

5th West Bromwich Camp 2008 Newsletter



Saturday 19th July

After four and a half hours of travelling we arrived at our home for the week, The Old School House in Deiniolen, Wales. We unpacked our stuff and headed for Caernarfon where we enjoyed Fish & Chips and had fun on the playground before walking along the beach with a spot of stone skimming and then back to the old school for supper and bed.



Sunday 20th July

The weather was set to be fine all day today so we headed for the beach where we went for a walk and had our sandwiches in the sun! We walked up the 'mountain' (for mountain read small pile of sand!) and played 'tracker' for an hour or so. After our exertions in the dunes it was time for a bit of a rest and some decent crabbing in the rock pools after the tide had gone out. We caught fish as big as our arms(ish), crabs and star fish! After a good day in the sun we returned to Deiniolen for some tea and spent the rest of evening battling it out on the Nintendo Wii to see who would be crowned the winner of the Wii Tennis and Bowling Championships!

Monday 21st July

Another sunny day was forecast and after Andrew promising all the Junior Section they would all do something at camp that they had never done before, we had a trip out to



Aber Falls! Aber Falls is a huge waterfall with splash pools that are shallow enough to paddle in but very cold! So, we arrived and walked up to the falls which took half an hour or so and had lunch in the grass next to the water and then went swimming in the shallows, this was the experience Andrew promised! The experience will stay with everyone for many years to come simply because beauty of the landscape and the temperature of the water! A short walk away is another waterfall which some of the more intrepid

among us actually climbed! It had many splash pools and rapids to see and when we reached the top, the views were tremendous, you could see for miles all around and the people down below looked like ants! During the walk back to the minibus we visited Nant Cottage where the company used to camp 30 years ago and the lads saw the visitors centre and the warden showed us around inside the building that brought back many happy memories for some of the officers. During the evening we played 'Table Sports', these included Connect 4 and Corx. Corx is a new competition brought to the company this year to try out, it involves dropping two tapered corks sideways and trying to get them to land end up to score points.

Tuesday 22nd July

We started the day as usual with a scrumptious breakfast and morning prayers, which this year was led by Andrew. Morning prayers form a very important role at camp and are one of the few quiet times of the day where we listen and learn about life and God. After morning prayers we put a net up outside and played volleyball and then kick cricket until someone kicked the ball over the wall and into the stream! Once we had eaten lunch we went horse riding in two separate groups.



When one group was out on the horse trek, the other went to watch the steam trains down the road and had a nature walk before swapping over. That evening before tea saw us sitting in the grass next to the stream in the garden of the Old School Lodge playing a quiz which involved pictures, sound clips and knowledge of the Boys' Brigade. After tea we had a film night and watched Cheaper by the Dozen on the big screen with popcorn!

Wednesday 23rd July

Today was another glorious, sunny day so we went back to the beach and this time went swimming in the sea and flew our water rockets that we made earlier in the day! During the journey home the minibus broke down! Oh no, we were miles from home and the nearest AA van was an hour and a half away! Lucky we had two cars with us to ferry us all back to the Old School Lodge then!

Thursday 24th July

Thursday morning saw us without the luxury of a minibus as it had to go into Bangor to be repaired. But true to form, we didn't let that stop us from going out! We caught the number 85 bus from Deiniolen to Llanberis and visited the Electric Mountain! This is a basically a massive reservoir on top of a mountain with a turbine in it which generates electricity when its needed. Whilst in Llanberis we saw people climbing Snowden through the binoculars, saw how slate was mined and split in the area and walked around the old quarry site before catching the bus back to Deiniolen. Just as we got back, the minibus was fixed so that meant that we could go down the beach again and play the long awaited Boules competition! Once back again we had supper and were treated to an epilogue by the Company Section.



Friday 25th July

The last day at camp already?! After breakfast we played the rest of the sports competitions and took the camp photo opposite. We had lunch and had fun playing games in the sand dunes for the rest of the afternoon. For tea we celebrated a great week with burgers and the sports medals were presented! Great week!

