



Scout Section Camp Reports

June Camp 9906

The June camp was the second visit to Kirkdale and provided another opportunity for all the scouts to develop their backwoods knowledge and to learn new skills. Now each Patrol should be able to set-up kitchen equipped with an altar fire, bowl and utensil supports and lots of gadgets.

Much fun was had on Saturday evening when all the scouts took part in an assault course challenge including a run through the river.

District Incident Hike July (9907)

Report by Gary O'Neill, Central Redcar (SPURS) Veture Scouts

1st wilton entered one small patrol in the district Incident Hike held at Raven Gill and also provided transport backup throughout the event together with site catering. Our small team did well but need to do some more knot work.

On the first saturday and Sunday of July Ravengill campsite once again played host to a district event. This time it was an eleven and a half kilometre incident hike. On top of the usual day hike equipment the teams had to carry a stove and a tent for pre decided incidents that were to take place at points around the course. All teams successfully completed the course although no winner was discernable as the teams were not monitored for the entire course. The only major hiccup was one of 1st Wilton's checkpoint's getting lost due to a scouters mistake! (Sorry Fizzy - next time we'll give you a map). However they still made it back in one piece.

Lake District Summer Camp (9908)

We again welcomed the de Kruijff family from Holland as they joined us for this camp - in fact they were the first to arrive on site!

The camp did not get off to a flying start, (problem 1) on Wednesday evening we received a call from the site Warden asking us to arrive on Saturday instead of Friday night, so a quick change of plan and we arranged that Charles would leave at 10:00 and go directly to Pull Wyke whilst everyone else would meet at 10:00 at the Village Hall.

Problem two, the minibus exhaust has fallen off! Transport manager Fizzy and his deputy, Stephen have an early start on Saturday to locate and have fitted a new exhaust.

Everyone did meet and eventually set off.

Charles (quartermaster (QM)) arrived at Pull Wyke having met the Power Family in Ambleside to find the de Kruijffs already settled in but that the gate was locked. We thought this may be the case and the plan was that QM calls GSL and he and the rest of the convoy would detour via Kendal to collect a key. The call to the GSL was made but the convoy had ground to a halt with problem three - the borrowed canoe trailer had broken. Abandoning the trailer and its contents at the side of the road with thoughts of having to go back to Middlesbrough for the groups own trailer the now very late convey continued on the journey (it was now raining heavily). Problem 4, the site warden was not at home so no key! This information was phone through to our now establish base on the camp site and not wishing to delay the immanent arrive of the convey any further our resident canoeing expert (Matty) turned his hand to lock removal (without a key). It was not long before the gate was open (and the site now has a new shiny lock).

Now mid afternoon, the now weary travellers arrived and eagerly tucked in to the lunch that had been prepared by Charles and Lily.

Problem four, the loos are also locked, but eventually the GSL manages to catch the Warden at home and obtain the combination number over the phone.

By tea time the site is starting to resemble a camp and tents shelters and kitchens were under construction. Each patrol was cooking on wood, whilst the scouters kitchen had 6 gas rings two water boilers, an oven, a fridge and electric lights.



Messrs Transport (Fizzy and Stephen) returned to the abandoned canoes and with the help of some scaffolding managed to get the trailer to Pull Wyke. Fizzy later took the trailer to Ambleside and had it welded so it was usable to get the canoes home.

Sunday Morning and the site became a gadget construction centre, scouts making kitchen gadgets and scouters building a jetty, communications centre and floodlit games arena.

Sunday afternoon was spent on the lake before games playing in the evening whilst RM, MDK and CCM went out to investigate cycle hire.

Monday morning Lily and Joyce tidied up and Matty dug the waste hole while the Scouts went orienteering in Grizedale Forest. Charles returned to base having dropped a group at Grizedale and collected Joyce and Lily for a shopping trip to Ambleside. (Richard (GSL), take note, calls to "base" expected a response from Lily or Joyce (not "GSL").

You can't hide anywhere! The shopping party just get into Ambleside when the CB calls "Hello QM, this is Richard, What is your location?". A reply from QM to GSL is in progress when guess who drives past - yes GSL. For the next hour it did not seem to matter which shop we went into, as soon as we got in the shop the radio would start "... where are you now?".

We took the COOP by surprise, it's so small and has steps so it's baskets only (i.e. no trolleys), five baskets later we are ready to pay (oh - the checkout is designed for one basket load). The cashier seemed a little concerned that we had cleared them out of bread, apple and carrots and asked "will you be coming in again?". He then said he would order extra bread.

Our next trip to Ambleside for provisions on Wednesday we cleared the COOP again and made a big dint in SPARs stock.

On return to base there was just time to unload and then we left Joyce to un pack whilst Lily and Charles went back to Grizedale to meet the Troop. The troop had been joined by the Meadow's family at lunch time and Phil was busy co-ordinating the cycling and those not on hire bikes would continue their journey back to Hawkeshead.

On Tuesday the scouts all packed their bags and with a packed lunch and a 24 hour ration pack set out on an overnight walk and camp. During breakfast we had the only accident of the camp, Mick manages to seriously cut his leg on a chair. Fizzy turned ambulance driver and took him to Kendal hospital for stitches before sneaking off for a night in an Ambleside Hotel with Jane (it was the wedding anniversary).

Whilst the Scouts were away, the base party went shopping again, this time to Coniston where we found a very helpful butcher but again a bread and vegetable shortage. They do however sell very nice toffee sponge puddings! It should be noted that the Scouters remaining at base and those who returned to base did not use ration packs.

Wednesday saw quiet start at base camp with no scouts. Phil was soon ready to depart to join the Scout and take them their recharged radios when the peace was shattered "Hello Base, Hello Base this is Richard, message over". Richard was eager to inform us that all was well on the overnight camp site and that as it was now 08:00 and other camper were getting up he would rouse the scouts from their slumber. It should be stated here that Richard sounded awake and happy.

Peace returned until the Scouts had breakfasted from the ration packs, packed up their tents and were ready to leave the camp site. We were then treated to listening to each patrol setting off and doing their radio checks. Simon, - when you here "Hello Cobras" (i.e. your patrol name), "Hello Cobras, this is GSL, message over" it is usual to reply and not rely on a scouter some distance away to reply on their radio that you are there but just ignoring the message. The general banter continued but then contact was lost as the scouts moved on, however a kind lad in Windermere (know as "Falcon") was able to communicate with the Scouts, GSL Discovery and Base and spent the morning relaying messages for us until his mother demanded he had lunch.

Despite the 24 hour packs should have lasted until lunch time we prepared a buffet lunch at base for the returning scouts.

We had three activities on Thursday, Raft building, Canoeing and Cycling. Lunch was after the first session and afternoon tea after the second session. After which it was time to cook dinner (Simon, once the water is boiling add the Pasta i.e. don't take the pan off the fire). Despite the fact the Cobras had a pan of boiling water before the Scouters even filled their pan with water, the Scouters had eaten before the Cobras put their pasta in the pan!

The games after dinner could not continue quite as late as previous days because (problem five) the generator broke down. We had enough battery power to maintain the kitchen, store and mess tent lights but not to power the foodlights.

After breakfast on Friday, packed lunches were made, we said good-bye to the Power's who were leaving for Scotland and then all except the QM we went to Keswick for fun in the leisure pool whilst the QM went to Windermere to visit friends.



After tea on Friday it was time to break camp leaving only the sleeping tents. Lessons on washing up are still required, the Smurfs did a good job (or should that be Richard B.) whilst the Eagles made a fair attempt and the Cobras, well let's not go into that. Let us just say that if the pans had been left as they were returned to the QM, the scouts would no want to use them at the next camp!

Saturday morning was time to tidy up. The final flag break and time to say good-byes. Badges were presented to each person on the camp. Lily then thanked everyone for the making them welcome and invited the group to hold next summers camp in Holland - Thanks Lily.

Richard departed with Jane and Richard B. (to get back in time for the football) and the de Kruijff's set off back to Holland. The vans were packed and then it was time for a final site check (Cobras are your tint pegs disposable? - it not why are they still in the ground?). After an uneventful journey we all arrived safely back in Lazenby.

The following Wednesday evening it was time to unpack the van, thanks to those scouts who remembered and those who didn't don't worry we know who you are and it's your job next time!

District PLs Meeting

Three of the Troops PLs and APLs joined other PLs and APLs from the district for a BBQ and to discuss future district events.

Group Open Evening

The group held an open evening on 14th July. This was a good change for all sections of the group to get together with parents and display the activities of the group.

Treasure Hunt

**Sunday 10th October 1999,
Meet at Lazenby Village Hall at 10:00.**

Join us for a pub lunch afterwards
or bring a picnic.

Entry £5 per car

All proceeds will go towards the group
funds.

Come along and join in the fun.
Can you score more points than the Scouters?

Tickets available on Wednesday evenings
at 19:30 between Cubs and Scouts.

Calendar of Events 1999

An updated version of the group calendar will be published shortly. In the mean time, scouts should disregard the groups out information as updates will be provided each Wednesday.

Every Wednesday

17:30	Beavers
18:00	Cubs
19:30	Scouts & Ventures

September

1st No Section Meetings
Leaders Meeting 19:00

8th All sections Meet as usual
subs due

16th District Cub Leaders Meeting

24th - 26th District Scout Camp Skills Competition.

October

10th Car Treasure Hunt, Start Lazenby Village Hall 10:00

11th Group Executive Meeting 20:00 at the Nags Head,
Lazenby

14th District Beaver Leaders Meeting

16th-17th Jamboree on the Internet

16th District PLC.

17th District Scouts 5 a side Football
17th District Beavers "Sammy Spiders" party.

November

19th District Scouts Rollerblading.

27th Group Social (Whale Hill).

December

3rd - 5th Troop Camp.

13th Group Executive Meeting 20:00 at the Nags Head,
Lazenby