

# 1<sup>st</sup> Swavesey Sea Scouts

## **Just what do they do at Scouts on a Friday evening?**

This was the exact question that I asked as a parent a couple of years ago and what happened.....I am now the Scout Leader!

I hope that the following is of use to you and gives you an insight into the aims of Scouting and what the Swavesey troop do and want to achieve.

### **Where?**

The Troop currently meets in the Village College Youth Centre. This is our temporary home whilst the Scout hut is rebuilt between the squash courts and the Youth Centre. (We had to relocate the hut to make way for the new coach park). The hut will be shared with the Beaver and Cub groups. "Scouting on the Meridian" is expanding at a rate of knots.

### **When?**

The troop meets every Friday evening during term time from 7.30pm-9.30pm.

### **Who?**

The Scout leaders are Nick Dennis and Conor MacGinley who both live in Swavesey. Andy Batey, the former Scout Leader will also be assisting us but has a new role as Group Scout Leader for the whole Group, which includes the Cubs and Beavers. All of us attend regular and ongoing training events and all of us have passed the CRB (Criminal Record Bureau) and other checks and hold leader warrants.

### **Why Sea Scouts and what's the difference?**

I asked exactly this question when I joined! The reason is that the current and previous troop leaders came from other Sea Scout groups and that is what they knew. There is no significant difference between Scouts and Sea Scouts. We have the same training, go to the same District and National events and follow the identical "programme" as Scouts. Naturally, there is a bias towards waterborne events and we have a hut full of sailing craft, sailboards and kayaks. Scouts (and leaders) love messing about on water!

### **Why do young people join a Scout troop?**

Young people join a Scout troop for many reasons. It might simply be the next step after Cub Scouts; they might have heard great things from their friends, or perhaps their parents or carers were very keen for them to try Scouts. Young people today have very busy lives and high expectations and we hope that the Troop can offer an exciting programme of events into which the Scouts will enter eagerly. We want the Scouts to be part of something active, lively and FUN. They will want to learn new skills, enjoy games and challenges and experience some excitement and adventure. They will be with their friends

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Charity No. TBA

and will be anxious to build their confidence and prove their ability. As they develop and grow older they will want to experience a little responsibility and from time to time take charge.

### **So what is the “Programme”?**

In Scouting the “programme” is not just about the *activities* such as archery and youth hostelling, but also about *how* we do them and *why* we do them.

The programme that we have for Scouts is divided into several zones:

- ◆ Scoutcraft and Adventure – the great outdoors!
- ◆ Global-culture and lifestyles.
- ◆ Community-local people, places etc.
- ◆ Fit for Life-promote fitness and health.
- ◆ Creative Expression-make and do.
- ◆ Beliefs and Attitudes-personal attitudes and beliefs.

Within any troop the majority of our activities will fall into the first zone “Scoutcraft and Adventure” simply because experience has shown that this is what Scouts like doing best!

### **So what have the Swavesey troop done and what is proposed?**

- ◆ Summer camps.
- ◆ Weekend camps.
- ◆ Night hikes.
- ◆ Wide games and navigational skills.
- ◆ Map reading and plotting.
- ◆ Kayaking.
- ◆ Windsurfing.
- ◆ Sailing.
- ◆ White water canoeing.
- ◆ Incident hikes.
- ◆ Adventure days.
- ◆ Swimming.
- ◆ Cyclocross.
- ◆ Survival and bivouacking.
- ◆ Cooking.
- ◆ First Aid.
- ◆ Recycling (Scouts are good at this!)
- ◆ Quiz’s
- ◆ DIY (The hut!).
- ◆ Having FUN! And much more.....

I hope that the above helps you understand a bit about what your son or daughter does on a Friday evening. If you would like to learn more or even offer your services as a helper please ring Nick (203039), Conor (230291) or Andy (789104)

***Shout for Scouting!***

Nick Dennis  
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