Heartsease at heart

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CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Several years ago I rashly offered to update the Heartsease history booklet first written in 1989 by Joan and Peter Baker and updated in 1994.

Our 90th birthday year seemed like a good time to complete the project, but what to include and where to stop?!

In the process of my research I have met Joan Dobbin, now nearly 90 years old and one of the Clerkenwell Guides and Rangers who came to Heartsease just before and after World War II. She continued with her Guiding in Hutton, Essex where she started a new Guide Company at Hutton All Saints - with no training in those days! Then she started a local Trefoil Guild. Joan is still in contact with friends from that time and lent me these photos of pitching the ridge tent and posing for a group picture outside Heartsease.

Joan says Guiding gave her her whole life. The patrol system taught responsibility and self reliance, how to help each other. What an inspirational lady, I was very pleased to meet her.





Joan Dobbin today



Guiding still has the same aims and values today, for us to pass these on to the girls in our units.

Look out for more snippets like this while I try and finish the project! In the meantime, we look forward to seeing you and your girls over the coming academic year.

Sue

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EGG-CELLENT FUN IN HEARTSEASE WOODS!

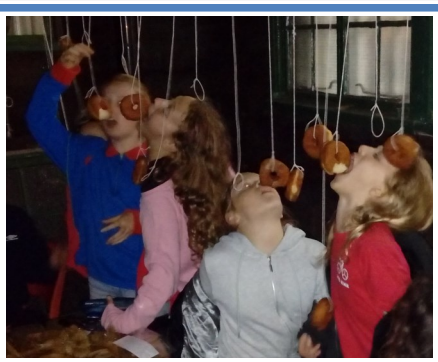
Looking back to our Easter Egg Hunt in the spring, we would like to thank everyone who came along and supported the event. Lots of children enjoyed hunting for eggs in the woods, trying their hand at some Easter craft and enjoying the lovely cakes baked by our supporters. We raised a fantastic amount: over £500 towards upkeep and improvements at Heartsease. We are hoping to hold our popular annual events again this year, so watch this space for more info about the Christmas Funday and Easter Egg Hunt coming soon!

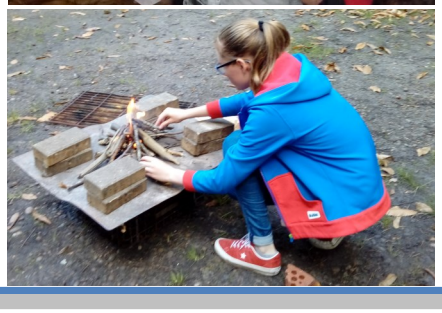




NEW TERM, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

As we head back to guiding for a new academic year—and start getting to grips with the new programme—why not book an evening (or even a weekend!) at Heartsease with your girls. Our outdoor space could be the perfect setting to try out some of the new Skills Builders and Unit Meeting Activities; maybe some of the activities in the Be Well or Have Adventures themes? Also, the LaSER Growing Up Wild Paw Prints offer great suggestions for outdoor activities in the autumn term. Plenty of activities to keep your girls busy, not forgetting the old favourites such as den building and fire lighting! We love to hear what you've been up to at Heartsease, so don't forget to tweet us twitter.com/GGHeartsease





HEARTSEASE COMMITTEE

We are pleased to welcome Alison Harrison—new District Commissioner for Beckenham West—to the Management Committee. Also, congratulations to our current committee member Alison Mansfield who is taking on the role of Beckenham Division Commissioner! If anyone would be interested in joining our committee, in order to help with planning and decision-making in regard to improvement works and upkeep of the site, then please contact Sue on the email overleaf. Also, let Sue know if you would like to hear about upcoming working parties in order to get your hands dirty and help with the upkeep of the house and grounds in a practical way! Many thanks once again for all your support.