

# Sailing with 2<sup>nd</sup> Andover



Sailing is the mainstay of 2nd Andover's summer activity programme - it's what sets us apart from all the other scout groups in the district. Sailing activities are open to **ALL** members of the group: Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at a charge of £10 each per session. We encourage parents and siblings to come along too. You don't need to commit to coming to every session, just come and have a go and see

what you think. It is great fun! We have just invested in 3 new boats. These are specifically designed for younger children, so we're actively encouraging our Beavers to join in too. **We really want to see more kids and parents involved.**

## Where do we sail?

We sail during the summer months out of Calshot Sailing Club [www.calshot-sailing.co.uk](http://www.calshot-sailing.co.uk) (SO45 1BR). Calshot provides hot showers and changing facilities. There is also a small kitchen area with a kettle.

## What do I need?

The only requirement is that you have a wetsuit - these are available for as little as £10 (new) from eBay, Tesco, The Wetsuit Factory (online) or the Range. We recommend a **full length** wetsuit NOT a shortie. Buying your first wetsuit can be tricky to get the correct size, it needs to be a snug fit to keep you warm so wherever you buy check you can return easily. Don't forget to get wet shoes.

## What about the boats?

We are fortunate to have a number of dinghies for sailors of all abilities - these include 3 (new) Europti's, 3 Taz's, 2 Laser Picos, 2 Laser Visions, and a Laser Feva as well as our Rib and another safety boat. Sometimes there may be a chance for a ride on the Rib - parents or siblings - you do get wet so a wetsuit is advisable and a buoyancy aid essential - in the words of Lucy age 6, "beware a speed boat is fast and very bumpy"



### What do I need to take?

Swimwear + wet suit + wet shoes (Buoyancy aids and helmets are supplied by 2<sup>nd</sup> Andover) Plastic bag to carry wet gear home Towel Shower gel etc Sun cream / sun hat Warm clothes / waterproof coat for when not in the water (it can be windy!) Packed lunch and snacks / choc bars etc - the children need plenty of food and drinks Hot drinks can be made in the kitchen, bring own mugs / tea bags / milk etc. Folding chairs good idea (beach is pebbles) for parents - Camera / binoculars / book to read for younger siblings - games to keep them entertained - at high tide there is not much beach - at low tide the beach offers more to explore



### What happens on a sailing day?

Approx. times as everything depends on tides 9.00 am meet at scout hut: Collect buoyancy aids for everyone - without a buoyancy aid you do not go in! Helmets can also be collected if you choose to wear them - maybe a good idea for youngsters but as they progress they need to learn to duck the boom. Drive down to Calshot sailing club. Car shares are recommended. Park close to sailing club, buy parking ticket from the surf shop - about £5 for all day.

9.45am Once the boat trailer arrives everyone helps unload and rig the boats - Paul is in charge and will say which boats are to be set up - having as many people (parents and children) to help as possible makes the job easier - the best way to learn what to do is to get stuck in and help. Parental participation is encouraged but not mandatory; **but you are responsible for your own children** - obviously we are next to water! But please be aware, the road in front of the sailing club can become busy. **Please ensure your children remain alert to traffic and don't forget their road sense.**

Then it is time to get changed into swimwear, wet suits and wet shoes. Put on your buoyancy aid! Paul will give instruction to everyone - safety talk, who goes in which boat etc.

10.30am Launching the boats is another opportunity for parents to get involved if they wish - you will get your feet (and knees) wet - if you have a wetsuit you may as well be wearing it!

While the children are out on the water you can sit and relax, enjoy the views of the Isle of Wight, make a cuppa, read a paper, watch the sailing etc.





The children receive instruction about how to sail while out on the water. Children are often paired with a more experienced Scout or Cub before going in a boat on their own. **The new boats that have been purchased are especially useful for the younger children - Beavers and Cubs.** Lucy, age 6 says; "Don't worry if you can't sail a boat the first time because you have to practice". If any children get cold then Paul will bring them ashore - also if any child needs to come ashore then they can at any time - Paul or Rob can bring them in. Once ashore they can warm up under a hot shower or

have hot drink etc. then go out again when they are ready. It is important that you remain available in case your child needs you. 12.30pm Paul will bring the children all in off the water for a lunch break, getting the boats in is another excuse for parents to get their feet wet! 1.15pm After lunch there is another chance for sailing - depending on tides etc. Sometimes games and activities such as capsizing practice are enjoyed if the water is too shallow for sailing. 4.00pm At the end of sailing the boats / sails / buoyancy aids and helmets all need hosing down and then boats packed away once dry - again this is a really important time to have everyone helping. 5.00pm Then it is time to get changed and return home!

**If you're interested in sailing then do come along.** We'll be arranging evening sessions to help parents learn about our boats - no prior experience is required to help. If you are a sailor, we'd really benefit from having you help out.

Our sailing programme is only possible through the support of a handful of volunteers. We need more parents to get involved to help us build a larger group of qualified leaders for sailing activities. If you'd like to learn more, speak to **Paul, Rob, Eddie, David or Alexis**

Sailing with the Scouts can be just the start of a fantastic life skill - a number of our past Scouts have progressed to achieve their formal RYA qualifications, and now return to support our programme.



## **Sailing dates for this season (Summer 2016) are:**

**5th June** (high tide 11.40)

**3rd July** (high tide 10:27)

**17th July** (high tide 10:01)

**7th Aug** (high tide 14:55 inc. BBQ on beach)

**21st Aug** (high tide 13:45 - Bramble Bank cricket match)

**3rd Sept** (high tide 13:45)

**18th Sept** (high tide 12:42 - Barts Bash sponsored sail)

All these dates are subject to instructors, enough parental support and weather (Sailing dates can be cancelled due to poor weather - emails are sent the week before confirming the sailing details and timings, but a decision is always taken on the day, so meet at the hut).

