Upcoming Events	News And Information	Contact Information
Chess Competition	Church Parade & Subs. Increase	97 Westfield Road
Connect 4 Competition	New Tents	Dagenham, Essex
Cyclo Cross	Food Survey	**0181 – 595 – 0292**

Akela's **Shout**

The newsletter for the 9th Dag. Scout Group
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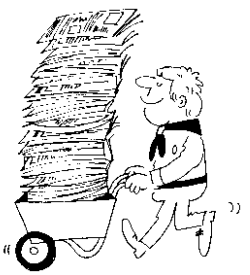
November
Editor: Baggy



Event Reviews, Jokes & More

Subs. Increase Explained

Akela's Shout

I hope this issue of the Shout finds you fit & well. Not long now until Christmas and we will be having a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 27th November. So if you have any unwanted gifts, tins or anything you think we could sell, please bring it on a Tuesday.

Well done to everyone who attended Harvest Festival Church Parade, more about Church Parades later.

The Beaver Zoo trip was well attended and all had an enjoyable day. Hopefully some of the Beavers will write a short report.

The Cubs had a few events in October, the first being Cubadoo at Hargreaves campsite. The day started with rain but it turned out really nice in the end and again all the cubs enjoyed themselves. We then had the Cub Quiz where we came 4th out of 6. Well done to the team.

The Thriftwalk was again very well attended and all present managed to walk the required number of miles for their section. Hopefully once all the sponsor money has been collected we will have enough to buy a few new tents.

The Cubs visited Valence House as the final part of their Local Historian badge recently. I was very disappointed with Valence House, there wasn't any information about the things we had been learning about for this badge.

The Scout section had a very good Patrol Leaders Council and they sorted out a programme for the next 3 months.

See you soon,
Akela

Upcoming Events

Beaver Section

Connect 4 Competition
Saturday 13th November
See Mr. T. for details.

Cub Section

Chess Competition
Saturday 6th November
At St. Elisabeths. 1 p.m. For 1:15 start. See Baggy for details

Scout Section

Chess Competition
Saturday 6th November
At St. Elisabeths. 1 p.m. For 1:15 start. See Baggy for details

Cyclo Cross
Saturday 4th December
More details nearer the date.

News & Information

Church Parade & Subs. Increase

Last month we informed you about the need to increase the weekly 'Subs.' (summary below) in order to pay raising costs both from the Scout Association itself and from the hire of the hall. This month we delve a little more into the details of this agreement.

As from November 2nd the weekly subs. will go up to £1.50 each week.

In addition it has been agreed that the weekly subs. will have to be paid every week.

Now as you may know, we pay less rent than the other regular users of the hall **provided** we attend the family church service on the first Sunday

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in every month, and we do a few jobs around the grounds.

The cost of the large hall for regular users is £8 an hour, the small hall £6 per hour. So the total cost for us should be £41 per week. This would amount to an incredible £2132 over a 52 week year! Now there is simply no way we could afford this, we have to pay a regular fee to the Scout Association (which has increased by over 30% this year) as well as putting aside money for everything else (materials, equipment, upkeep, trips etc.)

Now, after speaking to the Vicar, we agreed to pay £400 for the year 2000. The Vicar would also like us to start parading the flags at the monthly service.

If we were forced to pay the increased rate we would have to put up the subs yet again to cover the extra cost. Now we really do not want to have to do this and we have done everything we can to keep the subs to a minimum.

However, now it is time that we ask you to help us in this matter. So please make sure your child attends so that we can keep the rent low and hence the subs at an affordable level.

If you have any questions on this topic please feel free to speak to Mr. T.

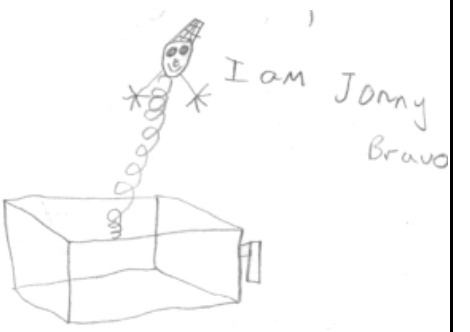
Food Survey

There was a problem at the publishers last month which meant that your food survey was not attached to Oct. Issue. Please remember to complete this months food survey form and return it to a leader as quickly as possible please. This will enable us to plan a varied and interesting menu for future camps.

Boot Sales

Beginning in the new year as part of our fundraising scheme we intend to

have a pitch at local boot sales. If you feel you have any suitable material or if you can spare the time to lend a hand then please speak to one of the leaders. Indeed, if anyone has any fundraising ideas, can supply a service or materials or can just turn up and muck in for an hour or two then the leaders would like to have a quick chat with you.



Homemade Cakes

Beginning in the new year we will have homemade cakes available for sale every Tuesday night in the hall. It would be nice if all the parents could pop into the hall when they collect their children and have a quick cup of tea and some cake while chatting to the leaders. As above all money collected will be used for group funds.

This space was reserved for your contribution.

We need your input.

Send in your ideas, reviews, adverts, complaints, thoughts and suggestions.

Deadline for each issue is the last Tuesday in the month.

"The Tent Was Broken..."

by The Scouts

Here we have some views from the scouts:

Nicky – I like camping because I camp in a tent with Tom and he makes me laugh. I like playing games when I'm at scouts. I like coming here because I get lots of badges and I ain't got any it doesn't matter..
Thomas Mullen – The year 2k will be very interesting for Scouts. There are lots of events for us to do: Swimming Gala, Scout Rally, Mark Sutton, Incident Hike, 5-a-side, Camping Comp. & Mayniact Day! Mayniact Day is different to the other evetns as it isn't a competition. It is FUN (Please note. Many people have not seen this word before. I won't name names but Mr. T. needs to look up this word). All the activities in Thriftwood are open: Cork guns, rifle range, crossbows, bungee run, archery, all lake activities and usually a long running free-for-all water fight.
Thomas Robertson – Scouts is getting much better because we do more

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things now and there is more people coming and staying. We are also getting more adults involved which means we can go more places.

Luke Sibbons – When we was on the camping competition we lost by a long, long, long, long, long way because we did not work. We had less than 100 points. We came 5th out of six. The other patrol came sixth. In our group we had Andreas, Thomas & Lee.

Billy Longford – We was on a Camping Competition and we lost. But we enjoyed it.

Craig Bloomyield – I like doing

rugby at school because I like tackling people. I also like running around like a lunatic and I hate never scoring but I like it when I do. I like doing scouts because I get to do games and that's it

Christopher Cridland – I enjoy scouts a lot because I like playing games and doing group activities. I also like running around like a lunatic. It is very tiring but I like it a lot. Also it is very educational and teaches us things we didn't know before. Scouts is a lot of fun when we go camping and participate in sporting or scouting events

Andreas Vassilione – We was going camping. It sounded really fun. I arrived early and the camp leaders were organising the last of the stuff they had to organize. Chris's dad took me to the camping competition, it was a very long time to get there. When we got there we had to set up our tent. The whole thing was broken. We had to wait for some dome tents. In the end they came, we had one for our bags and two tents to sleep in. It was quite a bad day but we survived. The important thing was to take part and to try your best and have fun. In the end we came 4th and it was our first time. There were only 5 places so I think we did good and we all had fun. When I came home, I was so tired I slept about an hour and then I had a long soothing

bath. I was so dirty, the bath was boiling, and after I was relaxed the bath was very dirty.

Baggy's Bit

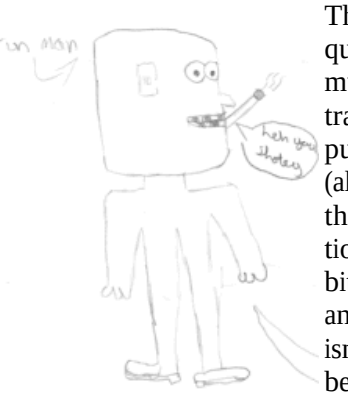
You will have noticed the various pictures plastered about this issue. These were drawn by the cubs as their contribution this month. If you have anything you want to see in Akela's Shout then please contact me.

Cubadoo

Cubadoo is a 'fun day' open to all the cubs in the county (Greater London North East). Its gives hundreds of cubs the chance to 'run riot' around Hargreaves campsite for the day. Each district is asked to provide a few bases to amuse the cubs and so the field is usually full of interesting & strange ac-

tivities. Our district ran a Hoop-la and a Coconut Shy. Other activities included a monkey bridge, a farm, gladiator style games, face paintings, an assault course run by army cadets and much more. We took our cubs on the bus (funnily enough everyone else got off the bus as we got on !) Once we got there the weather improved and we let the cubs loose for the day. They seemed to enjoy themselves immensely and came back covered in face paint. Everyone present got a badge to remind them of an excellent day out.

Cub Quiz



The cub quiz is very much like a traditional pub quiz (although the questions are a bit easier and there isn't any beer.) Each team nominates a sixer to settle any arguments (and believe me there will be some!). A leader sits at each table and 'scribes' for the team, taking down their answers (in theory this is so I can read the answers although the leaders spelling tends to be worse than the cubs). There are 10 categories of questions ranging from Scouting, Sports to Where am I? 6 Teams attended (one of them only had

two team members but they put on an excellent show and did not come last!). A break at half time allowed the cubs a chance to have a bite to eat, and in the case of our cubs, forced me to start a sherbet fight (I was washing the stuff out of my hair for days – Thank you Baccy!). Our team pulled back well in the second half and managed a fourth place overall. Well done to all those present and I hope you enjoyed yourselves.

Thriftwalk

Thriftwalk was next up on the calendar. The original plans changed from getting a coach down there, to getting the train, and finally to ferrying everyone in parents cars. Thank you to all those parents and leaders that helped to get the kids down there, but did you have to bring them back? Thriftwalk is a sponsored group that raises funds for Thriftwood itself and for our group. I believe our group will receive several hundred pounds when we finally receive all monies back. It might sound boring walking round and round but I'm sure all the kids had a good laugh with the leaders and each other as they

trudged through their 5/10 or 15 miles. During the day we found the time for a nice picnic by the lake, a water fight, a spot of messing about on the assault course and general larking about. Oh, and yes Mr. T. fell over onto his bum but I certainly did not slip and fall over going across a ditch.

On a serious point, thank you to all the parents and helpers that attended and helped to raise funds for the group. Without your support the group simply cannot run. Please don't let all the work fall on the same shoulders, help do your bit for the group. Thank you to Jimmy's Mum, Tracey's Family, Daniels Dad & Lukes Mum for your help on the day. Thank you also to Chris's Dad, Chris's Mum for helping to ferry

the kids about. If I have missed anybody out then please let me know.

Colchester Zoo Trip

The next major scouting event was the Beavers trip to Colchester Zoo the following Sunday. Mr. T and Akela organised the event, open to all the beaver groups in the district. In the end I believe 3 other groups took up his offer, leading a full coach of 59 kids, parents & leaders. After a long journey we arrived at Colchester raring to go. We kept a tight rein on the kids lest they be mistaken for escaped animals. Although they sometimes seemed more

interested in the adventure playground than the animals I know that they really did enjoy the zoo as a whole. I would recommend a visit there to anyone with (or indeed without) children. There is loads for the kids to do, buttons to press, animals to make faces at, playgrounds to swing from, as well as plenty of rest stops and tea breaks along the route. After a very tiring day and a quick trip to the shop we headed back to the coach. O.K. I only had two cubs there but I managed to 'lose' one of them, who had to be retrieved from the zoo before we could set off!

Valence House

On the Tuesday during half term we arranged for the cubs to visit Valence House to complete their Local Historian badge. As we would still be having a normal pack night we suggested that we have the cubs for the whole day. Unfortunately all the parents took us up on our offer so we were stuck with the lot of them all day. I must agree with Akela, I was very disappointed with the House. Although not exactly poor I feel there just was not enough there, especially not enough to hold the attention of the cubs. There

was very little material relating to local history as we had been learning over the past few months for the badge. After trudging round for nearly two hours we had a quick (very short) walk round the garden, a visit to the shop before heading over to the park. We stopped off an played a few games in the park (I must say I was the victim of a vicious unprovoked attack by Daniel in the football match). We then walked back to the hall and had something to eat before launching into an extended pack night of scouting 'work' and games.

Photographs

I hope to post photographs of all the above events onto the website as and when I receive them from the people concerned. If you have any photo's you have took of any scouting events then please speak to me. I can scan them in and return them to you very quickly. I am also going to look into printing some of them in the newsletter.

Jokes

Here are a few jokes from the cubs:

Why did the man with one hand cross the road?
To get to the second hand shop!
By Ashley

Why did the Hedgehog cross the road?
To see his Flat Mate!
By John Gazely

Knock Knock!
Who's There?
James
James Who?
James Bond's on T.V., let me in!
By Billy Marbe

Dates for your Diary

There is a Cub Scout Leaders Meeting on Monday the first. I hope to get a provisional list of dates for all district events for the upcoming year. This will mean it will not appear in this issue but either as a handout or perhaps in the December issue. This should help to give a guideline for planning those days out although the list will be subject to review and will not include any details of events.

St. Andrew

The 30th of November is St. Andrews day. St. Andrew as you may know is the Patron Saint of Scotland but he is also the patron saint of Russia.

Paradoxically, the saint so revered by the Scots had never been to Scotland. He never even knew of its existence! His only association with the country was the burial of his bones in Scottish soil.

A Galilean fisherman and early follower of Jesus, Andrew had been one of the twelve Apostles. After the crucifixion, he left the Holy Land to travel abroad and spread the Christian message wherever he went.

They arrested Andrew two days after his arrival in Patras and, after flogging him, put him to death. He was crucified on the X-shaped cross now known by his name. He is said to have asked for a cross of diagonal beams because he considered himself unworthy to die on an upright one, as Christ had done.

For almost 300 years the Saint's bones were kept in Patras. One night, in A.D. 368, the monk who was looking after his grave had a vision. An angel, appearing to him in a dream, told him to gather St Andrew's relics and take them by boat to an unknown destination. The monk did as instructed.

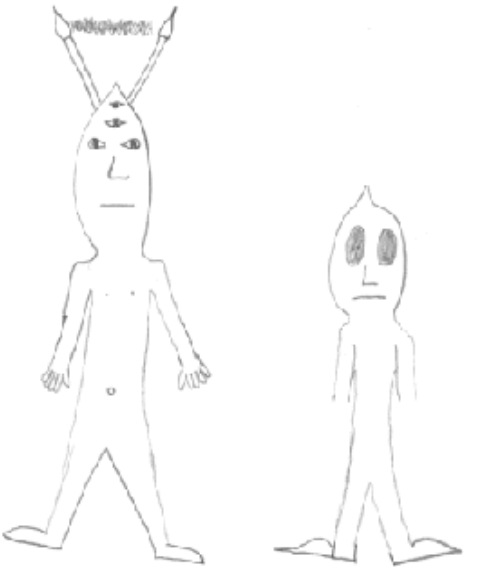
After many weeks of sailing, he was shipwrecked at Fife, on the eastern coast of Scotland. He interpreted this as an indication that God willed the saint's remains to be left there. He laid them to rest in a sanctuary he built for this purpose. It is the site of the present-day city and cathedral of St Andrew's.

The Scots, convinced that divine providence had brought St Andrew's bones to their country, made him their patron saint. They believed that he helped them in their battles and took good care of their country.

"'Ere, my tents leaking!"

We are looking for good ideas and willing hands for a fundraising drive to pay for some much needed camping equipment. The group is looking to purchase some patrol tents and dining shelters. These dining shelters espically can be used by the whole group, not just the scouts and will be invaluable at camp. In order to cover the costs of these we will need to raise some funds.

If you have any good ideas, know someone who can help or are just willing to turn up and help out anyway you



can for an hour or so then **we need to talk to you**!

Please don't let the responsibility of fund raising just fall upon the shoulders of the leaders. As part of your responsibility as a parent we would expect you to at least have the courtesy to attend the Annual General Meeting in order to voice your views and see what is going on in the group. Unfortunately very few parents do attend and its then that we begin to get the feeling that you are really not interested in the welfare of your child. However we know this is not true so we will be talking to the parents over the next month or so and discussing the situation with you.

One idea we have had is to have an informal social evening for parents with perhaps a meal or a wine & cheese type affair. You can bring your kids along and we will look after them (out of your way). This will give us all the oppourtunity to get to know each other better. **What do you think?**

Checklist

- ◊ Complete Food Survey
- ◊ Increase in Subs. To £1.50
- ◊ Come up with Fundraising Ideas
- ◊ Photo's for Baggy
- ◊ Material & Help for Bazaar