

7th Epsom News



Sept / Oct 2019

www.7thepsom.org.uk

Wonderful Water Weekend 2019: Fri-Sunday 20-22th Sept



By Friday 20th a transport military operation had taken place- to get canoes, kayaks and all equipment for a fun-filled camping water weekend, plus 40 scouts and explorers, with another 15 leaders- to the Thames Young Mariners centre just outside Kingston. Unfortunately, Sainsburys had not realised that this precision military operation was to take place, so only @4.00 pm informed us that our food for Friday evening / Saturday morning could not be delivered! That little setback did not deter Tony Marshall who had organised the whole weekend: he dashed off to Sainsburys with his van to rescue Greta Carpenter to transport numerous boxes of food to the site so that one and all could enjoy frankfurters and hot chocolate before bed. Phew, first evening done... Saturday morning arrived with beautiful blue skies, and the promise of a hot glorious day – possibly the highest temperature ever experienced for a day at water weekend.



Ready to experience a day of adventure, 30 cubs and leaders also arrived, and what a day we all had! The Cubs were divided into groups of 10 and allocated to one of the leaders each to keep them organised throughout the day. They enjoyed a land activity of getting around the assault course, which involved working as a team to overcome a range of

challenges. They spent the rest of their day out on the river in Kayaks and canoes to develop their paddling skills and enjoy various games.

The Scouts and Explorers enjoyed 4 activities on the water: sailing (and there was even enough wind to get the sailing dinghies moving), canoeing, kayaking and paddle boarding, which was a new activity run by the staff at TYM.



I decided to give paddle boarding a go myself, having never tried before yet seeing more and more people enjoying it. Believe me it is more difficult than you think. You start on your knees paddling along, then you have to stand up and balance. The Scouts were all doing great, and I wasn't to be beaten, so set off in my own direction, not wanting to encounter anything else, particularly a Scout on a paddleboard. However, couldn't quite steer myself away in time to miss the stationary pontoon and went head first into the water. Still, got myself back on and watched from the edge as the instructors and Scouts perfected the art of jumping, doing handstands, cartwheels and a 360 degree turn. Still I hold my head up high; even just being able to stand I felt was an achievement.

I am sure you can imagine a LOT of man/woman power is required to getting 12 huge Canadian Canoes, 30 kayaks as well as leaders' & instructors' vessels from the back of the site across the busy main Thames path (where the public are walking, cycling and dog walking), down onto the little beach for the Cubs, Scouts and Explorers to get out on the water. It is all beyond worthwhile when the scouts SO enjoy their time on the water AND some will have passed their kayaking qualification this year.

The organisation of all the activities for the weekend is mammoth. In addition 60 people have to be fed and watered the whole time – this was superbly organised by Greta, Debbie and Jo. Food was plentiful and everybody ate heartily of cooked breakfasts, hot soup, and chicken fajitas.



Cold and damp Scouts did not cause us a problem this year and eating outside on Saturday was certainly the order of the day.

Eventually Saturday evening arrived: the happy but exhausted and tired Cubs returned home; all the equipment was brought back to site; the Scouts and Explorers watched a film and at last the leaders could enjoy their well-earned meal.

Sunday's weather wasn't as bad as predicted so everybody was out on the water again for the morning. The military operation to get us and equipment to Kingston had to be reversed to return everything and everybody to Epsom, and all the equipment packed away back at our stores in Ruxley.

This whole weekend really does take a lot of organisation, and we must give a huge thank you to Tony Marshall who has organised the event for so many years now. It takes many hours, for lots of leaders and instructors, for this event to take place, so a big thank you to Tony, Greta and all the leaders and instructors for the hard work that went into a really amazing weekend.

By Gillian Mead, Assistant Scout Leader

Autumn Jumble Sale Summary: Fri-Sat 27th/28th September

Fliers had been distributed earlier... Donations of unwanted "stuff" flowed into EMC on September 27. Willing hands sorted it out and displayed it attractively. Many more people queued and discovered treasure in the unwanted jumble. An excellent £1,400 were raised for Scout funds. Thank you to everyone who supplied jumble, sorted it, sold it, bought treasure and made cakes... every bit makes a difference! See you again soon in 2020...

By Catherine Williams, Jumble Sale Organiser

Near that time of the year 🎵🎶🎵 – Christmas Post

6-13 December / 14-15 December

It may seem a bit early to be thinking of Christmas Cards, but the team that organises our Community [Christmas Post](#) is full steam ahead planning for this years' post. Boxes go out at the end of November, and we need to identify:

- **Sorters** (Friday 6 December to Friday 13 December), and
- **Post Persons** to collect post for delivery on 14/15 December.

Richard Bell will soon ring (your email) Christmas Bells🔔 as he is organising post persons so all parents will receive an email shortly requesting help. Please respond as he needed to do a lot of chasing last year! (*eds note - we were literally saved by Bell, Richard Bell! Let's save him this year by responding timeously please.*)

Kevin Mead is organising sorters and would be delighted to hear from anyone who is able to provide a few hours help during the day during sorting week.

This is an important event in our Fundraising calendar which last year raised £3000 for 7th Epsom Funds; please do what you can to support it as well as using the post for any cards you send in the local area. Many thanks,

Kevin Mead, Group Executive Chairman meadfamilykam@btinternet.com

(*editors note: See flyers at the end of the newsletter with details and postbox locations*)

Group Diary Dates

October:

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

November:

2nd 7:45pm [Fireworks Night](#). Online tickets only

December:

[Christmas Post](#) – need Sorters & Posties

* 6- 13th Sorting (lots of help needed)

* 14th / 15th Collection for Posting

February:

12th Book Sorting for **EMC Book Fair** starts (huge fundraiser for 7th Epsom Scouts. All volunteers enthusiastically welcomed!

20th-22nd Epsom Book Fair @EMC

TBC

[Jumble Sale](#)

7th Epsom News - New Editor Wanted

After 3+ years Elsje has decided that the time has come to allow someone new to take over 7th Epsom communications, in particular editing 7th Epsom News.

We are therefore looking for a volunteer parent to take over the role in 2020. The role involves soliciting and editing content roughly every 2 months as we now typically publish bimonthly so 6 issues a year. A marketing, communications, or online content background would be helpful but is by no means essential.

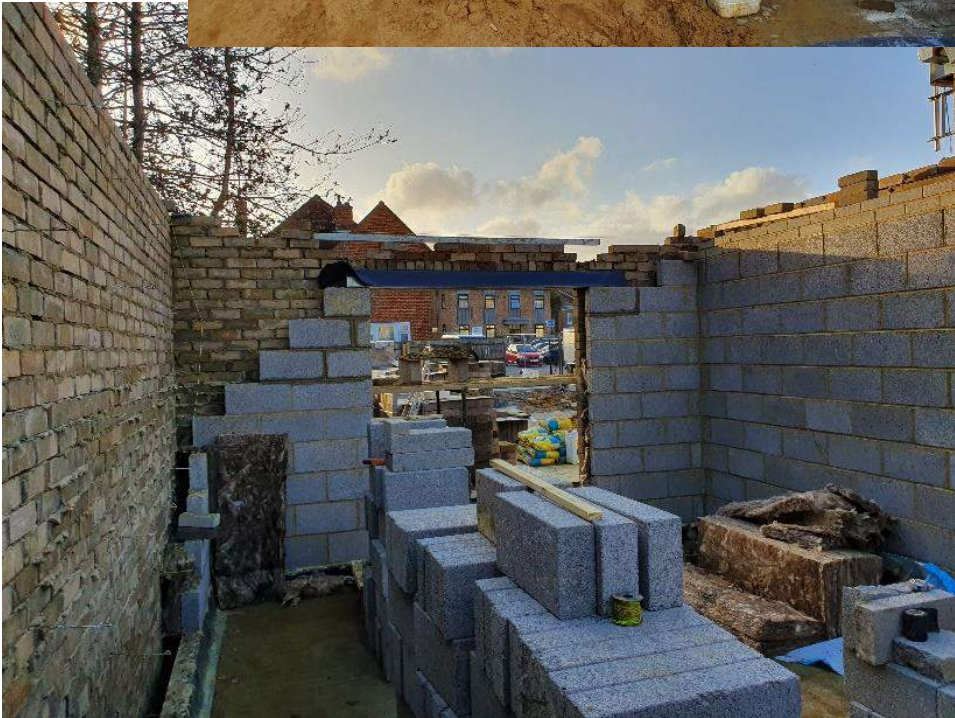
If you are interested in taking up the role or finding out more information then please contact either David Shickle or Kevin Mead (meadfamilykam@btinternet.com).

In the meantime, our thanks go to Elsje for all she has done in supporting the Group over the years.

Kevin Mead, Group Exec Chair, and David Shickle, GSL

Further feedback on 7th Epsom's new stores...

On Monday 2nd September it all started, for about 12 - 14 weeks. As you can see, speedy progress is the order of the day already. Bear in mind for the



duration, parking will be at a premium!

Our very own Quartermaster Jo is the main contractor so if anyone has any queries, email or ring him on jochartres@virginmedia.com or call 07910 226874.

7th Epsom Annual Report 2019

The last year saw a strong Scouting programme continue to be delivered and the Group remains in good overall health.

The individual sections have continued their rich offering of activities, badges and camps. We have run our usual selection of camps this past year; Spring Camp, Summer Camp, Water Weekend and Easter Expedition and all have been well attended.

The Group remains at capacity and in some Sections over capacity. We have closed our waiting list temporarily, accepting only Beaver age and younger on to the waiting list. At home the events and activities for the year continued. The sections participate in a full range of competitions and challenges and feature highly in the results.

On the International front, the team of leaders and young people for the 2020 Madagascar expedition has formed and has commenced team building and fund-raising activities. Just over 20 Scouts and Explorers will be taking part in the trip and associated projects.

The Group's finances remain on a sound basis. We continue to enjoy the benefit of our purpose-built HQ building and our 2 minibuses.

Looking forward to 2019/20 we are enacting the plan set out several years ago to build an extension to our Stores facility at EMC. This will allow us to consolidate all our equipment in one location and remove the dependency on additional storage facilities. We have just started building work, with an expectation of completion before December.

Additionally, the Trustees and Group Executive have decided to transfer responsibility for running the Firework Display to a separate and external charitable organisation, Epsom Fireworks. We still intend to support the event as part of our fund-raising activities, but without taking the financial risks posed by the weather, ticket sales volumes and an increasing Health and Safety burden.

By Kevin Mead, Group Exec Chair

District Cross Country 2019 Sunday 6th October

Nearly 200 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers from Epsom & Ewell District braved the sudden rain at the 2019 District Cross Country last Sunday. Despite the sudden change in weather there were lots of happy smiling faces as they ran and I expect even more so when they realise how successful they all were.

In the **Beaver** section Skyler Williams was first in Class Z with Robert McDonald in 2nd place. Overall all the Willowlake beavers were 2nd in the Colony Trophy.

In **Cubs**; Class C was won by Finlay Cantwell with Eddie Smith in 2nd and Jonny Carey in 3rd place. Harrison Newbould was 2nd in Class A and along with the other Sioux runners won the Pack Trophy.

In **Scouts**: Daniel Linney (Class G) led the Scouts home with the first 4 places in all being taken by 7th Epsom. Libby Cantwell won Class E, Tom Williams won Class F and Nathan West was second in Class G behind Daniel. Together with Charlie Foster who was 3rd in Class D and all the other scouts they won the Troop Trophy.

In **Explorers** Isabelle Cantwell, our only runner, was 3rd.

7th Epsom won the Group Trophy as well. Not a surprise as we took most Class wins. Cross Country is a team event and it is thanks to all those who ran that 7th Epsom were so successful.

Look like we are going to need a bigger trophy cabinet. 😊

By Paul Carpenter, Scouts Leader



Only
35p

Send your cards by Scout Community Christmas Post

Delivery in Epsom , Ewell and
Ashted in postal areas
KT17, KT18, KT19 and KT21

LAST COLLECTION 10 am Friday 13th December

Collection and delivery times, go to
www.7thepsom.org.uk/activities/christmas-post

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

Official sponsors:

All proceeds to :

7TH EPSOM (METHODIST) SCOUT GROUP

The
Ashley
Centre

MICHAEL
EVERETT

Location of post boxes

Note: all post boxes are yellow except those in the Ashley Centre which are blue



Epsom

Clarks (outside)	The Ashley Centre	KT18 5AB
Hotel Chocolate (outside)		
Superdrug (outside)		
W H Smith (outside)		
Ebbisham Centre (by library)	High Street	KT19 8AG
Tesco Express	Chantilly Way	KT19 8SP
Costcutter	Manor Green road	KT19 8RA
Ajits Local	Sefton Road	KT19 9HG
Epsom Methodist Church	Ashley Road	KT18 5AQ
Save 'n Smile	Wells Estate	KT18 7PF
Dorking Road Stores	Dorking Road	KT18 7JZ
Old College Hospital Surgery	Alexandra Road	KT17 4BL
Corner Shop 4U	Burgh Heath Road	KT17 4LU
Sainsburvs	Kiln Lane	KT17 1EQ

Ewell / Stoneleigh / Cuddington

Sainsburys Local	Cheam Road	KT17 1SN
Nisa	166 Ruxley Lane, West	KT19 9HA
Smiths Mail Shop	12 Ruxley Lane	KT19 0JA
Ballards	Chessington Road, West	KT19 9UR
Sainsburys	65 The Broadway,	KT17 2HP
Vale Road Post Office	173 Vale Road,	KT19 0PJ
Bourne Hall	Spring Street, Ewell	KT17 1UF

Epsom Downs

The Shop on the Corner	Langley Vale	KT18 6AW
McColls	Tattenham Corner	KT18 5QG

Ashtead

Marks and Spencer	The Street	KT21 1AA
McColls	The Street	KT21 1AW
Tesco Express	Craddocks Parade	KT21 1QJ
The Surgery	Gilbert House, Woodfield	KT21 2BQ
Gary's Greengrocers	Barnett Wood Lane	KT21 2DB