



1st Waterloo (International) Scout Group

Scout Section report to the Group Council September 2011

The past year has been a tremendous success for the Scout Section thanks to the enthusiasm of the Scouts themselves and the dedication of the leaders to turn up for regular meetings and camps and for putting in all those extra hours behind the scene in planning and preparation .

Specifically, I want to thank;

- Stuart Leadley for his commitment to regular meetings and for keeping the Scout Records so well up-to-date. Without this the young people would not be recognized for all of their achievements.
- Rob Whitton, Fiona Dearden and Wendy Yared who, as Assistant Scout Leaders, have shared the burden of organizing regular weekly meetings and contributed with many great ideas for activities.
- All those parents who fulfilled their commitment to at least one meeting as a volunteer helper and also those who came along to camp, baked cakes, acted as Home Contacts and, most importantly, brought their Scouts to the meetings.

Strength in leadership means more sharing of responsibilities and means increased chances for continuity of meetings and program activities for the young people in our group. Participation by parents helps the young people see their parents in a different light and allows parents to see their children in an environment that is not school!

The group size remained at around 28 Scouts with an over 90% attendance rate which is important because it is an ongoing indication that the Scouts are enjoying their activities and want to continue to come .

Last year's Scouting highlights include;

- Chief Scouts Awards: more Scouts have achieved this, the highest award for the section.
- Expedition Challenge: A number of older Scouts took part in training and then actual expeditions in Belgium, planning an executing a weekend of activities on their own and without a leader for the weekend. This is an important life skill for a young person to learn together with the responsibility for others that goes with it.
- Other Activities: Raising money for Shelterbox Charity, Cycling proficiency and maintenance, Emergency Aid.
- Camps (Location, nights): Oct'10 (Belgium, 2nights), Feb'10 (Belgium, 2nights), May'10 (Belgium, 2nights)

The Future 2011/12 and beyond: As we get another Scouting year underway, I would make a continued appeal for parents to come forward and participate/volunteer to help in whatever capacity they can in order to continue to support our troop so that the program items remain as challenging and as exciting as possible to our young people.