



**Second Sea Lord and
Naval Home Command**

Staff Officer Scouts
FOTR Youth Training Office
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See Distribution

21 Sep 06

INSPECTION OF 8th WORTHING SEA SCOUTS – 20 SEP 06

1. The inspection commenced at the water activities centre at Southwater Country Park, some 15 miles away from the Group Headquarters in Worthing. Here a selection of the Explorers and Scouts undertook instruction in Kayaking, Canadian canoeing, sailing and pulling. The Groups strength in all forms of kayaking was well demonstrated and it was encouraging to see the recently purchased sailing boats being put to good use, despite the lack of wind.
2. This is a good facility which the Group use to full advantage. Experience on other waters is gained at the annual summer camp, this year held at Longridge, and on the annual kayak expedition.
3. Since the last inspection the Group successfully undertook a major fundraising exercise and have replaced their kayaks, purchased 6 Topper Taz sailing boats plus a RIB to be used as their safety boat. This has produced a more balanced spread of watercraft from which they can offer a broader set of water experiences.
4. The Inspection then continued at the Group HQ where the remaining Scouts, Explorers and Cub Sixers and Seconders were on parade. Representatives from the County Activities team were also present. The Inspecting Officer was piped onboard and Colours held with proper ceremony. The standard of dress was consistently high with the number and range of badges on display showing an active Group with a varied programme. All the young people appeared to thoroughly enjoy their scouting, with those less enthusiastic about the water activities being fully satisfied with the land based programme.
5. Due to leadership difficulties the Explorer Unit experienced a dip in its activities and membership last year. A new and most enthusiastic leader has now been appointed and the Unit has experienced a resurgence in the last 6 months with numbers recovering to over 30 members. Most are involved in the DofE award scheme as well as working towards a variety of water qualifications.

6. The Group's HQ is a purpose built structure which suits their needs but at over 30 years old is due for a significant refurbishment. Plans to raise the funds and undertake the refurbishment are on hold whilst negotiations continue with West Sussex Education Authority to renew the lease. The outstanding issue is the 12-month termination clause, which the Authority want to include. The Group is understandably loath to undertake major and costly work if they are going to have to resource a new building shortly afterwards. Some external maintenance work is being undertaken using labour provided through a local Probation Service scheme.

7. With some 250 youth members the Group is a significant part of the local community and enjoys wide support. They not only successfully participate in District events but also contribute much towards the organisation of those events, including the Worthing Gang Show. They are active members of the RN Scheme, with the Explorers being the current holders of the Soccer Sixes Cup, and some of the Group enjoyed witnessing the Trafalgar 200 Fleet Review from onboard HMS ST ALBANS.

8. The sections are well supported by a strong and positive Group Executive. Their deliberately high level of subs and the gift aid scheme cover the annual running costs and they supplement these with major fund raising schemes for specific projects such as replacement of the minibus and, most recently, the renewal and expansion of their fleet of watercraft.

9. The Inspection ended with prayers and Sunset, once again conducted with due ceremony.

10. The 8th Worthing is a very large and well-led Scout Group. Being so large brings a different set of challenges, which they successfully meet to provide a varied, challenging and fun programme for all of their youth members. A longstanding member of the RN Recognition Scheme they maintained their high standards and the Inspecting Officer was pleased to present their Certificate of Recognition to the GSL, Mr Ian Wetherell, after a short address to the Group.

11. The Inspecting Officer thoroughly enjoyed this inspection and thanks the Group for their most kind and generous hospitality.

D T Griffiths
Lieutenant Commander Royal Navy
For FOTR
Distribution:

Mr I Wetherell GSL, 8th Worthing Sea Scouts
Mr C Nagle, Training and Programme Advisor, Gilwell Park

RN4 PART B:

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

Name of Troop / Unit	8 th Worthing Sea Scouts	RN No.	59
Venue	Southwater park and Group HQ	Date	20 Sep 06

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.
12	Group Assessment Score	14	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.
15	Group Assessment Score	12	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
15	Group Assessment Score	14	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
20	Group Assessment Score	16	Inspecting Officer Score

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

Area Three – Membership

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

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

Role of Young people (refer Part A sections 9)			
16-20	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.	11-15	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
6-10	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.	1-5	The Troop has few if any young people in the 12 ½ plus age range. The Troop forum rarely meets if at all.
18	Group Assessment Score	15	Inspecting Officer Score
Comments:			

Area Four - Adult Leadership and support

Adult Leadership (refer Part A sections 4 and/or Sections 10)			
16-20	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.	11-15	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
6-10	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	1-5	The Troop has a serious Adult Leader shortage and despite the efforts of those involved, is failing to deliver a satisfactory programme.
18	Group Assessment Score	18	Inspecting Officer Score

Group Organisation and Structure			
16-20	The level of parental/community support for the Group is high, with a strong Group Executive and major fundraising schemes in place	11-15	The level of community/parental support for the Group is good, with an effective Group Executive, and a fundraising programme designed to meet expenses.
6-10	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.	1-5	The parental/community support is minimal and the Group Executive does not function properly and no programme of fundraising exists.
20	Group Assessment Score	18	Inspecting Officer Score
Comments:			

Area Five - Naval Knowledge and Participation

Naval Knowledge			
16-20	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.	11-15	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.
6-10	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.	1-5	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	15	Inspecting Officer Score

Participation in RN Recognition Scheme			
16-20	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.	11-15	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.
6-10	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.	1-5	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:			

	Mark from last inspection:
Total :Group Assessment Score 198	Total: Inspecting Officer Score 186
	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: _____
Staff Officer Sea Scouts, Royal Navy

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