



Hornchurch District
Scout Association
www.hornchurchscouts.org.uk

“Scouting About”

Bumper Issue !

Shooting Stars

At the 25th National Scout Air Rifle Championships held at Walton Firs over the weekend of October 19th.-21st., the 3rd Cranham (Coopers'-Coborn) Scout Group's Rifle Club entered a team for the first time.

The Senior Knock-Out Competition was won by A.S.L Matthew Perring who was presented with his Gold Medal by the Chief Scout who is pictured below.



The Chief Scout also spent some time meeting the Group at their campsite in the pouring rain.



Pictured left to right are:
Several competitors and the Chief Scout

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Group Circulation:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Venture Scout Leader	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scout Leader
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cub Scout Leader	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beaver Scout Leader



D.C.'s Discourse...

Well, have we all had an exciting summer break? Seems such a long time ago doesn't it?

I'm sure many expeditions, activities and a variety of exciting experiences have occurred since our last newsletter. Some of which I've been lucky enough to have attended in person.

Our Fellowship have been busy socializing with their bowling night, and courageously challenged Romford Fellowship to a Table Top Rally (which they won!!!...but I'll leave the Secretary to tell you all the gory details). They also held their very popular, and one and only fund raising event, a quiz night. I enthusiastically joined in with all events (and failed dismally!).

The Gilwell Reunion was a weekend to remember for a variety of reasons. (mine being because I got food poisoning!!). Thousands of Scouts from all over the world gathering at Gilwell to meet, talk, reminisce, share ideas and sing very loudly at Karaoke. It feels good to be a part of the experience.

Scout Camping & Cooking competition went really well. Unfortunately the usual apathy occurred and fewer groups than expected actually took part. But those that did had a great time and the menus prepared were quite gourmet compared to the normal camp fare of stew or hash.

Kubadoo was a day of fun & frolic. Our new marquee was set up, and our dedicated band of leaders put the cubs through their paces to achieve their Scientist badge. You could walk on stilts, fall off logs, climb a rope bridge, make and create a number of things. Then, have your face painted green and go home! Magic day for all the boys (and the mayors too!!)

Now how do you fancy a lovely stroll through a beautiful wood on a sunny day? Birds singing, squirrels munching and when you've finished, people will give you money! The day was Sunday 14th October and it was Thriftwalk. Great to see so many Scouts together with one goal in mind, to raise money for Scouting. Well done to all those who took part!! I'm sure Jim will let us know how much we raised for Thriftwood as soon as we've collected our sponsorship monies.

Another event that occurred during October was rather more personal.... my 40th birthday. Thanks to Jim, Sarah, Julie, Bob and everyone involved in the preparation & destruction. Special thanks to Linda who had her car smacked by HM customs & excise as we got off the boat at Dover with the beer, was unwell for the whole week leading up to the event & had to curtail my enthusiasm in Costco for buying everything I could fit into the trolley!! Big thanks also to 8th Hornchurch for letting me embarrass myself in the confines of their HQ. (& Nigel for getting me home!!)

The County Away Weekend at Hayling Island was another successful event. Hornchurch District had the biggest contingent in the County this year with 24 adults & accompanying children. Great weekend... great entertainment... great company. Thinking of doing our own early next year...what do you think?

D.C. (continued)...



Invited by Lee & Glenn of Ist South Hornchurch to their Chief Scout Challenge presentation. Very enjoyable evening with a well prepared OHP presentation, which was both informative and amusing. This was followed by refreshments and a display in the foyer of the route map and pictures taken during the 48km trek. Well done lads!!

As I write I am looking forward to tomorrows Jack Petchey Annual Medallion presentation in Woodford Green. We have now completed a full year of Petchey nominations:

Sept	Michael Suggate	2EP	Mar	Dean Booth	1C
Oct	Wendy Rothon	8H	Apr	Amanda Harper	2R
Nov	Paul Fix	7H	May	Peter Collins	8H
Dec	Stephen Harris	1U	June	Glenn Hadley	1SH
Jan	Lee Prior	1SH	July	Lawrence Blomfield	7H
Feb	Paul Besgrove	1EP	Aug	Matthew Perring	3C

Thanks to Ilford West, we also had the opportunity to nominate:

July	Richard Lee	1SH
Aug	Grant Thomas	8H

Don't forget your nominations for this year. Please remember to include name, address and date of birth of nominee.

District Directory is an important source for effective communication within the District. All GSL's were recently asked to amend their section of the Directory and return to me asap. To date I am still waiting on over half the Groups in the District to respond.

I am also waiting to be advised on dates for your Group's Executive meetings. Each Group was requested to forward your planned dates. The District are required to ensure all Executives are being run in accordance with POR instructions Great to see so many leaders passing their Wood Badge training:

Liz Burton	2 nd Upminster
Ian Burton	2 nd Upminster
Roger Huggett	2 nd Cranham
Stuart Barham	2 nd Elm Park
Ann Jones	1 st Elm Park

Well done, and thank you for all your hard work. Welcome to 1st Gilwell Park Scout Group!

I'd also like to acknowledge some more major milestones in Scouting:

Andrew Scott	2 nd Rainham	5 years service
Laura Hollington	1 st Upminster	5 years service
Peter Ager	3 rd Upminster	5 years service
Alan Colbert	8 th Hornchurch	10 years service
Colin Giles	1 st South Hornchurch	25 years service

Thank you for your on-going commitment and dedication.

Dates for your diary 2002:

GSL & District Team	Monday 18 th March	Monday 17 th June
(District HQ)	Monday 16 th September	Monday 9 th December
ADC's	Monday 25 th March	Monday 24 th June
(my house)	Monday 23 rd September	Monday 16 th December



Colony Chat...

There is a new broom in the county with the A.C.C. Beavers Mr Lee Thornton. He has given all the A.D.C's a personal action plan and this is mine. Counting Beaver numbers, increasing numbers and getting Beavers interested in District Events.

To this end I counted Beaver number's which are healthy at the moment. Then disaster struck !! Leaders left Oh No !!! If we close a colony I lose Beavers luckily the assistant became a leader and recruited 2 mum's to help. Well done Jan. Also Alison wanted to take a back step and she found 2 mum's to help so her numbers could increase. Another sigh of relief. Numbers up again. This all happened in 6 weeks and I am supposed to do a count each term so goodness knows what next term will bring.

Meanwhile I persuaded my leaders to do more District Activities. 2002 sees a Wellie Walk, Quiz Afternoon , A Beaver / Cub day and a Christmas Party. We also hope to have a Beatle Drive with Romford District.

So I am close to fulfilling the 5 points of my action plan.

I am fortunate with my leaders who seem to pluck helpers + new leaders out of thin air. I also have 2 members of the fellowship (Shirley and Joan) who help out in an emergency.

I know that other Districts are in the process of closing Colonies, So thank you everyone for recruiting new leaders and helping each other.

Janet Winslow
A.D.C. Beavers

Pack Patter...

Welcome again to the Cub Scout Pages of Scouting About. It's been a busy few months for Cub Scouting in Hornchurch. I think I'll start by saying a few words about District Cub Camp. All in all, it was an excellent weekend. Things were a little bit rough around the edges, but it's given me lots of food for thought for future years. I must take this opportunity to thank all the leaders who were present, especially the organising team of Jim & Linda, and of course, Roger Fall who took much of the pressure off of me with the programme.

Congratulations go to 1st. Elm Park who achieved the high distinction of being named the Best Six at Camp. This Pack is currently assembling a new leadership team, and things are already coming on very nicely. Well done Katie!

Those interested can see the full pictures of the camp on the District website, they are well worth a look (www.hornchurchscouts.org.uk). As a final thought, perhaps I should apologise to Eileen Gibson for the singing of the leaders and 2nd. Elm Park Scout Group in the wee hours of Saturday morning.

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Pack Patter ...



I've been continuing to tour around the groups and was privileged recently to invest four new members into the 1 Elm Park Pack. As this was the group that I started with as a Cub Scout myself, it seemed like I had come full circle. I'm glad that my old group is starting to re-gain it's footing and I am confident that the new leaders will quickly turn this Pack into the success that it used to be.

I've also tried to attend all the camps and pack holidays that I've been informed about. As I write this an excellently run camp with 1st. Upminster at Buckmore Park sticks in my mind. I arrived at around 1pm and was quickly invited to stay for lunch. I went with the Cubs to do Rifle Shooting & Roller Skating in the new Sports Centre, helped them to make African shields, and soon found that it was dinner time. Again I was fortunate enough to be invited to join the Pack for a meal and was treated to roast chicken and vegetables, with profiteroles & ice cream for desert! I stayed for the Pack's night compass exercise and was enjoying myself so much I didn't leave until 11.30pm. The Cubs were obviously really enjoying themselves, and much of the credit for this has to go to the leaders & helpers of 1st Upminster who had put in so much time and effort into organising this camp.

Young people tell us that they join scouting to go camping, and I'm glad that most of our Packs are managing to get away. A brief reminder that all PC Forms for Cub Camps should now come direct to me. This enables me to keep a track of when & where you all go away. I will endeavour to visit as many of these camps as I can. This isn't an inspection — by all means if I turn up get me to do something useful.

Kubadoo was an excellent success. Without being modest I think that Hornchurch ran by far the best activity base. Much of this was due to the dedication and enthusiasm of our leaders. We also had the largest contingent of Cubs from any District in GLNE — Hornchurch showing the County why we are the biggest and best District. I was fortunate enough to show the Mayor of Havering (Cllr Denis O'Flynn) around Kubadoo, and he was very impressed with all the activities we had on offer. This was his first scouting event and I'm sure it won't be his last. Sumaiea even convinced his Chauffeur to join the Fellowship! Thank you again to all the Cub Leaders who put in so much effort on the day.

The Cub Football League has been re-invented along the lines of a 7-a-side competition. Initial take up has been slightly disappointing, but I hope that by next season more packs will feel able to enter a team. The League was established during the 1970s to cater for Cubs who otherwise wouldn't of had a chance to play. Last season saw the resignation of Tom Bacon, who has organised the league for the last 25 years or so. Countless hundreds of boys owe him an enormous debt of gratitude. Thankfully Rod Glover and Tony Wright have agreed to take on this onerous task. If anyone doubts the ability of the league to generate talent then I'll end with two names who started playing with 2nd Elm Park and went onto national fame — Tommy Taylor (formerly of West Ham & Leyton Orient) and Rob Lee (Newcastle & England).

As a District Cub Scout Team we will be meeting soon to plan our events for next year. It has been suggested that we should reinvent the Older Cub/Younger Scout Day, and I will shortly be discussing this with the Scout Section to see what they want from the day. If anyone has any ideas for possible District Events, then bring them along to our next District Cub Leaders Meeting, which is to be on Monday 14th January at The District HQ, from 8pm onwards. I hope to see a representative of each & every Pack at this meeting.

Most of our Cub Packs are now getting back on their feet. However we bid a fond farewell to Christina Gunby at 2nd Cranham. Current ACSL Peter Hale will be taking over as the new Akela, with a lot of initial support from myself at the moment while we recruit some new helpers. We also welcome Sarah Bacon as ACSL at 1st. Elm Park. In addition to this Paul Fix of 7th Hornchurch will be joining the District Team as a DCSL as join as he is warranted.

We have a full and action packed district programme for 2002 lined up. Numerous people will be putting in a lot of time and effort to plan and run these events, so it would be great in return if we could see a large turnout from individual packs. I seem to see the same Packs and the same Cubs at each event — lets see if in 2002 we can offer more of our Cubs the opportunity to experience new things & new challenges.

If I don't see you before, have a great Christmas & an even better new year!

Dean Jefferys ADC Cubs



Troop Talk...

ADC Scouts

Hello and welcome to my first article as ADC (Scouts). I would like to start by introducing you to the District Scout Team, they are

- Danny Aherne
- Graham Crossman
- Colin Giles
- Scott Wilderspin
- Stuart Barham
- Bindy Gibson
- Linda Thorogood

We will be popping in from time to time to see you. We are not checking up on you but there to offer assistance in any way we can. Whilst we intend to run an active program (more details elsewhere in this article) our primary objective is to help all Troops to ensure that they provide fun and attractive SCOUTING to all our members and also offer support to each and every leader. We are here to help, please use us. What have Hornchurch District Scouts been up to?

June saw the annual **Scout & Venture Scout Hiking Marathon** based at Skreens Park. Elsewhere you will see an article from Colin Giles giving you an update on this event and the results. Attendance at this year's event was slightly down from previous years and I hope to see far more teams entering next year. This is probably the most challenging District Scout event of the year and I would imagine that each and every Troop would want to enter at least one team to show how good they are. This is such an easy event for the leaders (you have nothing to do apart from get the Scouts to Skreens prepared for the weekend) so next year please push your Scouts to attend. My thanks to Colin Giles for organising this year's Hiking Marathon – another very enjoyable weekend.

September and several Scout leaders were camping at Thriftwood running the annual **Camping & Cooking Competition**. This year we were pleased to welcome slightly more teams than previous and the general quality of camping was very good. Linda Thorogood and Scott Wilderspin have separately penned an article on this event so it just remains for me to say a big thank you to them both and to Paul Fix for all their organising and hard work to make this year's event a great success.

October and we were playing **Five-a-side football**. There is a separate article on this so no more to say here.

Chief Scouts Challenge Presentation – I was honoured and very pleased to be invited to a presentation put on by Glenn Hadley and Lee Prior, two Scouts from 1st South Hornchurch. At the end of August this year they completed their Chief Scouts Challenge and were feeding back to a large audience including myself, the District Commissioner, parents, many other leaders and their fellow Scouts. The quality of the presentation was excellent and I must congratulate them on both the presentation and the Challenge itself. I have asked Glenn and Lee whether we can reproduce their presentation and they have agreed. Please take a few minutes to read what they did and perhaps next year I will be attending YOUR Chief Scouts Challenge presentation.

November and whilst this edition of Scouting About is being put together Hornchurch District Scouts are doing their best to reduce the population of Clay Pigeons in Hornchurch at the annual **Clay Pigeon shooting competition**. My thanks to Melvyn Gallagher and Crowfield Gun Club for again inviting the Scouts and Venture Scouts of Hornchurch District to take part in this event. I have never taken part before so am looking forward to a new experience.

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Talk continued...



So what is coming up for Hornchurch District Scouts?

I have set out below a list of dates for future District events. Please make every effort to attend – they are always good fun

2002

County Camp at Gilwell	Weekend 4 th / 6 th January
District Scouters Meeting	Monday 7th January
District Rifle Shooting (provisional)	January
Swimming Gala	February / March
County Chess Tournament	Saturday 9 th March
County Swimming Gala	Saturday 16 th March
District Camp – Docklands Scout Project	Weekend 12 th /14 th April
County Five-a-side Football	Saturday 11 th May
Older Cub/Younger Scout Day (OCYS)	May
District Hiking Marathon	Weekend 22 nd /23 rd June
PL Training Weekend	Rescheduled awaiting the introduction of Explorer Scouts

On Sunday 7th October, I, with a number of other leaders from Hornchurch District, attended a full day County workshop on the introduction of the new age ranges and Explorer and Network Scouts. The majority of the next District Scout Leaders meeting on Monday 7th January will be used to provide feedback to you. The workshop was excellent and I know that Hornchurch District will lead the way in implementing these new sections and increasing both the number of members we have and also the quality of Scouting we offer.

A few notes from the last County Scout Meeting.

- Stephen McGoay (ACC Scouts) has asked that all Scouts who are close to achieving their Chief Scout Awards are pushed to complete ASAP as he wants to arrange the next presentation evening as there are several Scouts who have been waiting a little while now for their presentation.

The Venture Scout Kilmuir Trophy will be held over the weekend of 30th November to 2nd December 2000. This year's event is open to all Scouts aged 14 and over so if you have suitably aged Scouts please make contact with your local

- Venture Scout leader for details or alternatively contact the ADC (Venture Scouts) Nigel Tranter.
- Venture Scout Endurance Camp 2002 is scheduled for 29 - 31 March. Again Scouts 14 and over will be very welcome to attend.
- Next year's Gilwell Camp will be over the weekend 4 - 6 January. There are several Troops who have attended in the past so please ask around if you are interested in the format. Next year Stephen will be looking for as many Scouts as possible from the County to camp. Camps would be at the Troop level as normal but hopefully within one large area so that the Scouts get to see that they are part of the far larger GLNE County. Full details will be distributed as soon as received but if you are interested please contact Gilwell direct or alternatively log on to the ScoutBase website at www.scoutbase.org.uk
- Camjam 2002 - Cambridgeshire International Camp - I have details please contact me if interested.

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Talk continued...

In the next issue of *Scouting About* I hope to be able to welcome a number of new leaders whom I have approached / will be approaching soon. At present a number of the Scout Troops in Hornchurch District are in desperate need of leaders. If you are a parent reading this article who values what your son or daughter gets out of Scouting and would like this to continue please DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, without volunteers Troops will have to close and YOUR son and daughter will miss out on Scouting. If you would like to volunteer please contact either your Troop leader or myself, Andy Rice, on 01277 262702. Any help will be gratefully accepted.

Could I ask all leaders to take a few minutes to review the District Directory and update the details contained within. Changes should be sent to Avril Searle whose contact details are in the directory, and on the back page of SA.

I would like to draw to an end by mentioning a new initiative I hope to start in 2002. It is called SHARE A GOOD IDEA. How many time have we as leaders (including those of us who have been around for quite some time) visited another Troop and seen a tremendously simple but very successful program being run. It might be a five-minute game or a full evening theme program. Either way I will be asking ALL Troops to give me their good ideas. I will be putting them together and distributing them to all 15 Scout Troops in the District. I for my part will be going out to the other Districts in GLNE and getting their good ideas and trying to implement them in Hornchurch District. The first idea I have got from Walthamstow District is a District run Backwoods Skills weekend which I hope to run sometime next year.

And I would like to finish by thanking each and every leader, instructor and parent volunteer for all of the time and effort you give to Scouting. As I visit Troop nights, day trips and camps I can see the great fun and enjoyment the Scouts are getting.

THANK YOU

Andy Rice ADC (Scouts)

District Hiking Marathon Results

Eleven teams took part in this years Marathon, which was down on last year. The weather was good and everyone enjoyed themselves including Adam, who wasn't feeling too good on Saturday night and who managed to get me up at 2 am, drive to his teams location only to find him fast asleep. (thanks Adam). But that's what we're there for, After checking on Adam and his team in the morning, (as we do with every team) they went on to complete the Marathon

This is one of the District's core scouting events, (the other is the camp / cooking competition) and as such is a valuable experience for those who take part. I would hope to see more teams entering next year.

Well done to everyone who took part, and my thanks to the Leader support without which the event would not be possible.

Scouts

3 rd Upminster 'B'	1,280
1 st South Hornchurch	1,003
3 rd Upminster 'A'	899
2 nd Upminster	582
8 th Hornchurch St Andrews	390
8 th Hornchurch St Georges	385

VISITING TEAMS

Scouts

3 rd Stanford Le Hope	1,158
2 nd Stanford Le Hope	805
1 st Corringham	661

Venture Scouts

1 st South Hornchurch (Argonauts)	1,786
8 th Hornchurch (Comet)	1,129

5-a-side Competition...



Hornchurch District Scout Five-a-side Competition

On a very warm and sunny October morning over 50 Scouts and many more leaders and parents gathered at Harold Hill Swimming Pool for the annual Hornchurch District Five-a-side Football Competition.

The Scouts, representing nine Scout Troops, formed 10 teams to compete firstly in the Cup competition and then for the first and second round losers there is also a Plate competition.

I was very pleased to see that every Scout who took part (and also the parents and leaders) showed true sportsmanship and Scouting spirit in the way they approached the games. Each match finished with handshakes and cheers for the losing team and this was great to see.

This year saw an International flavour to the competition with several German exchange students (who were also Scouts) taking part. We were very pleased they joined us and hope they liked what they saw of English Scouts.

Elsewhere in Scouting About you will see the full match list and results of both the Cup and Plate competitions. I would like to offer congratulations to the winners who were:-

CUP – 2nd ELM PARK A

PLATE – 1st ELM PARK

On behalf of the District, my thanks, as always, to Danny Ahern for organising this very popular event and to Jim Wennell, the referees and all others who helped on the day.

At this year's event Danny, I and several of the leaders were talking about the poor state of the pitches. We have decided that next year's competition will be held at a different venue. To this end we have started to make investigations about Chaffords School and the Wood Lane Sports Centre. Our main objective is to have safer pitches for the Scouts to play on but also to have two pitches running at all times so that next year we hope to run a league competition with the top teams going through to a knock out competition, a little bit like the World Cup but obviously better quality football. If anyone knows the details of any other five-a-side pitches please let Danny Ahern know.

Andy Rice ADC (Scouts)

1st Round	Quarter Final	Semi Final	Final
3rd U pm inster B			
1st Elm Park	1st Elm Park		
1st U pm inster		2nd Elm Park A	
2nd Elm Park A	2nd Elm Park A		
3rd U pm inster A			2nd Elm Park A
2nd Elm Park B	3rd U pm inster A		
		3rd U pm inster A	

Quarter Final	Semi Final	Final	WINNER
3rd Cranham			
2nd Elm Park B	3rd Cranham		
1st Elm Park		1st Elm Park	
1st South Homchurch	1st Elm Park		
	8th Homchurch A		1st Elm Park
	8th Homchurch B	8th Homchurch A	



Chief Scout Challenge...

Introduction

On the 4th of June 2001, we started planning our Chief Scouts challenge expedition. We had decided to undertake the expedition on foot as opposed to cycling or boating. After some consideration, we were headed for the Lake District, and 'intended' to walk from Lake Windermere to Coniston water. The route had to be 48 km long and last for three days and two nights.

Whilst we were there we had to carry out a project. We decided to do lake pollution, as this was the cheapest and easiest option.

However, we could not have done this on our own, we needed a backup team; a support crew. Several people were originally offered the job, but, after realising that there were no other options left, we called in The Winston family.) Although we had to be self-sufficient, plan a route, and survive in the wilderness known as 'Cumbria', we were 1 team member short, so we shared the Winstons out evenly over three days...

Day by Day Account

Preparation Day (30th August)

We all met at the Winston household at 9:30am and we left at roughly ten thirty. It took us about five hours to travel down to Rydal Hall, Ambleside which was to be our base camp for the whole expedition. We stopped off on the way at a service station where Lee took it into his own hands to cause total uproar in the Burger King by ordering a most exotic meal (a beef burger.) When we arrived at our destination we drove to the campsites that we had planned to stay at on the first and second nights, as we hadn't been able to obtain any information on them before we went. Unfortunately one campsite was totally full up and the other was a private caravan site. This meant that we would have to use Rydal Hall all of the time. For the rest of that day we set up camp and went into Bowness. Later on Lee and I concocted an interesting cuisine, which was mainly eerrmm, mush.

Day 1 (31st August)

We started walking at about 8.30am (after devouring our Nutri Grain bars) and our support crew member was Roger. Lee was navigating first with the help of Roger and we did 30 minute map shifts each. We came to our first problem, when one of the planned footpaths was closed due to foot and mouth and so we had to change our route slightly, missing out a small forest walk, and reaching the ferry port by road instead.

It was at this point that we testes Windermere. Whilst we were walking along the other side of the lake, we were mainly in forest, however, the water was never far away. After many miles of walking, we rejoined the roads for a breathtakingly boring crawl up a vertically horizontal road.

A short time later we met the support crew, and ate our lunch, which was basically a Cornish pasty (potato 12.5%) (Swede 7%) (Pasty 154%) (Meat 0.001%) (Shredded newspaper 99%).

Day 1 was supposed to end here, but as we were feeling shattered, we decided to walk some of day 2. This had the great effect of shortening day 3, but leaving us essentially paralysed for the coming weeks.

After we had finished walking, which was at a footpath just before we started to climb Loughrigg Fell, the support crew came and picked us up. That evening we played some cards and then cooked our dinner of noodles and bacon cubes.

Day 2 (1st October)

On the second day we started to walk a little bit earlier and surprisingly we started from where we left off on the previous day. Our support crew member was Russell and it was then that the hardest and longest day begun. First of all came the hardest challenge and this was to go across the side of Loughrigg Fell. This was very hard walking, as all of it was uphill and very steep too. First of all we were confronted with the problem of being on the wrong side of a six and a half foot dry stonewall. After a few minutes of clambering around we were all on the right side of the wall, which due to the steepness of the hill was now only four feet tall and we were ready to start again. After walking along several narrow, winding pebble paths we met many sheep that seemed to disappear into the undergrowth and then suddenly pop out again somewhere totally different. We weren't sure what their plan was but we certainly knew that we had to get out of there and fast. A few minutes passed and then began our descent of the fell.

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Challenge continued...

After walking despairingly past base camp we followed a twisting, turning, undulating footpath past Rydal water and Grasmere, which we also tested. All that was left was left was a long arduous journey (approx. 8 k) down a road around Loughrigg Tarn (tested), past the Drunken Duck and into Hawkshead. This meant that we had actually once again walked some of the next day. We stopped just before the uphill struggle began so that we had it all to look forward to the next day.

Day 3 (2nd October)

Day three was the shortest, which was a good thing, as Alan was with us. We climbed to the top of the hill, which led to a large reserve; at least this was a change from the usual footpaths. The paths through this forest weren't as straight forward as the map showed; but we made it through to Coniston water in the end. This was largely due to luck as whilst we were on one of our phantom paths that weren't marked on the map we caught a glimpse of a boat on water. Knowing that there weren't any other large lakes around we gradually, well, rolled down to the lake. This changed our route slightly as you can see on our display) but not to a great extent mileage wise.

When we arrived at the car park we threw down our bags and basically collapsed in a heap, before throwing ourselves inside. We were on our way home when we realised that we had forgotten to test Coniston in the excitement of finishing one of most challenging experiences of our life...alive! Aaagghh, just think we have the Queen's Scout Award to come, twenty more miles and one more day but at least we have the experience.

Glen Hadley and Lee Prior
1st.South Hornchurch

Hornchurch District Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition

There were over 40 scouts and ventures in attendance at the Crowfield Gun Club for the Annual Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition in St.Mary's Lane, Upminster on 4th.November 2001.

The competitors had 25 shots spread over 3 traps, The winners were:

Seniors:	1st. Darren Portfleet	3rd.Cranham	20/25
	2nd. Adam Belenki	3rd.Cranham	18/25
	3rd. Nick Broadway	1st.South Hornchurch	14/25
Scouts:	1st. Matthew Rains	3rd.Cranham	15/25
	2nd. Dan Argent	2nd.Upminster	14/25
	3rd. Nick Adams	1st.Upminster	13/25



Some of the competitors



Jack Petchey...

Jack Petchey Award Presentation Evening

For the last year The Jack Petchey Foundation have given the District £200 a month to award to a deserving young person who has enriched the life of their scout group. On Wednesday 31 October our award winners were presented with a congratulatory medallion by the Deputy Lieutenant of Havering, Air Commodore Brian Batt at a County Presentation in South Woodford.

Congratulations to all our young achievers for 2000/2001 who were;

Sept	Michael Suggate	2EP	Mar	Dean Booth	1C
Oct	Wendy Rothern	8H	Apr	Amanda Harper	2R
Nov	Paul Fix	7H	May	Peter Collins	8H
Dec	Stephen Harris	1U	June	Glenn Hadley	1SH
Jan	Lee Prior	1SH	July	Lawrence Blomfield	7H
Feb	Paul Besgrove	1EP	Aug	Matthew Perring	3C

All the winners had already received a cheque for £200 which had to be spent on a local community project, as well as a framed certificate.

Also the County were able to nominate four adults who were outstanding leaders'. Hornchurch District nominated;

Dean Jefferys

Assistant District Commissioner (Cub Scouts), & Assistant Group Scout Leader, 2nd Elm Park

Dean received a cheque for £1000, which along with the money from the other three County winners will be divided between the five campsites owned by Greater London North-East. His medallion and certificate was presented by Jack Petchey himself.

Don't forget – the nominations have already started for the 2001/2002 awards. There are five scout groups in Hornchurch who didn't put in any nominations last year, so why not think seriously about it this year – your group could be £200 better off as a result!

Dean Jefferys
ADC Cubs



Camping and Cooking Competition Results

What a shame only 4 Groups took part, but what a high standard of camping and cooking there is in our District. Thank you to 1st Cranham, 1st Elm Park, 1st South Hornchurch and 8th Hornchurch for making the effort. I am sure our Fellowship enjoyed tasting the tempting food that was cooked for them. I do hope the rest of the District make the effort to attend next year.

Thank you to all the Leaders who helped over the week end.

The winners:

Camping	1st.	1st. Elm Park
	2nd.	1st. South Hornchurch Girls
	3rd	1st. Cranham
Cooking	1st.	1st. South Hornchurch Boys
	2nd.	1st. Elm Park
	3rd.	1st. South Hornchurch Girls

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Linda Thorogood

ADC General Duties- (see photos of this event at http://www.hornchurchscouts.org.uk/cooking_camping_2001.htm)

Unit Utterances...



Firstly I would like to congratulate Mike and Annette Bacon on their marriage about time! And Thankyou for a wonderful day.

Back to Ventures well there has been no let up over the 2nd half of the year on activities. As you may have seen on the district web site, 8th Hornchurch ventures organised and re-launched the Thing Trophy competition and with great success and some hotshots from 8th Hornchurch they also won the Archery Competition. They have now received a challenge from 1st sth Hornchurch to a Frisbee football match, which I am still waiting for the date.

2nd Cranham organised also a highly successful rifle shooting competition, which there was over 20 entries for, and even the DC turned up and had a go (No one knows what the DC hit but it wasn't the target!!) and with some very close scores 1st Sth Hornchurch won the Challenge trophy with Billy Perkins being the top individual marksman.

I have formed a new District Venture Activity team to organise events at district level and to sell the events to the ventures. As all venture Scout Units know they have been extremely busy pushing Unit, District and county Events by Email, Letters and Visits. As well as organising activities. At this point I would like to thank them for what they have done and in particular an amazing event has happened most Units actually communicating with us and with each other but we still need to improve and Thankyou to all the Units that are turning up and communicating to us.

2nd Cranham and 1st sth Hornchurch spent a weekend at Gilwell building new changing rooms for the swimming pool which both the Assistant warden and ACC Ventures were most pleased at the progress we all made. And it was also a good social and the swimming pool wasn't bad either.

Thankyou to all Ventures and Leaders and Helpers who attend and join in and socialise

Note: Please if you are not intending to attend an activity please could you let the activity team know or let me know so we can plan ahead? Have a great time out there

Nigel Tranter ADC Ventures

Venture Diary 2001-2002

20. Nov. 2001	County Venture leaders meeting
30. Nov. - 2 nd Dec 2001	County Kilmere provisional date
1 st . Dec. 2001	District Chess Competition
6 th Dec. 2001	District Venture leaders meeting
9 Dec. 2001	District Venture Activity team meeting
20 th January 2002	Camp Planning leaders at Buckmore Park
15 th February 2002	Pub Games Night
Feb. half term 2002	County venture 4 Days Norfolk Broad on boats
14 Mar. 2002	District Venture Leaders Meeting
17 th Mar. 2002	District Venture Activity team meeting
29/31 Mar. 2002	County Endurance camp
3/5 th May 2002	District Camp (Buckmore Park)
18 th Jun. 2002	District Venture Leaders Meeting
23 rd June 2002	District Venture Activity team meeting
22/23 rd June 2002	District Marathon
21 st July 2002	Alton Towers
26 th Sept. 2002	District Venture Leaders Meeting
29 th Sept. 2002	District Venture Activity team meeting
5 th Dec. 2002	District Venture Leaders Meeting
8 th Dec. 2002	District Venture Activity team meeting



News...

Confidential Enquiry Forms

Due to complaints from the Post Office confidential enquiry forms are no longer able to be sent folded and taped. They are now to be put in envelopes and sent via a free post address:

The Scout Association Records Office
Freepost SW205
London E4 7BR

We welcome Richard Pearson AVSL 1st South Hornchurch and Stephen McGoay, Hornchurch, Essex, becomes the ACC for Scouts.

Hazel Winston

What have you been doing lately Jim?

Well I was asked to attend a Thing challenge. For those who don't know what the thing is - a rather tatty dinner gong. Venture units challenge the current holders to a challenge hence I ended up at 8th hornchurch HQ to oversee an archery challenge. It was agreed to use dart board targets starting with 501 . 4 teams from 1st.South Hornchurch, 2nd.Cranham, 8th.Hch. and 2nd.Elm Park.

From the start 1st. SH . set the pace but a solo score of 130 by Paul Faiers followed by double 15 by the same player saw the 8th Hch. ventures winners! Thanks for the invite.

New additions to our already comprehensive list of equipment held at the District stores are a combined t.v. video- ideal for winter camps or training videos. Just purchased a party tent approx 30ft. by 12ft. wide 10ft. high with windows removable walls. Its ideal for camp weddings christenings etc.

Don,t forget 14 days advance booking is required for any use of equipment -just a small moan please return equipment in a clean condition.

Thriftwalk 2001

Some interesting figures. Hornchurch is the largest owner district of Thriftwood and visiting varies groups I am very often told of there lack of funds so Thriftwalk is an easy way to make money. So look at the turnout Brentwood Dist. 111walkers,Squirrels Heath 93 walkers, Barking & Dag. 110 walkers, Hornchurch 86. It makes you think.

Jim Berry

THE THING... re the item in the July edition.

I would wish to comment on 'The Thing', having read with interest your article which was passed to me by my sister, Susan Cruse.

The original idea for the 'The Thing' was, as far as I can recall, made in about 1966 at a district venture scout leaders meeting, or it may have been Senior Scouts, the memory fades a little. It was the district venture scout (or senior scout) leader Vin Dodd (1 St Upminster) who put forward the idea.

The first 'Thing' was a large aluminium manifold from a crashed wartime aircraft which the 8~ Hornchurch Venture Unit picked up from the moors whilst hiking in the Peak District the previous year when based at Glossop in Derbyshire for a summer expedition.

I hope the foregoing may be of some interest and it may well bring back some memories for anyone who was involved at that time.

John Horrell (past VSL 8th. Hornchurch 'Comet' Venture Unit).

P.S. I asked John about the Gong which has been the Thing for the last 20 years and he believes that it appeared at one of our Group's jumble sales and was seized upon as a bit of an oddity and thereby ideal as a Thing!