

1ST SANDLEHEATH SEA SCOUT GROUP



WATERLINES

May 2007

AGM Edition



Scouts & Explorers on the Isle of Wight

G.S.L.'s Report

It's been a good year for Sandleheath. We have obtained a number of grants to enable us to purchase new equipment, have sufficient Leaders to provide a challenging and varied programme for each section and have a large number of enthusiastic youngsters keen to be involved in Scouting.

It is especially good to see so many of our Explorer Scouts not only enjoying the Scouting of their own section, but becoming involved in helping other sections and also taking on the challenge of the D of E scheme.

The highlight of last year for the Scouts and Explorers was undoubtedly the Summer Camp on the Isle of Wight. It was a great success with everyone, even the leaders and helpers asking "where are we going next year?". The secret of the success was having lots of helpers, all prepared to take on whatever needed doing and all with lots of ideas and energy. It was a great team effort.

The young people in the sections have had lots of successes in various competitions and with gaining RYA and BCU qualifications. Our huge team Activity Instructors continue to gain more and more national qualifications. You can be sure your youngsters are in safe and competent hands.

We have lots of activities coming up over the summer to celebrate 100 years of Scouting. The main one is a Back to Basics family camp at Harry's Island, near Burley. This is from June 8th to 10th and anyone in the Group will be able to take part in activities

such as tracking, pioneering, nature walks, rope-work, camp-fire cooking, orienteering, navigation etc.

We are also having a "Family Day" at Spinnaker (June 16th) when you can all have a go at sailing, canoeing and rowing during the day and perhaps stay on for a social BBQ afterwards .

Please continue to support the Group. In particular we are looking for a team of people to take over running Beavers from September when Bev and Jo stand down. If you can help in any way please let me know and we can arrange how we can share the various elements of the jobs among as many people as possible.

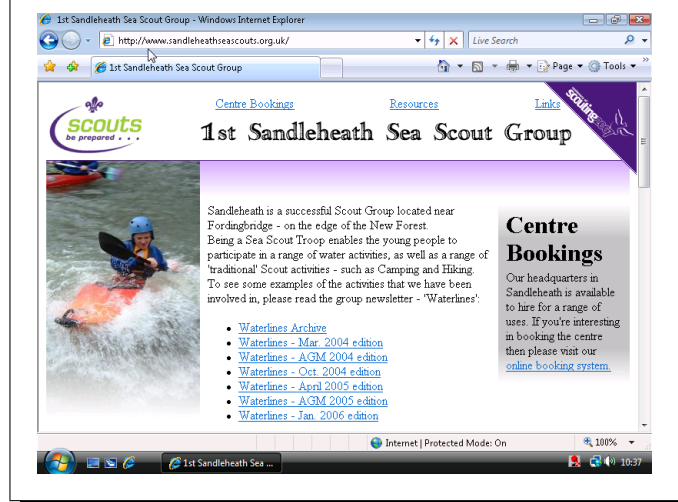
Thanks to all the young people for making Sandleheath such a good group to be part of and to all the Leaders, Instructors and helpers for being an invaluable part of the team.

Ros White – Group Scout Leader

Website

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

The website style has been updated and the site now has its own domain name. When writing about the Group, please include this new website address to give people somewhere to go to obtain more information about us!



Chairman's Brief

"Be Prepared" took on a whole new meaning for me on arrival at Summer Camp last year. After selecting a suitable site on which to pitch my tent I proceeded to lay out the canvas. On completion of this task it dawned upon me that something was missing. It took a while to sink in but once I accepted that Logistics had thought it very clever not to provide a frame for my tent I swiftly sought a solution to the problem. Fortunately, Logistics did have the sense to dispatch two tents; the fact that my daughter had been incorrectly allocated the tent with the frame was unfortunate. Thank you Rachel and Ellie!

Lessons learnt from this experience are many. The need for prior planning and preparation being somewhere near the top of the list. To that end it is also important to have a succession plan in place for the key roles of the Executive Committee. The "administrative engine room" of the Group exists to support our Leaders. I am sure that you would agree they deserve all the help they can get. So if you are interested in taking on a committee position in the future please put your hand-up.

Given that this may be my last AGM as Chairman I wish to thank you all for your tremendous support over the years.

Nick Bunt – Group Chairman

Fund-Raising

The Christmas Bag Pack was very well supported by a mixture of Scouts and, despite a quiet day at the Co-op, we exceeded takings on the year before by raising £245.

Judy Osman

We have just received £750 from the Community Fund grants from The Co-operative Membership towards the cost of the trip to Kandersteg. Also, for the same purpose, we were awarded £4,900 from the Youth Opportunities Fund from Hampshire County Council and £1,000 from The John Barron Foundation.

Mandie Dawson

Gift-Aid

Thank you to all the parents, who when applicable, take the time to complete the Gift Aid form – as this year we hope to receive £2518 a slightly higher figure than 2006. This is a fantastic amount and means the cost of nearly 8 new kayaks and accessories for our fleet, just because you took the time to complete the Gift Aid form at the bottom of the Subscription letter.

Mandie Dawson – Subs. Treasurer

H.Q. Bookings

H.Q. Bookings continue to be a valuable source of income for the group. Revenue from bookings for 06/07 was approximately £3084, which is over double the revenue of last year.

The hall is available for hire to Sandleheath Sea Scout families, local residents and other Scouting groups. Bookings can be made via our website <http://www.sandleheathseascouts.org.uk/> or by contacting me on 01725 517379.

Jacqui Ingram – Bookings Administrator

Scout Shop

The New Forest West District Scout Shop has moved to 1st Poulner Scout HQ (next to the A31 flyover at Poulner). Open every Wednesday 6:30pm until 8:00pm.

When using the Scout Shop at Poulner HQ please do not use the main entrance, but go down the right-hand side of the building. There is an entrance to the Scout Shop towards the back.

Alternatively, for uniform you can phone Mike or Betty Ingram on 01425 657134 and arrange collection from 21 Hilbury Park, Alderholt

Beaver Report

We have 12 Beavers in our colony and have about 12 on the waiting list at the moment. It has been another busy year. We've done our faith badge. For this we did a collage of David and Goliath – we learnt about the story by watching VeggieTales video. This term we've done show and tell, mask making, playing the Beaver's favourite games (usually king ball) and now the lighter evenings are here we are spending more time making use of the field playing football, rounders, etc. Last year we took part in the Beaver District day at Burley, where we learnt circus skills and did different activities that made woggles, windmills, played water games – and then we had lunch followed by birthday cake to celebrate 20 years of Beaver Scouts.

I would like to thank Bev, Sally and Phil for all their help and support, also a big thank you to the parents who have been helping each week since January. Also it's with regret we've decided to step down as leaders as from July – I know we will miss it, and have enjoyed our time as leaders and helpers, but due to other commitments we feel we can no longer run Beavers. I hope there are some parents who would like to take up the challenge.

Jo Young – Beaver Leader



Beavers canoeing at Blashford

Cub Report

At the time of writing we have just cleared our waiting list – another popular year with 25 members regularly attending.

The program as always was driven by activities relating to attaining badges and have included, Air Activities, Athletes, Naturalist, Navigators, and Science to name but a few. Outings that have supported

these activities have been a night hike (on a very dark night in a pretty featureless part of the national park), Orienteering at Godshill with a local club, and a fascinating trip to the Hurn Aviation Museum. Learning the names of different parts of an aircraft, standing on a gantry above an aeroplane with the pilot running around pointing out each bit, is so much more memorable than looking at a picture of one with appropriate labels! Getting in the pilot's seat and flicking switches of a fully operational 100 seater airliner was also pretty special - although I do hope the pre-flight checks are done comprehensively the next time it flies.

The four cubs who represented us at the district swimming gala delivered tremendous performances, especially Alex Davenport who scored the majority of our points, competing in the year group above him.

The annual cub camp was held at Ferny Crofts with all the cubs participating in Archery, climbing the Megalith (12m climbing wall) and racing around the challenging obstacle course. We started the Naturalist badge whilst we were camping, with a highlight being a bug hunt. All inhibitions about creepy crawlies were dropped with the prospect of a bug race encouraging all to get the most exotic fast runners. Around the stagnating pond there was an unprecedented variety of the most fearsome looking mini beasts. I believe that some of the cubs continued their fascination with the natural world of insects weeks after camp, picking up ferocious looking beetles saying "What's this mum?" followed by the predictable screaming. I'm glad we stirred some old fashioned curiosity in the modern child's mind.

This year we are breaking with the 3 year rotational tradition of campsites by returning to the idyllic Harry's Island as we are celebrating 100 years of Scouting by having a joint camp with one of my old packs from Hertfordshire. We will be hosting them and showing off our beautiful local surroundings.

I finish with a very simple idea that was very successful and rewarding. For part of their Air Activities badge every cub made his own sled kite, from some garden canes and a black plastic bin liner (total cost 7p each). We then had them all flying their own kites together (it has to be said, on a pretty windless evening). The picture of 25 lads running about in every direction for an hour with varying kite flying abilities was quintessentially what cubs is all about. Roll on 2007/2008.

Richard Farr – Akela

S.A.L.L.I.E. '07

4 teams...1 race...1 night...of hell...but one team "The very merry berries" would come out and rule them all.

It all started at 19:00 on Saturday the 24th of February 2007 at Wilverly Cottage Scout camp site. When the 4 teams met, did an equipment check, a questionnaire, and left at set intervals. Some would return heroes others wet, cold and hungry.

Our team was the second last to leave, so we left at 20:30 and we did not return until 01:04 the next day. We started out heading through the undergrowth towards the first base about 1 mile south east of Wilverly cottage and under the A36. We arrived there in good time, almost overtaking one of the Fordingbridge teams. When we arrived we found that we had to try and put up a tent (blindfolded and being told what to do by another member of our team). When we left that base we headed out across the mores and bogs towards base 2 (some teams found the route hard and deviated off the main track getting soaked in process). When we arrived we found a blindfold trail with knots and items along its length. We did not do very well on that but ploughed on regardless towards base 3. Just before we arrived we smelt the stench of Scout cooking and realized it was time to cook. We had just started to cook our meal of pasta in a tomato sauce with salad (Mmm) when the heavens opened and it rained, and rained and rained until a small river flowed through the cooking tent. All of the teams walking to the bases were drenched but we just stayed dry, result!

En-route to base 4 the forestry commission had been kind enough to cut the heather so there was no clear path, causing many teams, including us, to get rather lost. When we finally arrived we found a flooded underpass and thought "Oh no, swimming!". Luckily a good Samaritan (parent helper) was there to guide us across the A36 to a pioneering base where we had to erect a structure that we could hang a tire from and then climb through. Our was about 4ft off the ground so we won the Scout section of that base.

The final base was run by David Chadwick and involved a structure called "the hanging tree". That made all of us scared but it turned out all we had to do was draw a map of the remains of the tree and surrounding fence without any measuring equipment or rulers. I just drew ours quickly as we were all tired and cold by now and even so we got good marks!

Finally it was the short trek through Wilverly en-

closure but of course that wasn't so easy because the paths had changed in the two years since my map was made but we finally arrived back where we stated, and were met by a hot-dog and a warm drink!

Some teams were not as lucky and got wet, cold or lost and some didn't even make it round – especially the explorers who had more bases and unmanned check points. A good way to spend a Saturday night and Sunday morning!

Bryn Phillips – "Very Merry Berries" team member

Results

Scout Section

Place	Team
1 671pts	The Very Merry Berries (1 st Sandleheath) B. Phillips, J. Collings, S. Giles
2 522.5pts	The Noble Geckos (9 th Lymington) W. Farrow, J. Butterworth, B. Gibbons, G. Luker
3 516pts	1 st Fordingbridge J. Whitmarsh, S. Pryer-Lettley, J. Hodder, H. Freeman, M. Rivers
4 423pts	3 Boys & It (1 st Sandleheath) D. Crossley, J. Murphy, R. Murphy, C. Stevens

Explorer Section

Place	Team
1 791pts	Team Jesus (Barton) S Baird, S. White, S. Beal, E. Cheek
2 746.5pts	Max the Banana (9 th Lymington) O Holworthy, M Butcher, W. King, R. Pike, C. Moore, J. Douch
3 308pts	3 Girls & It (Avon Valley) K. Freeman, A. Phillips, B. Cleall, P. Cleall
4 55.5pts	The Magic Mushroom (Avon Valley) A. Hardie, B. Collings, C. Hull, J. Davison
5 2.5pts	The One and Only (Lymington & Pennington) R. Vaughan, R. Maltby, B. Bingham, M. Rutter, E Wakeman

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expeditions



Camping during a D. of E. Bronze training expedition

The year began with a successful gold expedition to Snowdonia for Josh Cleall, David and Richard Ward and James Hall. They chose an interesting route which took them from the snowy summit of Snowdon across to Y Garn and down through the rocky crags of Devils Kitchen. The weather was good to them although the wind brought an unexpected hiccup on the second night leaving them with only one tent standing! Josh “Jamie Oliver” produced a varied menu of noodles, noodles and noodles which seemed to go down very well. They worked well as a team and always seemed to have a smile on their faces - even after walking 50 miles. The expedition finished at a suitable location even if we did get asked to leave after closing time!

In October we had seven scout teams both Bronze training and assessed out in the New Forest. I must mention the Bronze training team which comprised of Henry Osman, Ben Collings, Isobel Quicke, Becky McGilvery and Alex Hardie who bought a whole new meaning to word “break camp”. Amazingly they all survived the tornado which only swept through their tented area and had strewn kit everywhere! These same teams will make up a total of 15 Scouts who will be venturing into the Purbecks, New Forest and Dartmoor this year in the hope of achieving their various level of D. of E. expedition. We also have a Gold team which are currently in the planning stages of a sailing expedition.

Training this year has included night navigation across the New Forest on a particularly cold January night. Most teams finding their way to the finish even if we did have to blow a few whistles!

I would like to thank all those who helped me this year including some mum’s and dad’s – Amelia’s dad, Alex’s dad, Poppy’s mum and Becky’s mum and of course Ros for all your support. Finally thanks to all the Scouts involved in D. of E. for those quiet Monday nights!

Paul Murphy – D. of E. Expeditions

Scout Report

It has been another busy year, during which we have taken part in many activities, both within the group and further afield. This takes a huge amount of work, both behind the scenes and on the day to run the activities. We are very fortunate at Sandelheath in that our team of three leaders, Ros, Tim and myself, are very ably supported by the substantial group who turn out regularly throughout the year to give their specialised skills to run activities, plus the many talented parents on the rota.

The Solent Scout Sailing regatta gave us a chance to show off some of our sailing talent, however the very light and variable conditions proved a challenge for some crews.

Summer camp at Corfe Camp on Newtown Creek on the Isle of Wight was a great success, and everything a camp should be with boating on the river in front of our campsite and lots of other activities including dragon boating at Cowes, Dave Chadwick’s famous low ropes course, the climbing tower (which we had access to whenever we wanted as we had the only climbing instructors at the camp), Jimbo’s team games, especially “Buzz”, and Paul Toynton’s insect safari. We had a great barbeque at Colwell Bay followed by the most spectacular thunderstorm I’ve ever seen. Andy Brooks set up his moth trap and we were introduced to an amazing variety of moths, most of which Paul could name without the book. We were also treated to a wonderful red sunset ... in the east. When Jim demonstrates smoke flares he does it well, the red cloud was still visible over Cowes half an hour later. I can now understand why the Coastguard wouldn’t let him demonstrate parachute flares.

The Scouts have enjoyed several caving trips to the Mendips, including providing some willing “victims” for Sally White’s Cave Leader assessment.

At the beginning of September we took a mixed crew (Scouts, Explorers and adults) to the Scout Dragon Boat Championships at Longridge near Marlow. We were 3rd mixed crew overall - a great result. I talked to members of the top teams and know their training secrets and our drummer is taking lessons, so maybe we should have another go.

At the canoeing and rowing regatta on Testwood Lake in September we took third place overall with some very good performances, not only from the experienced crews but some great performances from those in their first season on the water. In particular our Coypu crews reigned supreme with straight wins in both Scout age groups.

The day after the Testwood regatta saw two Scouts, one Explorer and myself supported by John Hinton at he Basingstoke Canal Challenge for the first time. Katrina & Ellie took 3rd in the 6 mile Scout and Explorer classes, and Sam Hinton, despite having never paddled the distance before, wasn’t going to settle for anything less than the Scout 8 mile event, which he then won in style. With my 2nd in the warranted Scouter’s event we managed to take the group trophy on our first attempt.

Our teams also won the district football competition and the Chick Law ompetition again, but Scouting is not all about competition. Various Thursday evening activities produced some outstanding artwork, cooking, fire lighting and a range of other activities. To make sure we didn’t get cabin fever through the winter, Ros organised wide games and night walks, trips to the climbing wall and a trip to Romsey Rapids.

We had a good turn out on 5th May at Harry’s Island for the district St Georges Day, and for the Scouts, the postponed Pat Cross competition. The weather was idyllic, unfortunately running a task all day under the trees meant that the mosquitos had a banquet – on me. Ros was supervising a Duke of Edinburgh’s Award hike during the day, the Sandelheath group joining the rest of the district for the flag parade and Scout’s Own, the hog roast and campfire, and for some of us, an overnight camp.

We are now back on the water with lots of new Scouts, the new Canadian canoes proving a very popular addition to our fleet and lots more to look forward to during the coming year.

Dave Miller – Scout Leader

Caving – soak it up!

There were four, brave, intrepid explorers who ventured down the cave GB in Mendip. Ros, David, Graham and myself would spend roughly 3-4 hours underground...

David drove us to the cave entrance on a lovely morning, little did I know what I was letting myself in for! We got down to the cave entrance and then I realised that I had forgotten my gloves. I ran (waddled) back up this grassy hill to retrieve them from the bumper of the car. What a waste of energy. Of course David loved this, watching me struggle, in a stiff boiler suit, up a hill!

We visited a section of the cave called “The Bridge”. It was amazing! We walked up the side where there were many stalagmites that we had to watch out for. When I stood on the bridge, it was fantastic because I could see the size of the chamber, which was massive.

Graham, a member of the group, volunteered to stay and not come and see the grotto (another pretty area of the cave). I didn’t really understand why he wanted to do this at the time. Nevertheless, he came with us, due to “gentle” persuasion from Ros.

A clear section on the cave I remember was rather chilling! We had to crawl through a passage way that was filled with water almost to the roof! This was called a duck. I crawled through after David, which eventually led into another chamber. I had tried so hard not to get wet wellies, but it was impossible not to. The passage was tiny and I got rather wet, even though it was only a few meters long.

Then I saw something... it was... well... unbelievable. I suppose I was caving with David, who would easily put me through hell! There was a small, tight awkward squeeze ahead. And not only that, but it was almost totally submerged in water. I laughed as I thought there was no way we were going through there. I didn’t think David would fit for a start!

David and I squashed up in the passage way, clearing minimal amounts of water, bucket by bucket. I could have sworn that it was running back into the same place. The adults were all joking as to how it will be lovely and warm and send me through first, to soak up all the water. Uh no!

I crawled through and goodness knows what my face was like. The worst feeling, cold winter water leaking down your neck and into your boiler suit (as we went through on our backs). I've never moved so quickly! I came out the other side and I was like... arghhhh! I couldn't believe I had done it. I was so glad to be out the other side.

Feeling rather cold, the passage eventually widened into a chamber. We waited for the others that were scrambling around trying to fit through. I suppose it was easier for me as I was slightly thinner!

We got to the grotto, which admittedly was spectacular. I must admit though at the time, I went rather quiet and scowly! There were so many different types of formations; stalactites, stalagmites, straws, flowstone, gour pools and more. I will never forget it! It really was worth it, going through hell...

I struggled back into the main chamber, cold, tired and feeling very sorry for myself. I think I looked like a drowned rat.

So the message of my story, is definitely go caving with Ros and David, for a adventure thats unforgettable!

Amelia Phillips – Explorer Scout

Avon Valley Explorers

Over the last year the Explorer group numbers have risen to around 40 young people, with a regular attendance of between 15 and 25 young people. They have participated in a land based program of activities that runs on Monday evenings from Sandleheath Scout Centre. Activities have included: wide games, international cooking, shooting, command task evenings, ten-pin bowling, scrap-heap challenge, dry slope skiing and more. From May to October we are on the water for sailing, canoeing and rowing at Spinnaker Sailing Club on Thursday evenings, where Explorers have the opportunity to improve their skills – most attaining recognised Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Certification and British Canoeing Union (BCU) certification. This allows them to assist leaders in providing water activities to other Scout

groups in the District. Last summer Explorers took part in County Regattas and did impressively well.

Our summer camp at Corf, Isle of Wight, was brilliant. We also attended an activity weekend in Surrey with other Scout groups, which included a day at Thorpe Park and evening entertainment including, Bucking Bronco, a fancy dress disco and more activities organised by the Summit Network Scouts.

In August this year we will be taking part in the Centenary Year of Scouting Celebrations by travelling to Kandersteg International Scout Centre, Switzerland, for our summer camp. Many thanks to all those who are, and have, worked so hard in fund-raising for this event.

Those that have become “Young Leaders” are praised for the help and assistance they give to other sections. They have also joined the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, working towards gaining their Bronze and Silver awards, and this year we will be encouraging individuals to attain Scouting awards.

The success of Avon Valley Explorers can only be attributed to the willingness and enthusiasm of the Explorers to participate, and the help and support of Instructors, leaders and parents that help Mark Davison and myself run the group. From September we will have more Explorers, so will be looking for more support from willing parents to help the group!

For further information contact: Andy Brooks
Tel: 01425 657162.

Andy Brooks – Explorer Leader

Summer Camp 2006

A week of “Madness”!

I arrived as the advance party on Sunday at Corf camp: And found myself a perfect spot to pitch my tent next to the creek: lots of wildlife, peaceful, tranquil a perfect place to relax and chill out. On Tuesday, the Scouts and my Explorer's arrived, this was the start of the 2006 summer camp!

The Explorer's site was soon full of tents, noise and excited bodies running around exploring the site. Richard and Jimbo chose to pitch their tents close to the Explorer's site, a big mistake! Amelia, Becky and Bryony making a Beeline for them, to avoid helping out with getting our mess tent and kitchen ready!

As I expected, the Explorers were loud and restless Tuesday night, there was lots of chatter, jokes and play acting and chanting of “Becky loves Jimbo” sounding round Corf!

Wednesday was a day of reckoning for me: Phew, it’s hot! Could I turn this bomb-site into a tidy and ship shape Explorer campsite? Thanks to my aides Ellie S, Alex, Jack and Callum, we soon had some camp discipline and the site was respectable by lunch time!

After lunch, we drove to the UKSA centre at Cowes (listening to “Madness” on the way there) for a Dragon Boat Racing session. It was a good experience, but quite tiring. I think the coxswain’s commands will be remembered by most as much as the racing, remember: “Yes, Sir, Yes”, “Ugh”, One, Two, Three, “Ah” as the mermaid said to the Captain.

As we were leaving Cowes, (listening to “Madness” again on the way back), there were rumblings around us and thundery spots of rain. We returned to Corf camp for a quick change. And it was off to Colwell Bay for a beach barbecue with the Scouts, Leaders and helpers, all had a great time.

Then, the “Great Storm”! As we were leaving Colwell, (listening to “Madness” again on the way back), the electric storm hit us! An Incredible display of lightning, rain: falling in stair rods, and inches of water on the road. The locals even bought out refreshments and offered shelter to those waiting at Colwell Bay Loo block for a lift back to Corf. Eventually everyone got back to the campsite safely; fortunately, there had not been too much rain on site. And guess what? There was another evening of frivolity and chanting of “Becky loves Jimbo” and “Rebecca loves Richard”. I opted out, went back to my pitch and fed my family of swans that seemed to appreciate my company and Scout food. Thanks for your text message to me Ellie S.

Thursday, a quiet relaxing day on site, (really it was)! By now life on camp was almost civilised. We would be up by 7:30, most Explorers were actually taking a shower before breakfast, breakfast was being prepared by the duty patrol, and we would all sit down and eat together. The washing up would be done. I’ve cracked it!

The morning activity was air rifle shooting in the hut, Rachel Bunt, managed to win the competition outright. Well done Rachel! After lunch, was a long session canoeing on the water with Paul Toynton around the creek and salt marsh. A nice man in a patrol boat from the National Trust approached

us and told us that we should have kept to the main channel, as the marsh is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The highlight of the week was when Callum lost it. He regretted his actions after he doused Bryony with water in retaliation for what Poppy did to him. Big Mistake Callum! Remember: Bryony has short hair, Poppy has long hair! They are twin sisters and both play Rugby at County level! After a truce was declared we settled down to a nice evening playing cards, games and yes, more tittle-tattle and chanting!

Paul Toynton and I set up the “Skinner Moth Trap” that evening. By Friday morning we had caught over 100 moths, bugs etc, the largest and by far most beautiful being an Elephant Hawk moth, Paul’s knowledge and enthusiasm for nature and conservation inspired many of us, Ellie S. took some brilliant close up photographs.

Friday, was our big day out in uniform! Nick Bunt had arranged for us to visit as special guests, the historical Brit Norm aircraft factory at Bembridge. After listening to more “Madness” on the way there, we were given an interesting tour of the factory and site where the world famous “Islander” short take off aeroplanes are made and repaired, and were given a bag of “goodies” to take away. A big thanks Nick for arranging that for us!

We took the scenic drive back from Bembridge along the spectacular south coast of the island to Freshwater Bay. Unfortunately, I was the only person to appreciate this tour, as Poppy decided to play my Katie Melua CD and after the first track, I was the only person still awake in the car and remained so for the journey! One hour later, we arrived at Freshwater Bay, and went for what should have been a short walk to the village chippy, unfortunately, my embedded navigation system had failed and it took much longer than I expected to find it. Sorry about that! Later that afternoon, some of us fitness fanatics went swimming at Newport Leisure Centre.

In the evening after dinner, we had a climbing wall session for those that wanted to, well done Ellie C, Amelia, Poppy and Becky. Did you know; back in my youth, when I auditioned for “SpiderMan”, I was fit, supple and could climb as well you can! Back at site, word soon got around that Rebecca had fallen in love with an Islander: not the aeroplane, but a lad on camp from 1st. Newport Scouts!

Saturday was a cooler day, which after the hot weather we had, was quite refreshing. The day was spent on site, David “Ropey” Chadwick, had con-

structed a challenging low rope course, which we only partly managed to complete within the time allowed. The Scouts managed to do better! (We hate Scouts!) The rest of the day was spent at leisure on site, Sailing, Canoeing, and rowing, chilling out with other Explorer's at Corf.

In the evening, Jimbo alias "Viper" gave us a talk about summoning help and attracting attention at sea in an emergency or when in distress, demonstrating smoke flares, that was cool! Then it started raining, so to save time in the morning we got everything moved into the mess tent, struck and packed the store tent.

The EC mob retreated to their tent, the more diligent Explorer's helped me, stayed in the mess tent, where we chilled out, sang Sea Shanties and Songs, this will be one of my most treasured memories of the camp!

Sunday morning we struck camp. The harsh reality was this was the last day of the best camp we have had together. After we had loaded all the kit onto transport, the Explorers and Scouts were dropped off at Freshwater Bay. From where, we walked back to Yarmouth. We had time to explore, buy gifts, share

experiences and memories of the week. Before we boarded the ferry, we had a big hug and all agreed it had been a "Great Camp".

Well done everybody! This is what good Scouting is all about! You had a great week and so did I. Many thanks for the gift and memories, which I will treasure.

Let's do it again next year!

Andy Brooks – Explorer Leader



Becky climbing during Summer Camp

Group Programme – 2007

June	Friday, 8th	
	- Sunday, 10th	100 years of Scouting family camp (Harry's Island)
	Tuesday, 12th	Water Activities (at Spinnaker, Beavers 5:30 - 7pm, Cubs 6:30 - 8pm)
	Saturday, 16th	Family day and barbecue at Spinnaker
	Friday, 22nd	
July	- Sunday, 24th	Cub Camp (Harry's Island)
	Saturday, 30th	Solent Sailing Regatta (Spinnaker)
August	Sunday, 22nd	
	- Friday, 27th	Scout Camp (Torbay)
September	Tuesday, 7th	
	- Friday, 17th	Explorer Camp (Kandersteg, Switzerland)
September	Saturday, 1st	Dragon Boat Championships at Longridge
	Tuesday, 11th	Water Activities (at Spinnaker, Beavers 5:30 - 7pm, Cubs 6:30 - 8pm)
	Saturday, 22nd	Solent Regatta at Testwood Lakes
	Sunday, 30th	Basingstoke canal challenge



1st Sandleheath Sea Scout Group

Useful Phone Numbers & Addresses

Page not available online.

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