



MERLINS ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Programme Highlights

Merlins Scout Troop has gone from strength to strength. We now have 27 scouts (21 boys, 6 girls).

During our meetings we have tried fire-lighting, cooking, wide games, fencing, sailing, geocaching, climbing, mountain biking and orienteering. The scouts surprised a few people with their contribution to the Group Gang Show! The Acorn Centre persuaded us to visit them again to sing campfire songs with their special needs group, which we all found rewarding. We ran our Scout Christmas post for the second year, with an improved take up this year, but we have capacity for even more this year! The scouts have achieved outdoor, adventure and community challenge badges plus first aid, athletics and cycling badges. We competed in the Berkshire Dragonboat Regatta, and came 2nd in the District Flag Competition (a camping competition).

We enjoyed a great summer camp with the Buzzards in the Peak District which included a trip to Alton Towers! Some of our other activities were bridge building, canoeing, climbing, hiking and visiting Jodrell Bank. This summer we will be joining with Buzzards again to camp at the international WINGS Camp. In addition we held a one night camp in September when we cycled to Longridge and did zorbing. We also joined Buzzards for a sub-zero camp at St Catherine's.

Thanks

My thanks go to my assistant leaders Monika Mändler-Zhao, Clive Taylor, Eddie Farndon, and to my occasional helpers Tim Helliwell, Tanya Unger, Lottie McKnight, Bill Watson and Alastair Fairhead. Thanks also to our Young Leader, Ed Watt. They have given great support and coped with us making it up as we've gone along!

Fiona Fairhead (Scout Leader)