

Quartermaster's report – AGM 2017

It's been a quiet year for me as Quartermaster this year. The only major purchases have been the new gazebos and a 50 litre 'water hog'. The gazebos (purple to match our activity shirts) were bought after the old ones started failing at last year's St. George's camp, and saw immediate action at the Henllys Village fete and the group BBQ. They were also used at this year's St. George's camp. They were more expensive than the old ones, but are stronger, more durable and easier to put up. They're also heavier – but we have to live with that! After buying these, we now have both the old gazebos, and the set before that, which are surplus to our requirements. Both sets (2 gazebos in each set) have been well used, and would need repairing, but I'm sure that by cannibalising one of the pair the other could be salvaged. If anyone is interested in having these, please let me know.



The water hog is a large rollable water container, and means that we can allow scouts or cubs to fetch water on camp without having to struggle carrying it back. How we manage it once it's back is another matter (50 litres of water is 50kg, or 8 stone in old money), but there are 2 different openings to play with. I'm beginning to think that a hand powered pump (or battery operated) might be the next purchase.



One of the first things that the group bought back when it was started in 1994 was a large canvas marquee. The canvas for this is showing its age now, with stains and quite a few holes. It also leaks when in the rain. We are investigating options for replacing either the canvas, or the entire tent (strangely enough it may be considerably cheaper to buy a new tent rather than replace the canvas on this one). Look out for reports on this in next year's report.

I've only been out on one camp this year – the St. George's camp at CRAI in April. Thanks to all the parents that helped clear the site on the Sunday – especially the Jones' who came back to help at the lockup too. I'm looking forward to going to Brownsea Island with the scouts at the end of this month – the first time I'll have been to the 'ground zero' of scout camping – wish me luck.

Jeremy Thomas

Quartermaster