

Beechwood Troop on a Monday have had another active year of scouting where the scouts have taken part in some adventurous activities, learned traditional scout skills along with skills for life and have experienced some camping at district, national and international scouting. The Scouts have done the following:-

**CAMPING –**

**Island Adventure (April/May 2017)** - A patrol of scouts took part in the 4 day national adventure camp in Arran.

**International Expedition/Camp to Iceland (July 2017)** – A large number of Beechwood Troop participated in the group camp in Iceland where they visited the northern most Scout Campsite in the World, met local Icelandic scouts and did a bit of sightseeing.

**Gordon Gathering (September 2017)** – A large number of scouts camped as part of the group at the District activity camp at BA stores, Lyne of Skene.

**Bike Camp (October 2017)** - The troop cycled from Westhill to Templars Park, Maryculter via Countesswells & Foggieton forests and the Old Railway Line and also cycled throughout the site before setting up camp.



**HIKES & EXPEDITIONS**

Over the year the troop cycled to Carnie Woods and took part in some bike skills tasks, had a summer night hike at Tyrebagger / Elrick Hill and in December 2017 held navigation events in Westhill and a snow walk at Kirkhill forest navigating from one end of the forest to the main car park.

**ADVENTURE:-**

As well as adventurous activities at the camps above the scouts went **Scuba Diving** at the RGU pool, **Trampolining** at Inverurie and **Climbing** at Transition Extreme.



**SKILLS:-**

Over the year the scouts held a skills night trying some home and DIY skills. They also took part in traditional scouting skills like pioneering (building bridges and a bike rack out of wooden poles), fire lighting, axe/saw skills, cooking on stoves and fire, and shelter building.

They also learned about healthy eating and living and had a quiz night and Board game evening as well as receiving talks from Police Scotland on online safety and from the Mountain Bothy Association.



**CREATIVE:-**

The scouts showed their creative side by having a 'Ready Steady Cook' evening where they created dishes from mystery ingredients and at Halloween they carved pumpkins. They also made Desktop Rockets.

**BADGE REPORT:**

Over the year a total of 163 badges were awarded for wide ranging activity badges like Cyclist, Entertainer, Fundraising, Snow sports, Survival Skills, Water and Air Activities and Digital Citizen, with a number of Challenge badges also awarded. Congratulations to four Scouts awarded their Chief Scout Gold Awards to Aaron Reid, Robbie McKenzie, Alexander Gordon and Ryan Hendry. The Chief Scout Gold Award is the highest award in the scout section.

**Stephen, Mark, Al, Vicky and Peadar**