Issue 17

April 2000

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE 9TH DAGENHAM SCOUT GROUP

Akela's Shout

That's Handy!

9th Dagenham win the Cub AND Scout Handcraft Competition

Baggy trying to make an Easter Card from clay

This years Handcraft competition saw the 9th Dagenham walk away with no less than 3 trophies and a veritable pile of certificates.

The Cubs and Scouts had been working hard on their entries for many weeks and their effort certainly paid off on the day.

With stiff competition from 13 other packs in the district the judges for the Cub section had a very difficult job on the day. Standards were very high in every section and most categories were well represented.

Their motto "Be Prepared" had obviously given stimulus to the cubs and scouts though as they entered a good deal of quality entries.

At the end of the day the cubs had won the Over 9½ section and the overall competition, in addition to a well earned 2nd place for the Pack Effort Shadow Play.

Our scouts also won their section outright and picked up the Handcraft trophy.

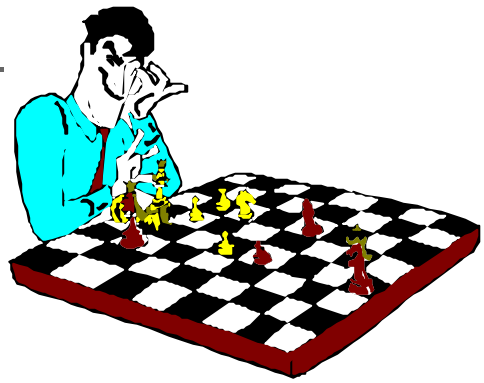
Well done to all that entered and thank you to those who turned up on the day.

'Check' this out

The 9th Dagenham represented the district at both the Scout and Cub County Chess Competition this year.

Both teams played as best they could and managed to hold their own against the best chess players in the county of Greater London North East.

Well done to Chris Sallis and Jonathon Bennett of the Scouts.. And Billy Marbe and Jimmy Ross who represented the Cubs.



Jimmy at the County Chess

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Special points of interest:

- *Group wins Cub & Scout Handcraft*
- *County Chess Results*
- *Biography on Baden-Powell*
- *Information & photos on kids and events*
- *Website of the Month*

Akela's Shout

Hi Everyone

Hope this finds you all well and enjoying the nice spring weather.

The District Handcraft competition for all sections took place in March. Unfortunately the Beaver section didn't get a placing but the Cubs came 1st in the over 9½ section and 1st in the competition overall. The Scouts also came 1st in their competition. Well done everyone.

We also had two cubs represent us at the County Cub Chess competition and also 2 scouts represents us at the County Scout Chess competition. Well done Jimmy Ross, Billy Marbe, Jonathon Bennett and Chris Sallis.

As most of you know my son got married on the 11th March. I am pleased to say the wedding went very well and we all had a great day.

On a sad note our previous Group Scout Leader Dick Brown passed away 2 weeks ago. Our thoughts are with his wife (who was Akela before me) and children.

There are a couple of forms that need to be completed and returned for the millennium camp. All monies for this camp must be in NOW. The Whitsun weekend camp money must be in by Tuesday 11/4/00.

See you all soon, Akela

Richard being awarded his Cub Scout Award

Baggy gets really hungry while reading the newsletter

Whitsun Weekend camp money must be in by Tuesday 11/4/00

All monies for millennium camp must be in NOW

Baden-Powell

Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell was born at 6 Stanhope Street (now 11 Stanhope Terrace), Paddington, London on February 22, 1857. He was the sixth son and the eighth of ten children of the Reverend Baden-Powell, a Professor at Oxford University. The names Robert Stephenson were those of his Godfather, the son of George Stephenson, the railway pioneer.

His father died when B.-P. was only three years old and the family were left none too well off. B.-P. was given his first lessons by his mother and later attended Rose Hill School, Tunbridge Wells, where he gained a scholarship for admittance to Charterhouse School. Charterhouse School was in London when B.-P. first attended but whilst he was there it moved to Godalming, Surrey, a factor which had great influence in his later life. He was always eager to learn new skills. He played the piano and fiddle. He acted - and acted the clown too at times. He practised bricklaying, and it was whilst a scholar at Charter house that he began to exploit his interest in the arts of Scouting and woodcraft.

Unofficially, in the woods around the school, B.-P. would stalk his Masters as well as catch and cook rabbits, being careful not to let the tell-tale smoke give his position away. His holidays were not wasted either. With his brothers he was always in search of adventure. One holiday they made a yachting expedition around the south coast of England. On another, they traced the Thames to its source by canoe.

In all this, Baden-Powell was learning the arts and crafts which were to prove so useful to him professionally. B.-P. was certainly not a 'swot' at school, as his end of term reports revealed.

One records: 'Mathematics - has to all intents given up the study', and another: 'French - could do well but has become very lazy, often sleeps in school'.

Next month : BP's military career and the foundations of the scouting movement.

Callum in the 'Gurning' competition
(Don't ask...just don't ask...Baggy)

"Here… are you sure he is a Beaver? He is quite tall you know"

One night in February our Beaver colony played host to some visitors from the 16th Dagenham.

The two colonies met in the large hall and quickly found new friends among the new and unusual people from the other group.

The Beaver Motto is " Fun & Friends"

and that certainly was in evidence that night as with a hectic schedule of games and activities ahead of the two colonies split into mixed groups and instantly 'melded' together.
The night was ably run by the leaders from the visiting group giving our Beaver leaders a chance to sit back and do nothing

(*Whats new? - Baggy*).

To be honest I'm not sure what they got up (first Beaver to tell me what happened wins a packet of sweets… that Mr T. is no good… he keeps forgetting to tell us what goes on in Beavers…) but all that is important is that the hall was full of exceptionally well behaved Beavers with a big smile on their face.

Stephen helping one of the leaders to do a drawing

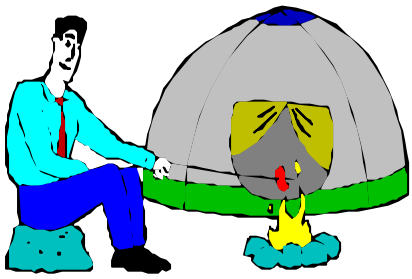
Beavers and Leaders gather together for the closing ceremony

Millennium Camp

Millennium camp is a special 'one-off' celebrating the new millennium (*yes, I know… we are not in the new millennium yet but hey! Any excuse for a party – Baggy*). This camp will be very special in that the whole of the district will be camping together (for the first time that I can remember anyway).

Both Cubs and Scouts will be staying over the weekend at Belchamps and the Beavers will be coming down for the day on Saturday (Beavers, understandably, are not allowed to camp overnight).

The scouts will be transported down to the campsite in coaches arranged by the district to arrive on the Friday evening.



Mill. Camp – Apr 28 – May 1

Belchamps, near Hockley, will be offering a wide variety of activities to keep the scouts occupied throughout the weekend. On the Saturday there will be caving, crystal maze, assault course, slide, badge making, blind trail, circus skills, police, fire brigade and much more. Sunday will see ice skating, caving, archery, gatt guns, rifle range, treasure hunt and much more.

The whole of the weekends activities, and the campsite as a whole, will be supervised both by leaders from the district and the crew from Belchamps itself. First Aid will be provided by St. Johns and security and organisation will be tight and well managed.

Along with other (secret!) items on the timetable and an excellent planned finale there will be the traditional campfire and scouts own.

All in all this will be one camp you do NOT want to miss.

Scout Rally

What on Earth is the Scout Rally? Will there be thousands of Scouts marching down to Trafalger Square demanding that their subs. be decreased and that they be allowed to play football every week? No, not quite. The Scout Rally, to be held at Thriftwood, will really test a team from each troop on a range of bases.

Each base acts like a sort of mini-challenge. For instance, last year they had to construct a gate, pitch a tent (within a time limit….something that no scouts seem able to grasp), light a fire (with one match of course), orienteering and more.

It gives the scouts a chance to show their proficiency at practical scouting matters, and gets them out there gaining new skills necessary for when they run their own camps and hikes.

This event, coupled with the incident hike next month, will begin to give our Scouts a taste of what they should be doing more of… getting out and about...Scouting!

Can I go? .. Please .. Go on .. I'll behave myself honest

Can I go? Of course you can… well most of the time anyway..

Some parents have asked if they could/ should be at certain events.

Generally speaking the answer for most events is certainly YES PLEASE… come along.

Take recent events for example… parents are most certainly invited and welcome at the Swimming Gala, Sports Day and 5-a-side where the more spectators we have the better. You will be asked to remain within the spectators area though (this is for several reasons.. Not least of which is the safety of your children. It is also extremely difficult to organise any competition when you have two hundred people wandering around in the way).

The more people turn up to support the event, the better the event will be for all involved and the more likely it will be a success and repeated again next year.

Handcraft competition is a perfect opportunity to drop in if have 5 minutes to spare and have a look at the children's work and do a spot of clapping as the awards are given out.

Not all scouting events are suitable for parental visitation though. Camps are an important exception to the rule. Generally speaking camps work much better when there is little parental involvement and that includes cases of children being homesick. Trust me, ask any of the leaders, every year we have a 'homesick' child who a couple of hours into the camp gets stuck into the activities and enjoys themselves so much they forget all about home and 'mum'. It is also more difficult to maintain security at campsites if parents are allowed to come and go as they please.

If you want to attend ANY scouting event then just have a word with the leaders, you will be more than welcome.

April 2000

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	**2** *Church Parade*
3	4	5	6	7	**8** *Cub Badge Day*	9
10	11	12	13	14	**15** *Scout Rally/Easter Egg Hunt*	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	**28** *District*	**29** *Millen-*	**30** *Camp*

Scouting Calendar

Pin this sheet up where you can easily see it!

Schedule of Events

- **Sun 2 Apr** - Church Parade – All sections outside church at 10:20 a.m.
- **Sat 8 Apr** - Cub Badge Day (Swimmers Badge) We will be doing all stages of the badge. University of East London, Longbridge Road. Entrance opposite the Robin Hood. 3:00-5:00 p.m.
  Please read the Cub Scout Handbook for requirements and let Akela/Baggy know if you want to take part
- **Sat 15 Apr** - Scout Rally at Thriftwood. Times to follow. We may need help to get the Scouts to Thriftwood.
- **Sat 15 Apr** - Beaver Easter Egg Hunt at Hainault. Times to follow
- **28 Apr to 1 May** - District Millennium Camp at Belchamps. Times of the coach to follow. Cubs/Scouts are camping, Beavers are down on Saturday only.

Schedule of Events

- **Sat 13 May** - Scout Incident Hike Competition. Details next month.
- **Weekend of Fri 26 May – Mon 29 May** - District Cub Camp and 9th Dagenham Scout Camp.
  The cubs and scouts will be camping (separately) at Thriftwood on the same weekend. Details of the camps will be given nearer the date.
  Please ensure that all forms and monies have been returned by the appropriate date (see Akela's Shout).

May 2000

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 *Incident Hike*	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 *District*	27 *Cub*	28 *Camp*
29 *Weekend*	30	31				

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http//www.scoutingresources.org.uk/

Website Review

http://www.scoutbase.org.uk

The official website of

The Scout Association

Scoutbase is the official source of information for Scouting in the UK. If you want to look up some rules and regulations or find some information on administration within scouting then this is really your only choice. It is not just full of red tape though. It contains an absolute wealth of information and resources regarding all matters scouting related.

With information ranging from campsites to games, scouting history, days out, badges and much more. Scoutbase is a well designed and competent scouting website and should be the first stop for anyone wishing to find out about scouting in the UK.

A look at the American Boy Scout Oath & Law

Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan

The Boy Scout measures himself against these ideals and continually tries to improve. The goals are high, and as he reaches for them, he has some control over what and who he becomes.

Scout Oath (or Promise)

"On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

TRUSTWORTHY – A Scout tells the truth. He keeps his promises. Honesty is part of his code of conduct. People can depend on him.
LOYAL – A Scout is true to his family, Scout leaders, friends, school, and nation.
HELPFUL – A Scout is concerned about other people. He does things willingly for others without pay or reward.
FRIENDLY – A Scout is a friend to all. He is a brother to other Scouts. He seeks to understand others. He respects those with ideas and customs other than his own.

Jimmy Ross

COURTEOUS – A Scout is polite to everyone regardless of age or position. He knows good manners make it easier for people to get along together.
KIND – A Scout understands there is strength in being gentle. He treats others as he wants to be treated. He does not hurt or kill harmless things without reason.
OBEDIENT – A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop. He obeys the laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobey them.
CHEERFUL – A Scout looks for the bright side of things. He cheerfully does tasks that come his way. He tries to make others happy.
THRIFTY – A Scout works to pay his way and to help others. He saves for unforeseen needs. He protects and conserves natural resources. He carefully uses time and property.
BRAVE – A Scout can face danger even if he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at or threaten him.
CLEAN – A Scout keeps his body and mind fit and clean. He goes around with those who believe in living by these same ideals. He helps keep his home and community clean.
REVERENT – A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others.