

1ST SANDLEHEATH SEA SCOUT GROUP



WATERLINES

OCT 2000

Autumn Edition

Sailing Report

Another sailing season draws to a close on a slightly unhappy note; without a regatta to enable the Scouts and Ventures to show their skills so hard learned over the summer. Most Thursday evenings we found enough breeze to give steady sailing conditions and we seemed to have had more boats than ever on the water.

This year saw more sailing in Optimists than previous years which appears to have been a great success because many of our young Scouts have developed both their confidence and their sailing skills in these boats. Thank you to Roger Marsh, Stephen White and Hywel Morris who each spent time with this group. Most of our Scout sailors have developed very well this season. We have just started testing for RYA Level 2 and by early in next season we should have many at this skill level and others at Level 3.

Older Scouts/Ventures: Nick, Joanne, Sally, Sophie and Richard have helped on Thursday nights and they were good fun to have around. They did very well in the Solent Regatta at Spinnaker.

Sophie and Joanne have been enjoying themselves at Open Meetings around the coast. I saw them successfully cope with pretty tough conditions at Lee-on-the-Solent. They have also competed at Poole and Falmouth.



Sailing at Spinnaker

We again came second to 9th Lymington at the Solent Regatta in June. Well done everyone who competed. You are good team players and we leaders are always pleased at the way you all support each other. Special congratulations to Mark Bailey and Andrew Bland for winning the Mirror class.

Our fleet has expanded again, two boats were donated to us via Fordingbridge Scouts. Both boats are in quite good order although we need to complete the restoration of the Heron, and the Firefly now has a large hole in it. One of the Mirrors will have to be retired this season, - too old and too worn to be repaired.

Our friend Tony Parker from 1st Fordingbridge Scouts has been able to find us dry storage for the boats over the winter. For this we are very grateful. Over the last few years Alleyne Copestake our Bosun has maintained our boats, however, in view of the large amount of work needed in total we really cannot expect him to do all of this work.

We must have help from Scout families. Parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins will you

Scout Section
page 2

Venture Section
page 5

New H.Q. update
page 6

Programme
page 8

Webb Ivory
page 4

volunteer to take one of the boats home and do some work on it before next spring? We don't expect repair work in wood or fibreglass but would you be willing tackle some painting if I help you get started?

Our thanks to those already mentioned:- Alleyne for keeping us on the water, Hywell, Roger and Stephen for all kinds of help on troop nights. Sue Chase has spent time with us instead of canoeing some weeks. Thomas Chase has been a great help in helping to get boats on the water and we wish him the best of luck as he goes off to University in October.

If you don't get the chance to sail through the winter I hope that you keep up your interest in sailing by reading books and magazines so that you come back next May even more knowledgeable than you are now.

John Douce - Sailing Instructor

Scout Report

This summer the Scouts have been very busy enjoying themselves. We have met at the Spinnaker Sailing Club every Thursday for sailing, canoeing and rowing, and the Scouts have progressed well, many of them gaining new BCU and RYA qualifications.

We have invested eight new scouts this summer, and said goodbye to four, who are moving up to Ventures, so our numbers are still increasing. At the beginning of May these older scouts took part in a survival camp, when we challenged them to camp in the field at Sandleheath with limited resources, no tents, no cookers or utensils, and no pre-prepared food. They coped very well, in spite of the porridge getting stuck in the spout of the kettle! As result have gained their Chief Scout Award.

Throughout the summer we have played host to other Scout and Youth groups, with our Cubs and Beavers enjoying water activities in June and July. Our own Group Regatta and barbecue in June went well, and the following week the Scouts successfully took part in the Blashford Regatta,

with the Mirror sailors doing particularly well.

We attended the Millennium picnic at Sandleheath on July 9th with the rest of the group, to help publicise our new HQ project, with displays, sedan chair races and yummy hot dogs!

Our summer camp was great fun, mainly due to the exemplary behaviour of all the Scouts that took part, they were enthusiastic and appreciative of all the activities on offer, and made the week a real pleasure to attend. We had a day at the sailing club at Wimbleball in Somerset, on the beach at Woody Bay and Woolacombe, some long and short hikes over Exmoor, pony trekking, and swimming, when we visited the 'no fun' pool in Minehead!

In the evenings we had wide games, a low ropes course and a blindfold trail, apparently Tom and Geoffrey will have to take some 'nasty' pills before they set up another one, it was deemed too easy!

One disappointment of the summer was the cancellation of the Marchwood Regatta because of the fuel shortages, we were prepared to enter Scouts in all the races and had been practising hard at the lake, but it was not to be.

Finally it remains for me to thank all the adults that have helped throughout the season, on camp, with the water activities, and behind the scenes, thank you all for your time and effort.

Sue Chase - Assistant Scout Leader

Below: Scouts at the Sandleheath Millennium picnic



Below: another photo of the Millennium picnic.



Scout Camp 2000

This was held near Brendon, North Devon. No one wrote a report about it so here's a pictorial diary. More photos can be found on the Scout Group website at:

'<http://come.to/sandleheath>' or

'<http://www.ox.comsoc.net/~swhite/scouts/>'.

Saturday

We paused on the drive to Brendon to picnic at County Gate – where the Scouts and David threw nerf balls at each other and any cars that made the mistake of being in the car park. We then drove the short remaining distance to the campsite and pitched the tents. In the evening we walked to Malmesmead & paddled in stream at the ford before having a wide game on the hill.

Sunday

The day started with Scouts Own round flag, then people set off on various all day hikes - which apparently included too many hills. Switzerland gets taken off next year's list of possible venues! There were some good kite flying ones though, I mean ones that made a good point to set up a checkpoint on! After the hikes refreshment was found by swimming in the cold stream next to camp. The evening brought a low ropes course in woodland above the site.



Above: Scouts Own

Below: low ropes course



Monday

The day was spent sailing and canoeing at Wimbleball. We had the use of two Comet Trios which gave the scouts the opportunity to learn to use a gennaker. We stayed at Wimbleball for a barbecue in evening.



Sailing at Wimbleball

Tuesday

In the morning people went horse riding in Doone Valley, cycled to Brendon or Malmesmead or walked near Dunkery Beacon. We then all went to Woody Bay where people swam in sea, got attacked by rocks, explored pools and even caves. On the way back we paused in Valley of Rocks for a short scramble.

Wednesday

Again people could go horse riding in Doone Valley, with the alternative being a walk to Lynmouth then taking the cliff railway to Lynton. In the afternoon we visited Minehead, then went for a swim in the Leisure pool.

Thursday

The main activity of the day was a combined walk and cycle on the Tarka trail near Biddeford. Fortunately the bikes didn't fall off one of the bike racks until the return journey! The evening activity was a blindfold lead.

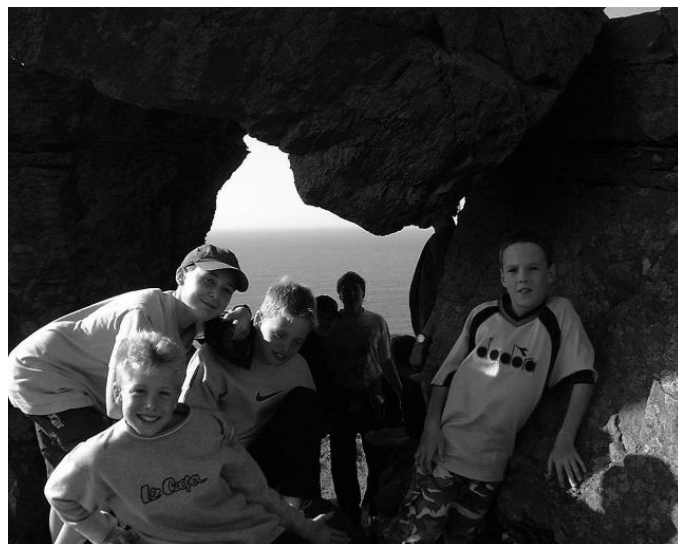
Friday

The day was spent in Woolacombe, giving Scouts the chance to buy presents, swim or bodyboard in sea, or play on beach (more nerf balls). Supper was Fish & chips, before heading back to camp. On site we finished the camp with a camp fire beside the stream.

Saturday

Saturday was spent in traffic jams, I mean, Saturday was spent heading home.

**Part of the
blindfold
lead**



Above: Valley of Rocks

Below: The Tarka Trail



Webb Ivory

Each family will shortly be receiving a copy of the new Webb Ivory Christmas Catalogue. It contains Christmas cards, wrapping paper, decorations, gifts and much more. Last year your orders raised over £130 for Scout funds. This new catalogue enables you to purchase direct with your own parcel delivered to your door. Please look through the catalogue and consider placing an order.

It would boost our funds considerably if you could also show your catalogue to other people such as grandparents, family and people at work.

Thank you for all the help you give in small ways to make our Group such a success!

Venture Scout Unit

Hello, this is my first report in waterlines since becoming chairman in June of this year. Before I get onto what the Venture Unit has been up to over the last few months I would like to thank a few people. First of all I would like to thank Ian for the work he put in as chairman, without his work the unit would not be where it is. Even though he often felt his work was not appreciated, it was, so thank you Ian. Secondly a "thank you" has to go to Steve, as he continues his role as Venture leader (we still haven't figured out why he puts up with us!), his ideas are invaluable, even though we don't always realise it at the time! I would also like to thank everyone who spent time with the Germans and especially to Karen who spent the whole week with them and did the background work.

In the past few months we have not really done anything of great significance, but really it has been a

transition period for the people with their new roles in the committee, for the Scouts which will soon be joining us and other new members.

We have begun to plan an expedition for the summer of 2001, which will be used for various awards but most importantly for the Queen Scout Award. As the plan stands we will be doing a 850(ish) mile bike ride across Europe, passing through about 7 different countries. This is obviously a big task, but we can do it! However, we will need a lot of help and support in order to be able to achieve this (you can all support us by coming to our fund raisers, there will be one coming up soon!).

Lastly if any of you know someone out there, 16-20 that might be interested in joining get them to give me a call on (01725) 514584, we have devised a great programme for the coming four months and we are always looking for new members.

If you have any other enquiries, about the Venture Unit, please feel free to contact me on the number above or email: james_hunt@talk21.com.

Thanks

James Hunt - Venture Unit Chairman

International Links

The summer holidays saw some more international links being set up within Ventures, namely a group of German Scouts and Venture Scouts that spent a week with us during August. We spent the week camping at Ian Mason Smith's (thanks Ian) and managed to pack some very enjoyable activities. They arrived in the pouring rain which made setting up the tents fun, but the rest of the week stayed fine. There were trips to Salisbury Cathedral and Museum, Stonehenge and Brownsea Island as well as an 8 hour wait at Bournemouth Hospital (nothing disastrous except for the wait!). Thanks to Ros and John who also helped to take them sailing and canoeing at Spinnaker - interesting to teach them to sail when I'd never sailed by myself before! A BBQ on the beach was also arranged for their last night although it ended up a BBQ behind the beach huts, courtesy of the wind! They left us with a signed T-shirt, a flag for our new hut and a book on their home town (in English I am glad to say!) Overall though, the week ended up with many friendships having been made and a promise to visit them on our expedition next year.

Karen Pickering - Venture Scout



**The
Germans
being given
a taste of
water
activities**

New Headquarters Update

This is to keep you informed on the progress towards our New Headquarters.

A Lottery Application Assessor visited us this Summer and gave us very encouraging feedback with regard to our application. We are currently working hard to make the changes recommended and will be resubmitting our application later this year.

We have now appointed an Architect and are working with him to produce a full planning application for submission in October. We are liaising with NFDC planning department to ensure that our plans will meet with their approval.

It is hoped that construction will commence in Spring 2001 and the building available to use this time next year.

As you are no doubt aware, our existing hut is now in such a poor state that it is no longer being used. We will have to cope for the next year without our own headquarters and you will have been told of the arrangements for your children over the next few months. All the section leaders and helpers are planning to continue with the usual winter activities as far as possible with the limited resources they now have.

Please be as proactive as possible in co-operating together to keep the Group enthusiasm going. Perhaps you can share transport with other parents to get your child to the different venues or offer to stay occasionally to lend a hand.

It is imperative that our new Headquarters is built next year. We are a thriving Sea Scout Group, with waiting lists for all sections. You can read all about the wonderful things our leaders and helpers organise for our children and their successes elsewhere in Waterlines. If we struggle on for a second winter with no home there is a risk that these dedicated volunteers will lose interest, as will the children and the group will decline.

The application to the National Lotteries Charities

Board is for the full capital cost of the building. However, to equip and furnish it will cost another £10,000 - £12,000. Our current fund-raising committee do a superb job in raising money every year to support the Group's activities. Without them subscriptions would be substantially higher! This vital work will continue under the able Chairmanship of Caroline Morris.

We therefore need to start a separate fund-raising initiative to complete the new Headquarters. We are planning a Social Cheese and Wine Evening in November to show you all what the new Headquarters will look like and ask for your input as to what equipment and facilities we should provide. There will also be an open discussion on sources of fund-raising. If you know of any charities, grant making trusts, rich people(!) please come along and let us know.

We are planning to start a fund-raising 'Club' that will meet monthly to co-ordinate our campaign. Please can I ask you to consider attending 2 or 3 only of these meetings over the next year to help us with activities such as writing letters, filling in application forms, research work etc. This exercise is definitely one of 'many hands make light work' and a little of everyone's time will make the job a lot easier! The Club is intended to be a social gathering with a serious intent, probable over some wine or a light supper.

We hope that all of you will put the date of Saturday 11th November in your diaries and come along and see the fantastic new Headquarters we are proposing. There will be no charge for this event (just a raffle!) but to assist with catering please complete the slip attached to your subscription letter and return it to Sue Jacobs with your subs.

CHEESE AND WINE EVENING

SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

**7.30PM AT ST ALDHELM'S CHURCH,
SANDLEHEATH**

**Come and see what your new
headquarters will look like and**

**Help launch our new Fund-raising
Campaign**

This page is left intentionally
blank

Group Programme

October

Wednesday, 11th Solent Regatta washup (25th Southampton)
Tues, 24th Scout Caving Day (Mendip)
Monday, 30th Group Executive Committee meeting (7:45pm)

November

Saturday, 11th New H.Q. "cheese & wine" information evening.
Sunday, 12th Remembrance Day, parade & service
Saturday, 18th - Sunday, 19 District PLs training
Tuesday, 21st SW Area Water Activities meeting, 7:30pm.

December

Thursday, 28th No Scout meeting

2001

Wednesday, 14th February Blashford Regatta planning meeting
Sunday, 26th March Scouts - Pat Cross Trophy
Saturday, 30th June Solent Blashford Regatta
15th & 16th September Solent Marchwood Regatta (provisional date)

Editorial

I'd like to start by apologising for not remembering to nag people about articles for this until a couple of days before the deadline - this probably explains the lack of articles from the Cub and Beaver sections. Having said that the deadline was published in the AGM edition, so you haven't really got an excuse! The next issue will be the January edition, which is normally the shortest edition but should be packed with information about the new headquarters as well as next year's programme, and the **deadline will be**

Tuesday 2nd January 2001. Please write this in your diaries now, and preferably a note a week ahead of this so your report isn't late. I'd also like to thank Sue Chase for providing some of the photographs for this edition.

Stephen White - Waterlines Editor

Waterlines, OCT 2000

Editor: Stephen White, The Roost, Abbotswell Road, Frogham. (01425 654025)
Deputy Editor: Ian Jacobs, Applewood, Alderholt Road, Sandleheath (01425 653782)
(email: scouts@the-roost.freeserve.co.uk URL: <http://come.to/sandleheath/>)