



**Hornchurch District  
Scout Association**  
www.hornchurchscouts.org.uk

# “Scouting About”

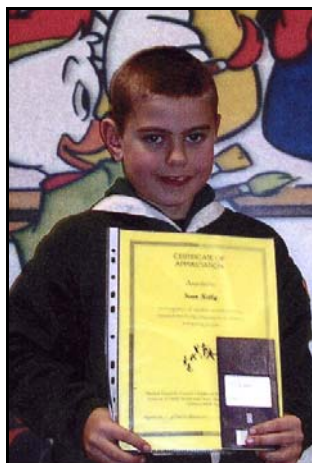
## Special Cub Sean

On 20<sup>th</sup>.November, at the Institute of Child Health and Great Ormond Street Hospital, a very special cub, Sean Kelly and his brother and sister (Niall and Lauren) , took part in a study to help understand the growth and development of sick children. This information will be used to help chart the growth of sick children, so the right steps can be taken to improve their health.

All the tests were painless and Sean and other special volunteers got to try out the newest scientific equipment. This was used to measure bone size and density and how much water the body contains. All the volunteers get a certificate, £5 W.H.Smith voucher and a picture of their skeleton.

These children should receive a special thank you, as they were very brave to come to hospital and meet a lot of new people in an unfamiliar environment.Sean's behaviour was excellent, he was good humoured and asked lots of thoughtful questions. I hope you will join me and the research staff at the hospital in congratulating Sean on his efforts.

## Sarah Low -Technician at Great Ormond Street



Sean Kelly at Great Ormond Street Hospital



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# *Diamond Jubilee ...*

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## **3rd.Cranham celebrate Diamond Jubilee**

The 16th of January was the 60th anniversary of the 3rd Cranham and was marked with birthday cake for the Troop cut by the youngest Scout Darien Dave and the oldest uniformed member Melvyn Gallagher!

The Troop was in fact formed around 1940 when the then Cooper's Company Grammar School in Bow was evacuated to Frome. One of the teachers Don Sutherland who was a warranted Asst Scout master in Stepney formed the Troop but because of the War new Troops could not be registered at H.Q this happened in 1945 when the School returned to London and became the 11th Stepney and later on the 22nd Tower Hamlets (West) and finally the 3rd Cranham in 1972 when the new School opened in Upminster.

Scouter in Charge Mel Gallagher and Group treasurer Ron Gibson are both old boys from Bow and A.S.L . Jon Cable and Troop Assistant Sumaiea Charalambous both attended the Upminster School.



The youngest and oldest uniformed members of the 3rd Cranham Darien Dave and Mel Gallagher cut the celebration cake

# *News/ Events...*

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## **40th Edition of “Scouting About”**

**May** of this year will see the 40th. Edition of the newsletter for Hornchurch District-which means that this publication has been in print for 10 years-so not quite a flash in the pan. It has been published 4 times a year and now reaches groups via GSLs or other leaders. You can also download it via the website.

I need your comments, new ideas, suggestions for improvements for the next few editions –do we need a new layout? Different ideas? Different concept altogether ? More photos ? Let me know what you think -

**Editor**

## **Tree Planting Ceremony—Ron Sorell**

More than 30 people attended the tree planting ceremony and placement of Ron Sorrell’s ashes at Thriftwood on the 30th. January 2005.

It was a quiet and sombre affair where everybody stood in a circle around the specially chosen silver birch. The particular variety of tree, known as *jacquemontii*, was selected for its straight and upright habit which was chosen to reflect the character of Ron.

Ron Pyle read out the dedication and Brian Gildersleeves read out a tribute. Virtually every person there, then placed two shovelfuls of soil, containing Ron’s ashes onto the roots of the silver birch.

The tree can be found next to the Squirrel’s Lodge should anyone wish to view the memorial.

**Editor**

The **3rd Cranham Scout** Group are holding a Jumble Sale at St .Laurence Church Hall , Upminster on Saturday March 5th at 10.30 a.m, admission 20p. Donations of clothing,books,toys bric-a-brac are welcomed and can be delivered to the Hall on the day from 9a.m. onwards (sorry ,we cannot sell old shoes ,electrical items or furniture )

# Colony Chat...

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Hope you like the new Beaver mascot?

Well what a hard act to follow - as most of you know Janet Winslow stepped down as ADC Beavers last year. I personally have known Janet since we both attended a joint 1 South Homchurch/151 Cranham Cub Camp at Chalfont Heights in August 1986!!!

I am looking forward to my new role with the sound knowledge that we have very keen and enthusiastic leaders who are running excellent Colonies throughout our District.

I am looking forward to even more Beavers attending St George's Day this year and I hope our new District Flag will be carried with pride.

The Swimming Gala is fast approaching - good luck to all the Beavers that take part.

Thank you Ann, Janet, Pat and Peter for agreeing to continue as District Beaver Leaders and a special welcome to Gail who has just opened up the first ever Beaver Colony at 1st Rainham. I am sure we all wish her well. I shall be sad to say goodbye to Val and Debra who are leaving 2nd Cranham after many years running the Colony.

**Linda Thorogood**  
**ADC Beavers**

**8th Homchurch ST. GEORGES** Colony were 'busy Beavers' during the autumn term.

To help explain Remembrance Day we had an evening visit to the war memorial when our vicar encouraged the beavers to see if they could find their surname and then count the names on the roll of honour. He then led the beavers on a very dark spooky walk through the churchyard and into the cemetery to look for war graves and explained about pilots like Sanders Draper. The beavers then headed back into church for a 'hunt' for poppies which he had previously hidden.

A couple of weeks later beavers joined in the parade through Homchurch on the Night of Lights. The beavers were dressed as Christmas trees (that is to say: wearing green bin liners decorated to look like Christmas trees)!

As well as attending the District Beaver Carol Service and party our Beavers attended a Christingle service at our church. At a colony meeting prior to the Christingle service I explained to them about the Christingle oranges they would receive in an endeavour to encourage them to attend. Well there we were at the start of the service with a good number in attendance when the lay reader asked if anyone knew what the parts of the Christingle represented. Two little hands shot up and out to the front went Callum and Alex; I sat there full of pride when they repeated all I had told them previously about the Christingles - it makes it all worthwhile doesn't it.

**Sue Cruse, MAO.**

## Pack Patter...



### Hornchurch District Cub Quiz November 2004

Our District Quiz took place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 8<sup>th</sup> Hornchurch District HQ in Chelmsford Drive. There were a total of 9 packs represented, even if not all of them had a full team. I must say a huge 'Well Done' to all those boys who took part, they were a credit to their packs and to themselves. Thanks must also go too, to the Leaders who willingly gave up their Saturday afternoon to help supervise the boys. The knowledge tested was sometimes easy, and sometimes tricky while the subject matter was diverse, from History and Geography to Slogans and Books. Half time brought a welcome break for both boys and adults, in the form of some light refreshment and snacks, but then the second half started and the hall was soon buzzing again. The winners were the pack from 3<sup>rd</sup> Upminster with a total of 126 points. It was lovely to see that two of their team were of our oldest cubs, and that one of their last acts as cubs will be to represent this District in the County Quiz due to take place on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Congratulations boys and good luck to you, both in the County Quiz and in your future Scouting careers.

Before I finish I would like to give my sincere thanks to those Scout Leaders without whose help this event could not have occurred; to our Quiz Master Stuart Barham, our Master Scorer Sumaiea Charalambous, our Collector of answers Keith Carver our Scorer Paul Fix and our Tea Lady Janet Winslow, not to mention those behind the scenes people: Jim Berry, Sue Cruse and Kevin Williamson.

The Final Results were:

1 <sup>st</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Upminster	126 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> Hornchurch (Dragon)	120 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> Hornchurch (Apollo)	119 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Rainham/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Upminster	111 pints
6 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Elm Park	105 points
7 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Elm Park/ 8 <sup>th</sup> Hornchurch (Jupiter)	101 points
9 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> Hornchurch (Mercury)	88 points

I hope to see even more of you at our quiz next year.

Jan Luscombe DCSL.

### WINTER CAMP 2005

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan arrived at Gilwell Park for the annual winter camp. Winds of 70 mph. not really tent pitching weather, but over 1800 scouts and explorer scouts with a little help from their leaders settled in. Hornchurch District well represented with explorer scouts from 2 of the District units and scouts from 3 troops, plus members of the Young District leaders. A wide and active programme laid on by Gilwell staff, with something for everyone. Some district leaders dined with their charges and reported back food 'ok' for the district elite and elderly (me). Breakfast at the golf club and roughed it at the Plough for evening meal. With the scouts and explorers hard at it at the Saturday night disco Hornchurch leaders met up with friends made over the years from districts around the country. At the bar we were spotted by the rather quite yellow polo shirts. With just a little pushing the district re-created the previous years tower of glasses this year with two scouters inside. A superb weekend for the young and not so young with just one downer. One of the district mascots shrek who has been with us man and boy at least since Essex jamboree was taken, If the district member who took him would like to return him as donkey is missing him, nothing more will be said. As usual this event is open to all troops. Why not make the most of these camps and take your troop.?

**Jim Berry DDC**



# Troop Talk...

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I always like to start with good news! So congratulations to 8<sup>th</sup> Hornchurch who were the winners of the hard fought District Chess Competition which was held on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 2EP.

Well done to them and all the 17 contenders. The standard of play was extremely high which made for a very close run competition especially considering that many of the players were quite young. 6 Groups attended the event and I am hopeful that we will see others rising to the challenge next year.

We had our leaders meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> January and I was pleased to see all but 4 Groups represented, with 2 of those not present sending their apologies. Thank you to all those who attended, it demonstrates that the Scout Section is very much alive in Hornchurch.

It is most important that these meetings are attended by a representative from each group as it a vital opportunity to not only receive an update on District events, but on those of County as well. Perhaps even more importantly, it is a platform to provide feedback to the District Team.

On this topic back in October I asked for comment on our District events, (and that's exactly what you think – no holds barred!), are they stale, good or exceptional even? Should we be looking to change or indeed drop some?

I am pleased to say that I have had some good responses to these questions and as a result I am pleased to announce that we will be introducing a District Archery Competition. This event will be held indoors during the winter months, probably in December – more details to follow.

If your Troop has not yet organized your summer camping, why not attend one (or all) of the District or County camps? All present excellent value for money providing activities which can be out of the scope of the individual Troop and if you don't have the necessary camping permit or equipment – don't worry! We can help there as well!

The camps can accommodate whole Troops, Patrols or even individuals. For more details just give me a call and I'll provide you with all the paper you'll ever need!

Talking of events, the calendar for the year is pretty full. A copy has been sent out to each Group, but an extract detailing the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2005 is below:

District Swimming Gala	Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
County Scout Chess Tournament	Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
County Swimming Gala	Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> March
Scout Leaders Meeting	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April
St. Georges Day Parade	Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> April
County Scout Five – a – side	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> May

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# Troop Talk...

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District Scout Camp 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Weekend 27 <sup>th</sup> /
County Water Activity Scout Camp Decoy Broad, Norfolk.	Weekend 3 <sup>rd</sup> / 5 <sup>th</sup> June
Scout & Explorer Scout Hiking Weekend	Weekend 18 <sup>th</sup> / 19 <sup>th</sup> June
County Scout Camp Gilwell Park	Weekend 1st / 3rd July
Scout Leaders Meeting	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> July

Full details will be sent on all of these activities nearer the time, but please make notes in your diary now before they fill up!

Also please don't forget that the District Team is here as a resource for you, please do ask us about assisting with your training requirements, for both the leader and scout. We are more than willing to help with those subjects you don't feel confident with! And if we don't know ourselves; we probably do know somebody that does!

That's it for now; I look forward to reporting further on our successful Scouting together in the next issue.

See you all at the Gala in March.

**Peter Seddon**  
**ADC (Scouts)**

## **Kilmuir Trophy**

For the second year running the Centurion Explorer unit, which is based in Elm Park, fought off tough opposition from Leyton District and the rest of the county to win the prestigious KILMUIR TROPHY.

For those not familiar with this event it is a mixture of Scavenger hunt, Treasure hunt and Mastermind quiz, with most of the answer relating to London.

Some of the unit were sent to London to find answers to the questions that could not be gleaned from the internet while others were set the task of finding, or making things for the Scavenger hunt section. To add some fun to the weekend the team were required to dress as the Village People and perform one of their songs to the judges. After being presented with the trophy, by County Explorer Scout Commissioner Mike Bacon, the team repeated their performance to the rest of the county entrants for which they received well-earned applause.

**Bob Law**



# Fund Raising ...

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## **1<sup>st</sup> Cranham Group Fund Raising Evening – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2005.**

Please put a note in your diaries now for the evening of Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March for our Group Fund Raising event.

This Year we have decided it is now time to purchase two new flags for the Cubs and Scouts sections. The cost of both flags comes to just over £600, and this would normally be paid for using the Subscriptions paid each term by all the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. As these subscriptions are already covering a vast amount of expenditure for day to day running costs of the group headquarters and equipment for sections, it would only mean one thing. Yes Subs would need to be increased!

As we don't want to put any additional strain on the Parents/Guardians of the Group we have decided to do some fundraising to cover the cost of the Flags. We will hopefully also add some more to our Group account ready for re-location costs when the works at Boyd Hall start.

We are approaching the funding from two angles;

1. We have sourced a donation from one of the Undertakers in Upminster, Frank Rivett & Sons who will pay a set amount towards the flags provided we fundraise for the rest
2. We are organising a Family Disco for all members of the Group, their families, friends and neighbours.

Fundraising disco details;

**Date & Time:** Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2005 7.30pm till late

**Venue:** Dagenham & Redbridge Football Club, Dagenham  
(Large Function Hall)

**Cost:** Adult Tickets £5.00 (Age 16+)  
Child Tickets £2.00 (Ages 3 -16)  
Under 3 year olds – Free

**Entrance by Ticket only (Purchase from Section Leaders)**

**Additional Info:** Disco for all ages from babies to grandparents

Buffet will be provided

As we will not be increasing Subs we are expecting all families who have Boys in the Group to purchase a minimum of two adult tickets towards this event. The more tickets we sell the better.

We will be offering a prize on the night for the Beaver, Cub and Scout who have sold the most tickets to their Family, Friends or Neighbours.

If you have any questions regarding this event please speak to your section Leader or contact me.

Yours in Scouting,

Linda Thorogood  
**Group Scout Leader**