

Adderbury Scouts celebrated their 30th birthday in January and throughout 2009 the Troop is marking three decades of excitement, adventure and fun for young people in the village with camps, activities, and a massive reunion on September 19th.

So what is it that made Adderbury Scouts so successful back in 1979, and what is that secret ingredient that keeps it so successful today?

Over the next few pages we take a look at what has made our village Scout Troop one of the most successful in the country, revisit some of the Troop's many highlights over the years, and discover how the Scouting experience is something that lives on in ex-Scouts memories for the rest of their lives...



Flagbreak at Summer Camp 2008

In 1976 the 1st Adderbury Cub Pack was formed. Lads aged between 8 and 10 years old flocked to join. A couple of years later it was time for the oldest Cubs to leave, but there was nowhere for them to move on to, so it was decided to start a Scout Troop.

The Group Scout Leader at the time was Peter Jennens, and together with Chairman Bruce Gracie-Langrick they began a search for someone with the skills to start a Troop. They were put in contact with Mike Lidster, a physics teacher at the War-riner School, who had previously run a Troop in London.

Mike agreed to become 1st Adderbury's Leader and on Tuesday 23rd January 1979 at the Sports and Social Club he asked the first 18 lads who turned up to try Scouts to "fall in" for the very first time.

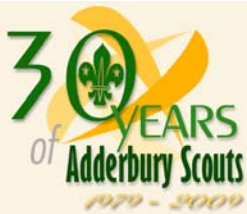
The first three Patrol Leaders (PLs) were named as Trevor Gainey (Tigers), Sebastian Peissell (Otters) and Andy Cox (Merlins). It wasn't long before so many lads had joined another patrol was formed, and Brett Seaney took charge of the Lions.

Mike Lidster ran the Troop until 1983. Sadly he passed away in 1984.

Ken Baker had been Mike's assistant from the start and he agreed to become the Troop's second leader. At the end of the 80s Andy Green, one of the Troop's original Scouts became the Troop's third, and current Leader.



PLs Andy Cox, Trev Gainey, Tim Gainey and Seb Peissell on a night hike in 1981



During the last 30 years Scouts with 1st Adderbury have tried hundreds of new and exciting activities. Be it in the water, on the land, or in the air, each one helps keep the Troop's programme something that that will give a young person memories for life.



Jon Evans paragliding, 2000



Richard Jelfs caving, 1993



White water rafting, 2001



Matt Bartlett sub-aqua, 1997



Canoeing, 1986



Cyril Gardner Hike winners, 1999



George Ding tobogganing, 2008



Banana boating, 2006



Mountain biking, 1991



Football winners, 2000



Shaun Smith jet skiing, 1998

see more activity pictures at www.adderburyscouts.com

Scouting memories: Jeremy Warren was one of the Troop's first Scouts. Today he lives with his wife and two children in Flint in North Wales but still has fond memories of his time with 1st Adderbury

“My earliest memory of Scouts is that of our first Summer Camp, which took place at Bromsgrove. During this short 5 day camp we went swimming in the local pond (actually a small lake), and many of the Troop tried to beat the site record over their assault course. Sadly I don't recall if anyone succeeded.

Shortly after this camp we acquired 3 slalom canoes and the Troop rapidly took on a more marine attitude. At first this merely involved expeditions onto the Oxford canal until we had learnt the necessary skills, and then a whole new series of canoeing expeditions and camps were organised by Mr Lidster, who had a



Jeremy canoeing at Summer Camp 1979

special interest in this side of Scouting.

The most memorable of these trips occurred when Mr Jennens took a group of us weir shooting. This day epitomised all the essential features of the Scouting movement, for not only did we have great fun, but there was a tremendous atmosphere of team spirit as we helped each other carry our canoes back up the weir, rescue our escaping paddles, and help to right capsized colleagues!

Over the years many boys have experienced what the movement can offer: fun, adventure, and also how to act with their peers, rather than against - an experience from which we all benefitted.”



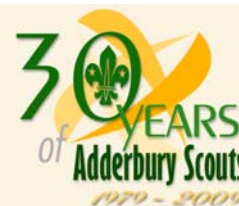
Over the years a number of Adderbury Scouts have achieved the coveted *Chief Scouts Award* and benefitted from this qualification when applying for a job or university place. Here are the 1996 Award recipients Andy Wasley, Liam Merrick, Shaun Smith, Scott Tallett, Dan Cooper and Chris Willsher.

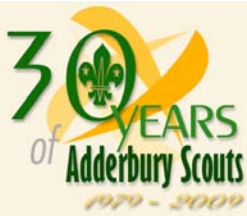


In 1984 Adderbury Scouts started a Christmas Card Delivery Service. This ran every year until 2001. Above are the 1985 posties in the sorting office.

Not quite FIRST Adderbury

The Scouting movement started in 1907 and celebrated its centenary in 2007. Here in Adderbury the current Troop started in 1979, but wasn't actually the village's first Scout Troop. Records show previous incarnations of 1st Adderbury running from 1912 – 1917; again during the 20s and 30s; a third time in the early 40s; very successfully in the late 40s and 50s until Troop funds mysteriously disappeared(!); and again in the 1960s under the Reverend Vyvyan. Today's Troop has survived for the longest time.





For 30 years the Troop has enjoyed a week's summer camping holiday, cooking meals over wood fires, attempting adventurous activities, playing games, and just having fun. Its difficult to put into words what makes Summer Camp such a brilliant holiday....



1991



Cocoa time - 1980



2001



Matt Phanichattra - 2005



1999



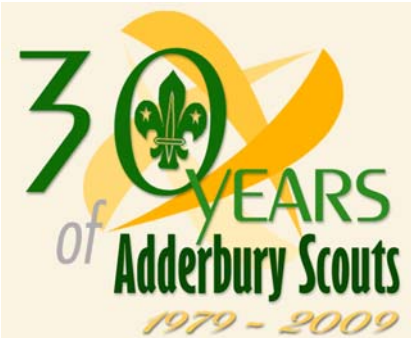
Wally of the Week Bruce Edwards - 2008



2000



1996



The Troop is holding a **reunion** on September 19th for anyone who has been involved during the last 30 years. Find out more at: www.adderburyscouts.com.

For now here's to the next 30 years of amazing activities, games, adventure, fun and memories for life with 1st Adderbury.



Crazy Camp Sports - 1982



James Pope - 1999

Pictures: Andy Cox, Oliver Davies, Andy Green, Mike Lidster, John Mann