

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



July/Aug 2019

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

## Instructors Needed

7<sup>th</sup> Epsom are well resourced with **climbing, archery & shooting** equipment. What we don't have are **instructors**! If you are interested in becoming an instructor (all training provided), or would like to find out more about it, please contact Zoe [zdallen@hotmail.com](mailto:zdallen@hotmail.com)



## 7<sup>th</sup> Epsom Annual Review/AGM: Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 3pm

ALL WELCOME! Reminder that the Annual Review will take place in the Scout HQ at 3pm on Saturday 14th September. Please come along for an update on the Group and to learn a bit more about what the various Sections have been up to throughout the year. Refreshments will be available, including a cake sale to raise funds for the Madagascar expedition in 2020.

*David Shickle, GSL & Kevin Mead, Exec Chair=*

## Parent Reps –Engage & Tell Us What You Think

We are seeking to get a Parent Representative in place for each of the sections in the 7<sup>th</sup> Epsom Group. It's not an onerous task but does require some commitment & allows you to engage with the leaders and have your say on how the Sections and Group are run. The headlines of the generic Role Description are included below. This can of course be flexed recognising the other commitments of parents/carers.

- *Act as a communications interface between parents/carers and Group Management, specifically the Section Leader & the Group Executive Committee*
- *Identify issues and concerns from Section parents/carers to Group Management*
- *Liaise with other Parent Representatives where there are multiple Sections (Beavers and Cubs)*
- *Attend Group Executive Committee Meetings (normally 4 times a year) as representatives of Section parents/carers. This could be rotated across Representatives for Beavers and for Cubs*
- *Assist Section Leaders in engaging parent/carer support*
- *Support Group Management in identifying parents/carers who may be able to adopt a formal role in the Group, for example Assistant Section Leaders*
- *Attend section planning meetings (normally once a term)*

We already have representatives in place for most Sections, but **have vacancies for Windfall Beavers and Apache Cubs**, so please get in touch with myself or your Section Leader if you would like to get involved. Appointments into the role are formally confirmed at the AGM which votes if there is more than one proposed candidate Representative per Section.

More information concerning the Representatives for all Sections will be published soon.

*Kevin Mead, Group Executive Chairman* [meadfamilykam@btinternet.com](mailto:meadfamilykam@btinternet.com)



## Construction of the exciting new stores building!

New stores: two storey, 8 m by 5 m (to store all the group kit) finally in one place. On Monday 2nd September it all kicks off, taking approximately 12 -14 weeks. It will mean the rear car park will be out of use for the duration, and therefore parking is even more limited, we suggest car shares etc. As the main contractor, if anyone has any queries, you are welcome to email or ring Jo on [jochartres@virginmedia.com](mailto:jochartres@virginmedia.com) or 07910 226874.

## Scout Jumble Sale Call To (helping) Arms 27/8 Sept

The last week in September has been dubbed National Recycling Week. We are making it easy to take part by having the Scout Jumble sale. Help is needed with sorting on the evening of Friday 27 September and the morning of Saturday 28 of September. If selling is more your thing then help from for a couple of hours from 1.15pm on Saturday 28 September would be much appreciated. Finally at the end on Saturday we need help clearing up at around 3pm.

Meanwhile please spread the word by distributing the fliers that will come home with your Scout and sort out some Jumble. Email Catherine Williams on [catherinemax@btinternet.com](mailto:catherinemax@btinternet.com) with offers of help.

## Group Diary Dates

### September:

**14<sup>th</sup> @15:00** [Annual General Meeting](#)  
(incl presentations & awards)

**20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>** [Water Weekend](#)

**28<sup>th</sup>** [Jumble Sale](#) (see above re help  
in Making Cakes / Setting up/  
Selling / Clearing)

### October:

**19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>** [Jamboree on the Air/Internet](#)  
Annual radio contact from Scout HQ with  
Scouts/Guides worldwide

### November:

**2<sup>nd</sup> 7:45pm** [Fireworks Night](#). Online  
tickets only

### December:

**Christmas Post** – need Sorters & Posties  
\*Sorting (lots of help needed) nb **6- 13<sup>th</sup>**  
\*Collection: **14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup>**

# Scout Summer Camp 2019; Bushy Wood, Eastbourne 20-27/7

20 Scouts and 4 Leaders set off for summer camp on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July for one week. The explorer scouts were camping in the next field. The weather was glorious, what could possibly go wrong. Summer camp is a great week of fun, frivolity and some serious



scouting!  
The scouts were camping in small patrols and cooking for

themselves on fires. There were lots of activities to keep them occupied including a trip to the sea-side, a cooking competition, town trail and a trip to the local fun park. The park seemed a little low-key – but hey the leaders seemed to enjoy it, even if the scouts were not too sure.

However, if we thought it was hot at the beginning of the week, it was nothing compared to Thursday which turned out to be one of the hottest days on record. Clare was not going to be beaten by the weather and 38 degrees, a hike was planned and a hike we would do, even if it did involve two big hills from Birling Gap to Seven Sisters. Jelly babies, pringles and lots of water at the ready we set off and managed to encourage and cajole the scouts to the end.

Everyone, including leaders, enjoyed a well



deserved ice-cream at the end.



The warden then allowed us to have the sprinkler on, and with buckets of water and sponges, everybody had a fun time cooling down. However, we need not have bothered. Within about an hour of these shots, the heavens opened, we had thunder and lightning, and the scouts experienced some soggy cooking conditions – but everybody managed to get a hot meal in the end (with a bit of help from some fire lighters).

Thursday – 38 degrees – decided to do a hike

Friday – 20 degrees and windy – decided to go to the beach

We seem to have done those days the wrong way round.

Good job the picture is of the scouts, because the leaders were looking even colder.

Gillian's rubber gloves are famous – but rubber gloves, cagoul, and an apron – that was certainly a look. It epitomised a very wet soggy Saturday morning.



The shelter in this picture turned into our kitchen on the Saturday, as we had taken down the marquee when it was just damp

rather than soaking wet. Thank goodness for wooden shelters. The wasps were not very pleased that we had moved in, and jars of jam proved quite popular as we tried to entice them to leave us alone. Packing up is always the hardest part of camp and it is even more challenging when it is pouring with rain for several hours on both Friday and Saturday morning.

*By Gilian Mead, Scout Leader*

## Seeking new 7th Epsom Newsletter Editor

Calling anyone willing to take on this wonderful rewarding role. Detailed handover will be given... I am filled with great gratitude for the opportunities given to me to edit our bimonthly newsletters, but the time has come to offer this to someone perhaps with more updated tech savvy? Email me at [elsje@kichenbrand.com](mailto:elsje@kichenbrand.com) or our group exec chairman Kevin Mead on [meadfamilykam@btinternet.com](mailto:meadfamilykam@btinternet.com)

*Elsje Kichenbrand, Newsletter Editor*

# Explorer Summer Camp 2019 - Eastbourne

## Lara's Activities

### Assessment:

The weather was glorious for most of the week. We enjoyed sailing in a "lake" just behind Eastbourne beach, that turned out to be more of a glorified duck pond!

We hiked around the Seven Sisters

National Park in 39 degrees heat and cooled off in the afternoon with a game of messy rounders, which led to some of us being coated in a number of things like ketchup and flour. A shower has never been more welcome!



*Some might call it a lake but it looked more like an extra large duck pond!!*



*Having a paddle*

We went to the Wave Rave at the local swimming pool and followed that with fish and chips on the beach. And we finished off the week with a BBQ on the beach, where even a surprise thunder storm didn't stop our fun!

### Tom's Campsite critique:

The campsite was certainly an improvement from last year as we had dappled shade throughout the campsite providing some

much needed relief from some of the hottest days on record. It was in all my time at camp the best site we had been on. No giant ants nests, decent toilets and most importantly a very well stocked tuck shop.



*Beach BBQ*





*The hammock tree :)*

After sleeping in the tents for one night we decided to move to hammocks. Due to the sparsely distributed trees on the site we erected two a-frames and tied hammocks between them and trees.

For the first night I slept on a trailer used to transport stuff from the minibus to the

campsite during the group to see if they could drag me to the car park without waking me on a the promise of a packet of Oreos if they could. I then awoke halfway through a field to the sound of a leader shouting telling them to drag me back to the trees and threatening to send us all to the tents.

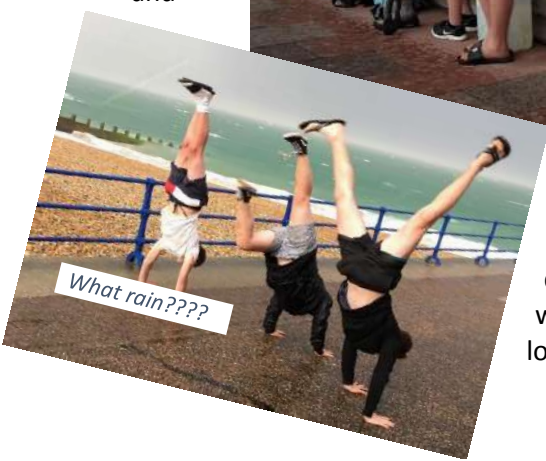


*Shooting from the Campsite*

On the last night there was horrific rain that caused the tarpaulins to leak and sag. Sensing the storm that was about to come some of us migrated to our tents only to be woken at several times during the night as people rushed in to escape from the collapsed mess of hammocks and



*Sheltering from the rain - still smiling!*



*What rain???*

tarpaulins. Waking up later we realised how atrocious the weather was as we had to spend the next 3 hours packing up our camp drenched to the bone. After such blissful weather at the beginning of the week, it was lovely to get home again to dry off!



## Cubs pick local litter

This Summer term each Cub pack got to go local litter picking... Loads of litter collected and lots of positive appreciative comments from passers by!



Strike a pose!



Few photos from earlier Cub activities



# District Beavers Beaveree!! 7<sup>th</sup> July

On 7th July, 30 Beaver pirates went to Long Acres in Horton Park to join in with the District event called Beaveree.



Thankfully the heavy showers stopped and the clouds parted to reveal the much anticipated sunshine. The Pirates walked the plank, panned for gold, became Captain Hook, made badges and telescopes and threw things at cans and hoops. Lastly they also took part in a treasure hunt.



A big thank you goes to the fabulous District Beaver Team for putting on a great day and also to the parents for supporting it.







>>  
Pirate  
walking  
the plank

<<  
Pirates  
need to  
practise  
their  
aim!



Pirates love digging for  
trrrrrreasure for surrrrrre,  
arrrr!



A delighted pirate making delightful art



*by Clare DiPlacito (Beaver Leader)*

## Raising the party roof for fundraising!

If you're having a party we can lend you the Scout marquee for a fraction of the normal rental price and pop it up anywhere you want. We're getting pretty good at it now! Send us a message to [hello@7thpsomexpedition.org.uk](mailto:hello@7thpsomexpedition.org.uk) to enquire :)



Mad20 leader Kathy raising the marquee and a smile ;)



## Jumping to the Fundraising Challenge!

The amazing Explorer and Madagascar 2020 team member, Nathan, took to the skies and did a charity skydive to help us raise money for our charity projects on next year's trip. What a fantastic achievement!! Thanks to Nathan and to everyone who has supported him. He's braver than me - I might knit something!!! Our fundraising page is at: [tinyurl.com/7thmadagascarteam](https://tinyurl.com/7thmadagascarteam) should you wish to support our fundraising too. Thank you :)

*By Phili Coley (Explorer GSL)*

