

7th Epsom News

December 2008



www.7thepsom.org.uk

GSL's Report

Christmas and New Year

I would like to wish all of you a very Happy Christmas and successful New Year.

A great night out

The Group has a New Year meal at the Mae Ping on Friday 9th January from 19.30hrs. for all parents and adults involved in the Group (Leaders, Helpers ...).

It is the 'Royal Mae Ping set' consisting of a starter of 6 different items followed by a main course of 7 dishes for £25. Please let me know, phone or email, if you would like to come along for the evening.

Neil Dallen (01372 728187)

Fund Raising

A fantastic month for fund raising!

Fireworks raised over £5,000. Despite the bad weather we put on a great show, one of the best in South East England and the **Jumble Sale** raised over £1,100. Thanks to the many people who made both events happen.

Christmas Post is up and running but we still need around 30 more postmen to deliver a round taking no more than 2 hours for each of the next 3 weeks (available on 7th, 14th and 21st for deliver within 48 hours)

Donations for the new HQ to Karolina Whitehorn, 3b The Grove KT17 4DQ.
Cheques to 7th Epsom Scout Group Building Appeal.

Articles for 7th Epsom News are welcome from anyone and should be sent to Neil Dallen at 77 Hazon Way, Epsom KT19 8HG or emailed to neil@interim-mgmt.demon.co.uk.

Bisley Shooting Camp Reports

Shooting Camp was a new experience for us and we found it very exciting and enjoyable. It started on Friday 17th October when we set off in the minibus, playing jokes and having fun. We arrived at the campsite quite late that evening and we put up our tents – we were together. That night we just messed around after putting up the big tent. Then we went to sleep ready for our early start the next morning.

The next morning we had to be up and ready to walk to the centre for our safety talk and instructions for the weekend. That was when we first realised how many people were at this event (750!). We couldn't see the speaker and we could barely even hear him, but we knew what we had to do because Teresa was reciting the speech next to us (apparently it is the exact same speech every year). After that we went back to camp to get ready for our first event that was 6yd Rifle, which was in about an hour's time. We both felt we did quite well in this event.

When we got back to camp we realised we didn't have anything for the next five hours even though everyone else had something in the next hour or two. In this time we all messed around playing Frisbee and other games like that. After a time that seemed like forever, we finally left for our second event that was the Knock Out. We were slightly anxious of who we

would be competing with after hearing some of the stories from other people in our camp. Neither of our knockouts went as planned as only one of us got through to the second round. One of us had a broken target box that wouldn't go up and one of us had a broken gun and had to redo the round after everyone had finished; unfortunately losing to the toss of a coin.

At around 5:00-5:30 we went to the pistol event. Some people had to change their times for this event due to them having to go back for their knockout rounds. Both of us thought we did well in Pistol except that one of us slightly ruined it on the last shot. However when we finished we were both recognised from being from 7th Epsom because of how well we did. Simon even said that he wanted a camera to capture our faces. We were just glad he didn't have one!

After the second round of the Knock Out, our activities for the day were finished. However some people were still in the Knock Out so we spent a lot of the evening at the centre just talking and watching. That evening was very cold and so after a hot chocolate and some biscuits, we resorted that bed was the best option.

The next day our only activity was Field Target. We were a bit worried about this event, as we had never done anything like it before. We didn't like the thought of sitting in the mud whilst shooting, but it turned out all right; we even surprised ourselves in what we got even though it wasn't the best.

Overall we found the camp better than expected. Unfortunately we didn't win any medals but are very happy in where we came in the overall scores.

Suzy and Lizzie

This year was my first year at Bisley. It was probably the best camp I have ever been on. This was mainly because unlike most camps there wasn't anything set, for example the meals were more of a buffet. The only thing they (David Shickle, Simon Wellsted, Grant Betts, Glynn Dallen and Colin O'Neill) did want you to do is shoot, which wasn't so bad seeing as we wanted to do that anyway!!

When we got there it was about 8.00 and so typically we had to put up the tents in the dark and cold. And to make it even more fun the people in my tent had never been to Bisley before, so none of us knew how to put up the Eurohikes. When we did finally get it up, most people just went straight to bed after a tiring week at school. However we were up until about midnight talking about nothing in particular and playing.

When we woke up the next morning Colin and David had already cooked breakfast, so we ate quickly and ran off to our safety briefing. When that was over most people had their 6yard air rifle at 9.00 or 9.15. After the rifle you either had Knockout at 11.00 and Smallbore at 1.30 or your Knockout at 2.30. Half of us got knocked out in the first round, mostly by one plinker or pellet, sometimes even the toss of a coin! Then we were meant to have another few hours until the pistol at 5.15-5.30, but as Simon was running the range we all got slotted in earlier. At dinner it was a laugh a minute with everyone cracking pathetic jokes.

The next day everyone had the field target-in which I did pathetically with a score of 5/20!! After that we were all free until the closing ceremony except for Yasmin, who had the biathlon at midday.

Unfortunately we all missed out on medals this year, but a special mention goes to James Wellsted for doing very well in the field target, and to Steph Edmonston for getting into the tournament finals (the top eight in pistol) and coming an amazing fourth against highly ranked shooters!!

In conclusion it was an excellent camp and I will be hoping to go on it again many times in future years.

James O'Neill

Dates for your Diary

December

12th Eagle Christmas Meal (black tie)
14th Church Parade and Gift service

2009

January

9th Group Meal at Mae Ping
11th Church Parade
24th District Swimming Gala
Casino Night

February

8th Church Parade
19-21st 4.7.11 Gang Show in Playhouse

March

8th Church Parade

April

9-13th Eagle Explorer Easter Ex to Lake District
25th New HQ fund raising event

May

10th Church Parade
16th Jumble Sale
22-25th Spring camps for Cubs, Scouts and Explorers

June

13th Bazzaz – BIG County Beaver Fun Day
14th Church Parade
25th July – 1st Aug Summer camp for Scouts and Explorers
August Uganda 2009
18-20th Sept Water Weekend

Congratulations –1000 club winners

October 2008

1st Prize --- Pam Brogan
2nd Prize --- Paul Downs
3rd prize --- Ann Dallen

Support the Scouts -- help raise funds for the new Scout Hall ---- keep buying your shares!

---- contact William Brogan 01737 813643 for your share application form.