

Our Troop has maintained membership around 30 - 34 Scouts. An active programme was organised with thanks to all our Leaders and Helpers: Ian Linsdall, Nick Woodhead, Dominic Stinchcombe, Sarah Cheeseman and Pete Whitelegg. Tom Bever has been a very able Young Leader and has been joined by Ewan Linsdall. Tom went to the World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia in July 2019 and is attending EuroJam in Poland in July. We were very pleased that Lauren Stratton has successfully become an Assistant Scout Leader, having previously been a Young Leader.

A good number of badges have been gained during the year including the Fire Safety Badge held at the Fire Station. We congratulate James Hitching and Tom Allen on achieving their Chief Scout's Gold Awards. Lauren Stratton and Olivia Grey were all awarded Jack Petchey Young Achievers awards for which the troop received £250 each. One amount was spent towards an activity afternoon at Fairlop high ropes and Skreens Park activities at Winter Camp 20.

Our Monday meetings from May to July took place at Fairlop Outdoor Activity Centre with sailing and canoeing each week. The Centre was again able to run a full range of RYA Youth Dinghy Sailing courses and BCU PaddlePower canoeing for our Scouts. We were joined each week by the District Explorers who were shared our facilities at Fairlop.

Ian Linsdall again arranged an offshore sailing trip in May, taking 8 Scouts to Southampton for sailing weekend around the Solent. This trip is being repeated this coming June.

Our Weekend Camp was held at Thriftwood in June and had a "survival" theme. Our Summer Camp was held once again in Guernsey. We had 20 Scouts and Explorers attending an eventful and enjoyable week. Thanks to Ian Linsdall and Pete Hayward who ran the camp and to Rachel Whitelegg and Sarah Cheeseman, who organised all the catering & Lauren Stratton, Pete Whitelegg, Ewan Linsdall, Emma & Sian Hayward and Tom Bever for their help during the week. The 2020 Summer Camp will be held at Blackwell Court Activity Centre, Bromsgrove.

22 Scouts attended our recent Winter Activity weekend in March returning to Skreens Park Campsite near Writtle. Activities included cooking on fires, air rifles, axe throwing and high ropes. Great time was had by all, in spite of the wet and cold conditions.

Leaders and Scouts were again able to help at All Saints Annual Sale, cooking hot dogs raising £240,. The Troop took part in a special meeting in November to raise money for our Group Guide Dog project. We welcomed a Royal Navy team who talked about the Navy and ran 3 activities including a very popular laser target range. During the year we actively participated in the District Troop challenges – KataKanuu races, chess, football, archery, Go karting and the Swimming Gala in which we came joint second.

Alan Crook – Scout Leader