Diary

Tue	1	Sep	Leaders' meeting, 7.15 p.m. Lambarde Rd
Mon	7	Sep	First meeting of term
Thu	10	Sep	First Eagles of term
Sun	27	Sep	Uniform Sunday at Lady Boswell's - 10 a.m.
Sat	3	Oct	Barn Dance - Reigate
Sat	17	Oct	Outing - Docklands Museum of London
Mon	26	Oct	Half term - no meeting
Thu	29	Oct	Half term - no Eagles
Sun	1	Nov	Church Parade - St Nicholas - 9.15 a.m.
Sat	7	Nov	Family Quiz Evening - 6 p.m.
Sat	14	Nov	Barn dance band at Merstham - eve
Sat	21	Nov	Barn dance - Caterham - eve
Thu	10	Dec	Last Eagles of term
Sat	12	Dec	Craftsmen & Leaders Mince pies & social - 7 p.m.
Mon	14	Dec	Last meeting of term Carol singing for all - 6.30 p.m.
Mon	4	Jan	Leaders' meeting, 7.15 p.m. Lambarde Rd
Thu	7	Jan	First Eagles of term
Mon	11	Jan	First meeting of term

St Nicholas Sevenoaks
St John's Hill U.R.C.

Sevenoaks Campaigners

News

Autumn 2026

Cacti & carnivorous plants for sale from 50p (See inside)

Key dates:

- **Docklands 17th Oct**
- **Family Quiz evening 7th Nov**
- **Carols & games 14th Dec**

Our age groups

Eagles - 4 & 5 year olds (some young 6's)

Junos - 6 years old to Christmas of school year 6.

Inters - September of school year 6 to the end of the term in which you are 15. Applications to join Craftsmen may be made during or after the term in which you are 14. (This requires church attendance).

Craftsmen - 14 years upwards.

Note that there can be overlaps of eligibility between Eagles & Junos and Juno & Inters. During those overlaps either or both groups may be attended.

Summer Camp eligibility

To be eligible for any camps next summer you must be in at least school year 5 and under 14 on 31st March 2027. If you are over 14 at that date, you will only be eligible if you have joined Craftsmen. Joining Craftsmen is by application and it requires a commitment to regular church attendance.

Camp Archery

Co-ordinators: Albert & Elizabeth Wood, tel: 01732 456745
Web site: www.sevenoakscampaigners.co.uk Registered Charity 1200883

From Bells to Romans and back

As I am writing there has just been an alert on my 'phone about the high risk of wild fires and the need to avoid accidentally starting one. Of course, in times past alerts of various kinds could be sounded using church bells when rapid or erratic ringing might be used to warn of impending danger. Such warnings could be heard at considerable distances. For example, we live more than a mile away from St Nicholas Church, yet we frequently hear the bells from outside our house.

It was only last Sunday that the bells were being 'rung up' as I went to church and I counted 4 that seemed to be in Use - presumably limited by the number of ringers available. St Nicholas actually has 8 bells and has had that number for over 250 years - since 1769. There were bells in the tower long before that, but it is not known when they were first installed (it has to have been after 1450 when the tower was built). It is known that up until 1769 the church had 6 bells. Hence the lane leading from the London Road to the church is called 'Six Bells Lane.' The first complete ring of 8 bells was produced in 1769 by recasting the earlier set of 6 bells. Four of the 8 were subsequently recast again in 1897 and some of you may remember the complete refitting and recasting of the bells to produce the current set. That was done in 1966.

This latest ring of bells has each one inscribed in memory of, or as a gift of, a whole variety of people and families who had been involved with St Nicholas in 1966. For some of us those names are in themselves a trip down memory lane, but they also remind us of the way in which a church is formed by a body of people working together as they follow Jesus. Ringing bells is a good example of that because each ringer needs to be fully alert as to what the other ringers are doing so as to fit in to the overall effect.

On our summer camp we encountered a similar theme in Ephesians 6, which speaks of the armour of God. We were reminded of the way the Roman army could form a tortoise or shield wall. Each legionary would thrust his sword to the right of his shield and would be dependent on the person to his left to protect him. Further than that, the whole formation acted in mutual dependence; the failure of one shield bearer threatened the whole group. This mutual dependence is a feature of any effective Christian church or community. Failure of it should sound an alert to imminent danger.

Carol Singing & Games - 14th December

6.30 to 8.30 p.m.

For our last meeting of term we gather with outdoor clothing to sing carols outside (weather permitting). We will then return to the hall to have refreshments with mince pies, and games for young people. There will be refreshments and mince pies for adults in the quiet environment of the small hall.

We would value any parents and other adults to join us for this occasion.

Leaders & Craftsmen

Mince pie making & Games

Please aim to join us and sign on the Magic List which is with our files.

Saturday, 12th December

This is a combined event for Leaders and Craftsmen to make some mince pies in preparation for our Carol Singing and to enjoy games and social activities together.

We meet at 24, Lambarde Road for 7 p.m. and end by 10.30 p.m.

Cactus 1½ year seedlings & cuttings

As these are only 50p they are **first come, with cash, first served.** We have propagated these plants, so our supply does have limits. They are drought-resistant and like to dry out between waterings.

Some of our cacti in the Spring

Plus one or two carnivorous pitcher plants at £1 - we have also propagated these. Unlike cacti, they like to be permanently wet.

Church Parade - 1st Nov - 9.15 a.m. at St Nicholas Church

We hope that all of our members will adjust their Sunday routine as needed to join us for this service. We plan to use the band outside the church, to sit together in uniform in church and to carry colours.

If you don't usually go to a church on Sundays, please consider being with us on that day. It would be great to see you.

Uniform Sunday - Lady Boswell's - 27th Sept at 10.00 a.m.

If you usually go to the Lady Boswell's service, please wear uniform on that day. If you don't usually go to a church we would be delighted to have you join us there. For Craftsmen & Leaders: We would like to use the band outside the school before the service. Please join us for 9.35 so that we can be ready to do that.

Subscriptions: £1.20 per week (£1.40 for Eagles) or at a discount for the term in advance

Mondays **£1.20** or **£12.50** for the term in advance
(13 Mondays, no subs for 14th Dec)

Eagles **£1.40** or **£14.50** for the term in advance
(13 Thursdays)

Craftsmen pay a membership fee for the term. It is in line with the discounted termly fee, so please pay £12.50 within the first two weeks of term.

Please make cheques payable to 'Sevenoaks Campaigners'. Cash or online payments are also fine.

Online payments to
'Sevenoaks Campaigners'
60-19-02 a/c 30302102

The Eagles subscription is higher than for the other sections because that age group is provided with uniforms at no extra cost.

Advanced warning: We are planning for a modest increase in subs in the New year.

Clan Cs

Eagles: Creation, Great Rescue, God's people are … Christmas.

Juniors: Our focus will be on a variety of Bible characters.

Inters: This term we will be considering the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's gospel

Ruth gleaning

Family Quiz Evening

Saturday 7th Nov, 6.00 - 8.30 p.m.

Our family quiz evening is intended for friends of all ages. Do invite friends & relations. Adults are welcome without children, but please do not send unaccompanied children as we are not able to supervise them on this occasion.

£10 Fish

£5 Sausage or veggie

Teams will be up to 6 adults, and we can make up teams (by mutual consent) on the evening. If you are coming with a pre-made team, please advise us about who is in your team.

Includes your choice of:

Fish & chips
Sausage & chips
Veg. Burger & chips

Please book by paying the fee - cheque, cash, or online transfer and let us know your choices of food when you book.

Online transfers to 'Sevenoaks Campaigners' 60-19-02 a/c 30302102

Calling 4 & 5 year olds

Our little Eagles group needs an input of 4 and 5 year olds to join us on Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Please invite anyone you know of in that age group.

Year 6s

For those who have just joined school year 6 we are beginning to think about you moving into Inters. During the Autumn you are welcome to either remain in Junos, to move into Inters, or to attend both meetings (no additional subs).

From January 2027 you would be in Inters (meeting at 7.30 p.m.)

London Museum, Docklands

(As much about the travel as the arrival)

£10 **for children** **£20** for adults, or -
£10 if you have a train ticket

The plan is for: 17th October

- **train** travel to and from London
- **boat** trip from Embankment to Canary Wharf (and back)
- **visit** the museum (and picnic there)

We do have to make bookings in advance so a prompt response is needed if you are interested.

Thames Clipper
- by Andreiflorea993 CC BY-SA 4.0

On the day

We meet at Sevenoaks Train station for 9.30 a.m.:

- Wear uniform
- Bring a picnic
- Have clothing suitable for the day.

We expect to be back towards the end of the afternoon. A more precise time will be known on the day.