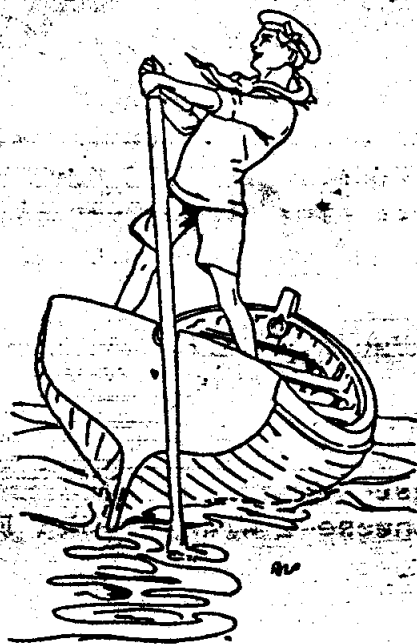


THE WATER RAT

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"LEANDER" (KINGSTON) SEA SCOUT GROUP

MAY 1989



FROM THE G.S.L.

What a superb achievement by all the boys this month. 1st place in the County Sailing Regatta, the Marshall Trophy which showed the District we can perform equally on land as water, and the Trophy for best turn out and marching at the St. George's Day Parade. The Marching Trophy was won by just one point - a close thing due to only having 60% of the Cubs on Parade. Those that were there looked very smart, but attendance must be improved next year - this is one meeting that we do consider to be

compulsory. The Venture Scouts achieved 2nd place in the District Night Hike.

Finally, to finish off the month, the Cubs won the District Swimming Gala, and the Scouts achieved 2nd place - Well done to you all, and thanks to those who have helped in the training for those events.

We welcome Peter De Roos and Ford who, after a little arm twisting, have offered their help at troop meetings - we still need help with Scouts on both Tuesdays and Saturdays, and equally important our Beaver leaders still need some men - to help with meetings that is ! Let me know if you can help.

As you know, last month, Skipper Eric Ebbage passed away. Donations to Leander in lieu of flowers have totalled some £900 so far, and Skipper, thinking of Leander to the end, left a legacy to the Group of £1,000. The Executive Committee have decided that this money will be used towards the purchase of a safety boat, and that we shall name this 'Eric Ebbage' in his memory.

This month, we have our AGM - THURSDAY 18th MAY - 20.00hrs AT THE H.Q. I do hope all parents and supporters will be there if at all possible. It is at the AGM that the executive committee is elected to control the general running and financial control of the Group. I would hope to see representative of Beavers, Cub, Scout and Venture parents on the Committee - this is your chance to have a say in Group affairs, so nominations or volunteers to Viv Brown please, as soon as possible.

Re the Regatta, we now have volunteers for most jobs, but are still seeking someone to collate entries and produce competitor lists for races. This is a job which could be done at home, and involves arranging the 150 or so competitors into heats and finals plus on the day of the Regatta making adjustments to accommodate non starters and substitutes. This is a key task, since without it, there will be no Regatta. Please let me know if you can help in this respect - tel. 01-399-5846.

Finally, at the last Section Leaders meeting, it was felt that in future, 'going up' ceremonies should be made an all Group affair, rather than just an intersection event. It seemed the Beavers were always losing out on a meeting, and it was also difficult to plan an active programme for all ages midweek, since outdoor events are difficult for the younger boys on an

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FROM THE G.S.L. (continued)

evening. We shall therefore be holding a 'Scouts Own' at HQ on Sunday afternoon, 11th June, following a short service, which will be suitable for all religious denominations. Beavers will 'go up' to Cubs, Cubs to Scouts etc. We hope that all parents, guardians, brothers and sisters, plus supporters will attend to make this a truly Group occasion; the first of which we hope will become a regular 4 monthly event.

Keith Maund. G.S.L.

Dates for the Diary

- 7th May: - Jumble Sale. H.Q.
 15th May: - Kingston & Malden District AGM - 3rd Kingston.
 18th May: - LEANDER AGM-20.00hrs AT HQ.(Followed by Cheese & Wine)-**MUST FOR ALL LEANDER PARENTS & SUPPORTERS.**
 20th May: - Sea Rangers AGM - All day at HQ.
 10th June: - Ham Fayre
 11th June: - 'Scouts Own' - Going Up Ceremony. 15.00hrs - HQ -Parents & Family welcome.
 14th June: - Section Leaders Meeting. 20.15hrs - HQ.
 9th July: - Leander Regatta.

REPORT FROM SCOUT LEADER

Our month started with practise marching for St. George's Day Parade. We also got down to some serious boat work on Saturdays. The weekend commencing 22nd April was a very busy one. On Saturday we all met down at Thames Young Mariners for the County Sailing Regatta. The events were, u/13, u/16, u/20, Toppers, Lazer and Wayfarers. Leander entered all classes and all events. The results are as follows: u/13 - equal 1st with Carshalton overall u/16 - 1st overall, and the same for the u/20. So we came away with the overall prize, which was an event representing the District. Our main sailors were Jonathan Merry and Simon Leo. Those taking part were Jonathan Merry, Richard Merry, Simon Leo, Stuart Livesey, Oliver Brown, Leo Gould, David Leader, Andy Mutt, David Stephens, John Long, Mark Allen and Ben Seeley, also Chips and myself.

Through lack of wind, a certain amount of sailing skills had to be used and we just had the edge on the rest of the competitors. Leo Gould had sailed toppers mirrors before, but never a lazer until I entered him in the u/13 class. He came back with a silver medal and said it was easier to sail than a topper! Our time was not wasted in between events, and David Leader now has some idea how to sail a topper. Well done all of you. The National is next, can we achieve the same result?

Sunday, 23rd April was St. George's Day Parade. Muster point was 3rd Kingston's HQ at 13.30hrs. By 13.45hrs we were ready to go. The turn out was very good, only 3 scouts missing and one of them had the excuse of having a leg in plaster -accepted. No knowledge of the other two. The uniform turn out was very good. It proved that wearing school trousers paid off, as we were looking all the same. The boys behaviour on parade could not be faulted, and they marched as good as any one else, in fact, even better, as Leander won the Marching Trophy for best turn out and marching. The result was one point between 3rd, 2nd and 1st place. Well done all of you! Cubs, Scouts & Venture Scouts you did Leander proud on this day. To pick up one Trophy is good, but to pick up two is even better, when you think that there are only 2 to pick up anyway! Yes, we got the Marshall Trophy back! For the year's work you all put in, you got your reward.

continued overleaf...

REPORT FROM SCOUT LEADER (continued)

Well done Scouts, you are on top again. I leave this item with this quote:

"To reach the top is hard,
To stay on top is even harder"

You have set the standard - to maintain this standard is up to you. If you lower your standard then you let yourself down. See Scout Law No.7.

(I have told Tiffins they have only borrowed it for one year, when they won it last year- Thank you for proving me right) Your first event for 89/90 Swimming Gala. The District Swimming Gala took place on Saturday, 29th April, at New Malden Swimming Pool. We came 2nd overall, and no one was more surprised than me, as we could only enter our B team. Congratulations to all those that took part, it was a good start for our 1989/90 aim of keeping the Marshall Trophy. u/13. John Paul Green/Hamish Chapman/Matthew Dyke/David Leader/Ben Leitham.o/13: Oliver Brown/Richard Merry/Stuart Livesey/Tim Sevitt -our only winner.

Chief. Mick Chinnock

Dates for your Diary

Sat. 20th May:- No Meeting at Leander HQ. P/L's are trying to get a Spring Camp in for Friday 19th/Sunday 21st May. Its all down to them. Should this not be so, we will be going out for the day, information will be given to the boys.

CUB LEADERS REPORT.

Congratulations to all the Cubs who turned up for St. George's Day Parade last month, helping the Group to win the District Trophy for smartness and turn out. Thank you also to the parents for your support, making sure your son arrived in full uniform.

The Cubs have done us proud again this month. The 6 boys picked for the District Swimming Gala held on the 29th April- Peter Dyke came 1st in 1 length freestyle, Benjamin Warriner came 1st in 1 length breaststroke, Oliver Chapman came 1st in 1 length backstroke. Alexander Donaldson, Richard Secker, and Rick Letham in the 3 x 1 length freestyle relay came first, which means Leander Cubs won the Gala with 30 points. We are very proud of the swimming team. It is very difficult when you only enter 6 boys out of the 33, when all the Cubs can swim. Anyway, well done Cubs, now we must try to win District Sports Day, which will be on June 24th at Mount School, Kingston Road, New Malden.

We had a Parents Evening on 26th April, so the parents could see the photos and video of our visit to HMS Illustrious. I hope the parents enjoyed the evening.

Akela and Rikki

Dates for your Diary

31st May: No Cubs meeting. (Older Cubs away at camp)

21st June: Leander Cubs Mini Sports Evening

26th July: Last evening meeting

23rd August: Start back to Cubs.

25th-28th August. Cub Camp at Broadstone Warren. This Camp will be open to all Cubs. (Akela & Rikki would appreciate 4 parents who would stay for the weekend, to do all the cooking for us) We had to book this Camp 1 year ago, but the other Leaders will not be able to come with us, so we do need help with the cooking: urgently. Please telephone: 942.6276 with your offers of help