

Press Release

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Local Sea Cadets in Guinness Book of Records attempt at the Redoubt Fortress

Eastbourne Sea Cadets and Marine Cadets slept out under stars at the Redoubt Fortress as part of the Giant Sleepover, a national record breaking attempt for the biggest simultaneous sleepover across multiple venues on Saturday night (14th June).

Officer in Charge, Lt (SCC) Stephanie Juniper RNR said,

"We were keen to find an unusual place to sleep at and the Redoubt was perfect.

The atmosphere at the fortress made it a really memorable experience for cadets especially for some of the younger ones who had not been away from home before."

The 45 cadets, all aged between 10-16 years, were sponsored for their sleepover with all monies raised going towards a new roof for the Sea Cadet unit at Fishermans Green.

Museum Curator, Fran Stovold said she was pleased to offer the fortress as a venue as it was reminiscent of the Redoubt's past use. She explained, *"During the 19th century when the fortress' barrack rooms were full, additional soldiers would camp in the parade ground just like the cadets did this weekend."*

During their stay at the Redoubt the cadets had a tour of the museum, a barbecue, and games all before lights out at 11pm. Despite a forecast of overnight showers, good weather prevailed and the cadets were up bright and early at 6.30am for breakfast and a quick session of PT (Physical Training) before packing up their kit and heading back to the Sea Cadet Unit at Fisherman's Green.

Councillor Margaret Bannister, spokesperson for Eastbourne Borough Council who own the fortress, said, *"This was a wonderful opportunity for the Redoubt to be used as a camp once again. The Council were pleased to support the local Sea Cadets with their recording breaking attempt. We hope that they have been successful in creating a new record while at the same time raising money for their new roof."*

The result of the Giant Sleepover will not be known until the results from all over the country have been collected and verified by the officials from the Guinness Book of Records.

Images attached

ENDS

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