

J. W. EVANS

# 50

8th. St. Marylebone  
Scout Group



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GOLDEN  
JUBILEE  
HANDBOOK

# 8th ST. MARYLEBONE SCOUT GROUP

*The Diehards*

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**THE DIEHARD**

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8th St. MARYLEBONE  
SCOUT GROUP  
THE DIEHARDS

## GOLDEN JUBILEE HANDBOOK 1921-1971

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Handbook Editor Brian W. Smith

Cover designed and drawn by L. L. Lawrence

## LJK— the man

HAPPY is the man who finds his destiny early in life. Such a one is LJK, who found his in Scouting when the vision was brought to him at an early age. Born into a humble home of downright Christian parentage he was reared in the religion which was to sustain him throughout his life. As a boy he joined Emmanuel Church choir where he remained during his youth and into manhood, in company with his two brothers. He saw the birth of the Scout Movement and at the earliest opportunity joined his brother Cyril in the 5th Marylebone Troop, THE DANDIES. His heroes were his hard working and skilled carpenter father, his vicar, and his Scoutmaster, with the Bishop and B-P making a happy background.

On leaving school he became a Boy Clerk in the Civil Service, graduating to the Inland Revenue Department and had a successful career. His ambitions, however were tempered by his Scouting, and he put aside promotion to a higher grade in order that he could keep actively in touch with his beloved Scout Group which he formed in 1921, making his HQ at Capland Street School although he longed for a place of his own.

While serving in the 1914/18 war he was a victim of a gas attack the results of which remained ever with him. Even from the trenches, where he celebrated his 21st birthday, he

was writing home expressing his desire to serve his fellows when the war was over. Happily for us all he was able to do just that. So came the second War when he performed the miracle of keeping his DIEHARDS together, maintaining touch with his lads in the Services spread throughout the world through the medium of his much loved *Diehard*.

Then came the possibility of his vision becoming a reality, his own Scout HQ. Being a man who never took no for an answer it became possible to acquire, though there was strong competition from other sources, the Mansergh Club, the later history of which is so well known. After 21 years as tenant the premises passed into the ownership of the Group—Les's dream being fulfilled.

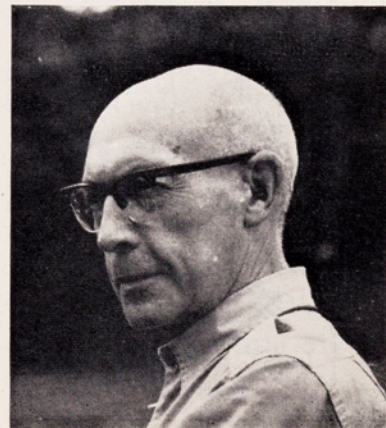
His unbounded optimism had triumphed as it had on numerous lesser occasions, be it a short cut sliding on his haunches down a steep Swiss mountain slope or guiding his lads along a difficult path by torchlight, hiring a car in Portugal, managing the Scout contingent sent in his charge to the Jamboree in Canada, handling a self-willed boy who would later eat out of his hand, putting IHQ archives in order, and other instances too many to mention. The Group in its present healthy state is the result of his boyhood vision, for which we are all duly grateful. Such was the destiny of

LJK—and what a lifetime of achievement.

It had been hoped that Les would have been with us to participate in the Jubilee celebrations which he had been so keen in helping to plan. but, alas, it was not to be. After an illness of some weeks cheerfully borne he died peacefully on the morning of June 24. His passing has been a great blow to all who knew him, greater than can yet be realised. St. Mark's Church, Hamilton Terrace, was filled for the funeral service when Scouts of the Group of all generations were represented as well as members from Les's wide circle of friends in the Scouting world and DIEHARDIA. Who could fail to be moved when the cortege, on its way to Golders Green Crematorium from St. Mark's, made a little detour into Hill Road in order that Les could pass the Mansergh for the last time.

An even larger number attended the Thanksgiving Service also held at St. Mark's, so near to the site of his cherished Emmanuel Church of his boyhood and youth, now demolished, and to the Mansergh Club, so intimate to him in his later life. The oration, delivered by Sir Thomas Robson, was a fitting tribute to so worthy a leader of such outstanding Christian and Scouting qualities. Farewell, dear Les, friend and benefactor of us all.

W.S.



## THE GOLDEN JUBILEE ROLL

The following list contains the name, with year of investiture, of every 'Diehard' who has had at least five years' active Scout service.

1909	1922	1932	1945	1955
C. A. Kirby	J. E. Balls	A. T. Cook	C. W. Wood	T. Marder
L. J. Kirby	C. W. Joby	P. Quin	R. Mount	D. Barrett
W. G. Harvey	F. Duggleby	J. Bagley	B. Scates	D. Trollope
1910	G. Duggleby	D. Saeagar		J. Lee
E. E. Anderson	R. F. Redman	F. Wagstaff	1946	C. Auckland
1911	J. Mackintosh	S. G. Jenner	B. A. Groom	M. Lee
B. E. Emmott	J. Weller	A. Jenner	K. Carter	C. Power
	W. Weller	A. List	D. Clarke	R. Goodship
1912	1923	H. Bulcraig	A. Clarke	1956
L. P. Thompson	C. Webb	1933	K. Young	M. Woods
B. E. Woodford	H. Larkin	J. E. Cook	B. Bradshaw	J. Watkinson
1913	F. Larkin	R. Kybird	D. Copp	I. Claydon
P. Rumsey	J. Bresnam	J. Bradshaw	A. Frisby	1957
E. H. Mason	R. W. Larkin	P. Strood	D. Strood	I. Copeman
1914	A. Rudland	D. Bailin	D. Bailin	M. Field
V. A. W. Kirby	C. Martin	M. Walsh	M. Walsh	A. Barney
W. G. Smith	1924	1947	1948	1958
H. S. Bland	S. Willgrass	P. Peeling	B. Shepherd	P. Timothy
J. R. Andrew	F. Strange	D. Drinkwater	D. Gillam	M. Foster
1915	A. Loffler	R. Jordan	I. Smith	P. Kenyon
W. E. Breedon	S. Larkin	J. Harrington	J. Evans	N. Dodd
A. E. Wells	C. Larkin	1949	R. Scott	M. Dodd
C. C. Bensted	L. Pickford	C. F. Kite	G. Williams	J. Larkin
E. Davies	I. Pickford	K. Bollard	J. Sherry	J. Biddle
H. J. Mason	T. Brookes	J. Valentine		1959
E. Thompson	W. H. Dent	J. King		R. Eatwell
M. W. Hunt	B. Johnson	J. Whale		R. Williams
E. Hemming	1925	J. Eatwell		W. Brooks
1916	A. W. Pitteway	P. Harrington		J. Simpson
S. G. Mason	D. Munro	R. Weatherhead		R. Wilson
H. Lewin	H. Tuke	R. Emerson		A. Wingrove
1917	Joe Dell	1936		1960
L. S. Scates	Les Smith	J. Records		C. Amies
W. L. Harvey	1926	D. Longdon		P. Williams
1918	J. R. Eatwell	1938		1961
W. E. Barton	B. Mallett	R. D. Porritt		D. Arnold
L. Brown	W. Bresnam	C. C. Evans		1962
1919	J. W. Nunn	T. Slade		A. Meaden
H. J. Daniel	J. H. Prior	E. Turner		N. Riley
T. H. John	A. G. Prior	D. Walsh		C. White
E. C. Long	J. W. Anderson	J. Drinkwater		1963
W. G. Lavers	H. Bangs	J. Knox		D. Scannell
W. Shephard	1927	Len Lawrence		M. Starling
T. Bangs	J. H. Prior	J. T. Wood		M. Harvey
G. Taylor	A. G. Prior	1939		P. Lomax
R. Winter	J. W. Anderson	R. D. Garner		K. Cherrill
V. S. Evans	H. Bangs	R. Daniels		R. Thomas
J. Bryant	1928	D. Jenner		R. Foster
E. Hunt	L. Conway	R. Goldstaub		1964
J. W. Evans	F. R. Wilson	W. H. Lee		P. Nolde
G. Scott	W. Tuersley	R. V. Kirby		C. Robinson
P. Harrington	C. N. Dent	1940		P. Williams
R. Williamson	V. R. Dodd	D. Hart		G. Connelly
B. Hampton	1929	J. Smith		D. James
F. Hampton	R. West	1941		M. Upton
R. Harvey	A. Barker	R. Robertson		M. Kilcoolie
W. J. Scott	W. Barker	B. W. Smith		1965
F. R. Breedon	John Dell	R. Slade		M. Collyer
W. Harrington	Lionel Smith	J. Cuthbert		P. Custance
A. Wagstaff	1930	1942		I. Judson
G. Humphreys	W. Cruickshank	H. Robertson		K. Eisa
C. Scates	F. Reynolds	R. Barker		M. Prevatt
1920	H. McGrath	P. Whale		G. Rayner
W. L. John	L. Vincent	B. Drinkwater		1966
E. Harrington	R. Wraight	D. Lane		N. Quye
1921	R. Johnson	R. Jamieson		S. Hawkins
E. O. Hampton	H. A. Young	C. C. Wood		E. O'Neill
T. Martin	B. Geere	D. J. Kirby		
R. F. Price	E. Thomas	1943		
	1931	F. D. Taylor		
	B. Bender	1944		
	C. A. Symmons	L. Rolph		
	D. S. James	R. Scales		
	A. Barratt			
	K. D. Smith			

## A message from the Chief Scout



THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION,  
25 BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

May 13 1971.



I was delighted to hear that the 8th St. Marylebone Scout Group is celebrating its Golden Jubilee, and I send heartiest congratulations on this great occasion in its history.

This is certainly a fine record and one of which to be proud, but whilst looking back on past successes we must also remember to look ahead and play our part so that those who follow can gain inspiration by our example.

With best wishes to you all for happy Scouting in the years ahead.

*Macleau*  
Chief Scout.

# Fifty glorious years

## How it all began 1921 — 1926

THE 8th St. Marylebone Scout Group had its origin in the old 5th Marylebone (Emmanuel) Scout Group and Cub Pack—THE DANDY FIFTH—founded in 1908. Certain differences arose between the Scouters in October 1921 and as a result the District Commissioner, A. E. Rogers, decided that the Troop should be divided, the 5th remaining at Emmanuel Hall under Eric Gygell as Scoutmaster, and Jim Daniel as Cubmaster, whilst Les Kirby was appointed Scoutmaster of the 8th, with Ed Anderson as ASM, Llew Johns as Cubmaster and Wal Harvey as ACM. Headquarters were established at Capland Street School in November and the first Troop Committee nominated in December, Vic Kirby being appointed Secretary, and Will Barton as Treasurer.

### 1922

The Troop and Pack were registered at Scout Headquarters in January 1922 when a letter was received from the Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment saying that there was no objection to the 8th Group assuming the soubriquet of THE DIEHARDS.

In the same month the first number of *The Diehard* was published, with Bert Emmott as Editor and Will Breedon as Treasurer. It is a matter of great pride that in the course of 50 years *The Diehard* has appeared every month without a break.

Starting as the Group did without property or equipment, it became clear that, apart from Cub and Scout training, our first priority was to raise funds. Under the direction of the Troop Committee this was carried out by various means including a perfume card campaign, stop-watch draw, rummage sale, raffles and whist drives.

At a Social Evening held in January the District Commissioner presented the Scouters with their warrants and led the Scouts and Cubs in their Promises. Troop and Pack Colours were presented respectively by Mrs. Kirby and Mrs. Johns and were subsequently dedicated at the St. George's Day Service at St. Mary's, Bryanston Square.

Our first Easter Camp was held at Bushey and was confined to Scouts over 17 years. The opportunity was taken of forming a Rover Crew under the leadership of Bert Emmott. In May Lt-Col Graham Hutchison became District Commissioner in succession to A. E. Rogers. A man of many ideas and much energy he proposed



*Start of the 5-Rover cycling tour of France, 1922*

that a District Jamboree be held at St. Dunstan's. The 8th Troop commenced rehearsals for a *Robin Hood* Pageant, but owing to lack of support from some Troops the Jamboree was abandoned and the District Commissioner resigned.

Our first Whitsun Camp was held at Northwood, and shortly after five of our Rovers (Will Smith, Vic Kirby, Ted Long, Ernie Wells and Ron Andrew) carried out a cycling tour in Northern France, thereby creating the precedent of holding a Group foreign tour in alternate years. Our first Summer Camp was held at Felpham, near Bognor. The Troop and Pack took an active part in the Rally held at Alexandra Park in honour of HRH The Prince of Wales. At the District Gala Jim Mason won the Rover swimming championship, and at the sports Bernard Woodford came first in the open mile.

In November the first Annual Show was held under the title of *Display and Pageant* when after using the arena for the first half, the stage was used for the second half when the deferred Robin Hood pageant was enacted. *Du Kerina* (Duke and Wally Wellington) wrote the first of their numerous show reports for *The Diehard*. The Pageant was so popular that it was staged later at Harlesden in aid of the 14th Willesden Troop.

Towards the end of 1922, one of our leading Rovers, Etna Mason, left us for 7 years army service. About the same time Leo Thompson became an additional ASM and Will Lavers ACM. Bernard Woodford was appointed Instructor, and Ed Anderson succeeded Bert Emmott as magazine editor.

### 1923

Early in 1923 the Rover Crew was split into three patrols, with Will Smith, Vic Kirby and Harry Bland as Rover Mates.

The Crew formed a Guard of Honour for the Duke of York at the London Boxing Championships, held at the Holborn Stadium, but their activities generally came under fire in *The Diehard* from an anonymous contributor named EAGLE EYE.

Lt-Col Howard Mummery became District Commissioner, with Stuart Lang as ADC (Rovers) and H. T. Herring, a Harley Street surgeon, became Local Association Secretary. One of our patrol leaders, Vic Evans, left the Troop for a time to try out a career on the stage. He had the distinction of being chosen for the part of the messenger boy, Billy Cartwright, in *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*.

No doubt the vicinity of Lords had always given the Group a leaning towards cricket and about this time one of our Rovers, Cecil Bensted, formed the Emmanuel Cricket Club of which several Scouters and Rovers became members, and the Scoutmaster was asked to become Chairman. A pleasant relationship grew up between Club and Crew, and we managed to obtain a camping ground at Edgware near King Edward's Playing Fields where several weekend camps were held following cricket matches. Dances were held at Wellington Hall in aid of our joint funds.

For the first time the 8th ran a weekend camp at Gilwell. The Pack had an exciting day out at Kingsbury, *The Diehard* report being written by a Cub named John Balls. Four of the Rovers held a cycling tour in Devon. At the Summer Camp held at Snettisham in Norfolk and attended by nearly 50, including 9 Cubs, 'Nip' Webb became a member of the Crew.

On October 1 1923 the Rover Crew obtained a Rover Den in one of the coal offices in Lisson Grove where they remained for 8 years. An aerial for the new popular wireless was erected on the roof. At the Sports under the direction of Ed Anderson the Troop won the tug-of-war. A District Social was held for Jack Knapman, Scoutmaster of the 13th Troop, on his departure to take up an important Scout appointment in Southern Rhodesia.

The second Annual Group Show was run on the lines of the previous year, the pageant being entitled *Alfred the Great*. The special guest one night was the Rt Hon Douglas Hogg, MP, Attorney General, later the first Lord Hailsham, and father of our present District President.

## 1924

With the acquisition of a Rover Den, albeit of a very small size, the Group, or one of its sections or committees, was able in 1924 to meet more frequently. It was thus possible to resume a practice of our parent Group, the holding of a Scouts Own on Sunday afternoons.

The Rover Crew became more active and commenced wireless and photography sections and also paid a visit to the first broadcasting station (2LO) at Savoy House. Again the 8th carried off the district Rover swimming championship, Ed Davies this time being the victor. Malcolm Arnott succeeded Eric Gyngell as

Scoutmaster of the 5th Troop.

Easter Camp was held at Glory Farm, Dorking which for more than thirty years became the site of many subsequent Easters. Various weekend camps were held at Northwood, Edgware and Wendover. For Whitsun the Scouts camped at Godalming and the Rovers at Bognor where they were able to locate and arrange a Summer Camp site at Aldwick, which extended for three weeks.

1924 was the year of the Empire Exhibition held at Wembley. The Scout Movement took the opportunity of holding an Imperial Jamboree which included displays in the Stadium and a large camp in the grounds which accommodated thousands of Scouts from all parts of the British Empire. Some of the 8th Cubs took part in the Grand Howl whilst our Scouts visited the camp on the day of the last camp fire when the Prince of Wales was principal guest.

1924 was also the year of the second International Jamboree which was held in Denmark. Seven of our Rovers took part, spending the first week in the home of Ernest Michaelson near Copenhagen, and the second week in the homes of Danish Scouts at Odense. A Thanks Badge was subsequently presented to Mr. Michaelson.

Both the Cub Pack and Scout Troop made progress with their badges and the Troop finished the year with six First Class Scouts.

The 1924 Group Show was notable for the trial scene from Dickens' *Pickwick Papers* in which we were greatly assisted by A. J. Grimes. This was so popular that it was enacted subsequently in 11 different venues, including the St. Marylebone Home.

## 1925

In 1925 Ernie Wells succeeded Bert Emmott as Editor of *The Diehard* and Cecil Bensted became Business Manager. Early that year our parent body—the old 5th—fell into a difficult period, and at the request of the Rev. J. Vezey-Mason we nominated three members from our ranks to staff the 5th Troop and Pack. Leo Thompson became Scoutmaster, Ernie Wells Cubmaster and Harry Bland ACM.

Partly as a result of these moves the 8th had three new warrant-holders. Will Smith took the place of Llew Johns as Cubmaster, Tom Johns replaced Wal Harvey as ACM, and Vic Kirby became ASM to succeed Leo. Wal Harvey took on the role of Ambulance Badge Instructor. Monty Hunt succeeded Will Smith as District Rover Secretary.

This was the year that the Bulls Troop of New Zealand presented the St. Marylebone Scouts with a flag for annual competition. The 10th Troop were the first winners, the 8th coming top in the camping section. Our Local Association reciprocated by presenting a flag to the Bulls Troop which was conveyed by HMS DIOMEDE. A flag party, including two of our own Group, entrained to Portsmouth when the ceremony was filmed for Pathe Newsreel and we were shown over the old HMS VICTORY.



*At the League of Nations building, Geneva, 1926*

1925 was a busy year. Among other activities the Troop attended the Empire Day service at Wembley and visited the G.P.O., the headquarters of the Fire Brigade and the St. Marylebone dust destroying plant. The Rovers got around to the London Playing Fields Society meeting at the Albert Hall and a Garden Party at Elstree. In the field of service three members became blood transfusion donors. The Cubs upheld the 8th's athletic laurels, taking top place in the District Sports.

This was the year that Albert Pitteway joined the Rover Crew. With 'Pitt' as pianist, and Jack Evans and Peter Smith as violinists, we were able for the first time to have an orchestra for our annual show. A special guest was the International Commissioner, Hubert Martin.

## 1926

The year 1926 was noteworthy in that it saw the first Scout Week ever held in St. Marylebone. The week commenced with the annual St. George's Church Parade and Service when the preacher was the Rev. F. H. Gillingham, the Essex cricket captain. The 8th Group took an active part in the display and exhibition nights, and for the dramatic night restaged the *Pickwick* trial scene. At the Supporters Rally the chief guest was Lord Hampton, Chief Commissioner at Headquarters.

In the same year the first National Rover Moot took place at the Albert Hall in which three of our Rovers took part. In the district H. T. Herring succeeded Lt-Col Howard Mummery as District Commissioner. The Troop came jointly second in the New Zealand Flag Competition.

Our third foreign tour took us to Switzerland when 16 members took part. The first week, after nights in Berne and Thun, was spent at the Scout International Chalet at Kandersteg when eight members succeeded in climbing the Blumlisalp, spending the night in the mountain hut. All 16 crossed the Gemmi Pass and six managed to get as far as Pallanza in Italy. The tour finished with

several days at Geneva, when we visited the League of Nations Building, and in Paris.

Thanks to the mothers of the Scouters the social side of the Group had by this time reached a high standard. Parents Nights had become a regular feature, and useful funds were raised by means of Whist Drives, Jumble Sales and Social Dances. One mother, Mrs. Hampton, made a practice of holding whist drives in her flat in aid of camp funds. A special Troop woggle, designed by Vic Evans and made by the Kangaroo patrol, became an official part of our uniform.

The Rover photography section, under the direction of Bert Emmott, started the construction of a large number of lantern slides illustrating our Switzerland tour and other activities the showing of which became a periodical feature of Parents Nights. The year finished with the customary Carol singing in aid of the Christmas Good Turn.

## IN MEMORIAM

Our Golden Jubilee booklet would not be complete without reference to those of our number, including those killed during the last war, who devoted several years' service to the 8th Group and have been Called Home. When the Group obtained the Mansergh Club as a Headquarters in 1946, one room, dedicated by the then Bishop of Willesden, was constructed and set aside to serve as a Memorial Sanctum, for Investiture Ceremonies and "Scouts Owns", and for housing the Group's dedicated Colours.

The following names, showing year of death, appear on a Roll of Honour which is kept on the altar and is recited at an annual Sanctum re-dedication service and at Old Scouts Reunions.

1926 CHARLES LEWIN	1956 LAURENCE SCATES
1929 CHARLES MARTIN	1958 EDWARD HAMPTON
1931 ALBERT PITTEWAY	1961 VICTOR KIRBY
1932 WILLIAM SCOTT	1962 WILLIAM DENT
1940 DUNCAN MUNRO	1963 WALTER HARVEY
1941 DICK JAMES	BERT EMMOTT
1942 JOSEPH COOK	1963 DAVID KIRBY
STANLEY JENNER	GEORGE TAYLOR
1943 JOHN PRIOR	FRED DUGGLEBY
FRANK REYNOLDS	1964 JOHN MACKINTOSH
DAVID PHILLIPS	1965 ERNEST WELLS
JOHN BRESNAHAM	EDWIN ANDERSON
1944 JOHN DELL	1966 HARRY BLAND
1944 CYRIL EVANS	CYRIL KIRBY
RICHARD WRAIGHT	1967 WILLIAM SHEPHARD
ROBERT WEST	1968 CECIL "NIP" WEBB
1945 ALAN BARRATT	1969 STANLEY MASON
1952 HARRY LEWIN	1970 EDWARD DAVIES
1953 KENNETH CARTER	1971 LESLIE J. KIRBY
JAMES MASON	

## Years of achievement

### 1927-1931

Early in 1927 the 5th Troop and Pack, now administered by three Scouters from the 8th, staged a show in the Emmanuel Parish Hall which was written up for *The Diehard* by Eric Gygell, founder of the 5th Troop. We also used the Emmanuel Hall to give a Swiss Travel Yarn (with slides) in aid of the Church Organ Fund, and attended the London Rover Dance at the Horticultural Hall.

Scouting games on Hampstead Heath became popular again and we enjoyed several 'battles' with the 28th Willesden Troop under Ted Stember. The Cub Pack became much busier on Star work and the Rovers continued with their educative Debates. At the Swimming Gala George Scott won the Anderson Shield.

The New Zealand Flag competition took on a more comprehensive basis, organised by Malcolm Arnott, and consisted of four parts ranging from weekly programme, badge work, camping and administration. The 8th came top in all four sections. Vic Kirby became the first Scouter of the Group to gain the coveted Wood Badge.

While the Troop, in company with the 5th, were camping at Dorking for Easter, the Pack enjoyed a day out at Stanmore Common. Whitsun Camp was held at Cassionbury Park, Watford, when we met 'Tiny' Chamberlain for the first time who was the visiting Commissioner. The Mayor of St. Marylebone, Councillor F. Clarke, was good enough to loan us a field for a District camp site at Potters Bar, and this was utilised for several years, under the supervision of the District Rovers. Erny Hemming transferred from the 26th to the 8th Rover Crew.

Through the good offices of Ed Pitteway the Troop and Crew held their Summer Camp at Pensarn, near Abergele in North Wales. During this camp the four patrol leaders did their 14 mile hike, the Rovers and older Scouts climbed Snowdon and descended a coal mine, and the younger Scouts had a voyage through the Menai Straits to Caernarvon. Following the camp Cecil Bensted, accompanied by the SM on pillion, made a motor cycle tour of part of Scotland.

In the district Dr R. J. Probyn-Williams became Association Secretary.

#### 1928

In January 1928 the Group System came into operation, Les Kirby becoming Group Scoutmaster, Bert Emmott Rover Scout Leader, and Vic Kirby Scoutmaster, with Will Smith remaining as Cubmaster. Assistant Scoutmaster warrants were taken out by Cecil Bensted and Vic Evans.

The Troop attended the first Roland House Pantomime held in St. George's Hall and the Scouters attended the first District Scout Dinner held at Canuto's Restaurant. The Scouts also visited



Birmingham,  
Rover Moot,  
1928

the Central Telegraph Office and the London Fire Brigade Headquarters.

On Palm Sunday the Troop was selected to give a demonstration of recreational games at the London Scottish Headquarters in honour of the King of Afghanistan when the Chief Scout was present, the Rovers forming part of the Guard of Honour.

For Easter Camp we moved to Goring-on-Thames alongside the 26th Group and the Cub Pack spent another day out on Stanmore Common. For Whitsun the Troop camped at Twyford, whilst the Rover Crew attended the National Rover Moot at Birmingham when they were privileged to enact the *Arthurian* episode of a pageant produced by Stuart Munro, and also rendered some items at the camp fire. The pageant was subsequently filmed at Harrow Weald.

For the second successive year the Troop won the New Zealand Flag competition and took three 1st prizes and four 2nds, at the Sports. George Scott won the Rover Challenge Cup at the Gala and the GSM gained the Wood Badge. Albert Pitteway became Business Manager of *The Diehard*.

The year finished with the customary Carol singing and distribution of grocery parcels to the needy.

#### 1929

At the beginning of 1929 Jack Evans succeeded Ernie Wells as Editor of *The Diehard*, and the production was taken over by George Scott, Dick Price, Percy Harrington and Bert Hampton. Further Scouter warrants were taken out, Eddy Hampton becoming Asst. Scoutmaster, and Albert Pitteway ACM.

Our Old Scouts Branch was inaugurated with Ron Andrew as Secretary. The first Reunion was a modest affair, taking the form of a whist drive and camp fire at Capland Street School, Scouters and Rovers also attending. For the first time—and only time—the Local Association forsook a consecrated building for the St. George's Day parade, holding the service at the Grand Kinema, Edgware Road.

By special request the Rover Crew organised concerts in aid of the Aeon Baptist Chapel and Barrow Hill Wesleyan Church.



The Crew also took part in the London Rover Moot at the Guildhall. Instead of a standing camp for Whitsun the Troop took part in a 25 mile hike through Herts and Middlesex. Later our patrol leaders attended the District Patrol Leaders training camp held at Potters Bar.

1929 was the year of the third International Jamboree which was held at Arrowe Park, Birkenhead, to mark the 21st birthday of Scouting, and was attended by 50,000 Scouts from all over the world. In his capacity as District Scoutmaster the GSM was in charge of the Marylebone contingent of 50. At the Thanksgiving Service, attended by the Prince of Wales, the sermon was preached by the new Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Cosmo Lang. During the camp Jack Knapman handed over to the DSM a Rhodesian Totem Pole for a Cub Pack competition in St. Marylebone. This was the year that the Chief Scout was created a peer, taking the title Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell.

The Summer Camp was held at the Glasgow Scouts Centre at Auchengillan when a boat trip was taken down the River Clyde, a visit made to Edinburgh and the senior members climbed Ben Lomond. Following the Camp we were saddened by the death in a street accident of Scout Charlie Martin. Reg Redman became the first Scout of the 8th to become a King's Scout.

At the request of the Local Association Les Kirby compiled a *History of 21 years Scouting in St. Marylebone*. This appeared in serial form in the *Marylebone Mercury* and was subsequently published as a booklet. At the close of the year 1929 the Rev. John Vezey-Mason retired as Vicar of Emmanuel Church after 33 years devoted service during which a large number of our Scouts had come under his guidance and influence. He was succeeded by the Rev. J. Lee Featherstone, a man of much energy and inspiration.

## 1930

The Old Scouts Reunion for 1930 had as special guest Etna Mason, on his discharge from HM forces. This was the year of the St. Marylebone Scout and Guide Week during which our Rover Crew published a daily news bulletin entitled *The Latchkey*. A special feature of the Week was a historical pageant of the borough written by Jean Scott Rogers, Captain of the Emmanuel Guide Company, in which many members of the Group took part. The Week coincided with the 100th issue of *The Diehard* which earned a congratulatory message from B-P.

In preparation for the impending foreign tour both the journeys to Easter Camp at Dorking and Whitsun Camp at Seal Chart were made partly by hiking. At the latter camp a St. Marylebone Ranger Company shared the site, a sequel to the Scout and Guide Week. The Ranger Captain was so impressed by the success of this co-operation that she wrote to the Chief Scout recommending that this become a recognised practice. Apparently the time was not yet ripe for this innovation, the only result being a mild reprimand from Guide Headquarters!

In June no less than 21 members toured Germany being only the third British Group to do so since the 1914-1918 war. The first



*The start of a day's hike through the Black Forest, 1930*

week was spent hiking 60 miles through the Black Forest for which a specially made trike-cart had been constructed by Cecil Benstead. The second week was spent travelling by boat up the Rhine. When we were not camping, our nights were spent in Youth Hostels. Much useful work was undertaken by Bernard Woodford as interpreter.

The Summer Camp was held at High Pear Tree Woods, Bexhill. The site had been found and all food arrangements made by Wal Harvey who had moved to that district thereby having to resign as an active member of the 8th Group. A move to North Wales also necessitated the resignation of Will Lavers who took out a warrant as an ASM in his new district.

The Cubs visited Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament and also received a word of praise from J. F. Colquhoun who had become Headquarters Commissioner for Wolf Cubs. In the district Malcolm Arnott had succeeded H. T. Herring as DC, and the GSM had been appointed ADC (Rovers). The Rovers visited the Golders Green Crematorium, and the whole Group took part in an Alexandra Park Rally to the Chief Scout.

Following the marriage of SM Vic Kirby to Ethel Frame, Vic Evans became Scoutmaster of the 8th Troop, with Jack Evans and George Scott as additional ASM's and Cecil Bensted became Assistant Rover Leader.

At the request of the Vicar, a Punch and Judy show, organised by Albert Wagstaff, was put on at the Emmanuel Sale of Work.

## 1931

Early in 1931 the 8th Group combined with the 7th St. Mary-lebone Guide Company in putting on a show in aid of the Emmanuel Restoration Fund. Jack Evans and George Scott attended a Preliminary Training Course and Bill Scott became Business Manager of *The Diehard*. The Hampton family moved to Herne Hill but Eddy and Bert remained active members of the 8th. The Kirby family moved to Harrow which enabled the Rover Crew to move their Den from the Lisson Grove coal office to 34 Wharncliffe Gardens.

The District Rovers held a working weekend at Downe, a visit to Roland House, and a Rovers' Own at Hinde Street Wesleyan Church when the address was given by Captain Lisle Watson, London Rover Commissioner. Complaints received about the poor printing of the Group magazine resulted in the purchase of a new duplicator.

As a result of a series of dances held in the Parish Hall, organised by Ernie Wells, Dick Price and Mr. and Mrs. Dent it became possible to start a Group Building Fund. Another new innovation was the commencement of an annual cricket match between the Rover Crew and Old Scout Branch, and permission was obtained to hold the first of these on the Nursery at Lord's, with T. L. Bates, Captain of the Church Lads Brigade, acting as umpire.

Over Easter the Cubs had a day out at Stanmore Common and the Scouts and Rovers camped at Dorking. At the District Sports Hector Tuke won both the high and long jumps. The principal item at the 10th Annual Show was E. R. Hougham's dramatic play *Of One Blood* which was produced by Ernie Wells and when some excellent stage effects were made by Cecil Bensted.

Tragedy marked 1931 with the death of Albert Pitteway who had only recently accompanied the GSM to the World Rover Moot in Switzerland. 'Pitt', a most talented pianist, had the sunniest of natures and was a friend of all. His sad passing cast a gloom upon a much wider circle than the Group. Emmanuel Church was packed for the Memorial Service at which the clock given in 'Pitt's' memory was unveiled. When later Emmanuel Church became redundant the clock was moved to the Mansergh Club.

## Nothing depresses the 8th 1932-1936

In 1932 Will Cruickshank became Editor of *The Diehard* and Dick Winter took over the business management. Hon SM Vic Kirby took over the Troop temporarily owing to Vic Evans' absence through illness. Another very sick member was Bill Scott who spent several months in Colindale Hospital, where the Rover Crew put on a concert.

The District Rovers had a weekend camp at Downe and a night hike in the St. Albans area. They also attended a NW London Rover Conference at the YMCA Headquarters, when the GSM read a paper on *The Rover Crew and the Group*. The Group again joined with the local Guides in staging a show in aid of the Emmanuel Church restoration and the Scouters attended the District dinner which was held at the Somerset Hotel. The District Rovers and Rangers formed the VENTURERS DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

Albert Wagstaff filled the ACM vacancy left by 'Pitt's' death and the Rev. J. Lee Featherstone became an honorary member of the Crew. The Old Scouts Reunion took the form of a supper held at Capland Street School and served by the Senior Scout patrol. Bernard Woodford was elected the first Branch Chairman. The Rovers v Old Scouts cricket match was again played at Lord's, and after two years the Troop once more came top in the New Zealand Flag Camp. At the District Gala Joe Anderson won the Anderson Shield.

Again the year became marked with tragedy, with the death of Bill Scott, and again our loss was one of the best and most popular lads in the Group. At the turn of the year our old friend, the Rev. John Vezey-Mason also died.

## 1933

Early in the New Year a Memorial Service was held at Emmanuel both for the Rev. Vezey-Mason and Bill Scott. Ernest Carlos' picture *The Pathfinder* which was dedicated to Bill is now in the Mansergh Memorial Sanctum.

During 1933 the Group touched high levels of achievement, winning the New Zealand Flag with the magnificent total of 93.3%, and also winning the Bullen Shield. The Anderson swimming shield was retained, again by Andy. No fewer than eight First Class badges were gained and a dozen of our Scouts helped to form the chorus for Ralph Reader's second *Gang Show* at the Scala Theatre. One of the rehearsals was held at the Downe Camping ground where the Troop also spent a weekend camp when the Chief Scout opened the swimming bath.

After eight most praiseworthy years as Cubmaster Will Smith resigned. He had intended to give up on his marriage in 1931 but galantly carried on when we lost 'Pitt'. He was succeeded as CM



Cubs enjoy a day on Wimbledon Common, 1934

by Albert Wagstaff, with Bob Larkin succeeding Tom Johns as ACM. Ernie Wells succeeded Bert Emmott as Rover Leader, and Vic Kirby became Rover Leader of the 1st Hatch End Crew. The Old Scout Reunion took the form of a Dinner at the Bedford College Restaurant when the guest of honour was Eric Gyngell, founder of the 5th. Ed Anderson succeeded Bernard Woodford as chairman, and Will Smith followed Ron Andrew as secretary. The annual cricket match was again held at Lord's and the District Rovers held a series of study circles in preparation for 'Quest' service. Our Crew also built a new stage for the Parish Hall.

At the summer camp held in Jersey we visited St. Malo in France and took part in the Battle of Flowers. The Patrol Leaders and the GSM spent a day in Guernsey, the home of Mrs Featherstone.

At the end of the year Syd Larkin succeeded Dick Price as Dance Secretary, and at the request of the District Cubmaster, Mrs Wellington, three Cubs were transferred from the 4th to the 8th Pack.

## 1934

In 1934 Jack Evans succeeded Vic Evans as Scoutmaster, George Scott became ARL and Will Cruickshank became ASM. In the district Malcolm Arnott resigned as DC on leaving London and was succeeded by Mr (now Sir) Thomas Robson. An attempt was made to form a District Old Scouts Association but this received little support and was allowed to lapse.

Troop Leader Bill Dent represented St. Marylebone at the St. George's Day Service at Windsor, and the Troop visited the Central Telegraph Office and the St. Marylebone Generating Station. The Troop also repeated its success in carrying off the New Zealand Flag. The Pack won not only the Sports but the Cricket Shield. Jack Evans upheld the Crew's prestige by winning the Rover 3-lengths' race at the Gala. The Cubs spent days out at Wimbledon Common, Bushey and Harrow Weald. Lionel Smith won the Gilt

Cross for life saving.

1934 was the centenary year of Emmanuel Church, and several members of the Group took leading parts in *The Pageant of the People* which was specially written by Jean Scott Rogers for the occasion. Performances were given both in the Parish Hall and the Rudolf Steiner Hall. Another joint show *Reflections* was put on by the Group and 7th Marylebone Guide Company.

The Venturers Dramatic Society gave their first stage show, and our Rovers visited Roland House and gave a welcome to a Rover Crew from Greenford. Len Pickford became a publisher of *The Diehard* and, except for the war years, has continued that job ever since. Vic Kirby took office as Old Scout Branch Chairman.

A new set of Rules of Constitution were drawn up by the Old Scout Branch and these subsequently formed the basis of the Rules laid down by the B-P Scout Guild.

## 1935

At the beginning of 1935 Dick Winter succeeded Will Barton as Group Treasurer, an office he had held since the Group was founded. The Rev. Paige Hudson gave a talk to the Rover Crew on the aims of The Oxford Group, A. J. Grimes a talk on Dickens and Mr Goldsmith, Station Officer at Edgware Road Fire Station, spoke about fire-fighting. A District Rover Social was held at Capland Street School.

The Troop visited the Port of London Authority, the London Telephone Exchange and the Home Office Industrial Museum. The Pack took part in the District Cub camp at Maidenhead and a river and dock cruise on the Thames. The District Old Scouts held a dance at the Portman Rooms.

We welcomed back Vic Evans from Somerset where he had become engrossed with nature study which he was able to pass on with interesting yarns to the Troop. Bert Emmott was also able to become active again and he contributed a useful article on *Photography in Scouting* for *The Diehard*.

The year of the King's Jubilee was marked with appropriate activities by all sections of the Group. The Scouts sold programmes along the route, two King's Scouts were on duty at the United Services Club, the Cubs attended the Jubilee Camp, and the Rovers enjoyed themselves by building a massive bonfire beacon on Primrose Hill.

The Troop completed its hat-trick of consecutive successes in the New Zealand Flag competition. The Rovers acquired a new Den at Randolph Mews and, in honour of the event, were reinforced by an influx of eight Scouts to the Crew—all of them with the First Class badge. The GSM completed his first quarter-century of Scouting and the Group presented him with a statuette in appreciation.

Will Smith became Old Scout Branch Chairman, John Balls became Secretary, and the guest of honour at that year's Reunion Dinner was Colonel Birney, HQ Commissioner for Old Scouts, and



On the summit of Helvellyn, 1936

District Commissioner for Dorking, where he visited us at Easter Camp.

After a five year break because of the economic trouble, our 6th foreign tour was held and took us to Belgium where nights were spent at Liege, Barvoux, Laroche, Rochfort, Dinant, Namur, Ypres and Ostend.

We said farewell to the Rev. J. Lee Featherstone on his move to Westcliff.

### 1936

Early in 1936 the Group paraded for the Induction Service of the new Vicar of Emmanuel Church, the Rev. W. T. Veel. About the same time Albert Wagstaff retired as Cubmaster after several years' excellent service, and was succeeded by Bob Larkin, Charlie Joby becoming ACM. The Pack began to use the Rover Den for badge instruction.

Will Breedon was elected Chairman of the Old Scouts Branch, and the guest of honour at the Reunion was an old Capland Street schoolmaster, Morgan Jones. The Old Scouts commenced the practice of forming a rota to give a monthly yarn to the Scout Troop. The annual Rovers v Old Scout cricket match was again held at Lord's.

With the acquisition of motor cars by one or two Scouters and Rovers the Crew held their Whitsun camp at Hythe whilst the Troop held theirs at Harrow Weald. The Rovers also carried out a hike around Virginia Water, and the Cubs had outings to Burnt Oak and Hampstead Heath. For the Summer Camp we went to Windermere for the second time and amongst other adventurous activities the older members climbed Helvellyn. Two of the Rovers, Roy Wilson and Joe Cook, carried out a cycling tour in Scotland. Dick Prior attended the opening of Great Towers Camping ground by Lord Baden-Powell.

General Sir John Shea was appointed County Commissioner for London, a post he held for nearly 12 years during which he made a most devoted impact on London Scouting. The Group held a social evening to bid farewell to the Rev. Paige Hudson on his

leaving Emmanuel curacy for Birmingham. In the district we mourned the death of our first District Commissioner, A. E. Rogers. The Troop again came first in the New Zealand Flag camp and Harry Bangs won the Anderson shield at the Gala, the Group also winning the relay race.

1936 witnessed the end of the 33 year lease which Emmanuel Church held of the Parish Hall in Aberdeen Place. The GSM who had become Parish Hall Secretary on the death of T. L. Bates, formed one of a deputation to the Borough Council appealing for a renewal of the lease but this was turned down as the Council had decided to enlarge its electricity power station. The loss of this hall, and Church school, was greatly missed by Emmanuel people. With other changes it meant that THE DIEHARDS' 15th Annual Show, aptly named *At Sundown*, was held in the hall for the last time.

### THE EIGHTH ON THE STAGE

The following is the complete list of annual shows presented by the Group since it was founded in 1921. In the early years no particular title was given to the show and therefore the statement, up to 1935, gives the principal item appearing on the programme.

Year	Title	Year	Title
1922	ROBIN HOOD	1947	EASY STAGES
1923	ALFRED THE GREAT	1948	STEPPING OUT
1924	BARDELL V PICKWICK	1949	GOING PLACES
1925	POT-POURRI	1950	ON THE HIGHWAY
1926	THE GUNPOWDER PLOT	1951	FAIR FARE
1927	WHITE GABLES MYSTERY	1952	ESCAPALA
1928	THE BROKER'S MAN	1953	REGALIA
1929	MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS	1954	RADIO RAMBLES
1930	THRONOUT V CHARMING	1955	DIEHARD ANNUAL
1931	OF ONE BLOOD	1956	ON THE RIGHT LINE
1932	THREAD O' SCARLET	1957	GOLDEN DAYS
1933	BANQUO'S CHAIR	1958	HIGH JINKS
1934	LOVE ONE ANOTHER	1959	FLING HIGH
1935	MARIE CELESTE	1960	HI-LIGHTS
1936	AT SUNDOWN	1961	FORTY LINKS
1937	CHANGING PLACES	1962	ZIG-ZAG
1938	THE DIEHARDS REVIEW	1963	LET'S GO
1944	THE DIEHARDS REVIVAL	1964	UP THE POLE
1945	LIGHTING UP	1965	BLACK AND GOLD
1946	JUBILATION	1966	RELEASO
		1967	HOME AND DRY
		1968	BANG ON
		1969	SPARKLES
		1970	CLEAN SWEEP
		1971	GOLDEN REVIEW

## Business as usual during the war 1937-1941

Coronation activities in 1937 brought with them another spell of programme selling along the procession route by several of our Scouts. The Rovers erected crush barriers in Piccadilly beforehand, and had two members on duty in Westminster Abbey. Thanks to the good offices of Stanley Mason the Group inaugurated a special tie—black with double gold stripes. These were worn for the first time at the Old Scout Reunion at which Will Barton was elected Chairman, and the guest of honour was our old Sunday School superintendent, Bert Grimes.

George Scott succeeded Ernie Wells as Rover Leader, whilst Bert Emmott returned as ARL. In the Troop SM Jack Evans set an essay test for potential patrol leaders entitled *Why am I a Scout?* *The Diehard* saw further changes, Jack Prior becoming editor, John Nunn sub-editor, Dick Prior business manager, and Cecil Dent joining Len Pickford as a publisher. About the same time Joe Anderson became ACM in the Pack, and Dick Prior ASM in the Troop. Alf Cook left the active Group to enter the Royal Navy. The District Gala was held at the new Seymour Pool.

This was an outstanding year for badge work in the Troop—50 Proficiency badges, 2 All-round cords, 4 First Class and no less than 5 King's Scout. The Court of Honour assumed a more responsible status, and the Troop took part in an ARP (Air Raid Precautions) demonstration. The Crew formed a working party for a weekend camp at Downe, and for the first time held their Whitsun camp alongside the Thames, at Medmenham.

Summer camp was held at Milford, Hants, and 11 members took part in a second tour of Switzerland, spending a week at the Scout Chalet, Kandersteg, and hiking the second week across Joch Pass to Engleberg and across Surenen Pass to Kulmberg. Owing to a misdirection we descended 4,000 feet in darkness and learned later that the route we climbed down had never been taken before! The tour ended with a couple of days in Zurich.

Towards the end of the year we sustained a sad loss in the death of the "mother" of the Group, Mrs Kirby.

### 1938

In 1938 the Committee of the Council at IHQ proposed that signalling should become an optional instead of a compulsory test for the 1st and 2nd Class badges. The 8th Group took a leading part in a resolution sent to IHQ by the St. Marylebone Local Association opposing the suggested change which was eventually dropped. A District Rover Ball was held at the Portman Rooms.

During the year the GSM was awarded the Medal of Merit, and Dick Prior became the third member of the Group to gain the



At Kandersteg,  
Switzerland,  
1937

Wood Badge. For the first time the Group won the "double"—the Pack with the Rhodesian Totem Pole and the Troop with the New Zealand Flag. Several members of the Crew took part in the National Rover Moot held at Gatton Park, near Reigate.

Guests of honour at the Old Scouts Reunion were 'Duke' Wellington and Vic Roques. Ron Andrew became the Branch Chairman and at the annual meeting it was decided to inaugurate an emergency fund to make loans to Old Scouts in temporary difficulty. Several members made generous donations to this fund which was found useful during the war. It was subsequently merged with the Good Turn Fund.

August 1938 saw *The Diehard* reach its 200th edition when articles were written by all past editors and a special message of congratulation was received from the Deputy Chief Scout, Lord Somers.

Training continued unabated, all Sixers in the Pack gaining the 2nd Star and all patrol leaders the 1st Class Badge, with one more King's Scout.

By kind permission of the Rabbi at the St. John's Wood Synagogue, our 17th Annual Group Show was held at the Montifiore Hall under the title of *The Diehards' Review*. The Cubs enacted *Snow White and the seven mushrooms* written by Peter Ross who had become ACM. This was later performed at the St. Mark's Hospital, City Road. The Troop staged *Billy Bunter's Uncle*, the Crew *The Nineteenth Hole* and the Old Scouts *The Diehard Fitch*. Later the Group was again in the Montifiore Hall helping at the Emmanuel Fancy Fair.

### 1939

Early in 1939 the DOBS Concert Party (Diehards' Old Boys) came into existence on the instigation of Ron Andrew and gave its first show at Greenford. About the same time a Judo Club was formed in the Group under the leadership of Bert Emmott. Charles

Joby succeeded Bob Larkin as Cubmaster. Following the war scare of the previous year a National Service Badge was instituted by Scout Headquarters. District instruction classes were held for this badge and 12 members of the 8th qualified for it.

At the Old Scouts Reunion A. J. Jones and W. A. Martin, two old St. Marylebone Scouters were guests of honour and Harry Bland became Branch Chairman. King's Scout Stan Jenner represented the Group at the St. George's Day Service at Windsor. At the Whitsun Camp at Harrow Weald no less than 157 visitors and campers had tea on Whit-Monday. The District Rovers held a debate on *Total Abstinence* and the District Patrol Leaders held a Conference on board the RRS DISCOVERY.

For the first time a Summer Camp was not held in the UK but by a special invitation the Troop toured Denmark for the third time, visiting Copenhagen, Odense and Elsinore in addition to Halsinberg in Sweden. Unfortunately, the imminence of war compelled Scout Headquarters to order all British Scouts travelling abroad to come home. A telegram actually arrived with this order while we were taking part in a camp fire. To the mutual regret of the Danes and ourselves our tour was curtailed and we arrived back in England only three days before the outbreak of war.

Almost immediately nearly the whole of our Cubs and Scouts were evacuated from London, and the older boys became ARP messengers. The Group Headquarters at Capland Street School was commandeered by the First Aid and Demolition squads, and *The Diehard* magazine became the only means of keeping members of the Group in contact. Letters started to flow in from school-boys, Rovers, and Old Scouts called up with the Forces, and these were all published in *The Diehard*.

Several of our Scouts attending the St. Marylebone Grammar School were able to carry on their Scouting at Redruth in Cornwall. At the Government's request those Scouts still in London commenced the job of waste paper collection. For the first time an autumn went by without an Annual Show. By the end of 1939 twelve past and present members of the Group had joined HM Forces, and the Christmas Good Turn was used to send them parcels.

## 1940

Early in 1940 we regained part use of Capland Street School and in place of the annual reunion we held a Rally at the school which was attended by no less than 40 Old Scouts and 21 Rovers. The extension of service registration gradually reduced our Rover Crew besides cutting into our Old Scout Branch. Forces letters in *The Diehard* became more and more numerous.

Shortage of storage place for our waste paper collection necessitated moving in turn from the Rover Den to Emmanuel Vestry, the local Orphanage and the Nursery at Lord's, the last-named of which we obtained by the kindness of Sir Pelham Warner. Our ultimate collection reached over 8 tons. An interesting sequel was

that our Scouts sold match cards for one or two charity matches held at Lord's. Four Rovers upheld our tradition by holding an Easter Camp at Dorking. The St. George's Day service was held for the first time at Emmanuel Church, the DC, T. B. Robson, giving the address.

The grave turn which the war took in the Spring broke up our Whitsun Camp and brought our Scouts more national service. Two became messengers at the St. Marylebone Town Hall, others helped with the ARP and AFS and four Rovers joined the Home Guard. Four of our Old Scouts serving in France got safely home from Dunkirk.

Scout Headquarters suggested that Troop Summer Camps might be used in part to help farmers but despite our offer to farmers in three counties no response was received. We held a week's camp at Knebworth Park, Herts, where we undertook lake-weeding and felled 60 birch trees. With the coming of food rationing the problem of camp catering during the war became very involved, and we were deeply indebted to our old friend J. W. 'Tynny' Bradshaw, a Town Hall official, for his invaluable help.

The start of intensive air raids in September resulted in even more extensive evacuation, and for a time we were left with only 6 Scouts and 4 Cubs. Normal Troop and Pack work was quite impracticable but the boys who remained carried on with waste paper collection and other national service and with the distribution of *The Diehard*, the Christmas issue of which contained a special forces edition, edited by Stanley Mason. The year finished with 47 Old Scouts and Rovers serving with the forces.

## 1941

In January 1941 the whole Scout Movement was saddened by the death in Kenya of its Founder, Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell. In view of the war no national memorial service was held, districts being asked to make arrangements locally. A special service was held at Emmanuel Church when on the invitation of the Vicar the address was given by the GSM.

With the growing number of members with the forces the back inside cover of *The Diehard* was utilised by Les 'Lollo' Lawrence for a series of cartoons depicting many Old Scouts *As they were—As they are*. With the gradual decline of air raids several Scouts returned from evacuation and the Cub Pack increased in size, two of the recruits being the sons of the Capland Street schoolkeeper, John and Brian Smith. It was also found possible to resume fortnightly whist drives at the school.

Tragic news reached us of the death on May 29 of Dick James in action at Crete. Joining the Royal Navy only shortly before the war Dick was a great favourite with all the Group, and several of his friends wrote touching tributes in a memorial issue of *The Diehard*. A special service was held at Emmanuel, and his parents presented a statuette in his memory to be competed for at the discretion of the Scouters.

Getting back into routine both Easter and Whitsun camps were resumed and held at Knebworth whilst the Summer camp was held at Home Farm, Purley, when we were able to help the farmer with the weeding of a mangold field. Much help was afforded by Old Scout Wal Harvey whose employers had been evacuated to Purley Park. Camp feeding during the war was greatly aided by the ladies of DIEHARDIA raiding their larders for us. The first Group Social gathering of the war was held at midsummer when 28 Old Scouts and 12 Rovers with their ladies were amongst the present.

Vic Kirby, who was evacuated with his family, found time between his Air Ministry duties to become Scoutmaster of the 2nd Harrogate Troop. Our Cub Pack increased its activities and had a day outing to Harrow Weald while the Scout Troop were busy erecting indoor air raid shelters.

With the ever increasing number of Old Scouts, Scouters and Rovers with the forces *The Diehard* was now devoting half of its pages to letters from different parts of the world. A special article written by Stan Mason entitled *Tales at the Camp Fire* and illustrated by 'Lollo' appeared in the December magazine which also included a full list of Diehard warriors, by then numbering 67. PL Derek Prior joined the staff at Scout Headquarters.

#### 8TH GROUP ROLL OF KING'S and QUEEN'S SCOUTS

1921 W. Smith	1949 J. Cuthbert	1956 R. Jordan
V. Kirby	B. Smith	J. Sherry
1929 R. Redman	A. Clarke	1957 P. Peeling
1934 J. Cook	D. Clarke	I. Smith
1935 R. Wilson	1950 P. Whale	K. Price
1937 A. Cook	B. Drinkwater	1958 P. Harrington
H. Bangs	K. Carter	1959 D. Williams
V. Dodd	B. Groom	1960 D. Elcome
W. Tuersley	1951 J. Valentine	1961 D. Eatwell
B. Young	B. Burrell	1962 J. Williams
1938 S. Jenner	1952 D. Copp	1963 D. Trollope
1940 B. Geere	R. Scales	D. Meaden
E. Thomas	D. Kirby	R. Syrett
C. Symmons	C. Wood	1964 P. Larkin
R. Goldstaub	1953 J. King	D. Barrett
1943 D. Prior	1954 G. Williams	R. Eatwell
D. Longdon	1955 D. Bailin	1966 A. Meaden
J. Records	J. Eatwell	1967 C. Amies
W. Lee	A. Frisby	M. Foster
1944 R. Daniels	M. Walsh	1968 J. Larkin
1946 R. Robertson	J. Whale	P. Kenyon
R. Mount		

## The war takes its toll of our lads 1942 — 1946

No less than nine older Scouts became Rovers early in 1942 and held a Debate *That after the war an international army be instituted*. A St. Marylebone Youth Week was held at the Polytechnic Annexe when the 8th Troop enacted sketches written by Ernie Wells illustrative of the Scout Law, reported on in *The Diehard* by 'Du Kerina'. The Group co-operated with the local Girl Guides in organising a fair in aid of the B-P Memorial Fund which nearly 20 years later resulted in Baden-Powell House.

The war had inevitably reduced the Group's man-power. We all regretted the departure of RSL George Scott and SM Jack Evans for the forces, and in their absence the Crew and Troop were managed by Bert Emmott and Dick Prior, aided by the GSM. All three Pack Scouters—Charlie Joby, Joe Anderson and Peter Ross—had joined-up, and we were fortunate to obtain the services of Bert 'Robbo' Robertson, an ARP worker and an Old Scout of the 6th Group, who became Acting Cubmaster. Another newcomer about this time was 'Chips' Wood who became District Badge Secretary and later Treasurer of the Memorial Building Fund.

With deep regret we learned that Rover Joe Cook was reported missing from air operations on June 18 and Stan Jenner on October 15. Later John Bresnaham was reported missing in the Far East.

Summer Camp took place at Purley Park when 31 took part, the largest since 1931, and we had to camouflage our tents. Old Scout Fred Larkin became GSM of the 3rd Stanmore Group and Stan Mason CM of the 16th Wembley Pack where he was helped by Will Smith. Scouters and Old Scouts of the 8th met to discuss the report on the Post-War Commission set up by the new Chief Scout, Lord Somers, and resolved that as a War Memorial the Group should aim to have its own Headquarters by the time of our 25th birthday in October 1946.

The Group reached its 21st birthday in October 1942 and had to restrict its celebrations to publishing special editions of *The Diehard* for the three months, October, November and December. Stan Mason again edited the Christmas number to which many Old Scouts contributed to the feature *My Greatest Thrill in Scouting*. Mr and Mrs Harry Bland organised a band of ladies to knit gloves, socks and scarves for our boys away with the forces. By this time the Roll had increased to 95, of whom 1 had been killed, 3 missing and 3 discharged.

Den Longden became the first holder of the Dick James Trophy.



*Flag-up at Purley Park, Reading, 1942*

*"Now as I start upon my chosen way  
In all I do—my thoughts, my work, my play;  
Grant, as I promise, courage new for me  
To be the best—the best that I can be."  
(Scout Hymn: Ralph Reader)*

## 1943

With most of the Rovers now in the forces the Rover Crew virtually ceased to exist and it became necessary to cease tenancy of the Rover Den in Randolph Mews. As a start to the campaign to raise funds to possess our own Headquarters, a Group Social was held at Lord's Tavern when much help was given by Tom May and Frank Cuthbert, the guest of honour being Sir Pelham Warner. Our Memorial Building Fund jumped from £75 to £160. (Little did anyone think then that one day we would own a £25,000 HQ!)

At a Rally held at the Royal Albert Hall to meet the Chief Scout, directed by General Sir John Shea and produced by Cecil Potter, the 8th Troop, the only one to appear separately in the arena, gave a demonstration of instructional games. The 8th Pack provided all four Sixers from the district to take part in the Grand Howl. T. B. Robson was succeeded as District Commissioner by 'Duke' Wellington who brought Sir John Shea to visit the Troop and Pack at Capland Street School.

The Troop gained a record number of 64 proficiency badges and all four patrol leaders became King's Scouts. In addition the PL's acted as cyclist messengers on ARP exercises and assisted with salvage work at St. Mary's Hospital. The Pack gained 10 First Stars, 7 Second Stars and 20 proficiency badges and paid visits to the RRS DISCOVERY and the Highgate Lido. The first full Easter camp since 1939 was held at Dorking, and the Whitsun camp at Harrow Weald when 23 out of a possible 24 Scouts took part. The Summer camp was again held at Purley Park when the farmer was



*A voyage of discovery along the River Thames—Pangbourne, 1943*

so pleased with the help given by the Scouts that he offered to pay for their services.

To our deep regret the death of Stan 'Bim' Jenner was confirmed. His parents presented a silver cup to his memory which it was decided to use for a patrol camping competition. We were delighted to hear that Old Scout Alf Cook had been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for gallantry.

The Group suffered tragic blows with the news that Jack Prior was reported missing on air operations, that Frank Reynolds had been killed in action, that John Bresnahan had died in enemy hands, and that David Phillips had died of wounds. The Group 'Warrior' Roll at the end of the year stood at 106, with 5 dead and 2 missing. Memorial issues of *The Diehard* were published for those who had passed on. A supplement to the December magazine was again edited by Stan Mason entitled *Scouting Development Commission*.

## 1944

A New Year's Party was held in the School in 1944 to celebrate the award of the Distinguished Service Medal to Petty Officer Alf Cook. In the Pack the outstanding feature of the year was the winning of the District Totem Pole thanks to the excellent training given by 'Robbo' and 'Chips'. The Troop continued service with the erection of Morrison shelters and acted as guides to the blind at Burlington House. The patrol leaders attended County PL Con-



ferences at one of which Derek Prior led the session on *Inter-patrol Competitions*.

The year was marked by the sad death of the Chief Scout, Lord Somers, four members of the Group attending the Memorial Service at Windsor. A Dramatic Show—*The Diehard's Revival*—was staged at the De Walden Institute in May, with Ernie Wells as producer and 'Nip' Webb as stage manager. Earlier in the day our Scouts and Cubs earned £15 for the Overseas Scouts Relief Service. The Seniors took part in the Borough Youth Week by presenting *The Black Barn* at the Polytechnic.

This was another year of tragedy for DIEHARDIA, first as a result of a flying bomb falling on Wharncliffe Gardens, by which three members of the Group lost parents, and many of our friends were rendered homeless; and later, with the news that John Dell was reported missing on air operations, that Richard Wraight had died and that Cyril Evans had been killed in action. It was also another year of pride, in that Jack Prior was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal.

Vic Kirby was presented with the Medal of Merit for his Scout work at Harrogate, and Den Longdon received a Certificate of Merit for ARP work. A letter was received from the Town Clerk commending the Group for its work in erecting 50 air raid shelters. The Christmas Good Turn was devoted to providing relief to our friends who had suffered in the Wharncliffe disaster.

*The Diehard* continued to serve as a correspondence link with the Forces, an average of 15 letters being published in the magazine each month. It became necessary to increase the price from 2d to 3d, and the circulation rose by over 100, copies finding their way all over the world. The total Group Roll now numbered 112 of whom 7 had been killed and 3 missing.

## 1945

Early in 1945, anticipating the conclusion of hostilities, a Memorial Building Fund Committee was appointed with Vic Kirby, who had returned from Harrogate, as Secretary and 'Chips' Wood as Treasurer. Their terms of reference were to raise the fund to £1,000 by the end of the year. To add prestige to the campaign we were fortunate to obtain the names of Sir Pelham Warner, Sir William Reid Dick and Sir Louis Sterling as Patrons. The most fruitful means of Revenue came from two Dances held at the Seymour Hall (over £350) and a Grand Draw (over £200) organised by Albert Wagstaff. The fund was augmented by a rummage sale, fun fair, Christmas bazaar, raffles, whist drives, sales of gifts and a day of work.

Normal Scout and Cub activities were not neglected. The Pack visited the Coliseum and had day excursions to Bognor and Stanmore Common. At the resumed District Gala the Troop won the relay race and took both 1st and 2nd places in the Anderson Shield. The patrol leaders and seconds joined those of the 3rd Stanmore in a weekend camp at Chorley Wood where Will Lavers was helping

Fred Larkin. To augment our transport of camp gear by trek cart Fred kindly made and presented the Group with a trailer for use with Les's Austin Seven.

The Group resumed the pre-war practice of a two night Dramatic Show which was held at St. Mark's Hall, Marylebone Road. The first half of *Lighting Up* took the form of sketches and songs by the Troop and Pack, whilst the second half (in the absence of the Rover Crew in the forces) was utilised by the Old Scouts in a resurrection of the 21st anniversary production of the Mock Trial *Bardell v Pickwick*, when our old friend Alf Grimes acted as Pickwick.

With the end of the war and demobilisation, Les Smith was able to resume as Editor of *The Diehard*, and Len Pickford and Cecil Dent as publishers. Dick Prior commenced his 10th consecutive year as Business Manager. During the year memorial issues were published to the memory of those missing. Between September 1939 and December 1945 over 1,000 Forces letters had been published. As far as can be traced 117 Old Scouts and Rovers of the 8th Group had served, 11 making the supreme sacrifice. It was resolved that when our new Group Headquarters were obtained, one room should be set aside to serve as a Memorial Sanctum to be used for investiture ceremonies and Scouts Owns.

## 1946

The year 1946 saw both the Group's Silver Jubilee and the acquisition of new Group Headquarters. Negotiations had commenced in 1945 with the owners of the Mansergh-Woodall Club for the Group to be granted a lease of the property which before the war had been occupied by a Boys' Club founded by F. Mansergh and Sir Corbet Woodall. During the war the premises had been taken over by the Borough Council as a mortuary. Edward Woodall, a grandson of the joint founder, was elected Group President, and largely due to his influence, as there was no chance of the old club reviving, the 8th Group was granted a 7 year lease as from July. Two rooms on the top floor were converted into a flat and Mr. and Mrs. Hampton took up residence as caretakers. Various sub-committees were appointed to deal with administration, works, chattels, canteen and sub-letting.

On demobilisation George Scott and Jack Evans resumed charge of the Crew and Troop respectively, 'Robbo' officially succeeded Charlie Joby as Cubmaster, and an additional ASM's warrant was taken out by Bill Barker. The Senior Scouts formed a separate Troop under Bert Emmott. The Old Scouts resumed their annual Reunion Dinner, now at Lord's Tavern, and Ernie Wells succeeded Harry Bland as Chairman who stood down after seven years' service. The Old Scouts also organised a boat trip to Southend and a visit to the Golders Green pantomime, and their annual cricket match with the Rovers took place in Regent's Park. John Balls resumed as OS Secretary and Bob Larkin as Group Secretary. 'Chips' Wood succeeded Dick Winter as Group Treasurer.

The Cub Pack paid visits to the zoo and to Amersham and attracted many recruits. The Troop won the first post-war New Zealand Flag competition and held their Summer camp at Berry-narbor, N. Devon, from where they visited Clovelly and Westward Ho! and the four PL's did their 20 mile hike for the Venturers Badge. King's Scouts Bill Lee and Roy Daniels attended the St. George's Day Service at Windsor. The first Parents Night was held at the Mansergh Club when a Supporter's Pin was presented to Mr W. H. Smith, the Capland Street Schoolkeeper who with his wife had done so much there to help the Group during the difficult war years.

Our Silver Jubilee celebrations commenced with a Thanksgiving Service at St. Mark's Church when the preacher was our old Vicar, the Rev. J. Lee Featherstone. Following the service our new Headquarters was officially opened by the County Commissioner, General Sir John Shea. Other events of the Jubilee Week were a Seymour Hall Dance, a handicraft exhibition, an Old Time Musical and Old Time Dance; Scouting on the Screen; the Annual Dramatic Show, when we presented *Treasure Island* at the Portland Hall, and finally a Jamboree which was opened by Colonel J. S. Wilson, Director of the Scouts International Bureau, and was attended by hundreds of Scouts, Cubs, Guides and Brownies from all parts of London and the Home Counties. An outstanding feature of the Jubilee was the production of a Souvenir Handbook and official programme which contained the 25 years history of the Group and was edited by Stan Mason and produced by Albert Wagstaff. In December *The Diehard* published its 300th edition which included reports of all the Jubilee functions and a message from the Chief Scout, Lord Rowallan.

#### THANKS BADGE RECIPIENTS

1922 Rev. F. W. Woods	1954 Mrs N. Bland
Mrs M. Hampton	Mrs M. Symmons
1924 Mr E. Michaelson	1955 Mrs J. Wood
1929 Rev. J. Vezey-Mason	Mrs R. Frisby
1933 Mr John Murray	1958 Mrs M. Evans
1935 Mr W. E. Barton	Mrs L. Scott
1937 Mr W. H. Dent	1959 Mrs C. Lee
Mrs W. Dent	1963 Mrs E. Elcome
1938 Mr J. Chitty	Mrs R. Barrett
1944 Mr A. Bucknell	Mrs P. Kimm
1945 Mrs J. Evans	1965 Mr T. Barrett
Mrs M. Prior	1967 Mrs G. Ahern
1946 Miss E. Kirby	1968 Mr R. Barney
Mrs G. Smith	Mr C. Pryke
1949 Mrs S. James	1969 Mr C. Robinson
1950 Mr J. Bradshaw	Mr F. Judson
1951 Mrs O. Wells	1971 Mrs I. Barker
Mr J. D. Murray	Mrs M. Larkin
1953 Mr C. Lee	Mrs D. Ward
Mr F. Mount	Col. Lloyd-Lowles
	Mr M. Horsfall

## We settle in our new home 1947 — 1951

After intensive labour by the Works Panel (T. Martin, C. Webb, R. Price, W. Harrington and H. Bland) the Memorial Sanctum was completed in time for its Dedication on February 9 1947 by the Bishop of Willesden, Dr. Michael Gresford Jones. One room at the Club was converted to a hostel and during the year 218 Scouts from various countries slept at the Club, including 50 from Austria. Social events held at the Club included 8 dances and 21 whist drives, besides a Harvest Home and Christmas Fair.

For the Royal Wedding of Princess Elizabeth to the Duke of Edinburgh Brian Smith and Peter Whale were amongst those who sold programmes along the processional route, the GSM being in charge of one of the programme depots in Green Park. The Old Scouts again held their Reunion at Lord's, the guest of honour being A. W. Hurlll, then General Secretary at Scout Headquarters. Wal Harvey was elected Chairman, Fred Larkin Secretary and George Humphreys Treasurer. Phil Quin succeeded Dick Prior as Business Manager of *The Diehard*. A pair of handsome gates for the Mansergh Club were made and presented by Fred Larkin. The Old Scout Branch was honoured in that the GSM was invited to explain our own organisation and programme at the Gilwell Conference called to discuss the formation of the B-P Scout Guild. Bill Dent became Asst. Rover Leader.

Three patrol leaders, Roy Robertson, Roger Kirby and Doug Jenner, attended the World Jamboree in France. Thanks to the Works Panel we were able to hold our 21st Annual Show at the Mansergh Club under the title *Easy Stages*.

### 1948

We mourned the death early in 1948 of our resident caretaker, Mrs. Hampton. She was succeeded by Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Evans. The owners of the Club defrayed the cost of erecting a brick wall for the forecourt in place of the existing dilapidated wooden fence. A memorial tablet to the old boys' club was affixed to the wall of the main hall and was unveiled by the Group President, Edward Woodall. The old plunge pool which formed part of the old club was now converted for the purpose of storing camp equipment. The practice was commenced of affording weekend accommodation for King's Scouts from all parts of the country attending the St. George's Day Service at Windsor, a practice continued for many years.

The Cub Pack continued its useful activities, winning the Rhodesian Totem Pole, and gaining innumerable badges, including



*Les briefing Doug Jenner, Roger Kirby and Roy Robertson in preparation for their attendance at the Jamboree of Peace held in France later that year, summer camp, Gower Peninsula, 1947*

4 Leaping Wolves. The Troop did well in the Sports and Gala, winning the Bullen Cup and Anderson Shield as well as the Dahpne White Cup. Three Senior Scouts represented the district at the unveiling of the Roosevelt Memorial. Two Rovers, Cyril Symmons and Roy Porritt, took part in the *Boy Scout* Pageant at the Albert Hall.

At the Old Scouts Reunion, again held at Lord's, the guests of honour were J. F. Colquhoun and J. W. Bradshaw. Will Lavers was elected Chairman, Wal Harvey Secretary, and Etna Mason Treasurer. Cyril Symmons became Business Manager of *The Diehard*. Social activities included two more Seymour Hall Dances, a Valentine Dance, a May Day Rally and a Harvest Home. The District prizegiving was held at the Club when the prizes were distributed by the Mayor of St. Marylebone, Councillor A. E. Reneson Coucher. Roland House used the Club for their annual Pantomime rehearsals, a practice they have continued to the present day.

Camping assumed a new popularity and many weekends were spent at various sites besides Easter at Dorking, Whitsun at Purley and Summer at Milford. Altogether 57 members spent 857 nights in camp or on tour. The great attraction was the resumption of foreign tours, when 16 members took part in our third tour of Switzerland, spending five days at the Scout Chalet at Kandersteg and hiking over three mountain passes.

Following very closely after our annual show *Stepping Out* the Group found itself taking a leading part in *The Chosen Way*, a pageant given at the Porchester Hall to mark the 40th anniversary of Scouting. This was produced by the District Scoutmaster, Ken



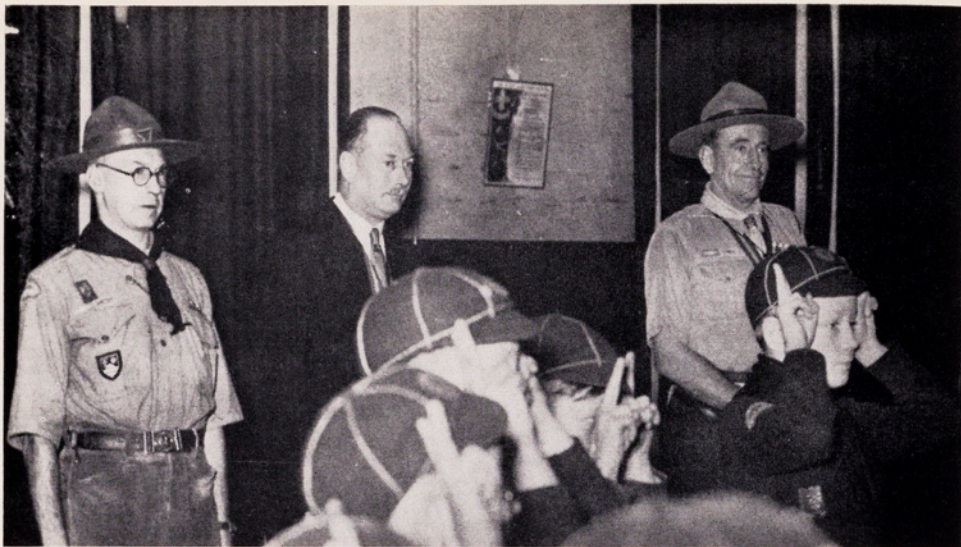
*A smart line-up of Wolf Cubs outside the Mansergh Club, 1948*

Hamilton, when leading parts were taken by Len Rolph and Clive Wood.

## 1949

The first Group Dinner was held in 1949. This was organised by the Old Scout Branch and took place at the Tavistock Restaurant. Other social events included a welcome home evening for Jack Knapman from Rhodesia and a party for Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Veistrup from Denmark. In addition to the usual dances a New Year's Eve Social was held, and Ron Andrew staged a Variety Concert. The Old Scout Reunion was held at the McWhirter Restaurant when Dick Price was elected Chairman, and the guests of honour were the LA Secretary, Joe Chapman, and E. C. Chirwin, a former Schoolmaster of many of our members. Following the annual Old Scout v Rover cricket match the social evening included a horticultural show organised by Will Lavers.

Les Smith became Assistant Cubmaster in succession to William Hayes who after only a short stay with us, business compelled a move to Birmingham. The Troop won the New Zealand Flag camp by no less than 21 points under the leadership of Keith Young, and the Anderson Shield was won by Peter Whale. A class for handicraft instruction commenced in the workshop under the direction of Fred Mount and a PT class was started under a LCC instructor, Mr. C. Sayce. The Rovers welcomed a visit from the 16th Wembley Crew, whose Cubmaster, Stan Mason, had his first book published, *Kestrels over the Beacon*. The Rovers attended a Moot at the Guildhall and Tom Jewitt attended the Norway World Rover Moot.



*A Royal occasion. The visit of HRH the Duke of Gloucester to the 8th Group, with Les on his right and the Chief Scout of the Commonwealth, Lord Rowallan, on his left, 1949*

*Our Senior Scouts with the glamorous 'Bubbles' during their camp in the Isles of Scilly, 1949*



The Troop Summer Camp was held at Arundel, whilst a party of 20 Rovers and Senior Scouts flew to camp in the Isles of Scilly.

The highlight of the year was when the Group was selected to receive a visit from HRH The Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by the Chief Scout, Lord Rowallan, the new County Commissioner, General Sir Rob Lockhart, and the Mayor and Mayoress of St. Marylebone. Over 90 uniformed members of the Group gave displays or demonstrations in their respective rooms, and members of the Group Committee and Works Panel were also present. Thanks to 'Nip' Webb the Club forecourt was floodlit for the occasion. Letters of appreciation were subsequently received from the Duke's Equerry, the Chief Scout, and the County Commissioner.

The Group's Christmas Good Turn, in addition to the normal delivery of grocery parcels to the needy, for the first time included a present of crackers to the Paddington Green Children's Hospital. In aid of the Good Turn Fund an annual Carol singing expedition had now become a regular feature.

## 1950

The year 1950 saw the presentation of the Medal of Merit to Scoutmaster Jack Evans and Rover Leader George Scott. A Thanks Badge was presented to J. W. 'Tynny' Bradshaw in appreciation of his invaluable assistance with catering, both at camp and at the Mansergh Club.

For the second time the Group won the district 'double'—the Rhodesian Totem Pole and New Zealand Flag. A warrant as Asst. Cubmaster was taken out by Charles Kite, whilst the Senior Troop was taken over by Douglas Jenner. Four of the Seniors took part in the County cross-country run at Gilwell Park. For the third consecutive year Peter Whale won the Anderson Shield. Valuable instruction work was given by Wal Harvey on First Aid and by Vic Evans on nature study. A talk on St. Marylebone history was given to the Rover Crew by Alan Stonebridge, Borough Librarian. Several Rovers spent a Sunday at Gilwell planting poplar trees.

Of the 25 Rovers and Seniors who attended Easter Camp no less than 19 took Holy Communion on Easter Day at Dorking. A record number of 54 took part in the Whitsun Camp at Purley. With summer camp at Shorncliffe and the Group's 10th foreign tour, spent hiking through the Rhineland Pfalz, during the year a record number of 68 spent 1,063 nights in camp or on tour.

Tom White and Charlie Lee were guests of honour at the Old Scouts Reunion when Etna Mason was elected Chairman, Ernie Wells Treasurer, and John Balls resumed as Secretary. The second annual Group Dinner was held at the Broadhurst Rooms and another Dance was held at the Seymour Hall. Other social events at the Club included 3 Parents Nights, 3 'Old Tyme Dances', a District Rally and a B-P Scout Guild Social. Coach outings, organised by Mr. Lee, took parents to Whitsun and Summer Camps and a day at Ramsgate.

At the request of Headquarters the Group gave a display for

the proprietors of *Punch*. During the same weekend a London Wolf Cub Palaver was held at Friends House, Euston Road, when the GSM spoke on *The Relationship of the GSM to the Pack*.

## 1951

1951 saw the closing of Emmanuel Church where the Group had paraded the previous Harvest for the last time after 30 years. The 'Pitt' Memorial Clock and Bill Scott's *Pathfinder* picture were given sanctuary in the Mansergh Club. Mr. and Mrs. Evans were succeeded as Caretakers by Mr. and Mrs. W. Hammond. The BBC commenced daily tenancy of the Club for play rehearsals. After 9 years devoted service 'Robbo' retired as Cubmaster and was succeeded by Charles Kite, during whose short absence on intensive study the Pack's items at the annual show were directed by Joe Anderson. Tom Jewitt retired from the Crew on his emigration to Tasmania. Bill Dent resigned as ARL and was succeeded by Cyril Symmons and 'Chips' Wood.

The Old Scouts were privileged to have as guest of honour at their Reunion, Peter, Lord Baden-Powell. John Balls was elected Chairman, and Jack Weller Secretary. The Group Dinner/Dance was again held at the Broadhurst Rooms. An outstanding feature of the year was the visit of 16 German Scouts from the town of Bad Durkheim where we had stayed in 1950. They stayed at the Club for 9 days when a grand team of ladies looked after their catering, some affording home hospitality. The German Consul made a special visit to the Club to give them an official welcome. A Souvenir Programme and Guide was published by Cecil Dent and the magazine staff and many historical places were visited, including a coach outing to Gilwell organised by Fred Larkin. This was on the occasion of the International Patrol Camp where the Troop was represented by David Copp, who also took part in the *Boy Scout* Pageant at the Albert Hall, held as part of the 'Festival of Britain'. A District Dance was held at the Allitsen Road Drill Hall.

For the fourth time the Group held its Summer Camp at Windermere, when 3 Seniors did their Venturer's hike and 8 PL's their 1st class badge hike. Four Rovers subsequently toured Scotland by car and motor bike. Brian Smith represented St. Marylebone at the 7th World Jamboree at Bad Ischl in Austria.

The Rover Crew under 'Chips' Wood acted as stewards for a Concert at the Albert Hall in aid of the *Friends of Vellore* and as part of the Christmas Good Turn, on the instigation of Mrs. Walsh, the Group sang carols in the wards of Maida Vale Hospital.

## Active on all fronts 1952 — 1956

In January 1952 the Group acted as hosts for the annual party given by IHQ for foreign and Commonwealth Scouts staying in this country. No less than 240 guests were present which included many VIPs from IHQ including F. Haydn Dimmock, Editor of *The Scout*. For the first time for several years the Group Committee took an Inventory of Group property, which resulted in our insurance cover being increased from £500 to £1500.

Cecil Potter was the guest of honour at the Old Scouts' Reunion when Bill Weller was elected Chairman. For the first time the Group exceeded £50 for Bob-a-Job earnings, some jobs of which were televised.

For Whitsun Camp our Group President, E. C. Woodall, introduced us to a new site at Mereworth in Kent in which camp no less than 51 took part. Charlie Lee hired two coaches to bring parents to camp on Visitors' Day. In addition to the 51 campers, 10 of our Rovers took part in the SE Counties Rover Moot at Ranmore Common when they gave a turn at the Camp Fire. The Troop Summer Camp was held at Morecombelake, Dorset. One of the day excursions took us to Sidmouth where Arthur Coe had organised a cricket match between our Scouts and a local boys' club. Having been badly let down by a local coach owner, our transport from camp back to London was generously fixed by Fred Larkin.

Our 11th Foreign Tour took us for the fourth time to Denmark when 20 Rovers and Seniors camped with Danish Scouts for a week, spending the second week in various Scouts' homes in Copenhagen.

Charles Kite became the fourth member of the Group to qualify for the Wood Badge. After many years excellent service Joe Anderson had to resign as Asst. Cubmaster on his business removal to Greenford, at the same time presenting a trophy for competition in the Pack. He was succeeded as ACM by Brian Smith. A distinguished speaker at a Senior Troop meeting was Chief Superintendent Tom Barrett of Scotland Yard. The Rovers visited Lord's for a special demonstration by the tennis professional, Jack Groom.

At the Annual Group Show *Escapala* the Scout Troop staged a pantomime which was repeated at Christmas at the Maida Vale Hospital. Our lady helpers did excellent work at *An Olde English Fayre* which was opened by Mrs. Frank Beresford, the wife of the renowned artist who lived locally.

## 1953

The Group's 7 year lease of the Mansergh Club expired in 1953, but thanks to the influence of our Group President we were granted a new 14 year lease. The Works Panel rebuilt the stage with a brick foundation for which the ladies prepared new curtains. The guest of honour at the Old Scouts Reunion was Major Lisle Watson, former London Rover Commissioner. Les Lawrence was elected Chairman and Dick Winter became Secretary.

The year was marked by the tragic death at sea of King's Scout Ken Carter who had joined the Merchant Navy. His ship's ensign which had been presented to his parents was dedicated to his memory and found a home in the Sanctum. Dick Prior and Joe Anderson received the Long Service Decoration and the GSM was awarded the Silver Acorn. Brian Smith and Brian Burrell became members of the London Rover Service Crew at Gilwell.

For the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II many of our Scouts sold programmes along the processional route, one Rover took part in the procession and one was on duty at Westminster Abbey. Our Rover Crew took part in the London Revue at the St. Pancras Town Hall. The Cub Pack began to make good progress with badge training and the Troop won the New Zealand Flag. The Group also took 1st place in the Sports and Gala and earned a record figure of £81.65 for Bob-a-Job. Will Smith became acting GSM of the 16th Wembley.

For the Whitsun Camp held at Wendover the Troop was introduced for the first time to Patrol Cooking. The Summer Camp was held at Sellack by the River Wye in Herefordshire and the Rovers and Seniors flew to camp in Jersey. Mansergh dances included those for Valentine Day, Coronation and Harvest.

To commemorate the Coronation the Group's 27th Annual Show was entitled *Regalia* when two outstanding items were *Guards on Parade* by the Cub Pack and *On Board the Golden Hind* by the Senior Troop. For this last item some praiseworthy stage properties and effects were constructed by Fred Mount and Les Lawrence. Part of *Regalia* was subsequently staged at St. John & Elizabeth Hospital as part of the Christmas Good Turn. A strong team of ladies, led by Mrs C. W. Wood and Mrs H. Frisby, directed a well costumed *Elizabethan Fair*.

## 1954

Early in 1954 the Group re-enacted *Regalia* in aid of the 7th Chelsea Cub Pack. Mr and Mrs Manning succeeded Mr and Mrs. Hammond as Mansergh caretakers. A strong team of Rovers and Old Scouts relaid the Troop Room floor. A Rover Preliminary Training course was held at the Club attended by our two ARL's. John Ramsay was guest of honour at the Old Scouts' Reunion when 'Nip' Webb was elected Chairman. An opportunity was taken of making a farewell presentation to Cecil Bensted who, after many years devoted service to the Group, was emigrating with his family to New Zealand. The annual Old Scouts v Rovers



*The Troop looking cheerful and clean before setting off for camp, 1954*

Cricket Match was, thanks to Fred Larkin, played at Aldbury.

The Cub Pack took 2nd place in the Rhodesian Totem Pole competition and gained no less than 12 Second stars and 6 Leaping Wolves. The new 'Andy' Trophy was awarded to David Elcome and Robin Kirby. Brian Smith became the 5th member of the Group to qualify for the Wood Badge, and Charles Kite was elected Chairman of the District Cub Committee. The Troop was increased to five Patrols and the PL's attended a PL training camp at Moat Mount.

The Senior Troop received a visit from the St. Paul's School Seniors and eight members took part in the camp fire at the Earls Court Radio Show. The Rover Crew visited Faraday House and the International Telephone Exchange, besides taking part in the Billy Graham Crusade at Harringay.

For our 12th Foreign Tour the Rovers and Seniors went for the first time to Austria when after spending four nights at a Scout Headquarters in Innsbruck, they hiked 50 miles through the Tyrol spending nights at Youth Hostels in Maurach, Kufstein and Salzburg. In view of the intense heat this was a great effort.

An innovation at the Spring Parents Night was that for the second half of the programme the Parents entertained the Group



*The Scout Troop and Senior Scout Troop got together from their respective camps for this group photograph, Littleham, Devon, 1955*

instead of *vice-versa*. Other social events included a Seymour Hall Dance in the Spring, the annual Group Dinner at Lords and a well organised *Romany Fair* at Christmas. For the St. George's weekend the Mansergh Club accommodated over 20 Queen's Scouts from various parts of the country.

The 28th Annual Show took a new shape under the title *Radio Rambles*. The co-ordinator was Bernard Groom who had become Senior Scout Leader.

### 1955

1955 saw a further change in the Mansergh Club caretakers, Mr and Mrs Gadd succeeding Mr and Mrs Manning. Besides the usual sub-lettings, the Club accommodated a North-West London Preliminary Training Course. The annual Old Scouts reunion welcomed as chief guest Brigadier Mockler-Ferryman, National Organiser of the B-P Scout Guild. Wilfred Harrington became Branch Chairman. A special feature of the Reunion was that all Cubmasters of the 5th and 8th Packs since 1919 attended.

In April *The Diehard* published its 400th edition when amongst the special features was a message from the Deputy Chief Scout. Len Pickford and Cecil Dent were awarded the Medal of Merit in recognition of their many years service on the magazine.

The Cub Pack took 1st place in the District Sports and had outings to Richmond Park and a television pantomime. Michael Keryell and Michael Ward received the 'Andy' Trophy. The Troop won the New Zealand Flag Competition under the leadership of a

Second, Roy Weatherhead. The Seniors commenced to learn Judo under the direction of Mr. Bradley, an old 1st St. Marylebone Scout. A special speaker at a Crew meeting was the Camp Chief, John Thurman.

Charlie Lee organised a coach outing to the Whitsun Camp at Purley and also to the International Patrol Camp at Gilwell in which Roger Scott and Keith Price took part.

David Bailin was one of two St. Marylebone Queen's Scouts who represented the district at the World Jamboree at Niagara. The GSM was selected to lead the London contingent of 72 Scouts, and DIEHARDIA contributed 100 guineas towards his expenses.

Social events of the year included the annual Seymour Hall Dance and the Group Dinner at Lords when the chief guest was J. Murray Napier, County Commissioner. Cecil Pryke succeeded J. D. Murray as Hon. Group Auditor.

### 1956

1956 saw the last of the Group Dances, started in 1945, held at the Seymour Hall. The Mansergh Club was used for rehearsals by Ralph Reader for a new play *Voyage of the Venturer*. Cub Terence Marder had the honour to make a presentation at the Stoll Theatre to Cub Prince Hassan of Jordan.

As an experiment the Old Scout Reunion at Lords took the form of a Buffet Supper, but was not too successful. The guest of honour was Maurice Cruickshank. Jack Eatwell became Chairman, and Harry 'Crasher' Bangs succeeded Dick Winter as Secretary.

The Pack gained a record number of 26 First Stars and 12 Second Stars in addition to 6 Leaping Wolf Cubs who went up into the Troop. The Pack played a leading part in the District activities to celebrate the 40th year of Cubbing.

After nearly 20 years invaluable service as ASM, Dick Prior had to retire on his removal to Chesham.

Like all Rover Crews we were badly affected by the new Rover age limit of 24 years, 7 members becoming 'Service Auxiliaries' so as to continue their active roles. 5 Rovers attended the Easter Rover Moot at Gilwell. Cyril Symmons succeeded George Scott as Rover Leader, and 'Chips' Wood was appointed District Rover Leader.

The Troop Whitsun Camp at Purley was noteworthy for an attempted night raid by a gang of teddy boys. For the Summer Camp we returned to Arundel, whilst for the 13th Foreign Tour, as a change from the usual mode of transport, three Bedford Dormobiles were hired and we drove over 2,000 miles through France, Switzerland and Italy to Venice and back. The party of 24 Rovers and Seniors included the District Commissioner. Altogether 72 members spent 1,102 nights in camp or on tour during the year.

Cecil Dent became Editor of *The Diehard* after many years faithful service by Les Smith. We accepted with much regret the resignation from the Group Committee of 'Tynny' Bradshaw on his becoming Chairman of the Paddington Bowls Club.



Scouts David Elcombe and David Barrett earn their Bob-a-Job combing the mane of Lenny the Lion, 1957

## Forty years on 1957 — 1961

1957 saw the whole Movement celebrating the Golden Jubilee of Scouting and the Centenary of the birth of its Founder—Robert Baden-Powell. The BBC attended the Mansergh Club to televise the Troop programme as part of *Panorama* and interviewed the GSM. St. Marylebone held a District Scout Week and a Souvenir Handbook was produced by Brian Smith and Charles Kite, assisted by Bill Bailin. Mr. Edward Woodall presented the Group with new Colours which were dedicated at a special service held at St. Mark's Church.

On his retirement from the Civil Service the GSM was appointed Warden of B-P's Room at Scout Headquarters, and also acted as Secretary of the Guest Department at the World Jubilee Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield. The 8th Group was also represented



The New Zealand Flag, won by the Troop in district competition so many times over the years, with the winning patrol led by PL David Eatwell, with on his left David Barrett, Derek Trollope and Martin Alldred, 1958

there by Phil Peeling and Keith Price with one of the London Troops, by Brian Burrell at the Rover Moot and by Brian Smith who was Press Officer for the event. A party of 50 members, parents and Old Scouts from DIEHARDIA, organised by Bob Larkin and Cyril Symmons, visited the Jamboree.

The Cub Pack won the Rhodesian Totem Pole and took 1st place in the Borough Treasure Hunt. A special outing was made to the ITV pantomime at the Palladium. Troop meetings received visits from Scouts from Australia, Finland, Italy and Lebanon. The Seniors explored Roman London and visited the Pinner Fair. The Rovers attended the London Pilgrimage to the Cenotaph and assisted with a polio party at the Guildhall.

At the Old Scouts Reunion, again held at Lord's, the guest of honour was 'Duke' Wellington, and Phil Quin was elected Chairman. As a change the Group Dinner was held at Grove End Gardens when the guest of honour was Bob Thomas, International Secretary. A special guest at the Group's Annual Show—*Golden Days*—was Jack Cox, Editor of *Boys Own Paper*.

After 24 years most outstanding service as Scoutmaster, Jack Evans retired at the close of the year and became Headquarters Secretary. At the same time Bill Barker retired as ASM and became Headquarters Warden. The Troop was taken over by Brian Smith, assisted by Clive Wood. During the year the Mansergh Club welcomed new Caretakers in the persons of Mr. and Mrs. G. Jones. The St. Mark's Guides and Brownies held their meetings in the Troop Room which was also again used for a Preliminary Training Course.





*The big event in the Old Scout year is the Annual Reunion, here shown at the Victory Club, Edgware Road, with Ralph Reader as guest of honour, 1959*

## 1958

Early in 1958 the Mansergh Club was used for a Reunion of over 100 old members of Emmanuel Church to mark the 80th birthday of Mr. Bert Grimes, one-time Lay Reader and Sunday School Superintendent. At the request of Scout Headquarters the Mansergh Club was used as a Transit Camp for Provincial and Overseas Scouts passing through London, and this service was undertaken by Hon. SM Jack Evans. Having already subscribed £52 during the war to the Baden-Powell Memorial Fund, the 8th Group now brought its total contribution to £100 and became B-P House Founder Group No. 1.

No less than 97 Old Scouts and guests attended the annual Reunion Dinner which was held for the first time at the Ex-Services Victory Club. The guests of honour were Eric Gyngell and founder members of the old 5th St. Marylebone Troop to mark the 50th anniversary of their foundation. 'Crasher' Bangs was elected Branch Chairman, with Alf Cook as Secretary.

After several years excellent service Charles Kite resigned as Cubmaster on his removal from London, at the same time Les Smith retired as ACM. Brian Burrell became Cubmaster and received valuable help from Bob Larkin. The Pack won the Totem Pole for the second year in succession.

Brian Smith handed over the Scout Troop to Roy Scales, and Ian Smith became ASM. The Troop won the New Zealand Flag competition. Bernard Groom retired as Senior Scout Leader and was succeeded by Cyril Symmons who in his turn was succeeded as Rover Leader by Cecil Dent. The Crew visited the *Daily Express* offices and the Bankside Power Station and again helped 'Chips' Wood with the stewarding of the Vellore Concert at the Albert Hall.

The Troop Summer Camp was held at Pennington, Hants, whilst for our 14th Foreign Tour 15 Senior Scouts and Rovers flew to Norway, staying in Youth Hostels at Oslo, Tonsberg, Sandefjord, Larvik and Kongsberg. The outstanding feature of the tour was the wonderful hospitality bestowed on us at the Fjord Summer House of Mr and Mrs Gunnar Berg, with whose son, Runar, Phil Peeling had made friends during the Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield.

The Group took part in the Chief Scout's Rally at Hendon Aerodrome and in 'Beating the Bounds' of St. Mark's Parish. After many years devoted service 'Chips' Wood retired as Group Treasurer and was succeeded by John Balls. The Christmas Fair was opened by Miss Adrienne Corry.

## 1959

After an interval of two years a Group Dinner and Dance were held at the Victory Club when the guest of honour was General Sir John Shea. A record number of 376 Scouts, including 73 from Germany, spent 701 nights at the Mansergh Club. Several Scouts took part in the Toasting the Tie Beam and Trusses ceremony for

the new St. Mark's Parish Hall. 97 members earned a record total of £87.9.9 during Bob-a-Job Week.

The Cub Pack made history by winning the Rhodesian Totem Pole for the third successive year. A warm welcome was given to Phil Peeling who became ACM. SSL Cyril Symmons represented the District on the County Senior Scout Council. Wal Harvey rendered valuable instruction work on the Ambulance and Public Health badges with the Senior Troop.

The guest of honour at the Old Scout Reunion was Ralph Reader. Vic Evans became Branch Chairman, and the Old Scouts started the practice of organising a Christmas Draw for Group funds, the first year raising nearly £100. The annual cricket match with the Rovers was played at Sudbury.

During the summer the Rovers toured Scotland in a Dormobile, camping at Ayr, Loch Lomond, Oban, Fort William, Inverness, Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and York. The party included Runar Berg from Norway who during his stay in London was kindly hosted by the Peeling family.

The Christmas Fair was opened by Brian Johnstone and attracted a large number of patrons.

The year 1959 witnessed the 50th anniversary of GSM Les Kirby becoming a Scout. Without his knowledge the Scouters and Old Scout Committee organised a special Social for Parents Night which was attended by over 200 friends and Old Scouts, including four past District Commissioners. The programme included screen pictures of *This is your life*, and generous presents were made to the GSM and his sister Elsie. In the same year he succeeded Dan House as District Commissioner for St. Marylebone.

## 1960

A second Emmanuel Reunion was held to mark the 80th birthday of Alfred Grimes who had acted as Chairman of our Group Committee for many years. On his removal to Sussex from St. John's Wood, Mr. Frank Beresford made the Group a present of his grand piano and a number of his paintings.

The Cub Pack continued its excellent progress by winning the Rhodesian Totem Pole for the 4th successive year. The Troop won the New Zealand Flag, and the Patrol Leaders and Seconds won a pennant for being the keenest team in the NW London weekend camp. Troop Leader Martin Aldred was chosen to sell programmes along the route for Princess Margaret's wedding.

Vic Roques was guest of honour at the Old Scout Reunion when Alf Cook was elected Chairman, and Vic Evans became Secretary. The Club was used for rehearsals for a new Ralph Reader play *The Hill*—a story of the first Good Friday. This was staged at the Gilwell Reunion and two of our members took part. For a year we welcomed a Scout from Kenya, Akber Kassim.

The Troop Summer Camp was held at Bexhill when Bob Larkin and Tom Barrett supplemented the short Scouter staff. For the 15th Foreign Tour the Rovers and Seniors toured Holland and

Germany, spending their nights in Scout HQ at The Hague and Amsterdam, and in Youth Hostels at Kemp Ems, Honnif, Koblenz and Cologne. An appreciative letter reached Scout International department from Dutch Scout HQ.

During the year Ian Smith became the sixth Scouter of the Group to qualify for the Wood Badge. Bob Larkin was awarded the Long Service Decoration and Hon. SM Jack Evans was appointed ADC (Scouts) for St. Marylebone. The GSM was awarded the Silver Wolf, and led a party of London youth workers for a fortnight's study visit to Berlin.

The guest of honour at the Group Dinner/Dance at the Victory Club was George Speakman, Deputy County Commissioner. A most successful Christmas Fair was opened by Councillor Desmond Plummer, and the Old Scout Draw raised over £100.

## 1961

In October 1961 the Group celebrated its 40th birthday when a handsome Trophy and Archive show case was made and presented by Albert Wagstaff. Birthday celebrations included a Thanksgiving Service at St. Mark's Church when the preacher was H. A. T. Simmonds, Deputy County Commissioner; a Borough Quiz, organised by Ron Andrew; a special Parents Night attended by the County Commissioner, J. Murray Napier; an Old Scout Invitation Night, and a Jamborette comprising a District patrol competition and camp fire.

The Cub Pack continued to beat all records by winning the Totem Pole for the 5th successive year, and gaining 9 prizes in the Handicraft Exhibition. Useful help was given by a West Indian Scouter, Paul Lashley. The Scout Troop again won the New Zealand Flag, and came 9th out of 41 in the National Camp cooking competition at Gilwell Park. Troop Leader David Barrett was one of three London Scouts who attended the opening by HM The Queen of Baden-Powell House.

81 members attended the Old Scout Reunion Dinner when the guest of honour was General Sir Robert Mansergh, London Organiser of the B-P Scout Guild. Bert Robertson was elected Branch Chairman. Two Old Scout founder members were awarded the Medal of Merit, Wal Harvey for his many years instructing on First Aid, and Ernie Wells for many years show production.

A grievous blow was sustained by the sudden death on May 6 of Hon. SM Vic Kirby who had played such a distinguished part in the making of Group history. A Memorial Service was held for him in St. Mark's Church.

The Troop Summer Camp was held near Abergele, North Wales, whilst the Rovers and Seniors conducted a Dormobile tour through that country, spending nights at Chepstow, Gower, St. David's, Barmouth, Abergele, Llandrindod Wells, Bala and Ross-on-Wye.

The Group helped the District Scout Council in entertaining a patrol of Japanese Scouts who had taken part in the International Patrol Camp at Gilwell. A special Social was held for them at the

Mansergh Club and they were accompanied on a visit to the Houses of Parliament and boat trip to Greenwich.

During the year we welcomed back to active rank Old Scout Vic Dodd who became a Service Auxiliary as a Troop instructor and pianist for our annual shows. The Group continued the practice of holding a whist drive in aid of Spastics. The Christmas Fair was opened by Ewen Solon, well-known as Lucas in the *Maigret* television series.

## **We fight to keep a roof over our heads 1962 — 1966**

For several months at the beginning of 1962 the GSM was absent on account of illness and Group administration was taken over by Jack Evans and George Scott. During the year the Cub Lair was renovated, Les Lawrence repeating his service of years before of painting jungle animals on the walls.

As House Founder Group No. 1, it was appropriate that the 8th should be the first Group to hold its annual Dinner and Dance at Baden-Powell House, when the guest of honour was J. F. 'Koko' Colquhoun, Chief Scout's Commissioner. 80 friends attended including many Old Scouts and their wives.

The Cub Pack yielded the totem pole this year but won several prizes in the Handicraft Exhibition.

After many years devoted service to the Group, for the last 3½ years as Senior Scout Leader, Cyril Symmons retired on his marriage and removal from London. He was succeeded as SSL by Ian Smith who had the assistance of Roger Scott and Mr. Meaden. Ian was also one of the 12 London Rovers to attend the World Rover Moot in Australia. The Seniors attended the County Get Together held at Friends House, and also took part in a Senior Scout camp at Gilwell.

The Old Scout Reunion Dinner was held at Baden-Powell House when the Guest of Honour was Colonel Arthur Young, Commissioner of the City of London Police. Phil Quin was elected Chairman and Bill Cruickshank Secretary. In view of the shortage in Scouter staff a special meeting of Old Scouts was held in the summer to consider the potential help which might be available from their ranks. This resulted in no less than 10 members forming a rota to take turn in the instruction of Cubs, Scouts and Senior Scouts.

The Troop Summer Camp was held at Flansham, near Bognor, when the staff was assisted by Martin Walsh and David Eatwell. The Seniors and Rovers toured Belgium and Luxembourg by Dormobile, Ian Smith taking charge, with Phil Peeling and Bill Lee as Drivers and Len Pickford as Quartermaster. Most useful

work on tent repairs was undertaken by Mrs. Elcome and Mrs. Barrett.

Several old friends of the Group died during the year, including William Dent, one-time Assistant Rover Leader, and Olive Wells, pianist at our Group shows for many years, and holder of the Thanks Badge.

### **1963**

After six years faithful service as resident caretaker Mrs Jones died in January 1963. For a trial period of 12 months Senior Scout Leader Ian Smith took over the duties.

Following several years excellent work as Cubmaster Brian Burrell retired in July and was succeeded by Roy Scales. In the Troop Vic Dodd succeeded Roy as Scoutmaster, with Colin Anderson as ASM. John Lomax was invested as a Service Auxiliary and became a Troop Instructor. PL's Alan Meaden and Martin Foster represented the District at the County Flag dedication at Westminster Abbey.

The Senior Scouts under the direction of Mr. Trollope renovated the Barn and constructed a new ceiling. Following the resignation of Cecil Dent as Rover Leader the Crew worked for some months under the Chairmanship of Richard Craft, an old Willesden King's Scout.

Breaking the tradition of their all-male gathering the guest of honour at the Old Scouts Reunion was Mrs. Joan Bond, National Secretary of the B-P Scout Guild. Ted Thomas was elected Chairman. 'Chips' Wood was appointed B-P Scout Guild Appeals Secretary to raise money for Baden-Powell House.

In August *The Diehard* published its 500th number which included a congratulatory message from the Chief Scout. All the past Editors sent messages. To mark his 25 years as Group Secretary Bob Larkin was awarded the Medal of Merit. Phil Peeling and Roy Scales became the 7th and 8th Scouters of the Group to qualify for the Wood Badge.

On the introduction by Scout Headquarters of a capitation fee the Group Council decided to raise the subscription of all active members of the Group.

The year was a sad one for our Old Scout Branch. We mourned the deaths in turn of Wal Harvey in January, Bert Emmott, killed in a road accident in August, and David Kirby, at the early age of 29, in September. Another very old friend and ex-Group Chairman, A. J. Grimes, died in July.

### **1964**

After many years excellent service Cecil Dent retired from active rank in January 1964. Michael Clement was appointed Resident Caretaker and later that year was married to Lesley Townsend. No less than 95 members and friends attend the annual Dinner/Dance at Lord's when the guests of honour were Sir Thomas and Lady Robson.

To raise funds for the Local Association a District Scout Week was held commencing with the St. George's Day Service. A special feature of the Week was a Dinner held at Claridges attended by the Chief Scout, Sir Charles Maclean and Lady Maclean, when the guest of honour was the Rt. Hon. Quintin Hogg, QC, MP, Minister of Science and Sport. Other events included a Borough Quiz, organised by Mrs. Gladys Ahern and 'Chips' Wood, and a Grand Jamborette held at Quintin and Kynaston Schools. A Souvenir Handbook was published of which the 8th Group disposed of 1,366 copies.

The Cub Pack won the District Totem Pole for the 9th time and took 12 prizes at the Handicraft Exhibition. 8 Cubs attended a District Camp at Perry Wood. Peter Larkin and Derek Trollope became Assistant Cubmasters. In the Troop the Wolf Patrol took 1st place in the New Zealand Flag Camp and John Lomax was appointed ASM. David Barrett succeeded Colin Anderson as a second ASM. The Troop won 8 prizes in the Handicraft Exhibition.

The Troop Summer Camp was held at Fritham in the New Forest, whilst the Seniors, having taken part in an *Adventure Unlimited* exercise in South Wales at Easter, in the summer represented Gt. Britain at the Portuguese National Jamboree. Phil Peeling took charge, with Len Pickford as QM. On the invitation of Charles Kite, who had become Hastings District Commissioner, three of our Scouters acted as judges for the Hastings Camping competition. 5 past and present Wood Badge holders of the 8th Group took part in the annual Gilwell Reunion.

At the Old Scout Reunion the guest of honour was Tom White, the first ASM of the old 5th Marylebone Troop who had become District Commissioner for Kenton. 'Chips' Wood was elected Chairman and during the year he launched a "talent" scheme in aid of Group funds.

## 1965

With the Mansergh Club lease expiring in July 1967 with but a remote chance of renewal, a HQ Appeals Committee was set up in July 1965 to raise funds for the freehold of the Club, in respect of which grants could be obtained from the Department of Education and Science and the Inner London Educational Authority. A local public appeal, launched in October, met with immediate response and by the end of the year the fund stood at over £2,750.

Following the Greater London Municipal re-organisation, St. Marylebone, whilst retaining its own Local Scout Association, became part of the new City of Westminster. The GSM became the first Borough Commissioner. The guests of honour at the Group Dinner were Councillor and Mrs. Sandford.

The Cub Pack, who won the Totem Pole for the second successive year, carried out a useful service by delivering 250 sacks in connection with an appeal for Thalidomide Babies. The Troop assisted the BBC *Blue Peter* Appeal for silver paper to provide



*The Troop with SM Vic Dodd, 1965*

Guide Dogs for the Blind. Owing to business commitments Vic Dodd found it necessary to resign as Scoutmaster but continued as Musical Director for the annual show *Black and Gold*. He was succeeded as Scoutmaster by John Lomax.

After a year as Old Scout Chairman Ted Thomas returned to active rank by becoming Senior Scout Leader in succession to Ian Smith who had become Rover Scout Leader. New Colours for the Senior Troop were presented by David Chandler and Mrs. V. Thomas. On the occasion of Sir Winston Churchill's funeral one Senior did duty at the Lord Chamberlain's office, and three others were on duty in connection with Earl Alexander's Appeal for the Churchill Memorial.

A record number of 105 attended the Old Scout Reunion at Lord's when the guest of honour was John Thurman, Camp Chief at Gilwell. Bill Cruickshank was elected Chairman, whilst the Secretary's duties were taken over by 'Chips' Wood who also agreed to take on the duties of HQ Appeal Fund Secretary.

The Troop's Summer Camp was held at Hastings on a site introduced by Ron Andrew. The Seniors did a week's hike in the Lake District and then held a week's camp on the HQ site at Great Towers near Windermere.

The Group sustained a heavy loss by the death in September of Ernest Wells, one of the Group's founder members, Treasurer of our Old Scouts Branch and Vice-Chairman of the Group Committee. Another distinguished founder member, Edwin Anderson, our first ASM, died in October.

After being published for 22 years at the price of 3d monthly, the Group Committee increased the price of *The Diehard* to 6d as from January 1966.

1966

The activities of the Freehold Appeals Committee continued unabated during 1966 and by the end of the year the fund had reached over £5,000. This included grants from London Parochial Charities, London Scout Council Trustees, Taylor Woodrow Charity Trust and the Albert Rickett Charitable Trust, as well as numerous donations and various Group activities.

The guests of honour at the Group Dinner were Cyril Goodhind, Secretary at Scout HQ, and Mrs. Goodhind. 98 members earned a record total of £90.14.1 during Bob-a-Job Week. After 20 years devoted service in the Group Phil Peeling had to retire as ACM on his marriage and move to Chelmsford. To our Service Auxiliaries we welcomed Ron Clarke as Musical Assistant.

Derek Trollope and Peter Larkin became the 9th and 10th Scouters of the 8th Group to qualify for the Wood Badge. The Patrol Leaders took part in a District PL Conference and three attended a County PL's Conference. ASM David Barrett joined the full-time staff at Scout Headquarters.

The Senior Scouts put on a PT display at the Regent Hall to entertain members of the Gateway Club, took part in an exercise with the local police, and three acted as markers for the Salonika Reunion.

The guest of honour at the Old Scouts Reunion was Charles Elmitt, HQ Commissioner for Grants. Geoffrey Williams was elected Chairman, and Dick Price succeeded Ernie Wells as Treasurer. Brian Smith was appointed Hon. Editor of *The Guildsman*, the official organ of the B-P Scout Guild.

4 Pack Scouters and 12 Cubs attended the Barking Cub camp, and 6 Seniors attended the International weekend camp at Gilwell.

During the year we mourned the deaths of two Old Scouts, Harry Bland and Cyril Kirby, both of whom had joined the Movement before the first world war. We were also saddened by the death of Mr Charles Williams, a member of the Group Committee for nearly 10 years.

#### WINNERS OF ANDERSON CUB TROPHY

1954 David Elcome	—	Robin Kirby
1955 Michael Keryell	—	Michael Ward
1956 Terence Lyons	—	Peter Larkin
1957 Derek Trollope	—	David Barrett
1958 Christopher Power	—	David Jordan
1959 Christopher Lyons	—	Brian Rogers
1960 Ian Copeman	—	Martin Foster
1961 John Larkin	—	David Bloomfield
1962 Gregory Moon	—	Edward Craxton
1963 Graham Syrett	—	Peter Williams
1964 William Brafman	—	Philip Lomax
1965 Winston Taylor	—	Michael Harvey
1966 Robert Foster	—	Stephen Finn
1967 Peter Nolde	—	Peter Jones
1968 Karim Eisa	—	Graham Rayner
1969 Simon Hawkins	—	Jonathan Drage
1970 Christopher Travis	—	Anthony Shapland
1971 Anthony Lebof	—	

## Great gains — and a great loss 1967 — 1971

1967 will be remembered as the year in which our Scout Group became freeholders of the Mansergh-Woodall Club, with the Scout Association Trust Corporation as Trustees. Including legal charges the total cost amounted to £25,475. Of this sum we received £17,182 in Grant Aid, leaving over £8,000 to be raised by ourselves. Apart from a loan of £1,000 which had to be borrowed from Scout HQ, the whole of this sum was raised by July 19, the date of purchase. Although the 8th Group will retain overall control, the Mansergh Club also became the official District Scout HQ.

In August we welcomed as our new resident Caretaker Mrs Leigh, a member of the Trefoil Guild. For the first time the annual Sanctum Service was conducted by a Roman Catholic priest, Father More O'Farrell. A special service was held in the Memorial Sanctum for the dedication by the Rev. Barry Wainwright of a Memorial Window to the memory of Mrs Mary Prior who had died after over 40 years most devoted service to the Group. This window, which was designed by Les Lawrence and constructed by Albert Wagstaff, was donated by her friends in the Lake District.

Harvest Festival was combined with a Freehold Thanksgiving Service at St. Mark's Church when the preacher was Captain Victor Call, Asst. Secretary of the Church Army. This service, together with tea afterwards at the Mansergh Club, was attended by the Rt. Hon. Quintin Hogg QC, MP, Desmond Plummer, Leader of the Greater London Council, the Deputy Lord Mayor of Westminster, and many other notable guests. On the previous evening we had welcomed over 200 guests to an *At Home* in appreciation of their generous help with the freehold purchase.

After 24 years praiseworthy service with the Group Roy Scales retired as Cub Scout Leader and we also lost the services of Derek Trollope as ACSL and Ian Smith as ASSL. David Barrett succeeded as CSL and Alan Meaden as ACSL. John Sherry became ASL to John Lomax and Graham Carling acting AVSL. Bill Barker was awarded the Long Service Decoration. On medical advice the GSL relinquished his duties as Borough Commissioner and County International Representative, and was made Vice-President of the St. Marylebone Scout Council. Bob-a-Job Week again broke records with 96 members earning £98.0.7.

The attendance at the annual Group Dinner was 89 when the guest of honour was Cecil Pryke, Group Auditor, with Mrs. Pryke. At the Old Scouts Reunion attended by 95 Old Scouts and guests the guest of honour was George Freeth, National Treasurer of the B.-P. Scout Guild. Dick Jordan was elected Chairman. The Old Scouts played a big part in the freehold celebrations, 30 attending

a special Old Scout invitation evening, and 10 forming the choir for the Thanksgiving Service.

The Troop won the New Zealand Flag and for the 4th year won the Group model at the Exhibition. Under the *New Design* for Scouting the Senior Scout Troop was designated Venture Scout Unit.

A highlight of the Troop Summer Camp, held at Fritham, was a day visit made to the National Patrol Leaders Camp on Brownsea Island, site of the very first Scout camp held by B.-P. 3 Seniors camped in Devon after a week with the 43rd Commando Royal Marines at Plymouth. We welcomed a Scouter from Iceland, Sigmar Sigurdson, who played in the Group Show *Home and Dry*.

## 1968

During 1968 the Group Council, with the aid of many Group functions and generous donations, were able to repay the whole of the £1,000 debt to Scout H.Q. Thanks to the Works Panel who did some useful painting and guttering work the facilities of the Club were greatly improved, and fire alarms and water heaters were installed. Mrs. Leigh continued to perform her Caretaker duties conscientiously, and Mrs Barret made a handsome profit in managing the canteen.

The Cub Pack won the District model and 9 prizes at the exhibition. For over a year Cub Scout Leader David Barrett also acted as ACSL to Len Clark in the 1st St. Marylebone Pack meeting at Buckingham Palace where HRH Prince Andrew was invested as a Cub Scout.

The Scout Troop won the District model for the fifth successive year and won 9 prizes at the Exhibition. They also won the New Zealand Flag Camp and came second in the County Camp competition. The Ventures renovated their Barn, took part in a night hike and had a weekend on the Thames.

The special guests at the Group Dinner were Mr and Mrs Peter Pettit. A parents coach outing, organised by Charlie Lee, was made to Gilwell. At the Old Scout Reunion, when the guest of honour was Ken Stevens, Cyril Symmons was elected Chairman. Three Branch members resumed active Scouting near their homes: 'Crasher' Bangs as SL of the 1st Rayners Lane, Phil Peeling as CSL of the 11th Chelmsford, and Les Smith as acting GSL of the 14th Lewisham. The June *Diehard* revealed that over 20 years of Bob-a-Job weeks the 8th Group had earned £1,324.

Heartiest congratulations were expressed to Hon. Scout Leader Jack Evans on his award of the Silver Acorn by the Chief Scout.

After 3 years devoted service to the Senior Scout Troop and Venture Unit Ted Thomas resigned as VSL in April and became GSL of the 7th Group. He was succeeded by Graham Carling who however had to relinquish this rank in September owing to full-time duty as Warden of the Lion Youth Club. As a temporary measure ACSL Peter Larkin took charge of the Venture Scouts.

We mourned the death of Old Scout 'Nip' Webb who had been an outstanding member of the Works Panel.

## 1969

Early in 1969 the whole of the Mansergh Club roof was re-tiled, and fluorescent lighting installed throughout the building. As a special gift to mark the purchase of the freehold, the Old Scout Branch provided fire alarms, suitably inscribed, on each floor of the building. The Group Dinner/Dance was held at the Clarendon Hotel when the special guests were the Rev. and Mrs Barry Wainwright. Owing to gradual lack of support the holding of whist drives terminated in October and sincere thanks tangibly expressed to Mrs Bland and Miss Kirby for their long services on the selection of prizes and catering.

David Barrett was appointed District Cub Scout Leader. The Troop won both the New Zealand Flag and the County Camp competitions. A day's Scouting was spent at Chorley Wood in company with Scouts from Rayners Lane and Amersham whose Scouters, 'Crasher' Bangs and Bill Tuersley were Old Scouts of the 8th Group. Assistance was given by the Venture Scouts to the Polio Fellowship Swimming Gala.

105 attended the Old Scout Reunion Dinner which tied with the record figure. This marked the 40th birthday of the Branch formation and the guest of honour was our old friend 'Duke' Wellington. Donald Hart became Chairman. We mourned the death in April of Old Scout Stanley Mason, for many years Cubmaster of the 16th Wembley Pack, who had so efficiently edited our Silver Jubilee Booklet in 1946.

In recognition of his invaluable services both in Group and District, 'Chips' Wood was presented with the Medal of Merit. At the same time Bill Barker received the Chief Scout's commendation for good service, and Len Pickford and Bill Lee the Long Service Decoration. Bill Lee transferred to the Old Scout Branch after 25 years active rank, but remained on the Works Panel. John Lomax became VSL, with John Sherry as SL and Alan Barney ASL.

At the end of November Les Kirby retired as GSL after 60 years Scout service. He was designated Group Founder and President, and E. C. Woodall became the first Group Patron. At a subsequent *At Home*, attended by over 200 members, Old Scouts, parents and friends, a cheque was presented to Les and his sister Elsie, to cover the cost of a colour television set. Jack Evans became Group Scout Leader, with George Scott as his Deputy.

## 1970

The Group Dinner was again held at the Clarendon Court Hotel when the principal guests were Mr and Mrs J. W. Evans and Mr and Mrs G. Scott. The Old Scout Reunion was held at the Cavendish Rooms, Willesden when Group President Les Kirby



*The Troop in camp at Abingdon, 1969*

was guest of honour. Ron Barker was elected Chairman, whilst after many years service to the Group Dick Price retired as Branch Treasurer. 'Chips' took on the joint role of Secretary/Treasurer, and was also made a life member of the B-P Scout Guild in recognition of his work as Appeals Secretary.

The Cub Pack had a most successful year winning the Totem Pole and gaining 56 badges including 2 Gold Arrows. A visit was paid to Phil Peeling's Pack at Chelmsford. Other innovations were a special parents' evening, a Pack library, and the publication of a newsletter and *All Sorts* magazine. £33 was raised for the Good Turn Fund by means of an Indoor Car Rally. For the first time a Cub Spring camp was held at Hedgerley, 11 attending.

For the second year the Troop won the County camping competition under Ian Judson and came 2nd and 4th in the New Zealand Flag Camp. Outings were made to Amersham, Epping and Stanmore. The Venture Unit came first in the Inter-District Sports and won the Handball competition. They did useful work at Cookham where they had obtained a permanent camp site and where they used their own constructed canoes. Outings were made to Crystal Palace, Brands Hatch and Gatwick, and John Larkin led the winning team in *Rave One* a joint London Venturer/Ranger incident course.

The Troop Summer Camp was held at Fairlight, where two Scouts' fathers joined the staff, and the Venture Camp in Guernsey. Altogether 58 members spent 720 nights in camp, best since 1959. For the annual show *Clean Sweep* Betty Robinson became our pianist. During the year Dennis Cotchings became ACSL with Harry Travis also assisting, and John Larkin became ASL, Fred Judson also giving useful assistance to the Troop. At the end of the first year with Jack Evans as GSL and George Scott as his Deputy the Group continued to make excellent progress, and the total number on the Group Roll increased by a dozen.

## 1971

Early in the New Year a committee was set up to begin planning for the Group's Jubilee Celebrations in October. The New Year was also marked by the raising of Cub and Scout subscriptions to one shilling a week—directly convertible to 5p when decimal currency was introduced on February 15.

GSL Jack and his good lady, Mabel, gave a party for Mansergh 'workers' and Scouters. *The Diehard* featured the names of 25 readers who were members of *The Dandies*, 5th St. Marylebone Scout Group, fifty years before.

With the country in the grips of a national postal strike, the Old Scout Secretary, 'Chips' Wood, made a superhuman effort to contact as many members as possible by telephone, with the result that 87 Old Scouts attended the Annual Reunion. The guest of honour was 'Mick' Barker, County Commissioner. The Pack excelled themselves once again by winning the district competition for the Rhodesian Totem Pole. In April the Group President was admitted to hospital, but after a short spell as an in-patient was allowed home on the understanding that he took things easier.

In honour of the Group's Golden Jubilee Year, the District St. George's Day Parade was held at St. Mark's. In May the Group had to take a fond farewell of two stalwart DIEHARDIANS, Bill and Iris Barker, on the removal of Bill's firm to Thetford. A presentation

*Who hath smelt wood-smoke at twilight? Who hath heard the birch-log burning? Who is quick to read the noises of the night? Let him follow with the others—For the young men's feet are turning, to the camps of proved desire and known delight!* (KIPLING)

*John Sherry leading the singing, Hastings, 1970*



was made to them at the Spring Parent's Night in recognition of Bill's 41 years' service. A very popular feature of the Whitsun Camp was the Group Day held on Whit Sunday. Parents and friends visited the Camp at Hedgerley Green and the Venture Scout Unit came from their camp at Cookham. The Spring Parents' Night and the Group Day at Whitsun Camp were to prove the last Group functions that Les was able to attend in person.

On June 24 LJK, Group Founder and President, was 'called home' and the very large number who attended his funeral and the even larger number who in July attended the *Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Leslie James Kirby* was proof, if indeed any were needed, of the very great and real affection that DIEHARDIA, Scouting generally, and the community at large, felt for him.

Les had completed his writing for this booklet only a short time before his death. It had come to mean a great deal to him, the history of his Group being so much the story of his own life.

All the Group's energies were harnessed to carry on the good work he had started. Camps went ahead as scheduled and the preparations for the Jubilee Celebrations were carried forward with renewed effort to make them worthy of the Group's Founder—and in readiness for our centenary in 2021!

#### WINNERS OF DICK JAMES SCOUT HONOUR

1942 Dennis Longdon	—	William Lee
1943 Derek Prior	—	John Knox
1944 Derek Walsh	—	Roy Daniels
1945 Roy Garner	—	Douglas Jenner
1946 Roger Kirby	—	Bernard Groom
1947 Roy Robertson	—	Brian Smith
1948 John Cuthbert	—	Peter Whale
1949 Keith Young	—	David Copp
1950 Roy Scales	—	John King
1951 John Valentine	—	Errol Chatalier
1952 David Bailin	—	Richard Jordan
1953 John Eatwell	—	Philip Peeling
1954 Geoffrey Williams	—	Roy Weatherhead
1955 Anthony Frisby	—	John Graham
1956 Peter Harrington	—	David Williams
1957 Richard Coppin	—	David Eatwell
1958 Edward Kennedy	—	David Barrett
1959 David Elcome	—	Martin Aldred
1960 Derek Trollope	—	Roy Goodship
1961 Roger Eatwell	—	Christopher Amies
1962 Michael Wellin	—	Martin Foster
1963 Raymond Williams	—	Nicholas Dodd
1964 Alan Meaden	—	Peter Williams
1965 John Larkin	—	Richard Thynne
1966 Peter Custance	—	Peter Kenyon
1967 Christopher White	—	Michael Collyer
1968 Philip Lomax	—	Keith Cherrill
1969 Michael Harvey	—	Michael Kilcooley
1970 Ian Judson	—	
1971 Christopher Robinson	—	

#### 50 YEARS OF CAMPING

THE DIEHARDS' principal camps and tours from 1922 to 1971, including representation at Jamborees and Rover Moots:

Year	Summer Camp or Tour	Year	Summer Camp or Tour
1922	FRANCE (Cycling Tour) BOGNOR, Sussex	1952	BRIDPORT, Dorset DENMARK
1923	DEVON (Cycling Tour) SNETTISHAM, Norfolk	1953	ROSS-ON-WYE, Hereford JERSEY, Channel Islands
1924	ALDWICK, Sussex DENMARK (World Jamboree)	1954	PEASMARSH, Sussex AUSTRIA
1925	MAIDENCOMBE, Devon	1955	EXMOUTH, Devon CANADA (World Jamboree)
1926	PEVENSEY, Sussex SWITZERLAND		GILWELL (International PL Camp)
1927	ABERGELE, Wales	1956	ARUNDEL, Sussex FRANCE, SWITZER- LAND, ITALY
1928	STUDLAND, Dorset DENMARK and SWEDEN		(Dormobile Tour)
1929	BIRKENHEAD (World Jamboree) AUCHENGILLAN, Scotland	1957	SUTTON COLDFIELD (World Jamboree)
1930	GERMANY BEXHILL, Sussex		CROMER, Norfolk THAMES CRUISE
1931	SWITZERLAND (Rover Moot)	1958	PENNINGTON, Hampshire
	BUDE, Cornwall		NORWAY
1932	WINDERMERE, Westmorland	1959	LITTLEHAMPTON, Sussex
1933	JERSEY, Channel Islands		ASHNESS, Cumberland SCOTLAND
1934	GLEN MONA, Isle of Man		(Dormobile Tour)
1935	HYTHE, Kent BELGIUM	1960	BEXHILL, Sussex HOLLAND and GERMANY
1936	WINDERMERE, Westmorland	1961	LLANFAIR T.H., Wales WALES (Dormobile Tour) AUSTRALIA (Rover Moot)
1937	SWITZERLAND MILFORD, Hampshire	1962	FLANSHAM, Sussex BELGIUM and LUXEMBOURG
1938	ENNISKERRY, Eire	1963	SANTON DOWNHAM, Suffolk
1939	DENMARK		MINEHEAD, Somerset
1940	KNEBORTH, Herts	1964	FRITHAM, Hampshire PORTUGAL (National Jamboree)
1941	PURLEY, Berks	1965	HASTINGS, Sussex GREAT TOWERS, Westmorland
1942	PURLEY, Berks	1966	RAMSGATE, Kent SWITZERLAND
1943	PURLEY, Berks	1967	FRITHAM, Hampshire PLYMOUTH, Devon
1944	PURLEY, Berks	1968	AMBERLEY, Sussex GERMANY
1945	WINDERMERE, Westmorland	1969	ABINGDON, Berks NORFOLK BROADS
1946	BERRYNARBOR, Devon	1970	FAIRLIGHT, Sussex GUERNSEY, Channel Islands
1947	SOUTHGATE, Wales FRANCE (World Jamboree)	1971	GLENLOUGH, Isle of Man MIDLANDS (Canal Cruise)
1948	MILFORD, Hampshire SWITZERLAND		
1949	ARUNDEL, Sussex SCILLY ISLES NORWAY (Rover Moot)		
1950	SHORNCLIFFE, Kent GERMANY		
1951	WINDERMERE, Westmorland SCOTLAND (Tour) AUSTRIA (World Jamboree)		
	GILWELL (International PL Camp)		



## Golden Jubilee Programme 1971

Saturday, October 2

### CAVALCADE OF DECORATED FLOATS

Old Scouts, Scouts and Venture Scouts will tour around the local neighbourhood, giving publicity to 50 years of Scouting after which they will adjourn for tea at Group Headquarters.

Sunday, October 3

### THANKSGIVING SERVICE & HARVEST FESTIVAL

St. Mark's Church, Hamilton Terrace, N.W.8, 3.15 p.m.

Speaker: Ralph Reader, Esq., C.B.E.

Service to be conducted by Rev. Barry Wainwright, M.A.  
The Choir will be composed of Old Scouts who served in Emmanuel Church 50 years ago.

During the Service new Group Colours will be dedicated.  
Service sheets will be provided.

Thursday, October 7

### EXHIBITION OF SCOUTING and of 50 YEARS OF DIEHARDIA

at Mansergh Club 7.30 p.m.

Including demonstrations and displays; outdoor and indoor projects; personal photographs, sketches, books, models and badges; records of Group achievements, honours, competitions, Jamborees, Rover Moots; tape recordings and historical souvenirs; display units from Scout HQ.  
Admission Free. Refreshments available.

## Golden Jubilee Programme 1971

Saturday, October 9

### GROUP DINNER AND DANCE

Hotel Rembrandt, Thurloe Place, S.W.7, at 6.30 for 7 p.m.

Guests of Honour: A. W. Hurl, Esq., C.V.O., C.B.E.

(lately Chief Executive Commissioner) and Mrs. Hurl  
Dancing to the Bill Chambers Trio. Dress: Dinner Jacket or Lounge Suit.

Tickets £2.50 may be obtained from the Group Treasurer,  
Mr. J. E. Balls, 14 Warner House, Abercorn Place, N.W.8  
(01 328 0889)

Accommodation limited—early application advisable.

Wednesday, October 13

### SCOUTING ON THE SCREEN

Mansergh Club 7.30 p.m.

Films of world wide Scouting

Lantern Slides and Transparencies portraying Group activities over 50 years.

Admission Free.

Refreshments available.

Friday, October 15

### OLD SCOUT NIGHT

Mansergh Club 7.30 p.m.

All active members of the Group are sending invitations to a corresponding number of Old Scouts to meet them to join in Cub or Scout activities, and Camp Fire. Refreshments provided.

Saturday, October 16

### PARENTS NIGHT

Mansergh Club 7 p.m.

The Group Scouters invite all Scouts' parents and magazine subscribers to join the Group in a medley programme.  
Refreshments provided.

# 8th ST. MARYLEBONE SCOUT GROUP

*The Diehards*

Active Group Roll at March 31, 1971

## SCOUTERS

Group Scout Leader: J. W. Evans    Deputy GSL: G. Scott  
Venture Scout Leader: J. W. Lomax    Asst. VSL: C. Amies (Acting)  
Scout Leader: W. J. Sherry    Asst. SL's: A. Barney, J. Larkin  
Cub Scout Leader: D. Barrett    Asst. CSL's: P. Larkin, A. Meaden,  
D. Cotchings

## SERVICE TEAM

R. W. Larkin (Group Secretary)    R. Clarke (Musical Assistant)  
L. Pickford (Magazine Publisher)    A. Maclagan (Unit Quartermaster)  
M. Aldred (Magazine Publisher)

## VENTURE SCOUT UNIT

P. Kenyon, S. Cooke, M. Collier, N. Cooke, M. Starling, P. Lomax,  
K. Cherrill, M. Harvey, D. James, D. Scannell, B. Finlayson

## SCOUT TROOP

*Buffaloes*  
R. Foster  
P. Nolde  
E. O'Neill  
I. Gardiner  
G. Smith  
D. Comer

*Wolves*  
M. Upton  
G. Rayner  
A. Varian  
R. Scannell  
K. Hardie  
F. Turki  
K. Sharratt

*Lions*  
C. Robinson  
P. Williamson  
N. Pomicter  
A. Rayner  
S. Hardie  
L. Baker

*Swifts*  
I. Judson  
M. Pomicter  
J. Cotchings  
P. Perryment  
J. Gilbride  
A. Goodrick

*Woodpeckers*  
M. Kilcooley  
M. Williams  
C. Jenkins  
P. Gill  
R. Brooks  
J. Reid

## CUB SCOUT PACK

*White Six*  
A. Niekirk  
P. Barker  
J. Farrow  
N. Litten  
K. Gill  
R. Mathews  
J. Hobbs

*Brown Six*  
R. Moia  
R. Haar  
C. Hill  
S. Freak  
D. Orchard  
M. Waterworth  
I. Farrow

*Red Six*  
J. Drage  
M. Plummer  
D. Ashburner  
M. Gibbs  
M. Karpillirs  
P. Peplow  
D. Fleischmann

*Black Six*  
M. Craze  
A. Labof  
C. Dillon  
D. Laffy  
A. Kerswell  
J. Saunders  
A. Balfour

*Grey Six*  
C. Travis  
S. Gibbs  
A. Pile  
R. Saunders  
M. Winkleman  
P. Broatch

*Yellow Six*  
A. Shapland  
R. Mason  
C. Bynoe  
D. Davies  
A. Phillips  
E. Finnigan