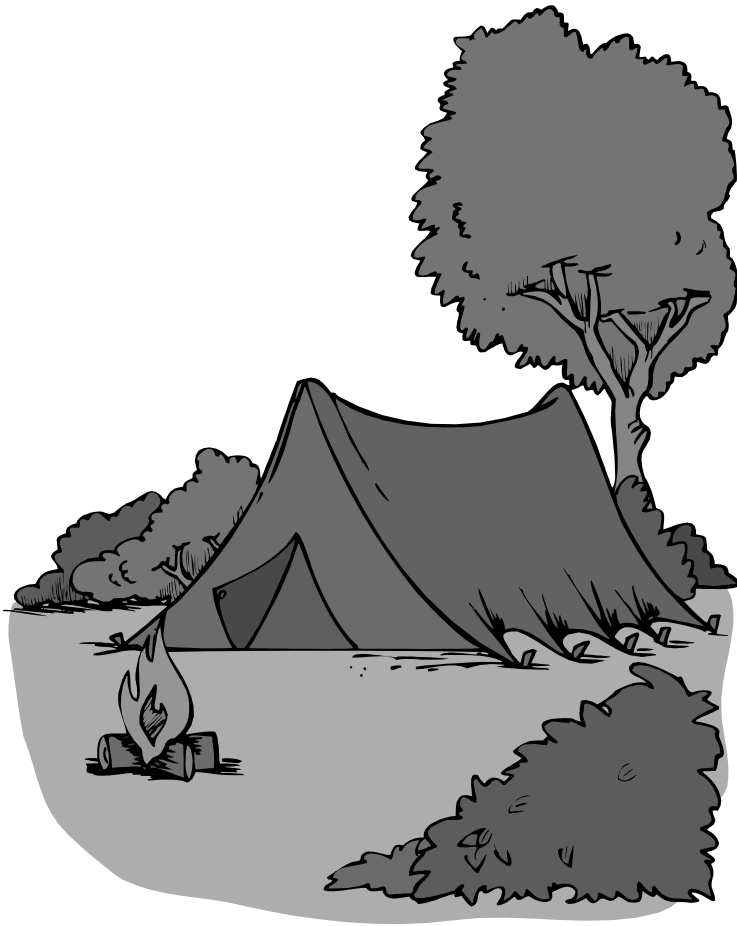


JUNE 2011

# Woodsmoke



[www.abbotslanglescouts.org.uk](http://www.abbotslanglescouts.org.uk)

SCOUT TROOP  
Achievements

Congratulations to:

April Turner and Scott Denton who  
completed their Promise Challenge,

Oliver Dean, Ravi Kotecha and Thomas  
Rose on attaining their Creative  
Challenge, and

Liam Goodman, Miles Johnson, Ravi  
Kotecha, Nicholas Smith and April Turner  
on achieving their Fitness Challenge.

Well Done Everybody!

*Clive*

# Clive's Chat

Clive Winder  
Group Scout Leader

# PHOTOVOLTAIC PROJECT

It was at 4.00 pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011 that we turned 'it' on. What? you may ask. No not just What - Kilowatt in fact!

For the 1<sup>st</sup> Abbots Langley 3<sup>rd</sup> Watford North now produce our own electricity with rooftop Solar Energy. We managed to obtain a generous 50% grant from the National Lottery and also help from the Co-Op Bank and this together with fund-raising, enabled us to pay for its installation.

By sundown on the 5<sup>th</sup> July we had already produced 4 Kwh and within 3 weeks we had 308.4 Kwh to our credit. The system consists of 21 Solar Photovoltaic Panels with an estimated 3186 Kwh annual generation.

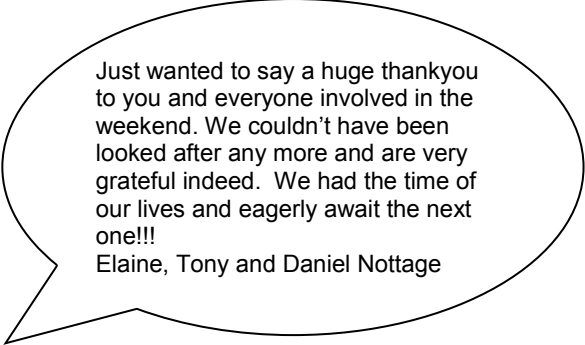


Applying for a grant from the National Lottery is no easy matter and any other group doing so would need to have the freehold of its property or a long leasehold. It has taken us 9 months of effort to achieve, but we think it well worthwhile. The system is guaranteed for 25 years. and we are paid quarterly at 43p per Kwh for all the power we produce, whether we use it or not.

We would like to thank the 2<sup>nd</sup> Billericay Scout Group who turned on their system in the Autumn of last year, for helping us in the initial stage of our project.


Bryan S Sharpe, Chairman  
1<sup>st</sup> Abbots Langley 3<sup>rd</sup> Watford North

# Family Camp 2011



Just wanted to say a huge thankyou to you and everyone involved in the weekend. We couldn't have been looked after any more and are very grateful indeed. We had the time of our lives and eagerly await the next one!!!

Elaine, Tony and Daniel Nottage



just want to say thank you to you and the team for another superb family camp. Everyone works so hard and it makes for a fantastic experience.

As usual the catering was great and it was a treat to be looked after all weekend. Hog roast - fabulous.

I'm sorry we had to leave on Sunday - i hear our teams won both the morning (team 1) and afternoon (Robin) sessions on Saturday.

### **Family camp – now that is what I call community!**

I can't think of the recent Phasels Wood "Family camp" without a big grin creeping across my face. Big bags under my eyes come Monday morning, an aching stomach from the letter posting sack race, warped stilts after trying to break the sound barrier pushing a go-cart madly around a track! But here every minute!

As we set up the tent on Friday evening, and dark clouds loomed, the weekend ahead sloped into us. Many strangers, strips of striped tape marking rows like crime scenes, I realised how tired I was and how much energy would come from. Yet tent set up, rain clouds open, as we set off splashing through puddles to construct catapults something mysterious took over. I became aware that the week behind, the in-between rain, the tiredness had been pushed out of the moment as I searched for the lost grail of elastic bands. And as we sent a ball flying from our rickety catapult the lads and I punched the air as we passed all the fantastic time!

We live in a culture which bends over backwards to make things convenient and ever available, one from vast distances to meet our demands. It is hardly surprising that we, in the western world, have lost the practical skills of our ancestors. In a sense the world itself is laid out in the typical supermarket, designed for our convenience. I wonder whether I would have found the catapult game as satisfying if all the instructions were at the entrance to my tent with detailed instructions showing how to make a "standard catapult."

The inevitable cost of our culture is a heavy consumption of oil and other fossil fuels and you may not have learned that easily accessible oil is declining very rapidly. The "Transition movement" is a community response to climate change (changing weather patterns). It recognises the importance of members of our community working together to create greater resilience – which simply means being less dependent on global energy. Examples of this would be growing and producing more of our own food, a land share scheme, using public transport (the scout hut will be installing solar panels), sharing cars, cycling/walking more, using public transport more.

Your local transition initiative (Abbots in Transition) will be holding a community food event on Saturday at the Henderson Hall, 10.30-12.00 to celebrate the food we produce in Abbots Langley (veg, fruit, bread, cakes, honey etc). A table can be booked for just £5 (or £2.50 for a half table). You can set your own rules, they are your own. Some local groups are booking tables to raise funds. To book visit our website on [http://www.abbotstransition.org.uk](#) follow the simple instructions on the home page.

The family camp underlined to me how powerful we are when we work together, enjoying and cooperating and how thirsty we are for real community building. Fossil fuel depletion and climate change are the biggest challenges facing us and especially our children at this time. To get involved email via the website [yab@abbotstransition.org.uk](#) or phone me on 01923 291273.

Ian Bond



Yes, I had some pretty  
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aturday 17<sup>th</sup> September  
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[www.altta.org.uk](http://www.altta.org.uk) and

operating with nature  
quite likely the biggest  
[www.altta.org.uk](http://www.altta.org.uk) or













# DIARY DATES

## October

7th	Whiskey Tasting	Fellowship
8th	Quiz Night	All
19th & 22nd	Jumble Sale	All
28-30th	Weekend Trip to Derbyshire	Fellowship

## November

4th	Fireworks, Manor House Grounds	Fellowship
13th	Remembrance Day Parade	All
19th	Green Beret	Scouts
26th	Christmas Market	All

## December

2nd	Christmas Meal	Fellowship
5th	Christingle	All

# Night Owls 2011







[scouts.org.uk/activesupport](https://scouts.org.uk/activesupport)

*Ladies Guild*









**cubs**

Rainforest



Jungle

**cubs**







## Hall Happenings

Monday	5.30 - 7.00 pm	Beaver Scouts (Lake)
Tuesday	6.00 - 7.30 pm	Beaver Scouts (River)
	7.45 - 9.45 pm	Explorer Scouts
	8.00 - 10.00 pm	Ladies Guild (3rd in Month)
Wednesday	6.30 - 8.00 pm	Cub Scouts (Rainforest)
Thursday	7.30 - 9.30 pm	Scouts
Friday	5.30—7.00 pm	Cub Scouts (Jungle)
	8pm	Fellowship (1st in Month)

[www.abbotslangleycouts.org.uk](http://www.abbotslangleycouts.org.uk)

**Woodsmoke Editor**

Pauline Styles



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