

Tales from the Scout Hut

In April we joined the other groups from our district to parade for St George's Day. On a beautiful warm sunny day, we paraded along Deal sea front from Deal Castle to St George's Church. With the flags flying out in the slight sea breeze it was wonderful to see a long line of Scout Groups parading along. At the church we all joined together to renew our Promises and to enjoy a funny enjoyable play about St George and the Dragon put together by 1st Deal Scout Group.

The following day, members of the Scout Troop attended the Annual Parish Assembly in the Village Hall to deliver their presentation on becoming 'Plastic Clever' in Wingham. The Troop presented their findings from a beach clean of a very short stretch (350m in length) of Walmer Beach plus a survey of some of the roads and footpaths around Wingham. The results from both showed that there is clearly a problem with litter at both locations. At Walmer beach 450 pieces of plastic were collected and around Wingham about 750 pieces of litter were found (the area surveyed in Wingham included only 50% of the accessible public highway and footway). They also discussed their survey of plastic use by some of the businesses in Wingham and were pleased to report that most of them are already leading the way in using alternatives to plastic.

The findings of the report concluded that every individual can do something to reduce their plastic usage: by using refillable coffee cups at coffee shops, by reducing the amount of single use plastic we use, by taking bags for life when out shopping. After some good discussion with the audience the overriding feeling was that everyone must take responsibility: for litter and the way we dispose of our rubbish, and our continued use of plastic. It is hoped that later on in the year, the Scout Group will organise some further information and opportunities for everyone in the village to play their part. We would like to thank the Parish Council for allowing us to make this presentation at the APM.

Over May Bank Holiday the group will holding the annual camp at Downe Scout Campsite, which we're calling A Walk on the Wild Side! We have an action packed few days in store with lots of great activities at this great campsite including zip wires, shooting, grass sledging, high ropes course and of course a campfire and plenty of food to fuel the young people. Cubs, Scouts and Explorers will be attending the whole camp, but the youngest section, the Beaver Scouts (age 6-8) will also be joining us for a day and a half with over 50 young people and leaders sharing a great few days in the great outdoors. We will bring you a full report in the next edition of WCN.

