**Summer camp 1941**

Summer camp consisted of two weekends held at Everton campsite during August

**Everton weekend camp (9th-10th August)**

Programme (Approx)

Saturday

2pm Left 28 Forsyth Street\* by car and bike

2.30-3.00pm Arrived at Everton

3-5 pm Pitched camp

5.30-6.00pm Tea [Sausages, bread, tea]

6.30-9.00pm Stalking game in woods

9.30pm Supper [Biscuits and cocoa]

10.00pm Bed time

Sunday

7.15am Got up

8.30am Breakfast [Sausage, bread, tea]

10.00am Inspection

10.30am Wood cutting or visit to Inverkip

1.00pm Dinner [Soup, sausage & potatoes with beans, custard pudding]

3pm Bathed then struck camp

5.30pm Tea [Sliced cold sausage, bread, sardines, tea]

6.30pm Left farm by car and bike

Note ‘Bread’ means bread, butter and jam

**9th August 1941**

**Present**

ASM\* Wilson Hill

PL George Brown SPL Alan MacFadyen

Ronald Herbert Collin Reid

Alasdair Maclean Jim Morton

Alan MacKay Andrew Webster

The tents, cooking utensils and other heavy gear were taken down by Lorry, along with the troop camping chest and trek cart, the previous Saturday.

All the scouts personal kit was brought down by car\*\* along with two of the boys. The remaining six boys cycled down. We arrived down at about 2:30 PM. As the tents etc were stored in the camping Chest at Everton farm, they had to be carted by trek cart up to Everton camping ground.

Once the tents were pitched (an ‘Icelantic’\*\*\* for each patrol and a ‘Wanderer’ for SM’s and store tent), tea was made by Alan McFadyen who was cook throughout the camp.

After tea, a game of stalking\*\*\*\* was played in the woods behind the camp.

Although the weather was dry for the pitching of the tents, by the evening, and through the night, it rained. All three tents kept quite dry inside.

**10th August 1941**

The morning was fortunately dry. At breakfast, rather an unfortunate incident occurred. While the porridge was been stirred a knife belonging to Collin Reid fell into the pot unnoticed by anyone. By the time the knife was discovered and removed, the synthetic bone handle had partially melted giving a decidedly unpleasant taste of it otherwise perfect porridge. As nobody wished to be poisoned, the porridge had to be disposed of.

After a brief inspection at 10 o’clock, some of the boys went down to Inverkip for lemonade while others did some axesmanship in the wood. A small fir tree was felled.

Once the washing of the dinner dishes was finished, all the boys bathed in the swimming pool, then warmed themselves round the kitchen fire.

After this, the tents were dismantled one by one, the last one being packed up just before rain came on.

The troops locker in the Everton hut had to be emptied of another troops gear before it was filled with some of our own. The rest of our gear was taken in the trek cart to our chest at the farm (by this time it was pouring).

Three Scouts and personal kit, including a bicycle which was punctured, were taken home in two cars belonging to Mr. Herbert and Mr. Hill.

Discipline was on the whole was very good, although nobody was very keen on washing the dishes. But considering it was the majority of the boys first camp, everything went very well.

Author Wilson Hill

**Everton weekend camp (16th-17th August)**

**Present** ASM Wilson Hill

PL George Brown

Neill MacGill

Eric Duncan

**Menu**

*Saturday*

Tea Sausages, bread with butter and jam, tea

Supper Biscuits and cocoa

*Sunday*

Breakfast Porridge

Bacon and Egg

Bread butter and jam

Tea

Dinner Kidney soup (tinned)

Sliced sausage and potatoes

Tea Sliced cold sausge

Bread, butter and jam

Tea

**Saturday 16th August 1941**

Only one Icelandic tent and no SM’s tent were used. The boys got a lift to halfway between Inverkip and Everton, from where we walked to the farm where we got some gear from the camping chest which we took to the camping ground by trek cart.

Although the morning had been very wet and the ground was soaking, dry firewood was obtainable for cooking purposes. The rain fortunately stayed off all afternoon and evening allowing all the kit to be erected dry.

**Sunday 17th August 1941**

Sunday morning was wet, as was the rest of the day. Breakfast was made on the fire (the porridge was excellent).

The forenoon was spent mostly in the Icelantic\*\*\* tent practicing new knots.

Dinner had to be made by primus stove as the rain was too heavy for a fire.

After dinner, the rain went off for a while and a desperate attempt was made to dry the tents with the aid of a primus. Both tents were practically dry by about 4 o’clock when the SM’s tent was dismantled, but unfortunately a heavy shower wet the Icelantic\*\*\* again forcing us to leave it hung up in the hut when we struck camp.

With the aid of a feeling axe, and under the supervision of PL George Brown, a start was made to building a fence around the camp kitchen\*\*\*\*\*.

The weather was pretty wet all camp. A few drops came through the roof of the Icelantic\*\*\* tent but the leak was not serious. Both tarpaulins (folded double) and a canvas groundsheet were used on the floor of the tent which kept the inside quite dry from below. No ditch was dug.

Author Wilson Hill

**Saturday 30th August 1941**

PL George Brown, Second Robin McDougall and ASM Wilson Hill cycled to Everton to put away the camping gear. All the gear was shifted from the locker in Everton hut to the troops camping chest at the farm. An inventory of all the gear there was made out.

**Further notes made by editor**

\* 28 Forsyth Street was where Wilson Hill and his parents lived.

\*\* The car probably belonged to Wilson’s father

\*\*\* Actually an Icelandic

\*\*\*\* Stalking was a very popular activity on hikes and camps of the time. No details have been provided of what was involved, but it probably involved Scouts attempting to get as close to a leader as possible without being spotted.

\*\*\*\*\* This suggests that the troop had a recognized campsite at Everton where they normally camped.