



# 1<sup>st</sup> Swindon Sea Scouts

*Sailing towards a better future*

Welcome to our first group letter for 2016.

2015 was a good year happy year for 1st Swindon and whilst we look back on 2015 with pride around the things the group achieved individually and collectively I am confident 2016 can be even better.

By now each of the sections are in full swing after the New Year, heading towards Easter and are working hard to achieve more badges, enjoying activities and preparing for the upcoming years events. The Leaders, Adult helpers and Executive are all working hard to do everything we need to to ensure all of our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers have an enjoyable, fulfilling and successful 2016 in scouting.

The Group continues to grow in numbers and the success of our annual events - Regatta, Les Barnes, Fun Day etc. - also continue to grow in reputation and attendance year on year.

Growth whilst a great indicator of success also brings its challenges. With this in mind the structure of the Executive and its membership has been reviewed and will be restructured over the coming months.

We are seeking more volunteers to take on roles that are required to support the Executive and Leaders in running the group efficiently. We will post up in The Wick the proposed structure and vacant roles shortly.

With the increase in numbers we are working through plans for extending The Wick - as we develop plans and begin to better understand the size of the challenge (cost, time etc) these will be shared wider.

If either yourself, family members or friends work in the building industry - we are looking for support with - planning, design, building works etc.

Of course all of this can only be achieved through effective fund raising. To achieve the Groups future aspirations we need to look at more ways to raise additional funds over the next few years to ensure we maintain and leave a legacy for future scouting generations of 1st Swindon.

Attached is a 1 page info graphic for the group providing some key information which will be updated and communicated regularly.

Congratulations to Bryan McGaw our Group Scout Leader who has received the Award of Merit for Outstanding Services to Scouting.

Our AGM will be held at Bowmoor Lake on the 6th May and we look forward to seeing you there.

Please feel free to reply to this email with any comments, ideas or if you wish to volunteer in support of the group in anyway.

Kind regards

1st Swindon Executive