

THE WATER RAT

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"LEANDER" (KINGSTON) SEA SCOUT GROUP

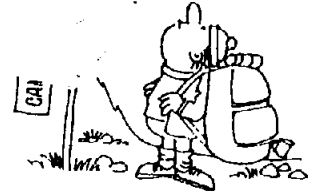
JUNE 1991

SKIPPER'S SCRAWL

Those of you who have been down to the HQ recently will have seen our new two ton trailer. It made its debut for the last of the Patrol Camps at Polyapes and was again in use this weekend for the Ham Faye - next stop Holland!! It is now vital that we have a list of parents/supporters who have a tow bar on their car and who would be prepared, occasionally, to tow the trailer to events/camps etc. The trailer has four wheels and can easily be towed on a car with 1600 engine upwards. Please let me know if you can help in this respect, the more volunteers - the more we can spread the load!! (Telephone 399-5846).

All the Scout Patrols have now held their camps at Polyapes and I am pleased to have had good reports from the Camp Wardens. I was also pleased to be able to pay a brief visit to the Cub Camp at Walton Firs where all the boys seemed to be having a good time.

On the Beaver side, thanks to Cub parent Murray Butcher for volunteering to help Marie on Monday nights. This will enable us to take in some of those on the waiting list. However, we do still need another helper so I await your phone calls. Please note - to enable Marie and Murray to get to Beavers on time, Beaver Meetings will be from 18.45 - 19.45 hrs in future.



June and July are a hectic time in the Leander Calendar - and the National Regatta (July 6th & 7th) is almost on us again. This year there will be more Sea Scout groups taking part and we shall also be joined by the Sea Rangers - some of whom are coming down from Liverpool for the weekend. As last year, we shall again be taking care of the refreshments - with some 300 mouths to feed over the weekend, Di Parnell will need as much help as possible. We are all indebted to Di for taking on the catering side - please phone her if you can help at any time over this weekend - Tel: 549 7383.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

At the AGM, the matter of Group Finances and subscription rates were referred to the Group Executive Committee for review. The Executive came to the conclusion that the present income from subscriptions and fund raising activities was no longer sufficient. It is now three years since Subs were last reviewed and since then, costs have risen significantly - Building Insurance alone is now £800 per year and Boat Insurance £600 p.a. Similarly, badge and programme costs have risen and it was therefore decided that from September, subs must be increased as follows:

Beavers	£1.00	per week
Cubs	£1.25	" "
Scouts & Ventures	£2.00	" "

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"LEANDER" (KINGSTON) SEA SCOUT GROUP

Headquarters: 22 Lower Ham Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey
Telephone: 01 542 6286



Additionally, to help with capital investment/replacement of equipment and improvement of facilities, from the 1st of January, an Annual Membership/Equipment Fee of £10.00 will be introduced.

It was appreciated that these increases may seem high, however, since there has been no increase for three years, it does, in fact, only represent some 8% p.a.

To avoid future large increases, it was also decided that the Executive Committee would prepare a review of our finances so that decisions on increases can be considered annually at the AGM. Hopefully, as the building is gradually reaching a "finished" state, income from lettings will increase and this will act as a buffer on subscription rates.

I am very conscious of the fact that any increase in subs could, in a few cases, cause financial difficulty and it is important that no one should be prevented from being in Leander for financial reasons. Should these increases be a problem to anyone, please have a word either with your boys Section Leader or Myself, so that we can make special arrangements if necessary. I would assure you that any such case will be treated strictly confidentially.

Finally, on the financial side, I would like to stress the advantage to the Group of paying Subscriptions under a Covenant Arrangement. Last year, the tax man gave us £496.00. At present, only some 25% of subs are under Covenant so we are loosing out on a £1,500.00 hand out!! Covenants are written in such a way that should a boy leave the Group, the covenant ceases.

If you pay Income Tax, please consider signing a Covenant Form - it costs you absolutely nothing and the Group benefits by an amount equal to approximately 25% of the subscription. Covenant forms or further information is available from Nigel Duffin - telephone 977 8305.

KEITH MAUND - GSL

CUB SCOUT REPORT

Since our last report the Cubs have been busy and involved in a variety of activities. All the Cubs have been working towards their new badge awards and the majority of the pack have achieved their First Aid Badge thanks to the patience and helpful guidance of Mrs Tindall and Mrs Connolly.

Proficient in their new skills of recovery positions, bandaging wounds and resuscitation, the Cubs were well prepared to tackle the challenge of Cub Camp at Walton Firs. A total of 21 Cubs and 2 Scouts experienced a hardworking and thoroughly enjoyable camp. For many Cubs the camp proved their first experience of life away from home and the use of the hutted accommodation, by all bar the "sixers", was the ideal introduction to camp life.

The indoor facilities also aided our two cooks, Mrs Tindall and Mrs Connolly who gained the appreciation and grateful thanks of the whole group, especially when serving two roast dinners in one weekend!!



The Cubs themselves worked tirelessly in achieving their various camping awards and the only disappointment of the weekend was that their first aid knowledge was not needed!!

Planning is now well in hand for our proposed visit to London Zoo.

We have been pleased to welcome Nicolas Kearns, Gareth Birch, Quintin Jhons and Jonathan O'Conner to our pack - we hope they enjoy their time with us.

Dates: 15th June - Cubaree
29th June - Cub Sports Day
6th July - Day out to the London Zoo

BAGHEERA (Mike Freeman)

We would like to add our thanks to Mike Baker, Mike Freeman and John Cannon for all the hard work and their time to make a very happy camp.

AKELA & RIKKI

NESSIE'S NATTER

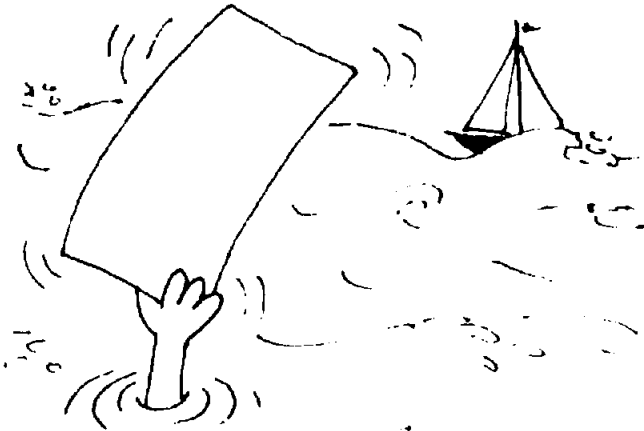
Hello again, isn't it hard to believe it's June already, and where has all the hot weather gone? Hopefully, it is coming to Holland with us!

No doubt many of you will have noticed how hectic the last couple of months have been. St Georges Day parade went well and it was pleasing to see the boys had smartened themselves up for the occasion. It made me proud to hear the whispers of approval from the crowd as we marched past. It was only a shame we did not win the Marshall or Marching Trophies, but the PL's have decided that they will go all out to win next year.

There is only one more Patrol Camp to go and from what I am told all the camps have been a great success and the boys have proved that they can be trusted, so hopefully these camps can be repeated in the future. The District Camping Competition was held a few weeks ago, the lads taking part did not win, but came 6th & 7th, a great improvement on last year.

There is also a big "Thank You" from Chips and the RNIB for all the help the PL's and Ventures gave during the May Day Fair held in Canbury Gardens. The Mini Great River Race was a great success and a lot of money was raised for the RNIB.

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Many of the Leaders and Ventures from Leander spent the last Bank Holiday weekend at 1st Molesey HQ as Seaman Ship Training weekend had been arranged. Five of our boys took part and for their efforts they were awarded with Junior Seamans, Canoeing/BCU 1 Star and swimmers badges. The Leaders for their part found that the weekend was of great value, as it gave them a chance to widen their experiences on the water and an in-

sight into the way other troops are run.

As this will probably be the last Water Rat before the Summer, all that remains for me to do is wish you all a good and enjoyable Summer and safe travels wherever they may be, and look forward to seeing you all in September

NESS

THE RANGER REPORT

As a Crew we seem to be doing as well as many of our counterparts as they are all closing due to the lack of girls, so we are lucky. We have to welcome several new girls to our cadet crew and hope they will enjoy their time in the Rangers.

It was not only the Scouts who helped out at the May Day Fair, we also did our bit for the Blind. We were given the task of selling Coke and Crisps donated by K.P. and Coca Cola. Although the day was cold and there was not much call for these items, trade picked up in the afternoon and we made about £70.00. All the girls joined in and helped to sell. One of our Officers managed to get herself a crew together from friends at work for the Mini River Race. The crew completed the course in just under an hour and have made £500.00 in sponsorship.

On the boating front we are doing well. We have sold our old wooden clinker built boat "Warrior" to the landlord of the Boaters Inn for £60.00 so we can now afford to get our new boat mended. Chips has kindly undertaken this task for us. When she is finished she will be renamed S.R.S. Guardian. She will be launched, hopefully, by the end of the summer. We have also been practising hard for the National Regatta which is being held jointly with the Sea Scouts at Leander. As it is "home waters" for us, maybe we shall stand a chance at winning something this year.

We have also the honour of the S.R.A. AGM being held at Leander on 9th June where there is also a training day for Officers with canoeing, rowing and some land activities

NESS Cadet Officer

PARENT SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION

There were welcome offers of help at the AGM, as follows:

- Mrs Di Parnell - to run Sunday afternoon teas at HQ
Tel; 549 7383 through the Summer
- Mrs Christine Chapman - to run the Leander Stall at the Ham
Tel; 549 7768 Fayre on 15th June
- Mr Steve Leader - to run two Jumble Sales, dates not yet
fixed
- Mr Mick Chinnock - to run a Race Night in September,
preferably after an Open Day
- Mrs Madeleine Connolly - to run the Catering side of the
Halloween Party at the end of October

Many thanks for these generous offers. I do hope other parents will give their full support to these ventures. There may be separate notices in the Water Rat, but if not, could any parents who have not been approached yet to organise tea and cakes one Sunday afternoon between now and September, please contact Di Parnell and offer a date.

And could parents please provide cakes, bric-a-brac and practical help to Christine Chapman (50 Albany Park Road) for the Ham Fayre on Ham Common on Saturday 15th June. (I hope the Water Rat is out in time!!). (SORRY!!).

We are still looking for someone to coordinate Supporters events. If you can take this on, please let me know (546 2989) or Keith Maund (399 5846).

VIVIAN BROWN

SUNDAY TEA REPORT

Hopefully the "Tea Season" is now in full swing as the following dates have been filled:

- June 23rd - The Bertenshaw Family
- 30th - Mrs Warrington; Mrs Olney
- July 7th - Mrs Coulson; Mrs Melhuish
- 14th - Mr and Mrs Brown
- 21st - Sea Rangers
- 28th - Mr and Mrs Gould
- August 4th)
- 11th)
- 18th) V A C A N T
- 25th)
- September 1st)
- 8th - Mrs Green; VACANCY
- 15th - Mrs Nutt; Mrs Sims

If I haven't yet contacted you and you are able to fill any of the vacant slots, please get in touch with me - also get in touch if you would like more information.

TEA REPORT Cont...

Even if you are unable to help on a Sunday, donations of crisps, wrapped chocolate biscuits, fizzy drinks and home made cakes that can be stored in the Freezer would be most welcome. On a fine day the Tea Stall can raise over £50.00 and the more there is to sell, the more funds are raised.

Many thanks to all who have "volunteered" so far.

DI PARNELL - 549 7383

A D V E R T I S E M E N T

FOR HIRE - LARGE HALL IN BUILDING OVERLOOKING THAMES

KITCHEN FACILITIES

LARGE CARPETED AREA

SUITABLE CHILDREN'S PARTIES (NOT 18TH/21ST!!)

AEROBICS, ETC., ETC.

AVAILABLE DURING THE DAY AND SATURDAY

EVENINGS (AFTER 6.30PM)

FURTHER DETAILS/BOOKINGS - PHONE 399 5846

