

REVOLUTION 2011

ISLE OF WIGHT

National Network and Explorer activity camp



News Flash...

- **330** scouts enjoyed Revolution...
- **4** Knights and **3** days jammed packed with adventure and excitement....
- The fair **Maiden** was saved....
- **Dragons** were slayed....

The quest begins...

IOW REVO 2011 officially opened at 7:10pm (as **Loki** turned up 10 minutes late) with the traditional opening ceremony attended by the **330 scouts** and IOW dignitaries. The quest for the weekend was read out and the brave scouts started their journey to becoming one of St. George's knights.

The first training session followed quickly, with **fire breathing** for the very brave.



As it was the first night, the theme was "**Any Knight will do!**" and the campers embraced the evening with an amazing amount of enthusiasm considering some had travelled over 600 miles to reach the Isle of Wight. Well done **North Angus Explorers**.

The now famous **Revolution camp-fire** was bigger and better in 2011 with a mammoth woodpile giving the attendees a flavour of the size of challenges that awaited them. The camp-fire was conducted for the first time in 2011 by new management recruit **Gilders**, and the campers were in fine voice, with the blend of experienced Revolutioners and new recruits all involved until the early hours... providing a decent warm-up for the weekend ahead



NETWORK



The challenges...

After rising early on a "reasonable" night's sleep on the Friday and Saturday mornings, the groups gathered themselves into their hoards and departed **Castle Smallbrook** in search of the many challenges that lay ahead.

Power kiting - Having been influenced by such famous movies as "Pete and the Dragon" and "How to Train Your Dragon" the management agreed that all of our Revolutioners needed to learn how to tame a winged beast. **Power-kiting** was provided as training on the showground, and with careful instruction and a bit of natural talent some knights managed to control the largest kites on offer.....on the not so good front, one skilled flyer did manage to almost hide the instructors mini-bus under a kite as it came crashing to earth!

Zorbing - The Management had decided that **Zorbing** was an excellent way for the young recruits to experience being a **cannon ball!** This is an important skill when attacking castles. What was not so good was rolling down a hill in a ball straight after breakfast. Luckily there were no additional charges for zorb cleaning, although one unlucky member of **Escape** did provide his unit with an in-detail investigation into his breakfast exploits after being sick in the back of the minibus....enough said I believe!



A short musical interlude....

Friday evening's entertainment came in the form of some **belly dancing** as the perfect warm up to "**skool night**"...which gave old and young revolutionaries the chance to once again don school attire for an evening of **Barn Dancing** with the local wenches to some Old Skool tunes provided by Revo **DJ Worzel** (new for 2011...he's from Norfolk you know).

Tree climbing

The Management works on the basis of "The best form of attack is the element of surprise", and **climbing tall trees** to gain an advantage is an excellent skill every knight should learn. We travelled over to the not so secret forest at the bottom of the county show ground. Where the ropes were set for our training. The professionals showed *us the ropes* and we followed up after.



Carisbrooke Castleopoly -

The management arranged for everyone to take on the challenge of the medieval **Carisbrooke Castle**, this being the home of all IOW knights throughout history and fending off the rampaging French and Spanish on numerous occasions. Here the knights in training had to complete numerous challenges and separate fact from fiction....as well as "showing us their **best donkey impressions!**"



Weapons Training - All good knights need to be masters of their weapons and so the Managements combination of **Axe Throwing** and **Ballista** provided an excellent opportunity to hone much needed skills. All of the knights attempted to fend off **the attack of the "mythical" beasts** using a catapult. **Axes** were thrown by all in various styles and too much dismay, representatives of **Loki and Global Adventure** provided the skilled marksmen, one hanging axes side by side on top of the target and one being so skilled as to hit the handle of his previous attempt!!



Zumba Dancing - This was the managements **athletic challenge**, giving the opportunity to work on cardiovascular fitness and our seductive dancing. The brave knights took to this as if they had no morals or dignity, throwing some rather interesting **south-American shapes** in time with the music and motions of the instructor.

Falconry - Having read many good books the Management stumbled across a link between knights and **birds (of prey)**, thus all of the trainee-knights spent a session at **Appuldercombe House** learning about our winged friends. **Sport of Kings**, our knights studied the gracious swooping of the **eagles, hawks, owls, falcons and vultures**. Some got even closer and found themselves being used as perches...



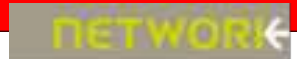
Morris Dancing - provided by **Bloodstone Border Morris**. More aptly described as "If Darth Maul did Morris dancing, he'd be part of Bloodstone", their able instructors made sure that all knights were appropriately attired in **facepaint** and led our knights through various dances and songs which would enable them to taunt or intimidate future assailants. **Bloodstone Border Morris** are now firmly part of the history and **family** of IOW Revolution.



Headhunters - A Revolution classic, this modern twist on **warfare** gave our knights the chance to define their battle plans and tactics. What occurred though was more a case of "you go kill 'em all, while we wait here in the base"...once again though **King Richard** provided an excellent activity which all enjoyed.



The "**Hi-Lite**" of the weekend was provided on **Sunday evening** by **DJ Worzel** and his "**Knight and Day**" **UV night**. Breaking out all manner of day-glo and **UV** attire the Revolutioners were busting out the **moves** until the **early hours** to tunes of all ages and genres!



The **closing ceremony** was held on the beach in front of **Appley Tower** for the renewal of the scouting promise and the traditional handing out of awards. T'was truly an awesome sight to see over **300 attendees in scout uniform** carrying out the renewal of their promise in such a public display. As a reward for all of the hard training throughout the weekend, **King Davey-Dave and King Gilders** asked all attendees to take a knee, and bestowed upon them the honour of becoming **Knights of the Revolution**. For this each Revolutioner took an oath...an oath that they shalt remember for every more...

All good things must come to an end.... Until 2012.

Will you be joining us and many other Explorer and Network units from around the UK for this fantastic National Activity camp? 2012 is our 18th Birthday so expect loads of adventure on the beautiful Isle of Wight.

Revolution 2012
5th - 9th April 2012

Join our facebook group and ask other Explorer & Network members that have attended over the years what they think of Revolution - each year is unique and special!



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