

7th Epsom News



June 2009

www.7thepsom.org.uk

GSL's Report

New Headquarters

We have received confirmation of a £40,000 grant from landfill tax at Beddington! This puts us very close to being able to start.

Subscriptions

A record number of families have paid promptly. If the request is still on your 'to do' pile, please respond and save us sending a reminder. Thank you.

Camps and activities

Spring camps for Cubs, Scouts and Explorers were all very successful and we were blessed with fine weather except for about an hour of rain when we took the tents down!

Family Barbecue and AGM

Family Barbecue (optional) at £4 a head with presentation of awards, fun and games and a short AGM highlighting the activities of the past year. Come and have fun, find out what has been happening and support your group.

Neil Dallen (01372 728187)

Dates for your Diary

June

- 13th Bazzaz – BIG County Beaver Fun Day
- 14th Church Parade
- 28th Family Barbecue and AGM

July

- 4th District Cub Athletes badge
- 10th – 12th County Scout camping and cooking competition
- 12th Church Parade
- District Scout cooking competition
- 25th – 1st Aug Summer camp for Scouts and Explorers

August

- 9-31st Uganda 2009

Easter Expedition 2009 Lake District

Saturday:

It was just gone 1am when we were rudely woken by the blaring fire sirens, the building was on fire! Everyone was rushed out of bed and into the yard in the freezing cold. After playing with the alarm box we managed to shut off the noise and following a thorough check of the building we sent everyone in and back to bed. No explanation or reason could be found as to why the alarm was raised and no one owned up to anything either. There were a few bleary eyes at breakfast time but we still achieved our exit of the base by 9am.

Today we climbed Helvellyn, the second highest mountain in England at 950m. The ascent was annoying as it was a steep winding path up to the top. After having lunch with Izzy trying to shove David off the side of the mountain we started moving towards the trig point. Andy

and David got a bit bored with walking and decided to run to the trig point. From the summit we had amazing views of lakes and hills with towns dotted around the surrounding countryside. After taking in the views, we made our way down. The route we had to take down was a scramble path where David was so slow he held up about ten people behind him. Crawling down the scramble path and after nearly dying in the process, we met Neil's group travelling in the opposite direction. When we passed them, they had completed about one third whilst we had completed two thirds of our route for the day. The path wound downwards, past a glistening lake and on towards the final part of our descent. Again, Andy and David got bored and decided to run down the hill, waiting now and again for Hannah and her posse to catch up. We then wandered down about one million steps where Izzy tried to do her Michael Jackson dance moves, also known as falling over. After putting our heads in a stream to cool down, we arrived on the outskirts of the town. Andy decided to be a taxi for a little boy and delivered him back to his campsite. Finally arriving at the mini buses, we dumped our stuff in the bus, and then Andy offered to buy us some ice creams, which we all instantly said yes to. When Jill's group arrived we bundled into the buses, and drove back to the bunk house. There we enjoyed a nice and tasty curry.

Easter Sunday – by David Knight

Today we climbed the highest mountain in England, Scafell Pike (978m). I was in Neil's group today and our other team members were Alice, Hannah, Ronan, Charlie and Emily. Today we walked for about eight and a half hours with a total of fifteen kilometres. The ascent was extremely tedious as it was a huge climb. Most of the time it was steps and then it turned into rock gardens and boulders. We finally arrived at the top of the steepest and most annoying climb ever, where we took in the views, dunked mars bars into hot chocolate and regained our energy. Then our hike was up hills, down hills, past lakes, up more hills and down more hills. Finally, a summit came into sight. We arrived at the summit, and wondered where everybody was. Then we noticed that we weren't at the summit of Scafell Pike, but at a plateau further down. The people at the correct summit looked like stick figures which were only an inch tall. This annoyed us all, but I knew that it wouldn't be that easy. Then, we had to climb another rock garden where Hannah and I discussed what Hannah was in her past life. We came to a conclusion that she was an Elephant. Halfway up the slope, Pete's group popped up on the ridge behind us. We knew we had to beat them to the summit for one reason only, Matt Jarratt. Arriving at the summit we were greeted by spectacular views with a fine blue sky and a small breeze. We could tell how high we were as there were mountains we had climbed over, and behind them smaller mountains still not on ground level. After kissing the trig point to leave my mark, we started our descent. It was a lot of rock gardens with mini lakes. I got bored and decided to start singing one song over and over, "Better Together" by "Jack Johnson". This annoyed Hannah so I decided to stop. We finally came into the final leg of our hike where we had to cross marshes. Alice, Charlie, Neil and I all fell on our bums resulting in wet trousers or shorts. We then came to a poor sheep that had got his head stuck in the fence. Charlie tried to cut the wire, but it would only cause the unfortunate creature even more pain. There was not much we could do so we walked away, an action that received pleas of help from the sheep. Then we came to a fence, with no where to go apart from across the river. This was extremely hilarious as we all made it across without getting our feet wet... apart from Neil. He was crossing the river when he prodded a stone with his walking pole to see if it was safe. It seemed fine but when he stepped on it, it moved putting Neil's foot in the water. It was in the water for about a second before Alice and I burst out laughing. We came across the farm house further down where we told the farmer's wife about the vulnerable sheep. About two hundred metres down, we arrived at our final destination, the mini bus. Later, back at the bunk house we ate beef casserole followed by Bakewell tarts. Tomorrow we have a shorter walk than today.

To be continued next month

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.

7th Epsom Scouts '1000 CLUB'

With better odds than the National Lottery our 1000 Club could be your winning way to help raise funds for 7th Epsom Scouts.

It's so easy to be involved !

Just buy shares at £5.00 each and you will be entered into the monthly draw. 40% of the received share money will go to 3 lucky prizewinners and 60% to 7th Epsom Scouts.

Every 6 months we will hold a BUMPER DRAW with 1 winner receiving a BUMPER PRIZE !!!!

At present our main aim is to raise funds to build our new Scout Headquarters -- we are nearly there so every bit helps !

The 1000 Club has been running for 20 months and, to date, the shareholders have raised a fantastic **£3045 !!**

Join the 7th Epsom 1000 Club NOW.

Win CASH prizes and help raise funds for 7th Epsom Scouts.

Download an application form from the 7th Epsom Scouts website or contact William Brogan 01737 813643 or Neil Dallen 01372 728187

March winners

1st Sara Curtis

2nd Ann Dallen

3rd Judith Higginson

6 month bumper prize: Gwenda Froud

April winners

1st Margaret Roberts

2nd Debra Brooker

3rd Tani Jolaoso

Last call for Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers
we have got nearly enough for a hike tent!