



**This is your Life**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Cheam  
Scout Group  
*1931 - 2001***

## *Preface*

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This history has been collated using information kept by the Group and by the Scout Association.

As far as possible the information contained in this history is an, accurate account of the Group.

It has not been possible to include everything in this history and apologies are given for any omissions or mistakes.

With thanks to Philip Tree former Group Scout Leader who compiled this document.

### Quick links:-

**1930-1939**

**1940 - 1949**

**1950 - 1959**

**1960 - 1969**

**1970 - 1979**

**1980 - 1989**

**1990 - 1999**

**2000 - 2001**

**To be continued....**

## **1930-1939**

### **1931**

During the late 1920's it became evident that some form of organisation for the boys was necessary and on 12<sup>th</sup> February 1931 3<sup>rd</sup> Cheam Boy Scout Troop was formed, led by Len Fishley. The Group was first registered with the then Boy Scouts Association on 24<sup>th</sup> March 1931 (registration No 12536.) The Group consisted of one Scouter and six Boy Scouts, and they met at North Cheam Baptist Church in Ridge Road, Sutton. This was to become our Headquarters for the next 16 years. In July the World Scout Membership stood at 2,039,349. Towards the end of the year a Wolf Cub pack was also started, led by Bert Woolnough and assisted by Amy and Joan Trendell.

### **1935**

George Sayer was introduced to the Group when he took his young cousin down to Cub camp. George showed a keen interest and was asked to help with the Boy Scouts.

### **1938**

By now the Scout Master was Bert Woolnough and the Assistant Scout Master was George Sayer. The Group by now had a Wolf Cub Pack, a Boy Scout Troop and a Rover Crew.

### **1939**

With the outbreak of War, the majority of the leaders were called up for military service. This meant the Group had to be run by young helpers such as Derry Martin, Bob Hopkins and his brother Jack; towards the end of the year Derry Martin was also called up for Military service. It was during this year that Charles Woolf was appointed Group Scout Master.

## **1940 - 1949**

### **1940**

In November the war office requisitioned Gilwell Park.

### **1941**

On January 8<sup>th</sup> Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scout movement died at the age of 83. He was buried in a simple grave at Nyeri within sight of Mount Kenya. On his headstone are the words,

*'Robert Baden-Powell, Chief Scout of the World'* (surmounted by the Boy Scout and Girl Guide Badges).

## **1942**

By now most of the Rover Scouts were on military service, so it was decided to close down the Rover Crew.

## **1945**

By the end of the war, the Group had grown and the Census showed that there were 36 Wolf Cubs, 25 Boy Scouts and 6 Scouters.

## **1946**

The Group Leadership comprised Group Scout Master Charles Woolf, Scout Master George Sayer, Assistant Scout Master's Cyril Newman and Peter Hopkins, Cub Master Miss Stella Chorley and Assistant Cub Master Miss Olive Hooper.

On 31st March the first post-war Group Council was held and it was reported that *'Easter camp for the Troop was held at Winey Hill, Chessington, as they could not camp at their first choice at Mickleham as all the sites were fully booked'*. It was also reported that there was an issue with Derek Allaway (who was assisting with the Pack as an Instructor) as his Scout Master at Raynes Park County School objected to him helping with the Pack.

By now the Pack had grown in size and discussions took place about splitting the Pack in two. The Leaders were in favour; however they thought it would make sense to wait until such times that there were more fellows back from the forces.

On 20<sup>th</sup> July the Cubs managed to win the District Cub Sports with an overwhelming majority, they gained 29 points to the next Packs 7 points.

In July Miss Stella Chorley married Cyril Newman, and in September she handed in her Cub Masters warrant. It was unanimously decided to make her an honorary member of the Group Council. It was then that Miss Olive Hooper became the Cub Master. The Pack night was changed from Thursday to Friday, as this was a better night for additional help.

In October the Boy Scout Association introduced a Senior Scouts Section.

Bob Hopkins and his brother Jack were still running the Troop, as the Scout Master was still away at war. In November Derry Martin returned from National Service and took on the role of Assistant Scout Master.

## 1947

January 1st saw the starting of a Senior Scout Patrol with five Scouts. George Sayer became the Senior Scout Master but continued to run the Troop.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> Jan there was a meeting between Charles Woolf Group Scout Master, the District Commissioner and the Church Secretary. The minutes of the Group Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> January records that the church secretary stated *'the desire for the Church to have a closed Group, and that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cheam Scout Group should break away from the Church entirely. The new Group was called 7th Cheam. Parades may still be held in the church halls, but a rent of 5/- (5 shillings) per week be paid'*. Charles Woolf suggested that a sum of £5 be donated to 7th Cheam for initial equipment. It was also decided that the Group should propose the scarf colours of the newly formed 7th Cheam. Charles Woolf also proposed that 3rd Cheam should look out for a suitable plot of ground to buy on which to build a headquarters.

Charles Woolf was looking into the possibility of acquiring a piece of land on the corner of Ridge Road and Beeches Road and alternative venues to hire were also looked into, these included the Army Barracks, the British Restaurant and the Recreation Ground Pavilion.

The first Rover Crew camp since the war was held at Bentley Copse with the Senior Scouts and the Troop.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> July a cross-country run was organised in Cheam Rec. Frank Bell won and Ken Haschka was second.

The Pack attended the District Sports Day held on 12<sup>th</sup> July at Chatsworth Road School in which the pack tied with 1st Cheam 'B' Pack for first place. Cub camp was held at Frith Farm, Walton on the hill.

In July it was reported that a cheque (for the collection jam jars) had been received for the sum of £2.14s.3d. Unfortunately they had to stop collecting them in October as the housewives were using all their stocks for bottling; collecting would resume in the New Year. In August Mr Pumford became Assistant Cub Master. Summer Camp was held at Arundel from 16<sup>th</sup> -30th August.

In October the Troop had to stop taking in boys as they had 5 patrols with 9 boys in each. The Parents' Association was asked to organise a Whist Drive at Morden Park golf club house and a dance at the Lawrence Weaver Hall.

On 14<sup>th</sup> November the Assistant District Commissioner visited the Troop to present Jack Hopkins with the Bushman's thong, the first in the District under the new scheme.

The District Commissioner asked George Sayer to represent the Senior Scouts of the District at County meetings.

## **1948**

At the January Group Council it was reported that the land on the corner of Ridge Road and Beeches Road had been sold at auction.

The Scouts and Senior Scouts gave up their extra 40zs of sweets (even though the war had ended there were still rations on food and clothes) and were able to send 82 bars of chocolate to Spurgeons Orphanage at Reigate. Similarly the Cubs were fortunate when a Pack in Australia sent them a parcel of chocolate. On January 17<sup>th</sup> a joint Xmas party with the Sea Rangers SRS Jason was a great success.

At an Old Wolves meeting (Cub masters meeting) John Pumford and Derry Martin were presented with their warrants.

In April more parcels arrived from Australia, one of chocolate and one of groceries such as dripping, meat pudding, marmalade etc.

The leaders of the Scout Section helped with the setting up of the 6<sup>th</sup> Sutton (Downs Hospital) Troop and on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April they were invited to attend the Troops first investiture. A donation of 1 d per boy was given to assist the cost of the 6<sup>th</sup> Sutton (Downs Hospital) Group flags.

The Census showed that the Group comprised 29 Cubs, 39 Scouts and 6 Senior Scouts.

In June Charles Woolf reported that there was a possibility of there being room for a separate Scout hut on the community centre land at the top of Sutton Common Road near the cemetery. In May following a disagreement with the Church regarding the siting of the colours on church parades, Charles Woolf approached Sutton North County Primary School (later to become Ridge Road School) to see if it was possible to use it for Troop and Pack meetings. The School agreed that the Group could use the main hall and one classroom. It was felt that it would be better to have a Scouts and Cubs Own rather than attend church without Group colours.

Early in June the Hopkins family emigrated to Australia, which was a sad loss to 3<sup>rd</sup> Cheam.

Mr Newman resigned as Treasurer in June as he could not find enough spare time to deal with the role and thought that a parent with closer links to the Group might be a more suitable candidate.

In August the Pack subs were increased to 2d per boy per week.

The well-used trek cart was showing signs of wear, so a request for a new one was made to Sutton Creameries (who had just recently changed from handcarts to power driven vehicles).

On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct the first successful Scouts Own was carried out with all officers taking an active part. For the next Scouts Own it was recommended that there should be a guest speaker so Charles Woolf approached the vicar of St Lawrence's Church.

## **1949**

The Group's first jumble sale was held on Saturday Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> at Farringdon House (the Army Barracks - now the home of the TA) and 15/- was spent on handbills. The Cubs undertook the delivery of the bills whilst the Scouts collected the goods. The sum raised from this was £22 9s 1 d.

On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March 5 boys took part in the County boxing preliminaries held at Carshalton. Also in March the Group Scout Master received 160 clothing vouchers for use by the boys and officers. From this date scarves could be purchased without the surrender of clothing vouchers by the parents.

In April the subs for Scouts were raised and this meant that the subs now stood at 2d for Cubs, 2d for Scouts, 3d for Senior Scouts and 6/- for Officers. April saw the first Bob-A-Job week.

The Group Council was requested to sanction a Scout Masters warrant for Fred Herd, (Fred was formerly a Scout Master at 2<sup>nd</sup> Cheam but fell out over a difference of opinion on methods used by their Group Scout Master. Fred Herd had decided to open a new Troop, but he had neglected to obtain permission from the District Commissioner and that of Headquarters and was requested to close it. Charles Woolf accepted the boys from this new Troop into 3<sup>rd</sup> Cheam). The Group Council suggested that Fred Herd should assist for a while and that the matter would be resolved at the next Group Council. Fred Herd was finally allowed to take out a warrant in March. Whist Drives became a good way of raising funds - the one held on the 14<sup>th</sup> February raised £7 5s Id. Census figures show the Troop at 52 and the Cubs at 30. It seemed that the Group had a habit of losing tents. In 1944 a tent was lent to 2<sup>nd</sup> Sutton (a brown camouflaged ridge tent with outside poles) but was never returned and a marquee that was left at Polesden Lacey for use by the St John's Ambulance Brigade in 1947 has still not turned up. So it was decided to write them off. In November the Group Council sanctioned an application for two Assistant Scout Masters warrants for Jim McHugh and Tony Tarry.

## **1950 - 1959**

### **1950**

January saw a spate of bicycle lamps being stolen whilst the Troop were meeting, the Group agreed to cover the cost of the missing lamps. In April George Sayer was appointed District Scout Master. On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July Frank Bell was presented with the King's Scout Badge. At the District Cycle Rally the Troop came 1st and tied 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 4<sup>th</sup> Cheam in the District Swimming Gala. Scouts Milsom, Roffey and Tait represented the District in the County Swimming Gala. John Pumford moved to Burton-on-Trent thus leaving a vacancy for an Assistant Cub Master. The Cubs presented St Anthony's Hospital with goods for harvest festival. On 11th November Charles Woolf and George Sayer represented the Group at the funeral of Mr King, Group Scout Master 1st Cheam. Also in November the Senior Scouts were presented with their own flag. Olive Hooper donated a pair of new signalling flags to the Troop; they were originally bought for the Pack but had been found unsuitable.

## **1951**

In January the Group purchased 50 Scout hymn books at 3/- each, to be used at Scouts Own.

After much discussion Len Milsom declined Charles Woolf's invitation to become an Assistant Scout Master. Two Scouts, Ken Haschka and Len Milsom represented the Group at the World Jamboree in Austria. After a lengthy discussion it was unanimously decided that the Group would pay £5 towards their costs.

In March Ken Haschka received his King's Scout Badge. Charles Woolf and Ken Haschka attended St George's Day at Windsor.

Akela (Olive Hooper) announced she was leaving for Reading on April 9<sup>th</sup> and therefore had to hand in her warrant, as a result Dave Loveless took charge of the Pack but as Assistant Cub Master.

A Jumble sale was planned for 5<sup>th</sup> May but more lay helpers were needed as it was thought the Scouts were not reliable and money was being lost.

The Group Council had for some time been concerned with regard to Fred Herd's position as he had not been attending Troop meetings, however after a long absence Fred Herd returned to the Troop on 8th June. A District Fete was organised in Cheam Rec. on 21st June. The District decided to split the proceeds as follows: - 50% to the Association and the remainder divided into equal units and split among the Groups. .

In late July George Woolf interviewed Miss Gladys Gordge (who was running a pack in Carshalton), with a view to her becoming a Cub Master at 3<sup>rd</sup> Cheam, and in September a request for a warrant was made.

In October Dave Loveless agreed to become the Rover Scout Leader, and in November the first Rover Crew meeting since 1942 was held at Ridge Road School on 24 October. The District Commissioner and District Rover Leader were both present at this meeting and the District Rover Leader was asked to invest Tony Tarry and Robin (Lofty) Jefferies, making a total of five Rover Scouts.

## **1952**

In January the Group received a letter from 6<sup>th</sup> Sutton (Downs Hospital) thanking them for all their assistance and informing them that in April they were moving from the District to Cobham.

Peter Baker and Roy Stickland were the first Scouts in the Group to gain the Queen's Scout Award (replacing the King's Scout Award).

To celebrate the 21st anniversary of the Group three activities were organised: a dinner on 1st March at the school, a dance on 22<sup>nd</sup> March at the Lawrence Weaver Hall and a concert on 28/29<sup>th</sup> March also at the school.

On 11th April the Cubs had an outing to Epsom Downs - 20 cubs attended. In May, Patrol Leader Derrick East asked the Group Council if he could become a Cub Instructor, this was rejected on the grounds that he was not a First Class Scout. After many years Eileen had to give up Cub Scouting as she was going into nursing on 14<sup>th</sup> July. The Cubs had an enjoyable camp with 2<sup>nd</sup> Cheam and 2<sup>nd</sup> Worcester Park at Send. A 21st Birthday Group Camp was held at Cheam Rec.

Troop Summer Camp was at Broadstone Warren led by Tony Tarry and assisted by Assistant Scout Masters Robin Jefferies and Jim McHugh. Charles Woolf received the Medal of Merit.

The Senior Scouts won both the District Camping and District Sports Competitions but unfortunately could not make it a hat trick, as they did not win the District Swimming Gala. George Sayer was appointed Assistant District Commissioner Senior Scouts in September.

On November 12<sup>th</sup> the Pack was split into two. Pack 'A' met on Wednesdays and Pack 'B' on Fridays.

## **1953**

The annual concert this year was held on 21st January at Ridge Road School. On 24<sup>th</sup> January the Scouters and Rovers attended the Cheam Sea Rangers SRS Jasons annual party.

Ken Haschka (Baloo) was presented with his Assistant Cub Master Warrant on 11th March and Dave Loveless with his wood badge. Unfortunately Dave Loveless gave up his warrant on 27<sup>th</sup> March, as he had to go up north on business. On 22<sup>nd</sup> May Miss Shirley Twyman (Bagheera) from SRS Jason became Assistant Cub Master.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> June the Group took part in a coronation procession which was held in the Borough. The distance was rather lengthy so it was split into two with a change over at the Woodstock Public House. Cub camp was at Mayfield Farm, St Leonard's, Sussex Aug 22-Aug 26<sup>th</sup> were the Troop had camped the week before.

## **1954**

Both packs attended Bertram Mills Circus. Cub Instructor Peter Baker's last pack meeting was on 28<sup>th</sup> April as he had to do his spell of national service in the RAF. Paul Longhurst took out a warrant as an Assistant Scout Master. Whitsun camp for the Troop and Senior Scouts was held at the county campsite on Ranmore Common. The packs held an inter-pack competition, 'A' Pack won and were presented with a trophy featuring a lion on a stand.

## **1955**

Olive Hooper returned to the Group as Cub master of the 'A' Pack. On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July both Packs attended the Cub Open Day at Gilwell Park. Cub camp was held at Sendholme

## **1956**

Finally after several years Derrick East was made Assistant Cub Master in February.

## **1957**

The Group donated a trek cart to the newly formed 9<sup>th</sup> Cheam. The services of Assistant Rover Scout Leader Roger Pumford were lost in October, when he got married. This year also saw the marriage of Olive Hooper to Bob Hopkins. The 9<sup>th</sup> World Jamboree (Indaba and Moot), was held at Sutton Park, Sutton Coldfield, the Group was represented by Bob Hopkins, Olive Hopkins and Ken Haschka.

## **1958**

Miss Gordge retired as Cub Scout Master 'B' Pack and Ron Wilkinson took over from her. Due to the numbers in both Packs it was decided to combine them. Paul Longhurst resigned in April. Tony Tarry Scout Master left towards the end of the year to go abroad and Robin Jefferies Assistant Scout Master was posted to Northern Ireland.

## **1959**

Larry Lorkin was the first Scoutmaster in the Sutton & Cheam District to be awarded a Senior Scout Wood Badge. The Pack lost two valuable Leaders, Cub Master; Mrs Olive Hopkins ("Baloo") had to retire due to pressure of domestic commitments and Assistant Cub Master Brian Allardyce ("Kaa") who went to Oxford University to read Physics, and could only help in his holidays. In August David Miller became Assistant Scout Master.

Towards the end of the year Ken Haschka was presented with his Rover Scout Leaders warrant, the first in the Group signed by the new Chief Scout, Sir Charles McClean.

## **1960 - 1969**

### **1960**

The Troop lost its Scout Master Jim McHugh and Ken Haschka volunteered to run the Troop with the help of Assistant Scout Master David Miller and Anthony Huart, whilst the Group tried to find a new Troop Leader. Troop camp was at Arundel, 17 boys attended.

Two Rover Crew members attended the "South Eastern Counties" and the "Sussex" Rover Moot. Two Rover Scouts spent a weekend helping run a camp for scouts based at an approved school in Sussex. New ventures were undertaken in fund raising, the Group started to sell birthday cards from Ivory Cards (known now as Webb Ivory) and also the sale of ball point pens with 3<sup>rd</sup> Cheam Scout Group die-stamped on them.

In October the Pack was visited by the Assistant County Commissioner for Wolf Cubs, accompanied by an Assistant Cub Master, Miss Beryl Robinson who had recently moved into the District. Beryl (Bagheera) stayed with the Group for several years until she eventually had to leave to bring up a family.

As a Pack Christmas good turn Annuals were donated to St Anthony's Hospital.

### **1961**

Derrick East returned to the Group after his spell of Military Service. Whilst Derrick was away he ran a Cub Pack for the Servicemen's sons.

Four Rover Crew members got married, Rover Scout Master Ken Haschka, Assistant Rover Scout Master Roy Stickland, Peter Leek and Alan Moriarty. Charles Woolf announced his retirement at the AGM on 21st April; this had come about due to illness. As a mark of recognition of his fifty years in Scouting he was made an Honorary Group Scout Master. Ron Wilkinson took over as Group Scout Master.

Derrick East was appointed Cub Scout Master and Beryl Mees was presented with her Assistant Cub Masters warrant.

This year saw the opening of a building fund as a piece of vacant land had been found at the rear of Dudley Hall.

Troop camp was held at Warren Farm, Fordingbridge, Hamps.

From November Senior Scouts and Rovers were allowed to wear long trousers. George Sayer, an ex Scout Master was appointed Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts.

The Group held a Christmas fair at Dudley Hall and also one of the first Xmas draws for the Group.

## **1962**

On the 5<sup>th</sup> February Mr ER Alcorn was appointed District Commissioner. By March a perimeter fence had been put up and the land divided equally between the Group and 16<sup>th</sup> Morden.

In March Tony Andrews became Senior Scout Leader (acting).

At the annual open night on 7<sup>th</sup> April, Charles Woolf, Honorary Group Scout Master was presented with a table lighter in recognition of his 50 years in Scouting. Mr Woolf had lit many fires in his Scouting career and it was hoped that the gift would light many years ahead for him. At the AGM Mr Miller (Group Secretary) stood down due to ill health and also Mr Walker (Chairman) retired. Unfortunately the position of Chairman was left open, as there were no volunteers. Mr Tatem agreed to become Secretary. Ron Wilkinson gave the annual reports for the Pack, David Miller for the Troop, Larry Lorkin for the Senior Scouts and Ken Haschka for the Rover Crew. The Group funds stood at £502.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup> Mr Tatem was presented with a thanks badge for his active service as member of the Parents and Friends and Group Committee since 1955.

The Pack won the Murdoch Trophy. Although the Cub pack saw the return of Derrick East in September, they lost Brian Allardyce who gained a further research scholarship after graduating from Oxford. Derrick East attended a Rover Scout Leaders' training course at Gilwell Park.

On Fri 16<sup>th</sup> November both Tony Andrews and Larry Lorkin were presented with their warrants. By now the Group had a good team of Leaders, and the District asked if the Group was in a position to help 1st Belmont Scout Group, as they had a Leader shortage, Peter Balkwill agreed to be released and before he left he presented the Group with a small trophy engraved with the word "Achievement". This trophy was to be presented to any boy up to the age of being invested as a Rover who had shown outstanding achievement. Troop Camp was held at Broadstone Warren, 25 scouts attended.

## **1963**

Brian Allardyce married Assistant Cub Master Beryl Mees in April; this meant the loss of Beryl (Rikki) as she had to move to Oxford where Brian was studying. Operation Touch Down took place on July 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> the highlight being a visit by the Chief Scout (Sir Charles Maclean) to Cobham in Surrey. Derrick was finding it difficult to attend Pack meetings, so it was agreed that Derrick would transfer to the Troop where they had just lost the acting Scout Master David Lewin and Assistant Scout Master Tony Huart. Tony had to relinquish his warrant due to personal commitments. In August as a result of Derrick East moving sections Beryl Robinson became Cub Scout Master. Everyone involved with the Group was asked to have a home collection box, which it was hoped that they would add to regularly to help the Headquarters building fund. By now the lease for the land had been signed. Mr Farmer presented the Group with a model of the proposed new Headquarters. Alan Chalmers gained the Queen's Scout Award and Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award.

The Troop won the District Camping Competition Composite Trophy. November 29<sup>th</sup> David Miller Assistant Scout Master was presented with the Rover Project badge from Rover Scout Leader Ken Haschka, for his practical investigation and report on "Canals & navigation" in England. Mr & Mrs Haschka were also presented with the thanks badge for all their work for the Scout Movement over the last 21 years. On December 13<sup>th</sup> District Commissioner Mr E R Alcom presented 3 wood badge certificates to Derrick East thus completing a unique quartet of four wood badge qualifications in all four sections, Cubs, Scouts, Senior Scouts and Rovers.

## **1964**

The annual levy paid to the Scout Association had risen to 8/-, this meant that the Group could no longer cover this, so for the first time since 1953 the Group had to ask every member to pay an extra 2/- per year. Miss Beryl Robinson had been the only Cub Scout Master for nearly a year until Ted Payne joined the Group in March as Assistant Cub Master. Later in the year he was presented with his warrant.

The Council had stopped collecting waste paper so the Group started a collection service from 6<sup>th</sup> March.

In April Rover Scout Master, Ken Haschka was posted to Germany by the Ministry of Defence for 3 years. Robin Jefferies had just returned from Ireland and agreed to be the Rover Leader.

The Pack won the Murdoch trophy; the Troop won District Camping Competition (composite Patrol) and the Senior Scouts won District Initiative Course Trophy.

In September the building plans were considered in detail. October concerns were raised re the poor recruitment in the Pack.

In November the Group donated £1 to Queen Mary's Hospital for Sick Children towards the Mr Pastry Swimming Pool Fund. The only other Scout Group to donate was 14<sup>th</sup> Sutton (Salvation Army) Group, Sutton and Cheam Association also donated £2.2.0d.

The Group lost the services of Derrick East as Scout Master as he got married and moved out of the District. Also Peter Leek who was a probationary Assistant Scout Master had to give up due to his time being fully occupied with his duties in the ambulance service. This left only one Scouter in the Scout Section, Assistant Scout Master David Miller. Summer camp was at Pluckley in Kent.

Tony Andrews Senior Scout Master had to give up his work with the Group, as he was heavily involved with the Invicta club for handicapped children. Christmas saw Acting Rover Scout Master Robin Jefferies give up as he was finding it difficult to keep the Rover Crew going from his base at Farnham, Bucks.

Towards the end of the year Paul Richardson was appointed District Commissioner and Sutton & Cheam became part of the Greater London South West County, up to then they had been in the County of Surrey.

## **1965**

A few weeks before Easter Robin Beckingham joined the Group as Assistant Cub Master, he had previously given his service to Groups in London, Germany and Sussex.

At the Groups AGM Mrs Joy Morris was elected as Treasurer and Mrs Green as Secretary

Ted Payne transferred to the Scout Section to bolster up their depleted Scouter strength.

Annual census showed there were 15 boys in the pack, 26 boys in the Troop. The Patrolled by Simon Boucher received the highest points for a composite patrol in the District Camping Competition and won the trophy for the second time in four years. The Troop assisted 10<sup>th</sup> Morden in being hosts to the Impessa Group of blind Scouts from Holland. Three Senior Scouts went on a combined hike/camping expedition to Norway in August.

## **1966**

Wolf Cubs were renamed Cub Scouts. Pack numbers stood at 26 and Troop 20. July saw the start of the building construction of our new Headquarters and by November the majority of the construction had been completed.

This year saw the publishing of Scout Associations 'Advance Party Report'. This report outlined the major changes that were to be undertaken in the training programme and uniform, the first change was that the Scout hat was to be replaced by a beret in October and a new Promise and Law was introduced. Troop camp was at Pluckley.

## **1967**

Diamond Jubilee year. On January 21<sup>st</sup> a joint meeting with 7<sup>th</sup> Cheam was held at North Cheam Baptist Church in Ridge Road to discuss the new uniform and the new training scheme.

In February Beryl Robinson (Cunliffe) handed over the role of Cub Scout Master to Robin Beckingham as Beryl was expecting a baby. In April Beryl Robinson gave birth to a daughter.

Annual census showed 25 Cubs, 24 Scouts and 9 Senior Scouts, (which included 2 from 2<sup>nd</sup> Cheam).

On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 1967 Charles Woolf was called to higher service. He had served for 22yrs as Group Scout Master; the funeral took place at the crematorium in Tudor Drive.

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> (St George's Day) at 17:15 our new £4000 Headquarters was officially opened by Councillor Blackler (Chairperson of the Further Education Sub Committee of the London Borough of Sutton). In May the Boy Scouts Association was renamed the Scout Association. In July the Group submitted an application to become a charity.

Due to the unfortunate death of David Branch Scout Leader of 7<sup>th</sup> Cheam the Troop invited the 7<sup>th</sup> Cheam boys to join the Troop's Summer Camp at Ecclestone Farm, Angmering, West Sussex. Ted Payne resigned from the Troop after Summer Camp due to pressure of work. David Miller took over as Scout Leader. Troop night was changed from a Friday to a Thursday as David Miller found it increasingly difficult to manage Fridays.

The District made use of our new HQ for their meetings.

This year had been one of change with the formation of Venture Scouts (formerly Senior Scouts and Rovers) in October and changes to the training programme. Ken Haschka who returned from Germany in the summer took over this new section assisted by Harold 'Larry' Lorkin.

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October there was a simple ceremony to unveil the Charles Woolf memorial plaque.

It was not until October that the new training programme for Cubs, Scouts and Ventures and new badges for the new uniform were available.

## **1968**

January saw the change over to the new uniform. George Caple had been giving valuable service as an instructor for the last year. Robin Beckingham was the only Scouter in the Cub section.

In March it was decided to discontinue the 2/- sessional levy and with effect from 1st April all sections would pay weekly sub of 1/-.

The Group set a target of £1000 - the cost of the Headquarters extension to provide a council patrol room and enlarge the main hall. By May half this amount had already been raised and the latest experiment was coffee mornings at the Headquarters, the first being on Sat 25<sup>th</sup> May. Coffee with biscuit cost 9d. Other fund-raising ventures included collecting Brooke Bond tea labels, Xmas Fairs, Xmas cards and stationery, Xmas Draw, fancy textile articles, Green Shield stamps, jumble sales, Libby milk labels, newspapers, and sale of pens. Pens continued to be a good fund-raiser, having sold many a dozen including personalised pens the Group decide to go into selling retractable pens. Following an appeal for help the Group successfully acquired the services of Ken Smith and Joy Morris. On 31st October Tony Dwelly gained his Chiefs Scout award, the first in the Group since the change in the training programme. Troop camp was at Cowdray Park, Midhurst.

## **1969**

By January the Group had raised over £800 towards the extension, work started in October. The Troop by now was at disaster level as David Miller Scout Master was finding that work was not allowing him to make Troop meetings until nearly closing time. This prompted Ron Wilkinson to send an urgent letter to the District commissioner, outlining the situation, (there was a real possibility of having to merge with another Troop as it had so few leaders) and by March the Troop were without Leaders. Unfortunately David 'Dusty' Miller Scout Master was unable to run a summer camp. An invitation was received from the 1st Brookwood Scout Group of which Peter Leek a former Rover Scout was Assistant Scout Leader; the camp was held at Shaugh Prior, 9 miles north of Plymouth. David "Dusty" Miller decided to give scouting a break while he was setting up home and a family. Two of the Rover Scouts took out Leader permits, Ted Block as an Assistant Scout Leader and Andrew Wilkinson as a Scout Leader. Troop nights were changed back to Fridays.

Pack numbers meant there was an appeal for recruits. In May Joy Morris became a Cub Scout Instructor.

Ron Wilkinson received the long service decoration from Paul Richardson District commissioner on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October.

## **1970 - 1979**

### **1970**

The Group obtained a grant for £52.6.0d towards camping equipment: -1 Niger (Patrol tent), 2 OB Ventures (hike Tents), 1 dining shelter.

In July warrants were presented to George Caple Assistant Cub Scout Leader, Ted Block Assistant Scout Leader and Andrew Wilkinson Scout Leader.

Troop camp was a joint camp with 1st North Sutton and visiting Belgian Scouts at Great Towers Scout Campsite, Lake Windermere, Westmorland. The 1st North Sutton Scout Leader was Ivan Gunn.

In September three Patrol Leaders attended the National Patrol Leaders Council held at Gilwell Park.

In October Ken Haschka Venture Scout Leader and Ken Smith Assistant Cub Scout Leader were presented with their warrants.

New colours were bought for the Venture Scouts and Cubs. Scout Bob-A-Job week was renamed Scout Job Week.

The Venture Scout Unit won the District Swimming Gala. Peter Gordon gained his Venture Scout Award - only 2<sup>nd</sup> in the District since the new scheme started, it was presented by the Assistant District Commissioner for Venture Scouts, John Hughes. Peter Gordon was presented with the Balkwill Trophy for achievement; he joined the Group as a Cub in 1961, took out an Assistant Venture Scout Leaders permit.

## **1971**

In January the magazine known as the Scouter was renamed to Scouting. Also a New World badge was launched and the Group produced its first news sheet since 1961. The Venture Scout Unit won the 4 Hills Hike.

An exhibition of Scouting was held on 20<sup>th</sup> March to celebrate the Groups 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. As part of the celebrations the Group held a family camp at Well End between 4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> June (6 families attended, the first Group camp for many a year.)

In May Philip Tree was presented with the Chief Scouts Award, only the second in the Group since its introduction in 1967, he also received the Balkwill Trophy. Also in May Ron Wilkinson decided to relinquish his post as he had been appointed Assistant District commissioner Leader Training. Ken Haschka was offered and accepted the appointment of Group Scout Leader. In May Ken received the long service award from Assistant District Commissioner for Venture Scouts John Hughes at the Group's AGM. Joy Morris who had been a regular instructor since 1969 and a long serving Treasurer of the parents association took out an Assistant Cub Scout Leaders' permit.

The final touches were put to the Council room by Bing Gardner in the form of the panelling.

In June Paul Burstow was invested as a Cub Scout (later to become MP for Sutton & Cheam).

In September Ken Haschka was presented with the Medal of Merit.

Two Leaders and their sons, Ken Smith and George Caple attended the sixth National Father & Son Camp held at Gilwell Park 11th & 12th September forming the "Dingo Patrol.

The Group lost its valuable Treasurer John Drummond who had guided the Group through all the financial bedevilment of building and equipping the new Headquarters. Ron Wilkinson agreed to take on this role.

The Cubs enjoyed a day outing to Reigate Fort and an outing to Oaks Park - 27 cubs attended.

## **1972**

On 1st January Ken Haschka was appointed District Commissioner replacing Paul Richardson who had been appointed Borough Commissioner. (Paul had spent the last 7 years as District Commissioner). Ken continued as Group Scout Leader.

Ken Smith Assistant Cub Scout Leader organised a joint outing with 1st Sutton Common Brownies to Wimbledon Theatre to see the pantomime Dick Whittington.

In March after a sudden illness Peter Balkwill died. (Peter can still be remembered by the trophy that he left the Group when he became Scout Leader of 1st Belmont).

During March several members of 5<sup>th</sup> Worcester Park attended the Unit's meetings in order to get the hang of things before opening their own Unit. The Group hosted the Group Scout Leaders' Basic course.

Andrew Wilkinson Scout Leader got married on the 18<sup>th</sup> march and decided to relinquish his warrant and become an Assistant Scout Leader.

In May the Venture Scout Unit entered two teams in the annual District 4 Hills Hike and they took 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> place. In July the Assistant County Commissioner for Venture Scouts, Peter Kinton presented Hedley Feathersone and Tony Dwelly with the Queen's Scout Award. They together with another Venture Scout from 1st North Sutton were the first in the District since the new training programme started in 1967. In July Tony Dwelly took out an Assistant Scout Leaders warrant. The Troop took on the task of renovating three dilapidated canoes, and with the help and hard work of Tony Dwelly managed to make one good canoe out them, using canvas from old tents, the canoe was appropriately named 'Bitsa'.

Census showed 36 Cubs, 30 Scouts and 12 Venture Scouts. The Unit paired with 1st Streatham Rangers won the knockout ten pin bowling competition. The Venture Unit had a day trip to Ostend.

Troop camp was at Botley.

## **1973**

In January Hedley Featherstone took out an Assistant Venture Scout Leaders warrant.

In February the Troop lost Andrew Wilkinson as work made it hard for him to make Troop meetings and also Ted Block decided to leave.

It was suggested in May that the Group make a formal application to the London Borough of Sutton for a piece of land in the middle of our own territory to develop a new HQ for the 1980's.

In September Tony Dwelly took over as Scout Leader helped by Philip Tree a Venture Scout.

The Group purchased two fibreglass Canoes, oars and spray covers at a cost of £161.

The Venture Scout Unit became part of the regular service crew at Walton Firs Campsite. The Venture Scout Unit won the 4 Hills Hike trophy for 3<sup>rd</sup> time in succession. Peter Gordon Venture Scout Leader was finding it difficult to make Venture Scout Unit meetings as he was based at Whitehall Police Station, and thus gave up his warrant.

## **1974**

Philip Tree took out a warrant as an Assistant Scout Leader in February. Ken Haschka was appointed Assistant County Commissioner for Venture Scouts, whilst still continuing as Group Scout Leader. In July the Group obtained its first minibus at a cost £150.

Pack outing to Oaks Park took place in April.

In the summer Tony Dwelly and Hedley Featherstone took up an invitation from the Boy Scouts of America to work for 12 weeks as councillors of a national campsite. On Hedley Featherstone's return he changed his Assistant Venture Scout Leaders warrant to Venture Scout Leader. David Georghiou gained the Queen's Scout Award. Paul Georghiou gained his Venture Award and was presented with the Balkwill Trophy. Troop Camp was at Broadstone Warren. October saw the completion of the concrete perimeter fence around the Headquarters.

## **1975**

In January the Scout Association launched a new corporate identity symbol for Scouts incorporating the fleur-de-lys badge in place of the '0' in the word Scouts.

Paul Georghiou was selected to attend the Jamboree in Lillehammer Norway (Nordjamb 75) and Ken Haschka was selected to be Troop leader of the Greater London South West Contingent.

## **1976**

In November Guy Morris & Paul Georghiou took out Assistant Scout Leaders warrants and David Georghiou an Assistant Venture Scout Leader warrant. The Scout Association decided to change its ruling on Cubs camping and from now all Cubs could camp (previously only Cubs over nine and half could go camping). This year was also the Cubs Diamond Jubilee and all the Cubs were given a commemorative badge to wear.

## **1977**

Changes were made regarding adult support and the Group Council became the Group Executive. The new Group Executive comprised Chairman Ron Wilkinson, Secretary Avril Hurly and Treasurer Joyce Kemp. Robin Beckingham received the medal of merit.

Hedley Featherstone Assistant Venture Scout Leader was appointed District Venture Scout Leader in May.

The Pack held a weekend camp at Oaks Park 10th /11th Sept at a cost of 50p with Pack funds paying the balance. In September the Pack lost its Akela (Robin Beckingham) because he was moving away. Robin had been with the pack since 1965. George Caple became Cub Scout Leader. Troop subs were increased from 5p a week to 10p. Guy Morris gained the Queen's Scout Award.

## **1978**

In April the Group purchased its second bus, an ex-ambulance at a cost £100. The Group hosted a Cub Scout Leaders' Advanced Wood Badge Course at the end of June.

The Venture Scouts won the District Handball competition.

The Group decided to have their own t-shirts, light blue with the Group logo. Troop summer camp was at Crickhowell, where the Scouts went pony trekking and caving.

A Group camp was held at Walton Firs. In September Venture Scouts, Clinton Raine and Nick Mullings gained the Queen's Scout Award.

The Cubs and Scouts held a Bazumble (a sophisticated jumble sale) and with the money raised donated a glockenspiel to the Sutton Toy Library. The Cub Scouts Arrow scheme was redeveloped.

## **1979**

The Unit was forced to close at the AGM due to lack of members and existing members being too old. These members formed a Service Team assisting the District in running events.

The new union flags were on parade at the St George's Day parade. The new Troop flag arrived in June. The Troop entered two teams in the District Camping Competition and the Badgers led by Ian Dunnell came first. Troop summer camp was held in Taunton, however activities were curtailed as petrol rationing had come into operation. World Scout membership was now 15 million.

## **1980 - 1989**

### **1980**

The Group purchased its third vehicle, an automatic Transit. In January the Groups leadership consisted of Ken Haschka Group Scout Leader, George Caple Cub Scout Leader, Joy Morris Assistant Cub Scout Leader, Ken Smith Assistant Cub Scout Leader, Philip Tree Scout Leader, Guy Morris Assistant Scout Leader, Paul Tietjen Assistant Scout Leader, Hedley Featherstone Venture Scout Leader and David Georghiou Assistant Venture Scout Leader. Due to shortage of leaders Troop Summer Camp was with 7<sup>h</sup> Cheam led by Scout Leader Dennis Rees and took place at Tilford Pines near Guildford. In October the services of Philip Tree were lost when he got married and moved out of the District. This left Ken Haschka to run the Troop assisted by Guy Morris Assistant Scout Leader when work permitted.

### **1981**

This being the Golden Jubilee year of the Group, permission was granted to allow a badge to be worn on all members' uniforms.

T-shirts had gone down well and the Group decided to sell sweatshirts.

The Badger Patrol won the District Camping Competition and Troop Camp was at Broadstone Warren. Guy Morris Assistant Scout Leader left the Troop to work in South Africa.

Pack joined 16<sup>th</sup> Morden for a display by the Police dog handlers. In October four Scouts attended the District expedition to North Wales.

## **1982**

John Alden and Russell Brynolf took out Leader permits with the Troop. The Pack took part in the National Tea Making Party in May (one Cub made eighty cups of tea).

The Cub Scouts visited Windsor Safari Park.

Four scouts attended the International Camp at Morden Park from 24<sup>th</sup> - 31st July. The Camp consisted of 500 home Scouts and 500 from overseas.

Troop camp was held at Kingsdown, Deal near Dover, this included a day trip to France and grass skiing. The Badger patrol came equal first in the District Camping Competition.

In August, at short notice the Group played host to ten Japanese Scouts at the Headquarters (six of the ten were handicapped). The highlight of the week was a fish and chip supper.

Beavers were introduced for 6 - 8 year olds.

## **1983**

The Pack went to the Greater London Cub Show at the Albert Hall, part of the 75th Anniversary celebrations.

In June the Group opened its Beaver Colony led by Celia Langley, soon the numbers were up to 22 with 8 on the waiting list.

At the AGM Chris Willis was elected as Group Secretary. (She is still Group Secretary)

The Venture Scout Unit was restarted in September with 8 members, four boys and four girls, led by Christine Haschka and assisted by Pam Clarke.

Four members of the Troop attended the International Camp "Sherwood 83" in Nottingham, with 500 others from 21 countries. A minor mishap saw one Scout with a broken ankle "Lawrence Clarke".

The Unit won the District Swimming Gala. Barrie Clarke won the County Cycle Cross.

## **1984**

John Alden Assistant Scout Leader and Russell Brynolf Scout Leader were presented with their warrants. Colony numbers dropped to six, one possible cause may have been the number of other Colonies opening up.

Frank Haschka gained his 1st Star Award and Charge certificate for Canoeing. Cubs attended Cubaree at Hook Arena Chessington.

Barrie Clarke and John Haschka represented the Group at the Canadian Jamboree. The Spirit Lives On was the inspiring theme of the 15th World Jamboree held in Kananaskis Country, an area of Provincial Park, 4,000 feet up in the foothills of the Rockie Mountains, 80 miles west of Calgary, Alberta. 1,345 UK Scouts were amongst a total attendance of over 15,000 Scouts from nearly 100 countries. The Spirit Lives On was certainly in evidence in the great amount of international goodwill pervading the Jamboree and in the warm hospitality of the Canadians. Barry Clarke presented the Group with a plaque he had made at the Jamboree as a way of thanking the Group for their support.

The Venture Scout Unit organised the District Camping Competition and also the District Swimming Gala. They also won the Venture Scout Swimming Trophy.

The County held a Scouters meeting to discuss the new Troop programme in November at our Headquarters. The new programme was to take effect from April 85. By late 1984 the Group was struggling to keep its numbers with 5 Beavers, 8 Cubs, 9 Scouts and 11 Venture Scouts.

## **1985**

The Colony was forced to close in June due to lack of members. Russell Brynolf was appointed District Scout Leader.

Cubs still stood at 8.

The Venture Scouts attended a wet and muddy Welsh Jamboree. Also two members joined 4<sup>th</sup> Worcester Park on a trip to Austria and Switzerland. On 15<sup>th</sup> November a special presentation evening was organised, two Venture Scouts Lorraine Tree and Jennie were presented with the Venture Scout Award and Christine Haschka and Pam Clarke were presented with their Venture Scout Wood Badge.

As this was the last official District service for Les Prescott he was presented with a 3<sup>rd</sup> Cheam scarf and made an honorary member.

The Venture Scout Unit completed the hat trick and won the Handball, 4 Hills Hike and the Swimming Gala.

## **1986**

In April Beavers became members of the Association and renamed Beaver Scouts.

Unfortunately the Group lost the services of George Caple Cub Scout Leader due to illness. Emily Richardson stepped in to run the Pack assisted by Lorraine Tree, Joy Morris still continued to help although she had to step down from active service as she was now a member of the fellowship (unfortunately the Pack was forced to close in July).

Russell Brynolf was forced to leave because of moving away. John Haschka became Scout Leader, but later in the year changed to Assistant Venture Scout Leader. John Haschka and Barrie Clarke gained the Queen's Scout award; Lawrence Clarke gained the Chief Scout Award the first under the new scheme. Andrew Whitman took over as Scout Leader.

Things became very serious and the Leaders got together to discuss the way forward. Celia Langley visited the Beavers of 8<sup>th</sup> Cheam and Pam Clarke visited the Cubs.

## **1987**

A special launch evening was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Feb for both Cubs and Beavers. The Cubs started with three boys led by Pam Clarke who had agreed to change roles and became Cub Scout Leader. Celia Langley with the help of Jane and Jill started with 15 Beavers.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> April Ron Wilkinson attended his last meeting, after 10 years as Chairman and 30 years of active service. Stanley Blake took over as Chairman. Barrie Clarke applied for an Assistant Scout Leader warrant. Lawrence Clarke was selected to attend the World Jamboree in Australia. By September Andy Whitman had left the Troop and this left Barrie Clarke assisted by Ken to run the Troop.

In September the Venture Scout Unit closed, as it was no longer viable, the remaining members were found places with other Units. Jennie gained the Queen's Scout Award.

Diane King was a helper in the Cubs, later to become the Beaver Leader.

## **1988**

By January the Colony was up to 19, Cubs 11 and Troop 8.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> Jan Miss Gordge died at the age 88, she had been involved with the Group for 50 years before retiring. The last two years she had been in a nursing home.

In April Bonnie from Blue Peter paid a visit to the Pack and Colony. By the end of the year there were 21 beavers, 26 Cubs and 9 Scouts. At the end of the year Lawrence Clarke attended the 16<sup>th</sup> World Jamboree in Australia. The British contingent included Ranger Guides for the first time, it was held at Cataract Park, a specially constructed Scout tent town situated on a 160-hectare site near Sydney, this was the first World Scout Jamboree to be held in the Southern Hemisphere. Under the theme "Bringing the World Together", 16,000 Scouts from over 80 countries attended the Jamboree with around 13,000 more in attendance on 'visiting day'. The 850 strong UK contingent included 18 Ranger Guides (the first time members of the Guide Association had been allowed to take part in a World Scout Jamboree), Mrs Betty Clay, daughter of the Founder, and 11 members of the Baden-Powell family, 9 of whom were direct descendants of B-P. The opening ceremony of the Jamboree, which took place at midnight on December 31, 1987, was the first official event of Australia's Bicentennial Celebrations.

## **1989**

At the beginning of the year the Colony was forced to close again. April saw the abolishing of headgear in all sections

Mr W. Garth Morrison DL took over as Chief Scout (6th May)

## **1990 - 1999**

### **1990**

The Group purchased another minibus P reg with low mileage.

May saw the launch of the promise appeal to raise 10 million pounds for the Association.

### **1991**

A new system was introduced that replaced the Cub Scouts Arrow scheme. Cubs celebrated 75 years of cub scouting,

### **1992**

National Woggle day to raise funds for Promise Appeal, All members were asked to wear a specially designed yellow woggle as part of the year of the promise.

## **1993**

By now the Group was suffering from a lack of Leaders and Supporters and the condition of the Headquarters was also in decline. Philip Tree was contacted to see if he would return. (Philip had left 13 years ago to get married). Philip Tree agreed to become Scout Leader, assisted by two helpers, Lawrence Clarke and Wendy Birch.

Towards the end of the year parents and leaders began the mammoth task of clearing up the Headquarters. The Scout and Cub law was revised slightly as a consequence of the movement's decision to admit girls in all sections.

## **1994**

Ken Haschka retired after 23 years as Group Scout Leader and Philip Tree was appointed by the District as Group Scout Leader.

April saw the relaunch of the Group's newsletter, a monthly news sheet. Unfortunately 7<sup>th</sup> Cheam (the Group formed at the North Cheam Baptist Church when we were asked to leave in 1948) was forced to close as the Church wished to start its own youth organisation. At Easter the 7<sup>th</sup> Cheam Scout Troop joined us and the Pack joined on 6<sup>th</sup> July. Their remaining Leaders also joined our Group, Connie McCafferty Assistant Cub Scout Leader, Debbie Wilson Assistant Cub Scout Leader, and Joy Morris an elder who had previously been an Assistant Cub Scout Leader with our Group.

The Colony was given their own Flag.

In July for the first time we were fortunate to have an Assistant Beaver Scout Leader, Carol Cunningham who joined from another Group. So as to make it easier for parents to identify Leaders every Leader, Helper and Group Executive member were given identity name badges to wear.

The Troop was without a Scout Leader and Philip Tree Group Scout Leader was running it.

Tony Hughes became Chairman, (23 years formerly with 7<sup>h</sup> Cheam). The 7<sup>th</sup> Cheam also brought with them some funds, which were put to good use in refurbishing the kitchen.

In September the Group decided to make the Beavers feel more part of the Group by changing the turquoise scarf to the Group's scarf.

## **1995**

The Colony reached 30. This year saw the re-launch of the Beaver Scout Scheme, with more badges, including the new Beaver Scout Challenge. Up to now there had been no formal training within this section. The Colony won the District trophy for the most stamps collected by a Colony in the District.

During February the Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts, John Perkins introduced Shawn Ingram to the Troop. Shawn later took out a warrant as Scout Leader. Mike Smith, 7<sup>h</sup> Cheam's Group Scout Leader also joined and agreed to become Assistant Group Scout Leader in February after he had finished closing down the 7<sup>h</sup> Cheam Scout Group.

At Easter we lost the help of Lawrence and Wendy.

At the AGM Tony Hughes stood down and Ken Haschka agreed to become Chairman.

In July a Pack prayer was introduced to be used at all future Pack meetings. The Pack received a new flag. The Group introduced key fobs, erasers, pens and address books with the Group's logo on.

The Group collected Burton wrappers, these were exchanged to allow the whole Troop to visit Chiselhurst Caves

During the Summer break a new kitchen was fitted, this was paid for by the money left to the Group by 7<sup>h</sup> Cheam.

Carol Cunningham Assistant Beaver Scout Leader was forced to leave due to family commitments in September.

In October a District Service Crew member, Jeremy Osborne-King became Assistant Scout Leader.

The Group produced a prospectus for all new members.

To help with security a sodium lamp on a time switch was fitted to the garage. Celia Langley an ex Beaver Leader with the Group agreed to help with the Colony.

## **1996**

Ken Smith was presented with the bar to the long service medal for 25 years of voluntary service to Scouting and Mike Smith was presented with his warrant as Assistant Group Scout Leader. Philip Tree was presented with his Group Scout Leaders wood badge. On Sunday April 27<sup>th</sup> the Colony joined 5000 Beavers in a County outing to Legoland.

At Easter Debbie Wilson Assistant Cub Scout Leader left to have a baby,

On 7<sup>th</sup> June the Group received a National Lotteries grant of £1500 to insulate the roof and to convert the gents toilet to one suitable for anyone who was wheelchair bound.

Pack holiday was at Hooke Court in Dorset. In June the Pack took part in the County Cubaree at Walton Firs National Scout Campsite, 2683 Cubs from all over the county attended.

In July we lost our Scout Leader Shawn Ingram who moved away to Biggin Hill. Jeremy Osborne-King took over as Scout Leader and was joined by Sarah Penegar as Assistant Scout Leader.

In January new main doors were fitted to the Headquarters with proceeds from a donation from Lyn Baldwin's family. Lyn had been a supporter for many years running our Webb Ivory catalogue scheme. All parents were questioned regarding fund raising and from their response it was decided to raise the subs to £7 a half term with £4.50 going to the Group to cover capitation fees and Headquarters upkeep. The London Borough of Sutton provided a grant to replace the garage doors and to fit fire safety bars on the main hall doors. In November we received a grant from BT for £200 towards training equipment. George Purdy replaced Garth Morrison as Chief Scout.

Beaver's 10th birthday celebrations named 'Lets Party', the climax being the District mad hatter's tea party.

Around the World in Eighty Days an initiative celebrating 80 years of Cubbing. Many activities were arranged which involved finding out about different countries and trying some of their customs.

## **1997**

In January we were fortunate in obtaining a grant from the TSB foundation of £450 for 6 folding tables. In February we lost Jeremy Osborne-King Scout Leader as he took up a career in the USA. Sarah Penegar assistant Scout Leader found it difficult to run the Troop and decided to leave.

The council room as it had been ever since the Headquarters was built was converted to a training room housing all the Groups training equipment.

It was decided to have Leader scarves as these were longer than those presented to the members. Having started the task of renovating the Headquarters in 1994 it was almost finished by 23<sup>rd</sup> April, exactly 30 years since the Headquarters was officially opened.

In September we opened our Group to girls in all sections. Emma Dunham was the first girl in the pack to be invested.

We also gained the services of Diana McGuirk as Scout Leader in August and in October Bryan Neophytou joined Diana as Assistant Scout Leader.

All sections of the Group took part in the energy efficiency challenge organised by the electricity boards. At Christmas several Scouts, Cubs and beavers delivered biscuits to the elderly.

## **1998**

January 1988 Phi lip Tree received the Chief Scouts Commendation for good service to Scouting and Mike Smith Assistant Group Scout Leader received the Medal of Merit.

In February Diana McGuirk and Brian Neophytou attended a mountaineering, hill walking course.

In March we lost the services of Connie McCafferty Assistant Cub Scout Leader who was forced to give up due to health reasons and Joy Morris (Elder) who had found it difficult to attend Pack meetings. Ken Smith who started with the Group back in 1969 was forced to relinquish his warrant due to his age and was made an Honorary Scouter.

The Group purchased Jamboree badges (to support those who were attending the Chile Jamboree at Xmas) to wear on their uniforms. Mike Smith Assistant Group Scout Leader was also forced to relinquish his warrant again due to age. Mike was also made an Honorary Scouter and at the AGM agreed to become Group Chairman. The Group decided to change the colour of their t-shirts from light blue to green; this was thought to be more practical. At the same time as changing the colours we also introduced baseball caps. Work was completed on the refurbishment of the HQ. One of the toilets was converted so as to provide access for disabled people. Roof space was completely insulated and a new ceiling installed. Windows were completely rehinged and panic bars fitted to the hall doors. The Group purchased four canoes complete with paddles and spray decks from the Wilson school in Wallington as they were surplus to their needs

## **1999**

In March several members of the Troop entered the County Cooking Competition and were fortunate enough to have the Chief Scout George Purdy taste their meal.

Ken Smith introduced Lorraine Allport to the Group (he had seconded her on a bus one day earlier in the year). Lorraine took out an Assistant Cub Scout Leaders warrant.

The Beavers took part in a District good turn and were issued with a tube of Smarties, the idea was to eat the sweets and return the tubes full of money. The Troop attended P AGGS camp in Denmark; (P AGGS is made up of 5 countries). On the 19<sup>th</sup> August the Group obtained a grant from Sutton Give As You Earn for £280 to buy a photocopier.

Ken Haschka, who had been with the Group for 57 years moved away in October, Ken was made President of the Group but before he left he introduced to the Group his Successor, Steven Luck as Group Treasurer. At Xmas every member of the Group was given a Millennium badge to wear on their uniform during the year 2000.

## **2000 – 2001**

### **2000**

The Troop Leadership was increased when Mark Sherry joined as Assistant Scout Leader.

In the summer the Group launched its own Website.

All sections took part in many activities to celebrate the Millennium the climax being on the 27<sup>th</sup> May. Our Group spent the afternoon trying their hand at Crystal Maze type games and then at 16:00 hrs lit night lights in the shape of 2000. (Every Group in the Country were asked to perform an activity on the theme of light at 16:00 hrs)

The Cubs enjoyed a District outing to the London Eye, Cabinet war rooms and the IMax cinema.

### **2001**

At the beginning of the year a new corporate logo was released. This being our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary the Group decided to have its own Group badge, which would be worn on our scarves.

In February the Scout Association launched its new uniform which would be available from late summer, also a complete programme review and the addition of a new section between Scouts and Venture Scouts called Explorer Scouts. In February the Pack leadership strength was increased as Becky Tree became a Cub helper and at Easter Richard Nolan joined the pack as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader. In June the Cubs took part in Adventure Day 2001 (A County event for 2001 Cub Scouts)

**To be continued....**