

## Report on Camp at Drunen July '85.

First I would like to say that we were welcomed and looked after by our Dutch friends to a very high standard. All the English Scouters and Scouts send a big thankyou.

The camp was run very well and it was very good to see the English Scouts and the Dutch Scouts mixing so well in a very friendly atmosphere. The camp had many memories and incidents, too many to list, but a few of the magic moments were the initiation game run by some sadistic leaders; Mathew's love affair on the hike; the camp fire and the big fat stress we caused the Dutch.

The journey from England started with us having to wake one Scout up before we could leave, it then went very smoothly and the day's highlights were being able to look round the bridge and then getting the 2nd Officer to present 4 Chief Scout Awards to John Davis and Russell Timms of the 21st and Simon Lloyd and Mathew Dean of the 8th.

We arrived to be welcomed with a meal on the quay side but we decided to travel to Drunen before eating because all the plates were packed away.

Sunday was used as a getting to know the area and setting up of the kitchens, which was done very well by everybody. Followed by the initiation which was a string trail with some nasty things happening on the way round, yet the Scouts still enjoyed it.

The weather wasn't very good so on Monday we decided to spend the day at the Evoleum which was very interesting. In the evening the Scouts had a flag raid game.

Tuesday was hike day. I got up at 7 o'clock and went with Jaap on bike to check all the directions. After cycling for 2 hours I returned sore and tired



and with a few alterations the hike should have been easy to follow. So the English Scouters went for a free day in Drunen to change money etc. But things started to happen; Scouts were walking about in Drunen 1 1/2 miles off course. They were took back to be put on course again only to go wrong again. Scouters returned from Drunen, then went to the edge of the dunes and realised that the Scouts could go for miles off course over the last stretch of the hike. After we had waited on the dunes we returned to camp to find some had already returned completing the hike, but after a while 3 patrols were missing; a phone call came saying they were stranded and a van was sent to collect them. Only one was there;

stress began to set in and a search party was sent on bikes to the dunes, we arrived at the edge of the dunes to find 2 weary patrols with one person being carried he was tired. The evening went on with a camp fire which was the best I have seen for a long time, the Dutch and English mixed together with great enthusiasm.

On Wednesday a sports day was enjoyed in the morning and in the afternoon a welcome break at the swimming baths. The English really enjoyed this and great fun was had on the water slide with a lot of us going down together.

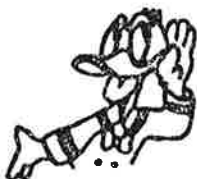
Thursday was a day at the Efteling. It was a great day the sun shone and everybody had so much fun, nobody wanted to leave. Even I went on the Python. Friday we had an individual competition and all the Scouts tried very hard, the Scouters worked hard and close competition took place with Frankie v. Dijke? being the top Dutch and Steven Dorrar and Daniel Mariott being equal top English and overall winners. The Scouts then went swimming in the rain and the Dutch Scouters played the English Scouters at football. The English won easy by 6 goals to 3. The camp was then rounded off by a camp fire and the camp was cleared up Saturday morning and we departed to Woerden.



To finalise the camp was a great success and I hope there are more to follow. We would like to thank our Dutch hosts for making our stay most enjoyable.

Yours in Scouting  
R.W. Roberts  
Scouter in charge  
4th, 8th & 21st  
Ilkeston Scouts.

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Gehoord en gelezen.



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## **Tall ships treat**

FIFTY Scouts and leaders from Ilkeston have returned home after a fortnight's campaign in Holland.

One of the highlights of the trip was the presentation of Chief Scout Awards to John Davis and Russell Timms (21st Ilkeston), and Simon Lloyd and Matthew Dean (8th Ilkeston), on board the ferry to Holland by the ship's second officer.

The party, which stayed at Drunen and Woerden, had "a magnificent view" of old-fashioned tall ships returning to Amsterdam when the captain of a British minesweeper, HMS Bildeston, let them on board.

The Scouts and Scouters were from the 8th, 21st and 4th Ilkeston groups.