

1ST SANDLEHEATH SEA SCOUT GROUP



WATERLINES

Oct 2007

Autumn Edition

Solent Scout Regattas

Sandleheath did well in both Solent Regattas this year. The first was the Blashford (Sailing) Regatta held at the end of June. Unfortunately there were only a relatively small number of Groups represented this year, of course Sandleheath were one of them. As you can see we could not have asked more of our Scouts and Explorers – they were brilliant. They also helped with rigging boats and putting them away and were generally helpful and well behaved. Full marks.

Scouts

Place	Group	Points
1	Sandleheath	3
2	Mudford	17.4
3	Hamble	39

Explorer Scouts

Place	Group	Points
1	Sandleheath	9
2	Hamble	14.7
3	Poulner	80

For more detailed race and class results for both regatta, please visit the Group website.

The Testwood regatta was held in September. We had a great day, with lots of excellent result. The Scouts took second place overall and we also won the under 12½ dinghy pulling (Ryan, Jake, Freya, Rachel & Chloe) and the under 12½ double canoe class (Ryan & Jake). Sam Hinton won all 3 races in the under 14 canoeing, but lost a very close race off for the trophy. Everyone tried 1 best – and can be proud of what they achieved.

As usual the Scouts behaviour was brilliant. However it was the Mums, Dads and 0 Leaders who were the stars of the day. There being no food for sale Raffi's Mum and Dad and Harley's Mum, Claire took over and organised refreshments (a splendid spread after a quick visit to a local supermarket). David & Sharon Miller and John & Julie Hinton were lined up

to run the Single canoe races, but with a lack of marshals for the pulling and double canoes Paul Toynton and Barry Deakin were roped in to help. Stephen was First Aider with Kerry, but soon had to leave her and drive a safety boat, whilst Kerry did the first aid and helped David record results. Barry took over safety cover on the canoeing course (in a kayak of course) as Stephen repaired the Safety Boat. As other parents arrived they were pressed into action - Gill Muldoon and Jamie Murphy stepped forward to enable the Single canoe crew to each have a break (in rotation). Many thanks to you all. I think you realise how much the Regatta depends on your help. I can go to the Regatta Committee meetings with head held high, knowing that the Sandleheath crew, once again, did a fantastic job and the Scouts showed that they know what they are doing on the water.

Ros White – Group Scout Leader

Scouts

Place	Group	Points
1	9 th Lymington	160
2	1 st Sandleheath	145
3	6 th Hamble	132
4	2 nd Fareham	104
5	13 th Southampton	102
6	4 th Hythe	92
7	10 th Christchurch	75
8	1 st Barton	64
9	1 st Park Gate	59
10	Milford & Keyhaven	41



Sandleheath under 14 double canoe competitors: Sam & Charlie, left, and Katrina & Raffi, right

Results continued over-leaf...
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Explorer Scouts

Place	Group	Points
1	6 th Hamble	146
2	9 th Lymington	133
3	25 th Southampton	119
4	4 th Hythe	111
5	1 st Sande Heath	99
6	4 th Eling	77
7	13 th Southampton	70
8	2 nd Fareham	49
9	Milford & Keyhaven	42
10	1 st Park Gate	35
11	4 th Netley	34
12	10 th Christchurch	12



Climbing at Haytor during Camp

Diary of Summer Camp 2007

Scout summer camp this year was held at Watcombe near Torquay from July 21st to July 27th.

Friday, 20: Collected & packed 4 trailers.

Saturday, 21: Ros, Dave, Stephen & Geoffrey set off to camp with 2 trailers of kit. Thought we were

lost in Torquay – but actually got to camp site okay. Found we had been moved off the site we had booked as there was a huge group of German Scouts arriving later in the week and more or less taking over the place. Set up mess tents, then went out for Chinese take-away. Got lost in Torquay. Peaceful night – no scouts!

Sunday 22: Continued setting up site (Stephen went to reconnoitre letterboxes) until Scouts arrived late morning. As minibus drove up the hill from the lower to the upper car park David made rude comments about the smell of Sally's mouthwash (she was riding shotgun for Nigel in the minibus). Ros identified it as burning clutch. Good start to camp! Geoffrey took the Scouts on a tour of camp site; a couple of scouts decided that the camp-fire circle was a wrestling pit! The scouts pitched their patrol tents (fairly neatly as they had leaders leaning over their shoulders the whole time), had lunch, then got together beach things and set off down the track to Watcombe beach. Most scouts enjoyed the walk, particularly Peter, who took a "short" cut and found it to be a little steep. There was swimming and attempts at skim-boarding and rock-hopping. Returning on the same steep path some attempted a less steep detour – the wrong way!

Dinner (thanks to Raffi's mum for cooking it in advance) then in groups rotating around climbing wall, crate stacking and Jimbo's command (leadership) tasks.

Monday 23: Started raining through the night and did not stop. Morning wet, windy & set in for the day. Plainly Monday (climbing) could not occur, so we had breakfast and then declared it to be Thursday so that we could do a visit. After various mathematical calculations we decided we could get everyone somewhere in cars, leaving Nigel (who had spent hours on the phone sorting out what we should do about the sick minibus) to take the minibus in for repair and Ros & Geoffrey (no room in cars for him), in David's car, to collect Nigel from the garage, do shopping etc. Scouts sent off with packed lunches to Paignton Zoo for the day. Ros, Geoffrey & Nigel, having no idea what sort of Zoo it was, had images of the scouts being taken for the day to see 2 donkeys, a goat and a hamster! It turned out to be a great success, and the scouts (even those who were not keen at the start) thoroughly enjoyed it. Minibus should be ready early Tuesday (sigh of relief from Ros). By evening it had consented to rain a little lighter and a couple of

”tasks” were attempted, rope circle and human knot (Jimbo declared our Scouts to be deviant for producing 2 rings instead of the normal 1), then played Buzz, in the park right next to the camp site. Stephen used modern technology with his phone to get an internet weather forecast – tomorrow would be the best day of the week. We’d better make good use of it!

Tuesday 24: Weather fine – so it was declared to be Monday (Tuesday was put on hold) and all Scouts were transported to Haytor for climbing, Haytor Quarry walk (with commentary from Nigel on the legend of Bovey Tracey) and letterboxing in rotation. Nigel collected the minibus then joined them, as did Ros & Geoffrey after shopping. Up on the hill at Haytor it was windy - but not raining. Those who tried climbing generally succeeded, though Harriet did need reminding that she was trying to go up. Some scouts did really well, completing 2 climbs graded “difficult” and another graded “severe” (we’ll have to find them some harder climbs another time).

Detour on the way back to the beach at Watcombe for a BBQ – plus swimming & rock-hopping. After walking back to camp there was a late dinner (pre-cooked by Harley’s Mum – thanks) which Harley nearly missed because he was tidying his tent.



Canoeing on the Dart

Wednesday 25: The forecast said this would be better than Thursday - so we considered the programme (having done Monday and Thursday and unfortunately could not declare it Friday) so we went for Tuesday. Drizzly and quite windy, so we took the more able canoeists to Stoke Gabriel to canoe the Dart towards Totnes and back (with the tide both ways). All the canoeists all did very well despite adverse conditions. The rest divided between caving and letterboxing. The cavers got lost (in Torquay) on the way to the cave, lost and muddy in the cave and then met up with Stephen for the swap to letter-boxing. Chloe showed enthusiasm for caving and a determination to

lead the group down every blind alley she could find (see her report on this).

Arriving at the letter-boxing, Stephen had lost most of the swap-over group (& Tim) who were not impressed by the weather and had headed back to camp. The rest were less than enthusiastic about caving so Jimbo took them back to camp while Dave collected the trailer of kit and then the second set of letter-boxers and went back to site – where there was an excess of sausages to cook. The evening was fine – so a low ropes course was set up by Dave and Stephen and blindfold trail (set out by Geoffrey and Sally) rounded off the day, with Jimbo drawing the short straw of keeping the other half occupied, with everyone doing all 3 activities in turn.



Setting out on a letter-boxing walk

Thursday 26: Very wet and very, very windy. Only day remaining was Wednesday – so it had to be – but Stephen had a bright idea - we would do Wednesday backwards. The weather was supposed to improve through the day (which it did, it was much drier in the afternoon/evening than it was in the morning). So we starting with swimming (in the evening). Agreed. Dave confused everyone by announcing the time (working backwards from 10pm) at regular intervals. Most of the scouts had got used to days of the week occurring out of order by now but the backwards time thing threw them (and us!). Swimming was enjoyed by all as the swimming pool had a wave machine and water slide.

They then (in the morning) did whichever option they had not previously done of caving/letter-boxing or canoeing. The wind rose to a force 4 gusting 6 – so canoeing was cancelled and a walk on the coast path towards Torquay and some artwork was selected. On the coast path we passed a sign about coastal erosion;

shortly afterwards Liz declared that the path ahead had fallen off the cliff so we all had to double back. Great views. The cavers failed to get lost in Torquay, found a good round trip in Pridhamsleigh cavern and got very muddy. The highlight of the trip was Sam Hinton almost drowning, only to be saved by Sally (all the other scouts were disappointed to hear that he had “almost” drowned). They washed off in the river. Changed and headed for the letter-boxing. Of those who had just been letter-boxing 2 declared that they were not going underground, 1 had “forgotten” his clothes and the other wasn’t bothered, so afternoon caving was again cancelled. We were now on early morning! Returned to sanity and had a camp fire with glow sticks, sausage rolls, hot chocolate and marshmallows.

Friday 27: At last. Watches running forwards again – we set off with 4 groups to rotate around climbing, crate stacking, nuclear/biological device drop (Jimbo’s task) and tent packing. Sally had to do a human fly impersonation, climbing a telegraph pole in flip-flops to set up the crate stacking as the guideline had broken!

Lunch included Jack’s birthday cake, and then the Scouts put all their kit in the Fordingbridge trailer and left for a convoluted journey home (probably got lost in Torquay in the way). Stephen & Dave were left to pack camping kit and tidy site. Minibus/cars took people to Totnes, where they had to find way to the steam-train station and catch train (which they only just made) to Buckfastleigh. Met by Minibus/cars (goodbye to Abbie who was met by her parents) and on to West Bay for sausage/chips or whatever.

Bit of a delay on the way due to an accident near Honiton. Going to be late home. Lots of phone calls to parents – now expected back at Scout Centre about 10pm. Inevitably one parent had failed to note the correct collection point (or did not want her child back) and waited in Fordingbridge car park!

Ros, Dave, Stephen and Geoffrey, having packed almost everything in the dry, set off later with most of the kit in the 2 large trailers. Dave, in the lead, got lost in Torquay again. David, Sharon, Katrina and Brendon were left behind for more adventures before their return on Sunday.

Thanks to all the Leaders and helpers – a fantastic team – and a great camp. Camp Diary and photos by various members of the Team.



Outside Pridhamsleigh Cavern

Scout Camp 2007

by Chloe

The activities on scout camp were amazing! I liked the camp site and the view from the camp site looking down at the sea.

The activity I found most enjoyable was caving, I don't know what it was about it that I enjoyed, I think it was being in the dark and not knowing where you are, where you have been or where you are going. And when we came out of the cave realising how cold it was inside. Whilst inside the cave I gave David a high five and quickly he gave me one then slapped me on the face covering me in mud. The rest of the trip I was trying to get him back. When we came back to the camp site I told Sam H. to get him back the next day, so he did! When we were trying to get out we got lost and the group started shouting at each other. David let me go exploring round the cave. While I was waiting for the rest of the group and as people came through the narrow hole they started following me. When four people had gone through David said that we were going the wrong way! Everyone who had followed me had to go down through the hole again. Thank-you so much David.

Chloe Hinton – Scout

More photos of camp can be found online at: <http://www.sandleheathseascouts.org.uk/scamp2007/> For those interested, that page also contains a link to information on the letterboxes that we found.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Basingstoke Canal Challenge

We now have 30 young people registered for and undertaking the D. of E. scheme and numbers are growing all the time. Everyone between the ages of 14 and 25 is eligible to take part.

We have had break over the summer holidays as most of the D. of E.s went to the Explorer camp at Kandersteg and I am sure they had a wonderful time [of course we'd know that they had a wonderful time if they'd sent me a report – Ed].

We usually meet on the first Monday of the month at about 7pm at Scout H.Q., just before the Explorers meeting, and talk about training needed, ideas, any questions about which subjects are eligible for which sections, updating of record books and expedition training requirements. Fortunately the special offer on joining the Duke of Edinburghs Award is still remaining at £5.50 to register at Bronze or Silver level and at Gold level only £8.25 so if you are interested in getting involved contact me straight away or come along to a meeting!

We have just had a Silver practice expedition in the New Forest at the end of September and as it rained quite heavily we hope the participants did not get too rusty! Walking and camping in the rain is quite a different experience!

Paul Murphy and Ros White continue to organise the training for expeditions and oversee the expeditions themselves but it is up to the participants to agree with them dates they are available for practices and actual expeditions and all the organisation required for these events. Everyone who participates in D. of E. expeditions must have received proper training in map reading skills, first aid, risk assessments, camping and cooking skills etc and show that they are ready to take part. It is a real team building exercise as everyone works together towards a successful expedition.

So, if you want to join in the fun, want more information or registration forms please contact me on 01725 510397, email at pat@ REMOVED or pat.savage@ REMOVED or visit the Duke of Edinburgh's Award website at www.theaward.org.

Pat Savage – D. of E. Award Group Leader

We left Ringwood in torrential rain. The weather looked bad, but north of Winchester it was dry with a gentle breeze and light broken cloud – a perfect day exactly as forecast. Sam Hinton and Ellie Stacey were back this year in Dancers for the 8 mile course, nothing would have kept them away. Brendan Miller (an 8 year old Bransgore Cub) paddled the 6 mile course in his now familiar role as a Sandleheath Scout. He was an Explorer at the Solent Scout regatta last week, the poor chap is getting old before his time. John Hinton completed the team by supporting us again.

The course starts at Winchfield Bridge, 3 miles to Colt Hill Marina and return to make 6 miles, then the paddlers for the 8 mile course continue for another mile and return to the start/finish line. It is a truly beautiful canal which makes you want to stop and look instead of race.

Ellie & Sam started at 10:12, Brendan shortly after and I was last to go as usual. I could feel the effect of my lack of paddling this year, but Sam & Ellie had no such problems and were well on the way back from the first turn when I passed them on my way out, and again as they came back from the second turn, Ellie still right with Sam.

I caught Brendan at the first turn where we both had a drink of squash from the marshal, then had to wait when the Canal Trust tour boat blocked the canal while turning. For much of his return Brendan joined a youth group who were training in racing kayaks, so he had to work hard to keep up.

	6 miles			8 miles			last 2 miles		
	Time	min/mile	mph	Time	min/mile	mph	Time	min/mile	mph
Brendan	1:34	15.67	3.83	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ellie	1:15	12.50	4.80	1:45	17.50	4.57	0:30	5.00	4.00
Sam	1:15	12.50	4.80	1:45	17.50	4.57	0:30	5.00	4.00
Dave	1:06	11.00	5.45	1:32	15.33	5.22	0:26	4.33	4.62

Sam was the fastest Scout over both 6 and 8 miles, improving significantly on his time of 1h 52m from last year.

Ellie took second place in the Explorer 8 mile and recorded the fastest Explorer time for 6 miles. She had a remarkable race crossing the line with Sam, only 3 minutes behind the winning Explorer. Her average 4.8 mph for 6 miles improving on last year's average 4.39 mph.

Fund-raising

Brendan was a star and saved the day for us with a very good pace, especially for an 8 year old. He was placed 7th Scout out of 15 for the 6 mile course.

We were second in the team event, the trophy this year going to 5th Gosport who had a very solid team of twelve, especially their Scouts. I improved 2 minutes on last year and was delighted to win Paul's Paddle for the fastest warranted leader.

After the race we went to the Winchfield Arms to celebrate a job well done. John & I felt that two years running was enough to count as a tradition and are looking forward to next year when we need more Sandheath paddlers to take part, especially more Scouts as Sam will move up to Explorers.

Our thanks go to John Penfold from Hook and his team who run this event each year, and of course to John Hinton for his support and who thought he might like to paddle next year.

Dave Miller – Scout Leader



Beaver Leader

We still have no Beaver Leader or Assistant Beaver Leader. We are looking for 4 or 5 people to take on helping to run Beavers under Nigel Hall's direction. Tuesday evenings – 5:45 to 7pm. Term-time only. It's not a huge commitment! If you would like to help have a chat to Nigel or Ros about what is involved.

More good news, this time from the Local Network Fund. We have been awarded our full grant of £6145.18 to purchase another Pico dinghy and launch trolley and road trailer and 3 dagger dynamics and equipment and camping equipment for explorers.

We have also received £250 from Ringwood Carnival Committee, and £351 from the New Forest National Park Authority Sustainable Development Fund for various New Forest Wildlife books and identification guides.

Finally there is more good news from Sainsburys Active Kids vouchers, we got about 1400 vouchers. This allowed us to get 4 sets of plastic camp dining sets (6 plates, bowls & mugs), 5 compasses, a soft football, some coloured skipping ropes and lots of plastic whistles. Thanks to everyone who collected for us.

Group Programme 2007 / 2008

December

Saturday, 15th

District Carol Service (Harry's Island, 6:30pm)

February 2008

Saturday, 2nd

District Chick law competition (provisional)

Friday, 29th - Sunday, 2nd March

County Winter Camp

March

Saturday, 8th

Scout Centre Spring Clean

July

Saturday, 5th

Solent Scout Sailing Regatta (Spinnaker)

Saturday 26th - Saturday, 2nd August

Scout & Explorer summer camp

September

Saturday, 20th

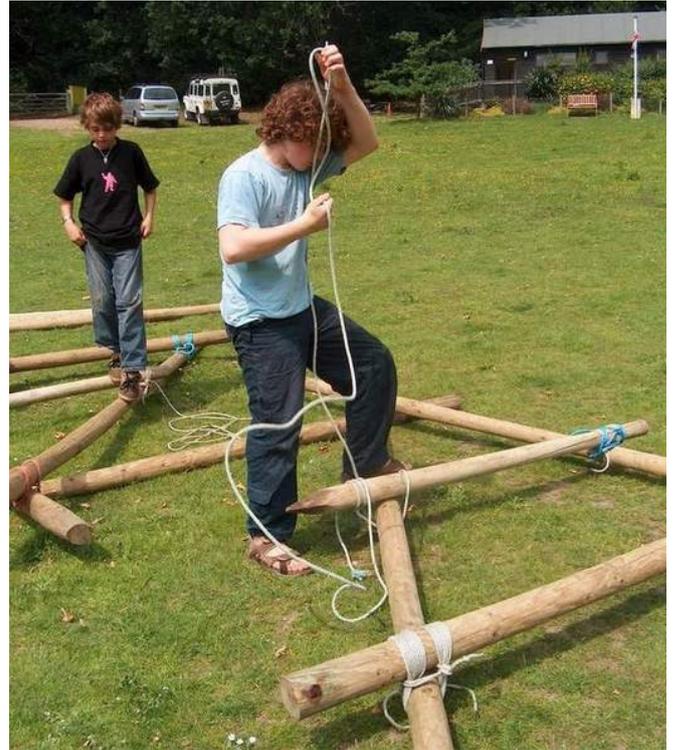
Solent Scout Regatta (Testwood)



Also this summer ...

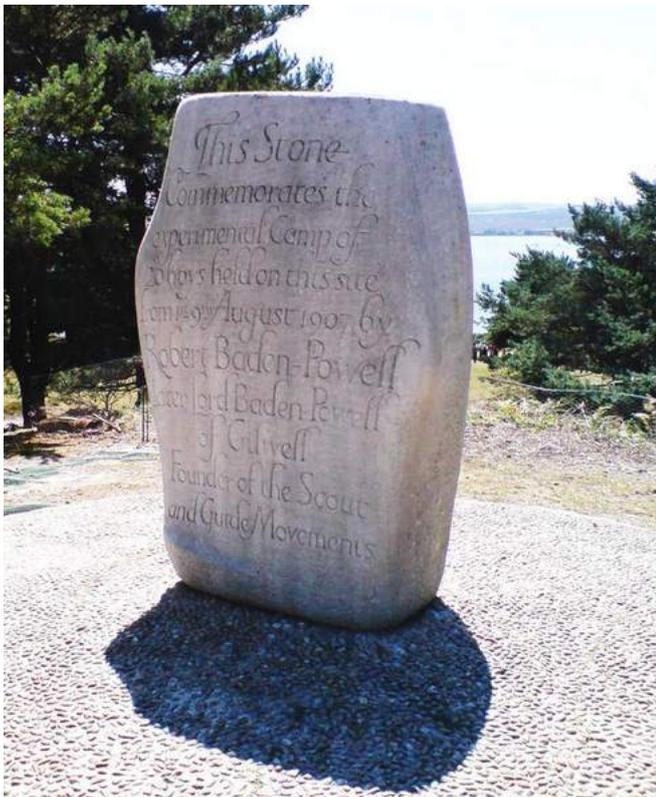
Lots and lots of things have been going on over the summer. I don't have reports on them to include, but here are some photographs to jog your memories (or show you what you missed out on).

Family Camp included constructing (top-right) a pioneering construction (above), a hike & wide-game on the Forest, ropes course, "small" camp-fire, fire-lighting and other activities. The Scouting "back to basics" theme was inspired by this year being the 100th anniversary of the first Scout camp on Brownsea island. Despite living so close I'd never actually been to the island, so on a nice summer day I went for a visit – and took the obligatory picture of the commemorative stone (below).



The Cubs have also been on camp (below), and the summer started with the Group AGM and Summer Fair (far below).

Stephen White – Editor





1st Sandleheath Sea Scout Group

Useful Phone Numbers & Addresses

Page not available online.

Waterlines, Oct 2007

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