

Northern Ireland jamboree



We met at Gatwick airport at 6:30am on Saturday 3rd August, it was an early start but I was excited about the trip. We had a pleasant flight and we were met by a scout leader at the airport who was very welcoming. When we arrived at the camp site we helped the Scottish guides to unpack all of their equipment, then we decided to all sit down and get to know one another. That evening we had the opening ceremony, it was very entertaining: even though it rained! After

they had welcomed us we went on a big walk around the camp site and down to the beach, this was a good way to get to know some other people in the camp site.

On the Sunday morning we had the 'scouts and guides own' when a few people from our group got up and spoke. During the day we had the fete where we ran a stall where people had to try and get the marble through different sized gaps in a play doh wall. We also were able to go around and look at every one else's stalls which included: raffles, food stalls and souvenirs. During the night there was music playing so we were all dancing and having fun.



Monday was a busy day as it was our turn on the active zone. The first activity I did was



climbing I really enjoyed it and even managed to complete a challenge of climbing one of the walls one handed 😊. Next I moved on to the 3G swing which I went on with Georgia although she screamed quite loud it was really good fun. After that we had to go and do the obstacle course, I enjoyed the most of it apart from nearly falling in the water under the rope swing because the instructor held on to rope which nearly made me

fall in but after telling him to let go I managed to swing across however one foot went in the water 😞, but I was one of the lucky ones as there were a couple of people in our group who fell in the water completely. I was really happy that I managed to climb the wall (even though I apparently had a strange approach).

After lunch I went mountain boarding which I wasn't too good at, I kept falling over and had to get some extra help, but I began to get better the more practice I got. Then I went and did orienteering, I went with Alice we did well as we were the first group back, we then got to go on pedal powered go karts which was tiring but I still enjoyed it. Finally we went on sky walkers which I thought were going to be really easy but it was more difficult than expected as everyone always makes them look easy.



Monday evening we had our sub camp talent show, I wasn't sure if I wanted to be in it but I thought it would be fun so we did a dance, we didn't win but it was quite funny. After our talent show we had the neon party, we all dressed up and we were doing everyone's face paint, I really enjoyed dancing around and having fun with everyone we also met a lot of new people and made some good friends.



On Tuesday we went into Belfast because we were doing a titanicipoly, which is where we had to go around Belfast trying to find places related to the titanic. It was good as we mixed up the groups so we got to know different people, it was very tiring but it was a nice day and it was good to see around



Belfast, we met some nice people and it was quite busy as the fireman and policeman games were on. That evening we went and explored the camp and spent some time in the games room and got to know some new people.

We were in the wet zone on Wednesday so we went to Donaghadee, I went sailing which I found really relaxing as it was a sunny day and wasn't very windy. I got a turn at steering the boat which was exciting. After lunch we did 'it's a knock out' which was games including inflatables, my team didn't do very well but we didn't really care as we had a good time. That evening we had the sub camp campfire the people who were in charge were very enthusiastic and got everyone joining in, they played a game when you had to remember a list of items otherwise you would get squirted with water, it was just my luck that I got picked on but luckily I remembered all of the items so I didn't get squirted!





On Thursday we went to the wild zone which was on the Clandeboy estate, firstly we did pioneering and built a bed which was stable enough for us to lie on but I wouldn't want to sleep on it as it wasn't very comfortable. Next we moved on to the slingshot range where we got to fire them at tins, I was pretty bad at first but once I got the hang of it I was quite good and managed to hit the target multiple times. After that we did

tracking where we attempted to make tracking marks in sand and create rocks with them on but it didn't really work. While we were waiting for them to dry we went for a walk up to Helen's tower. We then sat down and ate lunch and I had a ride on the off road buggy. After lunch we went to go and help to clear trees from an area so that other wildlife could grow, most of this time I spent trying to get a stubborn stump out and it was a relief when we finally got it out. We then did raft building and I was really hoping that we wouldn't all fall in which luckily we didn't and we managed to paddle in the lake for a bit, after people finished drying off we did back wood cooking, which was tasty :P. Thursday night we walked around the street zone and then had music during the evening.



On Friday we got up early because we were going on our day trip to the Antrim coast, firstly we went to the Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge; it was very windy which made walking along the bridge even more fun. It was a long trek up to the bridge but it was amazing to cross the bridge and to spend time with the entire group. After that we got back on the bus and drove along the coast to the Giant's Causeway where we got to see the outstanding geographical land scape, it was amazing sitting on the rock eating out lunch and jumping across the rocks



and learning about the myths behind the area. Once we had had some time to look around the Giant's Causeway we headed to Portrush where we went to Barry's amusement park, we went on the big dipper and many other rides – some of which we got off and didn't know which way was up! After Barry's I went and got an ice-cream and we headed back to the bus for the long journey back to camp. It was a tiring day

so many people fell asleep on the bus ride home. That night we had the closing ceremony, which I took part in as we got taught to play a new musical instrument so had to play it up on the stage it was a laugh and I really enjoyed it. Later on they had music playing and we were all dancing about and having a good time, I got my camp necker signed by all of my friends, that night was also quite emotional as we had to say goodbye to some really good friend. But we also got invited into another groups mess tent to help them eat there left over food like ice-cream and biscuits. We sat up talking to people in our sub-camp until we had to go to sleep for our last night.



The next day we had to help take down the tents and the gateway, we then had even more emotional goodbyes with some close friends from the camp before we all got in the minivan and drove to the airport where we sang the whole way there –the driver loved us by the end of the journey! We checked our bags in and had a final group photo only then to find out

that our flight had been delayed by an hour. We spent this time signing each other's neckers. When we got on the plane some people were worried that one of the propellers wasn't working – it was they were worried about nothing- we touched down and got off the plane and said our final goodbyes to each other before splitting off and going our own ways.



The trip was amazing and something that I will never forget I have made some amazing new friends and tried loads of new thing during my time on the camp. I wouldn't change it for anything and would love to go again, one of the first things I said when I got back was that I want to go back, it was such a remarkable experience and I am very thankful that I got the opportunity to go.