

Clonbur 2008 Camp report

3rd Cork Scouts Camp report: 12th of July to 26th of July

Introduction

Camp this year was held in Petersburg outdoor Education centre in Clonbur Co. Galway. In total we had 31 people attend the two week camp. The 23 scouts made up the 4 patrols. Clonbur is the troop's favourite camp location and I hope that reading this you will get an understanding why.

Transport and troop equipment

We used a Galway bus company, Corduff Travel for all our transport needs. They collected and dropped us from Cork and they also supplied the buses for the two tour days. We hired a local truck driver to carry our troop equipment. We brought more gear than we had on any of the previous camps I have been on. We took the entire fleet of 9 Icelandic tents, the Marquee, our many domes and even the old 16 – man army tent was resurrected after 12 years.

Shopping & Accounts

The Saturday before we left for camp the leaders spent the morning in Musgrave's Cash and carry. With the hiring of the truck it made it possible to bring 90% of all our food to the camp. This meant all we had to shop for each day was milk, bread and meat. The accounts worked out very well as the cost estimates for the camp were well devised before the camp. The fee for each scout was €450 euro for the two weeks. This was the first year the leaders of the troop got a camp discount of €100 off the €450. The fee was broken down as follows

Camping Fees €77 Activities €128 Food €80

Buses €70 Tour events €25 Truck €30

Pre-Camp €20 Leaders Discount €20

(Please see the full set of camp 2008 Accounts)

Program and Inter-patrol

This year we did 4 full days of activities. All our scouts got to partake in 8 different activities. These ranged from River gorging, Caving, Rock-climbing, Abseiling, Obstacle course, Sailing, kayaking and raft building. The leadership team were again thrilled with the standard of activities and the way they were run

by the centre. It's hard to pick the most popular from the above list but the obstacle course and the caving might get the nod.

We spent a great tour day in Galway city which was ended by a trip to the funfair in Salthill followed by a swim in Leisureland. In the second week we travelled to Westport in Mayo where we took on Croagh Patrick. It was a great day and a nice achievement to get the entire scout troop to the top in not so great weather.

Sports day and parent's day were held as usual on the middle weekend. The inter-patrol competition ran through out the two weeks and was taken very seriously by all the patrols. I'm delighted to report that some of our younger scouts really took to the scouting skills asked of them. Orienteering in the near by Clonbur woods was an excellent success as was the pioneering (ballista) on the waterfront. We spent another day running a Base day on Coolin Lough. In the evenings the leaders ran team challenge bases called the Survivor bases. These were a mixture of thinking and survivor type bases. The Camp craft involved putting up a patrol site consisting of a table, dresser, gate, boundaries and a line. Each patrol also had to make a sign. The Fox patrol lead by PL Shane Maher won the overall event with Peter Cronin's Curlew finishing a close second. One of the highlight's of this years camp program must be the trip to Finny beach. The sun came out and we all went swimming in the freezing cold lake.

***4 days of Activities 2 Days Setting up/ taking down camp 1 Parents Day
1 Sports Day 1 Base day 1 day in Westport
1 day at Finny Beach 1 day in Galway 1 day Pioneering / Orienteering***

Accidents

We had two accidents involving two of our leaders. Eamonn sprained his finger while river gorging. Timms broke a rib after a fall on the campsite. I'm glad to report that after visiting the local doctors they both continued camp without any major dis-comfort. A copy of the accident report forms have been sent too Petersburg and I have original forms. There were no other incidents on camp.

The Scout Troop of 2008

Interesting Facts of the Camp

- First time on a Traditional Scout camp for 80% of our troop (Stayed in Hostel last year)
- No injuries or illness to the scouts on the two weeks
- All scouts that started the camp, finished it.
- First time in the modern day history of the troop that next years camp was announced (Gilwell, London)

Starting out all of the leadership team was aware of the challenges that were ahead. The biggest challenge was getting excited for a traditional Irish camp such as Clonbur. The Jeka trip last year didn't

only soften the scouts but also the leadership team. I think on that point we can safely say that the 3rd Cork camp is back and it was certainly bigger and better than any I have run before. That was my aim going into the camp and I am delighted with the outcome. I wouldn't change anything about the way the camp was run this year. The busiest camp programme we have ever run and one of the troops best achievements.

The group of scouts this year performed incredibly well. Their behaviour was superb and this mixed with their eagerness to enjoy whatever was put in front of them made the camp what it is "A great Camp".

Thanks to all of them for the respect they've shown the leaders through out the year. A big thanks is owed to all the 3rd Cork leadership team. THANKS ☺. The final word of thanks again goes to the 3rd cork scouts. Looking forward to Gilwell already

Yours in Scouting

Graham Hayes
3rd Cork Scout Leader