

# THE AMWELL INFORMER

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OCTOBER 1990

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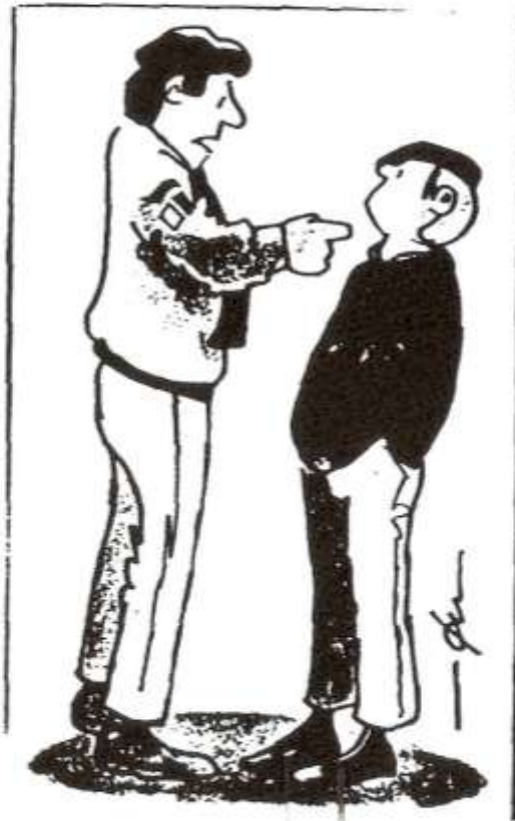
GT.AMWELL SCOUT GROUP NEWSLETTER

COMPILED BY THE PATROL LEADERS COUNCIL

QUICK QUOTES .....

"The closest to perfection a Scouter ever comes, is when he or she appears for an interview before the Appointments Sub-Committee."

"I've never been clever enough to keep quiet, that's why I've ended up on so many Committees."



"NEVER MIND WHAT YOUR DAD SAYS - STOP REFERRING TO THE PATROL LEADERS COUNCIL AS OUR MONTHLY UNION MEETING. "



We have had quite a lot of activity so far this term with Colony meetings based on games, creepy-crawlies and football and a saints and sausages party.

Last summer saw the departure of Hare to be replaced by Mole. We appreciate all that our instructors do and Mole has proved herself to be competent footballer - eat your heart out GAZZA ! On 5th September we paid a visit to the newly refurbished Scotts Grotto, a trip which was thoroughly enjoyed by beavers and leaders alike. On Sunday 30th September, we went to Highfield Nursing Home as our 'Colony good turn', where we distributed cards and fruit and sang harvest hymns to the elderly residents. Once again, we have been asked to go back at Christmas, when we hope that some of the Cubs will be able to join us. On 18th October Alasdair Waddell started his link visits to Cubs and he will be swimming up on 6th November. We will be sorry to see him go but, luckily his younger brother, Robert, joined us on 16th October so the colony will not be left Waddell-less for some time yet.

We are looking forward to joining the Cubs at their bonfire party on 8th November.

BY popular demand, we will be decorating the Scout hut for Christmas again and we will be finishing the term on 18th December with our Christmas party.

ELLIE PERKINS - BADGER.

# Pack Report

We have had 2 investitures bringing numbers to 20.

Awards to:	Stephen Lynch	BRONZE ARROWS
	Jack Buddworth	
	Andrew McGlashon	
	Matthew Grainger	
	Graham Perkins	SILVER ARROW
	Philip Grimmett	GOLD ARROW

Badges gained Music - Glen Cushing ; Camping - Simon Game ; Swimming St.2. - Simon Game .

Five Beavers will be starting initial visits in November.

On 25th October - Halloween Party with everyone dressing up and games.

## CUBS OXLEY SHIELD

On Friday 21st September, six boys from Amwell Otter pack went to this years Oxley Shield camp. This year the camp was held at Gt. Amwells' grounds. The first night was fun and games, not like the rest of the camp which was a competition we played a wide game and went to bed. Next morning we woke up reasonably early and got ready for the first activity was building a boat we had 2 hours to write what we would carry and build the boat we did very well and got maximum points for it, then we had lunch after lunch we went to knowledge bases. Knowledge bases tests you on your knowing of cubs and Baden Powell on Sunday we had a for short cubs own and presentation. Great Amwell cam forth. The boys that took part were Philip Grimmett (Sixer) Drew Alexander (seconder) ; James Pervis; Andrew Mc Glushon; Matthew Grainger and Simon Game.

# Troop Talk

The Scout troop had a good summer camp, spent near Hay on Wye in Wales, which was well attended. The boys had a very good set of results in the heavy-weight camping competition.

The troop is now settling into the winter programme. One of the main activities being the Green Beret Challenge at Phassels Wood (Nr. Hemel Hempstead) on November 16th/18th. A practice week-end being held at H.Q. 3rd/4th Nov.

With almost a 100% intake from Cubs over the last six months, the troop is now growing quite fast, all sections Scout ; Pathfinder and Explorer awards are working hard and the three Chief Scout Award boys have just about finished off a long and hard set of tasks.

All the boys are working on various proficiency badges too and recent awards in this section have been Elementry Helmsman to John and Stephen Dear ; Andrew Chapman and Richard Bailey. Swimmers badges went to Nicky Livermore ; Marcus Dorrington ; Justin Boulton ; Paul Gray ; Andrew Chapman ; Toby Cushing ; Matthew Cutler. Athletes badge gained by Nicky Livermore; Skier badge to John Dear plus hopefully five more boys will soon complete the Camp Cooks badge.

On a higher level my congratulations go to Darren Livermore and Richard Bailey on completion of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.

It is hoped that the Patrol Leaders Council will be able to produce this little mag about every 2 months. If you wish us to include your articles ; jokes ; moans ; ideas or even Articles for Sale please contact one of the following or Scoutleader

EDITOR	Richard Bailey
ASS.EDITOR	Darren Livermore
FEATURES	Paul Grimmett
BEAVER NEWS	Stephen Dear
CUB NEWS	John Dear
SCOUT NEWS	Ian Clifford
JOKES & ADDS.	Toby Mollett

John Hovell - Scoutleader

( SCOUTS 'GO FOR A MILLION' CAMP (By Marcus Dorrington)

( The camp took place at Wadesmill (3rd Ware grounds) from 28th - 30th September and was attended by 17 members of the troop.

We arrived at the camp site at 8.00pm on Friday night and pitched our tents with the help of car headlights.

On Saturday morning we had mini Olympics which included wagon racing; well throwing and discus throwing.

In the afternoon we had various games to play which included bucket cricket; rugby; rounders and colley ball. Because of the damp conditions we could not have the camp fire in the evening so the rest of the patrols came into our mess tent and we had a few stunts.

On soggy Sunday each patrol made an obstacle out of wood, string, tyres and other things, when we had all finished each patrol was timed to see how fast they could get round the whole course. In the afternoon we had the presentation and Gt. Amwell Bulldog patrol won the prize was a jar of sweets. Everybody enjoyed it apart from getting wet.

SCOUTS SUMMER CAMP (By Paul Grimmett)

This year the summer camp was in Wales. We were staying in the fields of a farm near the Brecon Beacons otherwise known as the Black Mountains. Highlights - my favourite things were the canoeing; caves and Dinosaur park.

Canoeing - We went canoeing quite a few times in the week. As the river was quite near to the camp-site. The river had a fast flow on one side and on the other side it was calm. If you paddled up stream and turned round you could float back to where you started. You didn't have to be in a canoe to do this you could do the same by swimming. The Caves and Dinosaur Park - The caves were really interesting, educational and exciting. There were three caves; The Mining Cave, The Water Cave and The Bone Cave. They were all really good.

The Dinosaur Park contained life size models and the history of prehistoric animals told on tapes. It was well set out and interesting.

## THE GREEN BERET

(By Toby Mollett - Scouts)

The green beret, why is it called this ? Well, once upon a time all scouts not only wore flared trousers and environmentally friendly green shirts, but also green berets. Strangely, when Green Berets were excluded from the uniform, the competition name was not changed accordingly. Anyway, I'm using up all my valuable space, about the competition.

The competition is a county event, with about 30 odd teams (patrols) entering, and lasts for a week-end. It consist of three main events ! an orienteering exercise, an assault course and finally a night exercise. Whats orienteering ? I hear you ask, Okay, it involves using a map and compass to navigate round a course (a wood in this case), going to as many check points as possible. Again, this event is split up into 3 courses, easy, medium and hard, relating to the youngest to the oldest members of a team.

The assault course is fairly self-explanetry, having just what you would expect to find in an assault course (a death slide; commando crawl etc) It lasts for about an hour, each exercise having a time limit of about 5 minutes.

The last and most gruelling event, is the night exercise lasting about 6 hours. It is always exhausting in itself but eople are already fatigued from the days previous events and usually freezing whatever you wear. Each team has to go to each base (there are about 20) and complete an activity which can be anything from making a stretcher to estimating temperatures, distances etc.

So why do we enter the Green Beret ? Well, the chosen few (the first ten teams actually) gain qualification to the Peak Assault, which is another story. The District has had a fairly successful history of the Green Beret and so has Gt. Amwell. We qualified for the Peak Assault for two consecutive years until failing to do so last year. 2nd Ware have failed to add this trophy to their comprehensive collection, but have always done well.

# District Camp

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## News

WOODHALL PARK - JULY 12-14 1991

80 yrs OF DISTRICT SCOUTING

ACTIVITIES & FUN  
FOR ALL

CUB 75th  
CELEBRATIONS

BADGE MAKING

ABSIELING

BEAVER 'SING SONG'

CAMP FIRE

*Beaver Bonanza*  
SAT 13<sup>th</sup>

*Scouting Fun*  
ALL WEEKEND

BOUNCY CASTLE

THIS EVENT WILL BE GREAT FOR EVERYONE  
WITH LOADS OF THINGS TO SEE AND DO  
MEETING OLD FRIENDS AND MAKING NEW ONES  
A DISTRICT EVENT WHICH IS NOT TO BE MISSED  
PARENTS AND BOYS BOOK THE DATES, WE MAY  
NEED SOME PARENT HELPERS.....





### COMMITTEE NEWS

The recent Jumble Sale raised £197.00 - Thanks to all those who helped and sorted or collected. The only thing lacking was cakes for refreshments.

FUNDRAISING FOR JAMBOREE Thanks to all the ladies who turned up for the ECHOES perfume evening. Despite the low attendance we managed to raise £38 towards the groups commitment to send Darren to Soel.

We are planning a small Craft Fair to be held at the Headquarters on DECEMBER 7th with some super stalls selling ideal Christmas gifts. Once again the proceeds will go to this fund. Please give your support by attending or/and making cakes to sell on the cake stall which will be there too.

### NEW YEARS EVE DANCE

We have organised a dance on New Years Eve to be held at Pinewood School, Hoe Lane, Ware. Bring your friends and join in the fun. Tickets are on sale now at £6 (including a ploughman's supper) from:-

# Who's Who

GROUP SCOUT LEADER	Vic Whichelow	
BEAVER LEADER	Ellie Perkins	Badger
ASS. BEAVER LEADER	Enid Burton	Squirrel
INSTRUCTORS	Sylvia Herbert	Fox
	Diane Millar	Woodmouse
	Gaye Redford	Mole
	Sheila Sadler	Hedgehog
CUB SCOUT LEADER	Jo Kirby	Akela
ASS. CUB SCOUT LEADER	Hazel Dorrington	Raksha
INSTRUCTORS	Simon Burton	Shere Khan
	Richard Airey	Rama
	Ester Robertson	
SCOUT LEADER	John Hovell	
ASS. SCOUT LEADER	Anthony Dakin	
ASS. SCOUT LEADER	John Chapman	

## GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Group Scout Leader	Vic Whichelow
Chairman	Bill Livermore
Secretary	Sue Pringle
Treasurer	Barbara Besley
Scout Leader	John Hovell
Cub Scout Leader	Jo Kirby
Beaver Scout Leader	Ellie Perkins
Brownie Leader (6th W)	Ann Edwards
Guide Leader	" Ann McNeil
Committee	Steve Sadler
	Hazel Dorrington
	Gillian Boulton
	Tony Boulton
	Enid Burton
	Geoff Cushing
	Sue Westgate
Lettings Officer	Liz Mollett
Covenanting Officer	

Effective communications within any Scout Group is essential but difficult particularly when it is necessary to send to you, via the boys, different notes on different subjects. Then of course the inevitable happens the following week when Johnny (or Fred, Bill, Harry, Charlie!!) on putting on his shirt draws from it's pocket a very creased note and says... "Oh Mum Akela gave me this note last week and it's about...too late!"

It was always felt that a magazine within the Group served a useful purpose and we have tried two or three times to get one going on a regular basis but now the Patrol Leaders are prepared to push the boat out once again.

I am very pleased that they have asked me to prepare a foreword to the new venture and I would hope to contribute on a regular basis.

It will need concentrated work from the P.Ls., guidance and information from the Leaders plus support from you as parents so let's provide the backing they will require to make it all a success.

Enough of the serious stuff....let the new issue be full of humour, news and information and I would like to add my own little anecdotes in the future to illustrate the backing of the G.S.L.

Vic Whichelow  
Group Scout Leader

" GET YOUR  
HANDS OUT  
OF YOUR POCKETS "



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PROGRAMME

CUBS

November 8th	Firework Party
November 15th	Feather Work
November 22nd	" " "
November 29th	" " "

SCOUTS

November 9th	Award Work
Nov.16th/18th	Green Beret Challenge
November 23rd	Award Work
November 30th	Scout parents Social Evening - Presentations
December 7th	Visit t.b.a.

DISTRICT

November 11th	Remembrance Day Parade and Service
December 16th	Carol Service

NOTES TO MAKE IN YOUR DIARY

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**SCOUTING Magazine,**