



COORDINATOR

Nº 281

MARCH 1983.

OFFICIAL NEWS LETTER of LETCHWORTH, ASHWELL & BALDOCK SCOUTING.

... fellowship meets the deadline!...

By the Usual democratic processes of the District Team I (Rod Tiplady) learn that it is the 'turn' of Fellowship to contribute to Co-ordinator this month - (copy date 20th February!!) - so.....

Your Fellowship is alive and well, though possibly on the small side despite a recent transfusion of new blood in the shape of several Venture Scouts, among them (in alphabetical order of course) Sean Boughton, Andrew Osborne, Keith Osborne and Martin Wilkinson. We are pleased to welcome this 'younger element' which is already making itself felt in the content and planning of our programme for the year - (copies may be obtained from the Fellowship secretary: K.J., 80, Spring Road) - and the appointment of Martin as Junior Chairman.

The programme includes both Service and Social Events and there are the following changes from the dates recorded in the last Co-ordinator;-

Table-Top Rally now March 9th, at 5L HQ.

Badminton now Mid March.

Dry Slope Skiing to be arranged. April.

Gliding now April 15th., Duxford.

By the time you read this our first 'service' commitment should have been fulfilled - namely stewarding at the District Cyclocross, but there are many other opportunities coming up.

We learnt with regret at our last meeting that for business reasons Alan Wright will be unable to continue as Chairman of Fellowship, a job he has carried out with cheerful dedication for several years.. Have we a volunteer to take over?

I would finish with a warm invitation to any persons over the age of 18 to come and join us. Why not start by coming to the Table Top Rally at 8 p.m. on 9th. March at 5L Scout H.Q., Spring Pd., Letchworth?

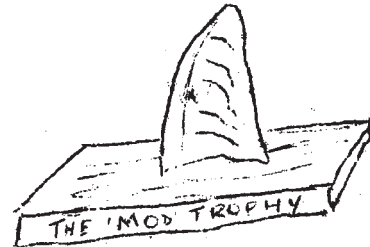
Rodney Tiplady

Rod Tiplady, A.D.C. Fellowship.

17/2/83

HERE'S A FUNNY THING!

For the past two years, a mysterious chunk of metal has been lying around on a shelf or in a cupboard somewhere within the Orbit of someone connected with Champion Hills Venture Scout Unit. Sorry we can't be any more exact than that; but we can tell you what the peculiar object is. The wooden plinth on which it is mounted gives its name away - the MOD TROPHY. The thing itself looks like the sawn-off end of a ploughshare, because that is what it is!



The Mod Trophy was made and presented to Letchworth and Baldock Scout District in January 1965, by a First Letchworth Queen's Scout named David Watson.

What for? Well, almost anything!

After a first round qualifying quiz, published in 'Co-ordinator' and won by the Second Letchworth Scout Group, the Mod Trophy was then available to any troop, patrol, pack or six - or any individual Scouter - who challenged the holders to 'any sort of legal competitive activity'

Seventh Letchworth Senior Scouts got in first, by challenging 2L Seniors to a badminton match, which they won. A few weeks later, however, the trophy was taken from 7L by Ninth Letchworth Cubs, who had challenged Seventh's Cubs to football and beat them 1 - 0.

And so it went on, passing from one group to another in challenge games of snooker rugby, chess, or darts - and sometimes not passing from one group to another, when the challengers found out that the holders were better than they expected at ten pin bowling or table tennis.

Some unusual sports moved the Mod Trophy around. First Weston Cubs won it with a spelling bee; Second Baldock Scouters got it in skittle billiards; First Ashwell Scouts gained it by rifle shooting; First Baldock Scouts seized it through Scalextric racing.

Interesting challenges which failed have included Subeteo football, long-distance paper-tearing, Green Shield stamp-collecting, and hanging-by-the-arms-from-the-beams-for-as-long-as-you-could. But 4L Scouts once won the Mod Trophy by arm-wrestling; 5L Scouts once won it by a hush-in.

The records are all there, kept by Ken Johnson as District Press Secretary then and Scout Fellowship secretary now. But KJ is quite ignorant of what has happened in the last two years.

The book says.....

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-- where is it ???!

The book says that Champion Hills won the trophy in five-a-side hockey on 8th. February 1981, when Fourth Letchworth Scouters put in their PLs as substitutes to defend it, unsuccessfully.

It seems that 7L troop challenged CHVSU in September 1981 to indoor five-a-side football; but whether that match was ever played, or who now holds the mysterious sawn-off ploughshare - who knows?

KJ

COME ON SOMEBODY - OWN UP!

N.B. Since typing this I am informed that it has turned up!

Ed.



Only three !!

Only three Groups have failed to find anyone to enter the Music and Entertainment Section of this year's Arts and Crafts Competition!.

Congratulations to the others for their response to my appeal in last month's Co-ordinator. The 70 entries came in as follows:-

1A	7
1B	4
2B	NONE
1/3	4
4L	22
5L	NONE
7L	12
8L	11
10L	NONE
11L	1
12L	90
	<u>70</u>

make a habit of it - it must be urgent!) telephone Let.

N.N.B. Don't forget St. Georges Day - is your Uniform correct?

Ruth Baker

SCOUT SHOP...

The CAMPING SEASON is almost upon us. Have you got all you require?

Come and see what we have and look at the Catalogues.

We can supply all your requirements but please allow 3 - 4 weeks for larger or more specialised equipment.

Don't forget - Tuesdays and Thursdays 19.00 - 20.00hrs.

Easter closing - from and including Thursday 31st March.

Re-open Tuesday 19th April.

N.B. Anything URGENT (but don't make a habit of it - it must be urgent!) telephone Let.

LOST !!!

A small red case of records - 45s - has gone missing! They belonged to the original Rover Crew and were in the custody of John Baker, who loaned them to Mick Dilley about two years ago! He lent them to someone else and can't remember who! Please let me know where they might be now, if you have any ideas!

CSL's frolics

were represented at the Leaders' Activity Afternoon at 11L HQ. on 5th Feb.

The leaders exchanged ideas and practiced various activities - all aimed at making their present good performances as leaders even better. Everyone there thoroughly enjoyed it - pity that 4L, 8L, 10L, 12L & 1B(T) missed it!

Chris Wilkes was very pleased that seven packs

THE DISTRICT A G M

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SECRETARY REPORTS:-

- a) The District A.G.M. will be held on Wednesday 11th May, 19.30 for 20.00hrs in the Council Chamber, Gernon Road, Letchworth.
- b) It has been brought to my attention that some Leader Warrants are out of date. This is not apparent from the District Records, but if your Warrant has not been reviewed within the last five years I would be obliged if you would send it to me, so that it can be up-dated.
- c) I have received the stationery for 'Job Week' and will be distributing it soon. Each person taking part should receive one 'Job Card' and 12 - 'Job Done' stickers. One 'Job Card Continuation Sheet' will be issued with every four Job Cards.
- d) It will shortly be time to complete the Annual Census Return. The membership subscription this year is £5.20 per head. (£3.70 HQ, £1.00 County, 50p District.)

The Census returns should be sent to me at 53, Hawthorn Hill, Letchworth by 1st. April and Subscriptions should be sent to Don Mackinnon, 7, Pepys Way, Baldock.

Prompt return of both would be very much appreciated.

Bob Williams

GANG SHOW 1983

A Gang Show General Meeting was held on Weds. 16th. Feb. to make plans for the forthcoming show.

Representatives from 1A, 5L, 7L, 8L, 10L & 11L attended.

No one turned up from 1B, 2B, 1/3L, 4L nor 12L.

Fred Cogar, the Show's Producer gave details of the arrangements which had already been made, including the content of the Show itself, and explained the difficulties which had now been overcome regarding the booking of the Plinston Hall.

Most of the essential jobs needed to be done to stage the show have been filled by volunteers from the meeting.

However, we are still looking for a choreographer! Anyone know of one who would give his/her services free?

Fred Cogar and John Baker are hoping to visit Packs and Troops, (at their convenience) to recruit suitable and willing members for the cast. They await your invitation to visit your Pack or Troop!"

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS..

It is pleasing to know that 10L, on Jackman's Estate, now have a News-Letter; a copy was sent to the Editor of Co-ordinator this week.

How about supporting 10L by going to the CARIBBEAN evening, mentioned in their news-letter? It is at Plinston Hall on 26 March - dancing to the fantastic Casino Royale Steel Band from 7 p.m. till Midnight! All this plus Bar and Raffle AND FOOD for as little as £3.00. Tickets available NOW from 10L Leaders or Committee.

Group Chairmen •please note - -•

For your Group to run really well it is essential that information reaches all your members, including Cubs and Scouts, quickly and accurately.

Have you anyone on your Committee who would be prepared to produce a monthly news-letter for your Group?

Why not have a go?