

October 2018

www.7thepsom.org.uk

EXPLORERS Summer Camp 2018

The Campsite:

We stayed at Buddens Campsite, which was a lovely site with many onsite activities such as crate stacking. On the site there was an area of trees where us Explorers set up hammocks to sleep in. We even made friends with the German scouts in the site next to us!

By Lara West

Hiking: We managed to do a really short hike despite the crazy Summer temperatures. Unfortunately, the military zone we were going to cross to see a deserted village was shut and so we couldn't go through it. We ended up having to go round it by minibus and got dropped quite close to the beach that we were aiming for. We then just walked down a hill through a farm, up a hill, through some fields and then down a road to a car park and the beach. It was a typical Jurassic beach with pebbles and a steep cliff. Most Explorers had a quick swim, some skimmed pebbles to varying degrees of success and some just sunbathed. We had a barbeque of sausages and burgers and set off back to the camp. Once at camp the neighboring German scouts suggested a game of 'Steal the Flag'. We won!!!

Based on a story by Jake Seward

Winning at 'Steal the Flag' from the neighbouring German Scout camp!



Swanage and campsite games

We spent many of the days down at Swanage Bay popping into all the tourist shops, eating fish and chips on the beach and even tried our hand at a little bit of crabbing, thanks to Tony for buying the nets and bait!

To cool ourselves down while at the campsite, we set up our own version of Slippery Rounders (still working on trademarking that one!) including



paddling pools for bases, a slip and slide at the end and a thorough drenching by the

leaders who stood by, waiting with buckets of water from each side. Then we did a slippery assault course including yet another chilly bucket of water to the face, lots of flour and an industrial amount of ketchup.

Catherine Meech

Paddle boarding and Coasteering

On the last day we went to Swanage Bay. We started the day with paddle boarding, the sun was shining and the sea was gloriously clear. We raced each other on the boards and then we played a game of 'push your pal off into the sea' followed by an extreme gymnastics and yoga session on the boards. Next we went on a long distance paddle across the bay and attempted back flips off the boards!

The fun didn't stop there! We then went coasteering which

involved jumping off various heights of rock into the sea. The best descent was when we all linked arms in a row with our backs to the water and our feet on the edge. The instructor took great delight in pushing the first person in the chain and watching us fall

like dominoes into the sea. We also adventured into caves and enjoyed the challenge of climbing up the rocks and plunging into the water. Hungrily, we returned to Swanage to get some well-earned fish and chips. Let's just say we had the best nights sleep in our hammocks.

Samantha Carswell



<< Dragon boat racing on the lake at Buddens

Gift Aid for 2018/9

☹ Sadly, **we are throwing away free money** as less than half of you have filled in the Gift Aid Form which can be found at <https://goo.gl/forms/cKMScYyIZNeBJ7V83> . If there is a taxpayer in your household, **please** complete the form as it means we get 25% extra back from the government to help run a quality programme for the group.

Thanks for your support,

by Kevin Mead, Group Executive Chairman

Our AGM/Annual Review was held in Scout HQ on **Saturday 15th September**. It was a new format and we were delighted with both the attendance and the quality of the presentations from all Sections.

About 70 people attended, with the formal business quickly concluded it was followed by Section briefings and presentation of awards including:

- * Best Beaver
- * Best Beaver Mum
- * Nights Away Badge
- * Outdoor Challenge Award
- * Personal Challenge Award
- * 7 DoE Bronze Awards
- * Chief Scouts Bronze Award - Harry Kirk
- * Chief Scouts Gold Award - Tom Ade-Parsons
- * Merit Award to our Treasurer, Simon Williams



Congratulations to all who received awards.

District Commissioner Karl Nicholas presented some long service Leader Awards to Alex Wilcocks (5Y), Zoe Dallen (15Y) and Anthony Williams (25Y!) to wrap up the meeting. After the formalities we talked over refreshments, including some delicious cakes prepared by Charlotte Williams and family to raise money for her trip to the International Jamboree next year in America.



Thanks to all who contributed and everyone who attended – welcome back next year! Hope to see other parents and supporters too, it's such an excellent & celebratory gathering!

Kevin Mead, Group Chairman & David Shickle, Group Scout Leader

International Trip – 2020

Exciting news! We have now formed a 7th Epsom leader group who are in the early stages of planning an international trip in 2020. This will be open to all current Explorers and those Scouts who will be old enough to be Explorers by the summer of 2020. Look out for more information by the end of October – we are planning a meeting for those who are interested in participating on Wednesday 28th November.

7th Epsom Fireworks Display **Saturday 3th November 2018**

Last year it was the first fireworks set to music**. This time it's the first time we are using e-ticketing! We also have more varied catering options with Japanese Street Food and Jerk Chicken.

Right now we need help to distribute programmes to the shops and to erect the banners (pls email Ben Thackwell benthackwell@hotmail.com if you can assist with either)

This major fundraising event has been run for over forty years and attracts 8,000+ visitors raising an average of £10,000pa for 7th Epsom. Last year we had a fantastic response from parents and Scouts/Explorers to help run one of the gates and assisting with the park and ride service. I am again asking for 30+ volunteers to run one of the entrance gates: either collecting payment from the public or verifying the prepaid tickets using handheld scanners. There will be a full briefing session before the display and there will be plenty of support from people who have had many years' experience of the fireworks display. I am also looking for a volunteer to take overall responsibility for running the gate.

I would really urge you to support this worthwhile event. If you are able to help email me (asw1975@googlemail.com). Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

By Simon Williams, Treasurer

** Last year's display is up on the website: <https://www.7thepsom.org.uk/activities/fireworks/>

Water Weekend 2018 21-23 September

Once again our annual Water Weekend was held at Thames Young Mariners, an activity centre by the River Thames near Richmond. A mixed group of 50 Scouts, Explorers and Guides stayed over the weekend in the Teepee Village on site and enjoyed a mixture of Open Canoeing, Kayaking, Sailing, Rafting building, Climbing and a Challenge Course. We were joined by 20 cubs on the Saturday, who canoed, kayaked, climbed and navigated the challenge course.



<< Cubs ready to go on the open waters...

There was a little rain and drizzle, but spirits remained high.

We ran the usual Saturday evening film show in the hall at the site, where Shrek 2 (with Chinese subtitles for some reason) was a firm favourite. The film show equipment then

came in handy on Sunday morning, when a sizable proportion of the contingent decided that the weather was too cold and miserable to go out on the Thames and voted for "Sing-along Mamma Mia" instead. As it happens, the small group who did go out (many using the wet suits provided for us by the centre) benefited from gradually improving weather and also had a great time.



^^ Scouts & Guides enjoying a cooked breakfast prepared by the adults

After lunch the sun had come out and everyone went rafting, which generally involved building something that fell apart half-way through the event. The short journey back to Epsom still found a fair number of people dozing off after a hectic weekend (thankfully not the drivers!)

As always, huge thanks go out to the team of enthusiastic volunteers who catered for the camp & the specialist instructors + coaches who gave up their weekend for us – and without whom we could not run our own activities on the Thames. Also remember the other helpers who carried dozens of boats in/ out of the Thames all day and who provided adult help on the water, plus the drivers who helped ferry the contingent to the site. Giving 70 young people an opportunity to enjoy the activities requires a team of +- 25 adults – so thank you all.

By Tony Marshall

Cubs warming up before kayaking >>

Cubs standing up in the kayaks



PS Tony doesn't say much about the well-deserved Award he received at Water Weekend... "Award for Merit".

Its rare that leaders get recognised for their contributions, Tony Marshall was recognised for over 20 years of outstanding service to scouting!!

Autumn Jumble Sale

Saturday 17th November

Remember remember the 17th November – support the preloved principle of recycle and re-use... Also an ideal time to get great gifts at a fraction of the retail prices. You'll save heaps and support 7th Epsom fundraising: win-win. Declutter the home by clearing out the loft and cupboards of unwanted gifts and stuff and voila!... it's a triple win! Start preparing and planning now (Bring items and cakes to EMC on Friday evening 16th or the Saturday morning)

Of course these events need planning so please, offers of help to sort, prepare, label beforehand as well as help selling on the day - email Jumble organiser Catherine Williams at catherinemax@btinternet.com

Group Diary Dates

October

19-21st

JOTA Jamboree on the
Air/ Internet @HQ
(<https://www.jotajoti.info/>)

November:

3rd

Epsom Fireworks

at Hook Road Arena
See earlier article re help before
(benthackwell@hotmail.com) or on the
night(asw1975@googlemail.com)

November:

11th 10:15 **Remembrance day Church
Parade** at EMC

17th

Jumble Sale at EMC

offers of help or cakes to
catherinemax@btinternet.com (See article
above)

December:

-mid **Christmas Post** -Offers of help
7thepsom@scoutsxmaspost.org.uk to:

- Distribute leaflets and boxes
- Sort Post
- Deliver post

(See article towards the end of the Newsletter)

Cubs and Beavers build Eeyore style Dens! w/c 24/9



<<< Some Beavers proudly relaxing in their homemade den at Headley Heath

Cool Cubs
chilling in
their own
creation >>



EXPLORERS 'Fun'draising Fun Run 28th September



In order to raise money for [Love Me Love My Mind](#), our Explorers did a sponsored FunRun on a cold Friday night in September (28th). They had designed the course themselves which included egg & spoon, hoops, tunnels, sack jumping, running around the bucket (not kicking it!), slippery groundslide, paint powder, crawling under the cloth and finally the bouncy castle!

A huge Thank You to the Explorers who attacked the course with great gusto and made the weeks of preparation completely worthwhile!

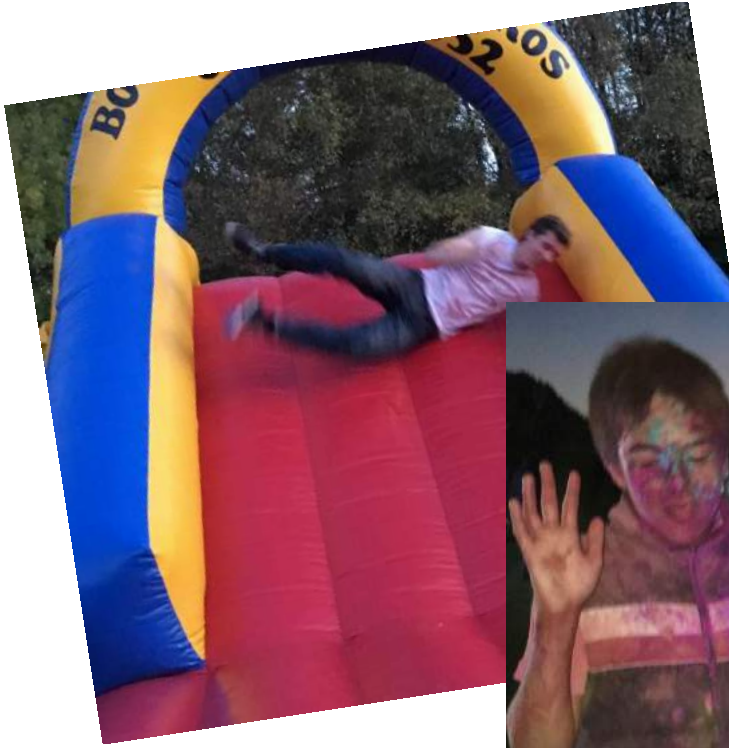
by Phil Coley (Explorer Leader)

Amy	16	Louis	13
Callum	13	Lucas	16
Catherine	12	Luke	17
Charlotte	11	Matthew	16
Elena	11	Max	12
Emma	16	Max TM	19
Isabel	11	Nathan	21
Jack	13	Roisin	11
Jake	10	Rowan	17
James	13	Samantha	11
Kyla K	16	Stanley	12
Kyla P	16	Tom	18
Lara	13		

We will let the pictures do the talking... in random order! (*Apologies for blurriness – lack of light and fast moving targets!*)

Luminous Stanley >>





<< Luke bounces/slides after 3 laps of powerpaint... still looking vaguely recognisable

Elated Tom and Luke at the end of their run... >>

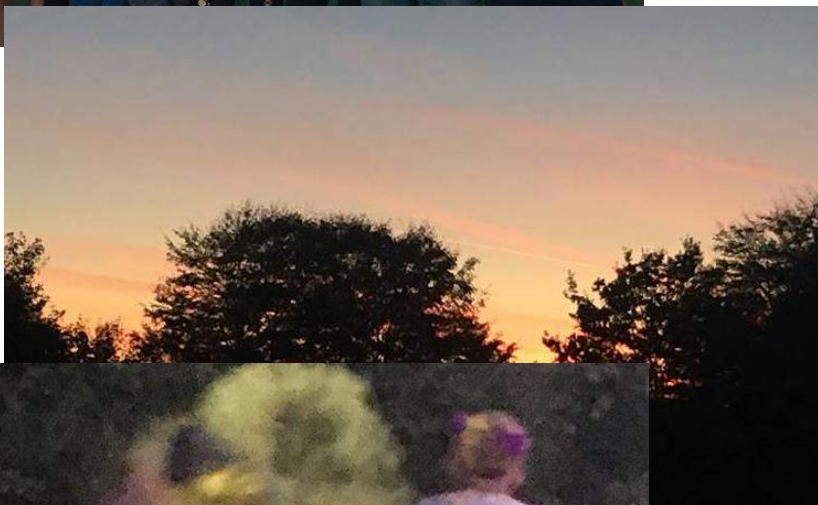


Here and there bright white teeth, bright coloured everything else!



Pre run – all clean!

Clear cold crisp
beautiful sunset >>



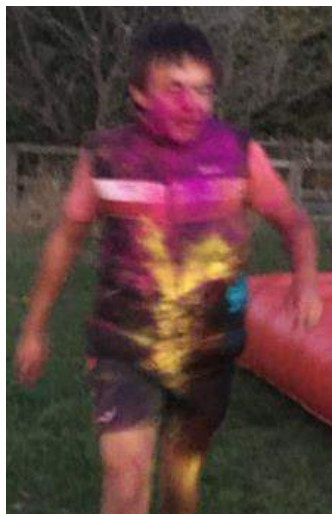
Poof!
Stanley in a
puff of
yellow



<< Tunnel and sackjumping gets
very creative towards the end!



Colour clouds and Rainbow blurs, runners and marshals get coated alike!



^^ Various approaches to the slippery mat had varying degrees of getting soaked – leap onto and wheee slip (very), kneel crawl (quite), gingerly trotting over (not much)!

<< Elena and Issy all smiles despite cold and rainbow “cloudy” conditions

<< The Yellow bucket (goalpost) had to move closer as it got too dark!

Calling
Christmas
Postpeople
soon...



The poster features a dark blue background with falling white stars and snowflakes. At the top center is the Scout logo, a white circle with a fleur-de-lis and the text 'scouts be prepared'. To its right is a bright blue starburst containing the text '30p'. Below these, the main title 'Send your cards by Scout Community Christmas Post' is written in large white letters. Underneath, 'Delivery in Epsom , Ewell and Ashtead in postal areas KT17.KT18.KT19 and KT21' is written in dark blue. The next line, 'Final collection – Tuesday 18th December', is in white. Below that, 'Collection and delivery times, go to www.7thepsom.org.uk' is in white. At the bottom, there is a row of small, colorful illustrations of houses and trees. Below the illustrations, the text 'Payment (in cash) should be included with the cards and posted into one of the Scout post boxes' is in white. To the right of this, 'Official sponsors:' is written in white, followed by two logos: 'The Ashley Centre' and 'MICHAEL EVERETT'.

scouts
be prepared

30p

**Send your cards by Scout
Community Christmas Post**

**Delivery in Epsom , Ewell and
Ashtead in postal areas
KT17.KT18.KT19 and KT21**

Final collection – Tuesday 18th December

Collection and delivery times, go to www.7thepsom.org.uk

Payment (in cash) should be included with the cards
and posted into one of the Scout post boxes

All proceeds to :
7TH EPSOM (METHODIST) SCOUT GROUP

Official sponsors:

The Ashley Centre

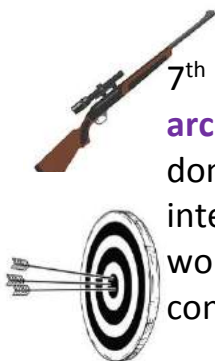
MICHAEL EVERETT

Another one of our decent fundraisers coming up. Help with distributing boxes and sorting / posting will be hugely appreciated! Email Anne Hill on

7thepsom@scoutsxmaspost.org.uk

Instructors Needed

7th Epsom are well resourced with **climbing**, **archery** and **shooting** equipment. What we don't have are **instructors**! If you are interested in becoming an instructor, or would like to find out more about it, please contact Zoe at zdallen@hotmail.com



Community Corner...our Mayor of Epsom & Ewell

September



The last two months have been unusually busy with 26 celebrations, parties, fairs, AGMs and certificate presentation events. The most memorable were Lucy's garden party where 10 year old Lucy had organised an event in her garden and raised £1265 for Tadworth Trust, Riverview Surestart 'party' (picture on left), Linden Bridge certificate presentation and Epsom Primary Shine Awards. There were a whole variety of other events including the EMC "Holiday at Home", "Heroes and Champions", a 100th birthday celebration, Riding for the Disabled

national successes, Kingston Carnival and the High Sherrif dinner at Guildford University. "Openings" included Wren Close, a development of much needed affordable housing and a wild life garden at Tree tops nursery.

Almost all events were blessed with fine weather and most of the time has been one long party! Unfortunately not everything was rosy, Epsom Common Day was cancelled due to wet and windy weather and we attended the funeral of Councillor David Wood who died in service.

We had not intended to have a holiday during our Mayoral year but we were invlited to our Nephew's wedding in Eire and, as there were no engagements, we spent 10 days in Eire including a three day wedding!

We were also invited to Uberlingen, which is on the coast of Lake Constance in Germany and twinned with Chantilly. We accepted and made a six day flying visit (actually driving), spent some time with the Mayor and enjoyed a few days sight-seeing.

Alongside all the invitations the charity committee have also been busy running a variety of events and planning some for the future. This has continued to help the Mayors Charities both in fund raising and raising the profile of the three charities which are Girlguiding UK, Talking Newspaper and Work Stress Solutions (WSS).

Their next major fundraising event is the Quiz Night on Saturday 10th November at Unity Hall behind URC in Church Street, Epsom. Tickets are £15 (includes a fish & chip supper).

www.mayorscharitiesepsom.org.uk

I am passionate about our community and if my presence could support your organisation's objectives I am happy to take part by giving short talks, presenting certificates, starting or opening an event or simply supporting whatever you are doing. If you would like me to take part, please get in touch with the Mayors' office at the town hall, email mayor@epsom-ewell.gov.uk.

by councillor Neil Dallen, ex GSL and current Mayor of Epsom & Ewell