

National Scout & Guide Fellowship UK

**27th Western European Sub-Region Gathering
8th – 12th October 2018 - Eastbourne, England.**

Newsletter No 1

Plans are in place and we are ready to go.



The theme for the
Gathering is:

“Flowering of Friendship”



The venue for the
Gathering is:

Claremont Hotel

1 Grand Parade

Eastbourne, England

The date for the Gathering is:

Monday 8th – Friday 12th October 2018

Eastbourne, England



Eastbourne is an enchanting mix of classic Victorian architecture and modern attractions. Its five miles of promenade run along the beaches leading you past stunning gardens, the smartly restored Victorian Pier, famous 1930s bandstand and historic Napoleonic Towers and Fortress. It has the only 5 star, seaside hotel in England – a wonderful place for a thoroughly English afternoon tea. It enjoys high levels of sunshine and a mild climate. With its picture perfect harbour, shopping centres, great restaurants and inspiring galleries and museums, it has all the ingredients to make a great venue for the Gathering.

Claremont Hotel, 1 Grand Parade



Our committee stayed at the hotel for 4 days to experience the standards, food, and facilities. Our National Chairman made a further visit to stay at the hotel to confirm that this is the right venue for the Gathering.

The Claremont occupies a prime sea-front location on Eastbourne's, Grand Parade. The hotel occupies a beautiful Victorian building. It has 72 comfortable bedrooms with 37 having sea view rooms which offer uninterrupted views of the beach, historic Pier and the English Channel. It has a large dining room, comfortable lounge, coffee shop and bar & entertainment room. The town centre with its variety of shops, cafes and cultural activities is just a 5 minute walk away. It has 5 specially adapted easy access rooms on the ground floor and a lift to the upper and lower floors.

Programme

The programme will allow time for exploring Eastbourne and relaxing in the Hotel.

Presentations by members, and exchanges of information. Evening entertainment in the spacious hotel bar & lounge, will include, a singing group (possibly campfire songs), a chance to learn hand-bell ringing and to watch and join in with traditional English Morris Dancing.



There will be a day out with a choice of local destinations, including **Battle, Brighton, Beachy Head & Birling Gap.**



Costs

The committee are working on a cost for the Gathering of about £300 per person.

That will give us **exclusive use of the whole Hotel** and include:

- **accommodation for 4 nights,**
- **full breakfast on 4 mornings,**
- **3 course dinner on 4 evenings,**
- **a day out and**
- **meetings and entertainment.**

We will confirm the cost in the second Newsletter due out in June 2017, and we will be issuing the Registration Forms in September 2017.

As there are only 72 rooms in the hotel, bookings will be on a first come basis, so please be ready to book early with a deposit of £100

Travel – How to get here.

Eastbourne was chosen as it has excellent transport links, with Europe.

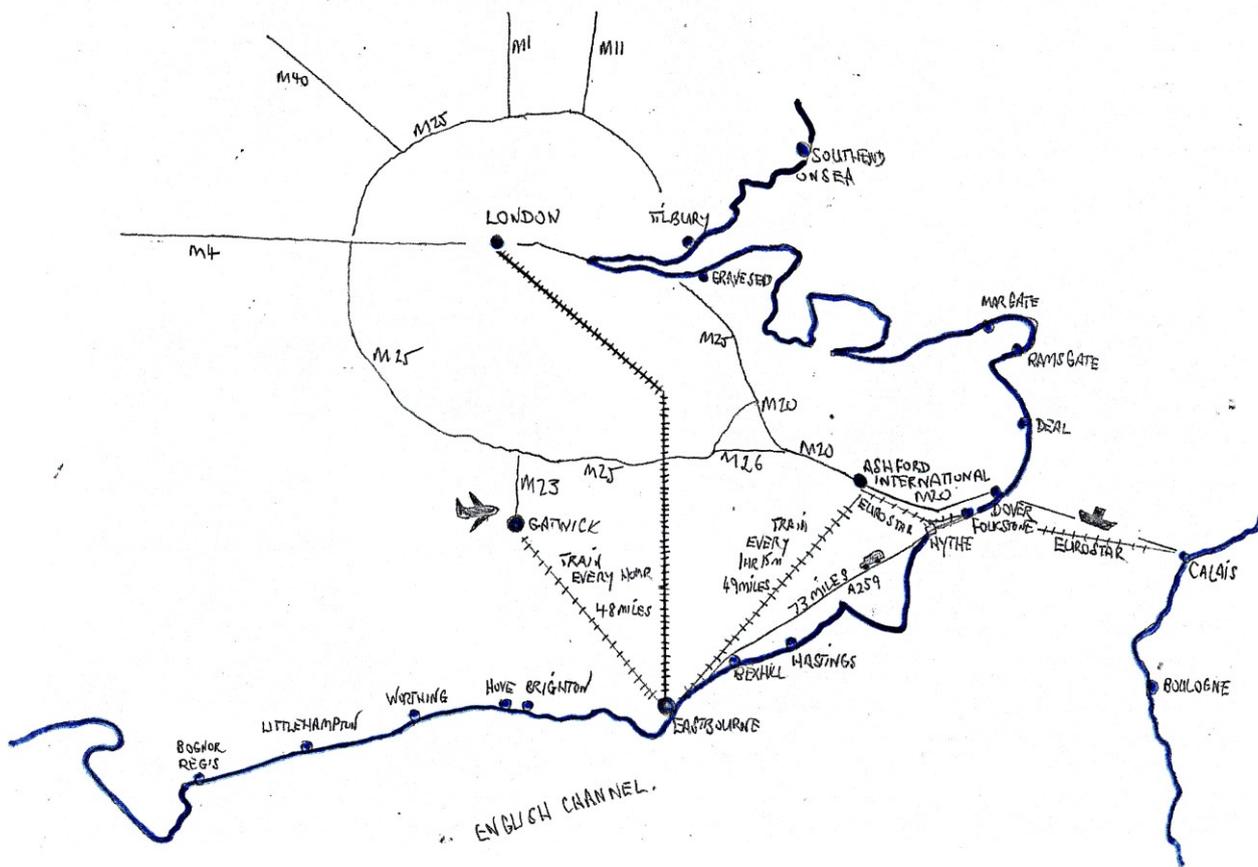
By **air** to **London Gatwick**, where there is an hourly direct rail connection to Eastbourne, with a journey time of 1hr. 20mins.

By **train** from **London Victoria**, trains run every half hour with a journey time of 1hr 28mins.

Eurostar stops at **Ashford International Station** with an hourly direct rail service to Eastbourne, journey time of 1hr. 15mins.

By **ferry** from **Dunkirk & Calais to Dover or Dieppe – Newhaven**.

Eastbourne - Easy Access by Air, sea, Rail & Road



Eastbourne station is about 1km from the hotel and there will be members to greet you at the station meeting point and direct you to the Taxi's.

