

1st Adderbury Scout Group



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EDITION SOLD THROUGHOUT
ADDERBURY.

TEN YEARS OF THE
BEST ACTIVITIES!

EDITION SEVEN:
JANUARY, 1988.

On Tuesday, 23rd January, 1979 Mr Mike Lidster issued the following command to 18 young men at Adderbury Sports and Social Club: "Troop Fall In". Hence began the second 1st Adderbury Scout Troop. The previous Troop had disbanded sometime in the 1950's, but Mr Lidster's Troop from 1979 is still here today - and going from strength to strength. The venue may have changed to the Institute, computers and a tuck-shop may have been introduced, the Troop's leadership may have completely changed,

but Mr Lidster's original ideas of how to run a Scout Troop still work well today.

The current Troop is spending this month celebrating the past ten years and looking forward to all the added excitement and adventure in the future. This magazine covers just a fraction of everything the Troop has done in the past ten years, but I hope it will give you an insight into exactly what does happen in 1st Adderbury.

On January 14th we are holding a reunion evening at the Institute for current members, and anyone involved with the Troop during the past ten years. After a buffet meal we plan to take a trip down memory lane with old films and videos, and of course there will be plenty of time to meet people you "haven't seen for ages"! The Bell Inn are supplying a licenced bar. I hope all our members, past and present will be able to attend. Details of how to obtain tickets can be found in my article in December's edition of "Contact".

Meanwhile, thank-you for buying this anniversary edition of our Troop's magazine. I hope you enjoy reading it.



Canoeing + Abseiling + Caving
+ Shooting + Mountain Biking
+ Climbing + Hiking + Camping
+ Games + lots more
= Adderbury Scouts!

Andrew Green

Andrew Green,
SCOUT LEADER.

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"We wish Adderbury Scouts many happy returns - may the next ten years be as good as the last ten!"



1979.

Picture editor Andrew Cox only managed to find one picture of Mr Mike Lidster, the Troop's first leader, as he was usually behind the camera. We still admire Mr Lidster's expertise in Scouting today - sadly he died in 1984. Ken Baker was the second leader, only retiring from the post last summer, after six years.

Happiness is a mug of Scout cocoa for these Scouts during Summer Camp 1980 in Wales.



BROWNSEA BEGINNINGS:

EIGHTY YEARS AGO, in August 1907, after leaving the army, Robert Baden-Powell, the hero of Mafeking, held an experimental camp for twenty boys on Brownsea Island, in Poole Harbour, Dorset. They were split into four patrols, and learned about camping, hiking, stalking, life-saving, boating and much more. Six months later, in January 1908, **Scouting for Boys** was published in fortnightly parts (price twopence) and Scout Patrols and Troops began to form. Today there are more than 15 million Scouts around the world.

What was it that attracted thousands of Edwardian youngsters to Scouting? It gave a boy a chance to do the kind of things he had always wanted to, as part of an organisation that would meet with his parent's approval.

It was camping and the outdoors that gave Scouting the initial spice, and has remained so ever since. A six year old joins the Beavers because he wants to go camping. He will stay with Cubs (8-10), then Scouts (10-15) and Venture Scouts (15-20) so long as the opportunities remain, with an added ingredient of adventure to suit his age.

Over the years Scouting has adapted to the changing world around us. The distinctive broad brimmed hats and shorts have been replaced with long trousers and berets which are much more acceptable to today's youngsters. The movement's aims have remained true though - striving to provide an attractive programme to train youngsters mentally, physically and spiritually to "take a constructive place in society."

Throughout the programme there is a strong emphasis on the young people themselves accepting

1st Adderbury may be 10 years old, but the Scouting movement nationally has been in existence for over 80 years...

increasing degrees of responsibility in running their own affairs. By the time they reach the Venture Scout section, members organise mountain expeditions for themselves, canoeing on the continent, and many more adventurous activities.

Scouting also provides a community service in many areas where the youthful enthusiasm can be harnessed. Every week nearly 97,000 adult leaders are themselves carrying out a community service in providing training on a voluntary basis for other people's children.

The movement has had seven leaders since 1907 - Lord Baden-Powell, Lord Somers, Lord Rowallan, Lord Maclean, Sir William Gladstone, Major General Michael Walsh and since June 1988, Garth Morrison.

There are many aspects of Scouting that make it unique, but perhaps it is the humour, fun and comradeship that it engenders that stand out in a troubled world. With this, and its ability to capture the imagination of boys and leaders of its time, Scouting has an even greater eighty years ahead of it!

Based on an article by Ron Jefferies, from a 1978 edition of 'The Countryman' Thanks to Mrs Joyce Holt.

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The patrons of Bea's wish all their customers, past and present, a very happy new year!

The silly side of Scouting! David Folland removes a whistle from the treacle in 1982's Xmas party.





These pictures say it all. If an activity is worth doing, we will try it at 1st Adderbury. Stuart Webb is silhouetted against the sun at the most nerve racking moment in abseiling - stepping off the edge! Meanwhile, Andrew Watson and Andy Whitehead happily lead the river canoeing.



NOT QUITE FIRST ADDERBURY!

The current Troop may be ten years old, but there were Scouts in Adderbury long before it started. Mrs Rhoda Woodward has found two references to the original 1st Adderbury Scouts in archive editions of the Deddington Deanery Magazine...

"MAY 1911.

This organisation is penetrating many villages and early in April made a start in Adderbury, where it received a warm welcome from many of the boys. Mr Norman Braggins, who is head Scoutmaster for the Banbury district of North Oxon, has already paid several visits to Adderbury, assisted by Banbury boy Scouts and patrol leaders, who helped to initiate our boys in the outline of the Scout law, use of the Union Jack and the intricacies of knot tying, which are but a few of the wonderful things which Scouts learn to do.

Adderbury boy Scouts meet at Mrs Smith's in Mill Lane, by kind permission of the vicar. Mr Harold Bray is undertaking the duties of Scoutmaster. On Easter Monday he marched, with a patrol of eight Scouts, to join the Banbury and Bloxham scouts in Mr Warriner's field, where Mr Braggins put them through their various forms of training, and meals were cooked on camp fires.

AUGUST 1911.

On July 4th it was the happy privilege of nine boys of the Owl and Fox patrols to join the Banbury Troop and attend the great Coronation Rally at Windsor. King George V met

an immense gathering of nearly 35,000 Boy Scouts from every corner of the United Kingdom. All of our boys had a good view of the King, and of General Sir Robert Baden-Powell, the Chief Scout. They much enjoyed their experience, and joined in the great Zulu charge of a huge semi-circle of shouting Scouts rushing towards the King, who was in the centre. The boys paid part of their expenses and the rest was met by subscriptions from Miss Stone, Mrs Whyte and the Misses Risley, Blunt and Bradford and Mr H Bray."

These articles were probably written by the vicar at the time, the Rev. Gepp. Mr Jim Wyatt thinks that the Scouts disbanded for a short period during the 1st World War, and then permanently in the 1950's.

M. JEWETT



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- at least Craig Moore did at
1986's Mother's Day Breakfast.





Scouting in action! The Patrol Leaders set the map during a 1981 night exercise. (Andrew Cox, Trev & Tim Gaaney, Sebastian Plesset)

WE ASKED two Scouts to write about their memories of the time they spent with 1st Adderbury. Neil Belcher, writes about his memories during the period 1984 - 1988, but firstly one of the Troop's original members, Jeremy Warren, takes us back to 1979...

My earliest memory of Scouts is that of our first Summer Camp, which took place near here, at Broms-grove. 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 special interest in this side of Scouting. The most memorable of these trips occurred the day before we were due to leave for Summer Camp. 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! Unfortunately, due to the low water level over the steps of the weir, all the canoes needed extensive repair by Mr J. Warren before we could take them to camp the following day.

During the ten years the Scouts have been functioning in Adderbury 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 benefited. *

Jeremy was the patrol leader of the Otter patrol for some of his time in Scouts, a position which Neil Belcher held for three years...

Looking back over the past five years there have been numerous outstanding memories. The

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MEMORIES 1979

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most enjoyable have been at Summer Camp. Last year's trip to Yorkshire was highlighted for me by the mountain biking over the Yorkshire Dales.

Summer Camp '87 was in the New forest, and I'm sure everyone remembers Stuart Webb falling up to his waist into a bog, then being followed in by other members of the Troop who were trying to pull him out!

I remember Summer Camp '86 for the wind and rain keeping us awake one night, and having to hammer in tent pegs during this storm. But apart from these traumas there was much to do, whether it be sailing, mountain climbing or even caving. This camp was very good - we were situated next to Lake Llangorse in the Brecon Beacons.

My first camp was in Somerset when I was only 11. My favourite part was pony trekking on some horses which had seen better days, but they suddenly went into a gallop when a plane flew over, nearly throwing us off! It was also this camp that gave me my first experience of caving. I was very scared to start with, but this soon passed.

Scouts has certainly changed since I joined, but has always been great fun. My favourite moment must be playing football against the leaders, and winning (of course!). Recently Scouts has possibly improved with new activities like ten-pin bowling and skiing, but I can say that I thoroughly enjoyed the past five years. I would urge any young lad to join as I can guarantee you will enjoy it as much as I have."

RIGHT - Neil skiing in 1988. BELOW - Xmas Mail 1985 as seen in the Banbury Guardian,



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The final page of our anniversary magazine looks forward to the next ten years of 1st Adderbury Scouts, the next decade, taking us up to the next century....

Who knows what the next decade will hold, after all, the ideas for our activities come from the Scouts themselves. The future of the Troop is in their hands. One thing is certain though, we will always try to mix good, healthy, traditional Scouting, encompassing lots of the outdoor life, with modern methods and activities for a very excitement hungry youth.

One example of this was highlighted last May. Adderbury's leaders, along with leaders at a national level, noticed that many youngsters left the movement around the age of 13. Whilst national committees discussed this, Adderbury swiftly set about solving the problem.

Many older Scouts felt that the movement offered nothing new by their third year of membership - a problem we solved by introducing special older Scouts' activities; ones which were not suitable for the whole Troop due to the age and physical abilities of our younger members. The scheme proved an instant success, with our older Scouts taking advantage of a new, separate programme, containing at least one extra special activity a month.

So far we have been to a British Canoe Union canoeing camp at Longridge, skiing at Gloucester, flying at Kidlington and ten pin bowling at Upper Heyford. This year we have arranged caving, motor kaiting, skiing, mountain biking, gliding and aqua swimming, with more to follow.

The younger Scouts do not miss out either - 1st Adderbury is more than just a Tuesday night experience! We have something happening two out of every three weekends. So why sit at home watching the television when you could be doing something much more exciting?

The look on the faces of the Scouts in this picture from 1983 say it all; the same look you see on any Scout's face. We always welcome new members, even if just to try us for a few weeks, and new leaders can always be utilised.

We are heading at top speed to build an EVEN BETTER Troop for the 90's - would you like to come along for the ride?



Come hell or high water, Scouts have fun! Placido Perez, Mike Baker and Keith Brigden during patrol camps in 1983.

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1st Adderbury Scouts meet every Tuesday night from 7.30pm at the village Institute. Meetings cost 70 pence. Further information can be obtained from Scout Leader, Andrew Green, on