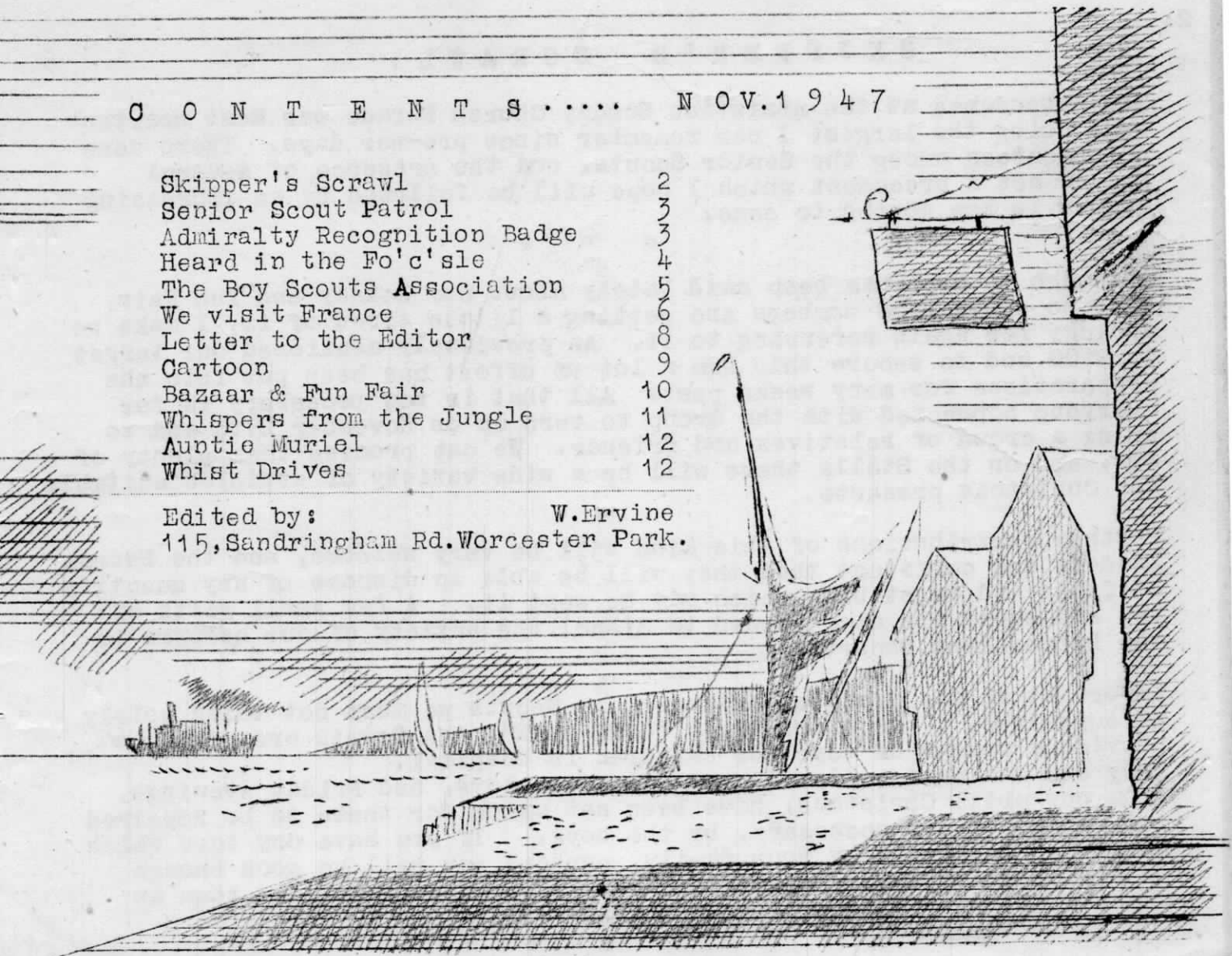


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Edited by: W. Ervine
115, Sandringham Rd. Worcester Park.



S K I P P E R ' S S C R A W L .

The attendance at the Armistice Sunday Church Parade was most heartening; being the largest I can remember since pre-war days. There were no absentees among the Senior Scouts, and the presence of several Rovers set a precedent which I hope will be followed by an increasing number in the months to come.

* * *

Although so much has been said lately about our Bazaar and Fun Fair, that no doubt some members are getting a little tired of it, I make no apology for again referring to it. As previously mentioned our target is £100 and to secure this sum a lot of effort has been put into the preparations for many weeks past. All that is now necessary is for everyone connected with the Group to turn up on November 29th and to bring a crowd of relatives and friends. We can promise them plenty of fun, and on the Stalls there will be a wide variety of articles suitable for Christmas presents.

Further contributions of this kind will be very welcome, and the Patrol Leaders are confident that they will be able to dispose of any quantity of fruit and vegetables which may be sent it. A few small gifts of tea and sugar are also needed to dispel the anxiety of our helpers in the Refreshment Department.

* * *

Important as the Group's needs are, as Scouts we must not think solely of ourselves. As a Christmas "GOOD TURN", the Scouts are aiming to provide a number of toys for children in hospital. They are making a collection of discarded toys, and Friday evenings, from now until Christmas, have been set aside for these to be repaired and repainted, as necessary, by the boys. If you have any toys which have been discarded by your family, perhaps you will be good enough to pass them on, the Troop will do what is necessary to make them an acceptable gift to some youngster in hospital.

SENIOR SCOUT PATROL

With the reorganisation of the Group after Summer Camp, a new Senior Patrol (the Scott Patrol) has now been formed, with B. Matyear as Patrol Leader.

The Patrol consists of three Scouts who have come up from the Junior Troop, W.Manning (who is Patrol Second), J.Sharp, and K. Quinnen, and three who have recently joined the Group, D.McCree (from Leeds), F.Riches (from Exeter) and J.Scott (from Molesey).

The programme provides an instructional meeting on Wednesday evenings and week-end activities at the Troop Headquarters, and elsewhere. At present the Patrol are co-operating with the Surbiton Park Senior Scouts in the construction of an entrance gateway to the Scout Camping Ground at Oxshott.

ADMIRALTY RECOGNITION
BADGE

The Sea Scouts who are members of Admiralty Recognised Units are now authorised to wear the badge shown here.

Nearly 100 Sea Scout Troops (including our own) in the United Kingdom are recognised by the Admiralty as providing facilities for pre-service training.

To obtain such recognition, the Troop must consist of at least 50 Scouts, and it is inspected yearly by a representative of the Admiralty.

The Admiralty make a grant, at the rate of 3/6d. per annum in respect of each Sea Scout, such grant being used by the Boy Scouts Association to provide equipment for Sea Scout Troops.



H E A R D I N T H E F O ' C ' S L E .

Congratulations to our worthy Cubmaster (Miss Alma Woods) who has recently become engaged to Mr. J. Knight of Kingston.

Congratulations also to Mr. & Mrs. L. Pidduck upon the arrival, on 28th October, of a daughter Susan, a sister for Ron.

Congratulations too, to Walter Shires, an old "Leander", whose second son was born in September.

We met Wally Godfrey, whom we had not seen for about 30 years. Wally who was injured in a French train smash during the last war, was in the Troop so long ago that we might call him a "founder-member". What memories this meeting brought back - the Troop's very first camp at Burford Bridge, with its WASPS! Dick Burrell's famous song "The Little Shirt my Mother made for me". - P/L Ervine (a slim curly-headed lad!) - when the Troop's bank balance would just about have bought a penny stamp! Oh, dear, "Them were the days!!!"

Bryan Wilson, another old "Leander" was married in February - congratulations Bryan, although a little late with our wishes. Bryan is now demobbed from the R.A.F. and has started a business at Morpeth.

Also demobbed from the Royal Navy are Desmond Hickey and Douglas Child, both of whom, together with Donald Dolamore are often to be met in the fo'c'sle these days.

"RUDGE", through his venerable white beard, mumbles a croak of good wishes to all "Leanders" whom he knew in the days of Charmouth, Poole, Wittering - Shuttering, Pudlo, and three-to-one!

Another "second generation" has recently joined the Troop - NORMAN SMART's son Michael is one of the newest "Leanders".

5.

THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION .

The recently issued Annual Report of the Boy Scouts Association for the year ended 31st March, 1947, reveals that the total number of Scouts and Scouters in the U.K. is nearly 467,000 (Surrey's total being some 18,000). The total number of Scouts in the world is estimated to be at least four millions. During the year, Lord Rowallan, Chief Scout of the British Commonwealth, visited Canada and West Africa, and was enthusiastically received by the Scouts of both territories. It is interesting to note that the demand for Scouting in some Colonies is so great as to justify the appointment of full-time Organising Commissioners.

At home, although a large number have returned from the Forces, more Scoutmasters are needed if the work of the Boy Scout Movement is to progress as it should do. In October 1946, the Senior Scout system was officially introduced, thus dividing the Movement into four Sections - Wolf Cubs (8 - 11) Scouts (11 - 15) Senior Scouts (15 - 18) and Rover Scouts (18 years and over).

Two Sea Scouts were allowed to accompany their Majesties aboard H.M.S. "Vanguard", on the occasion of the South African Tour. 19 Senior Scouts were chosen to go with the Public Schools Exploring Society's 1947 Expedition, and are at present surveying the remoter parts of Newfoundland. 33 Scouts and Cubs have been awarded scholarships to the Rhodesia Fairbridge Memorial College.

The Association owns or leases 14 Camping Grounds in England (in addition to a number owned directly by local Scout Associations). A small Convalescent Home is maintained for Scouts, and in Stepney there is a Settlement & Hostel, known as Roland House, which forms a centre for Scouting activities in East London, and accommodation for visiting Scouts. When conditions permit, it is intended to build (as a memorial to Lord Baden-Powell, the Founder of the Scout Movement) a house in the centre of London, to be used as a meeting place for Scouts from all over the world.

The Balance Sheet as at the 31st March, 1947, shows that the assets of the Boy Scouts Association (including property and investments) amount to nearly three-quarters of a million pounds.

W E V I S I T F R A N C E .

Three of the "Leander" Troop attended the International Jamboree in France. Bill Manning, as a member of the Kingston Troop in the Surrey Contingent and Gordon Biden and Maurice Buer as members of the H.Q. Sea Scout party. Here are their stories .

By Bill Manning.

My party went by train from Victoria to Newhaven and by cross-channel steamer to Dieppe. The crossing was quite an experience, taking about $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours. At Dieppe we were welcomed by crowds of people, and disembarking, we scrambled aboard our first French train, which was by no means as comfortable as the English one that had taken us to Newhaven. It took us, via Rouen, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours to reach the Jamboree Station, Rosny-sur-Seine, and in a very frail French bus we got to our destination, the Jamboree at Moisson, about 11,30 at night, all very tired. The Jamboree proper commenced on Saturday, and the opening and closing ceremonies were most impressive. The first took place at night. The Scouts of all nations marching down huge twin ramps, in the midst of searchlights, spot lights, and flaming torches to the playing of bands. It looked really magnificent. The closing ceremony was in the daytime, the Scouts of the various nations marched round the arena in the form of a Carrick Bend, and where the ropes of the bend crossed, as it were, the Scouts marched over and under huge ramps. During the Jamboree, we invited foreign Scouts to meals, and they returned the compliment, we soon got friendly swapping badges and autographs. There were various parades and some of the Troop to which I was attached, took part in a B.B.C. broadcast. On one unforgettable day we went to Paris, visiting Notre Dame, Arc de Triumphe, and the Eiffel Tower. For 75 francs ($3\frac{1}{2}$) we went up the Tower, and from the top had a superb view of Paris. For the return journey we had to get up at 2 a.m. and were all very tired when we got home.

WE VISIT FRANCE - by Gordon Biden & Maurice Buer.

We left Kingston at 7 o'clock on Saturday morning to join our ship the "Loyang" at Newhaven. Already on board were the other members of the crew, the Skipper, Capt. Heather, Joe, the Polish Engineer (speaks 5 languages), Lt. Commdr. H. Taylor, Mr. P. Denham Christie (H.Q. Commissioner for Sea Scouts) and 10 Scouts from various Troops. We weighed anchor on Monday afternoon and were then divided into 3 watches, each boy doing half-an-hour's trick at the wheel. Reaching Le Havre, we made fast alongside a French fishing boat at about 7 a.m. on Tuesday. Having satisfied the Customs, we entered the Tankerville Canal, through a lock, and here Gordon, throwing a line ashore, tripped over a bollard and fell in the 'drink' in his best uniform, to emerge covered in Diesel oil. Half way through the canal it was necessary for some members of the crew to obtain a clearance from the Customs Inspector, and this meant a ride in a rusty old tram, without windows or brakes, and full of bullet holes. That evening we reached the end of the canal and entered a lock leading into the Seine, and once again Gordon was up to his tricks. Rather than throw a line this time, he jumped ashore with one, and tore his trousers from top to bottom on a piece of iron, and so he found himself with 2 pairs of trousers "hors de combat!"

On Wednesday we went ashore at Duclair where we sampled the French fruits and sweets. Thursday found us at Rouen, and on Friday we dropped anchor off the Sea Scout Island (Camp Maritim). Here the British flag was hoisted at the main-mast as the French Scouts said we were the only ones to come from our country in our own boat, flying the French tri-colour at the masthead. Within 10 minutes we received an invitation to dinner with the French Rovers - a 5-course meal. The following days were spent making friends with the Scouts from 47 different nations, and one day was set aside as Sea Scout day. In the competitions between the Sea Scouts of the different countries, we won the whaler race and came second in the canoe race, being beaten by some Hungarian Scouts. Next day we were inspected by the Chief Scout, representatives of the French Government and Navy, and some high-ranking R.N. officers. Then a trip to Paris by coach, stopping at Versailles, to see the palace. On

3.
reaching Paris we were given a free six-course dinner, consisting of salad, roast, mushrooms, creamed potatoes, boiled fish, greengages, apricots, grapes and wine! (Oh boy!). We visited Notre Dame Cathedral, Eiffel Tower, Palais de Chaillot, Arc de Triumphe, Champs-Elysees, La Madelaine, Sacre Coeur and the Paris Opera House. The following day we left for home, and after stopping at Coudabee to do some shopping, finally arrived back at Newhaven after the finest holiday of our lives, and we want to say "Thank you" for the financial aid given us from the Troop funds, without which it would not have been possible for us to have attended the JAMBOREE DE LA PAIX at Moisson in France.

* * * * *

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Editor,

In my opinion the account of the Summer Camp (Juniors) was totally inadequate and indeed rather childish. Any person who is not actually in the Troop, or was not at the Camp, would not understand the various rhymes, and references to the events.

Also, many important events were missed out, this being due to the fact, I think, that the author of the notes could not have been present all the period of the camp. No reference was made to the Cricket Match between the 1st Poole Sea Scouts and ourselves, which resulted in a win for their Senior II and our Junior II. The Oarsman's Badge Examination was not mentioned when five "Leanders" and about 7 "Sparks" gained their badges.

Why was the account of the Juniors Camp only given one page, whereas the Seniors were allowed three pages?

I feel that accounts such as the one published, lower the tone of the "Water Rat" and causes it to fall short of the previous issues. Please Mr. Editor, do let us have something more up to the standard of "Leanders" to which I consider it to be an honour to belong.

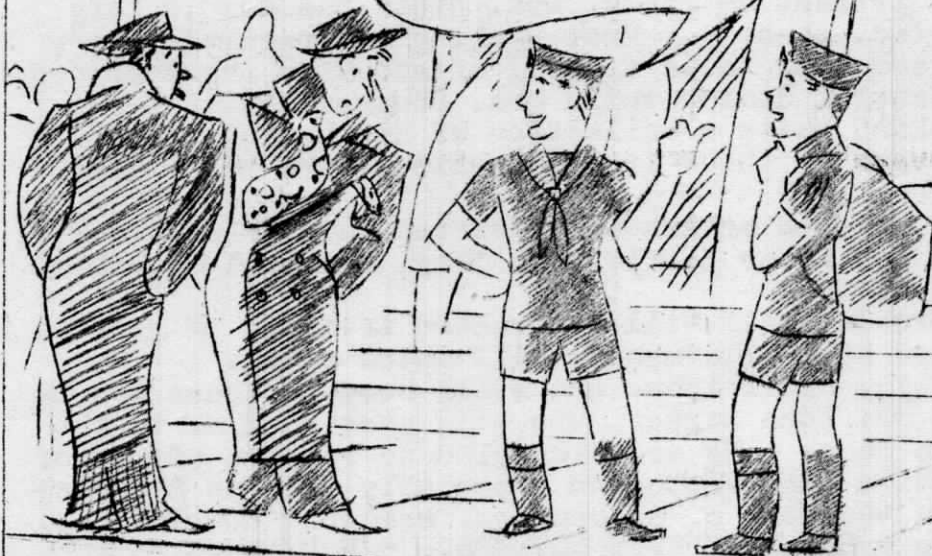
Yours faithfully,

J. DOVE.

LEANDER BAZAAR

NOV. 29TH

GOING TO TRY
OUR "MARKET" - CHUM?!





We want you to come, with your friends, prepared to spend the afternoon and evening with us at the BAZAAR & FUN FAIR on Saturday 29th NOVEMBER at ALL SAINTS HALL, Ashdown Rd. Kingston.

Doors open at 3 p.m., and there will be displays by the CUBS at 4 p.m., and by the SCOUTS at 5.30 p.m. TWO FILM SHOWS at 4.30 p.m. and 6 p.m., and CONJURING by Professor Al Good, (who is a member of the Institute of Magicians), at 5 p.m., and 6.30 p.m.

At 7.30 the BAZAAR will close down, and there will be a "Leander" SOCIAL EVENING until 10.30 p.m. ON THE STALLS will be found many useful articles suitable for presents, and also for decorating the Christmas Tree, and they are all reasonably priced.

Together with many other attractive items, Mrs. Biden has some dainty little Dog Brooches at 1/6d. each. Mrs. Harling's "Preserves, etc", provide an opportunity (too good to be missed) of stocking the cupboard. Mrs. Dodge will have a General Stall, while Mrs. Ebbage, Mrs. Edwards and friends have been making quite a collection of crocheting, felt-work, etc. and "fly-starvers" - those little muslin covers with beads round the edges.

On the SIDE SHOWS there are such prizes as a Knitted Fair Isle Pullover, Whistling Kettle, Rubber Hot Water Bottle, Tea Tray, and various other useful things waiting to be won.

A Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Stall will be erected if those of you who have some fruit stored, or have allotments, will think of us.

Gifts for any of the Stalls, and Prizes, are still needed. These can be left with Mrs. Ebbage at 82, Eden Street, who will pass them on to the appropriate Stall or Side Show. We are also glad to receive offers of help with Refreshments, Side Shows, etc. and especially help on Saturday MORNING at the Hall, with the work of decorating, erecting Stalls, etc. Please keep the date free - SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER, - MORNING, AFTERNOON and EVENING!!!

Dear Cubs,

Here we are once again, and I expect by this time you are all getting ready for the Bazaar on the 29th November. Don't forget to bring as many friends along as you can. I'm sure quite a number of them would like to see the little play you are doing.

We are very sorry to lose Martin Evans, Trevor Lawson, St. John Lucas-Lucas and Michael Roberts, who have gone up into the Scouts, but we realise that we must all grow up someday, and that there are much more exciting things to do in the world that lies beyond the Jungle. We always have a warm welcome for the new chums that come along, and I don't think the old ones mind that little bit of extra tongue-wagging to tell the new ones "what's what".

I'm pleased to see that Whites and Tawnies are gradually catching the Reds up. Let us see if Whites can calm down their rather talkative person, and win the shield for Christmas. It would be rather nice for a change.

It is good to see such a lot of you working hard for your First Stars, and I hope it won't be long now before I have to present a few. It would look grand to see a few of you wearing Second Stars as well.

Good Hunting,

AKELA.

2.

L I S T E N - I N T O A U N T I E M U R I E L

How nice to see some of the old "Leanders" back in uniform once more, but Oh, D....d D.....e, WHAT LONG LEGS YOU HAVE!

* * * * *

When the 4 Patrol Leaders did their First Class Journey recently, they stayed, I understand, at the "Brownacres" Hotel, where hot baths were the order of the day. Did the "service" also include breakfast in bed?

* * * * *

No, J...y, we have it on quite good authority that AKELA was not really thinking of the easiest way of obtaining a house when she became engaged to the gentleman in the Estate Office next door!

* * * * *

W H I S T D R I V E S !

Two well-attended Whist Drives were held at the Headquarters during September and October, and there are two more yet - on THURSDAY 20th NOVEMBER, and 16th JANUARY at 8 p.m. Admission 1/6d. including refreshments. Come along and meet old friends.

D A N G E R O U S T R E E S L O P P E D & F E L L E D
ESTIMATES FREE. EXPERT ADVICE. FULLY INSURED.

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