



## **Navy Command**

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See Distribution

17 Jul 09

### **INSPECTION OF 8<sup>th</sup> WORTHING SEA SCOUTS – 16 JUL 09**

1. This water based inspection was held at Southwater Lake and the Group's HQ in Worthing. In attendance were the Mr N Laws, representing the County Commissioner, and Mr R Strange, the District Commissioner.
2. The 8<sup>th</sup> Worthing are a very large Sea Scout Group with limited access to water and boats. This inspection was therefore split between the Southwater Lake where some 24 Scouts and Explorers were seen boating and the Group HQ where the remainder of the group were inspected.
3. Activities witnessed this evening included kayaking, canoeing and pulling. Sailing was not conducted due to the presence of a swimming/ triathlon club. 2 groups were kayaking with a Scout group practising the skills required for 1 star whilst the older Scouts and Explorers were learning about rescues and practising the various types of rescue. Some of these are at BCU 3\* standard but have yet to take the test. All activities were well led by competent and qualified instructors and thoroughly enjoyed by the young people.
4. Southwater Lake is some 20 minutes North of Worthing and is the regular water activities site. It is not ideal for sailing due to the extensive tree cover acting as a very effective wind break. Also it is used by many people and, in addition to the Scouts, this evening there were the Sea Cadets, a canoe club, swimming club and lifesaving club all using the lake. They are currently looking for another venue, particularly for sailing, which does not involve travelling any further than now but this is proving to be difficult. It is recommended that they liaise with other Sea Scout Groups in the area, notably Lancing and Shoreham to discuss availability and use of their facilities.
5. The boat fleet remains the same as before and previous comments remain valid.
6. The inspection then moved to their HQ for the formal part of the evening. This commenced with colours conducted in a full and formal manner with a good standard of piping. Once again the number on parade was impressive and demonstrated the strength of this Group with 3 Cub Packs, 2 Scout Troops and a large Explorer Unit all

present. All proved to be most smartly dressed and highly disciplined, making an impressive sight for which they are congratulated.

7. When spoken to, the Cubs and Scouts described a very full, active and rewarding programme of activities. Given the limited equipment and access to water they have all nevertheless experienced a range of water activities with a significant number holding the pulling badge and kayaking badges. There is a good number of challenge badges earned each year and they have a high success rate for Scouts achieving their Chief Scout Gold Award.

8. The Explorers are a large unit which is attached to the group. Whilst reluctant to talk about it, they also enjoy a full and active programme with a clear emphasis on kayaking as their preferred water activity. They are undertaking the DofE and Scout award schemes with both DofE Bronze and Silver award underway in the Unit at present. When they have someone working on their Gold Award they should be aware that the RN Recognised Explorer Camp can count as their DofE residential qualification.

9. The Group hold regular camps and last year the Scouts summer camp was held at Decoy Broad, Norfolk whilst this year they are going to Longridge, on the Thames. The explorers are holding their summer camp in Belgium. Other camps include survival skills, outdoor and outdoor plus challenge camps and Gilwell 24.

10. They are also active within the District where they fare well in events and support the Gang Show. They participate in the RN Recognised events attending, with some success, the football competition.

11. The Group Headquarters continues to be well maintained. The recent difficulties with the Council over the lease now appear to have been resolved, with the Council keeping a short term lease but agreeing to provide the equivalent facilities, within the local area, should they decide to develop the current HQ site.

12. The Leadership team is very strong and experienced and provide a well structured and balanced programme to the young people. The numbers in the Group are ample evidence of the quality of both the programme and the Leaders. The Group Executive continues to provide excellent support to the Leaders and the new Treasurer has been fully integrated into the committee. Financially sound, they continue to fund themselves primarily through Subs and Gift Aid with specific projects being funded through grants and special fund raising events.

13. The evening closed with prayers and Evening Colours, again conducted with full and formal ceremony. The Inspecting Officer then addressed the Group, congratulating them on a good inspection before announcing that they had successfully passed this inspection and presenting the Certificate of Recognition to Mr I Wetherell, the Group Scout Leader.

14. This was a good inspection of a large and thriving Sea Scout Group who continue to provide a first class Scouting programme to their young people. It was good to hear that the uncertainty over their HQ has been resolved and they will now be able to move forward with confidence over their future. Smart and highly disciplined, they are fine ambassadors for the RN in Worthing and fully earn and deserve their continued RN Recognition. Well Done.

15. Lt Cdr Griffiths thoroughly enjoyed this inspection and sincerely thanks his hosts for their warm welcome and generous hospitality.

D T Griffiths  
Lieutenant Commander Royal Navy

Distribution:

Mr I Wetherell, Group Scout Leader, 8<sup>th</sup> Worthing Sea Scouts  
Mr E Wilson, Programme and Development Advisor, Gilwell Park

## RN4 PART B:

### Royal Navy Recognition Sea Scout Troop/ Unit Self-assessment / Inspection

|                      |                                     |        |           |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|-----------|
| Name of Troop / Unit | 8 <sup>th</sup> Worthing Sea Scouts | RN No. | 59        |
| Venue                | Southwater Lake/Worthing HQ         | Date   | 16 Jul 09 |

Please assess your Troop /Unit against the criteria statement shown and indicate how closely you believe you meet it by entering a number between 1 & 20 in the Group Assessment box.

#### Area One - Training

| Balanced Programme (refer Part A Sections 5 & 6 and/or Sections 8 & 11) |   |       |  |
|---|---|-------|--|
| 16-20   | The Scouts are taking part in an exciting Balanced Programme, with attention given to each of the Programme Zones and a wide range of methods | 11-15 | The Scouts are taking part in a varied programme that covers the majority of Programme Zones and a good range of methods |
| 6-10  | Most Scouts in the Troop take part in a varied programme, but there are some Programme Zones that are not being covered.                      | 1-5   | The Scouts in the Troop appear to have a very limited programme, with little or no attempt to cover the Programme Zones. |
| 17  |   | 16    | Inspecting Officer Score   |

| Nautical Skills training and seamanship (refer Part A Sections 7 & 11 and/or Sections 9 and 11) |  |       |   |
|---|--|-------|---|
| 16-20   | The Scouts receive the widest range of possible nautical skill training and older members progress to a high standard in all boating skills (sailing, canoeing, pulling, power and cruising) | 11-15 | The Scouts receive a good range of nautical training and older members have progressed to a basic level in most boating skills and a high standard in a few |
| 6-10  | The Scouts receive an adequate level of nautical skill training and older members have progressed to a basic standard in several of the boating skills.                                      | 1-5   | The Scouts are receiving a less than adequate level of nautical skill training and few if any and reach a basic level in any boating skill.                 |
| 12  | Group Assessment Score   | 13    | Inspecting Officer Score  |

| Activity Badges and other Awards (refer Part A Sections 7 & 11 and/or Sections 9 and 11) |   |       |   |
|--|---|-------|---|
| 16-20  | Scouts in the Troop are successfully achieving the full range of 'RN endorsed' badges | 11-15 | Scouts in the Troop are successfully achieving many of the 'RN endorsed' badges |
| 6-10   | Scouts in the Troop are successfully achieving a few of the 'RN endorsed' badges      | 1-5   | Scouts in the Troop are failing to achieve any of the 'RN endorsed' badges      |
| 12   | Group Assessment Score  | 15    | Inspecting Officer Score  |
| Comments :   |   |       |   |

#### Area Two - Equipment

| Boats and Equipment (refer Part A Sections 13) |   |       |   |
|--|---|-------|---|
| 16-20  | Scouts have access to a comprehensive range of craft and training equipment, which is owned by the Group, well maintained and in a good state of repair | 11-15 | Scouts have access to, and frequently use a comprehensive range of craft and equipment, which is adequately maintained, and in good repair. |
| 6-10   | Scouts have access to a limited range of craft, some of which is now in need of repair/replacement.   | 1-5   | Scouts have access to a limited range of craft much of which is in a poor state of repair   |
| 19   | Group Assessment Score  | 16    | Inspecting Officer Score  |

| <b>Building and facilities</b> |   |              |   |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------|---|
| <b>16-20</b>                   | The Scouts have use of an excellent building, adequate in size for their needs, which is in a good state of repair      | <b>11-15</b> | The Scouts have access to a good building, which suits their needs and is adequately maintained |
| <b>6-10</b>                    | The Scouts make good use of the building, which is not ideal for their use and is in some need of repair/modernisation. | <b>1-5</b>   | The Scouts have use of a building, which is in poor condition and in need of major renewal.     |
| 19                             | Group Assessment Score  | 18           | Inspecting Officer Score  |
| Comments:                      |   |              |   |

### *Area Three – Membership*

| <b>Age ranges (refer Part A section 3)</b> |  |              |   |
|--|--|--------------|---|
| <b>16-20</b>                               | The Scouts are part of a large Troop with a good number of members at each age across the full age range | <b>11-15</b> | The Scouts are part of a medium size Troop with a good number of members at each age across the full age range. |
| <b>6-10</b>                                | The Scouts are part of a Troop that does not have members at each age across the full age range          | <b>1-5</b>   | The Scouts are part of a small Troop, that does not have members at each age across the full age range          |
| 20   |  | 19           | Inspecting Officer Score  |

| <b>Appearance</b> |   |              |  |
|-------------------|---|--------------|--|
| <b>16-20</b>      | The Scouts are very smart on parade, in correct uniform which included all badges             | <b>11-15</b> | The Scouts are smart on parade, but not all Scouts had correct uniform             |
| <b>6-10</b>       | The Scouts paraded, but they are not all attentive, and a number did not have correct uniform | <b>1-5</b>   | The Scouts are poorly behaved on parade with little regard for uniform and awards. |
| 19                | Group Assessment Score  | 17           | Inspecting Officer Score   |

| <b>Role of Young people (refer Part A sections 9)</b> |  |              |   |
|---|--|--------------|---|
| <b>16-20</b>  | Young people play a full part in the leadership of the Troop by active and frequent involvement in the Troop Leadership Forum, by running Troop ceremonies and parades and by teaching skills and holding Authorisation Charges. | <b>11-15</b> | Young people are involved in the leadership of the Troop through occasional meetings of the Troop Leadership Forums. Older Scouts help others to learn new skills and assist with boating skills on the water |
| <b>6-10</b>   | Young people have limited involvement in the running of the Troop. The Troop Leadership forum meets infrequently and older scouts generally can't or won't help in training new members of the Troop.                            | <b>1-5</b>   | The Troop has few if any young people in the 12 ½ plus age range. The Troop forum rarely meets if at all.   |
| 11  | Group Assessment Score   | 11           | Inspecting Officer Score  |
| Comments:   |  |              |   |

### *Area Four - Adult Leadership and support*

| <b>Adult Leadership (refer Part A sections 4 and/or Sections 10)</b> |  |              |   |
|--|--|--------------|---|
| <b>16-20</b>   | The Troop is lead by a strong team of well-trained and experienced Leaders, Assistants and instructors, who together provide an excellent programme of activities. | <b>11-15</b> | The Troop is lead by a team of Leaders and other adults with a adequate level of training and experience and committed to provide a good Balanced Programme |
| <b>6-10</b>  | The Troop is lead by a small team of Adult leaders, but it needs more members to increase the skill and experience required to deliver a good Balance Programme    | <b>1-5</b>   | The Troop has a serious Adult Leader shortage and despite the efforts of those involved, is failing to deliver a satisfactory programme.                    |
| 16   | Group Assessment Score   | 18           | Inspecting Officer Score  |

| <b>Group Organisation and Structure</b> |  |              |  |
|---|--|--------------|--|
| <b>16-20</b>                            | The level of parental/community support for the Group is high, with a strong Group Executive and major fundraising schemes in place  | <b>11-15</b> | The level of community/parental support for the Group is good, with an effective Group Executive, and a fundraising programme designed to meet expenses. |
| <b>6-10</b>                             | The level of Parental/community support for the Group is limited, with a group executive that has vacancies and a fundraising programme that is struggling to cover the costs. | <b>1-5</b>   | The parental/community support is minimal and the Group Executive does not function properly and no programme of fundraising exists.                     |
| 17                                      | Group Assessment Score   | 17           | Inspecting Officer Score   |
| Comments:                               |  |              |  |

### **Area Five - Naval Knowledge and Participation**

| <b>Naval Knowledge</b> |  |              |  |
|------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| <b>16-20</b>           | The Group accurately follows Naval ceremonial; the HQ is decorated with Naval illustrations and the Scouts are very knowledgeable about the Royal Navy and its role. | <b>11-15</b> | The Group follows the spirit of Naval Ceremonies proficiently, the conduct is correct and the HQ well presented with many Naval items on display with which the Scouts are familiar. |
| <b>6-10</b>            | The Group has a Colours ceremony with satisfactory conduct; the HQ is tidy with some Naval items on display with which the Scouts are unfamiliar.                    | <b>1-5</b>   | The Group is very informal in its ceremonial, does not use the Bosun's Call and there is little Naval feel to the HQ. Scouts know little about the Royal Navy or its ships.          |
| 15                     | Group Assessment Score   | 14           | Inspecting Officer Score   |

| <b>Participation in RN Recognition Scheme</b> |   |              |  |
|---|---|--------------|--|
| <b>16-20</b>                                  | Leaders regularly assist in the organisation of the Big Three Events; Scouts attend these regularly but also visit HMS BRISTOL and other establishments for Group arranged activities as part of their programme. | <b>11-15</b> | Leaders assist and participate in the Big Three events; Scouts attend one or more Events and occasionally visit HMS BRISTOL for other activities. Some uniform obtained from Sea Cadet Stores. |
| <b>6-10</b>                                   | Leaders and Scouts have participated in a Big Three Event but do not use HMS BRISTOL or any other service facility. Sea Cadet stores not used.  | <b>1-5</b>   | The Group does not participate actively in the scheme and neither the Scouts nor the Leaders know much about it.   |
| 12  | Group Assessment Score  | 13           | Inspecting Officer Score   |
| Comments:                                     |   |              |  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <b>Mark from last inspection: 187</b>      |
| <b>Total :Group Assessment Score 189</b> | <b>Total: Inspecting Officer Score 188</b> |
|  | Signed SOSC                                |

**RN4 PART C:** To be completed by Staff Officer Scouts and endorsed by Gilwell Park.

Recognition is hereby **GRANTED / RENEWED / TEMPORARY SUSPENDED / WITHHELD**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 17 Jul 09  
Staff Officer Sea Scouts, Royal Navy

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Manager Programme & Development Dept., Gilwell Park