



1st Waterloo (International) Scout Group

Scout Section report to the Group Council September 2010

The past year has been a year of new experiences and challenges for both the Scouts and Leaders. The group size remained at 30 Scouts and it has been possible to support this mainly because of the extra adult help that has been given in the form of regular leadership as well as ad-hoc support for specific events. In addition, we have 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 along and secondly, the skills that they learn and the behaviours that they develop, especially around teamwork and leadership, can be sustained from meeting to meeting and camp to camp which makes the leader's role a lot easier. This is going to be a key issue this year as we have many older Scouts moving up or moving away from Belgium leaving us with a very young and inexperienced group.

My thanks to the Stuart Leadley and Lek Van den Berghe for their weekly support during meetings and at camps. I would also like to recognize that Fiona Dearden has been officially invested as an Assistant Scout Leader. Finally, I'd like to welcome Rob Whitton who will soon become another Assistant Scout Leader. 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.

My thanks also to all those parents who have come along to camp, baked cakes, acted as Home Contacts and, most importantly, brought their Scouts to the meetings.

In the last year the Scouts have surpassed themselves in terms of their achievements. Highlights include;

- Chief Scouts Awards: 4 Scouts have achieved the highest award.
- Expedition, Adventure, Fitness, Outdoor + Outdoor Plus, Promise Challenges completed.
- Activity Badges: Navigation, Physical Recreation, Snow Sports, Survival Skills
- Staged Activity: Nights away (see below), 4-6 x hikes away
- Camps(Location, nights): Oct'09 (Belgium, 2nights), Feb'10 (London, 2nights), April '10 (Belgium, 2nights), May'10 (Germany, 3nights)

The Future 2011 and beyond: As we get another Scouting year underway, I would make a special appeal for parents to come forward and 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.