

1st Lingwood & Strumpshaw Air Scout Group

has been providing Skills for life in Lingwood and Strumpshaw communities since 1963. The Group is made up of Beaver Scouts 5 ¾ to 8 years, Cub Scouts 8 to 10 1/2 years, Scouts 10 1/2 to 14 years.

Some then go on to be Explorers and or Young Leaders from 14 to 18 years. We have successfully helped the Young People to gain their Young Leader Belt in the last few years, this is awarded when they have completed 11 modules of training and 4 Missions, which are tasks they have to perform to support the section or group they work with ranging from running games to helping plan activities and camps, These Young Leaders also benefit from UCAS points and credit on their CV which many employers see as having taught them skills beneficial to employment.

There is Scope for a younger section named Squirrels, they are age 4 to 6 years old, however we do not have enough Adult Volunteers to be able to open this section at present.

The Group has around 70 young people & is fully inclusive of race, religion, gender & Ability.

We have very dedicated teams of leaders in each section, all of whom are Volunteers. They must complete Leader training such as Safety, safeguarding, and First aid, and we always welcome anyone wishing to volunteer their time in any capacity. For some of the more adventurous activities more training is required.

Recent activities have included Beaver Scouts making bird boxes, going on District Sleepovers and Badge days with other Beavers from Eastern Norwich District. They will also join Beavers from around the County for a Day at BeWilderWood in September.

Cubs have done Cycle maintenance, Camping, cooking & taking part in a variety of District events. They will be going on a camp with another group from outside the county for a Sixer and Seconder camp (For those of you whom do not know what a Sixer and a Seconder is, they are Young People that are peer leaders in the Cub pack and support their own Six).

Scouts have taken part in District and community activities including Archery, Air Rifle shooting, Axe throwing, Camping, Glider Flying as we are an Air Scout Group & all the traditional Scout training. They most recently helped with clearing rubbish with Buckenham ancient woodland trust and have supported Burlingham open gardens and brundall lions as part of their community support locally.

Scouting in general exists to actively engage and support young people, in partnership with adults to further their personal development and empower them to make a positive contribution to society and help them to gain skills for life.

The Scout Group has been given notice to move from their current H.Q. in Chapel Road, Strumpshaw, as the lease has been sold.

We have until 2034 to find new grounds, and move or replace the H.Q. It seems some time away, but we must now look for about 1 acre of land to build on. We are one of the very limited numbers of Youth groups locally, and probably the one with the widest inclusion policy and variety of activities available.

Colin Goff
Group Scout Leader