

Scouts have experienced a turbulent year. In the world of leaders we have welcomed "Bill" an experienced ex Scout of ours who has joined us at a time when we all share concern over the ill health of Sonic. Our prayers are with him for a speedy recovery.

Despite this, Scouts have been offered a balanced programme, experiencing a wide variety of back to basic scouting including hikes, fire lighting, backwoods cooking, camping, building shelters, pioneering and wide games at Blaen Bran. Less traditional activities have included trampolining, cooking on cans, sailing, kayaking, sword fencing, shooting, exercise to music, edible engineering, marching and climbing all within the last 12 months.

Scouts have involved themselves in a variety of badge work including fundraising, photography, martial arts, artist, music, sports, and cooking, as well as the Scout challenge badges working towards their Chief Scout's Gold award. Not all our Scouts achieve this top award as it requires a lot of work, some of which can only be achieved on camps.

This year we have invested several new Scouts who are starting on their journey to hopefully achieve their gold awards in a few years.

Competitions at district level have again seen Henllys success. Thom Williams came a very respectable second in his age group at shooting and three older Scouts, Matthew, Oliver and Julie-Ann were chosen to represent Torfaen in the regional shooting finals again.

Two Henllys teams entered Gwent Trek and completed the event. Well done to all who took part.

At the St George's camp last month Henllys came second across the Board. We were second in the decorated marquee competition and second in the Scout cooking competition (but first for entertainment and cool reactions to a fire!)

The photography badge produced an array of very good quality photographs and we produced a calendar to show off our achievements.

We are currently working on the World challenge badge and preparing for our biannual visit to Brownsea Island.

Numbers are fluctuating having lost two of our older Scout but new arrivals fill the gaps. 5 new Scouts are expected in September from outside Scouting so we must be doing something right.

We have a very good team and support network, without which we would not be able to offer all of the above. We thank you all

Wendy