



MERLINS ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Programme Highlights

Merlins Scout Troop currently has 30 scouts (19 boys, 11 girls) who enjoy a wide range of activities. During our meetings we have tried fire-lighting, cooking, wide games, hiking, rifle shooting, a talent show, debating, map-reading, mountain biking and paragliding. The scouts have achieved outdoor, promise, global, expedition and community challenge badges plus navigator, craft and dragon boat badges. This year we were delighted to award the Chief Scout's Gold Award to Adam Newman, Charlie Watson and James Fairhead. We will also be saying farewell to 7 older scouts who are transferring to Explorers.

We will be competing in the Berkshire Dragonboat Regatta to defend the cup which we won last year.

We had a fantastic summer camp with the Buzzards in Snowdonia, which included a hike up Snowdon! In September we joined Buzzards for a camp at Chessington Theme Park and for a sub-zero camp at Ellis Hill Farm. In March we held a camp at Youlbury campsite when the older scouts got the opportunity to have an expedition on their own, plus go-karting and crate-stacking!

This summer we are looking forward to camping in Devon and becoming beach-bums!

Thanks

My thanks go to my assistant leaders Monika Mändler-Zhao, Clive Taylor, and Alastair Fairhead, and to Bill Watson for being a willing occasional helper. This year we are very pleased to welcome Wanda Burrows to our leadership team and hope that she has lots of fun with us. We would still like to attract another male leader to be a role model for the boys, so let me know if think you can help

Fiona Fairhead (Scout Leader)