



A happy group of campers from Keir & Westwood scouts and Westhill Explorers about to set off through the jungle on their expedition camp.

This year has been another active and varied year for the 18 or so strong Keir Troop. We have seen a keen group of Parent Helpers much appreciated by both the Scouts and leaders Richard Shaw, Birgit Teismann and Rae Taylor. We have also been ably assisted by young leaders Jack and Caelan (Ex Keir troop Scouts and volunteers from the Duke of Edinburgh scheme).

Highlights of the year have included:

- An expedition camp with a hike in to Templars and hike out through the jungle to Peterculter.
- A few members of Keir Troop have been working hard on the Chief Scout Gold award badge.
- Sailing with the "Splash" organisation on Loch of Skene,
- Learning an essential life skill of how to extinguish a frying pan fire.
- A visit to the climbing wall at RGU
- Roman gladiatorial games,
- Kicking off the new year with a Mad science themed *Brainiac* session,
- A Burns Supper celebration, with music provided by Keir Troop members
- Backwoods and other cooking events with pancakes, cakes etc.
- Creating pioneering structures, monkey bridges, camp gadgets, ballistas, catapults etc.
- Hiking on local Hills
- Visit to the ski centre at Garthdee, this time for snow boarding
- Learning about exotic animals with the "Animates" organisation

The Keir Troop activities have set up the Scouts with some useful **#Skills for life** and hopefully had fun along the way. We have had several move on to the Explorer Scout Group based in Westhill which creates further opportunities.



Snow boarding at Garthdee
Richard, Birgit, Jan and Rae



Exotic insects with "Animates"



Catherine wheels, Brainiac style.