

1ST SANDLEHEATH SEA SCOUT GROUP



WATERLINES

May 2005

A.G.M. Edition

G.S.L.'s Report — 10 years on!

I was looking at past AGM reports and thought it would be interesting to see what we were doing 10 years ago.

In 1995 the report started “Another year has gone by and the saga of Sandleheath and our dilapidated HQ continues ... the need for a more permanent solution faces us”. Can you hear me breathe that huge sigh of relief – life moves on – we have become accustomed to our luxurious facilities, and doesn't it make scouting so much more pleasant, easier and more rewarding?

“Meanwhile scouting in all four sections continues regardless. ...” Some of the Leaders are still around despite many years with appalling facilities – I'll let you work out who for yourself.

“The Scout Troop goes from strength to strength. They voted to take girls in last autumn”. Was it really 10 years ago?

“The troop is permanently full, with a waiting list” Some things never change – oh – except that full then was about 25, now it is 40!

“The annual camp, Ham Jam, at Great Towers was a great success despite the usual Lakeland weather.” That was when I began my association with Hampshire Scout Caving Club and the start of some serious caving.

“A patrol won the District Day Hike competition (the Pat Cross Trophy) led by Stephen (I never stop talking) White, who is also to be congratulated on his Chief Scouts Award.” That doesn't change either! He still babbles ceaselessly and is to be congratulated on his D. of E. Gold Award this year.

“Sailing was enjoyed throughout the summer.” Yes it still is – thanks to Les and David for making it so successful and to Paul and Graham for leading the canoeing.

“The whole group has joined together recently for an activities weekend of caving, abseiling and orienteering in the Mendips. The report on the camp by the representative from Axe District complimented our programme for making full use of natural resources but added that the accommodation looked ‘lived in!’. I think that means there were wet and dirty (caved in) clothes all over the floors!” We still aren't the tidiest of Groups – but then we still do a lot!

“Once again thanks to Mr and Mrs Clark for allowing us continued use of the field in Sandleheath” More things never change – once again our sincere gratitude to Mr & Mrs Clark for their support.

“There are many others who deserve a mention, all Leaders and helpers for their week by week commitment to help young people in scouting, the Executive Committee and sub-committees for backing up the Leaders, Pat Wedderburn for running the 100 Club...” – yes Pat is still here running the 100 Club.

“I am in the fortunate position of being the person parents address to thank for what scouting has provided for their children. Sometimes this is for a particular event the child has enjoyed, but often it is a more profound thanks for how the opportunities provided by scouting have helped young people to learn, develop and mature. I hope all of you who give your time to scouting feel it is worthwhile.” – I really don't think I can improve on that either.

Ros White – Group Scout Leader
(that's just the same as well!)



**Ros
in the
Ardeche
caving
with
H.S.C.C.**

Chairman's Brief

Last Summer I experienced something that I shall remember for a very long time. Doing a triple somersault after falling off a six inch high rope course, before making contact with planet Earth, was not the high point of my few days at Scout Camp. However, it did make me realise that there are still many skills I have yet to master. Attending your first Camp at 50 is something I would recommend to everyone. It certainly gave me the opportunity to get away from the everyday routine and experience at first hand the commitment and dedication of our Leaders. We are extremely fortunate to have such a devoted team providing new experiences and opportunities for our children.

It is important to remember that it is the Leaders, Cubs, Beavers, Scouts and Explorers that make 1st Sandleheath Sea Scout Group tick. As parents we all have a part to play in the continued success of our Group. Therefore, if you are new to the Group please let me know how you would like to support us in the future.

The Executive Committee have once again worked tirelessly to ensure the Group operates in an efficient and effective manner. Together with the Leaders we have provided the right environment and equipment for the needs of the Group. We have tried to make this year's AGM a little more informal so that you will get more time to see what we have achieved during the past twelve months. Enjoy your evening.

Special thanks to Ros, David, Nigel, Stephen, Geoffrey, Laura, Richard and all the Scouts on Summer Camp who made those days so special.

Nick Bunt – Chairman



Climbing at Swanage during Scout Camp

Gift Aid

The Gift Aid scheme has been a great help to our finances and this year we have increased our relief claimed by £240.00 on 2002/3. The total figure claimed for 2003/4 is £2368.38, as you can appreciate this amount of money helps enormously with scouting costs.

Therefore, we do appreciate it when you take the time to tick the box and fill in the slip when returning your subscriptions.

Can I thank the parents for returning the majority of the subscriptions quickly as this does help our cash flow situation.

Mandie Dawson
– Subscription secretary

Treasurer's Report

At the beginning of the financial year 2004/5, the Group had £21,182.46 in savings and current accounts. At the end of 2004/5, there was a total of £14,368.49, a drop of £6,813.97.

In 2004/5, the final major bills of £11,319.00 were paid for works concerning the new building, partly off-set by the final contribution of £6,154.00 from the Charity Commission. (i.e. £5,165.00 to be met from our reserves.) In addition, 2 new Coypu boats were purchased at a cost of £2,570.90 to add to our fleet.

The cost of running and maintaining the building, equipment and base activities was £8,580.00, and the capitation fee we paid to the Scout Association HQ was £3,266.45. (Total £11,846.45) Income from subscriptions was £9,535.00 and the rebate from the Inland Revenue £2,368.00. (Total £11,898.00) This highlights the importance of everyone completing the Tax Declaration form so that the Group can claim the rebate to help keep subscriptions as low as possible.

The costs associated with additional activities (camps etc.), are also included in the accounts but these are generally self-funded.

We aim to keep a minimum of one year's expenses in reserves and are slightly over that figure at the end of this financial year. This means that any further major new purchases or expenditure will need to be financed through additional fund raising activities.

John Broderick – Treasurer

D. of E. Award News

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme in Sand-leheath continues and we have 20 young people reg-istered.

Well done to Michael Chase and Josh Cleall who have both successfully completed their Bronze Awards. Their certificates were presented to them at the New Forest Award Committee presentation evening at Dibden Purlieu on 6 May 2005 by Mal-corm Rittman the County Youth Officer. They are now both well on the way to achieving their Silver level..

Stephen White and Jane Esmond have now fin-ished their Gold level so are looking forward to their presentations at one of the special ceremonies in Lon-don later in the year.

Josh Cleall and Richard Savage hope to mirror their achievements as they are both just starting their Gold activities. For his residential project, Josh is vis-iting Kenya this year, as part of a team from the global charity Habitat For Humanity. This charity works all over the world and aims to eliminate poverty housing in all communities. It loans interest free money to the receiving family, for them to buy the building materi-als and specialised labour and it then relies on teams like Josh's to go out there and provide the manual labour, alongside the family and local villagers who are helping, to build decent, affordable housing. He will be part of a team of 12 young people who will really make a difference. Best of luck Josh.

Richard's residential project will be as part of the International Service Team at Eurojam, the Scout Eu-ropean Jamboree, from 29 July to 10 August 2005 at

Hylands Park, Chelmsford and he will be spending his time teaching dinghy sailing to lots of the partici-pants. He has just gained his RYA Dinghy Instructor qualification so hopefully will know the answers to all the questions he will be asked!

Attendance at meetings has been very sparse this year so we are considering changing meetings to a Thursday after water activities. See the notice board for more information.

We have Silver and Gold expeditions planned for this year and are very pleased to tell you that Ros White is now an official DofE assessor on the New Forest Panel. This does not mean that 1st Sand-leheath Sea Scouts doing their DofE expeditions will get off lightly though! The rules and regulations have been changed in the past year and we have to make sure that we fulfil all the requirements at the different levels of The Award.

If you want more information please contact me on 01725 510397, email at pat.savage@vodafone.net or visit the Duke of Edinburgh's Award website at www.theaward.org.

Pat Savage – D. of E. Co-ordinator



**Michael Chase and Josh Cleall with their
award certificates**

Explorer Report

We had a successful summer on the water at Blashford, with the Explorers sailing and canoeing, and helping to introduce the younger scouts to water activities. The Group Regatta in May was good fun, and the Sailing Regatta was as ever very competitive, with our Explorers doing very well.

We had a joint summer camp with the Sea Scouts from Barton, at Spitewinter Campsite in Derbyshire. The site was ideal, with an enormous campfire circle, and no other groups on the site for most of our stay there. We went swimming, caving, climbing, cycling and the highlight, the only whole day activity achieved was ... a visit to Alton Towers!

Our winter program also included much variety, with rifle shooting, ski-bobbing, cooking (indoors and out), games and challenges, 10 pin bowling, hikes, team games, a scrap heap challenge (where we made catapults), wide games in the forest and Easter bingo.

We are now looking forward to going back out on the water, dusting off our sailing/canoeing kit (surely you can't have grown that much this winter!) and starting all over again.

Sue Chase & Andy Brooks



Michael Chase joins Barton Explorers for his D. of E. Silver Expedition

Hall Bookings

Did you know the Hall is available to Hire for parties and other events? You can log on to <http://bookings.randomstuff.org.uk/>, or contact Jacqui on 01725 517379.

Scouts – Seemed like a good idea

Well, next week means that I will have been helping out for a year, it only seems like yesterday that Ros twisted my arm – sorry I mean I volunteered to help out. In this last year, I think it fair to say that it has been interesting, educational, frustrating, cold and wet – possibly most of the above at the same time ... but overall it has been very enjoyable.

I still don't think the Scouts know what to make of me, mainly cos Ros and I seem to have personalities at both ends of the spectrum ... Ros is laid back and just seems to take everything in her stride, whilst I am stressed out thinking that most activities appear to be an accident waiting to happen and think that the scout law must obviously include 'wind the leaders up'.

I am improving but, still have a great deal to learn and am happy to learn from everyone associated with the troop including the Scouts ... I don't think I would manage if not for the constant help from Ros, Pete and all the parent helpers. (big thanks)

Finally, I am especially looking forward to our 'time on the water' as this is what Sea Scouts is all about, I have successfully completed several training courses (hence the cold and wet earlier) and feel that this year I will be more useful in enabling more Scouts to get on the water.

I have lots of games ideas for the winter, so the Scouts are in for a great year and I look forward to the continual help from all those mentioned above.

Tim Stevens – Scout Leader



Isobel Quicke sailing with the South Zone squad

The South Zone Squad

I've been sailing Oppys at Spinnaker Club for about five years now. Throughout the summer there is Oppy training, and club racing on Sunday mornings. During last summer I went to lots of 'open meetings' around the country, like Rutland Water, Lymington, Weymouth. Last year, instead of just sailing in the summer, I also sailed during the winter, which meant that I could go to the RYA South Zone Squad Optimist selections at Datchet. I was selected for the squad, along with 22 others

The South Zone Squad is one of six squads around the country. We meet six weekends a year (during the winter) and sailors, who have sailed to a high level, coach us. We sail at clubs like Poole, Hayling Island, Weymouth, and Datchet and it's really great. We are given training and advice on race techniques, fitness training, goal setting, and boat preparation. They have also taught us about sailing in tidal and non-tidal waters.

Sailors who get good rankings in the national events during the summer have the chance of getting in to the Intermediate Squad and then the National Squad after that.

Isobel Quicke – Scout

Cub Report

The pack is thriving at the end of this busy transitional year. I was introduced to the Group at last year's AGM and took over as Akela shortly afterwards. The highlight of the awards and badge work was two of the older cubs, Elliot Haugh and Joseph Liddon attaining their Chief Scout's Silver Award, the pinnacle of a Cub's achievement. A mention should also go to Elliot's mum, Jackie, who is the Assistant Cub Scout Leader who also completed her initial leader training. Well done all.

Other activities throughout the year have been very varied and have included a sausage sizzle, Christmas Pudding making, building a scale model of the solar system with a range of different fruits, and a cubs vs parents rounders match.

District camp was a success, with other trips to Fordingbridge museum and Good Friday Hill. Other trips planned that didn't come to fruition were at two ends of the extreme: a guided tour of a brewery and a visit to a Quaker Meeting House (balanced if nothing else!) We also completed many swimming stages on a trip to Sandy Balls swimming pool and have been on the water twice at Spinnaker.

One of the highlights for me was just before Christmas when we turned the Scout centre into a cinema with a big screen and a rumbling sound system and a Scout serving popcorn. Afterwards we hosted the joint going up ceremony for the Group - a priceless evening.

I would like to thank all the parents who have helped over the year and also Anne Murphy, Clair Waine, Richard Brookes and Georgia Richards for their assistance. I would also like to pass on a special thank you to Josh Cleall who is most valuable in his assistance, especially for his age, which I didn't quite believe when I found out. Without wishing to embarrass him, his skills and behaviour are clearly of a role model standard, and long may he develop these further. Thank you.

Richard Farr – Cub Scout Leader

Beaver Report

Well a term and a half has gone by since Nigel (Sandy) stepped down and I took over as leader. Many thanks to Nigel for all his hard work. He hasn't given up on Beavers completely as he still helps me out whenever needed.

I would also like to thank Bev (Holly) for agreeing to be my assistant, and to Sally who also helps out most weeks. I would be lost without them.

So, what have Beavers been up to? We have been sailing down at Spinnaker thanks to Ros and all her helpers, we've learnt about other countries, we've done art and crafts, we spent one evening learning about recycling and designed posters to help us to remember.

This term we have planned a trip to Fordingbridge Museum and we also hope to join with Fordingbridge Beavers for a fun evening.

As you can see we have been very busy and have had lots of fun.

Jo Young (Rowan) – Beader Leader

Qualifications

Leaders, helpers and skills instructors have all been busy undertaking training and gaining qualifications to enable them to run a varied programme of activities in a safe environment for the young people. Over the last year or two these have included:

RYA Instructor – Richard Savage

Local Cave Leader 1 – Sue Chase, David Chadwick, Ros White

Cave Leader 1 training & part 1 of Assessment – Sally White

Cave Leader 2 training – Ros White

RYA Power Boat 2 – Tim Stevens, Andy Brooks, Richard Farr

Canoeing Safety Test – Ross Macildowie, Andrew Bland, Josh Cleall, Antony Farrington, Jane Esmond, Tim Stevens, Andy Brooks, Ros White

Mountain Leader – David Chadwick

Mountain Leader training – Stephen White

Hampshire County Council D. of E. Silver trainer & assessor & New Forest Panel Assessor – Ros White

Various St John Ambulance qualifications – Stephen White

There have also been various BCU 2 and 3 star awards for canoeing and RYA level 2 and 3 for sailing.

There are probably some I have forgotten too – let me or Stephen know so we can publish the details please.

Leaders and activity instructors already hold lots of qualifications (in addition to the First Aid qualification that they must all hold): RYA level 5, RYA Instructor, RYA Safety Boat, BCU Inland Proficiency, BCU Level 2 Coach, BCU Level 3 Coach, Pulling/Rowing authorisation, Hill Walking authorisation, Rifle Shooting authorisation, Caving Authorisation, County Caving Assessor, SPA training, Climbing authorisation, Nights Away Permit for Scout Camping, MIDAS and additional First Aid Qualifications such as First Aid at Work, Life-saver baby and child and St John Non-Emergency Ambulance Attendant.



David Chadwick practising for his Mountain Leader assessment

Thanks to Ros White, Pat Savage, Isobel Quicke and Mike Kerrigan for some of the photographs used in this edition of Waterlines.

St George's camp

For 2005, New Forest West Scouts held a St George's Camp at Moyles Court School near Ringwood. Around 170 young people camped for the weekend and took part in a range of Scouting activities.

Well done to everyone for making this camp so successful. This must have been the largest District Camp we have held in a long time. It was a memorable Scouting experience for the young people in the District, the effort was well worth while.

Mike Kerrigan – District Commissioner



The great boat race held during camp [I hope there were suitable authorisations to have that many boats on the water at once – Ed]

Group Programme – 2005

June	Sunday, 5th Tuesday, 7th Saturday, 11th Tuesday, 14th Friday, 17th - Sunday 19th Saturday, 25th Monday, 27th	Family Letterboxing at Burley (contact Ros for details) Beavers on water at Spinnaker Group regatta (Blashford) Cubs on water at Spinnaker Cub camp (Harry's Island) Solent Sailing regatta (Blashford) Explorers canoing at Christchurch
July	Wednesday, 13th Saturday, 23rd - Thursday 28th - Saturday 30th	Scouters Meeting for all Leaders, Assistants and helpers (Scout Centre, 8pm) Scout Camp (Mendip Hills) Explorer Camp (Mendip Hills)
August	Tuesday, 16th - Friday, 19th	D. of E. gold practice expedition
September	Friday, 2nd - Sunday, 4th Tuesday, 6th Tuesday, 13th Saturday, 17th Thursday, 22nd	D. of E. Silver assessed expedition Cubs on water at Spinnaker Beavers on water at Spinnaker Solent main regatta (Testwood Lake) Last night of water activities (provisional)
October		
November	Saturday, 26th - Sunday, 27th	Scout Cavers Badge with HSCC (Mendip)



1st Sandleheath Sea Scout Group

Useful Phone Numbers & Addresses

Page not available online.

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