

1ST PARK STREET SCOUT GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE SCOUT HUT
ON MONDAY, 2ND JUNE, 1986 - 8.15 P.M.

PRESENT:

Mr. & Mrs. M. Cox, Miss S. Cox, Miss L. Chapman, Mr. & Mrs. I. Henderson
Mrs. M. Urquhart, Mr. & Mrs. M. Flack, Mr. M.V. Turner, Mr. & Mrs.
R. Johnson, Mr. D. Drake, Mr. J. Cox, Mr. M.G. Turner, Mr. S. Rees,
Mrs. P. Le Riviere, Mrs. C. Harding, Mrs. Sexton, Mr. D. Bailey,
Mr. L. Simpson, Mr. & Mrs. Wood, Mr. C. Watson, Mrs. A. Hewing,
Mr. & Mrs. D. Ward, Mrs. M. Bradbury, Mrs. E. Cummins, Mr. N. Carruthers,
Mr. & Mrs. K.J. Taylor, Mr. & Mrs. P. Wenham, Mr. M. Dadswell,
Mr. S. Cottingham, Mr. & Mrs. B. Boxshall, Mrs. N. Polkinghorne,
Mrs. S. Dickens, Mrs. S. Hurst, Mr. J. Hurley, Mrs. C. Abington.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mrs. S. Harwood, Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. P. Daw, Mr. James.

1. WELCOME & MINUTES OF LAST A.G.M.

A welcome was extended to those present by the Chairman, Lis Cummins, and the meeting was declared open. Minutes of the previous A.G.M. held on 11th June 1985, proposed by Mrs. Cox, seconded by Mrs. Ward were agreed as being a true record.

2. GROUP REPORT (Mike Cox)

Thanks extended to all Leaders for their time given to the Groups and in particular to Nigel who will be leaving the Group this summer. A presentation was made in appreciation of his ten years as leader of the Birch Pack.

3. SECTION REPORTS

Ventures (Mike Turner)

The past 12 months have been very important for the Unit. The initial euphoria had died away and the membership declined to six diehards, all of whom were on the Committee. In September 1985 a firm decision was taken by the Committee to recruit more members and provide an attractive and varied programme. A great deal of effort was put in by the Committee and the Unit has now expanded to 12 invested members and four who are due to be invested very soon. In addition there are another seven or eight young people expressing interest in joining.

The Unit programme has benefitted from the larger membership and has covered visits, sporting and social functions, outdoor pursuits, debates committee exercises and competitions. Early in 1986, the Unit entered a team in Peak Assault and despite appalling conditions, finished 59th, our best result yet. In addition the Unit was one of the best supported with a base camp of 6. Other events have included the Codicote Ten and Buccaneer Trophy, where our teams finished 2nd and 5th respectively. Good programme has been arranged for the future with camps included. Centre of much activity has been the Duke of Edinburgh Gold award in which five members are participating. 3 are well on the way to completion. This has included 10 days on Dartmoor and Salisbury Plain and three days in Derbyshire on expedition training. Two members spent a week on the Amory Trust vessel, "Donald Searle", a tall ship for their residential section of the award.

We have had a new leader appointed, former Venture Unit member, Laura Chapman. My special thanks to her and Mike Flack for their efforts during the past year.

Scouts (Richard Johnson)

Richard introduced himself as the new Scout Leader, Stan Birch having moved from the District. Numbers have increased to 36 which makes six patrols. They took part in the Chariot Race which is an annual event and did well, they gained 5th place. In the Camp competition they managed to win the shield for the 4th time, running alongside this was another competition, British Meat, which they also won and have gone to the second stage which is a national cup. A number of camping activities over weekends have been undertaken and my thanks go to Steve Rees for his invaluable help. At present we are the holders of the Challenge Trophy, every Scout Troup in the District can set a challenge to the holder, so far we have managed to keep it. Summer Camp this year will be at Kingsdown, Nr. Dover and whilst there we are arranging a trip to France. We always plan to make sure everyone takes part in all the activities at some time.

There have been changes in the guidelines regarding badgework recently. More emphasis has now been placed on the individuals own efforts. However the leaders will continue to ensure that the scouts are guided in the right direction.

Thanks were extended to the helpers and a request for more people to spend time with the scouts.

Wood Pack (Anna Cox)

Since last AGM we have had a full pack with all boys progressing steadily through the Arrow scheme. We have our usual first aid, home help badge courses and for the first time for ages we have handyman and cook badges in the Pack thanks to Harpenden district who organised an Inter district Badge Day with our Pack being invited.

Through the year we have had boys at a Longridge special water activity weekend where they rafted, canoed, sailed, kayacked, and sculled. We also visited St. Albans Abbey and joined up with St. Julian's for a visit to Duxford where amongst others Concorde and Red Arrows went through their paces. Again with St. Julians we joined them to learn about snakes and recently about Owls, in particular the Barn Owl. The boys were engrossed on both occasions. We also had Steve Rees and his unbelievable rucsac. Birch and Wood Packs joined together for a summer camp at Chalfont and an excellent activity weekend at Phasels earlier this year. My thanks to Nigel for organising both. Ran usual camp at Ambassadors /explorer badges.

We have taken an active part in district and county events. Last summer we came third in cub sports and in the autumn we entered the district quiz for the first time and came 2nd. This year we again won the district chess and Mark Philpot came runner up in the individual award. Our last competition was the County Outdoor where we represented St. Albans District and came 3rd. The boys enjoyed cooking their own three course meal as well as pitch and strike a hike tent.

My thanks go to all parents who help in any way and in particular my regular helpers Pauline and Carol and also Dave who works wonders with the sports. I would like to take this opportunity of saying a very big "thank you" to Nigel for his help, support and effort he has put into cubbing in the last 10 years.

Birch Pack (Nigel Carruthers)

Numbers have increased this year from 16 to 23 boys. Badge work has been good, four boys have Gold Arrows; have had two Badge Courses Artists and Handyman, run by Alan Vernon. We have made two improvements, new record sheet showing exactly what each Cub has achieved and we have been using the Larkin Trophy by awarding it to the best six on inspection.

Our activities have been varied. We entered 3 teams on the Night Hike. Summer camp at Chalfont Heights. Swimming Gala, only one entrant. Sixers day - the boys had great fun. Welly Walk - more parents than boys took part. Chess competition - joint individual winner. Easter Hike (Phasels wood), the best hike we have ever had, 22 boys and 11 adults took part. All the cubs enjoyed abseiling down the climbing wall and they did well in "find your way home" event, no-one was lost! St. Georges Day Parade, the turnout was good. Intercub football, we lost again. Activity day at Lees Wood, everyone had a good time.

My thanks to all parents who have helped especially those who came to to the camps, Mark, David and Andrew and finally to Denis and Mike who come along every week.

Cub Football (Bob Boxshall)

Very shaky start, lost 7 - 0 but we picked up very well throughout the season finishing third. We did quite well in the cup, won the 1st, 15 - 7 but lost to London Colney 1 - 0 in atrocious conditions. The attendance of the boys for practices and matches was very good. We scored 58 goals and conceded 30. Our thanks to Mr. Evans, Park Street School for the pitch and my special thanks to my wife for washing the strips. I am looking forward to next season.

Fund Raising Committee (Martin Dadswell)

We raised approx. £900 this year through 2 Jumble Sales, 2 Discos, Barn Dance, Spring Fair, Mum & Dad's Football Match and the 60's Revival. The aim is to make as much money as we can for the Group as we have some expensive items to provide in the near future.

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| Dates planned for 1986/7 are | 7th May | Barbeque |
| | 6th Sept. | 60's Revival |
| | 4th Oct. | Jumble Sale |
| | 25th Oct. | Barn Dance. |

4. APPROVAL OF REPORTS

Proposed by Mr. I. Henderson, seconded by Mrs. N. Polkinghorne that
a the reports be accepted - agreed.

5. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS TO 31.3.86

Christine Abington distributed copies of the accounts for the year ended 31.3.86. Their acceptance was proposed by Mr. R. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. C. Ward. Thanks were extended to Mr. W. Firmin for auditing same.

6. APPOINTMENT OF GROUP CHAIRMAN

The rules state that the G.S.I. should appoint the Chairman. He therefore approached Lis Cummins with a view to her continuing as Chairman for a further year to which she agreed.

7. APPROVAL OF G.S.L.'s NOMINATIONS TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Steve Rees, Quartermaster, Mike Flack, Martin Dadswell, Sam Cottingham agreed to serve. Approved by the meeting.

8. ELECTION OF GROUP SECRETARY

June Henderson agreed to continue. Approved by the meeting.

9. ELECTION OF GROUP TREASURER

Chris Abington agreed to continue.=

10. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Agreed as above.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Cox informed the meeting of the change in rules and it was necessary for the meeting to decide the quorum for meetings in future. It was agreed it should be nine.

Laura Chapman expressed thanks to all the Scout and Cub leaders for their time devoted to group activities.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.08 p.m.

Cheese and wine refreshments followed.

1ST PARK STREET SCOUT GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE SCOUT HUT
ON MONDAY 8TH JUNE, 1987 - 8.15 P.M.

PRESENT:

Mrs. L. Cummins, Mr. S. Rees, Mr. I.R. Thomas, Mrs. B.E. Lawrence
Mr. & Mrs. R. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Boxshall, Mr. M.V. Turner,
Mr. & Mrs. J. Hemmingway, Mrs. S. Revitt, Mr. S. Cottingham,
Mr. D.S. Watson, Mr. P. Jennings, Mr. L. Simpson, Mr. & Mrs. Hicks,
Mr. D. Drake, Mr. K. Barrow, Mr. P. Keyner, Miss L. Chapman,
Mrs. C. Abington, Mr. S. Block, Mr. and Mrs. D. Hirst, Mr. & Mrs.
Dadswell, Mrs. S. Dickens, Mrs. J. Metcalfe, Mr. & Mrs. J. Baker,
Mrs. P. Woods, Mr. and Mrs. D. Ward, Mrs. P. La Riviere, Mr. and
Mrs. M. Flack, Mrs. J. Henderson.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: M. Turner, K. Rothery, R. Firmin & E. Woods.

1. WELCOME AND MINUTES OF LAST A.G.M.

A welcome was extended to those present by the Chairman, in particular a special welcome to Ivor Thomas and John Baker.

2. GROUP REPORT

It has been rather a difficult year especially with the loss of Anna and Mike Cox, Mike being G.S.L. and Anna an Akela. Steve explained he was now acting as G.S.L. but we urgently need a young and more able man to take over as well as more section leaders. It is only due to the enthusiasm and energy of existing leaders that the Group has survived. New members are also needed to help the Fund Raising Committee and would be made very welcome. Thanks were extended to all Leaders, the Executive Committee, the Fund Raising Committee in what has been a successful year.

The Chairman thanked Steve for all his time and hard work over the last year.

3. SECTION REPORTS

Ventures (Mike Turner)

It has been a good year for the Venture Scout Unit in a number of significant areas.

First the numbers game. The Unit has consolidated the healthy situation which existed at this time last year. The number of invested Ventures has risen steadily to 20. This includes 3 student members undergoing full time education. The average age of the Unit is slightly lower, which should provide some stability for the next few years, although the male/female balance could be better with only 5 young women. Although there are no new members in the pipeline, a recruiting evening has been arranged for the near future and the next 12 months should see some more Scouts graduating to the Unit. For the first time, older Scouts have been involved in some Venture activities and this should encourage their transition.

Without doubt, the high spot of the year, and perhaps since the formation of the unit, was the achievement of the Queen Scout Award by four members, Philip Reeves, Alistair Abington, Lynda Pye and John Cox. To put matters in perspective these are the first Queens Scouts in the District for over 18 months, and Park Street had over 10% of the Hertfordshire Queens Scouts at the annual St. Georges Day parade at Windsor Castle this year. Hand in glove with these awards, Alistair Abington and Laura Chapman have almost finished their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards, Alistair is awaiting his final assessment and Laura has one small element to complete.

This year's activities have been wide and varied as usual, with many outdoor and physical activities to complement the indoor sedentary events both serious and lighthearted. Worthy of mention is our annual sortie

to the Peak Assault in March, where we entered two teams, one of which achieved our best ever result of 28th out of 120 teams, in the worst weather conditions since the event was first put on. Our second team, although retired, showed great team spirit, maturity and good training by assisting a team mate who was overcome by the extreme cold. It was pleasing to see the Unit Executive, although very young, taking such an important role in programme planning.

Finally, the leader situation is very healthy, with three warranted leaders all of whom seem set to remain for some time. In this context I should like to express my thanks to Mike Flack and Laura Chapman for their enthusiastic dedication over the last year.

Scouts (Richard Johnson)

Over the last 12 months we have experienced a fluctuation in numbers which has now steadied at 27 and is on the increase.

Summer last year saw a most successful camp at Kingsdown, near Dover, during which a night hike was staged and one of the teams misread the map and set off in the wrong direction. They apparently decided they were going the wrong way five or six miles later, when questioned they insisted the "compass was wrong". The swimming gala is obviously not our forte, but I would say that there are definitely some up and coming talent which will produce better results at the next gala.

The Troop Christmas Dinner went off in great style all prepared by the lads. This event has proved itself in that we have had 8 lads take their Cooks Badge, and all 8 passed this difficult test.

We recently entered the District Camping Competition. This produced a great deal of enthusiasm allowing us to enter three patrols. The one thing that pleased me greatly was the leadership from the patrol leaders and the team spirit that was generated through out all the lads involved both before and during the competition. This two day competition in which the lads are constantly under the Judges eyes came to a climax as the results were given, a resounding victory for Park Street, taking 1st, 2nd & 6th places.

This summer we are not having a troop camp but have proposed visits to either Phasels Wood or Tolmers Camp Sites.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have helped with the different scout activities, and would like to take this opportunity to ask for help, part time or full time, in running the troop.

Wood Pack (Eric Woods)

This is only a short report as I took over three months ago. We had a very good weekend camp in March and 14 boys passed their Communicators Badge. I am very pleased to say that 4 boys have now received their Silver Arrows and 2 their Gold Arrows.

The pack strength has risen from 19 to 30 boys.

We enjoyed a Treasure Hunt in which 28 cubs from both Packs took part despite the doubtful weather - and we didn't lose any.

It is hoped to arrange further outings in the months to come.

Birch Pack (Mrs. Shirley Revitt)

This report dates from the beginning of November when I first became involved with Cubs. At present the Pack has 22 invested boys with 3 new recruits. The Pack is managed by 3 warranted instructors, Dennis Drake, Mike Turner and myself with Colin Watson soon to join us as a 4th instructor. Keith Barrow also helps regularly with four scouts, Andrew Dadswell, John and Alan Drake and Owen Turner. There are also several other parents who have willingly given their time to assist with badge work, outings, pack holidays or imparting specialist knowledge. Thanks are due to those who have helped.

We try to provide a varied and stimulating programme and have made steady progress through the Arrow Scheme and proficiency badges. Time has been concentrated on Home Help, Handyman, Hobbies, Communicator and Sportsman badges. We try to make provision for Cubs requesting to take a particular badge.

Since November we have had a "Burn Burger Night" to celebrate November 5th, a Chippy Hike in the dark to Radlett, our Pack good turn for Christmas was Carol Singing at Eric Steele House. In March, a talk on Water Safety by Colin Wilcox, a member of the R.L.S.S. was followed by a visit to Ambassador College swimming pool to give the cubs a fun evening with the opportunity of swimming for their Arrow work or to be tested for the swimmer or rescuer proficiency badges. Over the Easter holidays Cubs attended the St. Georges Day Parade at St. Albans Abbey and took part in Bob a Job Week.

Recently we were lucky to have a very interesting talk and film by Superintendent Turner of the Metropolitan Police. This is to be followed by a visit to St. Albans Police Station with a follow up visit on a Pack Night by P.C. Sanderson, our Home Beat Officer.

Since November the Birch Pack has entered the District Chess Competition, and the District Handicrafts Competition. Unfortunately we missed the 5-a-Side Football as details were not received in time.

In March we were lucky to be able to take 12 boys from the Birch Pack with an equal number from the Wood Pack to Well End for a Pack Holiday weekend. This weekend was organised by Anna Cox, now unfortunately retired from scouting.

Next weekend the Pack is going on an organised tour of Wembley Stadium. This is purely fun, surely an important aim in modern scouting.

Cub Football (Bob Boxshall)

Last June entered 6 a side at Hitchin, reached final out of 40, but lost on penalty shoot out. The season starts in October, we play 12 matches at home and away; season ends February/March. We won that league, won 10, drawn 2, lost none. Entered the cup for the teams in both Divisions and won that. Saway Cup, won that as well. We represented St. Albans District at Stevenage and won that. Thanks given to Mike, the referee and Peter, regular linesman for their support and hard work through the season.

The Chairman thanked Bob for his report and explained that no discussion would be allowed on the football question at this meeting but a special meeting had been called for 22nd June when all the facts would then be at hand.

Fund Raising Committee (Martyn Dadswell)

This comprises seven members and with your help we have managed to raise £1800 which includes the funds raised by the sponsored cycle ride by Mike Turner. Thanks to the committee for all their help, the leaders and all the parents who have given their time.

Future Events:

- 18th July - Car Treasure Hunt and BBQ at Scout Hut.
- 12th September - 60's Night at Village Hall.
- 17th October - Jumble Sale.
- 26th October - Under 13's Disco
- 14th November - Quiz Evening
- 18th June 1988 Bazaar/Jumble Sale, Town Hall.

It would be helpful if people could let us know in advance if they can join us at socials as it does make catering much easier. Once again thanks for all the help received.

4. Approval of Reports

Proposed by C. Abington, seconded by C. Ward that the reports be accepted. Agreed.

5. Approval of Accounts to 31.3.87

Copies of the Accounts having been distributed, it was proposed by C. Ward, seconded by M. Flack that the accounts be approved. Agreed. Thanks were extended to Mr. Firmin for auditing same.

6. Appointment of Group Chairman

Steve Rees informed the meeting that Lis Cummins was willing to continue for a further year, for which he was very grateful. This was approved by the meeting.

7. Approval of G.S.L.'s Nominations to Executive Committee

The majority of the executive have agreed to continue. Steve Rees, G.S.L., also nominated Mrs. Hewer and Mr. Baker. Further nominations were requested from the meeting; none received.

8. Election of Group Secretary

June Henderson has agreed to continue. Approved by the meeting.

9. Election of Group Treasurer

Chris Abington agrees to continue. Approved by the meeting.

10. Election of Members of Executive Committee

Approved as above.

11. Any Other Business

John Hurley queried one figure on Treasurer's Report, the Treasurer clarified this.

Ivor Thomas, District Commissioner, thanked all the leaders of the Group for all the work entailed in entering at District Level which ensures the strength and enjoyment of all the Groups, over and above the individual programme. Thanks also to the Executive Committee for taking on a fairly onerous task of managing the funds. Lastly thanks to all the people present for their support, without whom there would be no Groups.

The meeting closed at 9.02 p.m.

.....Chairman