



Scout & Scouting Magazine

BY SCOUTS - FOR EVERYONE!

ISSUE 3

AUTUMN 2021



FOR LEADERS!
Scout & Scouting has games, activities and articles

FOR PARENTS!
Scout & Scouting will let you find out more of what we get up to

FOR YOUNGSTERS!
Scout & Scouting would love you to write something for us

FOR YOU!
Scout & Scouting is published three times a year

THE UK'S ONLY INDEPENDENT SCOUTING MAGAZINE WITH NO RELATIONSHIP TO ANY SCOUT ORGANISATION



printedclothing.com

**Hoodies - Sweatshirts - T-shirts - Polo Shirts - Hi Viz
Caps - Soft Shell - Fleece - Workwear - Banners
Tote Bags - Coffee Mugs - Umbrellas - Lanyards - Flags**

Contact us for best prices on Printing or Embroidery
sales@printedclothing.com 01480 702116



**You can provide your own artwork or we can help with
your designs or even create a logo for you.**

We're getting to quite enjoy this scouting magazine lark and it seems that you are too! Thank you for your continued support, not least of all in sending us your contributions. This is your magazine and if you have something that you think may be of interest to leaders, parents or scouts then please send it in.

For this third issue Bruce Groves felt motivated to write in after reading Eddie Langdown's article in Issue 2 about the wicker basket badge scam. We're very pleased that he did! His saga about the parish magazine is sure to amuse. It starts on the following page. Eddie is already becoming something of a regular with two further contributions, this time he reflects on patrol camping (page 24) and inclusion (page 36). Elsewhere you will find another Rex's Page, How Tos on making a ladder and a scaffold board chair, scouting memories by Pat Dixon, Terry Pascoe on a scout song that he wrote, Ruby produced an extract from a child's war diary, plus another letter home, book review and cartoon towards the end of the magazine.

We hope you like the front cover photo. It's scout scarecrows cooking burgers on a campfire. It was one of the many exhibits that were made and displayed by local residents outside their homes for the annual Scarecrow Festival, held in Belbroughton, Worcestershire, that has been in existence for twenty-five years. What a great idea!

Please keep the articles flowing in!

With best wishes

Richard and the team at **Scout & Scouting**

www.scoutandscouting.com

WRITE: Send your submissions to **Scout & Scouting**, Searchline Publishing, Searchline House, 1A Holbrook Lane, Chislehurst, BR7 6PE or email info@searchlinepublishing.co.uk

SUBSCRIBE: **Scout & Scouting** is free to download. However it's far more satisfying to have a paper copy that you can dip into. A one year subscription costs just £13.50. Go to www.scoutandscouting.com to register and / or subscribe.

ADVERTISE: If you would like to place an advertisement, contact us at info@searchlinepublishing.co.uk and we will let you have our rate card.

BADGES

The Parish Magazine that sold out

I'm enjoying **Scout and Scouting** magazine immensely and am so glad that you are producing a printed version. I cannot abide sitting reading from a screen and I know that I am not alone. I love having the magazine in the sitting room where it sits on the coffee table for me to dip into as and when I have a spare minute. I felt that I had to write after reading Eddie Langdown's article in Issue 2 entitled "The Great Chessington Wicker Basket Badge Scam." The story that came to mind was not of a scam but an unfortunate sequence of events that led to the wrong scout gaining an activity badge and frosty relations with the local church for several months.

When I was a scout leader there used to be a public relations badge. The last component was for scouts to write a good news story about a scouting activity and get it published in a scouting newsletter or website, or "the local press." My scout group was affiliated with the local church. This meant that we were obliged to parade to a church service every couple of months. This was no real hardship and with a lively young vicar the scouts mostly enjoyed the experience. We had use of the church hall for a nominal sum; the church and grounds were very useful for several badge requirements including My Faith and Smallholder with various camping components also in the hall.

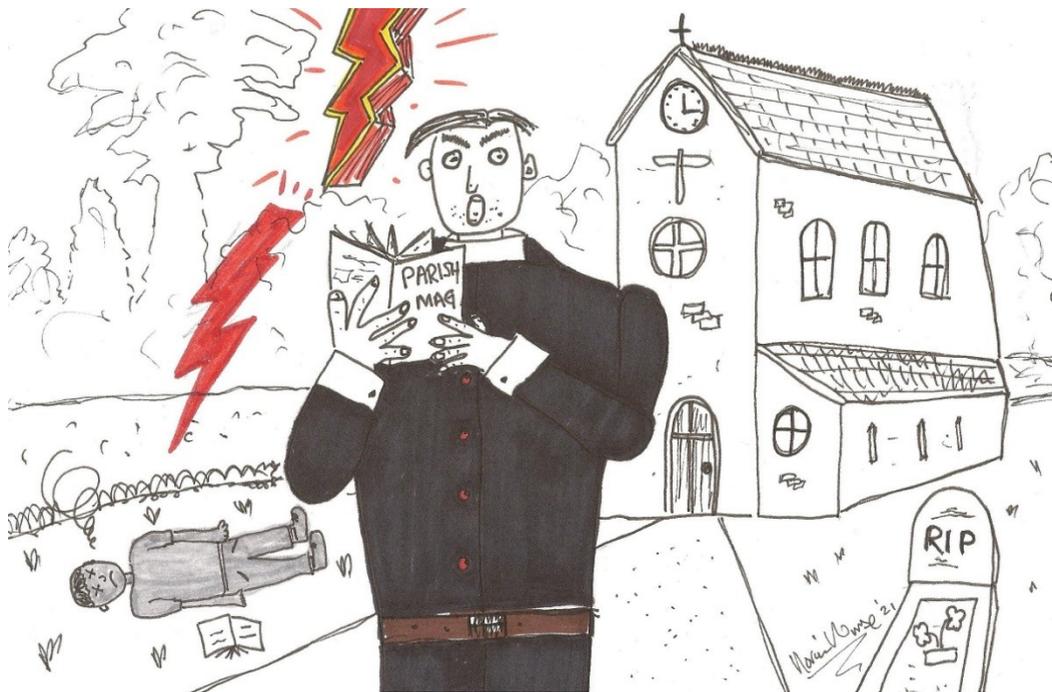
I was always on the lookout for ways to make the scouts' badge journeys a little easier. Getting items in the local press was not as easy as some in head office may have assumed. After all they would probably have had access to a professional media team. It was the vicar who suggested that I might write the occasional article for the parish magazine. I in turn said that I would mostly

hand that job over to the scouts which I did. I would write about general scout stuff now and then but mostly I would give the scouts a topic of the vicar's choice and I would pick the best one or two to go in the magazine. Mostly they were written at home during the holidays, brought to scout meetings for me to read and then to pick the best of the bunch and pass them onto the vicar.

At one parade service, that happened to be the church's birthday, the scouts were very taken by a visiting bishop who, as part of his talk, showed them and talked about his vestments and what each item was called. After the talk one boy, whom I shall call Harry, whispered to me that he needed a pee so I told him to get up and go by himself. He knew his way around the building and so I was content in the knowledge that he wouldn't get lost. That said, he did take some time to return to his pew and when he did almost immediately another boy needed a pee. As he was a newcomer I told Harry to take him. Again they were gone for far longer than a pee takes. After the service there were refreshments and cake and I didn't take much notice of the fact that Harry and his companion were both flushed and excitable until they both disappeared thus causing a major panic when their parents arrived to take them home.

It wasn't until the vicar had suggested that the scouts write one side of lined A4 on "My Favourite Church Service" that I found out what had been going on. Most of the scouts wrote about the bishop's visit. Harry was a no-nonsense sort of boy who could certainly look after himself. His report began, "Freddie and I got slaughtered when the bishop visited." He went on to write about how they had found glass upon glass of unguarded wine when they had been to the toilet and had decided to help themselves. Even during the reception they had managed to get their hands on some more as no one seemed to be taking

much notice. He wrote about where they had fallen asleep, somewhere I am not going to repeat, and how and where they had both been sick - several times. I put his piece to one side intending to speak to him at the next meeting and on the way out told the vicar that I had selected an article by Vivienne who had written a very thoughtful précis of the bishop's talk and what it meant to her. She had even drawn some pictures of the bishop's bits and labelled them. I never saw Harry's article again as it mysteriously disappeared.



It was coming towards Easter and it was this particular church's tradition to not only sell through local outlets but also deliver free a copy of the March issue of the magazine to every home in the parish. When mine popped through the letterbox I eagerly flicked through to find Vivienne's contribution plus drawings. To say that the blood drained from my face is something of an understatement. I, all of a sudden, felt very, very faint for there, in the middle of the magazine,

for the whole of the parish and beyond to see, was Harry's article with "Freddie and I got slaughtered when the bishop visited" in red block capitals across both centre pages. I very quickly learned that the vicar didn't bother himself with reading what was going to be put in the magazine, nor proof-reading, nor checking. It was all in the hands of an elderly parishioner, Miss James, who had looked after the magazine's preparation for years. If the vicar said, "Put this in" then she put it in. No matter that he had picked up the wrong sheet of paper and had handed Miss James Harry's odious offering.

The March issue was a sell out.

A note of apology appeared in the next edition for an "unfortunate error" and Vivienne's piece was finally included but by then the parish magazine, the scouts and Harry were the talk of the village and this little episode even made it onto the regional news. How could I refuse Harry his badge?

Harry is now a priest and he has the article and the PR badge framed on his study wall. I think he gained the My Faith badge also, but not for the same article. Scouting is certainly an adventure! Please continue to keep up the good work everyone.

Bruce Groves



There are only five countries in the world don't have any formally-recognised scouting. They are Andorra, Cuba, Laos, North Korea and Vatican City. Scouting in mainland China ceased in 1949 but recently pockets of scouting activity have shown signs of re-emergence.

REX'S PAGE

Rex Hendricksen's Games with Short Poles 6 and/or 3 foot variety - scout stave size/broom handles etc.

For scouts and explorers

Risk assessment

Potential for injury if activities are not carefully controlled by leaders.

Each activity does need careful consideration before running it, if unfamiliar.

Much depends on type / number of poles available, what state they are in, size of venue (outdoors with more room is good), number of leaders to supervise, splinters, number of scouts.

Games

1. Stomp - scouts in circle with palm of hand on pole - instructions given - move one left - one right - turn. Scouts must catch pole of neighbour before it hits the floor to stay in game - circle stays same size - very popular game.

2. Pole pile - pile poles in circle, take it in turns to remove one without disturbing any others.

3. Relays -

- Run - pole passed through legs of chair.
- Pole held by leader horizontally and then dropped - scout has to hold both hands over pole and catch it before it hits floor (very difficult to do).
- Both hands on end of three foot pole - head on hands - go round it three times then jump across it with feet together - for fun!
- Balance on one finger.
- Walk along pole.

- Staff control - keep pole above head in north south direction, run to end of room and back second person adds on, both run and so on - pole must be kept n-s at all times.
- Jump - run to end of hall then back - when patrol is reached the pole is held low so that all team have to jump it and so on.
- Poles passed over head by leaning back.
- Poles thrown horizontally to patrol - catch it and return to patrol leader.
- Piggy back pole - use as lance to try to pick up tin.
- Rowing - all sit astride facing backwards except patrol leader as cox - run to end then change.

4. Bowls - Try to knock hoop or opposing teams' pole out of circle by sliding other poles at it.

5. Grommet or rubber ring hockey - Two teams number off - use short pole - flick grommet into goal.

6. Push - Two scouts balance on plank, push each other using poles like quarterstaffs.

7. Pole sardines - a pole is laid on ground - players blindfolded, must lay their pole as close and parallel to the first one as possible.

8. Pole tug - Two teams - number off - grab end of pole and try and touch nearest wall without letting go.

Things to make

Tennis Umpire's chair - Four poles attached to legs of plastic chair.

Sedan chair - Two poles fixed to ordinary plastic chair.

Pharaoh's chair - Three poles in a 'V'.

'A' frame - drag them to race, with or without a rider, or make into a ballista using bungee to fire a bamboo cane (need an extra short pole lashed to the frame to support cane & bungee).

Self-supporting flag pole.

Challenges

Light candle from a distance.

Burst balloon on rafters.

Ravine - pick up item from other side of a ravine.

For the adults

Caber Tossing is primarily an event from the Scottish Highland Games where the caber, that can be up to six metres in length, is tossed so that it flips end over end. The aim is for the caber to land facing in the twelve o'clock position, i.e. in line with the original run. The winner is not the person who throws the caber the furthest but the one whose caber lands nearest the twelve o'clock position. The person who is tossing is called, rather genteelly, a tosser. It is not easy! Much of the weight of the caber is above the tosser's body and it is something of a fine art to get the caber into the optimum position for tossing without just dropping it or launching it like a javelin. While six foot poles may be a bit tame they would be more than enough for most scouts; adults may wish to have a go with something a bit longer. Should they wish to use a full-size caber be warned, they are not easy to get come by and if you do find one they can weigh up to around seventy kilos. We might just mention that telegraph poles are typically around six metres in length but we would not want you to be getting any ideas from our imparting this snippet of information.



HOW TO...

Make a ladder

Making ladders is always a popular activity. While constructing something practical the young people are practising their knot-making skills, maybe without even realising. We are going to look at four types of ladder.

1. Knot ladder. This needs no more than a long length of rope into which an overhand knot is tied every thirty centimetres or so. More or less depending on the height of the person who will be using it. An overhand knot is tied by forming a loop and passing the working end through it before pulling tight. This will make both climbing and descending much easier as it gives you something to prevent both your hands and feet from slipping down the rope.

2. Manharness ladder. Again this uses no more than a length of rope but you will need more rope to cover the same distance as this ladder is formed of knotted loops. Make a loop with the working end on top and to the left. With the working end position it under the loop just formed. Whilst you hold the working end in place take the right hand side of the loop, pass it under the working end then over the left hand side of the loop. Hold onto both ends of the rope in one hand and the new loop in the other and pull whereupon you will form a knotted loop. Until you have pulled the knot tight the size of the loop is adjustable. This is a manharness hitch. You can now use the loops as footholds and handholds.

3. Rope ladder. With two lengths of rope or a very long rope doubled, as you make each pair of manharness hitches opposite each other on the two lengths of rope, pass a thick stick or branch through both to make a rung, making sure that the wood protrudes at either end, and pull to tighten.

4. Static ladder. This uses two long lengths of wood to form the sides of the ladder in addition to the rungs. The rungs are attached to the uprights using square lashings. The advantage of this ladder is that it is more stable than the others and it can be used from the ground but it may twist if the lashings aren't tight.



ONE HOUR A WEEK

Scouting memories...

From as far back as I can remember I have known Scouts, and then when my children became Scouts I become a Scouter, which is now thirty-four years ago.

My parents owned a small farm in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, where since the late 1940s Scout Groups had camped.

I was born in 1954 so my first memories were from about 1958 being taken along to campfires by my parents. One Group that visited every year, sometimes twice a year, was the 20th Cardiff – who I think in recent years merged with another Group, but is now closed? I still keep in touch with one of its leaders. At one campfire they awarded my dad the 'Thanks Badge' - see picture.



They would arrive early on the Saturday with vans, and sometimes lorries, of their equipment down the very bumpy, long forest track to our farm. All the youth looked amazingly smart in their uniform.

I would watch as they all helped unload, sort and erect their tents. The leaders with the senior patrol leaders setting up HQs while the Scouts in their patrols set up their areas. Wet pits and toilet pits would be cut, the turf would be stacked and watered throughout the week, to be replaced on breaking camp at the end of the week. Everyone in the patrol knew what their task was and got on with it. Wood was collected, a fire lit, and a meal was cooked.

This was Baden-Powell Youth Shaped Scouting at its very best - a wonder to watch.

During the week they would be off on patrol hikes, playing wide games, making and sleeping over in shelters up in the woods. Many of their structures would last from one year to the next. They would be collecting and grading wood and much, much more!

They would often offer to help with tasks on the farm, my dad setting them at one time to help me hand weed a field of potatoes, bale haul, hand milk cows - Scouts always do their best, and they certainly did - we all had great fun. I 'fell in love' with several Scouts over the years, one I remember came from Canton, Cardiff, and one made me a woggle – see picture.

Some years later, at the age of 19, I married Harry who had been a Cub, Scout, then Assistant Leader with Grove Scouts, then Berkshire. He rejoined Scouting as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader when our oldest son asked to be a Cub, and I then joined too! Harry died in September 2013 just as we had been married for forty years; during this time Harry always did his best to live his Scout Promise, and believed, as I do, in Scouting as a wonderful thing for youth, and adults, to be a part of.

See the picture of Harry's uniform below.

Pat Dixon AACBS/AASec



OUT & ABOUT

Haunted and Hidden Bristol Walking Tour

Cubs, Scouts & Youth Groups - just £4 per young person

Bristol's fun and informative walking tour is back up and running and available again for Cubs, Scouts and Youth Groups for just £4 per young person!

Haunted and Hidden Bristol Walking Tour is now in its 16th year and the educational and fun walk around Bristol's Old City combines haunted buildings, TV locations and Bristol history.

The walk is available on days / nights to suit groups.

Further information is at www.hauntedandhiddenbristol.co.uk





Semi Finalist Certificate

Five Stars were awarded to

Terry Pascoe

for the song

We Will Always Be Prepared

This is to certify that We Will Always Be Prepared is a Semi Finalist in the Crisis Songs category in the UK Songwriting Contest 2020. This song was carefully examined by expert music industry judges and they have awarded Terry Pascoe this certificate for participating in the contest in 2020 and for contributing to its continued success as a leading international annual songwriting event.

The UK Songwriting Contest was formed in association with The BRIT Trust and other music industry organisations. It is held annually with support from some of the biggest names in the UK and international music communities.

www.songwritingcontest.co.uk



FUNDRAISING

We will always Be Prepared

During the 1990s my late wife Fiona was Akela for the 1st Huntspill and Highbridge scout troop, based in Highbridge Somerset. They needed some funds for a roof repair and she asked me, as a professional musician, to record some Scout songs to sell to raise funds.

I decided to go one better and write a song about the Scouts. I decided we needed to incorporate the Scouts in the recording; a quick show of hands for volunteers and we had our 'choir' of twelve.

I had them sing the chorus, which was both practical and achievable.

I had prepared twelve rehearsal copies of the song with lyric sheets for the cubs to do their homework ahead of the recording date. We also had a couple of rehearsals at the scout hut on scout night ahead of the day.

Fiona and I hired the White House recording studio in Weston Super Mare at our own expense and we took our group of twelve young cub scouts to the studio. (Parents were in attendance also).

As a post script to this story I decided to enter the song in the UK Songwriting Contest where I had been submitting my work over two previous years.

In 2020 they had introduced a new category - Crisis Songs.

It occurred to me that my lyrics for the scout song 'We Will Always Be Prepared' would be entirely appropriate for the category.

We didn't win the competition but we did achieve semi final position - not bad for the young cub scouts who gave up their free time and energy. A fitting reward for their endeavour.

Terry Pascoe

Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWr-_0uAvHE

Photo: Terry, with his son Alex - a former cub scout, addressing a scout meeting in Fresno, California promoting the song. They were holidaying with friends, circa 1996

(WE WILL ALWAYS) BE PREPARED

Words and music by TERRY PASCOE © 1994

SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD TONIGHT A VOICE IS CALLING
OPEN UP YOUR HEARTS AND HEAR
WAY ABOVE THE ROOFTOPS WHERE THE SNOW STARTS FALLING
CHILDREN'S VOICES LOUD AND CLEAR

WE WILL FACE THE DARKEST NIGHT
HAND IN HAND WE LEARN TO SHARE
WE ARE GUIDED BY THE LIGHT WE SEE
WE WILL ALWAYS BE PREPARED

CHILDREN OF THE WORLD UNITE FOR THOSE IN SHELTER
LEADING LIVES THROUGH CONSTANT STORMS
WE WILL PRAY FOR GUIDANCE FROM THE GREATEST HELPER
SHOW YOUR SUNSHINE KEEP THEM WARM

WE WILL FACE THE DARKEST NIGHT
HAND IN HAND WE LEARN TO SHARE
WE ARE GUIDED BY THE LIGHT WE SEE
WE WILL ALWAYS BE PREPARED

CAPTION COMPETITION



In Issue 2 we set you the task of putting a caption to the above photograph. Thank you for all your efforts! One suggestion managed to include the word "xylophile". That sent us scurrying for our dictionaries. We quite liked "anonymous" who proposed, "If you listen carefully you can hear the sound of the men in white coats approaching." One person urged us to point out that sitting in this position in a hammock was a recipe for a broken neck. Piskies ESU wrote, "Lockdown has made the explorers go a bit bananas. Kevin always takes things too literally; we told him that he had to 'log in' to zoom." Thomas Phillips put forward, "To sleep like a log you must become one with the log" who possibly took as his inspiration Sun Tzu's, "To know your enemy, you must become your enemy." John Sullivan is runner-up with, "Could have sworn they told me - 'If you get a hammock for camping you will sleep with a log'" but the winner by a bark's thickness is Craig Challis who wrote, "I said you'll sleep LIKE a log in that hammock not with." Craig receives as his prize a fabulous double hammock kindly donated by One Stop Scouting.

www.onestopscouting.co.uk

Guess what! Guess what! Up until lunchtime it was like any old day - school, air raid practise, having to put on those terrifying gas masks... blah, blah,



blah... And then, on the way home, I saw this magnificent plane landing over RAF Blyton! It was so close to me that if I jumped, I'm pretty sure I would wack my head on it. Ouch! Obviously, I stopped to take a look.

Planes are awesome, even Mather thinks so. It was a Spitfire, my favourite of all! The phenomenal force



made the sheep's wool in the next-door field blow all over the

place. Even the grass was dancing to the sound of the roaring engine.

The bottom of the plane hit the runway, smoother than I had ever seen before. It came to a steady halt. I didn't know who was driving, but he was



ACTIVITIES

BOMBER COMMAND

Extract from a child's war diary

This year marks the 85th Anniversary of the formation of Bomber Command and this is obviously a key part of Lincolnshire's history. The International Bomber Command Centre outside Lincoln asked youth groups and schools to provide some artwork linked to Bomber Command.

One of our Scouts, Ruby, produced an extract from a child's war diary as part of the project.

Jonathan Swatton, Group Scout Leader, 6th Gainsborough Sea Scouts

cockpit... and it was a woman! Words cannot describe how I felt! This was unheard of...



She looked more heroic than the super-heroes I saw in that comic ~~In~~the newspaper a while ago! I rushed home as quickly as I could, practically leaping with excitement, and I couldn't wait to tell my friends!

ONE HOUR A WEEK

Reflections of Patrol Camping Past and Present



Hurricane Patrol

So, my Scout patrol of 6, The 'Hurricanes' (1st Andover was an Air Scout Group) were given a whole half a pound (226 gm) of tea leaves in a muslin bag at the start of our week-long camp in the overgrown ruins of Battle Abbey in Sussex. The bag would be lowered for a few seconds into a billy of boiling water until it

went brown and drinkable as tea. Over the duration of our Summer Camp we did this two or three times a day. Between meals the bag would hang dripping on our stove dresser alongside the ex-army cooking pots and an enamel washing bowl. By Friday the bag of sad weary leaves would be left to boil for over 10 minutes to produce a decent brew.

This was 1954 and apart from not knowing any scouts who drink tea in 2021, the Patrol Camps I have run for the last fifty years have been very much the same: six children aged eleven to fifteen live as a 'family' for a week with sleeping tent/s, dining shelter, cooking area, chopping area, dresser made of staves and a table around a central fire, usually an altar fire raised off the ground. They have a Patrol Leader aged fourteen+ who shaves or has babies, an APL and a Quarter Master. Everyone else collects wood and water, and hope to rise in seniority through chopping wood and cooking to being the PL themselves one day. They also needed to be ready for all night hikes, overnight bivvies, pioneering, crazy challenges and the endless preparation and cooking of meals. All in their patrols, driven on by the quest for points and the ranting of their PL who cannot bear the thought of them coming last. Another thing I remember as a kid was 'having an adult leader eat with us'; it must have been the shortest straw to have to eat with Hurricanes but this system which we continue today ensures that the children's food is at least edible!

The Highlight of my Year

Running a three or four patrol week-long Summer Camp has been the highlight of every year of my time in Scouting, and generations of PLs say it was one of the best things they ever did in their young lives. The responsibility on a teenager is immense, they are suddenly the 'parent' to five children 24/7, of

course they were APL last year and QM the year before after endless wood collecting, so they were well ready for it! And in truth we were all ready for it because the whole of our troop nights from Easter to Summer were, in truth, skill training for summer patrol camps. Practising using a hand axe safely and consistently carefully even for eleven year olds took place week after week until we could rely on their skill not to hurt themselves and to strictly supervise each other, while keeping a cooking fire going for hours a day. And in my years of camp leading I believe it was not luck that preserved all my scouts' fingers as beautiful working digits. It was frequent practising of tent pitching, dresser building, campsite lay-out through the springtime evenings and working together in the same patrols for five years that bore fruit in great troop summer camps.

Yes, things have changed; mixed patrols simply meant two smaller sleeping tents for patrols. I designed a more solid steel altar fire, the store tent became plastic boxes, we added a gas double burner to help patrols produce a small breakfast meal more quickly or get last-minute hot water. I was always pleased to see them rarely being used but there if the PL needed it. We bought an ex-army oven which stood on the altar fire and moved between the patrols when it was their turn to do a full roast and cakes. Yes, as a scout I had been made to cook in a mud covered biscuit tin over a fire, but we are now asking very young children to produce a well-cooked roast dinner for seven to eat on a table, decorated with flowers, not sitting cross-legged chewing on a bone!

The Demise

The sad demise of the week long summer camp is largely due to the reluctance of leaders to commit a week of their summer leave to Scouting. When I started

Scouting I had fourteen days leave, which was a week summer camp and the rest in Easter and half term camps. Many leaders took their families as their summer holiday. Soon both children and adults preferred the attraction of foreign sunshine holidays and who is to blame them? A week in a wet forest or wind-swept field which sees all of your burning wood blown from under your cooking pots and halfway to the next town in a shower of dust and sparks is not much fun. But another rival to the Patrol Camp is the 'adventure campsite' with leaders reduced to producing hot grub three times a day to get their little darlings off to their next adventure appointment on time. Too often leaders pack the whole of their days with climbing walls, zip wire, crate challenge, days out, visits and theme parks, leaving little time to building, let alone using, their patrol camp-sites.

Turn your Programme on its Head

To be honest you need to turn your camp programme on its head; not seeing what time you have between activities to do patrol stuff, but to see 'patrol life' and cooking together as a major, valid and enjoyable activity. Perhaps ration yourselves to one or two 'paid activities a day'. To cook two decent meals at camp a day takes a lot of preparation time. Quick meals - rolls, salad, sausage sandwiches, burgers, eggy bread could be prepared and eaten in an hour but to prepare and cook a decent casserole, curry, pasta bolognaise, steamed pudding three or four hours should be allotted. For a patrol to sit around a table peeling, chopping, mixing, chatting, laughing is a really valuable social and learning activity and a mountain of wood needs to be chopped and stacked in readiness. Please don't rely on fast burning pallet wood, do your preparation and find a local timber yard to deliver a load of hardwood logs for long slow cooking for all the patrols. It may be expensive, but so is gas.



Rotate!

My final contribution to planning a Summer Patrol Camp for two to four patrols (and I nearly always had three) is the 'Rotating 24-hour Programme'. All the patrol sites are totally built and a meal cooked in them by Saturday night. Starting Sunday mid-day you plan three x 24-hour patrol activities which includes a night off-site (hike-tents at a local farmer's field site, bivouac, hammocks etc.) Then a visit to a major off-site activity, perhaps using the local bus, train with leaders tracking at a distance. Thirdly, a day on-site for the patrol to have an oven and cook a major evening meal, perhaps shopping for it, with starters and pudding etc. Perhaps have one patrol to be on site but eating quick stuff and doing on-site activities. The value of this is that the patrols do not see each other for three or four days, and you just have the same programme to repeat day after day until they all meet-up and you have a huge barbie together!

Postscript

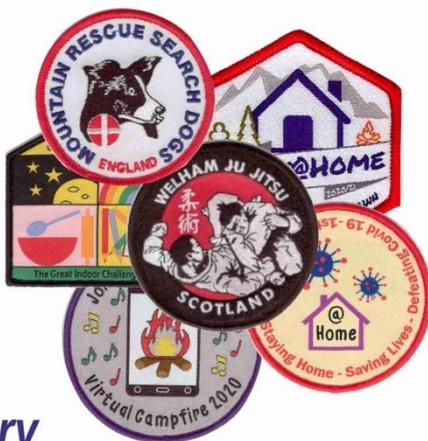
One of my last camps had our patrols camping quite close to a Sea Scout Troop where a huge circle of tents had been pitched by adults in advance and food was dispensed by an adult team from a large marquee canteen. Scouts spent the whole day doing activities, washing-up and having free-time. I eventually went to speak to their leader who had invited us to their campfire. He started badly calling us 'Dirt Scouts'. He said that this was normal banter among Sea Scouts. Then he said how he had pointed to our patrols chopping wood and told his kids that if they didn't behave, they would be made to do this!

Eddie Langdown

nottinghambadges.co.uk

- Woven Badges
- Embroidered Badges
- Events at Home Badges
- Metal Badges
- Garments

Printed & Embroidered



***Inclusive of
Artwork, Set Up & Delivery***

0115 967 6262. info@nottinghambadges.co.uk



FRYLANDS WOOD SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE

Experience some fun and adventure in
a safe, outdoor environment.



Frylands Wood focuses on outdoor
adventure, managed in a way which
encourages and enables as many
young people as possible to enjoy and
experience the benefits of the natural
environment.



020 8657 1154  www.frylandswood.co.uk



enquiries@frylandswood.co.uk

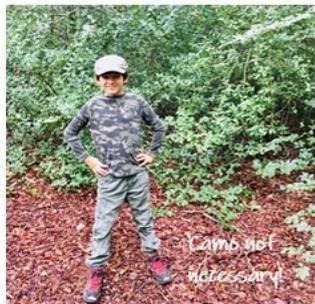


FRYLANDS WOOD
SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE

Outdoor Family Fun: Fieldcraft!



Bored of just seeing animals run away from you? Learn some cool fieldcraft techniques to get closer to wildlife without being seen.



Get ready....put on earthy colours so you don't stand out. Hide your face under a hat.



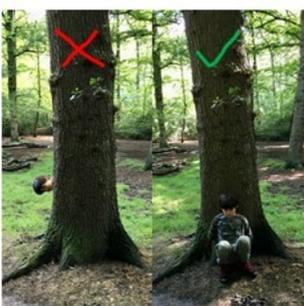
Stay quiet....step lightly through the forest and try not to snap any twigs under your feet.



Slow down....not just your walking but also your mind. Take a few deep breaths & relax.



Smell...to animals, you stink! Make sure the wind is blowing in your face so they don't smell you.



Blend in....sit in front of a tree, don't poke your head out around it, your shape will give you away.



Stay low...belly crawl as close as you can. Then watch how animals act when no one is around.

TinderSticks

Don't miss the next instalment:

Follow us on Facebook @tinderstickscic



HOW TO...

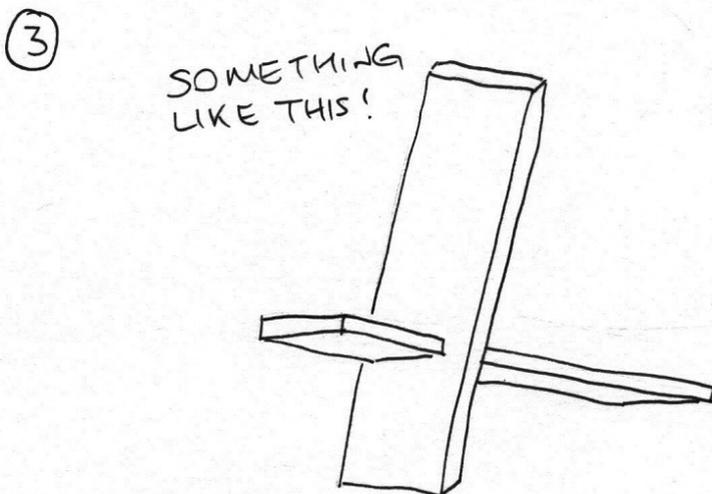
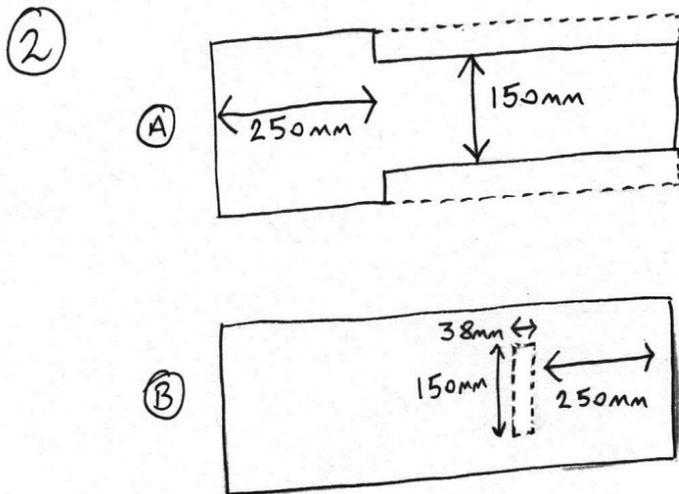
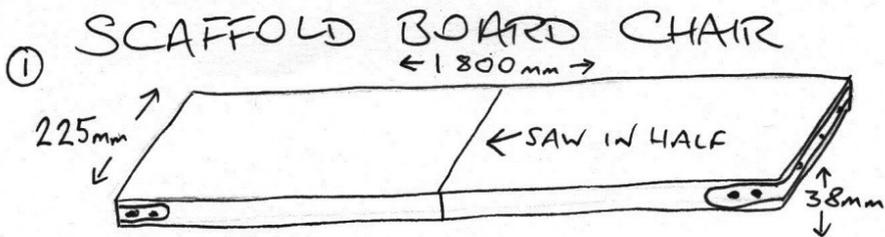
Make a Scaffold Board Chair

A great mortise and tenon project for your young people to have a go at. Simple and straightforward! It takes a bit of time though so it will keep them busy for a couple of hours plus any fine tuning / finishing.

You will need: A scaffolding board (1800mm x 225mm x 38mm) per chair, saw, hammer and chisel, tape measure. Additionally you may want to use a circular saw, wood drill and a jigsaw.

1. Cut the board in half shortways across the middle with a saw.
 - 2A. Measure two lengths 37.5mm x 650mm and cut with a saw to form the tenon tongue.
 - 2B. Cut out the mortise hole. This can be done either by using a hammer and chisel with or without a drill to assist (although this does take some time), or you can drill four holes in the corners so that you can insert a jigsaw and cut the hole that way.
 3. Slot the tenon through the mortise as far as it will go. If it's a bit tight encourage it with a few gentle whacks with a rubber-headed hammer.
- Sit Down! For a less upright position cut a slice off the back of B.

There are plenty of extra things that you can do to this chair. You may want to round off the edges, burnish names or patterns into the wood, paint it, sand it, oil it or just leave it as it is.



WOODLANDS ADVENTURE



Birthday Parties: 2½ hrs from £24pp
Choice of activities, minimum of 12 persons

- Birthday Parties ● Day Visits
- Residential & Camping
- Corporate Days

Activities:

Assault Course ● 2 Zip Lines
Canoeing/Kayaking ● Archery
High Ropes ● Bushcraft
Climbing ● Shelter Building
and much more.



Woodlands Adventure & Outdoor Learning
Bourne Vale, Walsall, West Midlands WS9 0SH

Tel: **0121 353 7329**

Email: action@woodlandsadventure.co.uk
www.woodlandsadventure.co.uk

VIEWS

Include Me In

Inclusion seems to be a new thing in common speak, as we are all asked to look at how we treat people unfairly or hurtfully by excluding them from services, friendships, jobs etc. because of some aspect of our perception of their personality, colour, background and so on. For me, my seventy years in Scouting has enriched my life because of so many different examples of 'inclusion'. My sincere wish is that this continues in Scouting and grows.

As the son of a Royal Air Force serviceman, moving every few years around the country and abroad the very next thing to looking for a school in a new town, was us finding a Methodist church and Scout Group. And so I was accepted and readily included into the 6th Farnborough, 1st Andover, 1st Manama Bahrein, Holy Trinity Blackpool, 2nd Chessington, and now 16th Bermondsey.

It was in Scouts that I met and did crazy activities with black members and as a teenager I got a bloody nose teaching Rajan to swim. He threw his arms and legs out wildly in all directions, in a blizzard of water, moving slowly along. He called-it the 'camel kick'. During the last twenty years running an inner London troop I have found a real joy in a healthy mixed race Group and Explorer Unit. For Rod who came all the way from Brazil to present me with a bag of determination and madness. For the quiet resolve of a Spanish lady and a Columbian family who adopted me as grandfather at a dark time in their lives. Some young black women have been the most adventurous and finest scouts I have had the pleasure to lead; I often found their inner belief and fight quite intriguing. 'I rise'.

Back in 1960 as a young adult leader we had a scout with serious epilepsy, who stayed as an adult leader. Poor chap would have sudden and violent seizures and just drop to the ground. I remember him holding open a trapdoor to our under-stage camping store. A groan, and the enormous frame of Gerry dropped on top of me, then he went rigid trembling, with one leg across my neck and the other on top the stage. I knew he would quickly recover, and dragging himself back to standing and brushing himself off asked if I had found the missing guy-rope. Goodness knows how we would now carry out a risk assessment on Gerry, but I do remember him coming on every camp, night-hike and activity, and waking us all up three times during the night with the gong of an enormous alarm clock to take his medication. Once the pills were found and



scoffed Gerry was snoring long before we all rediscovered sleep. I don't ever remember us deciding not to include Gerry in activities.

I accept I was late understanding homosexuality, I may even have been in my late teens, but looking back I can now imagine that various male leaders may well have been gay, perhaps some of the kindest and most caring men. And didn't we need them! Such was the bullying and cruelty of 'initiation ceremonies' which were rife on scout camps. I refused to go to camp as a young lad due to the threats from older scouts to tie me up, hang me from my thumbs and beat me. By Senior Scouts in Andover all was fine with great times camping and hiking, day and night. But as a young adult Leader I heard boys threatening 'initiations' all the time and the macho ex-army leaders openly encouraged it. I remember running a little camp on a beautiful summer day, we were in an idyllic silver birch glade on a crowded campsite, but could hear threats and whimpering all around us. Eventually we set off and rescued a few kids, with their older troop members explaining that 'we all do it', 'we had it done to us'.

The final straw was when I had been asked to help with a camp and discovered that the Leader was actually organising to 'peg-out' to the ground a rather sad, tubby young boy. I asked the Leader for the time of the event. 'Why, do you want to watch?' I said I needed to know so I could call the police to charge him with Actual Bodily Harm. He sulked off. The next day he put an axe through his foot, left me running my first camp and I don't remember a happier one. It was a hard fight by many like and fair-minded leaders to rid ourselves of this macho culture, and I believe that the inclusion of girls has been a most important factor in our change to a more caring and sensitive culture in Scouting.

My wife had recognised the fact that my Senior Patrol Leader had been gay, long before he became Explorer Leader and then Cub Scout Leader. By then homosexuality was officially accepted, not really discussed and still scared the life out of most confused older leaders! The young Cub Scout Leader needed one of these older Leaders who had expressed quite homophobic views to be present on a cub camp, to assess his Pack Holiday Certificate. When I heard he was taking his male partner as camp cook I held my breath. Our Cub Leader was awarded a glowing report, he was exemplary in every way, 'And he brought a really nice young friend along as cook'.

Scouting has accepted and included me in friendships and relationships, odd-ball as I am, and given me the challenge and opportunity of getting up close with so many other amazing men and women. I have a lot more to learn, especially as changing to a Cub section I am having to learn how to include and work with children with very challenging behaviours and autism in our pack. But thank you Scouting for the challenge and the gift of inclusion.

Eddie Langdown

The Alan Burnham Ultra Hard Christmas Quiz 2020

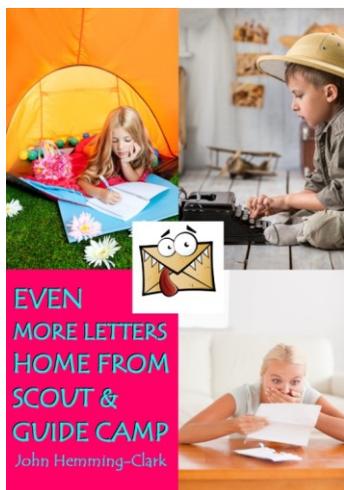
This is just a short note of thanks for the quiz, which we thoroughly enjoyed, and for the second prize just received.

It was a great team effort on behalf of SAGGA (Severn and Birmingham) and we were delighted to beat our close rivals SAGGA (East Midlands and North) and wonder what happened to SAGGA London!

We really look forward to taking part over Christmas 2021 and long may your magazine and the quiz continue.

Dr Paul Haigh (Team Coordinator)

LETTERS HOME FROM CAMP



**EVEN
MORE LETTERS
HOME FROM
SCOUT &
GUIDE CAMP**
John Hemming-Clark

Dear dad

You were right! Silver birch bark does burn well! We found some on our hike and brought it back. We're not allowed to have open fires apart from gas but we thought it would be okay in our tent so when we went to bed we borrowed some matches from Phil to light the hob but we just kept them and he didn't ask for them back. We lit the biggest bit and it was flaming like it was going so mad. Fortunately Damian's plate wasn't plastic so we

dropped it on his plate but we couldn't put it out and soon the tent was full and I mean FULL of smoke but we couldn't undo it cos someone would see a smoke signal and think that we were in distress. Well we were but we all got in our sleeping bags and there was no smoke down low and no one dared lift their head up and we stayed like that until this morning and I have only burnt a small bit of my new sleeping bag and you would rather that than I died of asfixiation.

Love Glenn

Dear gran

Happy birthday! I hope you've had loads of presents. If you have been given money and you don't need all of it could you please send some to me? I've learnt a new game called pontoon but it's been quite expensive and now I have nothing left and mummy said that she expected me to bring some money home unless there was an emergency and I don't think pontoon is an emergency, probably an addiction. Love from Luke

WEB DIRECTORY

Companies to help you do what you do best

Activity Centres

P G L Travel Ltd
Woodlands Adventure & Outdoor
Learning

Archery

Bow Sports Ltd

Badges

Nottingham Badges

Camp Merchandise

Impamark

Camping

Kelly Kettle

Campsite

Holwell Pastures Scout Campsite

Clothing

Clothing Express Ltd

Clothing Printing

Clothing Express Ltd

Impamark

Printed Clothing Ltd

Cooking

Kelly Kettle

Day Visits

Woodlands Adventure & Outdoor
Learning

Furniture

Gopak Ltd

Insurance

Access Insurance Services

Promotional

Clothing Express Ltd

fabricbands.com

Residential

Woodlands Adventure & Outdoor
Learning

Stationery

Impamark

Survival

Kelly Kettle

Travel

P G L Travel Ltd

Uniforms

Stevensons

Woggles

Impamark

Wristbands

fabricbands.com

Impamark

www...

Access Insurance Services

www.accessinsurance.co.uk

Bow Sports Ltd

www.bowsports.com

Clothing Express Ltd

www.clothingexpress.co.uk

fabricbands.com

www.fabricbands.com

Gopak Ltd

www.gopak.co.uk

Holwell Pastures Scout Campsite

www.holwellpastures.co.uk

Impamark

www.impamark.co.uk

Kelly Kettle

www.kellykettle.com

Nottingham Badges

www.nottinghambadges.co.uk

P G L Travel Ltd

www.pgl.co.uk/groups

Printed Clothing Ltd

www.printedclothing.com

Stevensons

www.stevensons.co.uk

Woodlands Adventure & Outdoor

Learning

www.woodlandsadventure.co.uk

