

November 2015

Sevenoaks Newslink



A Monthly Magazine for Leaders and Supporters of Scouting in Sevenoaks

Getting Scouting 'Out There'

Last month we reported on two groups taking scouting out to the public and flying our flag. This month we have two more events that get Sevenoaks Scouts noticed.

9th Sevenoaks (Seal)



Does this remind you of the opening advert on Emmerdale?

9th Sevenoaks (Seal) Beavers and Cubs have won the Harvest Scarecrow Award in Seal with this rather good display.

The competition is run annually and scarecrows appear all around the village with the competition being really tough so full credit to the 9th for their achievement.

This scene was set on the small green at the top of Childsbridge Lane.

The scarecrows are now living at the back of the 9th HQ and no doubt looking forward to Guy Fawkes night!

12th Sevenoaks (1st Edenbridge)

This month the 12th were supporting The Edenbridge Apple festival at Rickards Hall in the High Street.

It was the Festival's second year and was very busy all day.

A great day had by all, the pancake stall was very popular. There was live music, country dancing and singing.

Many of the local community groups had stalls, and there were several pressing apples.

The 12th had two stalls, on the menu were pancakes with the following toppings : lemon and sugar, toffee, Apple crumble and custard.



15th Sevenoaks (Otford)

Otford Scout Group entertained their village with a grand firework display and Halloween Fancy dress competition. Hundreds turned out to an event which was delayed by a few minutes to accommodate the rugby final had obviously taken a great deal of preparation.



Crazy Camping with 4th St Johns Scouts

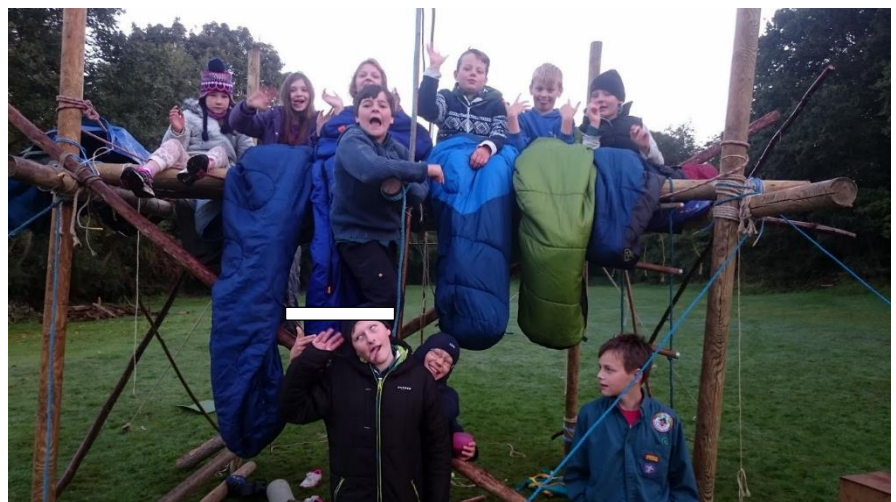


Looks sturdy enough but would you sleep on it?

The 4th held a crazy camping night at the end of September.

After considering options from hanging a tent from a tree, camping on a rope bridge as well as several involving water, the troop decided to build a 'camping penthouse' using their pioneering skills.

Well this lot did! (well some of them anyway)



The platform was surprisingly stable, but a little bit uncomfortable for daily use.

The sleepover was a first-time sleeping under the stars for five of the scouts, and fortunately the weather was as good as we could have hoped for. **Michael Dreksler**

It is a requirement for leaders to hold at least a basic first aid qualification.



First Aid

The knowledge you get when taking a First Aid course not only helps whilst scouting but could save a life at any time as the two characters in this short tale found out.

Two hillbillies walk into a restaurant.
While having a bite to eat, they talk about their moonshine operation.



Suddenly, a woman at a nearby table, who is eating a sandwich begins to cough.

After a minute or so, it becomes apparent that she is in real distress. One of the hillbillies looks at her and says, "Kin ya swallar?"

The woman shakes her head no.
Then he asks, "Kin ya breathe?"
The woman begins to turn blue, and shakes her head no.

The hillbilly walks over to the woman, lifts up her dress, yanks down her drawers, and quickly gives her right butt cheek a lick with his tongue.

The woman is so shocked that she has a violent spasm, and the obstruction flies out of her mouth.

As she begins to breathe again, the Hillbilly walks slowly back to his table.

His brother said, "Ya know, I'd heerd of that there **Hind Lick Maneuver**
but I ain't niver seed nobody do it!"

Maybe retraining would be appropriate in this case!!

For interesting tit-bits of information and to keep abreast of what is happening in Sevenoaks Scouts please take the occasional look at our



Facebook Page (Sevenoaks District Scouts)
and



Visit our website sevenoaksscouts.org.uk

The website has a calendar page which we are trying to keep up to date.
Please notify Newslink or Michael Dreksler of any dates you would like it to include.

During the 58th JOTA and 19th JOTI weekend 61 young people plus siblings and parents took part at the 4th St. Johns Headquarters

24 Beavers, 25 Cubs, 9 Scouts and 3 Explorers were talking over the radio airwaves to other Scout groups across the world.

Those attending also had the opportunity to try out Morse code machines.



West Kent Amateur Radio spent the whole day with the Group and great fun was had by all.

Scout Shop - Top Tip

The Scout Shop continues to open the first three Saturdays of every month during term times between 10am and noon for the sale of uniform and Scouting paraphernalia.

Please ask parents to bring their child or an item of clothing that fits.

Alternatively, if you know as leaders that you will have new members to invest, why not take the orders in advance from the parents and pass it on to Jeanette. This way you can save your parents the trip and get 10% commission for your group. 'Every *Little Helps*'

Sevenoaks Scouts Plender Hike



Saturday 17th October saw a return of the biennial Plender Hike Competition. 9 teams entered the night hike with teams from 1st, 4th, 12th, 15th and 17th Sevenoaks. The teams had to complete an arduous 8 mile course around Otford and Shoreham. On the way were a number of challenges including dealing out first aid to injured bystanders, cooking up a mammoth pancake feast, river crossing (quite a number forwent the footbridge and just waded through), trek cart rallying, remote knot tying and even Kim's game in the dark.



The level of scouting skills was high with almost all teams choosing to compete unescorted and a number of troops fielding very young but brave scouts. The scouts hiked into the night with a couple of teams trying to make detours before being picked up and put back on course by the roving minibuses. The course closed eventually 7 hours later with most teams managing to complete the whole route, getting back for soup and hotdogs late into the night.





The event was almost won in record time by Team D until it was worked out that one of the teams was incorrectly named and there were actually two teams competing under the same name. Thankfully this was quickly sorted out and the extensive manhunt for Team C called off.



The trophies for each checkpoint were spread fairly evenly throughout the teams with most troops excelling in a particular area.

However there can only be one overall winner and this went to the **1st Sevenoaks Phoenix** team who adamantly claimed that they didn't get lost at all (just decided to walk the same section of the route three times). Well done (even if you now rope your leaders into organising the next event).

Peter Frankl

AWARDS

Huge Congratulations to the following Sevenoaks Scouters who have recently received Awards

Award of Merit

Ann Bishop

Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Service

Chris Arnold

Mandy Barrow

Ralph Harding

Ali Miller

Bernie Wright

Training Dates:

There is a

Getting Started Course

Being run in Tunbridge Wells at Adamswell on 27th November.

There is

Safety & Safeguarding Training

On 22nd November from 10.00am till 12 mid-day

and

1.00pm till 3.00pm respectively.

The training will take place at 4th St Johns HQ Mill Lane.

If you are not sure whether you need it then do it anyway!

Please let

[Caroline O'Mahony](#)

know if you wish to attend either of these Courses

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