



Planet Essex



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The Jamboree that was

by Caroline Hill

WITH so many people here, it's no surprise that the Jamboree has managed to accumulate some crazy statistics.

Site Services have been dealing with the largest job – they've removed 1,166,000 litres of liquid waste and had to supply 1,700,000 sheets of toilet paper - laid end to end that's 170 kilometres or 104 miles!

We've managed to recycle a tonne of rubbish so far which is a fantastic effort!

Everyone in the Retail team has succeeded in parting people from their pocket money and made business from the sunshine selling 500 water pistols in the first morning and 10,000

ice creams in the first three days.

Jamboree clothing has been bought by over 2,000 people, and that doesn't include Sub Camp t-shirts.

Franchise "Scout and Proud" and "Guide with Pride," have sold 400 hoodies over the Jamboree, and some of the profits will be going towards sending Scouts and Guides on international trips.

On the Open Day, 1,000 postcards were sold to visitors and participants alike to spread Jamboree memories further.

Everyone's been left hungry after a busy day of activities and managed to eat and drink

the 4,500 eggs sold so far, the 2,500 pints of milk and around 1,400 loaves of bread.

Two thousand portions of chips were sold by Dino's on the Open Day and 1.5 tonnes in total during the week.

In the heat, people sure have been thirsty, with the Jamart selling 30 cases of drink a day.

And 60 people must have lost their toothbrushes, as the Retail Team have nearly run out!

St. John's Ambulance have had an eventful week with an average of 100 incidents a day, with 12 being sent to the minor injuries

unit in Clacton, and three to Colchester General Hospital.

On the Media front, more than 100 people have contributed to Youth Media, and 85,000 copies of Planet Essex have been printed, and Jungle Radio will have played 2,688 songs across the airwaves during the Jamboree.

The photography team have been busy taking more than 4,000 photos taken.

"The scale is somewhat overwhelming especially the budget, which sits at around £1 million," according to Jamboree Chief, Clare Darch.

Today's weather

Sunny intervals



Minimum temp: 21C
Maximum temp: 16C

UV index: 4

Sun rises: 5.16am
Sun sets: 8.45pm

Together to mark the end of a fantastic week

by Emma Parker and Sarah Paget

THE curtain may have come down on the Jamboree but it went off with a bang as the Closing ceremony concluded a week of fun and friendship.

As the first Sub Camps arrived in the Market Square, the Orange Coats kept participants entertained with the help of the Melodians, BT's very own Steel band, who often perform at charity events. There was laughter and high spirits as the individual Sub Camps entered the Market Square together for the final time.

Pygmy Hippo Sub Camp led the way after an energetic warm up on their Sub Camp stage.

As all the participants took their seats on the grass, the unity and Jamboree spirit was clear for all to see.

The formal ceremony began with the entrance of the Sub Camp banners to the song *Our Jamboree, Our World*, which started to stir the emotions of the crowd.

As the presenters thanked the Jamboree Staff and the song *Seasons of Love* was

performed by the cast, a video played on the big screen next to the stage.

It showed the hardworking and dedicated staff who have worked to make this year's Jamboree such an outstanding success.

The different departments cheered from their various positions around the Market Square and the participants finally had the opportunity to see the intricate workings of the Jamboree itself.

The lyrics of the song, which had been altered to fit the occasion, brought realisation to everybody here at the Jamboree of just how large the event was.

The crowd was then given an insight into all of the activities that have taken place throughout the week.

As the song *Beautiful Day* by U2 played in the background, the video showed footage taken from throughout the week. The crowd laughed as they recognised themselves and the friends that they had made.

The atmosphere changed to a more sober tone as people remembered everything that they had done and the memories that they made.

Then it was time to change the pace as the cast entered the stage to perform *Feeling*

Hot, Hot, Hot and really got the party started.

A video DJ then took to the stage, allowing the 10,000 strong crowd to get up and dance, celebrating a successful and happy time here.

The dancing was brought to a close at the start of *The Promise Song*.

Everyone settled down to share in a nostalgic and enthusiastic representation of fun, friends and sunshine, combined with the memories that the Scouts and Guides have made this week and will take away forever.

Some people's eyes began to fill with tears and the bonds of friendship were shown in the closeness of the crowd.

As the song finished, the Jamboree Chief was welcomed to the stage to bring the ceremony to an end.

With the promise of reunion somewhere along our travels through life, the Jamboree flag was lowered.

As Reef Knot and the ceremonies cast performed the Jamboree song for a final time, the crowd sang along with energy and enthusiasm.

The final act was an eruption of colour fireworks which provided a spectacular end to a spectacular week.

Birthdays and anniversaries

Birthdays: Happy 15th Birthday **Rebecca** and **India Mcpherson**, have a great day love everyone at 7th Whitham on Lemur camp; **Sam Coulduck**, have a great birthday on the minibus going home! From everyone at 1st Chapel – en – le Friith Scouts.

Birthdays for Sunday: Happy Birthday **Martin Steers** of the Radio Team; Happy Birthday **James** from Thameside; Happy 14th Birthday **Michael Passo** from 3rd Europa Scout Group, Gibraltar. **Anniversaries:** This year has gone so quickly but has been the best. Love you so much **Julian** from Kirstie.

What's your highlight of the Jamboree?

Tascha, 16, 4th Portadown Guides, Orangutan, said: "The entire Jamboree's been really good. Discos are really good. I've been to the dance tent almost every night."



Katherine, 16, 4th Portadown Guides, said: "Meeting new people has been the best part of the Jamboree. I also really enjoyed sailing."



Georgie, 10, 1st Rayne Guides, Red Panda, said: "Going to the seaside has been fun, I had a very nice sleep, made sandcastles and ate doughnuts".



Shelby, 14, Clacton District, Humboldt Penguins, said: "Falling in the pool on the assault course was good. It was really cold!"

Emma, 14, 1st Widdington, Red Panda, said: "All of the activities in the activities arena. I really enjoyed the inflatables, especially the bouncy castle"



Toby, 11, 11th Chelmsford, Canadian Wolves, said: "Going scuba diving is brilliant. The water is freezing cold!"



Daniel, 2nd and 4th Milton Regis Scouts, Orangutan, said: "The trip to the zoo was my highlight. We were the only ones that got to feed the elephants and giraffes".

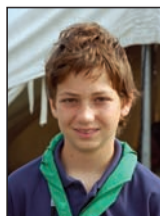


Tyler, 13, 40th and 32nd Chingford Scouts, Canadian Wolves, said: "The welcome concert was great. The start was really good; we stood up so that we could enjoy the concert more".

Katie, 12, 40th and 32nd Chingford Scouts, Canadian Wolves, said: "Being on the screen at the opening ceremony was exciting. Another highlight was Go Karting, I didn't crash!"



Matthew, 14, 3rd and 4th Norwich Scouts, Lemur, said: "The entire Jamboree has been amazing. Our Sub Camp has been really fun because there are lots of activities such as circus skills to do."



The key to keeping in touch

AFTER a week of making friends and having a great time it is important to make those memories life-long by staying in touch with the friends you make.

The Jamboree is a fantastic opportunity to make friends that you can network with, and just because we all have to go our separate ways, does not mean that it is the end of the road.

The road after Jamboree may not be set in stone but by collecting telephone numbers and email addresses of your newly found friends, that path can start to become more substantial.

A way of remembering people is to get them to sign your scarf. In a couple of year's time when you look back at your scarf, it will help bring back all those memories of the Jamboree.

Staying in touch may seem daunting but it isn't, send a simple quick letter or email when you get home reliving some memories with your friend. This will hopefully get the ball rolling and your friendship will continue to grow.

Other instant messaging programmes are extremely good as you can talk to some one in real time.

But I guess the main message is, if you want to stay in contact with your friends then make the effort because it will never be wrong.

The links you make at Jamboree will last for years, and may lead to exchange programmes in the future.

So remember to get all the contact details of people and make a promise that you will stay in touch, it will make your Jamboree last forever.

Market Square suits all tastes

MARKET Square is the centre of the Jamboree, it is also the: "social heart of the camp site" according to Matt Leonard, 18, a member of the Soft Rock café staff.

All week everyone has been making the most of the facilities available in the central area.

Between the Soft Rock Café, Dino's Fast Food and the Jungle Café there are a variety of venues to relax and socialise in.

The Soft Rock Café is always lively and buzzing especially during the evening, which has been the busiest time of day.

The staff endeavour each night to embrace the theme of the evening, whether it is beach party or trash.

Soft Rock during the day has enjoyed a relaxed atmosphere where people can chill out with a milkshake and snack. In the evening both the live and dance tents open up turning Soft Rock into an energetic music venue.

"Working in Soft Rock is great, there's

always something happening and we have enjoyed working with the international staff on our team," said Steven Murgia, a member of the staff team.

Dino's Fast Food serves a range of typical quick food; their chips in particular have been popular, selling 2,000 portions on Open Day.

Dino's hosted a birthday party during the week and "have some regulars from Gibraltar" explained Rebecca Bentley of Dino's staff.

Rebecca described working at Dino's to be "fun and friendly, there's a nice atmosphere in here."

The Jungle Café is a more reserved coffee shop-style venue, where tea and cakes are served throughout the day.

A calm and relaxing atmosphere, the café plays host to any special visitors to the Jamboree.

All three are definitely worth a visit before the Jamboree is over as each, although very different, are enjoyable to be a part of.



Talented young people take to stage for final

by Emma Parker

OVER the week Sub Camps have been holding heats, in order to submit two acts each to the Jamboree-wide Totally Talent Show Final.

The show was organised by Neil Wright and his band mates from Reef Knot, and was filled with a variety of acts from across the country and the world.

The acts varied from singing and dancing to Diablo, and all of the participants did really well to perform in front of the noisy crowd.

As the crowd clapped, danced and sung along with the acts on the Live Tent stage, it was clear it would be a very difficult to choose an overall winner.

The show was split into two halves and the acts waited nervously to hear whether they would make it into the final round.

In the first half, third place went to Humboldt Penguin, with a heart-wrenching performance of *My Heart Will Go On* from the film *Titanic*, which incorporated singing, dancing and signing.

In second place was Katie from Komodo Dragon, who performed a pitch-perfect rendition of Amy Winehouse's *Valerie*.

The second half saw more action and

positions were given to another two acts.

The final offered a clash of cultures between Neelam Thakur, 22 of Bharat Scouts, in India, and Dan, 17, Dan, 16 and Matt, 14 from Whitby District Explorer Scouts.

"It is fantastic, it was a great feeling to be up there. I am so proud to be representing my country," said Neelam, who has been saving for three years to make it to the Jamboree.

After a second performance from each of the acts a winner was decided.

The Whitby Explorer Scouts who are staying on Komodo Dragon Sub Camp won the night with their rendition of *Always look on the Scout Side of Life*, which they had re-worded based on their Jamboree experience.

"We are so shocked, but the song represented Scouting. For the last nine years we have put our hearts and souls into absolutely everything Scouting," said Dan.

Neil Wright said: "I thought the show was great, the acts were incredible, far more talented than I could ever imagine. The winners were perfect, loads of talent and all about Scouting. Neelam was fantastic too, it must have been a really difficult decision."

Behind every Jamboree chief is a fab team

CLARE Darch seems like an ordinary Guide and Scout leader – that is until you find out she's the boss of the Essex International Jamboree 2008.

Appointed the day before her marriage, Clare was told she was to be Jamboree Chief, three years ago in 2005. Since then she's spent her time organising the Staff team and making sure everything goes smoothly for everyone involved.

"In the beginning, I thought, this'll never happen, it's so far away, but then it creeps up on you!" she said.

Really getting involved among the participants, the Chief is camped among them on Orangutan Sub Camp with her Scout Group, and spends time with her Guide Group on Elephant Sub Camp.

She's spent time talking to participants, who often stop and talk to her, some claiming to have read all the entries on her blog – some ask for an autograph!

There have been many firsts in her experience, even after 20 years in Guiding, and her blog, that she's been keeping on the Essex Jamboree website, is one of them. She says she really enjoys it, and loves that people read it!

Covered in pegs, Clare realises her value when it comes to pegging points! It's clear that the Head of the Jamboree has the same spirit as all the participants and staff here too, having worked here since 1996 on the Security team.

She puts down the success of the Jamboree to excellent support staff: "The problems are sorted before people even notice there are any!" she laughs, "And that's fantastic for the participants, because they can carry on having a great time."

Staff battle it out to win contest

IF you had gone down to the Activities Field on Thursday night you would have found a scene of chaos and noise.

This was the night the Staff on site had the chance to compete against each other in 'It's a Knock-out'.

The atmosphere was naturally competitive and very noisy as each team gathered.

The Site Services Team arrived, once all the other teams had congregated, in a Site Service vehicle convoy across the field.

With much flag waving, dancing and chanting the competition began.

There is nothing quite like watching six fully grown men scrabble through a cargo net, or a group of responsible adults passing cups of water to each other, while attached to bungee cords.

"It was good to see all the adults letting their hair down and enjoying themselves. It felt like an end of week party in the middle," said Ian Guy, from the Media Team.

Some teams were more competitive than others, notably the Media Team, who became rather excitable on some of the activities.

There was of course the competition for extra bonus points with the singing, dancing and chanting.



With some teams entering into a little bit of 'borrowing of equipment' – that could be considered as cheating - for which points were discounted, if they were caught!

At the end of a tiring and rather wet competition the top three placings were; Third, the Red Team (Site Services) with 71 points, Second, the Black Team (Media

Team) with 72 points and in first place, the Yellow/Gold Team (Essex Network and the Incident Hike Team) with 75 points.

"It's fantastic that we came first. But it's even better that we beat Site Services, which I think is a victory for everybody; it feels incredible to be in the winning team." said Luke Magnay of Essex Network.

Win a brand new five-man Vango tent

WE have got a fantastic competition that will be great for anyone who wants a brand new Vango Tamor 500 tent, courtesy of Sainsbury's Active Kids.

The lightweight tent has room for five people and would be a great addition to any group or troops camping equipment store.

It is a stand-up height dome tent with an

extended porch which means there is a good amount of living space as well as a separate sleeping area.

Worth more than £100 in the shops, this is a top prize to get your hands on.

To be in with a chance of winning this great prize, just answer the following question and submit your answer to the Media Centre by

11.30am today (Saturday).

The winner will be the first correct entry to be drawn from the hat at noon today, so the group or troop can take the tent home with them.

Just answer this simple question:

Question: What is the theme of this year's Essex International Jamboree?

Essex International Jamboree 2008 picture special

