



Woodsmoke@abbotslangley

1st Abbots Langley (3rd North Watford) Scout Group

January 2002



Congratulations to

Simon Pearce and Anthony Knight who have completed their
Scout Award.

The Troop gained third place in the District Survival Challenge.

14 Fire Safety Proficiency Badges were awarded together with
numerous other badges.

This has been a very busy term in the Troop and we look forward to
more awards this year.

Well done to all those who have put in the effort.

Clive

Come along to the Scout Headquarters

on

Friday 25th January

at

8.00pm

and support The 2002 World Scout Jamboree to Thailand

Fred Dobson will be entertaining us with his tales and slides of

OLD ABBOTS LANGLEY

£2.50 Entry

January – named after 'Janus' the Roman God Of Doors, Thresholds and Beginnings. This month is the beginning of the 1st Abbots Langley Scout Group's 75th Year. Lets hope we mark it well.

The last jumble sale raised over £1450.00. A record amount for us. Also the Christmas Market equalled a previous record.

Well done and thanks to everyone who helped at these events.

The maintenance team have fitted a new double glazed window to the front of the Headquarters which looks good.

As a Group we have also helped and run an assault course at the County Green Beret Competition for Scouts at a very muddy site at Tolmers Camp site.

I hear that we had a very successful turn out at the the Christingle Service at St Lawrence's Church.

Janus, the Roman God, as mentioned at the start, was said to have two heads. This reminds me I have just seen the Harry Potter film. It's great – go and see it now and support your local industry.

I have also been to a Lonnie Donagan concert (brilliant) Alright I know you haven't heard of him. I was invited onto an off-roading course with the new model Jeep Cherokee – it was so good I just had to buy a silver and black one.

So you see, winter need not be without cheer, but that is enough about me.

Look forward to seeing many of you at our various events this year, the first one being Old Abbots Langley.

Brian Sharpe



SURVIVAL CHALLENGE

This was a District event held at Lees Wood where you had to build a shelter and then slept in it.

We were put in to teams of three and given seven hours to build our shelter. We set off in to the woods to look of materials to use for our shelters. We found sticks and big planks of wood and to camouflage it we covered it in leaves. We would be judged on our shelter, the way it had been made and how tidy our area was once we cleaned up.

At about six o'clock we had our tea, then we went back to our shelter to talk. At about nine o'clock we had some soup with bread, after this we returned to our shelters to sleep for the night.

In the morning we tidied our area and one of us left a gift next to another shelter. After we were judged we packed up and our parents then collected us.

We did well in the competition the highest position reached by one of our teams was fourth.

TOM LOVELOCK (PATROL LEADER EAGLES)

TO BE HONEST - WHEN I SUGGESTED YOU BROUGHT YOUR OWN FOOD FOR BACKWOODS LOOKING, I DIDNT ANTICIPATE SALAD..



Once more the Christmas Market was successful making just over £762. Thank you to all who came on Friday evening to set the stalls up and decorate the Hall most beautifully once again. Thanks to Eugene Moore and Ann Clough for this. Wishing everyone a peaceful New Year

Grace Young



SCOUT TROOP DATES

- Jan 24 Orienteering
- Jan 26 District Wide Game Competition at Lees Wood
- Feb 14 5-a-side Football
- Feb 28 Swimming
- Mar 7 Wide Games
- Mar 21 2nd instalment of £30 for Summer Camp due.
- Mar 28 No meeting

FELLOWSHIP

- Feb AGM & Wine Tasting
- Mar Rambling & Pioneering

LADIES GUILD

- Feb RSPB Talk
- Mar Egg Cups & Beetle Drive Evening
- Apr Letter Boxes Talk

GROUP

- April 17 & 20 Spring Jumble Sale
- May 24 Group AGM
- October 9 & 12 Autumn Jumble Sale
- Nov 23 Christmas Market

A GUIDE COMPANY WILL
SHORTLY BE MEETING AT THE
HEADQUARTERS

LOOK OUT FOR DETAILS

OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY CAMP

WILL BE HELD OVER THE
WEEKEND OF THE
14/15/16 JUNE AT LEES
WOOD CAMP SITE

THIS IS FOR EVERYONE SO
BOOK THE DATES NOW



As a parent I often ask my children about their day and what they have done. The usual reply is "Not Much". Well for the Scouts' parents here is the "not much" that we have been up to.

In the first week of the school Holiday we went on our summer camp to the Forest of Dean. Days were spent in such activities as Caving, Cycling, Canoeing, Pioneering, Pony Trekking, the evenings spent chatting round the campfire, telling jokes and one night was spent out in bivouacs.

The scouts returned to the evening meetings in September where they were started off with a nice easy hike from Abbots Langley to Noke Lane or vice versa. The following weeks consisted of badge work with pieces being finished off for the Survival Skills and Pioneering Proficiency Badges started at camp and, thanks to the local Red Cross, some First Aid training for the Scout Award. One evening we were able to offer the opportunity to obtain the Fire-fighter Proficiency Badge, a most grateful thank you going to the father of Jack McCarthy a fireman with the London Fire Brigade.

One of the most popular activities of the term was yet again only possible with the offer of coaching in Archery from the "Greene Archers" over three weeks.

Of course we did have some less popular activities one high on the list of hates has to be map and compass work but a necessary and very useful 'evil'.

As you can see from the above and from the following articles written by members of the troop, when your child says "not much" take it with a pinch of salt.

Phil Brant ASL



WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE ACTIVITY UPDATE

On December 1st and 2nd 2001 the Hertfordshire Contingent competed in the legendry Welwyn Garden City night exercise. Before the main event about ten of us decided to go to Roller City to have fun and get to know each other a bit better. There was a slight communication error; the Hut was not open until 5pm. As luck would have it one Dad was press-ganged into looking after the bags until nearer the time, then followed much entertainment in fitting all the bags into the car whilst leaving enough room for the driver.

We were all back at the Hut by 5.30 and this time it was open. We were asked to split into eight groups for briefing. Events started at 7pm. I was in the first group to leave for the start, a ten-minute drive away. At the start we passed the kit check and hit our first problem. A telephone call sorted out the lack of health forms and we were on our way. Navigation and Teamwork were all important, and we learnt this within the first 800 meters because we turned left instead of right!

We set off in the dark and finished by starlight at 1am. We saw a meteor shower, a spectacular reward after walking through an uncharted river that tested how waterproof our boots were. Other highlights were turning the lights round on the golf club sign and ambushing another Jamboree group. There were activity bases along the walk, our most memorable being identifying food by smell and guessing the weight and measurements of objects like a stave, cone and brick.

Being the first group back we secured prime sleeping positions. The last group arrived two hours after us and with about eighty packed like sardines we decided we couldn't sleep so we talked until goodness knows when. In the morning we were delighted to find that we came in the top four.

Iain Stanley

SCOUT CAMP

Scout Camp is what I think is the highlight of Scouts. Last year we went to the Forest of Dean and a great time. Every day there was at least one activity but on some of the days there were two or three. These activities ranged from horse riding to mountain biking. These happened during the day and there were often activities in the evening.

My favourite thing we did was the canoeing because it was really good fun and you got soaking wet. I also enjoyed the day when we made the bivouacs with branches and bracken and slept in them overnight.

The meals were unusually nice, especially when you are cooking your own over an open fire.

Overall camp is a really fun experience.

SIMON PEARCE (STAGS PATROL)

Hope to hear from many more of you for the next issue of **WOODSMOKE**

Copy to me please by
1st April 2002



Janet

..... Hall Happenings

Monday	Brownies
Tuesday	Beavers Ladies Guild <i>Third in month</i>
Wednesday	Cub Scouts
Thursday	Scouts
Friday	Fellowship <i>First in month</i>

Newsletter Editor

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