

## Explorers Do a Good Turn!

On the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of July 2010, three Explorer Scouts took on a major job of restoring the Group trailer that has been 'neglected' and was in urgent need of repair.



They worked all weekend to try to restore the trailer. It was a big job as parts needed to be bought, panels needed to be painted and wheels needed to be repaired!

From Friday afternoon when they arrived, work was non-stop, with the odd tea break (of course!!)

The Explorers planned the whole camp and had to submit all their plans and menus to gain their night's away permit which enabled them to camp for the

weekend. Mitch (Scout Leader) came up to give them a hand and to check everything was ok – of course, everything was under control and going well even though Ben was let loose with an angle grinder!!

As well as restoring the trailer, the Explorers also dug out the camp fire circle which needed to be done as the ashes were starting to creep over the wall of the fire. This now means that the rest of the Group can safely build camp fires again. The campfire circle is deeper than you think!!



Needless to say, they all got very tired and some people (ahem, Tom) had to go for a little nap in the afternoon!

The weather didn't stop them either, despite the rain and the wind, the Explorers carried on with their maintenance camp armed with a good brew, a wealth of determination and a gazebo (which we Christened Maggie)!

In between cooking, washing up, digging, sanding and painting, they somehow managed to watch a few DVDs as well. All-in-all, it was a good camp and a lot has been done to help the Group!

Who said Explorers never did a good turn?

Here is a list of jobs carried out on the trailer and the Warren during the weekend:

- All wooden side panels stripped and re-varnished.
- Both wheels stripped and re-sprayed in black.
- The axel of the trailer were rusty, it was stripped and painted in black.
- The breaks were shot and covered in grease and were replaced with brand new shoes which turn out to be off a 40 year old Morris.
- The jockey wheel which helps with the steering of the trailer was badly bent and has been replaced with a nice new shiny adjustable one.
- The base of the trailer was showing its age and was stripped and again painted in black paint.
- New trailer electrics were put in place of the old ones which were literally falling apart.
- Painted hooks and accessories around the trailer such as the reflective warning triangles were replaced to give the trailer a smarter look.
- The camp fire circle was dangerously overflowing, this has now been emptied and around 3 large wheels barrows filled with ash were dug out.
- The group computer got a mini clean up and now performs a lot better.

