

# 7<sup>th</sup> Epsom News



October 2017

[www.7thepsom.org.uk](http://www.7thepsom.org.uk)

[SCOUTS]

EXPLORER

## & cubs Water Weekend!

15-17th Sept

Mid-September saw the annual Water Weekend for Scouts, Explorers, Guides & Cubs. 50 of the older participants travelled to Thames Young Mariners, the site by the Thames near Richmond on Friday night and settled into tents in the Teepee Village.



The leaders prepared hot drinks & evening snacks of hot dogs before all went to bed.

Saturday

morning dawned fairly bright and the day stayed dry apart from one short shower – which apparently turned out to be very lucky, as Epsom had torrential rain for long periods. The older ones were joined by a small contingent of Cubs who stayed with us for the day. Divided into groups of 10, the Scouts, Guides and Cubs enjoyed a morning of sailing (scouts and guides), kayaking, open canoeing, climbing and the challenge course. After a much needed lunch break the afternoon was spent covering the activities not done by each group in the morning.



After Cubs left us, Scouts and Guides enjoyed one last session on the Thames in Kayaks and Canoes before showering and changing for dinner. This was followed by a film in the main building at the site, where Spiderman seemed to be enjoyed by all! Then it was hot chocolate and bed for the weary participants – some of them even went straight to sleep without being nagged several times. Sunday was another kind day with the weather. The youngsters all enjoyed a morning free-for-all, choosing their preferred choice of Canoe or Kayak, going down the Thames to the weir or the other way up to the



Island by Twickenham. After lunch the whole contingent built and paddled rafts on the lake at the centre, whilst the leader team packed up the boats and equipment ready for the return home. Many thanks have to go to the large team of leaders and helpers who

cooked meals, lugged boats in and out of the Thames, organised the groups and generally made the weekend a success. We also thank the team of qualified instructors and coaches who gave their time freely to make the weekend possible. As in past years several would-be participants unfortunately had to miss the weekend due to strict limits on numbers constrained by the availability of boats and the rules about instructor coverage. We plan to do it all again in mid-September next year, so look out for the information next summer. I am sure all who came this year would testify to the fun the weekend brings. *(ed's note: my daughter went & wholeheartedly agrees!!)*

*By Tony Marshall, Assistant Explorer Leader*



# Leaders scale Carnedd with SSGMC 13-15<sup>th</sup> Oct

*(Sounds Dragonian? No, just climbing in North Welsh mountain highlands!)*

A large group of 7<sup>th</sup> Epsom leaders attended the October meeting of **Surrey Scout & Guide Mountaineering Club (SSGMC)**. We had a great weekend in Bethesda, North Wales. On Saturday we broke up into three groups to do varying grades of walks. The high level group climbed and scrambled up Carnedd Dafydd, and Carnedd Llewelyn, 14 miles and 800 metres of climbing. A great weekend was had by all 30 members who attended for the Club's 50th anniversary!



← feast for the eyes:  
Streamside  
Saturday  
lunch...

By Gillian  
Mead, Scout  
Leader



## Jumble Sale 30<sup>th</sup> Sept

Over £1,000. That's what we raised! Thank you for all of you that came and helped. This time lots of you volunteered so that made the sorting, selling and clearing so much easier. The next sale will be in the Spring so please give up a couple of hours to help then as well.

In the meantime, the jumble committee needs some more members. Duties are very light as there are only two sales a year. A couple of meetings before each sale (wine, beer, tea, coffee, crisps, cake are always on offer) and being there to help on the day. Only a few hours, honest. If you would like to be plied with food and drink please email me at [catherinemax@btinternet.com](mailto:catherinemax@btinternet.com). Once again, THANK YOU to all of you who helped!

*By Catherine Williams, Jumble Sale committee chief*

## Diary Dates

**November**  
4<sup>th</sup>

**Fireworks**(to music!) -:  
parent helpers to manage one of the gates. If you can, please email Simon on  
[asw1975@googlemail.com](mailto:asw1975@googlemail.com)

**December**  
9/10<sup>th</sup>,  
16/17<sup>th</sup>

**Christmas Post** – we need post people to deliver please!  
[7thepsom@scoutsxmaspost.org.uk](mailto:7thepsom@scoutsxmaspost.org.uk)

# Explorer Quiz Night for **WaterAid** - 7<sup>th</sup> October

St Martin's School very generously lent us their hall free of charge & kindly allowed us to set up/ decorate on Friday night. We eventually managed to sell nearly 80 tickets giving us 10 tables, so the evening promised to be a good one.

Before the quiz, Lottie & I introduced a short film featuring Hugh Bonneville in India to remind everyone why we were here: showing the difference between a village that had received help from **WaterAid** & one that had not. Being without clean water impacted so many parts of the villagers' lives – even down to the children's education suffering as they often go absent due to illness.



Then it was over to our compere Tony, who also compiled the excellent quiz. Half time refreshments of fish & chips (included in the ticket price) came from The Posh Plaice. Glynn & Neil

also ran a bar, whose profits will be donated to **WaterAid** too.

Thanks to wonderful prizes from some Explorers' parents & various businesses around Epsom we had a very well stocked raffle. Well done to Catherine & Charlotte for getting a lot of those donations.

At the end, with only a few points in it, the winners were announced: it included a few other Explorer leaders. 'Fix!' I hear you cry!! Nothing of it! You'll have to come along to the next fundraiser to make sure they don't win again!!



What a great evening! Everybody was so generous, & with compliments ringing in our ears, we washed, tidied & swept up & went home exhausted with bundles & bundles of cash-£817 raised on the night! Together with Summer chocolate & bottle tombola's £400, we will be sending **WaterAid** over £1217! (more once we have the bar profits) So, a huge thank you to all those involved & all the Explorers who helped out on the night – James A, Freya & Alex (who totted up the scores) and Sam L, Sam S, Adam, Seb, Ethan, Sam D, Lottie, Chris, Samantha, Euan, Ethan & Emma. (Sorry if I've missed anyone!)

*by Phili Coley, Explorer Leader*