

More Straddy prep you can do before leaving your Scout Hall

Some things are obvious, this isn't a complete list but some things to think about.

- **Shopping for your rations.** Your Patrol has sorted your menu, now you need the ingredients to cook up a storm in camp. Gather your shopping bags and the money for food you've collected from the parents, the whole Patrol can hit the supermarket, each with a part of the shopping list to gather, shopping can be done in no time at all. Keep an eye on your budget.
- **Packing the Trailer.** Don't wait for the night before camp, get the gear out on the floor of the store, or your main hall. No need to pack it just yet, but having everything ready and close at hand will make the packing quicker and more fun.
 - Does anything need repair? (Of course not, this was done right after the last camp!)
 - Is anything missing? Put it on your list to replace.
 - What about the muck still on last year's egg flip? Might be good idea to toss it out and someone's mum can visit a local Op-Shop for a fresh one!
 - Look over the rest of the gear, have a practice putting up tents and dining shelters, teach the younger Patrol members how easy it is to do.
 - Does every one know how to use the lighting system safely? Another practice opportunity.
 - What tools do you need? Leave the bush saw at home if you're only using gas stoves, but don't forget the mallet. Imagine you are setting up your camp, make sure you have all the tools you will need and they are in working order, your Leaders can help with this one. Don't take things you won't be using; they will just get in the way at camp and be a liability.
 - Count the Pegs and Guy Ropes, make sure you have enough plus a couple of spares, some extra ropes to hang out the towels is a good idea too.
 - Rubbish bins? Wash up and handwashing dishes?
 - Is your Hot Water system suitable? You don't need a head of steam that would power up the Flying Scotsman but it does need to be adequate and safe for all members to use. (more training and practice)
 - Will all your gear, as well as everyone's personal gear fit on the trailer? It's illegal to overload and parents won't want to risk towing a trailer too heavy for their car, perhaps you need more than one trailer, one for each Patrol is a good idea, then no Patrol is held up waiting for their gear to be unloaded. Check the trailer tie-down straps are working and not frayed, ask your Leaders to get some new ones for safety.
- **Other consumables**
 - Do you have enough gas in the bottle? Ask your Leaders to get it filled, while you're there, check if the gas hoses are still in good condition. Can you supply gas to all your appliances?
 - Have you planned a sign for your entrance? Paint over last year's and have it re-drawn with this year's Patrol name (you have picked an awesome Patrol name, haven't you?), don't forget to add your Unit Name and names of all the Scouts in the Patrol.
 - Do you need batteries for the lighting system or the BBQ igniter?
 - Have you checked your Patrol box, do you have enough dishwashing liquid, pot scourers, sponges, tea towels, bin liners, hand soap, and all the other bits you need to keep the camp safe, hygienic and tidy?
- **Personal Gear**
 - Don't forget this may be the first Scout camp for younger members, plan some time in Patrol corners to talk about personal gear and what to take, Cub Scouts may have had cutlery and plates supplied for Cub camps they attended, do they now need to bring their own?
- **Adventure Pathways**
 - While you are doing all the above, don't forget to tick off the relevant "I Statements" for OAS Camping and Bushcraft, the Camping Standard has some of these detailed for ticking off at camp, but there will be others to tick off with all this planning.