

Scouts impress on Brow Hike



The walkers: Ewan Darlington, Jacob Wood, Alex Watson, Peter Stillwell, Matthew Sanderson, Nicholas Grasmeder, James Thorne and Jacob Rookes.

Eight intrepid Scouts (two teams) from Sandbach Scout Group, the 39th South West Cheshire Scouts, recently took part in the Brow Hike.

The Brow Hike is a competitive incident hike of around 30km (19 miles), held annually, over two days.

It is set in the scenic Calder Valley, Halifax, West Yorkshire. The hike broadly follows the old Sowerby Bridge Urban District Council Boundary and ranges in height from 65m (200ft) to 372m (1,000ft). In some places the climb is so hair-raising the Scouts named it the "stairs of death".

The hike is open to teams of

four people aged between 11 and 15, although the cumulative age of the team must not exceed 56. The incidents they were faced with included current affairs, general knowledge, practical problem solving tasks, first aid, weather systems, hill safety and map and compass skills.

A Scouts' spokesman said: "The two teams had been training for several months prior to the event and even had a practice hike over the Brow Hike course two weeks before the actual event. Both finished in very respectable times and completed the incidents thrown at them with skill and enthusiasm."

(Submitted photograph).