, from incident hikes to bike rides and simple group walks, none of which would be complete without a game of "German Spotlight". Even the weather was better this winter.

In October Sandleheath were well represented at the Sea Scouts Centenary anniversary parade next to HMS Victory in the Portsmouth Dockyard. The sun shone all day and we were addressed by the Second Sea Lord who seemed very in tune with Sea Scouts and young people. After the parade we had free access to the Historic Dockyard attractions. Thanks to Jimbo for organising this once in a lifetime visit for us.

This was also the first time Sharon turned out in Sea Scout uniform, so I shouldn't have been surprised when in November she became a warranted leader, which has gone down very well with the Scouts.

Jimbo also organised an RYA level 2 powerboat course for leaders, run from Gosport, and on the same weekend a powerboat day for deserving Scouts and Explorers to experience high powered RIBs on a rough sea.

The Remembrance Day parade in Fordingbridge was well attended. Once again we received compliments from the local community who are pleased to see young people remembering and respecting our past. Although the church service has been rather traditional, it looks like discussions may result in a more youth friendly service.

The winter programme gives us the chance to do some of the things "ordinary" Scouts do, including arts and crafts, Scouting skills and badge work. The music evening always amazes me with the talent we have, as do the art evenings, but at least in tabletop pioneering I know that after the engineering achievements, all eyes are on the marshmallows -

surely traditional scouting.

Of course, we also get the chance to learn outdoor skills like climbing caving ladders (is caving an outdoor sport?), using marine flares, fire lighting, and many others.

Our year is traditionally rounded off with the Christmas "video & chips" evening, and New Year's Day cycle ride in the forest, a real family day out.

Graham and Ross have again taken Scouts and Explorers white water kayaking on the Dartmoor rivers and also a visit to the new artificial white water course at Cardiff. The standard of white water paddling is remarkable as we have seen from photos and video.

A popular day out was Jimbo's visit to the Submarine Museum at Gosport followed by a full tour of GAFIRS (Gosport & Fareham Inshore Rescue Service). It is interesting that their kayak rescue specialists have a unique role in addition to the more usual RIBs. Despite the freezing wind, the walk along the seafront to the chip shop (followed by eating them in the warm cars) proved a popular end to the day.

Before we knew it we were preparing for the new season on the water, and trying some new ideas, including the introduction of "assistant instructors". The idea is to give them support and experience in their chosen sports, leading to RYA and BCU coaching and leadership awards. They are generally Explorers although a few sScouts have their eye on an instructor shirt.

May this year found us on the River Wye for a weekend organised by Richard Savage. The sun shone all weekend, the water was warm and a great weekend was had by all - except Ros who had a really nasty flu like illness so sadly was unable to paddle.

A very good year with many achievements by Scouts and leaders/helpers alike, for which we should all be proud.

David Miller – Scout Leader



Above: Trophies from the 2009 Solent Regatta at Testwood