



## Zomerkamp 2000

### Two weeks in Hoek van Holland

#### Troop & Unit Summer Camp

#### August 2000

We met at 09:00 on **Saturday 29th August** and by 10:00 we ready to go. (This time all the Murray's were on time!). Roadwork's on the A1 caused a delay just as we were all ready for a lunch break. Lorry drivers informed us where the roadwork's were via the CB radio. Brian quickly flick through the road atlas and we were soon on a tour of the county lanes to by-pass the jam and re-join the A1.

We stopped for lunch and then had an un-eventful journey onward to Harwich. We arrived in Harwich with an hour to spare for games before we headed off to the ferry terminal. The check-in staff took one look at Fizzy in the van and immediately rejected him forcing him to travel as Freight (despite other identical vehicles were permitted to board as passenger vehicles).

Once on board the Scouts soon discovered that all the games only operated on Guilders and that they only had British coins! We moved our watches on an hour to Central European Time and arrived in Hoek van Holland (Hook of Holland) at about 01:00 Sunday morning. Martin was waiting for us and guided us to two minute drive to the camp site. At the site we were greeted by Lily who had supper ready for everyone. Whilst the Scouts ate, the Scouters unloaded kit from the van and then it was time for bed in the huts.

**Sunday** morning 09:00 and it was time for Dutch breakfast of breads, meats, cheese, chocolate and lots more and to get a first glimpse of the Prins Hendrik Groep site in daylight. It was then time to start building camp. We had our own "sleeping" tents for the patrols (the Scouters slept in the huts) and a Dutch group kindly lent us shelters cooking kit and ropes (many thanks Wilko).

By tea-time the camp was taking shape with five flags flying and a table and benches constructed from pioneering poles and sisal.

After tea everyone had chance to see some of the local area whilst taking part in a treasure hunt.

**Monday** morning and time to get into the usual camp routine of pre-breakfast activity, breakfast and then Patrol inspection before flag-break.

Everyone walked to the open fields adjacent to the site and Martin ran a morning of Sports then after lunch of Hot-dogs and salad, we all cycled down to the beach for swimming and games.

**Tuesday** saw the start of the overnight hike, with everyone (except the QM's party) walking to another Scout camp site. Martin provided support (and photography) and the QM's delivered a hot home cooked Chinese meal to the overnight camp.

**Wednesday** on route back from the overnight camp, we visited the Storm Food Barrier (where those Scouters who had returned to the main camp site for the night re-joined the rest of the group). We watched a film about the barrier and were told why it was built and about the various design and construction options that had been considered.

The Scouts arrived back at the main camp via the town and the beach and after tea of Fried fish it was time to test out the bikes with an evening cycle ride.

On **Thursday** morning once the pre-breakfast activities, breakfast, inspection and flag break (during which Martin made a trip home to Brielle to collect Lianne) it was time to hand out the new "Wilton Scouts Holland 2000" polo shirts and to take a group photograph.

All now suitably attired and we were off on a cycle ride to Delft in the warm summer sun. On arrival in Delft, we locked up the bike and were joined by Lily and Samira who had been out doing food shopping en-route and having arranged to re-group at 15:00 it was time to wander round the town and market. One group took a boat trip and other completed the treasure hunt whilst others toured the banks trying to change travellers cheques!

14:58 time to head back to the bikes and the heavens opened and everyone took shelter. 15:05 and it was sunny again so we set off on our journey back to Hoek van Holland. As we enjoyed the ride the weather changed and a few drops of rain soon became a downpour and the road and cycle way became rivers. A lorry passed and the spray came over the verge and "yes you've guessed" onto us. To our surprise the water had heated up on the hot road and it was a hot shower!

By the time we arrived back at base it was sunny again and we were well on the way to drying out.



**Friday** saw the QMs making a quick escape after breakfast to buy some loaves cut lengthways ready for three-way sandwiches for the lunch-time picnic. After flag break it was time to jump into the vehicles and find a canal for some canoeing. The morning was used for a training session and then we had sandwiched each made with either three savoury fillings or three sweet fillings. After lunch we canoed along the canal.

**Saturday** was spent on site with an opportunity for the newer scouts to complete their axe and knife training whilst others renewed their certificates and then set about building a tower bedroom.

On **Sunday** morning Lily decided that we would have an English breakfast with Bacon, Eggs and Beans. Martin then went back to being teacher and explained to us a number of different ways for making route plans - Kart an Kompas Dutch style!. Having chose one of the methods, the two patrols were dispatched to create a route and then return to base for lunch. After lunch the two patrols swapped routes and tried to walk each others routes.

**Monday** and the bikes came out again, this time a ride to Brielle using a pictorial route plan. The route incorporated a ferry trip, time for swimming at Brielse Mass and a lunch stop for pancakes before arrival at the de Kruijff house to safely lock up the bikes in their garage. The journey to the Sea Scout centre was then completed on foot using yet another type of route plan.

Whilst most people cycled with Martin providing support, Joyce had her first drive on the right hand side of the road. Her driving was fine - pity the CB was on the wrong channel so we could not communicate!

Once on site, tents were pitched and Martin imported tea from a local take away.

We then piled into the vehicles and headed to Rotterdam to visit the Scout Shop.

**Tuesday** was spent on the Sea Scouts site building rafts and then racing before returning to the main camp-site for tea and evening one of the Hoek van Holland four day march. After the walk we had supper before returning to the Sea Scout Centre.

**Wednesday** started with raft races before breakfast and then dismantling the raft packing tents and walking back to Brielle to collect the bike for the ride back to Hoek van Holland.

Tea consisted of spicy meat in bread rolls and then we were off on evening two of the Hoek van Holland four day march. On completion of the walk everyone was given a pack of locally grown radishes.

Lily cooked another Chinese meal for everyone which was welcomed by everyone. The Scouts then headed off to bed in the tower.

**Thursday** was another canoeing day, this time on a large lake.

After tea the Scouts were able to clean up and dismantle their cooking areas because there was no cooking for breakfast and the QMs would be cooking lunch and tea.

Evening three of the four day march completed and the scouts returned to finish cleaning their cooking kit and we all cooked bread twists over the camp fire.

**Friday** was the last day of camp - always a chore - breaking camp and ensuring that all kit has been packed away dry and that all borrowed kit has been returned in a good clean condition. The van was packed and there was time for a trip into town before tea.

The evening was the last day of the four day march after which we were given medals for completing the four days and then we returned to base for our final camp fire. At the camp fire we presented Lily and Martin with a group photograph at the camp as a token of our thanks to them. We also presented a copy of the photograph to Richard as thanks to him for all his work with the group as he now leaves us to be Assistant County Commissioner for Ventures.

Final points were added up and the Best Scout at camp went to Gabriël.

Martin and Lily presented all the English members of the group with a "knowledge of another country" proficiency badge.

**Saturday** and we were all up at 05:00 and saying our good-byes before checking in for the ferry at 06:00.

On arrival in Harwich we went back an hour to British Summer Time and then drove back to Lazenby with a stop for lunch and a brief drinks stop.

Once back in Lazenby, kit was unloaded and parents arrived and then the canoes were returned, and the vans cleaned.

Finally many thanks go to Martin and Lily for all their hard work both before and during the camp. For the first time (thanks to Martin) we had each day's picture on the Internet as they happened in what at times seemed an "almost-live" report.

Note to those who took part in the camp: We have not yet paid all the bills so the final cost cannot be calculated. Money left in the "Camp Bank" has been deducted from your subs payment.



## Dates for you Diary

(The new 1st Wilton Calendar will be published towards the end of September)

### September 2000

6th Section Meetings Restart  
Subs due.

22nd - 24th Pack Camp  
Watson Scout Centre

TBA GSL's Meeting

### October 2000

6th - 8th District, Patrol Camping  
Competition.

15th, 15th Jamboree on the Internet  
and JOTA

### December 2000

1st District Scout Disco  
(provisional date)

2nd Group Christmas Social

## All Sections re-start on Wednesday 6th September.

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## Subs

The subs for September to December 2000 are due for payment on 1st September. You are reminded that the termly subs now stand at £15 per person. Please pay promptly by sending payments directly to the group treasurer.

*There are still a few people with outstanding subs payments from previous terms, if this includes you, please send your payment to the group treasurer as soon as possible.*

*We are very short of money and have continual outgoing expenses such as the Hall Rent. The Minibus Road Tax was due in August but we have been unable to pay for this so the minibus is currently "off-the-road". This means that unless outstanding subs from previous terms are paid, we will not have any transport available for forthcoming camps and activities. i.e. everyone will have to arrange their own transport!*

**If you have any fund-raising ideas, please contact a member of the group executive.**

# Scouts

Helping young people make the most of life