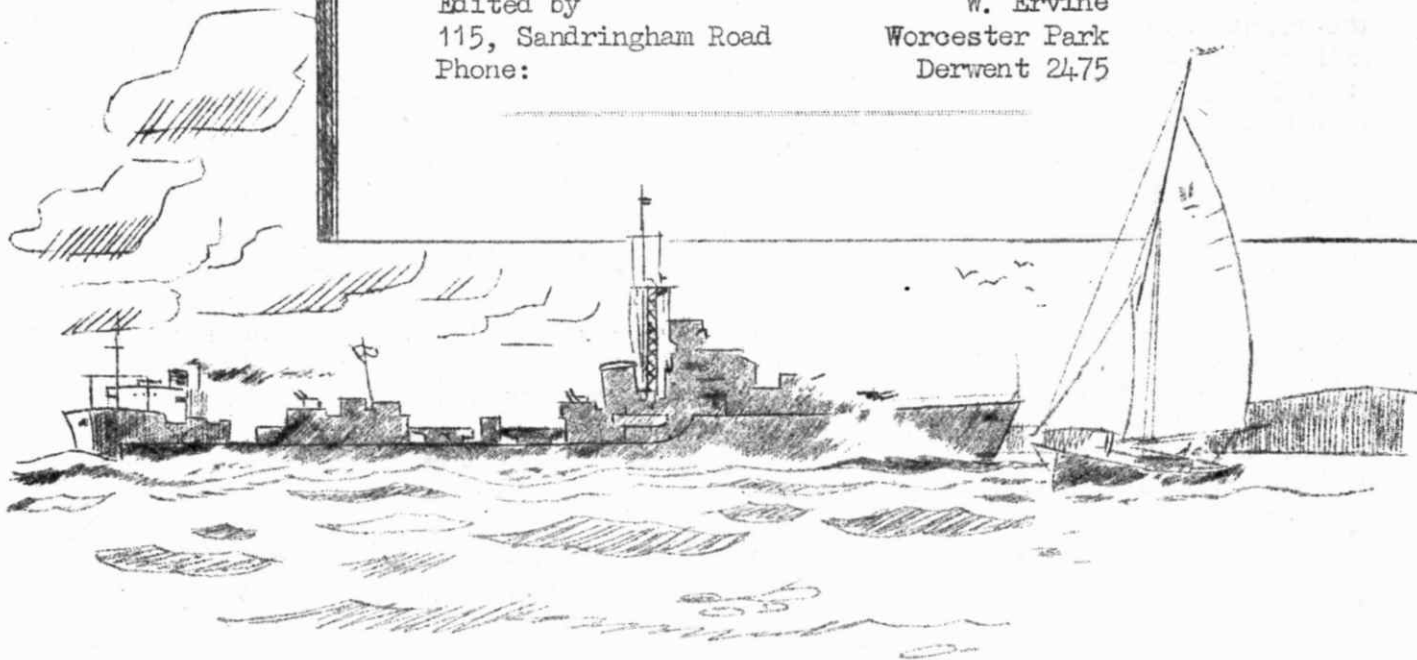


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## SKIPPER'S SCRAWL.

As the reports on the succeeding pages show, the period since our last issue has been one of the busiest in the Group's history.

Firstly, the Jumble Sale, a very cold snowy day; followed by Easter Camps; "Bob-a-Job" one of our finest efforts; and almost without a pause, the visit of the A/C/R himself. This was a signal honour, and will always be remembered by those fortunate enough to be members of the Group at this time.

By the time these words are read, the Scout Whitsun Camp and the Seniors Cruise (in very gusty weather) will be things of the past, and also our "annual re-union", the Group's Garden Fete, which, this year was held on a really fine afternoon, and was also the means of raising nearly £27, thanks to the efforts of many of our supporters.

Having received a very substantial grant from Imperial Headquarters towards the cost of our new boats, the year's Account has closed with a small balance on the right side, but we still need more contributors to the 6d. a week Fund, to help with the day-to-day cost of running the Group, and also a regular effort on the part of EVERYONE towards a continuous supply of clean newspaper for our "customers", as this makes a very valuable contribution to our funds.

I am sorry that it should be necessary for me to refer so often to our financial needs, but this is due to rising costs, which affect all of us, and also to the Group's greatly increased activities both ashore and afloat. This has required expenditure on the Headquarters, on camping equipment, and on boats and gear. This has, however, been well worth while and is paying good dividends in the quality of the training which our members are getting. The catalogue of Tests Passed which appears on page 12 is a record for any three months in the Group's history, but even this is likely to be surpassed in the near future.

As a result of the high reputation which the Group has achieved, a large number of Scouts from other parts of the country and from overseas come to visit us. We have recently entertained a Swedish Sea Scouter, and are looking forward to meeting some from the Bahamas in a few weeks time, whilst the Seniors are expecting a Dutch Sea Scout to join in their Summer Camp. "Leanders" are proud to be able to play a part in thus extending the brotherhood of Scouting among the nations of the World.

Wishing to go a little further afield than usual, we decided to visit Pinhay, the estate of Major Allhusen, High Sheriff of Devon, on the Devon/Dorset border - in any case this was at the request of the Major, who asked if we could explore some of the estate with a view to his being able to allow more Scouts to camp there during the year. We joined together with "Paddy" Russell and his P/Ls and 2nd from 3rd Morden, who are going there for Summer Camp, and wanted to make a reconnaissance.

We caught the 6 p.m. train from London on Thursday night, arriving at Pinhay in pouring rain about midnight, and found that Chas. Bishop and two of the Morden boys were lost somewhere in Devon - however, after a frantic search in all directions, they turned up, and we all went down into the wilderness to pitch camp - rain having now settled down to a real West country drizzle, soaking us to the skin.

Next day dawned fine and warm, and all were amazed at the wild, almost primitive nature of the country, with tree-covered hills rising 300 ft. above the camp site, and the sea crashing against the cliffs a hundred feet below.

On Friday, the Major took us for a walk round the Estate, and we found many possible camp sites - the thing that struck us most was the wild jungle-like woods, with sheer cliff outcrops, springs and deep pot-holes, this is reputed to be the finest natural scenery in England, and having seen it, we can certainly vouch for the truth of this statement. On Saturday some of the 'gang' went on a Pot Hole exploration expedition, and penetrated far into the bowels of the earth, whilst others continued to explore the countryside, and took some excellent photographs.

On Easter Sunday we attended a Service at the ancient church of Cocomyme Rousdon, once the private Chapel of a great house on the estate, and now the village church, a fine example of early Norman architecture, with some pre-reformation Communion Plate that must be unique and of a value beyond price. On our return from Church, we all went down for a swim, and so warm was the weather that we all laid out on the beach sunbathing, rather an unusual experience at Easter Camp!

(Concluded on page 5).

## VISIT OF THE ADMIRAL COMMANDING RESERVES.

A great honour was conferred on "Leanders" when, on 26th April, Vice-Admiral Slayter, Admiral Commanding Reserves, at his own request, visited our Headquarters to see for himself the activities and standard of the Group about which he had received such good reports from the various Admiralty Inspecting Officers. In conjunction with the Cuddington Group under their Skipper, E.L.Fancourt, a fine programme was carried out, and for once the weather was kind to us, although, owing to lack of wind, the sailing items had to be cancelled.

On arrival at Kingston, the Admiral's car was met, and escorted by Bob Dodge and Jeff Yeend, who on their motor bicycles acted as outriders and guides to the river, where opposite the Albany Boat House the Admiral boarded one of the new gigs, and was rowed to the Headquarters, and great credit is due to "Wally" Shennan and his crew for their magnificent timing and rowing.

Arriving at the H.Q., the Admiral was piped ashore by "Hoppy" of Leanders, and one of the Cuddingtons, and was received by the Skipper, the Mayor and Mayoress of Kingston (Alderman W.G.Eggleton and Miss Eggleton), the Deputy Mayor of Epsom (Alderman G.C.A.Mann) and the District Commissioners of Kingston and Epsom, R.G.Busbridge and R.H.Pledger. After inspecting the Guard of Honour which was drawn up outside the H.Q., he was conducted to the Main Deck, which had been recently repainted and looked very smart, where he inspected the two Troops drawn up in Patrols.

After examining the premises and gear, he watched the boys at P.T., wire rope splicing, rule of the road, and navigation classes, then proceeded, via the Galley and Fo'c'sle to the Boat Deck to witness the launching of the Port Gig. From the Boat Deck to the Upper Deck where he watched a display of boat handling, under oars, manoeuvres by 6 dinghies, from signals sent from the Yard Arm by the International Code; Semaphore signalling from the opposite side of the river, and raft building.

After tea, at the close of the proceedings, the two Troops lined up in the garden of No.41 Albany Park Road, and were addressed by Admiral Slayter, who compared the two existing types of people, first those who say that England is

finished, and second those who are putting their shoulders to the wheel, and helping the country out of its difficulties, and he expressed the opinion that the training the lads received in the Sea Scouts, which he considered one of the finest of the Youth Organisations, would automatically cancel out any danger of them joining the first category. He also stated that he was greatly impressed by the happy atmosphere and comradeship that existed between the Officers and the boys.

On leaving, the Admiral boarded a gig manned this time by the Cuddington Group, to be rowed back to his car waiting for him at the Albany Boat House. As he left the Headquarters, the members of the two Troops lined the river bank, and gave three cheers, which were acknowledged by the Admiral standing in the stern sheets of the gig.

The Skipper has since received a letter from Vice-Admiral Slayter, saying how much he enjoyed his visit.

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#### SENIOR TROOP'S CAMP AT LYME REGIS.

(Continued from Page 3).

, Later on Sunday, "Bumble" and "Sticky" were the means of rescuing a young couple who had got cut off by the tide, and after taking them back to camp and giving them hot soup, etc. they were eventually able to get a lift back home.

All good things come to an end, and on Monday, again in pouring rain, we reluctantly struck our tents, and returned to civilization, but it will be very long indeed before we forget the wild strange beauty of Pinhay - and we are all resolved to return again some day to carry out further explorations in this unique English jungle.

\* \* \* \* \*

## EASTER CAMP 1952. GILWELL PARK.

On Thursday after everybody had arrived at different times (except P/L. Butcher, who got there at 8 o'clock on Friday morning), the tents were put up on a nice site in Gilwell Park, and after a little supper, we went to bed. On Friday morning, a conducted tour was made, under A/S/M. Buer, by the occupants of one tent, over the Scouters' Training Grounds, whilst an un-conducted tour was made by the remainder, who were detained by a member of the Staff, and released on condition that they had learned the 2nd verse of the National Anthem by the time he came to inspect them next morning. On Saturday afternoon, a glorious water-fight was held near the wash house. P/L Spencer did not want to join in, so after he had been over to the Providor, he was picked up by the rest, and taken over to the Showers. When he was about to be put under the shower, an undersized Scouter staggered out of the wash house, with an oversized bucket, and nearly drowned P/L. Butcher. Later, Mr. Sutherland, who has judged our Camping Competition for the last 2 years, arrived with his P/Ls, to camp for the week-end. In the evening, a Camp Fire was held in the Camp Fire Shelter, and "Leanders" gave a turn, of course.

On waking on Sunday morning, people were surprised to find a strange collection of articles, ranging from a windsock to a Scout hat, flying from the flagstaff. "Leanders" however, expressed no surprise whatever. During the Scouts' Own, the Camp Chief spoke on 'Bob-a-Job', and after we had let our dinner settle down, a football match was arranged between Mr. Sutherland's Troop (11th Stepney) and ourselves. After they had scored their second goal to our one, they announced the game was ended. In the evening a film show was given in Gilwell House, with a very varied programme, ranging from Subs. to Avalanches.

Monday morning was spent very lazily, all clearing up being done in the afternoon. The occupants of one tent did not have many wood chips to pick up, (which had been made whilst chopping firewood), because P/L Milne forced everyone who wished to borrow the swing on the nearby tree, to pick up 20 chips first. We finished clearing up by 4.30, and after saying our "Goodbyes", departed and reached Kingston about 7 o'clock, being very thankful that it was Mr. Moody, and not ourselves, who had to transport the gear. We are very grateful to him for his help.

THE JUMBLE SALE.

After a considerable lapse, (the last recorded dates being 25th November, 1922, and 24th November, 1923) the Group Council decided to hold a Jumble Sale. Circulars were sent to parents and friends of the Group, asking for the necessary "jumble". The response was grand, and a varied selection of clothes, books, music, china, gramophones, wireless sets, shoes, etc.etc. received. The collection of "knick-knacks" was a wonder to behold, and in great demand. The one thing our customers wanted, and we were unable to supply, was men's clothing. We had only three pairs of "flannel bags", and two sports coats out of all the large mounds of clothing.

Needless to say there was the usual "Leander" weather, but in spite of thick snow, and a biting wind, there was a good attendance of buyers, over 80 awaiting the opening of the doors, and the funds benefitted to the very useful sum of £33, and much of the success was due to the efforts of those who collected the goods from the various receiving depots, and also to those who spent the previous day and evening sorting and pricing the goods.

Of course the revival of Jumble Sales was responsible for a chorus of "Do you remembers", amongst the old boys who remember the "do's" at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Beresford Road, especially when there was a stand-up fight between two ladies wishing to buy the same article, and the helpers were sandwiched between the stalls and the wall, and it was necessary to call in the Police to separate the contestants. Also, when one of the boy's coats was sold, in error, and the Skipper had to bear the brunt of the parents wrath.

The Group Committee thank all those who helped either by working, or giving - for when success crowns the efforts, it is a great encouragement and spur for further work in raising funds, and thus relieving the Skipper of some of the burden of financial worries, leaving him free to organise training programmes, etc.

\* \* \* \*

## HEARD IN THE FO'C'SLE

OUR heartfelt sympathy goes out to "Corney" Gentry and his wife, in the terrible loss they sustained, through the untimely death of their small son, who was killed in a road accident near his home.

\* \* \* \*

GEOFF DOVE is now 'demobbed', and has joined the staff of the Westminster Fire Office.

\* \* \* \*

On Sunday 20th April, the Group was honoured by a visit from Mr. Gunnar Krantz, Commissioner for Sea Scouts in Sweden, who was on a short visit to this country. He spent several hours at "Leander" Headquarters.

\* \* \* \*

It was good to see both ROY MARCHANT (and also Mrs. Marchant back from the U.S.A.) at Headquarters.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations to A/S/M. "Charlie Bishop on his enterprise in taking over the boot-repairing business in Union Street, until recently carried on by Mr. P. Gutteridge.

\* \* \* \*

How many of you saw the photo of "Leander" Headquarters in the Television section of "Radio Times" April 18th, page 40?

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Gerry Newman on the arrival of a baby on 4th April.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations to Dick Kent on his forthcoming marriage to Miss Spittal on 18th June - we wish them both many happy years together.

\* \* \* \*

Similar good wishes go to George Goodall and Miss V. Catchpole for their wedding on July 5th, that they too may have many happy years together.



We have to congratulate a lot of people this time, first of all Donald Raffin as our new Tawny Sixer, and also the best Cub of the Month, and Champion "Bob-a-Jobber" he earned £2.11.6d. all on his own, and worked very hard to do this. Then we have five First Stars - Richard Day, Martin Spratley, William Callow, Raymond Huckson and Brian Bull. Raymond has become White Second, Richard - Red Second, and William - Tawney Second, and I am quite sure they will be very good ones.

We welcome Anthony and Richard Pearse, Brian Keen, Malcolm Cole and Christopher Young, and also a 'ready-made' Tenderpad, Colin, from Isleworth.

Although we recently lost Barrie Carr and Keith Sutherland to the Scouts, we did look out for them at the Admiral's Visit, and decided that their new caps suited them very well. Later the same afternoon, the Scouts kindly took some of the Cubs out in the boats and now the enthusiasm to get into the Scouts is terrific. David Allen took his first dip of the year on the same afternoon, and fell head first into the river to see if he could shrink his jersey.

All the Pack did very well at their Bob-a-Job, and it was especially nice to see several remarks on the cards about how well the jobs had been done. John Williams had the most exciting entry on his card - it said, "for pulling little girl out of the river". We all wondered just how wet John had got in the process of earning this 'bob' but he told us that he took off his socks and shoes and rolled up his trousers first.

The Pack looked very smart on St. George's Day Parade, and several people remarked afterwards about how well "Leanders" had behaved. Jolly good!

Don't forget the CUB SPORTS, which are being held on 5th July at the Barracks. Get all the practise in that you can, because there are not many weeks left.

We have just heard that Christopher Young has had an accident at school, and is suffering from slight concussion and two black eyes. Poor Chris - we all hope he is soon better.

## ROVER NOTES.

JOHN FORD has now left the Crew in order to do his National Service. He is in the Army Catering Corps at Aldershot.

The Crew have started off this year with a bang! They came First in the Pioneering event in the Barker Cup Competition. This is the 3rd year in succession. The Crew was Third in the Cross Country Run.

As usual, work has been well to the fore in the Crew's activities. We had intended to keep Friday nights as Instruction and Boat Work nights, but lately the jobs have started to pile up. Most of the time has been spent decorating the Main Deck in preparation for the visit of the Admiral Commanding Reserves. "Hero" has had her winter overhaul and refit, while in the Workshop a tool rack has been fitted up, thus saving time looking for tools.

All the Crew, with the exception of three, were present for the visit of the A/C/R, Vice Admiral Slayter. He was introduced to each member of the Crew and told about their various jobs within the Group. He spent some time with Bill Manning and Jeff Yeend, after hearing they are both in the R.N.V.R. A motor cycle escort was provided by Bob Dodge and Jeff Yeend, and the Admiral was quite pleased with this,

Spring being in the air, we have given the Ward Room a spring clean, and rearranged the photos and decorations, and polished the table and furniture.

The St. George's Day Church Parade was attended by 8 members of the Crew. We had expected more, but for one reason or another, the others could not make it.

The Barker Ambulance Competition was held early in May. The "incident" was staged by the Casualties Union, and was a car and cycle smash. Our team came Fifth in the Competition.

The next item is the Hiking Competition, and we hope to enter three teams this year, and really have a crack at First place!

## LISTEN IN TO AUNTIE MURIEL.

What's this about "hot washes and tea in bed" for the Scouters at Easter Camp?

N...y H....y: I hear you are frightened to use your canoe when the Seniors are about.

A windsock and some Scouts hats were found at the Gilwell Masthead at Easter. Could "Leander" P/Ls and Seconds know anything about it?

Since Admiral Slayter praised the Seniors, I notice the Scouters have bought themselves new caps!

B..l M.....g, have you a bowler to go with that umbrella?

H...y, just because you had your photo taken with the A/C/R, it doesn't mean you need not wear a cap any more.

I hear the County Sea Scout Secretary was only wearing half a moustache at Easter. Could the Seniors have had anything to do with it, I wonder?

H..y M...e, next time you pull up to "Ajax" and take a prisoner, bring back a bigger one who can help you row.

Now that Charlie Bishop has his own boot repairing shop, the Rovers ought to have a "boot inspection" before they send M...e B..r on the Rover Hike this year.

I was amused by the following extract from the March issue of 16th Morden Scout Group's 'Preview' ... "Four years ago this month, the 16th was formed with a handful of boys - some whose faces can still be seen".

## SCOUT TESTS PASSED SINCE MARCH 1st, 1952.

TENDERFOOT TESTS COMPLETED: B.Carr, P.Duffin, S.Farrer, K.Sutherland.

2ND CLASS TESTS: D.J.Potts (4\*), B.Wilson (6), D.Lambert (4), B.Peters (2),  
A.Thompson (2), K.Sutherland (2), J.Stevenson (2), I.Bates (6\*), D.Butcher (2),  
B.Carr (2), E.Smithers (2), K.Notley (2), I.Hunt (9), I.Sims (3), P.Duffin (1),  
A.Butcher (1). (\* 2nd Class Badge completed).

1ST CLASS TESTS: P.Butcher (2\*), D.Huckson (2\*), R.Reed (6), T.Milne (4\*),  
R.Bennett (6), B.Garnish (1), G.Fennell (6), I.Bates (1), R.Spencer (2\*).  
(\* 1st Class Badge completed).

PROFICIENCY BADGES: D.Huckson (Life Saver, Jobman); G.Fennell (Life saver, Swimmer);  
R.Spencer (Life Saver, Jobman); R.Reed (Life Saver, Swimmer);

SENIOR PROFICIENCY BADGES:

R.Garnish (Boatswain, Dispatch rider, Interpreter in French & Spanish, Venturer);  
G.Hopkins (Handyman, Interpreter in French, Venturer);  
C.Huckson (Boatswain, Handyman, Venturer); R.Johnson (Venturer);  
F.Moodey (Boatswain, Handyman); C.Ford (Rescuer, Interpreter in French);  
W.Shennan (Boatswain, Dispatch rider, Handyman, Helmsman, Venturer, Rescuer, thus  
completing Seamans Badge and qualifying as Queen's Scout).

## BENTLEY COPSE.

For Surrey Scouts the most important result of their Bob-a-Job efforts for the past two years has been to defray the cost of a new building for the training of Scouters at Bentley Copse, near Peaslake. This ground was first given to Surrey Scouts about 33 years ago, and G/S/M.Ebbage was one of the band of workers who, in those days, used to motor-cycle to the Camping Ground at weekends and help with clearing the ground and rendering it fit for use. On May 10th, he was one of those invited to the Official Opening of the new building. The ceremony was performed by the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, General Sir Robert Haining, K.C.B., D.S.O., assisted by a Cub, a Scout, a Senior Scout and a Rover, representing the 24,000 members of the Movement in Surrey.

In spite of the long distance from Kingston, it is hoped that "Leanders" will have a week-end camp there in the autumn, to see the building they have helped to pay for.