

Scout Section Report

We have had another very busy year in the scout section and have seen the section continue to grow with the numbers now at 29.

The review of our year starts in April with the annual St George's day parade and where we had a good turnout. June saw our first visit to a new activity camp held in Cirencester called 'Strategy'. This camp was to replace the 'Malvern Challenge' camp which we have attended for many years and has always proved very popular. The weather for the weekend of Strategy was very wet with a huge thunderstorm on the first night but all the scouts had a great weekend, even if they did get a little wet. In July we held our annual Scout Regatta, which is now in its 3rd year and proving even more popular with 12 teams from all over the district entering the event to join us for a weekend of fun and water based activities. This year's event will again be in July as this proved more popular with the visiting scout groups.

During the rest of the summer we held our usual Friday evening sailing and kayaking sessions on Friday nights and then at the end of August we held another of our RYA training camps and had over 25 scouts and a couple of parents taking their RYA qualifications.

In October we moved back to The Wick for our winter season and the more usual scout activities such as knots, map work and first aid. We also had a pumpkin carving evening in time for Halloween. The turnout for the Remembrance parade in November was excellent and yet again we received praise and thanks from the Mayor.

The Scouts have also worked hard over the winter on a number of badges including the Meteorologist Badge, Communications Badge, International badge and the Aviation badge.

Christmas was a very busy time with the scout post. I would like to thank the scouts and parents/families for all their help with the Christmas Post which is always a very busy time for us. This is a major part of our fund raising for the group, and we all know how tempting sat by a warm fire can be instead of selling stamps and delivering cards in the cold. Thank you!

We started the New Year with a visit to the Civic offices, something we have not done for many years. The scouts were invited to tea with the Mayor (best behaviour by all) before been shown around the debating chamber by the Mayor himself.

During the winter months the scouts did a number of hikes, including Barbary Castle, Blunston and the Old Town hike and then the annual Les Barnes night hike in March.

I would like to say a big thank you to all my leadership team and our helpers, especially when we are down here at the lake, as we would not be able to have so many children on the water without your help. I would also like to thank our 'tuck' lady for again offering to take on the responsibility of providing the scout and leaders with a warm drink after a night of fun on the water, and to all the parents for bringing the scouts down to Bowmoor every week.

Thank you everyone!

James - Scout Leader 1st Swindon Sea Scouts



Sailing at Bowmoor – Sunny day in 2015!