

# **ISSUE 20 - Summer 2022**



## **ESL'S INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to this term's newsletter. Do read on, there's lots of exciting things included!

Nick here, the Unit's new ESL. For those of you who haven't already heard, Phil has decided to step down as acting Explorer Scout Leader after nearly 2 years. A massive thank you to Phil for all the hard work he's put into the Unit from myself and all of the Leaders.

Moving forward I will take on the ESL responsibilities although lots of the jobs will be shared out across the amazing leadership team so do keep an eye out for emails from them too! I have no doubts that we will continue to offer the amazing opportunities that WWESU has provided over the past 13 years.

Over the last year our Explorers have had the chance to experience lots of adventures, from air rife shooting to hiking in the Peaks and canoeing. A real highlight of mine was leading two canoe session on Easter camp in Pembrokeshire.

We have lots of exciting camps ahead of us, including Scottish hill walking and

I hope you've all had a great summer holiday.

Nick ESL



## **Terrific Tuesday Nights**

Before our Explorers could say goodbye to early mornings and relentless schoolwork, we offered a well-deserved break from the examseason stress with a fantastic summer term programme. From backwoods cooking to water fights, this term had something for everyone. Explorers, be sure to tell your PL which activities you'd like to see again in a future programme!



## Half-Term Hillwalking

Our Mountain Leader, John, is back at it again as this term he's taken another group of our keenest Explorers to discover the hills and mountains of Snowdonia and do

## **DofE Training**

Much like every year, this summer term was an important time for DofE preparations. We've spent many weekends and evenings on the water to ensure our Explorers have all the skills required for a successful Expedition. This even included a capsize drill! Luckily, the warm weather and blue skies meant that they didn't stay wet for long. Read on to hear about how their expeditions went!



# **NEWS IN BRIEF**

Aside from trips, here's some of our other highlights!

### **New B1 Permits**

Two of our Leaders, Carina and Florrie, have been awarded their B1 permits for paddlesports! Big congratulations to them as the Unit can now facilitate more water-based activities on camps and trips.

## Nick hits the road

Congratulations to our new ESL, Nick, who recently passed his D1, minibus and trailer test, inspiring many new opportunities for young people in the Unit. We hear he's got a number of exciting adventures in the works so watch this space!

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## **District Camp 2022**

Nothing beats meeting other people with a passion for Scouting and so it was no surprise when a group of our Explorers came back buzzing from this year's District Camp. Whilst participating in a range of activities, they also made some room to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee! Having come back with new skills, friends and memories, we can't wait for the next one!

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## Chamboree

Chamboree: what a week! In place of a traditional WWESU summer camp, this year, we attended Cheshire Scout's Chamboree. Our Explorers were able to enjoy a plethora of activities including hover-crafting, zip lining and even a trip to
Manchester. To top that, every evening the main arena opened its gates for a night of music and entertainment. Massive shoutout to three of our Leaders and one of our Explorers who volunteered as IST in the entertainment department! Check out our highlights of the event by clicking <u>HERE</u>.

## **Expedition Season**

It's great to see another successful year for DofE at Wild Wolf. A massive well-done to our 7 Silver and 8 Gold participates who have all completed their expedition section with flying colours. Not only have they earned their awards, but have also enjoyed over 100km of beautiful scenery along the River Wye, Wales and made memories to last a lifetime.



# **COMING UP**

### Autumn Term Approaches

As we're sending out this newsletter, our Explorers are getting reading for their first Tuesday night meeting back after the holidays. We hear from the PLs that they're in for a treat this term, as in addition to our annual fireworks and Christmas specials, the team have come up with a their "best programme yet" to see us through til the new year. Get excited!

### Surf & Turf Adventure Camp

It's double trouble on this weekend camp - on one day, you'll be heading for hills, and on the other, canoeing on and around Wales' largest lake - Llyn Tegid. A fantastic way to any and all Explorers to kick off the term and forget that you're back at school! Keep an eye on OSM for more details!

### West Highlands Hillwalking

WWESU continues its tradition of taking a small group of Explorers somewhere farflung for a taste of mountainous adventure over half-term. This time round, we'll be based around the Fort William area, and possibilities include daywalks up some of Britain's highest peaks, a short expedition - or both! Explorers, Speak to John if you're interested in attending.

### A Kandersteg Summer Camp

From Chamboree to Kandersteg, we can't get enough of international Scouting. Next year we'll be heading to Switzerland for over a week of breathtaking views and non-stop adventure. Run, don't walk, to your computers to sign up to this one; you won't want to miss it!



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