

Scouts were prepared to survive!

The new Chief Scout Bear Grylls is famous for his wilderness exploits, living off the land and sleeping under the stars so Scouts, from 11th Grimsby Scout Group decided that they would see if they could take a leaf out of his book.



The Scouts were all aiming to earn their Survival and Camp Cook badges and had a series of tasks set by their leaders including building a shelter and then sleeping in it overnight. Cubs from the Group joined them on Saturday helping them build the shelters. Lewis (11) explained "On Saturday we had to build shelters out of a tarpaulin and natural materials, we tied a rope between two trees and then hung the sheet over this rope, then we had to use branches, sticks and bracken to make it waterproof. The Cubs helped us, but it was the Scouts who had to sleep in the shelters so we had to make sure they did it correctly."

Kai (10) said "I was worried before I went about sleeping in my bivouac, but once I had built it I couldn't wait to get in it and put it to the test!"

Cooking for the weekend was done on open fires, but the challenge didn't stop there. Banned from using paper and only being given a single match to light their fires, failure meant no dinner! But they all rose to the challenge and before long wood smoke was drifting over the camp site whilst the pots and pans bubbled away!

Continuing with the survival theme the Scouts all had some time learning to brush up their First Aid skills but thankfully didn't have to put their training to the test! Over the weekend they also practiced their backwoods cooking - that is cooking without pots, pans or utensils and realised how working as a team makes many jobs just that bit easier!

On Sunday, having made it through the night in their bivouacs without too many ant bites, the Scouts donned crash helmets and climbed aboard a series of quad bikes and dirt buggies before taking to an off road track. Abbie (13) said "The buggies were awesome; I really loved the whole camp!"