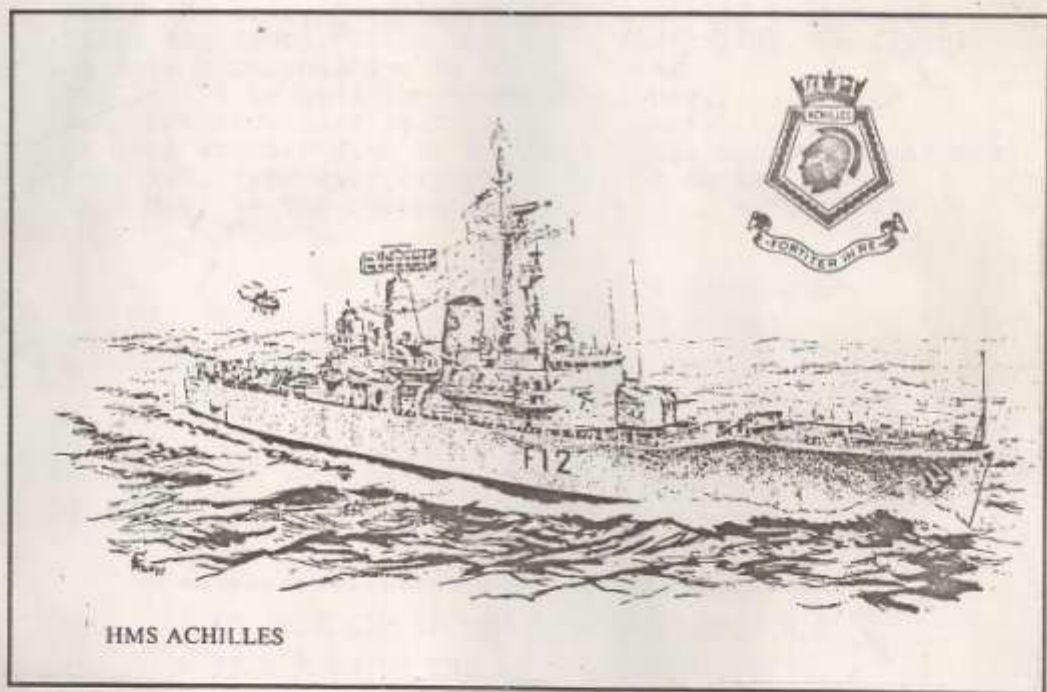


1st HAMPTON HILL SEA SCOUT GROUP

ACHILLES



1978

December

THE HAPPY ECCENTRICS?

Now you would'nt think they were so odd,
Each one of them seems quite a normal sort of bod.
At work in overalls, they'll mend your car,
Or send a jumbo jet away on journeys far.
Perhaps as pin-striped bowler hatted city men,
Insure your house, work near Big Ben.
Control the meter maids that haunt your street,
Sell stocks and shares, or compute your balance sheet.
Now in airlines to Tokyo, Toronto, around the world they fly,
Senna pods, musk oil, and fancy woods they buy.
Ponder the shape of steroids and chlorophyll,
Demand your tax or prescribe when you are ill.
Bring our Webb Ivory cards with profit for the Group
Pump water from the Thames to wash and clean the Troop.
Order stores, teach the young, run the home and cook the food,
But when Saturday comes a sudden change of mood!
Paint the boats, pick the team, and sort the jumble!
Pitch that tent, check the stores and never grumble!
Ferry the boys, mend the toys, and settle that score,
Paint the doors, clean the loft, and polish the floor!
At this game you have to be a sticker
For in '79 we need two thousand nicker.
All that work last year is in the past,
We need another dose to keep that foul anchor at the mast.
That R.N. type will expect to see it in the kitty,
That must be the reason for this b..... awful ditty.

'An Eccentric'

++++
+ AN APPROXIMATE NET PROFIT OF £600 HAS +
+ BEEN MADE ON THE SALE OF WEBB IVORY +
+ CHRISTMAS CARDS ETC. AN ALL TIME +
+ RECORD. +
++++

SEA SCOUT TROOP

1976 was good ... 1977 was excellent ... but 1978 WAS IT !!

Let's dive straight in with a St. Johns Ambulance First Aid Course culminating with an examination on 5th January at which 4 were successful out of 5 entrants.

On 9th February we unintentionally decorated Station Road, Hampton, with pancakes. During that Pancake Night there was a race out of the Scout H.Q. to the Police Station and return - tossing pancakes. Nuff said, but an enjoyable evening.

The Chief Scout Award candidates tramped around Surrey on 18/19th February doing their 30 mile hike. On the Saturday they did 15 miles from Box Hill area to Bentley Copse, camped the night and next day 15 miles return by a different route. Snow was on the ground and a lot was learnt about body heat and survival. Participants were:- Phil Ward, Duncan McLeod, Ian Browne, Ian Berger and Keith Gale.

We took part in the Patrol Leaders Parliament Table Tennis competition held on 16th Twickenham Sea Scout Headquarters on 12th March, and on the 19th March we gained 2nd and 3rd places in the County Boat Handling competition at Ravens Ait.

Easter Camp this year was spent at Gilwell Park (28th March-2nd April) brushing up our land skills - woodfire cooking by patrols etc. A most successful camp culminating in some culinary masterpieces on the Saturday evening. The Camp Inter-Patrol Shield was won by Foretop (P.L. Richard Beasley).

In April we entered the District Five-a-Side football competition, and all 4 Patrol Leaders attended a Patrol Leaders Training Course organised by the District. We also held a sponsored walk around Bushy Park which produced the magnificent sum of £250 towards Intercamp 1978.

On the 10th May the Patrol Leaders attended the Groups Annual General Meeting, when Phil Ward was presented with the Boatswain Cup for the most improved scout of the year.

Early evening on 11th May, 3 scouters and 11 scouts departed from Station Road for Intercamp 1978 held at Limberg, near Koblenz, Western Germany. We formed 2 patrols who did very well in the competitions coming 2nd and 9th respectively. There were some 1500 scouts in camp from 9 countries. It made our scouts realise that scouting is a world wide brotherhood.

50 cubs, scouts, venture scouts, and scouters went to Horse Guards Parade to watch Her Majesty's Royal Marines beat retreat. As ever, they put on an excellent display.

On 2/3/4th June - Ian Browne, Paul Dart, Skipper Martin Curshan and myself sailed out of Bosham in Martin's 26' sloop for what turned out to be an excellent weekends sailing in the Solent. We ran aground for a short time coming out of Keyhaven, but it was all part of the fun.

Our Pete this year was held as usual at Beveree on 10th June, at which the troop did its share towards raising funds.

continued...

SEA SCOUT TROOP (continued)

Simon Owen, Stephen Best, Stephen Williams, Adam Roaf, and Gary Adams went to Ravens Ait to act as pupils on a BCU Instructors Test Day.

We rallied forth to the County Mountain Base at Bethesda, North Wales, from 27th-29th October, and a very enjoyable weekend was had by all.

3rd November was planned as an 'Open Night', when the 3 uniformed sections arranged to show all parents and friends, by cine film and colour slides, the various activities throughout the year. As you all know it became a much more important evening - Roger Jones, our Assistant County Commissioner for Water Activities, presented us with our Defaced Pennants and Royal Ensigns for Royal Naval Recognition in the presence of The Mayor and Mayoress, Cllr. and Mrs. George Kenton.

What a super evening and what terrific support you, the parents, gave us. Our District Commissioner Derrick Stevens presented Ian Shortman with his Queen's Scout Award on this occasion.

During the year we have welcomed into the Troop:-

Anthony Beasley, Gary Adams, David Gibson, Stephen Williams, Adam Roaf, Russel Iden, James Iles, Stephen Yell, Simon Owan, Stephen Best, Mark Austin, Matthew Morris, Paul Ferguson.

The following went up into the Venture Scout Unit:-

Alan McLeod, Richard Beasley, Andrew Sainsbury-Brown, Gordon Cross.

We wish well those who have left us:-

Julian Bucknell, Serge Allsop-Menist, Timothy Williams, Geoffrey Adams.

During the year the following badges of note were achieved:-

Chief Scout Award

Ian Browne
Phil Ward

Advanced Scout Standard

Ian Berger
Paul Dart
John Jacques France
Clive Owen
Mark Huddleston
Stephen Cook

Scout Standard

Robert Ramsay
David Gibson
Michael Sullivan
Matthew Blackmore
Anthony Beasley
Shaun Pratley
John Marc France
Nigel Budgeon
Timothy Worth
Roland Wade
Julian Bucknell
Paul Beasley
Stephen Clarke
Geoffrey Adams

Coxwains Mate

Paul Dart
Keith Gale
Mark Huddleston
Ian Berger
Phil Ward
Clive Owen

Boatman

Andrew Curshan
Shaun Pratley
Trevor Whitehead
Geoffrey Adams
Ian Galloway

RYA Intermediate

Andrew Sainsbury-Brown
Phil Ward
Bruce Roaf
Keith Gale

BCU Proficiency

Richard Beasley

BCU Elementary

Gordon Cross
Ian Galloway
Shaun Pratley
Robert Ramsay
Anthony Beasley
Clive Owen
Adam Roaf
Timothy Williams

BCU Elementary

Trevor Whitehead
Andrew Curshan
Geoffrey Adams
David Gibson
Paul Beasley
Simon Owen
Stephen Yell
Stephen Williams

SEA SCOUT TROOP (continued)

We entered a patrol in the District Campercraft competition at Walton Fire on 24/25th June. This was the first time for many years, and they achieved a very creditable 4th place learning a lot about wet pits! The patrol were under the leadership of Young Tesco.

As in other years we went to Longridge for the fun of the Regatta, and our under 12's rewarded us by being joint winners of a magnificent shield which unfortunately must go to 8th Norwich Sea Scouts in January 1979, the other joint winners.

Then the day arrived - 12th July ROYAL NAVAL INSPECTION - this year being afloat. Thank goodness we were blessed with dry weather. The gig arrived from Kentons Hard carrying Lt.Comdr. Phillip Cressey R.N., The Mayor, Cllr. George Kenton, and the GSL Edgar Harborne. After looking around the various activities and creating a few situations, we all went back to the Scout H.Q. for a formal uniform inspection. I thought all went very well.

On 28/30th July we were again privileged to sail with Martin Cursham. This time the crew were - Keith Gale and Stephen Clarke.

On 5/6th August a small party took the gig to Shepperton Lock, camped overnight and pulled back next day. An expedition for the Advanced Scout Standard. Those taking part were:- Stephen Clarke, Jonathon Draper, Mark Huddleston, Clive Owen, Bruce Roaf.

Next on the agenda was Summer Camp, held for the first time at Thames Young Mariners Base, Ham, from 12th - 19th August. The weather turned out perfect for the occasion, the staff were most helpful, so we enjoyed a most successful camp. The Camp Fire held on the Thursday evening was extremely well attended. Quarterdeck (P.L. Andrew Sainsbury-Brown) won the Camp Shield, and David Gibson the Benjamin Cup for the best young scout in camp.

On 8/9/10th September the troop gave up their places on David Russel's 28' Galleon sloop out of Lynington in favour of the venture scouts who, unfortunately were unable to get any places on The London Sailing Project.

Luckily places for the scout age range were available on The London Sailing Project. Richard Beasley sailed from 24th - 30th June; Ian Berger from 1st - 7th July; Phil Ward and Gordon Cross from 5th - 11th August. Scott Awards were earned.

The 16/17th September was a busy weekend; some Patrol Leaders helped with the Cub Camp at Sunbury Court, and 6 scouts formed the service crew for the Venture Scouts Sponsored Gig Row.

We did well in the Middlesex Canoe Race on the 24th September taking two 1st places, and 2nd place overall.

On the 27th we again held one of our combined going-up ceremonies with cubs coming to scouts and scouts going to ventures.

We took part in the District Swimming Gala at Richmond Baths on the 29th September.

Friday, 6th October, saw Ian Browne and Phil Ward at York House with the venture scouts helping with The Mayor's Auction for Dr. Barnardos Homes, and Saturday, 21st October, saw them both at a County Reception in Kingston to receive their Chief Scout Award Certificate. A successful Jumble Sale was also held that day.

continued...

SEA SCOUT TROOP (continued)

Congratulations to the following who make up the Patrol Leaders and Assistant Patrol Leaders:-

QUARTERDECK

PL Phil Ward
APL John Jacques France

MIZZEN

PL Keith Gale
APL Paul Dart

FORETOP

PL Ian Berger
APL Clive Owen

FO'CASTLE

PL Ian Browne
APL Mark Huddleston

Ian Browne is now Chairman of the Patrol Leaders Council, and Ian Berger the Secretary.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all those other Scouters, helpers, backroom boys, supporters, and especially our tolerant wives whose efforts, help, and understanding have made 1978 such a successful year.

Thank you all most sincerely.

Wishing you the compliments of the season, and a happy and prosperous New Year.

RON SPARKS (Bosun)
Scout Leader

.....

1978 - A GOOD YEAR FOR CUBS

My Cub year really began on the 8th March when I became Akela of the Cub Pack. I believe that an essential part of scouting is giving the boys a chance of doing something new, and so with a lot of help from the Venture Unit, some of the older Cubs went canoeing for the first time.

But it was not just the older boys who had the chance to try something new this year, because in September our Senior Cub Instructor, Keith Ferguson, ran the Cub camp at Sunbury Court with such success that it must be the high point of the Cubs year. Unfortunately due to prior arrangements I was unable to attend, and so for me the high point must be the Cub's outing in which we visited the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, and also went over the Cutty Sark.

As well as these special activities we also have regular activities throughout the year, like our football team which under Pat Cook have won nearly all their matches this season.

I would like to thank all my Instructors - Keith, Jo, Allison, Debbie and Andrew, and all the other people who have helped the Cubs this year.
THANKYOU.

PAUL ADAMS
Akela

VENTURE SCOUT UNIT

1978 - WHAT A YEAR FOR THE GROUP AND WHAT A YEAR FOR THE UNIT

Plenty of well supported activities with Unit members taking part in hikes, walks expeditions, canoeing, etc., but above all, helping with other Sections. We have members helping with Scouts and Cubs, not only on meeting nights but also at camps and other outside activities.

We also (at short notice) supplied a Service Crew to cook for the District Patrol Leaders Training Course.

Whilst a Venture Unit relies on continuity of new members coming up from the Scouts, we have this year a small number of new entrants coming from outside; and with some social activities involving the Rangers we find that our programme is now more varied.

We had very successful stalls at the Summer Fete and Christmas Market. We also produced our own newsletter in July, and hope to repeat this success in 1979.

May we as a Unit thank the Group Executive and all those parents who have given us so much help during the year, and may I, as V.S.L., congratulate David Ward and Ian Shortman on receiving their Queen's Scout Awards; and all members on creating a Unit that our Group can be proud of.

DEN SAINSBURY-BROWN
Venture Scout Leader

.....

From the Unit Chairman:

As Chairman of the Unit I would like firstly to take this opportunity to welcome all our new members to the Unit.

1978 has been a very active year - briefly, we have had Unit members sailing on the Malcolm Miller and London Sailing Project; another group walking the Pennine Way, Offers Dyke, the Lyke Wake Walk (this walk of some forty miles was completed in approximately seventeen hours across the North Yorkshire Moors in appalling conditions).

Canoeing was another activity undertaken by the Unit - we had great success in the Middlesex Canoe Race with nearly all our members finishing among the leaders of their class. Also this year, four members canoed down the River Wye from Glasbury to Symmonds Yat a distance of some eighty miles.

Our biggest success of the year was our sponsored row. We spent twenty-three hours rowing non-stop up and down the River Thames covering a distance of one-hundred miles and raising over £250 of which a percentage as given to the R.N.L.I., and a donation made to the Hampton/Hampton Hill Community Association.

Finally, I would like to congratulate David Ward, our ex Unit Chairman on receiving his Queen's Scout Award - well done Dave.

Heres to an even more successful 1979.

IAN SHORTMAN
Chairman - V.S.U.

WERE YOU THERE - OR DIDNT YOU CARE?

We had Naval inspections
On water and dry
We passed them both
And our standard was high
Were you there
Or didnt you care?

We had our Summer Fete
Which really was great
It had a lot of events
To raise funds for tents
Were you there
Or didnt you care?

Jumble Sales, yes
Weve had them too
We start early
And There's always a queue
Were you there
Or didnt you care?

We had visitors day
At our summer camp
With songs round the fire
Hot drinks by night lamp
Were you there
Or didnt you care?

At our A.G.M.
The Mayor came too
Also his Lady
But where were you
Were you there
Or didnt you care?

We had a sponsored row
And a sponsored walk
Did your son go?
Or was he all talk?
Were you there
Or didnt you care?

We had a Christmas Market
A few weeks ago
Tons of gifts, but
Too early for snow
Were you there
Or didnt you care?

Now the open night
Was different again
You got it right
And most of you came
You were there
So you do care.

GROUP SUPPORTERS' ASSOCIATION

So far this year has been a great success. The Fete raised a record sum of £900.49p. Christmas orders exceeded £2,700; but unfortunately because of a warehouse fire at Webb Ivory and delivery problems some items that were ordered could not be obtained. Our apologies to those customers who were disappointed. Our thanks however are given to Mrs. Sewell who does all the ordering, stock control, book keeping, and assembling the individual Christmas orders. It is only by her willingness to devote several hours a week from August to December, and by turning her flat into a warehouse, that we are able to keep this venture going.

Those of you who came to the Christmas Market already realise that it was a great success. We raised a further £367.76p. for the Group.

Enough of the past we are already arranging a Jumble Sale for March and a 'Get Together' in April 1979. If you do not know what a 'Get Together' is, basically it is an informal dance - we supply the food - beer and wine being available.

I would like to express thanks to the Ventures, Scouts, and Cubs for all the help they have given us with our activities this year. They have given it enthusiastically and unsparingly.

Finally, thanks to the parents for contributing goods, obtaining Christmas orders, and giving us their time and continued support.

MICK WARD
Chairman G.S.A.

.....

OFFSHORE SAILING - 2/4th JUNE 1978

At 5pm on 2nd June, Bosun picked me up, he had already picked up Ian Brown, and we set off for Mr. Cursham's house. At 5.15pm we left for the yacht 'Barbary' moored near Chichester, Bosham. Just before we reached Chichester we stopped and collected Barbary's dinghy.

When we arrived at Bosham harbour Bosun and Mr. C. went across with most of the kit to the yacht. While Mr. C. was sorting things out on the boat, Bosun came back and picked up Ian and I. When we were all on board and chosen our berths Mr. C. asked us to come on deck. He gave each of us a specified job (mine was the anchor and Ian's the jib). We agreed that we knew what to do and when to do it. Somebody then brought up the question about the loo .. "well" said Mr. C. "you twist this tap, and turn these knobs; when you've finished you pump the pump until it's gone, then you turn the knobs back and then to the same to the tap." Thinking on this we decided to get some sleep.

At around 5am next morning, with some reluctance, we got up and dressed. Put the motor on and set off for Hayling Island. During the short trip Ian and I took control of Barbary to get the feel of her. At Hayling Island we had breakfast, during which we discussed plans for the days sailing. We motored down until we were in the main channel, then put up the main sail and the jib, and caught quite a fair breeze. Our plans were to go round the big gun towers, then past Cowes, and then moor up for the night. The wind was quite good, and the sun burning our backs. It was quite a time before we sighted Cowes.

continued ...

OFFSHORE SAILING (continued)

I changed the jib over a couple of times, and doing this was a laugh. At dinner we had pork pie, crisps, tomato, banana and a drink of coke. I was asked if I would like to take control of Barbary - it wasn't too long after a few minutes, the main difficulty was keeping one eye on the compass and one eye on where you are going. Ian had a bash, and we did get to our destination, which was a lighthouse on a sandbank. We moored up on a buoy and while Bosun and Mr.C. were thinking where to moor up for the night Ian and I went for a swim - as the tide was going out fast we didn't have long. We clambered aboard, got dried, and then set off - low and behold we got stuck. So out came the dinghy, Bosun rowed out and dropped the kedge anchor in the water, Ian and I pulled, but she would not move an inch so we just waited until the tide rose a few feet. When we did get under way we headed straight for Portsmouth, and moored there for the night. As we were low on water Ian and I had to go and get some from the main land. We came back to find Bosun scratching his head, he couldn't find the spaghetti for the Spaghetti Bolognese. We searched from bow to stern, but no spaghetti could be found. So for tea we had Bolognese and bread. By this time it was getting quite late, we had a cup of chocolate and rum, Mr.C. asked if there were any questions - we looked at each other but no one said anything, so Mr.C. suggested we get some shut eye.

Next morning we set off at 5am, with tankers all around. When we were in mid-channel there was quite a stiff breeze. We had to check with the tankers to find our way out, and had to tack up. The sea was very rough, and I suffered from sea-sickness, made worse by the sausages, tomatoes and baked beans we had for breakfast, so I went to my berth and slept. I was woken up by a shout from Ian and found we were in Bosham harbour.

We moored up, got everything packed and put into the dinghy. When we got onto the harbour quay I couldn't stand still. We then delivered the dinghy back to the house and set off for home. We all had a kip while Bosun drove.

PAUL DART
APL Mizzen Patrol

.....

'THE MALCOLM MILLER'

Every year the Teddington Rotary Club sponsor two people to travel on the Sail Training Ship 'The Malcolm Miller'. This year, due to my scouting activities, I was lucky enough to receive one of these places.

I joined the 150 ft. top sail schooner on the 10th September at Southampton Dock and was to stay with her for two weeks.

We spent two days intensive training before setting sail for St.Malo. This was a fantastic feeling. We motored out of Southampton water and hoisted the sails in the Solent. This was exhausting; the 36 trainees sweated their hearts out, but by the end of the cruise the sails we hoisted twice as quick with half as much effort. The syllabus of the cruise was friendship and teamwork.

Unfortunately the weather was fantastic. The boat edged its way passed the Isle of Wight while those of us off watch sunbathed on the deck or admired the view from the rigging.

The trainees do everything on board except for navigating and cooking. There was three watches of twelve trainees, a watch leader (who is an ex-trainee invited back), and a watch officer. Each watch had four hours on duty and eight hours off.

By the evening the wind was a lot stronger and sea sickness became the word on everyones mouth.

continued ...

THE MALCOLM MILLER (continued)

After two-and-a-half days at sea we reached St.Malo. Here everyone
shed their worries with the cheap French wine. Two days later we left
St.Malo (one more than planned because a hurricane named 'Flossie' was
coming dangerously near and crew and skipper decided it was too dangerous).

The next port we were to visit was, Fowey, a typical Cornish port, small
but beautiful. From here we went to Alderney where we met up with Sir
Winston Churchill; The Malcolm Miller is her sister ship. Although the
two crews have never seen each other there is great rivalry between them,
and it was a race into Alderney and a contest for the tidiest boat.
I'm pleased to say we won on both accounts.

It was the sail on the way back from Alderney to Southampton that I shall
never forget. Our watch was on from twelve at night to four in the
morning. When we took over at twelve the wind was quite calm, but
suddenly around one am the wind blew up and some of the sails had to come
down. It was cloudy and the moon was hidden so you could hardly see any
thing; my part in the operation was with another trainee to actually pull
the sail down. With the ship leaning over at an angle of 20° we started
pulling, the sail came half-way down then got stuck and with one gust of
wind the sail filled and we both took off, hanging on for dear life onto
the halliard and landed a good six yards further down the deck. Eventually
the sail came down. The next evening the Needles were in sight.

This was the end, everyone was pleased to be home, but sorry to leave the
ship.

We sailed into Southampton the next morning after anchoring off Cowes.
The Malcolm Miller was to be one of the main attractions at the Southampton
Boat Show so we sailed in with bunting everywhere and trainees "dressing
the yards". I was one of these and had to stand on the yards, while
others stood on the rigging.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable fortnight, and an experience of a lifetime,
never to be forgotten.

PHILIP SHORTMAN
Venture Scout

.....

WE WISH TO RECORD OUR THANKS TO THE LOCAL ROTARY CLUB
FOR SPONSORING MEMBERS OF THIS GROUP ON SAILING PROJECTS
OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS.

.....

CUB PARENTS - HAVE YOU VISITED A SCOUT CAMP?
SEEN THE MIDDLESEX CANOE RACE?
ATTENDED A LONGRIDGE REGATTA?
NO?

Part of your training is to support these activities so that
you will know the score when your son needs your help or
guidance at, or for, one of these activities in the future.
Why not make a note of some of the dates on page 12

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ROYAL NAVAL INSPECTION

At last the day arrived - THURSDAY, 20th JULY 1978. We were to be inspected afloat by Lt.Cmdr. Phillip Cressey R.N., accompanied by His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. George Kenton, also in attendance were the County Commissioner Eric Walden; the Assistant County Commissioner (Scouts) Paul Richardson; the Assistant County Commissioner (Venture Scouts) Ken Haschka; the Assistant County Commissioner (Water Activities) Roger Jones; our District Commissioner Derrick Stevens; and our Assistant District Commissioner (Cub Scouts) Doris Stevens. Mr. Monty Leaney and Mr. Alan Williams were also present.

On top of that little lot, add 12 Cub Scouts, 38 Scouts, 15 Venture Scouts, 8 Scouters, and you can see there was quite a lot of people around.

At exactly 1930 hours Lt.Cmdr. Phillip Cressey, the Mayor and G.S.L. Edgar Harborne boarded the gig at Kenton's Hard and were pulled up to our jetty. The gig was coxed by Philip Shortman, pulled by Philip Ward, Keith Gale, Ian Berger, and Clive Owen (the four APL's.), and the bowman was Paul Ferguson. Arriving at the jetty they were duly piped ashore by the four PL's and proceeded to view various activities both afloat and ashore. Several situations were engineered by the inspecting officer; Richard Beasley and Mark Huddleston suddenly found they had to capsize the Otter sailing dinghy; Phil Ward learnt how to steer a gig without a rudder etc.

At 2030 hours we all returned to the Scout H.Q., changed into full uniform and were formally inspected.

A big thankyou to all Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Venture Scouts for turning out so smartly on this occasion.

Sometime around the middle of October, Edgar Harborne received a letter from Lt.Cmdr. Phillip Cressey to the effect that we had passed and he was recommending us for Royal Naval Recognition, to be Group No.98. The telephone calls in various firms time during that week were quite enormous.

Roger Jones, A.C.C. (WA), very kindly presented us with our Defaced Ensigns and Pennants on the Open Evening on Friday, 3rd November, at which we had a tremendous turn-out of parents and friends - a most successful evening. We showed, by colour slides and cine film, the three sections activities throughout 1978.

All in all a very successful conclusion to a most successful year.

Our next inspection is an indoor one on Wednesday, 6th FEBRUARY 1980.

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A Scout's View of the R.N. Inspection:

It was quite a cold evening as the Scouts walked down to the river. On arriving there Richard Beasley and I had to rig the Otter sailing dinghy, but there wasn't a breath of wind. When we had put the sails up and put the rudder in place, I pushed off from the shore. The boat went out a little way, but as there was no wind, it stopped; the current turned the boat round and we began to go downstream. After a while of just sitting doing nothing a small breeze came and began to fill the sails, but it was so slight a breeze that we hardly moved so I started paddling. Richard noticed that the gig was coming towards us so I quickly put the paddle back in the boat.

continued ...

Scout's View of the R.N. Inspection (continued)

As the gig passed us, it stopped and Lt. Cmdr. Phillip Cressey stood up and asked us if we were wearing our watches. I shouted over that we weren't. He then told us to do the capsize drill. We thought he was kidding so we carried on sailing; he then shouted over again telling us to do the capsize drill. I realised that he was serious and panic struck me. I had never done a capsize drill before, and didn't have the faintest idea how to. Richard quickly told me to lean out of the boat, then when the boat had turned over, to meet him at the stern. We both leaned out of the boat, it didn't need much persuading and capsized straight away. We fell into the water - which was freezing. Richard swam round to the stern and I followed. He then told me to go round the boat and throw the jib sheet over to him, this I did, and Richard got the jib sheet and stood on the centre board. As the boat began to right itself I climbed inside and the boat suddenly jerked itself up I then frantically started bailing out. When we had got out as much water as we could I started to paddle back to the shore.

I arrived back at the Scout H.Q. dripping wet and wished that I had been wearing my watch.

MARK HUDDLESTON

.....
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- JANUARY 6/7 Chief Scouts Award 30-mile hike Bentley Copse.
- 27/28 R.N.Groups Swimming Gala HMS Raleigh Cornwall.
- FEBRUARY ? District 5-a-side Football. St.Mary's College Twickenham
- MARCH 25 GLSW Boat Handling Competition Ravens Ait.
- 30/ Patrol Leaders Training Course 1st Whitton H.Q.
1 APRIL (PL's only)
- APRIL 12/17 GLSW Easter Expedition Dartmoor (PL's and APL's only)
- MAY 12 District Scout Sports Twickenham
- 20 GLSW Pulling and Canoeing Regatta Petersham and Ham Reach.
- 26/28 Troop Camp Walton Firs (land skills)
- JUNE 10 GLSW Sailing Regatta Teddington Reach.
- 23/24 Twickree Marble Hill Park
- 30/1 JULY
Thames Young Mariners Base 21st Celebration Weekend.
- JULY 7/8 District Canpercraft Competition Walton Firs
(1 patrol only)
- ~~20/21~~ AUGUST 14/15
Summer Camp Thames Young Mariners Base (Boating)
- AUGUST 24/27 Chatham Meet 70th Anniversary of Sea Scouting
(Scouts and Ventures)
- SEPTEMBER 22/23 Longridge Regatta Marlow
- 30 Middlesex Canoe Race

ADDRESSES:

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| BOUP SCOUT LEADER | Edgar Harborne | 'Southdown', 146 Lower Green Rd. Esher, Surrey. Telephone: 78-66758 |
| SCOUT LEADER | Ron Sparks | 152 Park Road, Hounslow, Middx. Telephone: 01-894-4101 |
| VENTURE SCOUT LEADER | Dennis Sainsbury-Brown | 10 Garside Close, Hampton, Middx. Telephone: 01-979-1374 |
| CUB SCOUT LEADER | Paul Adams | 7 Station Close, Hampton, Middx. Telephone: 01-979-8781 |
| ASSISTANT SCOUT LEADER | David Loftus | c/o. Royal Military School of Kneller Hall, Music, Twickenham, Middx. |
| INSTRUCTOR | Ted Lawrence | 9 Cardinals Walk, Hampton, Middx. Telephone: 01-979-6659 |
| INSTRUCTOR | Henry Shortman | 11 Albury Close, Hampton, Middx. Telephone: 01-979-5002 |
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