



this issue...

International Summer trips

INCLUDING...

Jamboree 2019
Gwyn Muckelt, GLSE
New County Commissioner
and more...

IN THIS ISSUE:

One year on as Youth Commissioner	2
Introducing Gwyn Muckelt County Commissioner	3
Bromley District Youth Forum	4
Cubs Speechless with the Success of their Sponsored Silence	5
Meeting Ellie Simmonds	5
Jamboree 2019	6
GLSE Scouts Summer 2017	8
15th World Scout Moot	10
1st North Cray Scout commemorates Passchendaele	11
Bromley Scouts Portugal 2017 trip	12
Kent International Jamboree	13
Canada 2017	14

 **glsescouts**

 **GLSE_Scouts**

www.glsescouts.org.uk



One year on as Youth Commissioner

The past year has seen my calendar explode as I have tried to find my feet within the Youth Commissioner role. I have tried to visit as many Sections and Groups as possible, apologies if I haven't got to you yet, but please invite me along whenever you can.

Many of my weekends have also been filled with attending various events across the County including the Young Leader training weekend, Scouts Speak Up, Bromley District Cyclo-X and Bexley District Gang Show. All of which have allowed me to meet many young people from across the County and hear their ideas for what they want out of their time in Scouting.

Back in March I attended the first training weekend for CYCs at BP House, which was run by Hannah Kentish and her team to help provide all new commissioners with the tools and resources, to carry out our roles to the fullest. It was also a great opportunity to meet and network with other commissioners who had also recently been appointed which has provided me with a great support network alongside the county team.

I was also fortunate enough to attend The National Scout Conference - Summit 17, along with Nick Crowe and the Bexley District team in April. This was the first National Conference where Youth Commissioners were encouraged to attend and many workshops and sessions had a strong focus on growing Youth Shaped Scouting over the coming years.

In the coming months I am hoping to have appointed Deputy Youth Commissioners with the help of Ella Fox (DYC Bexley) and Elliot V-Smith (DYC Bromley), as well as beginning the process of starting up a County Youth Forum which will allow us to reach more Young People across the County.

Steph Hutchinson
GLSE County Youth Commissioner





A note from Your New County Commissioner Gwyn Muckelt

Wow, this is exciting! I'm ready for an adventure in my new role as County Commissioner for Greater London South East Scouts.

For those of you who don't know me, I've been in Scouting since 1995 when I started out as an Assistant Venture Scout Leader in Petts Wood. Since then I have been an Explorer Scout Leader, a DESA, Local Training Manager and lastly, I was the Deputy County Commissioner (Adult Support) for my very great friend Ben Richardson.

I was truly humbled to have been nominated for the role of CC. Whilst it was never my intention to put myself forward for the role, I'm so pleased that someone had the faith in me to nominate me. I will do my best!

So, a little bit about me: I'm married to Stuart and we live in Dartford with our 3 cats and a dog! Anyone who's known me for any length of time will know that I have undergone many changes in the last 18 months or so. Whilst the thought of change can be quite scary, it is also such a great experience and very empowering. By trade I am a Finance Manager in the Contract Catering arena although I am taking a career break at the moment and am focussing on other projects.

What do I envisage for GLSE? I would like to see a County that's proud. A County that celebrates its successes, I see a County that isn't afraid of embracing changes and one that moves with the times as we work with our Young People to empower them to have their voice and to shape the way in which we, as an Association, work.

At the moment it's pretty much business as usual whilst I find my feet and get to grips with everything CC related, so I ask you to please bear with me.

I should like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all of the Young People and Adult volunteers within Greater London South East Scouts, to formally thank Nick Crowe for everything that he has done in his role as County Commissioner and we wish him all the very best for the future.

Lastly, I should like to thank you all! Thank you for everything that you do within Greater London South East Scouts. You are making a difference to over 5,000 Young People. You should be very proud.

Gwyn Muckelt

GLSE County Commissioner

You can reach me via email:

countycommissioner@glsecouts.org.uk



@GwynGwynnie



@GwynMuckelt



Bromley District Youth Forum

In March we had another one of our Bromley District Youth Forum meetings, here we discussed 4 things:

- What works about the Bromley District Youth Forum meetings
- What we would like from the District
- What we like/don't like about our Explorer meetings
- And different things we could get involved with and other questions/queries



At the different stations we came up with many different ideas; we had lots of feedback and lots of progress had been made. In addition to this we had come up with a board of ideas of things that we could do as a district.

The Bromley District Youth Forum meetings have not been running for a long time but there are already more and more people coming each session. The meetings are a great place for different groups to

talk - about what they would like to change/happen, to see what others are doing and to give feedback on what is and isn't working. They give all of the Explorer groups the chance to be heard and a voice to make experiences better in Scouting. In addition it helps to get your group more involved making the district more linked as a whole.

Zoe Hemming Clark
5th Chislehurst Scout Group



Cubs Speechless with the Success of their Sponsored Silence

In May, as part of their Our World Challenge Badge, the 2nd East Wickham Cub Pack held a 30 minute 'Sponsored Silence'.



The Cubs had been asked to choose their individual charity explaining in a short story the reason for their choice. With many varied charities the current total stands at £526 with Omar Rabette, the 'Top Charity Supporter', raising £160 to win his prize of a family ticket to Eagle Heights.

Cub Scout, Fin Warren aged 9 said
"It was a good way to raise money for our charity that we picked ourselves, I love going to Cubs it's fun because I like all the different activities we do."

Meeting Ellie Simmonds



Through Scouting I recently had the opportunity to meet Ellie Simmonds, the Paralympic swimmer. It was an amazing opportunity as she was really nice and down to earth. We spent over an hour talking about Scouting and why Ellie wanted to become an ambassador, all the swimming that Ellie does and everyday things such as school and hobbies. We taught Ellie how to do a friendship knot on a scarf and why there are different coloured scarves. I learnt lots of things about the swimming and training she does and what it felt like to go to the Paralympics. I enjoyed meeting Ellie as she really inspired me and it is something I will never forget.

Charlotte Miles
23rd Bromley Scout Group



Jamboree 2019: Beyond Borders, Beyond Limits, Beyond Expectations

Meet your GLSE Jamboree 2019 Leadership Team:

Mark Smith



An American who hails from Bellbrook, Ohio, Mark moved to the UK in 1991. His Scouting career spans over four decades starting in the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) at 7 as a Cub Scout.

Mark is a member of the Order of the Arrow, BSA's national honour society, a Lone Scout Councillor and Scout Master in the Transatlantic Council, BSA here in the UK.

Mark joined The Scout Association in 2011 and is an Explorer Scout Leader for the Phoenix Explorer Unit in Orpington. He has earned several awards and

honours as an adult leader in Scouting from both organisations.

Outside of Scouting, Mark has a degree in Music Education, served in the United States Army, is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (FCIPD, UK), Society for Human Resource Management – Senior Certified Practitioner (SHRM-SCP, USA), and is currently the Global Human Resources Lead for the international consulting arm of Network Rail.

He is a member of the Multi Academy Trust of Ravens Wood and Hayes schools, Deputy Commander of the American Legion, member of the British Legion, Army and Navy Club and Victory Services Club.

Pauline Deacon



Girls were not allowed in Scouting so she grew up as a Girl Guide.

Pauline started her Scouting life as a parent helper at Beavers. However, in 2002 the Ramsden group needed both a Beaver leader and

a Scout leader. Because of her love of camping the Scout leader role was the one Pauline chose. So, in September 2002, Pauline became Scout leader at Ramsden. Her love of camping has seen Pauline take

her group to International Jamborees in Britain as well as trips to Italy and France, white water rafting and canoeing down the Ardeche. Both her children have grown up and left Scouting but Pauline still loves to continue organising troop evenings, camps and the Bromley District Young Leaders.

Outside of Scouting, Pauline works at Harris Academy Orpington as the SEN Support Manager, supporting students with special educational needs. When not Scouting or working Pauline enjoys Clay Pigeon shooting and sometimes finds time for gardening.



Becky Wray



Becky is from Bromley District and has been in Scouting from the age of 8 years. Becky started her Scouting career within Cubs, through Scouts and Explorers achieving her Platinum Chief Scout's Award and is now an Assistant Scout Leader within the 5th Petts Wood

Scouts and is also working towards her Queen's Scout Award.

Becky's Scouting career also includes being an ADC in the Bromley District Programme Support Team for Scouts and a mentor within the Young Leaders Training Team.

Becky has a variety of International experiences from attending Campdowne events, District camp to Belgium in 2002, achieving her Explorer Belt by an expedition in Kenya in 2011, the 2007 World Jamboree as a participant and, recently run her own international camp for her Scout Troop to Belgium. Becky was also an Assistant Unit Leader on the expedition to Canada this summer.

Outside of Scouting Becky works as a PA within the Emergency Department at Kings College Hospital. She is also a qualified Trampolining Instructor and enjoys a variety of sporting activities; Becky has completed two London Marathons, the most recent in April 2017.

Becky is really looking forward to being a part of the 24th World Scout Jamboree and helping to ensure the young people gain as much as they can from such an amazing event and the run up to the Jambo.

Rebecca Sturgeon Lewis – AKA Becca/Bert



Becca is from Bexley District and joined the Scout Association as a Cub Scout at the age of 8. She has been a member at 9th Erith Air Scouts, where she has been a Young Leader for both Beavers, Cub and Scouts. Becca is currently

an Assistant Explorer Scout Leader at Titan ESU in Erith and an Assistant Cub Scout Leader at Spitfire Cubs.

Becca has many different international experiences, including attending the WSJ in 2007, Campdowne

2008, completing her Explorer Belt in Kenya in 2011, a county trip to Austria in 2010 and two trips to Disneyland Paris in 2011.

Outside of Scouting Becca has recently completed a Business Administrator Apprenticeship with Damar Training and is now a Business Administrator for the Crown Prosecution Service.

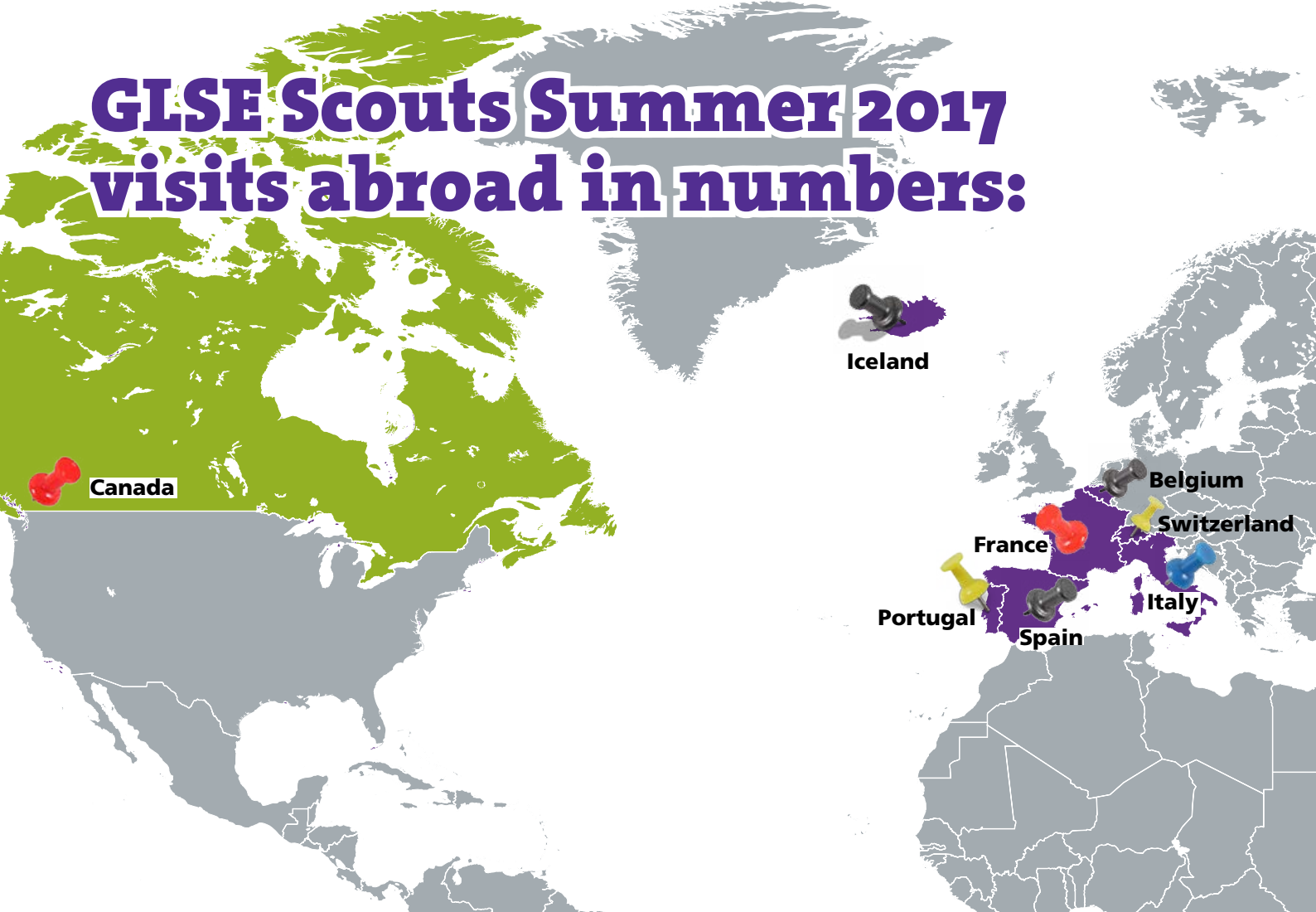
Becca is really looking forward to being a part of the Leadership Team and creating an unforgettable experience for the young people.

Congratulations to Felicity Buchanan

For being part of the Queen Scouts for the Honour Guard at cenotaph this year



GLSE Scouts Summer 2017 visits abroad in numbers:



430 young people and leaders from
25 Groups have been involved in **8** trips
across **8** countries in **2** continents

Belgium – 1st North Cray Scouts

Belgium – 5th Petts Wood Scouts

Canada – Bromley and Bexley Explorers

Iceland – GLSE Contingent to Moot

Italy and France – 27th Bromley, 18th Bromley and Crofton Oak Scouts

Portugal – Bromley District Scouts and Explorers

Spain – 1st Crayford Scouts and Explorers

Switzerland – 8th West Wickham Scouts and Explorers







“Going to a Moot is like going on a strange family holiday to Iceland where your family (patrol) is made up of 10 people from multiple nationalities and you stay with 3 other families of 10 to make up a tribe. I say family because, over the course of the Moot, you become very close with your patrol as you live, cook, eat and do activities together, as well as organising yourselves and helping each other out.

During the Moot, we had the opportunity to go and sightsee around Reykjavick (the capital), travel around up to Akureyri (our activity centre) and Úlfjótstvatn (the main campsite). Throughout all of these places we were able to go hiking up mountains, visit hot pools and the naturally heated swimming pools, carry out community work at a farm, visit geysers, craters and geothermal power plants. In addition there were endless amounts of games and smaller activities for us to get involved in at the campsites.

During our stay at the main campsite in Úlfjótstvatn we took part in the international day, where we got to experience the cultures and traditions of different countries. Every country at the Moot had their own stall with food, games, information and art etc. The group of us from London had decided to dress up as tube stations and make it a challenge for people to go around and get a photo with 10 tube stations to win a prize.

My experience in Iceland wasn't just limited to the Moot. We wanted to make the most of our time in Iceland, so a couple of us spent a few days before and after Moot doing a couple of road trips along the South and West coasts. In the few days we managed to drive hundreds of kilometres through the beautiful landscapes of Iceland; climb a glacier, walk underneath and see 6 waterfalls including the massive Gullfoss waterfall and visit the continental divide in Þingvellir National Park.

Overall I had a fantastic time in Iceland, got to meet some great people and got a amazing experience or Iceland and the Moot.

I would recommend anyone to go on similar trips as part of the UK Contingent, especially if it is to a great country like Iceland.”

David Hudson

23rd Bromley Scout Group, GLSE





1st North Cray Scout Group commemorates the centenary of Passchendaele for Founder member

On the 31 August 2017 members of the 1st North Cray Scout Group from Bexley travelled to Ypres Salient to commemorate the centenary of Passchendaele.

Since the Group was reformed in 2015, the young people have been learning about its history and, in particular, the connection of the Scout Group with one of the well-known Bexley families and their son, Geoffrey Vesey Holt, Assistant Scout leader after whom their Scout Hall is named. Geoffrey became 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Horse Artillery. He was posted to the Passchendaele offensive on 27 March 1917. On 2nd September 1917, a solitary shell exploded close to Geoffrey at the 3rd Battle of Ypres and it is unclear whether he was killed outright or taken to a Field Hospital, where he passed away. Geoffrey was 19 years old.

The Scout group visited Bard Cottage on the Ypres Salient to lay a wreath on Geoffrey's grave and keep his memory alive. Their day trip included visiting trenches at Hooze Crater, Hill 60, Caterpillar Crater and Tyne Cot

cemetery. The Scout Group also took part in the daily Menin Gate 'Last Post' ceremony where Austen Coppen and Charlotte Day were invested.

Officially known as the Third Battle of Ypres, Passchendaele became infamous not only for the scale of casualties, but also for the mud. The Battle of Passchendaele was a campaign of the First World War fought by the allies against the German Empire. The battle took place on the western front from July to November 1917 for control of the ridges south and east of the Belgian city of Ypres in West Flanders.

Nicola Coppen, Group Scout Leader at 1st North Cray said "Finding out about Geoffrey when I joined the Group to help revitalise it, I felt I had a mission to ensure our Members never forget the past. This year, I proposed we take the Scout Troop to see the grave of the Assistant Scout Master. We always pay our respects to him at St James' Church at Remembrance and there is no way we would not be remembering Passchendaele in the Centenary year of Geoffrey's death.



Over the summer Bromley Scouts Youth Events Team organised a trip for almost 200 Scouts, Explorer Scouts and their Leaders to Costa da Caparica, just South of Lisbon, Portugal. The week was jam packed from start to finish with more adventurous activities than you can shake a stick at including surfing, stand up paddle boarding, climbing the Cristo Rei (a very large monument), a day trip to Lisbon, water gladiators, paint balling, high ropes, a tour of Benfica stadium and much more!

Great fun was had by all and having a beautiful, sandy beach 100 metres from the campsite - fantastic; to finish the week off we even ordered nearly 2,000 euros worth of food from Pizza Hut!

Cerys Gilboy, an Explorer Scout from the 28th Bromley, had this to say about the trip: "My favourite activity would be the chance I had to surf and paddle board. The surfing instructor was an amazing teacher. He understood that rather than just giving us basic information and tips on how to surf, we would better enjoy and benefit from our sessions if he was more hands on; he taught us the theory behind surfing which had never been explained to me when surfing previously. This then meant I was able to stand up on my board for a bit which I have never been able to achieve before.

One of my favourite memories from the trip, which I have a lot of moments to pick from, is when we took a trip around Portugal's capital, Lisbon. The trip allowed us to explore the city with more freedom as we picked the places we wanted to see, rather than just being dragged to a boring museum with our leader which we wouldn't have found interesting, as well as using local public transport to get there. This refreshing approach gave me a more cultured insight into the cosmopolitan lifestyle of the Portuguese, while we were guests in their beautiful country.

The trip also helped me to overcome my fear of heights. Having many opportunities to face my fears if I wish to is an integral part of Scouting. The trip to the high ropes allowed me to leap off platforms and into nets with the comfort of knowing that I am safe and in control.

The end of our trip came to a close with another wonderful opportunity to watch the sun go down over the sea. This will be one of my favourite memories as I began to say my goodbyes to the people who had made the last few years of my Scouting life possible and is something I will always appreciate."

Tom Norris, Deputy District Commissioner (Youth Events) for Bromley Scouts said – "it was a huge achievement to be able to offer so many young people an international experience. This is a camp that they will hopefully remember for the rest of their lives. It takes a lot of effort from everybody to make such a large trip work, so I just want to take this opportunity to thank you the Youth Events Team, the leaders from the groups and the great bunch of young people that came along. I'm really excited to be working on similar trips in the future"

Bromley Scouts Youth Events Team, along with the support of the Assistant County Commissioner (International), have announced that there will be another large international trip in 4 years so watch this space for details on the next European adventure in 2021!





On Saturday 29th July about 6,500 Scouts taking part in the KIJ 2017 arrived at the County Showground in Kent to begin a week of adventure! We happily said goodbye to our mums and dads and everyone was really excited about finding out what lay in store for the week ahead.



All Scouts and their leaders were allocated to 1 of the 5 different subcamps - Inter-America, Africa, Asia-Pacific, Arabia, Europe; the KIJ staff stayed in a separate subcamp called Eurasia.

Our sub camp was Inter-America; different American themes were scattered all around our subcamp. 'The Whitehouse' in particular was where we went if we lost our belongings or needed to talk to one of the staff and our camp had a Bahamas theme with palm

trees and a beach. We set up our tents, stored our luggage away and spent the first day exploring the whole site. That night it poured with rain but this didn't stop us dancing the night away at the Opening Ceremony Disco - a fantastic start to the Jamboree.

There was an amazing array of activities to choose from at the Jamboree and during the week, we took part in all of the activities below:

Laser tag

Obstacle course

Village entertainment

Enjoyable crate challenge



Climbing and abseiling

Arts and crafts, airbag drop

Music and disco

Port Lympne

Ice skating

New friends

Games tent



Some made us scream, some made us laugh but they all were a fantastic experience.

During the week, Chief Scout Bear Grylls also came to camp to talk to us about the benefits of Scouting. We got the chance to actually drive real Banger Cars VERY fast around a field of haystacks!

Each unit had a day trip out and we went to Port Lympne Zoo; the amazing monkeys and gorillas were swinging all day long around their enclosures and the sleepy big cats were an amazing sight to see.

Our unit had decided to cook our own food for the week so after choosing a menu before we arrived, we all took it in turns to cook dinner.

The week ended with a much drier Closing Ceremony than at the start of the week. We were sad to be going home but we had many memories and stories to take with us. I can't wait until the next Jamboree in 4 years time (so excited already) and I would recommend the Jamboree to everyone in Scouting!

Lydia Delamain
3rd Petts Wood Scout Group



This summer, 12 Explorer Scouts and 6 Leaders from GLSE embarked on a 16 day expedition travelling the breadth of Canada by plane, rail and bus. After what seemed the longest flight, we safely landed in Vancouver ready for our Canadian adventure. Boarding the sky train we travelled to our first home - hosted by the 40th Marpole Scouts; during our four day stay we enjoyed some incredible experiences - visits to museums, beaches, fireworks, the Lynn Canyon, shopping in the biggest super market we had ever seen but, above all, the most amazing scenery.

None of us wanted to leave Vancouver but were all eager to move on to the next leg of our journey; we flew into Calgary airport and then onwards by coach to our new home in Hi Banff hostel and after four days sleeping on a Scout hall floor - what joy to sleep on a bed and WIFI! We started our adventures by going to the Banff hot springs; the water was so warm, we used the time there to relax and enjoy the scenery around the pool; afterwards we went to one of the museums in Banff - full of so many stuffed Canadian animals, it was astonishing how big bears actually are. The part of Banff we were all looking forward to the most was the boat tour on Lake Minnewanka where we found out how much of Banff was destroyed by wild fires. After enjoying lunch on

the water front we set off to the Banff Gondola which took us over 2000m above sea level.

Onwards then after a 2 hour journey to Calgary where we visited the zoo and saw the sight of some gorgeous black and grizzly bears and the best ever penguin enclosure. We all had an early night as we had to get up early to get to the airport for our flight to Toronto. Here we met up with two lovely Canadian leaders Rebecca and Chris who invited us to their house for a big BBQ campfire; we had such a fantastic night, we got to trade badges with Chris and some of us helped out with cooking the food for the BBQ. We all had finally found our new Canadian parents.

After an early start we set off on a two hour journey to Niagara Falls - a fantastic experience culminating with dinner at the Hard Rock Café. The following days we visited St Lawrence Market, CN Tower and watched the Blue Jays win their baseball game. Shopping in Toronto city - all of us girls were so excited as we could finally shop until we dropped!

Natasha and I on behalf of all the Explorers - thank everyone who supported us and our leaders, who took time out of their summer and came away from their families to experience such an amazing expedition. We all have had the best experience of our lives and have made lifelong friends. We all have become so close and we always plan days out where we all meet up. Most importantly - if there are any Scouts or Explorers who are given the opportunity to go on an expedition - Go for it.

Megan Smith and Natasha Clarkson

To view the full article by Megan and Natasha Please click [here](#)

