

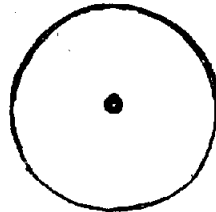
THE WATER RAT. NEWSLETTER OF "LEANDER"

H.Q. 92, Lower Ham Road, Kingston-upon-Thames,
Surrey, KT2 5BB.

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* APRIL '89 *
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FROM THE G.S.L.

It is with great sadness that I report the death of Skipper Eric Ebbage. Skipper's work and leadership over his 40 years as GSL of Leander is still benefiting Leanders today, and the foundation stone at our new H.Q. is a fitting memorial to a man who has influenced the lives of many Leanders throughout the years.



OBITUARY

23rd March 1989

Eric L Ebbage MBE, FBOA, FWSCM, Group Scout Master of the Leander Sea Scout Group for 40 years from 1928 until his retirement in 1968 has died in hospital. Born in July 1900 Eric Ebbage joined Leander group in 1911, 2 years after its formation and became firstly Assistant Scoutmaster and then Scoutmaster in 1919 after service in the RNVR during the latter part of the 1914/1918 war. In February 1928 he became Group Scoutmaster and in the 40 year period of his stewardship built Leander into one of the leading Sea Scout groups. His national and county Scout career was no less meritorious as he was Assistant County Commissioner for Middlesex from June 1931 until January 1945 and then Assistant County Commissioner for Surrey from January 1945 until September 1962. Holder of many Scout honours he obtained the Scout Wood badge in 1932 - Medal of Merit in 1934. Silver Acorn in 1945 - Bar to the Silver Acorn in 1955 and the highest Scout honour, the Silver Wolf in 1960. Apart from masterminding the original headquarters in Lower Ham Road, Kingston he was in 1945 responsible for designing a special 12 ft sailing dinghy particularly suited to training young Sea Scouts in Sea Craft and then in his 60th year in 1959 a 20 ft fibre glass gig - both designs being universally adopted and in use today.

In June 1975 in the Queen's Birthday Honours list Eric Ebbage was awarded an MBE for services to Surrey Scouting - a career spanning 57 years.

In tandem with his Scouting activities Eric Ebbage had a busy life as a qualified optician, taking over his father's business in Eden Street, Kingston in 1922. During the period from 1921 until 1968 he became a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers, a member of the British Optical Association and eventually a liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers. In the war years he served as member of the Scientific Committee for the House of Commons. A life long member of Kingston Rotary club and President in 1948 he was one of the organisers for the Kingston Borough Regatta for many years.

In his later years from 1965 until the present time he was Church Warden at St Peters Church, Norbiton where his funeral will take place. During both his scouting and business career he was ably supported by Cissie Ebbage his wife whom he married in 1922 and who died in 1986.

FROM THE G.S.L. (continued)

I was pleased to see so many parents and supporters at the Race Night on Friday 31st March - congratulations to all who helped to organise the event and raise just over £300, which will be put towards replacement of camping equipment.. Hopefully all boys will have a large number of sponsors for the District Walkover on 9th April. Remember, all proceeds of sponsorship will be used for updating camping and boating equipment, so, the more sponsors you have, the more equipment we can purchase.

April sees two major events in the District - St. George's Day Parade and the District Swimming Gala. As Kingston's only Sea Scout Group, it is important we put in a good performance at the Gala. St. George's Day Parade also carries an award for the best Group turnout in the District. Turnout is judged not only on uniform and marching, but also the percentage of members on Parade. Leaders will have given sections details, but I emphasize the need for a full turnout, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venture Scouts.

I would like to say, Many Thanks to Gordon Dodge and his team from the Guild for varnishing the 2nd gig, which is now back on the water.

Keith Maund. G.S.L.

Diary Dates.

- 17th AprilGroup Executive Meeting
- 23rd AprilSt. George's Day Parade.
- 29th AprilDistrict Swimming Gala.
- 7th MayJumble Sale.
- 18th MayLeander AGM at H.Q. at 20.00hrs.



REPORT FROM SCOUT LEADER.

First let us welcome Ben. Witham, who has now become a Leander Scout. As I told you Ben, you have signed a lifetime contract! We also welcome Raymond Chou, who is a friend of Hamish, and came down for one night, and decided to stay. So, our numbers keep growing.

So what did we do in March? Not a lot. We gained around 60 Badges, and you will find a full report of our Badge work in my boring annual report. All I can say is, Thank God the evenings are becoming lighter, so now we can get back on the river, and really get cracking, down to some work!

On Tuesday, 28th March, we had Alan down to see us, who is a friend of Chips. Alan makes films, ads etc, and he has some very expensive equipment. He is prepared to let the boys use it in the coming months, and the project we have chosen is 'Leander from the Start to the Present' To do this, we need the help of all ex and present members of Leander to get the history of our Group. If any Guild member has anything on record regards Leander, please step forward. I would also like to get to know of all members living abroad, so we can actually see how far we spread across the Globe! We are taking this very seriously, and we are hoping that the 'end product' will be seen on T.V. in a childrens programme. Once we have collected the information, we will be conducting interviews, so again be prepared to be called. In the last scene I want to see every member of this Group together on the river bank outside our HQ, Guild fellowship, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venture Scouts, and anybody also who holds a membership card. We need Photos, all your old photos - I will take a copy print of them and return them to you, so you won't have to part with them for long. Please send them to:-

M.Chinnock, 57, Latchmere Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT2. Phome:- 549-4995. or take them to the H.Q. Please remember to include your name, address and telephone number. Thank you.

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SCOUT LEADER'S REPORT. (continued)

For the boys who are going to Summer Camp, your parents have by now received my letter asking for 3 passport photos of the boys, but now I would like two photos of every boy, this is so that we can put it on our records so when we are off hiking or whatever, we know exactly what every boy looks like. The other one can go on to his membership card. As soon as possible please.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat.22nd April No meeting at HQ on this day. We are taking part in the GLSW Sailing Regatta at T.Y.M. Those that are involved will be informed of the details. Everyone is welcome to come. It starts at 0.900hrs and finishes by 17.00hrs.

Sun.23rd April St. George's Day Parade. Everyone must be there and looking beautiful! Mums, I want your son, GLEAMING!

NO white socks for Leander.

Black shoes - No trainers, and No Jeans! We want the Trophy!!!

Where do we meet? We meet at 3rd Kingston H.Q. at 13.30hrs sharp. This way we can march onto the Parade ground. Parade starts at 13.45hrs. We will finish by 16.30hrs at the same place.

Sat.29th April District Swimming Gala to be held at New Malden Swimming Pool, Blagdon Road. Please will you collect your sons from the HQ at 18.00hrs sharp for those not going to the Gala. For those going, they should also be collected at 18.00hrs and transported to New Malden. We have no transport within the Group. The Gala should finish by 21.30hrs.

May 6th/7th Weekend Camp for the pre-run to Summer Camp at P & H HQ. A meeting will take place at the HQ as normal.

Thats all for now, I think. When the P.L's get their heads together, who knows, we may have a Spring Camp.

Chief. Mick Chinnock



SOCIAL CLUB REPORT

On Monday, 24th April at 8.00pm you will have a chance to sample a full range of "Lancers" Portuguese wines, and to learn about their production. In their unique crock-shaped bottles, they are delightful Summer wines, ranging from crisp, dry Vinho Verde to full bodied, medium red. The charge is £2.00, including snacks. There is no need to buy tickets in advance, but to give us an idea of members, it would be helpful if you would telephone Nigel Duffin on 977-8305 or Jennifer de Kerckhore on 546-6660, if you intend to come.

Please remember, all parents are members of the Social Club, and most welcome at all the activities.

Nigel Duffin



PARENTS & SUPPORTERS FUND RAISING

The Race Night on 31st March was a great success. The excitement mounted through the eight races shown during the evening. About 70 people came along. We would have liked more, but many families did seem to be away after Easter. The profit we made on the evening was £305, which will be a real help with buying a rescue boat. Thanks for the evening go to Mick Chinnock, the fastest voice around for pushing up the bids! Also thanks to the bookies from Ladbrokes who gave their services free for the evening. Special thanks for the excellent food they prepared for the evening, to Margaret Bennett, Sheila Coulson and Di Parnell.

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PARENTS & SUPPORTERS FUND RAISING. (continued)

Jumble Sale, Sunday 7th May - The next Jumble Sale is to be held at Leander HQ at 2.30pm on Sun.7th May. This is also the first Sunday that we start afternoon teas. We will need Jumble - clothes, bric a brac, books etc. Could you please let James or Jane Warner on 399-1742, know if you can deliver your jumble to the HQ on Saturday afternoon, 6th May??

Helpers will also be required to sort the Jumble on Sunday morning from 9.00am to 12 midday, and to run the different stalls in the afternoon. Please contact James or Jane if you can help. Please do spread the word around, we want a good turnout for the day. Many thanks.

Vivian Brown



NOTE FROM ED. Please may we have regular monthly reports from all Section leaders to include in the Water Rat, so that the readers and supporters know what you have been doing during the month, and what you plan to do in the future month, so that if appropriate can give their support and/or attendance.

Please may we have your Reports on the 1st day of each month, commencing please on 1st MAY to:- Mary Clark, 34, Lynton Road, New Malden, Surrey KT3 5EE. Telephone: 949.4195. Many thanks.

Mary Clark. Ed.

