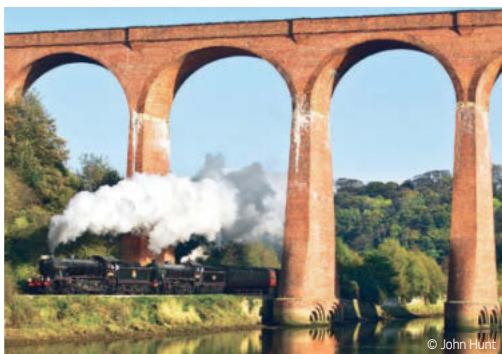


Travel

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● The Brownies have been working on a water transfer project which has involved site visits, above, and practical work, below

Brownies to the rescue!

WITH news of the first national hosepipe ban by United Utilities for six years due to the soaring summer temperatures, a Brownie pack in Birkdale, Southport could be coming to the rescue of those in need.

It looks like the town may have found 28 seven to ten-year-old 'civil engineers in waiting' as this innovative Brownie pack have been working on a water transfer project - as a way of making water supply work and be more effective especially during hot spells.

A real-world problem that engineers tackle everyday as an equivalent of 1,249 Olympic swimming pools of water are lost per day due to leaks.

The task was part of a Civil Engineering badge, which was started by Pippa Higgins a former guider and Civil Engineer in 2014 to encourage more girls to consider a career in Civil Engineering.

Guy Lawson, director of the Civil Engineering Contractors' Association NW (CECA NW), which represents over 70 civil engineering companies based or operating in the region, provided the first funding in the country for the resource kit for the badge which included piping and water wheels.

The challenging eight-week process was overseen by experienced pack leader 'Snowy Owl' Linda Seal, who has been running Brownie packs around the country for over 40 years and was understandably delighted with the help given by CECA NW.

Linda said: "For us to receive the money from CECA NW was an absolute blessing as we are usually funded by the small amount of subs the girls pay each week."

"Our girls knew nothing about engineering.

"They spent time doing

the badge and really enjoyed it.

"They particularly enjoyed constructing the plastic piping to transport water from one room to another.

"Now we are happy to construct pipes to help bring water to people more easily."

After eight weeks of inspirational talks and a half term behind the scenes trip to a building site in Town Lane, Kew, to see engineering plans in action, more than half of the girls said that they were keen to learn more about engineering.

That was a considerable increase on the numbers at the start of the process.

With Southport Brownies the first unit to apply for and receive funding in the country, organisers said that it was great to see their enthusiasm for careers in a profession that ensures we have access to clean water - and much more besides.



Legion to pay its respects at Ypres

MEMBERS of the Southport Branch of the Royal British Legion are to join thousands on a pilgrimage of Remembrance ending with a parade and ceremony in Ypres as part of the WWI centenary commemorations next week.

The Royal British Legion event, known as the Great Pilgrimage 90 (GP90), takes place between August 5 and 9 and will be one of the largest in the charity's history.

GP90 will mark 90 years since the original Royal British Legion Pilgrimage in 1928, in which 11,000 WWI veterans and war widows visit the battlefields of the Somme in France and Ypres in Belgium, a decade after the conflict ended.

That Pilgrimage culminated in a march through Ypres to the

Commonwealth War Grave Commission's Menin Gate Memorial for a ceremony to commemorate the launch of The Hundred Days Offensive and in remembrance of those who never returned.

Local Legion members Jacob Howell and Timothy Petford will represent the Southport Branch and the local community at the event, as standard bearer and wreath layer respectively.

Jacob and Tim will tour some of the same battlefields and cemeteries visited by those on the 1928 Pilgrimage, before marching along the original route through Ypres, to the Menin Gate on the August 8, bearing their branch standard and wreath.

They will join more than 2,200 other Legion representatives and dignitaries, including civic and

military guests from the UK, Commonwealth and northern Europe who are also taking part in the pilgrimage.

Tim will lay a wreath at the Menin Gate on behalf of the Southport community.

Tim Petford, of the Southport Branch of The Royal British Legion, said: "Great Pilgrimage 90 is a unique opportunity for the Legion community to come together and bear our standards along the same route in Ypres taken 90 years earlier by the Veterans and widows of the First World War."

"The Southport Branch looks forward to proudly representing Southport at the event."

As local champion of Remembrance, the Southport Branch of The Royal British Legion is look-

ing to work in partnership with the community to bring their unique Remembrance message to the Menin Gate, on the wreath, where it will be displayed in a wreath installation for viewing by the general public until the end of August.

The parade will start at midday and the Royal British Legion is encouraging the public to make the trip to Ypres for August 8, and fill the Market Square to watch the parade, One Hundred Days Ceremony before an afternoon of music, including The Central Band of the Royal British Legion.

To find out more about GP90 or your local Royal British Legion Branch, then please email or contact James O'Carroll at jocarroll975@live.de or phone 07836 353040.