



Hornchurch District
Scout Association
www.hornchurchscouts.org.uk

“Scouting About”

Gallant Jack

Many readers may be unaware of the fact that in Hornchurch stands a memorial to perhaps the greatest Scout hero John Travers Cornwell V.C. or 'Jack'. He won his Victoria Cross at the naval battle of Jutland in 1916 dying of his wounds two days later. He was also awarded the Scout Bronze Cross for Gallantry and later the Cornwell Award was founded in his memory. A memorial fund was established, the money being spent on scholarships, hospital wards and cottages for retired seamen six of the latter built in Hornchurch in Station Lane the grounds in the shape of the Victoria Cross.

The Trustees of the Fund together with representatives of the Royal British Legion and Royal Naval Association hold an annual wreath laying ceremony each year on the anniversary of Jack's death June 2nd. To our shame and discredit Scouts from Hornchurch have never taken part until this year when the colours of the 3rd Cranham (Cooper's-Coborn) and 2nd Upminster Groups were paraded much to the delight of all those present. The story of Jack Cornwell is one that should not be forgotten and indeed should be passed on to our younger members. I hope that from next year Hornchurch District will be represented by more Groups and our new District Commissioner lay a wreath on behalf of us all.

Melvyn Gallagher, S.L. 3rd Cranham (Cooper's-Coborn).



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Group
Circulation:

Venture Scout Leader

Scout Leader

Cub Scout Leader

Beaver Scout Leader



D.C.'s Discourse..

There is no contribution from the acting DC, but there is an announcement from the County Commissioner.

Hornchurch District Executive **All Scouters**

4 July 2002

Dear Scouters,

Re: Appointment of District Commissioner - Hornchurch

As you know, we have for sometime been searching for a new District Commissioner for Hornchurch. During the interim period, Peter Brewster (Deputy County Commissioner – Sections) has been responsible for the District.

I am pleased to announce that with effect from 1 September 2002, Dean Jefferys will be appointed District Commissioner. I am sure you will want to join me in congratulating Dean and I wish him good luck in his new role.

Dean J Milton
County Commissioner GLNE

Colony Chat...

Victoria Ebanks, leader of 1st.Cranham Beavers, was married at All Saints Church Cranham to Paul Hipperson.

She has been a leader for 2 years. In the picture, she is seen accompanied by some of the Beavers in her colony. They attended the wedding even though England were playing in the World Cup! Pictured with Victoria and Paul are various Beavers.

We all wish her well in her new life with Paul.



Pack Patter...



Welcome again to the best pages of Scouting About!

It's been another busy couple of months, with District Leaders supporting various events, both within the Cub Scout Section and beyond. However the success of the year to date is the OCYS Day, which is detailed below.

On Saturday 18th May, nearly one hundred Cubs & Scouts from nine of the Scout Groups in Hornchurch District took part in the third Older Cub / Younger Scout Day, held at Thriftwood Scout Campsite in Brentwood.

Despite the forecasters predicting a day of heavy thundery showers, the day dawned bright as the organising team awoke at 7.30am to lay out the last of the base equipment. By 9.20am the first Cubs & Scouts were starting to arrive and were quickly registered and split into mixed teams of groups, sections and ages. Then it was on with the fun!

Traditional Scouting Skills were very much the order of the day, with bases covering tent pitching, fire lighting, cooking and mini-pioneering, as well as other bases which required a bit of mental concentration, such as the team building games, the egg drop and Stuart's legendary blind trail. The bases were all simple, but judging by the very positive feedback I got all day from the Cubs, Scouts & Leaders (and their wild cheers during the closing ceremony), they were proving to be great fun.

The day was an excellent link opportunity, with Cubs & Scouts from across the District being able to participate in an array of bases that they had probably never tackled before. It was also a good opportunity for leaders from various groups to get to know each other and share ideas.

At the closing ceremony, I had the pleasure of awarding Certificates of Attendance to all those present, which listed all the requirements of the new youth programme that had been completed on the day. All those leaders present also received a certificate, along with members of the organising team to show the important part they had played in the success of the day.

With the Cubs & Scouts all leaving happy and contented by 4pm, the organising team had a quick tidy up, before going out for a well deserved meal at the Harvester in Brentwood in the evening. The conversation was limited as we were all too knackered, but we were all able to reflect back on a highly successful and pleasurable day that had been enjoyed by all who attended, from the youngest Cub to the oldest leader.

A big thank-you to the core team members, who made the day possible. They were;

Linda Thorogood, ADC (General Duties)
Scott Wilderspin, DS L
Stuart Barham DSL

Andy Rice, ADC (Scouts)
Paul Fix, D. C. Scout Leader
Graham Crossman DSL

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Pack Patter continued...

Thanks also to Lyn Langley for keeping all the adults going with refreshments, and of course to Bob Law, who as ever is a willing & able volunteer for any task you set him!

We're now getting set for Older Beaver / Younger Cub Day on the 28th September. Same venue, Same format, Different bases. Watch this space!

It is good to see that so many Packs are managing to get away camping this year. Since the last edition, 8th Hornchurch, 2nd Cranham, 7th Hornchurch & 1st Elm Park have all held successful camps, with very positive PC Forms coming back to me. Over the next few weeks (and the summer break) 2nd Upminster, 2nd Elm Park and 1st Upminster all have their own independent camps coming up – I look forward to hearing how you get on!

District Camp is now imminent, and so far we have roughly 72 Cubs spending the weekend with us, along with 82 Beavers visiting for the day, and numerous leaders, helpers and team members. It promises to be a very exciting and enjoyable weekend, and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Although the Summer break is nearly with us, it's seems timely to remind you all of the events we have planned between September and December.

They are :-

Sunday 15 th September	-	County Cub Scout Sports Day
Saturday 28 th September	-	Older Beaver / Younger Cub Day
Monday 30 th September	-	Cub Scout Leaders Meeting
Saturday 16 th November	-	District Cub Scout Quiz
Tuesday 3 rd December	-	District Cub Scout Carol Service

I hope you all enjoy the summer break and come back in September fully recharged and ready for all the exciting events that we have planned!

Until next time ...

Dean Jefferys ADC Cubs

Correction from May Edition of Scouting About

Pat Hipperson 15 years Long service award

Linda Thorogood 15 years Long service award.

Troop Talk...



County 5 - a - Side.

On Saturday 11th of May 2nd Elm Park entered the County 5 - a - Side competition at the Metropolitan Police Sports Ground in Chingford.

The event was open to any Scout Troop in the County and for any invested Scout between ten and a half and fifteen and a half. There were at least 20 teams, playing in four small leagues at first to see who would go into the next stage. After winning the District competition back in October and getting to the final of the last County competition, my lads were very confident they'd do well.

We played 4 games in our league, winning the first 5 - 0, the second 3 - 0, the third 1 - 0 (against 1st Upminster) and the fourth 5 - 0. This meant we went through to the quarter finals, top of our group and now full of confidence.

The play was then stopped for a while for the lads to have some lunch, with a BBQ included in the entrance fee of just £2. Grim made the most of his free lunch, while I made the most of the mobile bar, which was placed simply too close to where I happened to be sitting (well that's my excuse)

The quarter final game was slightly tougher with us just edging the game 2 - 0, now putting us in the semi final.

The semi final was against a team of five, fifteen and a half year olds, with only one of my lads being fifteen. We knew it was going to be extremely difficult to get anything out of the game and just as unlikely that I would have any finger nails left by the end. The semi was to be 7 minutes a half instead of 5, and after just 2 minutes we scored a blinder. The next 12 minutes were possibly the most difficult 12 minutes of my life and certainly for the lads on the pitch. But we won the game 1 - 0, with the last kick of the match hitting my captain extremely hard, just where you don't want to be hit, but now running on adrenaline he assured me he would be fine for the final, and after their achievements so far who was I to argue.

The final was against one of the teams who had lost to the team we'd beaten in the semi final. With that in mind the lads were quietly confident. The game started well and was end to end with Vince having some saves to make. But early in the second half we conceded our first goal of the competition and only our fourth goal in our last four competitions. This meant we had to push forward, leaving ourselves vulnerable at the back, and we conceded a second right on full time. Once again just missing out on that elusive County trophy.

The competition was played in a very good spirit by all concerned and was very well organised. I would also like to thank the leaders, helpers and parents of 1st Upminster, who stayed till the end of the competition to cheer us on.

On the Wednesday after the event, the lads had got over their obvious disappointment and are ready for the District competition in October (so be afraid) It would be nice to see a few more troops at the event next year as it was a great day out.

Stuart Barham
(SL 2nd Elm Park / District Scout Leader)

BlueBell Railway...

Hornchurch District Beavers “Family” visit to Bluebell railway.

Two big red double-decker buses took us from our windy departure point in Hornchurch via the breath taking views from the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge and whisked us to a service area on the M25 for a loo stop. I think the Beavers wanted to spend the day at the services, as there was food and video games, but no it was back on the busses and on our way.

We duly arrived at Sheffield Park station for the start of our exciting day out and after filtering 140+ Beavers through one small booking office we broke into smaller groups to explore the station, workshops and of course, eat.

The guided tour of the workshops was informative and allowed us to climb aboard many trains to see lots of hard work being done to restore trains from an age before most of the Leaders can remember.

At the allotted time we assembled on platform 1¼ and boarded our own “Beaver’s Express”. This took us to Horsted Keynes station where we disembarked and headed for the loos and the picnic field. We picnicked, played football and some Beavers even climbed trees. Must be some sort of natural instinct?

Back on the train we went on to Kingscote station for a brief stop, the engine drivers need some fresh coffee, and we had a chance to look at the fire in the engine of our train.

We returned to Sheffield Park station and a quick obligatory visit to the gift shop and it was back on the buses for the return home to Hornchurch. The gift shop sells a range of items such as postcards, pencil sharpeners but more importantly the ever present “train whistle” which were all tried and tested thoroughly on the journey home (via the services for another loo break and to top up on food). I’m sure the gift shop have a quiet chuckle to themselves when a coach party of children leave the shop armed with those lovely headache inducing whistles.

A safe trip home and a quick photo opportunity for as many Beavers and Leaders that could be persuaded to stay and it was off home, 140+ Beavers whistling away into the night.

Many thanks to Elaine and David for organising and running the trip, the Beavers, Leaders, Parents and Grandparents really had a good family day out.

David Cartwright-8th.Hornchurch