

JAMBOREE PAPER



Saturday 30th July 2022



One of the problems at the Jamboree site is the plentiful deep ditches. Pictured is Adam on the right with Melias walking besides him. Photo: Nikolaj Christian Frandsen

Jamboree Denmark helps bridge differences

Although you are a person with a disability who uses a wheelchair, you can still build with wooden poles and participate in activities with your scout/guide friends.

15 year old Adam Gundel Pedersen is a KFUM scout with cerebral paralysis in the right side of the body, and he uses an electric wheelchair.

At Jamboree Denmark Adam participates in most of the activities with the other scouts and guides at the jamboree. Also when it comes to building a tripod on the group's campsite.

"It is awesome to build stuff out of wooden poles. It gives a good sense of community. You can build so much stuff out of wooden poles." says Adam as he builds the tripod with his left hand with his scout friend Melias Sommerlund.

More bridges

Adam starts the electric wheelchair and shows how he drives on the uneven gravel roads, drives over the boxes with electric cables running over the roads, and how the huge water hoses barely challenges his ability to get around the camp.

It is only at the ditch that separates the campsite from the gravel road that Adam faces a challenge. Sadly the ice cream kiosk is out on the road.

"It is annoying with that passage. I cannot pass it, so I have to drive around, and that takes a long time. But the others wait for me when we go and get ice

cream. But I would have liked a bridge for those of us in wheelchair."

Adam and Melias agree that "The most important thing about being a scout is that we help each other. We have a sense of community."

They add:

"For the next Jamboree it would be great if they made it easier for those in wheelchairs, so we can participate in all of the activities. This Jamboree there is a lot of activities, that scouts and guides in wheelchairs cannot participate in. But then we try and do other stuff, so they don't feel excluded."



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Jamboree boyfriend/girlfriends

You might have seen Hanna walk around the Jamboree, but did you know that Hanna is in charge of handing out the Jamboree girlfriend/boyfriend badges?

So far, Hanna has handed out 400 badges. So there might be more than 200 couples walking around the Jamboree and maybe more wanting to be a part of a couple?

The youngest who has been given the badge was 13 and the oldest was 60!

We have asked Hanna if she has any tips on how to get a Jamboree GF or BF.

Hanna told us that you should be honest about feelings and to be open to other people.

Hanna also told us a trick. It goes this way: Find a cute boy or girl and put a Jamboree boyfriend/girlfriend badge in their hand and ask if they want to take it or get it together.

A couple of reasons why that is an awesome way to do it, is that it is smooth and cool.

A little fun fact: It was a 13-year-old boy who made the badges.



Hanna is in charge of handing out the Jamboree girlfriend/boyfriend badges. Photo: Oscar



Remove bias against mental illnesses

The jamboree is focused on creating a common future for everyone. Including those with a mental illnesses. Therefore, one of the activities at the jamboree is about removing prejudices about invisible mental illness.

Prejudices like: People with a mental illness can never get better, they are dangerous, and they just need to pull themselves together.

These sentences are written on a large board, which you can throw paint at, so that all the sentences are completely covered in the end.

"We need to talk about mental illnesses. These illnesses are associated with stigma, and

when you know nothing about it, it contributes to making the illnesses worse. We want to give the children a language so that they can better understand the illnesses," says Tina Mastrup, Children Specialist consultant at Psykiatrifonden ('The psychiatry foundation', a Danish organisation).

Games with an important point
They have also brought a big game about people with mental

illnesses. "The two activities are meant to highlight that people are not their illness, but that they have an illness. They are NOT their illness. That is an important point for us." Continues Tina Mastrup.

The activities are a collaboration between Psykiatrifonden ('The psychiatry foundation'), Ole Kirk's Fond (A Danish charity trust) and Børns Vilkår (A foundation based fighting for children's rights)



Weather Sunday

Day: up to 22° C
Night: down to 14° C
Rain: 1 mm
Wind: 5 m/s



Listen to the jamboree radio and podcasts via the front page of the jamboree's website.



Photo: Maj-Britt Nielsen