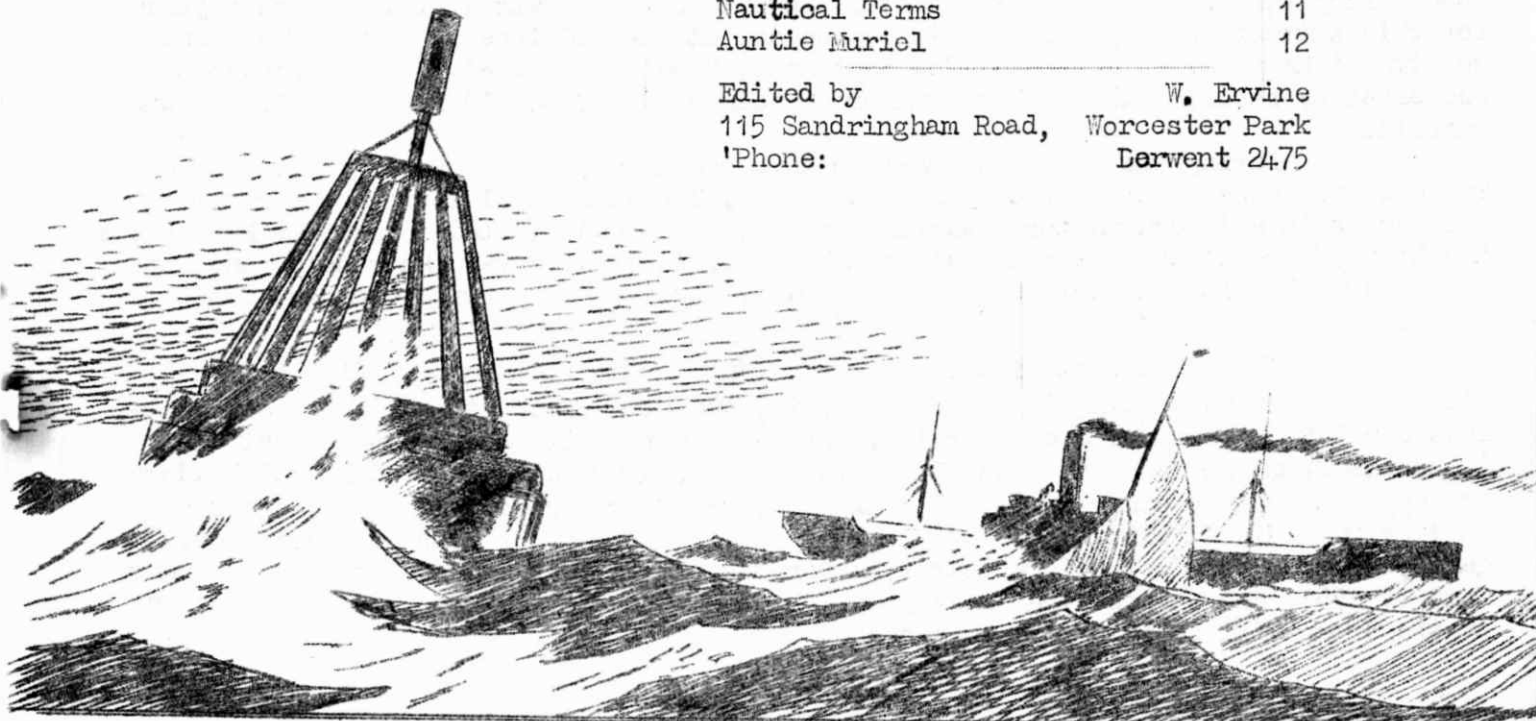


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SKIPPER'S SCRAWL.

We have all learned with the most profound regret of the tragic loss of G/S/M John Weeden and his crew of the 1st Mortlake Group, many of whom were personally known to the Scouts and Rovers of this Group. The County Commissioner for Surrey has appealed to all Scouts in Surrey to give their support to a fund for the assistance of Mr. Weeden's wife and four young children, and dependent relatives of the others. This has a special claim on us as Sea Scouts, and I am asking for a contribution from each member of our Group.

After "Leanders" spectacular win in the County Camping Competition at Merstham in July, the County Commissioner wrote that he was looking forward to a land Scout Troop winning a Sea Scout Regatta. He will have to wait at least another year for this extraordinary phenomenon to happen as, at the Middlesex & Surrey Sea Scout Regatta at Hampton, on Saturday 23rd September, "Leanders" added to their previous successes by securing the highest number of points out of the 20 Sea Scout Troops who competed.

During the past few years we have had a number of boys in the Pack and Troop whose fathers were formerly in "Leanders". George Goodall II is the first to hold an Assistant Scoutmaster's Warrant, and we are now delighted to welcome Phil Day's daughter (Maureen) as acting Assistant Cubmaster. We greatly value her help, and hope that she will enjoy the work and will, one day, receive her Warrant from the Chief Scout.

The period immediately following Summer Camp is always a difficult one, with Scouts and Cubs going to new Schools, etc, and attendance at Pack and Troop meetings usually suffers for a week or two. It is also the time when we make most transfers from one section of the Group to another, and new Sixers and Patrol Leaders are appointed. Altogether a time of great upheaval! However, everyone should now be getting into his stride, and we are looking forward to another year of adventures, games, and some hard work, in preparation for the climax of this Scout year - the Summer Camp of 1951, and we hope that next year, for the first time since 1939, ALL Sections of the Group will be able to hold a camp.

The most pressing need of the Group now, as always, is more M O N E Y ! We want everyone, parents, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, cousins and friends, to come along on SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18th, to St. Peter's Hall, London Rd. Kingston, and make our BAZAAR & FUN FAIR a bumper success. We are AIMING at £100 this year. Will YOU help?

S C O U T T R O O P S U M M E R C A M P .

The Summer Camp was this year held for 2 weeks at Upton Park, Poole, Dorset, under the charge of Acting S/M. Peter Burton, assisted by A/S/Ms Maurice Buer and Charlie Bishop, and Peter Dean of Kingston Schools Group acted as Quartermaster. There were 4 Patrols, Beavers: P/L Wally Shennan, Seals: P/L Michael Smart, Herons: P/L John Cobb, and Seagulls: P/L Michael Roberts, and the Rover Crew had four members the first week, and six the second week. Some of the campers made the journey by train, and others by lorry, on which, in addition to kit, etc. were four boats, "Hero", a 12' dinghy, a 8' pram, and the famous canoe "Black Mamba". The Beaver Patrol, whose members all live some distance from Headquarters, slept Saturday night at the Clubroom so that an early start could be made on Sunday morning (Sunday being the only day on which the lorry was available).

The first two days were spent in settling down. The campsite was at the water's edge, and the tents (our new ones) were pitched about 50 yards apart. A/S/Ms Bishop and Buer slept in hammocks. A log bridge was constructed over a boggy stream, and a table was made from some dead trees which were chopped down. Each Patrol did its own cooking, and each constructed a brick oven in which some extraordinarily good cooking was done. The menus included Soup, apple pies, jam roly-poly, stews, whale steaks, and fried kidneys. Paul Sanderson, who had his Tenderfoot Badge only about 3 weeks before camp, and was attending his first camp, became an expert in making jam roly-poly after about 4 days, and this of course was in great demand.

Some good experience was gained in boatwork, and Michael Roberts, Michael Smart, Wally Shennan, Harry Sharp, Charlie Huckson and Dick Garnish, having Oarsman's Badges, went sailing in "Hero" outside the harbour in Poole Bay and Studland Bay, whilst on other occasions one crew sailed to Swanage, and another to Bournemouth, and just whisper it - some of the Seniors were seasick! Wally Shennan, Charlie Huckson, Michael Roberts and John Cobb all went on 1st Class Hikes. On one day a party set off in "Black Mamba"

SCOUT TROOP SUMMER CAMP (contd)

to the railway embankment, alongside which was a deep stream, suitable for swimming. They enjoyed the swim so much that they missed the tide and had to wade back through thick mud, dragging "Black Mamba" behind them. Around the camp site were many dead trees, and some good training in First Class axemanship was obtained in felling these, under the expert tuition of the Estate Woodman.

A Church Parade was held on Sunday at Hamworthy Parish Church, and the officers were specially commended on the high standard of marching. At an adjoining camp site were a Company of Girl Guides from Isleworth, and a combined camp fire was held, at which many dates were made, and addresses and 'phone numbers exchanged. A visit was paid to the camp by two French Scouts, on a cycle tour of Southern England. As they couldn't speak English, French-speaking members of the Troop tried out their French, and invited them to camp the night with them. At breakfast, these two were quite happy, dipping bread and butter into cocoa, and took not the slightest interest in eggs and bacon.

Unfortunately all good things come to an end, and the day before breaking camp, the boats were taken to the farmyard, and the mud and sand washed out of them with a hose. Len Vaizey thoroughly enjoyed himself squirting water over everything and everybody until the Rovers retaliated by seizing him and putting the hose inside the back of his shirt!

On the homeward journey the lorry had a puncture in the back wheel, and to the amazement of the driver, the members of the Troop jumped off, had the wheel off, and changed, and were under weigh again in 15 minutes!

During the whole camp there was a Patrol Competition, for which points were awarded daily for morning ablutions, method of tackling duties, kit inspection, discipline, tents, kitchen, fireplace, stores, cooking, campfire itens, teamwork, leadership, and a night inspection. As might have been expected, this Competition was won by the Beaver Patrol (winners of the County Camping Competition recently) who averaged about 250 points per day out of a possible 355. They were followed by the Seagulls, and the Herons, who kept neck-and-neck the whole time with an average of about 220 daily. The Herons, who although 4 out of 5 of its members were attending their first camp, just beat the Seagulls, and the Seals came 4th, averaging about 190 daily. The Senior A/S/MS comment about the Beavers campsite was "It looked as though it had come out of a book". Dicky Read, who only joined the Troop last December, and camped for the first time, when asked what his impressions were,

replied that he thoroughly enjoyed it, and was not homesick, but was not too enthusiastic about the cooking, which he said was good, but not quite like mother's.

So ended another Summer Camp, and we now look forward to an active Winter programme of Badge work, Seamanship, and plenty of sailing.

A good series of photographs were taken during the Camp, and these will be on view at the BAZAAR on 18th NOVEMBER, at St.Peter's Church Hall, London Rd.

A M P H I B I O U S " L E A N D E R S " .

At the Kingston Association Sports at Tiffin's School, in July, the "Leander" Group showed that they were equally at home on land as they are on water, for Michael Roberts won the Hurdle Race (Juniors), and the 200 yards (Junior). The Trek-cart team - Michael Roberts, Michael Smart, Michael Fletcher, Charlie Huckson, and John Evans, with Donald Frost as their leader, also came First! Nobby Handley, Colin Ford, Dave Farley and Geoff Yeend, won the Senior Relay Race, and John Ford won the Obstacle Race. Dave Farley also pulled off a First in the 120 yards Hurdle Race (Seniors), whilst John Ford and Geoff Yeend won the Wheelbarrow Race. Act.S/M. Peter Burton, S/M. F.Goodger, M.Buer, C.Bishop, G.Goodall, N.Fentiman and John Sharp, with his brother Ken, proved to be such a hefty Tug-o'-War Team that they beat all comers.

On totalling up the points at the end of the Sports, it was found that the "Leander" Juniors came First, the Senior Troop (only losing first place by one point) Second, and the Rover Crew tied with another Crew for First Place.

A P P O I N T M E N T S - SEPT. 1950.

CUB PACK: SIXERS. RED - Alec McJanet TAWNEY - Alan McLeish WHITE - John Spratley

SCOUT TROOP: PATROL LEADERS -

BEAVERS: C. Huckson SEAGULLS: M. Roberts SEALS: H. Sharp HERONS: G. Hopkins

SENIOR TROOP: PATROL LEADERS -

SCOTT: R. Quartermain WATKINS: G. Yeend.

* * * * *

FIRST CLASS HIKE.

Before being awarded the 1st Class Badge, a 2nd Class Scout must pass various tests, one of which requires him to go on foot a twenty-four hour journey of at least 14 miles, during which he must find his own campsite and cook his own meals, and at the end to submit a log giving a full description of the journey. Here is the log submitted for the 1st Class hike carried out at the Summer Camp by C.Ford, J.Ford and Ian Finch.

16.30 hrs. Left UPTON PARK for Hamworthy Junction Station. Started to feel tired halfway. 17.00 hrs. Caught train for Corfe Castle. Were told to change at Wareham, but were wrongly informed, so clambered back into train whilst it was taking on water. 17.55. Reached Corfe Castle. Bought some real pork sausages for tomorrow's dinner. They were very fresh for we saw the pig being killed. Proceeded along the road (the wrong one) and ended up on Corfe Common. Could just see Church Knowle in the distance, so proceeded towards it, passing through a poultry farmyard contemplated spring chicken for tomorrow, but decided against it. 19.00. Reached Church Knowle and roughly sketched the Church, in the rain. Looked around the village for somebody to give us information regarding it, but the villagers only comment was "Its been there as long as I can remember". 19.15. Left Church Knowle and proceeded along a 2nd class road to West Orchard Farm. Enquired of farmer's wife the route to Orchard Hill Farm. 20.15. Arrived at Orchard Hill Farm. Farmer directed us to Encombe House. Passed an obelisk on a hill, so tired after walking $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles that we did not climb up to it. 21.00. Arrived at Encombe House, once a large and beautiful country mansion, but now fallen into disrepair. Enquired our way to the Steps. 21.20. After passing through Encombe Farm arrived at the Steps. It was now getting dark so drew them hurriedly. 21.45. Left Steps and began to climb Hours-tout Cliffs. 22.15. Reached our campsite only to find that the spring used for water during our 1948 camp here had been concreted up. 22.20. Pitched tent and made supper of soup and bread. 23.00. Turned in. Had a good sleep, except for waking up about 4 times finding water pouring on my face through a hole in the tent. 8.00 Got up, packed kit and tidied up. 8.15. Struck camp and washed our dirty dishes and dixey in Chapmans Pool. Made our way to St. Albans Head. We thought it would be easier by way of the beach, but half way there had another think coming. The footpath ended, and we had to jump from rock to rock for a distance of about a mile and a half. 10.20. Arrived on the beach below St. Albans Head, and were confronted with an almost sheer cliff. Instead of going back, decided to

climb it, and all three got to the top intact. On the top was an old Chapel and a disused Radar Station. 10.40. Met coastguard, who told us about the Chapel and the Dancing Ledge. 11.00. Prepared breakfast. 11.45. Finished breakfast and started for Worth Matravers. 13.00. Reached Worth. The last part of the journey was done in heavy rain. When we got to Worth we bought provisions and inspected the Church. Had dinner just outside Worth. 14.25. Came upon main Kingston-Swanage Road. Standing by a mile-stone saying 7 miles to Studland, we could see the sea in three places at once, Poole, Swanage, and St.Albans Head. We turned left along this road until we came to a foot-path which led in the general direction of Corfe Castle. 15.15. Were stopped by a briar fence, intermingled with barbed wire, which had a stream running alongside the base, on the opposite side to us. With careful manoeuvring we got over the fence, and there two thirds of our party came unstuck. Ian and I fell in the stream, whilst trying to jump it, but John got over safely. 16.00. Prepared tea on the common. 16.30. Washed up in a spring, I fell in this one too, and proceeded along the Corfe Castle Road. 16.45. Arrived at outskirts of Corfe. 17.12. Arrived at station and waited on platform for an hour. Caught train to Wareham. Changed, and waited a further half hour. 19.05. Train arrived at Hamworthy. 19.35. Arrived back at Hamworthy Station and crawled on all fours back to camp. 20.10. Arrived at camp, very tired, but very pleased with our hike. This dialogue (joke) was written by Senior Scout "Risole" Ford.

T E S T S P A S S E D S I N C E L A S T I S S U E .

SCOUT TROOP:

Tenderfoot: Read, Fennell, Sanderson.
 2nd Class Tests: Read (3) Fennell (1) Spencer (1) Moodey (1) Vaizoy (5) Clark (4)
 Perry (1) Milne (2) Howitt (1) D.Huckson (2) Johnson (3) Evans (5)
 1st Class Tests: M.Roberts (3) Sharp (1) Garnish (1) C.Huckson (2)

SENIOR TROOP:

Handyman Badge: Ray Quartermain.
 1st Class Tests: C. Ford (3) D. Frost (1) J.Cobb (4).

* * * *

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

We would like to offer our heartiest congratulations to Miss Pam Mills on her marriage to Mr. Dennis Body on 2nd September. Many "Leanders" will know Miss Mills who was one of our Akela's, before her job took her out of this district.

* * *

Doug. Child is getting on well at Maracaibo in Venezuela, and is now becoming accustomed to the somewhat trying climate. He seems to be enjoying himself in spite of lots of very hard work. We shall have "all the latest" news now that his young brother has become a "Leander" Wolf Cub.

* * *

We were sorry to learn that Paul Sanderson had to have a spell in Hospital. We hope your leg is now well on the way to recovery, Paul.

* * *

The Senior Troop will miss A/S/M. Mick Pratley who has taken a new job in Coventry.

* * *

Before S/M. Fred Goodger came to "Leanders", he had worked in East Africa, West Indies and Ceylon. Now his job takes him abroad once more, and we understand he is leaving almost immediately for Rhodesia, and will be away some months. We send him our best wishes.

M E R S T H A M T E N T

We are very grateful for the response to the special appeal for funds towards the cost of the Merstham Tent. For those who have not already heard about this, it is a tent which has been purchased to commemorate the winning of the Surrey County Camping Competition by the "Leanders" this year, and will bear the name "Merstham" to encourage younger "Leanders" to 'have a go' next year. At the time of going to press, the sum of £4,1.0d. has been received out of the £30 needed, and has been contributed by Mrs. Balcomb, Mrs. Waddell, Messrs. Beckett, Bunkin, Cole, Davies, and French. Our thanks go to these people. Mrs. Balcomb has a son in the Troop, Mrs. Waddell's boy has also recently become a Scout. Joe Bunkin, "Rudge" Cole, Rex Davies and Ted French are old "Leanders", and Mr. Beckett is a very good friend of the Group. We have already had several more promises of contributions.

R O V E R N O T E S .

Since the last edition of the Water Rat, I am glad to report that steady progress has been made by the Crew. Thames Charge Certificates have been gained by George Goodall, Nigel Fentiman, Bob Dodge and John Sharp.

Work on "Hero" was completed in time for Summer Camp, and she was used almost every day, taking the older members of the Junior Troop (having Oarsman Badges), out to sea for some really practical seamanship under sail, and useful knowledge was gained about tides, buoys, lights, and chart reading.

On Sunday 27th August, we received a visit from the 3rd Kingston Rover Crew, and an enjoyable morning was spent in boat-pulling and sailing, even if one or two of them did get wet. We are returning the visit next month, and we also have one lined up for the 1st Norbiton Crew. These visits are part of the tests for the Barker Cup. Having gained 2nd place in 1st Aid, 1st in Swimming, and Pioneering, and done moderately well in the Hike, we are at present running First in this competition, but we still have Horse, and Entertainment to compete in. We are quite sorry that there is no "Tug-o'-War" item in the Barker, as we rather fancy ourselves, since winning the event at the Annual Sports in July.

The Crew would be very grateful for any Rover photographs, covering the period 1932 - 1949, to enable the Rover Photograph Album to be brought up to date.

STOP PRESS: "Screwy" Whitworth and "Dicky" Riches are now expecting to report for National Service in the Army, within the next few days. The Crew's best wishes go with them. Our members already in the Forces are now dispersed all over the world as follows:- G.Dove and E.Southey (Aldershot); K.Quinnen (Benghazi); J.Vaizey (Suez Canal Zone, where he is enjoying a good bit of sailing with the local Service Rover Crew); A. Davis arrived in the Malayan Jungle on Sept.9th; W.Manning has now transferred from H.M.S. Implacable to H.M.S. Indomitable.

Those members of the Crew who are overseas, would be glad to hear from their friends here. Skipper can probably help with addresses.

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W H I S P E R I N G S F R O M T H E J U N G L E .

For four weeks the Pack has been in recess, owing to holidays, but on one Wednesday afternoon in August all those who were not on their holidays, about a dozen of us, met at Kingston Bus Station en route for Wimbledon Common, arriving there at 3.45 p.m. We joined in various kinds of games and John Spratley showed us how a box kite should really be flown, after several other boys trying to do so unsuccessfully. We then retired to that famous old land mark the Windmill, for refreshments in the shape of cakes, lemonade, and ice-cream. After which evening was drawing in so we commenced to walk across the common, taking a different route, towards our bus and home.

It gives me much pleasure to welcome to our Pack, Maureen Day, who is proving to be a great help, already the boys have come to like her very much.

Once again some of us have had to part company insofar that the following boys, JOHN BALCOMB, KEITH NOTLEY, JAMES STEPHENSON, CHARLES WADDELL, have been admitted to the Scout Troop.

At the time of "going to press" we have six new members of the Pack, to whom we should like to give a hearty welcome, they are:-

PETER TURNER, JOHN JONES, MICHAEL DAVIS, TERRY CHILD, JIMMI BARTER and DEREK BELL.

Good Hunting,

A K E L A .

* * * * *

C U B S ! Don't forget to remind your parents that the "LEANDER" GROUP are holding a BAZAAR & FUN FAIR at ST.PETER'S HALL, LONDON ROAD, Kingston, on SATURDAY AFTERNOON, 18th NOVEMBER, 1950.

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NAUTICAL TERMS .

AYE AYE.

The correct acknowledgement to an order from a superior officer. "Very good, Sir" is not recommended if only on the principle that all orders from a superior officer are very good and he doesn't require a junior's confirmation of his own judgement!

BITS.

Another name for bollards aboard ship and used for the purpose of making ropes fast to when mooring ship alongside.

CHOKER THE LUFF.

An expression which means the temporary measure of making a tackle fast by "choking" the standing block with a bight of the hauling part. The tackle doesn't have to be a luff tackle but it more often than not is, since this familiar act would only apply to a small tackle.

HANDY BILLY.

A small luff tackle (single block and a double block) each block of which is fitted with a hook. Used by the watch for any handy purpose. Sometimes it is called a "Jigger".

BUNG UP AND BILGE FREE.

The normal method of stowing barrels whereby the cantlines of the barrels are the only portions of them which touch thus leaving the bilge free, and the bung on top! The bottom tier of barrels are stowed on special racks or "quoins". The number of tiers depends upon the size of the barrel.

DUNNAGE.

Rough timber, mats or straw etc. used for the purpose of stowing various cargoes safely and securely. Different types of cargo requiring different kinds of dunnage.

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

I shall have to apply for some of these new National Health glasses I think, as - would you believe it, when I took a look at the snaps of Summer Camp, I thought I saw a wasp outside one of the tents, but it was only D - H -

When in a boat, you really must be quicker putting your oilskins on, N - F -

Didn't you think mudlarking at Poole was great fun, T - M -

Who was it who had six cups of tea straight off, and then says he's "tea totaller"?

Now that D - F - has become a Senior, I hope you soon learn that to "Put your helm up" does not mean that you should lift the rudder up off its fittings!

T H E B A Z A A R A N D F U N F A I R .

You have probably noticed that on almost every page of this issue, some reference has been made to the fact that the Group are holding a BAZAAR & FUN FAIR at St. Peter's Hall, on 18th November, when the Bazaar Committee are hoping to raise the sum of £100. YOU can help them in the following ways. -

They need small gifts suitable for boys or girls ages up to 14 years (for a Bran Tub, which most youngsters enjoy) Books which your family have finished with, for the Book Stall, providing, of course, that they are in good, clean condition. Grocery and preserves for the Grocery Department. Any new articles either useful or ornamental for the Handicraft Stall, and for those who are keen gardeners, any surplus produce from your allotment or kitchen garden will be most useful for the "Spiv's Barrow".

Any contributions to the stalls may be left at the Skipper's office, 82a, Eden Street, Kingston, before the date of the Bazaar.

After tea, all Sections of the Group will be doing something to entertain the visitors.

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