

# Happy New Year to all Sevenoaks Scouters and Friends

## **Snow disrupts Scouting activities**

Meetings abandoned

Gilwell Winter Camp in jeopardy

Scout Shop can't open

**Oh well just another winter in England then!**

**Owing to the slippery conditions the Scout Shop will not be open until 16<sup>th</sup> January and then only if the weather improves.**

## **Christmas Bag Packing at Sainsbury's**

The 7<sup>th</sup> the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 1<sup>st</sup> Groups joined the Fellowship and Guides from Orpington for bag packing at Otford Sainsbury's the week leading up to Christmas. They helped weary customers where they could and flew the flag for Scouting; they also managed to collect just a little short of £1800 which they will share out proportionally between them, except the Fellowship as they donated theirs to the general pot.

Lots of people do amazing things for Scouting but for adults to give up their time during this very busy period goes way beyond the call of duty.

Power to you all I'm sure that your respective Groups appreciate your outstanding efforts.

## **Jamboree Selection Weekend**

Recently a bunch of young hopefuls attended a very wet weekend camp designed to select the three Sevenoaks Jamboree 2011 Participants. We managed to catch up with a couple of the successful applicants and ask them a few questions about the process, their enthusiasm is clear.



## **Congratulations on being chosen to represent Sevenoaks at the World Jamboree 2011 in Sweden**

### **What method was used to choose the Sevenoaks Participants?**

**Ben:** *The Participants attended a selection weekend where we carried out activities such as raft building and other team building activities.*

**Sophie:** *You had to show who you are, show off your personality and how well you work with others. Also they wanted to know if you enjoy yourself basically*

### **How many Scouts/Explorers put themselves forward and were you surprised that not more attended?**

**Sophie:** *There were 7 in total, I thought there may have been maybe a few more*

**Ben:** *There were 7 who went but I think 14 or a number close to that were meant to go and I was quite surprised that other people didn't take the opportunity, but in the end it made more of a chance for me to get in.*

### **Did you enjoy the selection weekend, did it feel like you were in a competition.**

**Sophie:** *I loved every second of it, it was an amazing weekend, I made new friends and became closer with people I knew already.*

**Ben:** *There were lots of small activities and it was a really well thought-through weekend and because it was so fun and relaxed you didn't really feel you was in a competition.*

**Sophie:** *It didn't feel like I was in a competition I just tried not to think about that part of it as I was up against one of my best friends so it was harder, to think only one of us could get through, but all the time I just was myself and had a enjoyable time*

### **What kind of activities did you do for the Selection?**

**Sophie:** *We did all sorts,*

**Ben:** *Raft building, presentations, building a gateway, cooking, making TV adverts and other team activities*



**Sophie:** *We did archery which was really fun, working in teams to see who could get to 500 first which was good, →*

→ also raft building and races which was again team effort but it was a great thrill, though it was freezing it was still really fun. Also we did some teamwork like connect four with blind folds on which was really funny, also we had a drama session in which we had to improvise a short advertisement on random products we were given and that was basically using our initiative to think of what the products could be.

**Now you have been chosen what is the next step in the process?**

**Sophie;** We get to meet everyone who has been selected from Kent and get to know each other, also we'll get split into 2 big groups in which we help fundraise together, team building basically get to know each other a lot better. Also learning more to do with the Jamboree as to what we would be doing etc.

**Ben:** The next step is to attend a meeting of some sort in January to tell us more information about the Jamboree

**Will you have to do any fundraising to help with costs or is all that taken care of?**

**Ben:** We will have to fundraise half the fee and the other half will be paid by the district

**Sophie;** I believe some is taken care of for us but we ourselves have to raise £2500 approx and we can do this how we want, either with others from our group working together or pitching in separately as well.

**I know that you will have an amazing time over the next 18months and hope that you will continue to keep Sevenoaks Scouts informed of how you are getting on and what you are doing.  
Thank you for taking the time for this interview.**

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**Badges and ordering.**

It would seem that some Leaders are concerned that they are not getting badges that they have ordered. Would all leaders check with their Treasurer that the bill has been paid for their Group as if not this could stop your order being processed.

**Pinewood Rally also known as Kub Kar Rally**

**The Cub Section is running a Pinewood Car Rally at Wildernesse School on January 24<sup>th</sup>.**

**Cubs and their parents have to pre-build cars from a supplied kit, these are then run down a wooden track in a series of heats until an overall winner is found. Lots of people are needed to help run this event so if you are looking for a job that day please come along. The Fellowship (Active Support team ) will be on hand and cub leaders will help too but this would be a good way of seeing the event for your section if you were interested.**

**Contact Chris Mears [csmeares@hotmail.com](mailto:csmeares@hotmail.com) if interested in helping**



***4th Sevenoaks St Johns had a Christmas Jolly down in the woods. This is their report***

## **Christmas camp at Broadstone Warren**

St John's Cubs and Scouts, Explorers and Leaders enjoyed a Christmas camp at Broadstone Warren at the beginning of December. It was very wet underfoot but it didn't dampen the scouts enthusiasm or ability to have a good time.

Friday night was a challenge to everybody. When we arrived everywhere was so wet we could not get vehicles to site so we had to manhandle all our kit down the track and across the ditch in the dark before we could get the tents up. It's difficult to sleep with rain drumming on the tent but we were grateful not to be outside. By morning the weather was slightly improved we got a fire going and breakfast cooked. Cubs and scouts enjoyed activities on site of orienteering, climbing or a rope assault course and explored the many streams running around the site. The Leader's task was to manoeuvre a catering oven down to our site to cook the Christmas dinner.

By mid afternoon the rain returned so everybody gathered in the marquee and helped make Christmas decorations for the marquee, place mats for the table and prepared vegetables and generally helped prepare the dinner. A few hours later we all enjoyed an excellent, full Christmas dinner - Turkey with all the trimmings followed by Christmas pudding. The after dinner entertainment, besides the washing up, was an inter patrol Christmas quiz rounded off with some Christmas stories by which time everyone was ready for bed.

Sunday morning was showery again but cleared enough to enjoy more activities before packing up muddy kit and tents and ferrying it back up the track.

We all brought a fair share of the forest floor home with us and many cubs and scouts have discovered what leaders mean when they say 'proper waterproofs' but they also experienced what it is to be a scout to share the fun and the hardship with others and still come out smiling.

Next year we shall order the frost and snow.



**Wet Campsite!**



**Keeping Warm**



**Inside the Marquee**





Christmas Tree before.....and after!

### District Camp 2010

Lots of you have booked on the Camp and sent in your deposits; so far we have about 66% of our estimated total. I know this was difficult to get bookings in before Christmas for some of you and I appreciate the effort you have all put in. Those of you that haven't managed to get deposits to us or let us know some idea of numbers don't worry but we would like to know soon. I am aware this may not happen until the weather improves enough to get back to regular meetings.

Also please still accept bookings, I have heard from a few parents who don't want to commit to the camp at this time so I am sure that there will be late bookings, however there must be a cut off date and that is 1<sup>st</sup> March as stated in the original information.

Runner up in the District camp Badge competition was Cem Kundak from Brookland Beavers at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sevenoaks and the winner is Johnny Mead from the 1<sup>st</sup> Sevenoaks Hicks Own cubs.



The letters in the Acorns represent each of the sections and Leaders, however since the Fellowship will change to Active Support the F will change to A