



Bellboating with Keighley District Scouts
Part of Try Something Summer 2023 funded by Keighley Town Council in partnership with Keighley District Scouts



Fri 25 August 2023 10am - 4pm

ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE YOUR SESSION

Bellboating sessions are being held at Riddlesden Scout and Guide Headquarters at United Reformed Church Hall, Bar Lane, Riddlesden BD20 5AT. Bar Lane is almost opposite the Co-op on Bradford Road and the church building is just over the canal bridge on the left. These sessions are for families and children must be accompanied by a parent.

Information for parents

The Bellboat was designed by an Olympic Kayaking Coach and is 9 metres long and 1.5 metres wide and looks like a pair of long canoes bolted together. A Bellboat is designed to enable youngsters to gain confidence afloat whilst playing games and paddling on flat water – the emphasis is on having fun rather than paddling any distance.

A Bellboat can carry up to a total of 10 youngsters and parents with a qualified Instructor leading each boat. Bellboating is suitable for accompanied children from 6 to 14 years old.

We operate under British Canoeing and Scouting Rules which mean that numbers are limited – we cannot take anyone afloat who has not booked.

We generally set off in the Skipton direction and in 40 minutes Bellboats do not usually get much further than the first bridge (Leach Road bridge number 196).

Parking

Please do not park in the Church grounds, but park courteously on the roads around such as Scott Lane or Granby Drive.

Personal valuable items

Please note that items such as clothes, mobile phones, watches, glasses, jewellery and other personal valuables are not insured by Keighley Council or the Scout Association. Please wear older clothes and leave your personal valuable items at home.

Swimming

The activity we offer is Bellboating and we do not permit jumping in or swimming. We request that parents do not give permission to their young people to jump in or swim. The canal is not a suitable environment for swimming.

Kit List

The full kit list is as follows:

A cagoule and overtrousers in case it rains as we will still go on the water

- Clothes suitable for being on the water at this time of year – for example shorts/t-shirt/sweatshirt or fleece plus cagoule and over trousers. Additional layers might be required if the weather is cool/wet and windy. You should not usually get wet on these sessions other than through splashes from paddles.
- Wet footwear – neoprene wet shoes, old plimsoles or trainers are ideal, but not wellies or flip-flops.
- Spare dry clothes – if you should have the misfortune to fall in then a set of dry clothes and a towel might be needed before you go home.
- A sun hat and sun cream depending on the weather forecast.
- A sense of humour (essential)

Queries and Emergencies

If you have any queries about the session, please contact Louise Soothill: louise.soothill@keighley.gov.uk
01535 872126