

FEB 1958

Published by "LEANDER" (KINGSTON) SEA SCOUT GROUP

THE BOY SCOUTS' ASSOCIATION

"LEANDER" (Kingston) SEA SCOUT GROUP (5969)

(Founded 1909 as the 2nd Kingston Troop)

HEADOUARTERS: Lower Ham Road, Kingston-on-Thames

Group Scoutmaster: E. L. Ebbage, 82, Eden Street, Kingston. Phone: Kingston 1141 (Office) 5614 (Home)

WOLF CUB PACK

Age 8 – 12 years.

Subscription - 3d per week.

Musters

THURSDAYS - 6 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. at Headquarters. SATURDAYS - Occasional outings as arranged.

Cubmaster

Miss S. Angles, 20, Fassett Road, Kingston. Kin 7843.

SCOUT TROOP Age 12-16 years.

Subscription - 6d. per week.

Musters

TUESDAYS - 7 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. at Headquarters.

SATURDAYS - 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Headquarters, or as arranged. Tea is obtainable at a charge of 9d. and an optional

recreational session is held until about 8 p.m.

Scoutmaster

P. Burton, 44, Vincent Road, Kingston

SENIOR SCOUT TROOP Age 16-18 years.

Subscription - 9d. per week.

Musters

Scoutmaster

WEDNESDAYS - 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. at Headquarters. SUNDAYS - 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Headquarters, or as arranged.

F. C. Goodger, 45 Dysart, Avenue, Kingston

ROVER CREW

Age 18 years onwards.

Subscription - 9d. per week.

Musters

FRIDAYS - 8 p.m. to 10 p m. at Headquarters SUNDAYS - 10 a.m. at Headquarters, or as arranged.

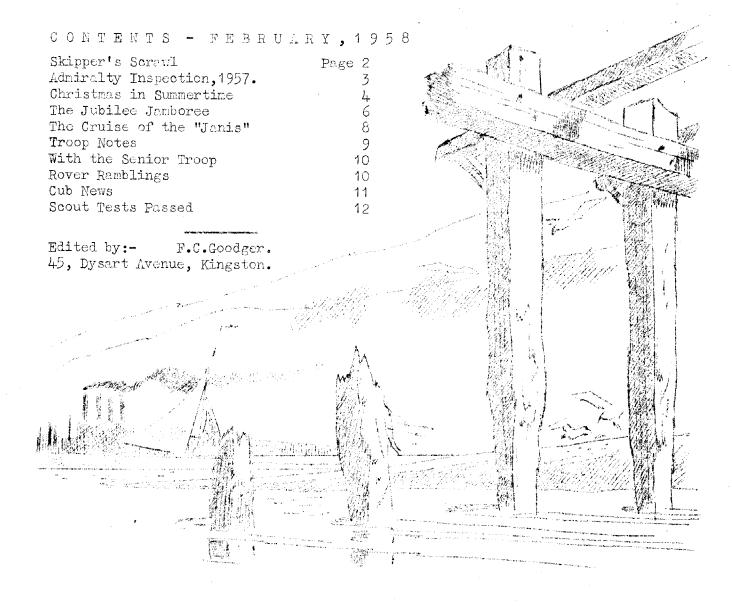
Rover Leader

K. C. Martin, 14, Parkfields Road, Kingston

Regular and punctual attendance in uniform at the above times is essential for all sections of the Group.

B.P. GUILD OF OLD SCOUTS

All former members over the age of 18 years are welcome at Headquarters from 8 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. on the first Thursday in each month.



SKIPPER'S SCRAWL.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Dodge, father of S/M Bob Dodge, and we offer our sincere sympathy to Bob and his mother and brothers in their great loss. Mr. Dodge always took a great interest in "Learders", and was a keen supporter of many of our activities.

There are two things which will give great satisfaction to all members and friends of the Group, firstly we extend our hearty congratulations to S/M Peter Burton who has been awarded the Medal of Merit by the Chief Scout, for his good services to the Scout Movement. This is a tribute, not only to his great work in the Group (with which we are all familiar) but also his help to the Barnardo's Group, and as a member of the Kingston Scout Executive. Secondly, in forwarding the report which appears on page 3, the County Commissioner wrote:-

"It is always a delight to read the reports of the Inspecting Officer on his visits to Leander, and as much so this year as ever. May I offer you, personally, and all your Scouters and Scouts, warmest congratulations".

It was very enjoyable to be invited (with Mrs. Ebbage) to the Leander Old Scout Guild's Annual Dinner on Saturday, 18th January. The Chairman, Morrie Buer, in a very nice speech welcomed the guests, and coupled our names with the Toast. In the course of his remarks he mentioned that if they hadn't all been members of Leanders, they might not have known each other, and been sitting together at dinner. What a thought! How many HAVE actually met through our Group, and even if not now active members, they can be relied upon to help when we need their assistance.

We were all very disappointed with the result of the Bazaar last November. The profit of £57 was the lowest for many years. We are, however, hoping to make up for this with a really "bumper" JUMBLE SALE on Saturday, March 15th, at St. Luke's Social Centre, Elm Road, Kingston. Will you please make this known to all your friends and relatives and start collecting NOW! Let us know, nearer the date, if you need transport to get the things to the Hall, and also whether you can come along on the day to help sort and/or sell. We shall need at least 40 helpers.

The annual inspection of the Group on behalf of the Admiral Commanding Reserves was undertaken on 12th November, 1957, by Lieut-Commander R.C.E. Watkin. The following are extracts from his Report:

"On arrival I inspected the Troop, Senior Troop and Rover Crew mustered by patrols on the Main Deck. The high standard of dress and bearing that has come to be expected of Leander Sea Scouts was fully maintained. Following the parade I was taken on a tour of the Headquarters to witness the various classes under instruction by patrol leaders. Instruction included P.T. using the box horse, Parts of a Boat, Navigation Lights using the film strip projector and Rule of the Road, whilst outside on the river, stern sculling instruction was being given in one of the smaller dinghies.

The Rule of the Road instruction took place on the Main Deck and while I was harmlessly watching the patrol leader describe and place his model channel buoys in position, an enormous explosion took place and all the lights went out. Immediately the Scouts dropped what they were doing and formed a bucket chain up from the river to the forward end of the Boat Deck where "fire" had broken out subsequent to the explosion. Although the "fire" was promptly and efficiently dealt with, it was assumed for the purpose of the evolution that it was necessary to "Abandon Ship" and no sooner had the order been given than I found myself being pulled rapidly up stream in the 20' gig on a short tour round Stephen's Ait, an island about half a mile up stream from the Headquarters. Since the Troop was inspected by the Admiral Commanding Reserves in person a year ago, a total of twenty-one badges have been gained including two Seamans and one Queen Scout, there are seven holders of the Queen Scout Badge in the Senior Troop at present. Two Scouts have entered the Sea Services during the period and one is in process of passing into the Britannia Naval College, Dartmouth, having been successful at both interviews, leaving only the written examination hurdle to take in a week or so.

The success of Kingston Sea Scouts owes much to the personality of Mr. Ebbage, whose enthusiasm and leadership inspires those under him. Over the years a highly efficient, hard working and successful organisation has been built up which it is always a pleasure to visit. Continuance of Admiralty Qualification is recommended.

CHRISTMAS IN SUMMERTIME.

On February 2nd after 24 hours delay due to gales, H.M.S. Warrior left Portsmouth Harbour for the Solent where we "flew on" our aircraft. Immediately we entered the Channel we entered seven days of up to 100 m.p.h.gales, but it did'nt take seven hours to find out how wrongly somebody named watertight doors. After passing the Azores it calmed down, and we managed to get out on to the upper decks to survey the damage, which in some cases was quite severe. A few days later we experienced the wonderful weather that we were to have for the next six months.

After visiting Kingston, Jamaica, we moved on to the Panama Canal where we gave the Canal pilots quite a headache, being the first British aircraft carrier with an angled flight-deck to pass through the canal. Next we were fourteen days crossing the Pacific Ocean to Christmas Island, which was the base for the forthcoming Hydrogen Bomb tests. In this time we saw dolphin, porpoise, flying fish, sharks, whales and many other types of fish that were to be with us for the next few months. On arrival at Christmas Island, our first job was to take 300 Army and R.A.F. personnel to Honolulu for 48 hours leave, their first for six months. Our next job was to get down in earnest to the preparations for the "H" bombs, but as this entailed crossing the equator, and this was the first of 14 crossings, the usual respects were paid to King Neptune and his Royal subjects.

To cut a long story short, all the practice runs and preparations completed, Malden Island was evacuated, and the big day came. The first British Hydrogen Bomb was dropped. Now, what better can I do, than quote a few sentences from the "Mid Pacific News", the only English newspaper to print the news on the day of the explosion, 15th May, 1957:-

"A flash, stark and blinding, high in the Pacific sky, signalled to the world to-day Britains' emergence as a top-ranking power of this nuclear age. No one saw it! No human eye could survive the glare. But those who were present on this historic occasion backs turned to the explosion nearly 30 miles away could sense the brilliant intensity of the flash through closed eyelids. Even through thick clothing a flush of warmth penetrated to the body. Ten seconds after the burst, spectators turned to see the dying explosion still threshing with the mighty powers that had been unleashed. High above the sea, and rising rapidly, was an enormous ball of fire that changed swiftly into a bubbling cauldron of

coppery red streaked with grey. A feathery white cap spread over the top of the cloud, extending downwards to form a gigantic snowball poised on a white stem that appeared as the fantastic yet familiar mushroom, briging sea and sky like a giant waterspout. A couple of minutes after the burst, came the bang like distant gunfire, and after this there was nothing but to watch the mushroom lean drunkenly as it was blown away by the wind."

During the next month we were to witness two more explosions larger and a little more spectacular than the first. These completed, we started a very roundabout route home, first visiting Pearl Harbour to have some damage repaired. During our five day stay there we saw much of the enchanted Islands of Hawaii. Being on the Island of Oahu, we made many visits to Honolulu and the well known Waikiki Beach with it's famous Hawaiian music and Hula dancing girls. After leaving Hawaii we visited some of the South Sea Islands, Penrhyn, Rarotonga and Pitcairn, which, in their turn are as beautiful as Hawaii, if not more beautiful, because there is no American commercialism. Next we visited two small islands called Henderson and Ducie, which are uninhabited and inaccesible extent by helicopter. So we duly did our duty, and with the aid of Whirlwinds planted a notice on each giving the name of the island, and a reminder that it belongs to Pitcairn Island. After seeing Henderson and Ducie, I think that the first person who will be in a position to read these notices will be the person who goes to replace their rotting remains in about 50 years time.

The rest of our trip consisted of a goodwill tour of South America with visits to Callao, Valpariso, through the Straits of Magellan where we were the first aircraft carrier to be allowed through. Then on to the Falkland Isles, which, although very bleak and cold, house a population of very hospitable people.

Cur next port of call was Puerto Belgrano, the Argentine Naval Base. The main purpose of our visit to this rather out of the way spot was that Britain is trying to sell to the Argentine an aircraft carrier similar to the "Warrior". After three more days at sea we visited Buenos Aires, which is a wonderful city of skyscrapers, like its neighbour Montevideo in Uruguay, which was next on our list.

Our last port in South America was Rio de Janeiro with its famous statue of Christ, Sugar Loaf Mountain and Copacabana Beach. Next we crossed the Atlantic,

THE JUBILEE JAMBOREE.

(In the last edition of the "Water Rat" we described the Jamboree as seen by one-day visitors. The following article is from another angle - that of a member of the U.K. Contingent (7th Surrey Troop)).

The majority of the U.K.Contingent arrived at Sutton Park on the Monday and early Tuesday, 29th and 30th July, so as to be able to welcome the Secuts from other nations on Wednesday and Thursday. The official opening ceremony was performed by H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, K.G., who arrived by Royal Naval Helicopter and landed on the golf links near the arena. He afterwards reviewed the Scouts in the arena.

The Friday evening was the day for the Moot Camp Fire. 19 of our Troop were packed into a van and transported there and four of these went to look for the Leander Troop and the barge on the canal. Needless to say they did not find them. On the Saturday H.M. The Queen and H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh visited and toured the Jamboree. They were riotously welcomed wherever they went. On this day also the Air Scout display was held when a glider and a sailplane were landed in the arena, one by an air—scout instructor. The Camp Fire at the Indaba was well attended and many amusing stunts were put on by other nations. The Swiss Choir being one of the best turns of the evening.

On the Sunday there was a Scouts Own in the morning and in the evening Community Hymn Singing which was lead by the Surrey Choir some 300 strong. The international tea parties on this day were a great success, grand fun being had by all. On Monday the U.K.Contingent display depicting the life of our Founder was given in the arena. The Surrey Contingent was only concerned with the capture of the Chief Dirmizulu's warriors and the near killing of B.P. The display went down very well but I felt a "right Charlie" in a grass skirt and covered in cocoa! On Tuesday our patrol had invited a patrol of French boys to lunch. The meal was an Irish Stew, and strangely enough, they ate it. On the same day a party comprising several German boys, who had been staying the day with us and a few from our own troop visited the Leander troop on their barge. On the Thursday a visit to Bourneville

was arranged and we all came home carrying boxes of samples.

The Friday brought the Kingston train to Sutton Coldfield and also the exclus of the 7th Surrey to Sheffield for the day where we were entertained by members and scouters from the Sheffield groups. On the Saturday in our troop numerous 24 hour hikes were started to places of interest; it was surprising how good they were when you climb to nearly 1,000 feet to see them. Sunday brought the day of "U.K. at Home to the World", a glorious tea party of nearly 100 scouts to each U.K. troop on plots of land 100 ft X 100 ft. We were entertaining 20 Americans, 20 Italians and 24 Dutch Scouts. Needless to say we all "lost" several badges.

The official closing ceremony was performed by the World Chief Guide Lady B.P., who was tumultuously welcomed by scouts from all nations who were packed into the arena. She gave a very good talk in English and French, her theme being "The end is only the beginning". The next day saw the camp breaking up and by Wednesday very few tents were left standing. We left that day with many memories of marching and singing Germans, of mischievous French boys and above all a memory of brother-hood and the true scouting spirit. The 7th Surrey troop was led by Dr.J.S.Tait, (G/S/M 25th Richmond) assisted by Mr. H.N.G.Cowham (G/S/M 2nd Kew) and Mr.B.Russell (G/S/M 1st Kingsten Hill). To these three I should like to give my thanks for a very enjoyable and memorable camp.

B. R. GARNISH.

CHRISTMAS IN SUMMERTIME (contd. from page 5)

and made a lightning visit to Gibralt r for the purpose of refuelling before our final run to U.K. To give us a glimpse of the wonderful weather we had been missing, we were welcomed with thick fogs for 48 hours before finally making fast in Portsmouth Dockyard at 0700 on Friday, 11th October. After being rid of one of the mariner's greatest bugbears, the customs, we were allowed visitors on board, which made a wonderful ending to a most enjoyable trip.

R. SPENCER.

THE CRUISE OF THE "JANIS"

(The 1957 Cruise of the 8th Worthing Senior Sea Scouts)

On Saturday, 31st August, after many weeks of preparation we picked up the six ton Bermudian rigged sloop "Janis" which was lying at Bosham. sisted of two Scouters and four senior Scouts. With a fresh scuth-westerley breeze blowing we slipped our moorings and made our way down Chichester Harbour on the afternoon tide passing Chidham which I hear is known to several Leanders. In the main channel we came up with our G/S/M and an old finend of his who like ourselves were making for Portsmouth. It was well into the evening when we reached port and moored alongside a British Road Services vessel The next morning, Sunday, after a Scouts Own and bidding farewell to our G/S/M and his friend we left harbour against the tide and made our way across Spithead to Cowes in the Isle of Wight. night we moored in the quiet Medina River after a nice day's sailing. Next morning we left Cowes, having to our great disappointment not been welcomed by Uffa Fox. We reached Yarmouth (some miles further west in the Isle of Wight) just before breakfast spending the rest of the day exploring the small picturesque town and On Tuesday we left in the rain and re-crossing the Solent were soon in Lymington where we bought every available newspaper so as to catch up with the news. From there we made our way round to Hamble where we met one of our former Senior Scouts who spent the evening with us. On Wednesday as our auxiliary motor had broken down we decided to sail back to Portsmouth which we geached in the afternoon. In the evening we visited the Headquarters of the Portsmouth Sailing Club and met the G/S/M of one of the local Sea Scout Groups. We spent the night alongside the "Fourdroyant", the only wooden man of war still afloat and now used as a training ship for youth groups. Early on Thursday we left for Chichester Harbour and with a good following wind we were soon there. We sailed about the Harbour all day and seeing a storm was brewing, we moored in the fairly sheltered Thorney Channel. After a rough night we sailed back to Bosham and handed the boat back to the owners after a fine week's sailing and seamanshir training.

TROOP NOTES.

As a result of transfers some new appointments have been made since Summer Camp and the P.L.'s and Seconds are now :-

Beavers	•	P.L.	R.	Day	Second	I.	Coghlan
Herons			J.	Fielder		C.	Young
Seagulls			C.	Godsave		A.	Dow
Seals			R.	Bevan		3.	₩ e bb

The Troop has welcomed several new members - Michael Grigg, Fred Taylor and Clive Steel have gone into the Beavers, David Ashwell and Anthony Bennett to the Seagulls, and Bernard Cole, Keith Maund and Alan Palmer to the Herons.

At the beginning of November a Firefighters course was arranged for all the Troops of Kingston but after the first meeting it was found that there were too many scouts and it had to be postponed; it was understood the course will be resumed shortly. November 5th fell on a Tuesday this year, and was celebrated in the usual way with a bonfire in the garden at the back of H.Q. It was noticeable how many scouts, who normally have too much homework, managed to attend this celebration early! In December the P.L.'s went to a meeting of all Kingston patrol leaders at the 1st Kingston Hill H.Q. which was organized by Dr. Tait (G/S/M 1st Richmond). As a result of it we came back full of new and interesting scouting ideas. A fortnight later the whole troop visited the 1st K.H. again because our own Headquarters was being used for the cubs' Christmas Party. A wide game was held on Ham Common and then we went back to 1st K.H. and sat down to a glorious tea of baked beans on toast without knives or forks. The Troop's annual party was held on the 4th January and we came dressed as Echemians. After games in the afternoon we sat down to a huge tea (the remains were still being eaten on the following Tuesday evening) and afterwards watched an amusing Recently a good deal of running practice has been put in by the Troop along the townath in preparation for the District Cross Country run. This event was held at Richmond Park on 11th January and as the result of our training the Troop gained first place as a team. In the individual results R. Day and R. Milne were second and third respectively in a field of nearly sixty runners.

J. FIELDER.

WITH THE SENIOR TROOP.

Immediately before the bazaar a good deal of time was spent in preparing bundles of firewood which raised nearly £3. We can still take orders (at 3d per bundle) and are prepared to deliver within reasonable distance of H.Q. The annual race for the Puttock Swimming Cup was held at Kingston Baths in November. It proved an exciting event and was won by the Kingston School representative after a close finish with Paul Adams second. Two of the Seniors were in the party of Scouts and Rovers who were on duty at the British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall. For our Christmas visit to town this year we went to see the Crazy Gang at the Victoria Palace. It was a breezy show put over in the usual slick Crazy Gang way and we all enjoyed it and as usual we adjourned afterwards to a restaurant for dinner before returning to Kingston. The annual troop party was held on 11th January and was a great success. After games and eats there was dancing to the music of the Savoy Jazz Band. Such was the high quality of their music that even the Scouters were persuaded to jive to it:

ROVER RAMBLINGS.

Congratulations to "Dai" and "Hoppy" on gaining first and second places respectively in the 1957 sailing race for the Warrington Baden-Powell Trophy. This is the second occasion on which Dai has won the Trophy in the last few years. The crew gained third place in the district motor car/motor cycle rally held as part of the Barker Cup Competition in October. Three teams from the crew entered; Derek and Flan and Dick and Sidney on Motor Cycles and "Ian" and "Tacky" in the former's car. Judging by the detailed results the famous green car seemed to lose touch for a time somewhere along the course!

One Saturday morning in November "Sandling" was lifted out of the water at Beckett's yard and brought by low loader to Albany Park Road. As a result of much hard work that morning by Old Scouts, Rovers and others she is now laid up in the garden at the rear of H.G. A good deal of maintenance work has already been done on her particularly to the engine, but there still remains a lot to do if she is to be ready to go down river before Easter.

CUB NEWS.

Since the last"Water Rat" appeared the Pack has done a great deal of work on badges, making things for the Bazaar, and skiffling. Parents who came along to the Hallowe'en Party on 31st October will know all about the latter activity. The "Bank Lane Terrors" arrived dressed as Teddy Boys in jeans, brilliant socks, shoe-string ties and long jackets while the other members of the Pack wore kilts, sporrans and bonnets as members of the Clan of Rob Roy. Arrayed in all their glory they performed a Sword Dance. Yank kindly brought along a tape recorder and during the course of the evening he interviewed most of the Cubs and made recordings of their singing. This caused a great deal of amusement when played back and one or two parents took some convincing that it was actually their sons performing. A huge amount of food was consumed and the usual Hallowe'en games were played. Rikki appeared as a witch and Bagheera as her cat. The cat however had to beat a hasty retreat as some of the Cubs persisted in pulling her tail. The party was voted a great success.

The annual Cub Carol Service was held at St. Peter's Church and well attended by the Pack. The following Sunday we again paraded at St. Peter's for the dedication of our new Pack Colour. This was kindly given to us by an anonymous donor and we are grateful indeed. We are now the envy of all the other Kingston Packs. On the last Thursday before Christmas the Pack went out Carol singing to our usual group of friends living in the near vicinity of Headquarters. The next Saturday was the Christmas Party and once again the Pack arrived in fancy dress. The theme this year was "People of all Nations" and we certainly got them from the beautiful Spanish Dancer down to John Bull himself. As always the mothers turned up trumps with the food and we had an enormous amount of cakes, sandwiches and all the trimmings. Some of the Pack spent the afternoon at the Annual Children's Carol Service in London with Mr. Douglass and this was enjoyed immensely. They came on to the party at tea-time and after tea Ted Boddy gave us a film show. Very nice indeed.

Whilst I was away in Scotland I had the good fortune to be invited to one of the local Cub Packs. The Cutmaster, was one of the friends Bagheera and I made at the World Jamboree and I was certainly given a good Scottish welcome. The Pack Den had a large open fire place and the first Old Wolf to arrive had the job of chopping up wood and making a rearing log fire. It was wonderful and perfect for camp-fire yarns and singing. The Pack seemed rather amused at me as I was English and I am afraid

I had quite a job understanding some of the Cubs but luckily there was one English boy amongst them who interpreted for me amid a great deal of laughter. I learned from the Cubs that they often held "Sausage Hikes" on a Saturday afternoon and on arrival home I told our Pack all about it . Since when everyone has been anxious to try the idea ourselves. This we did on 4th January. It was pouring with rain (of course) and well wrapped up in raincoats and sea-boots we started out along the tow-path and over to the far side of the Ham gravel pits. Here we found a reasonably sheltered hollow. We then proceeded to make a search for dryish wood, and after using only two matches managed to get a fire going. All the Cubs brought two sausages and rolls and armed with a frying pan and some cooking fat we soon had a wonderful aroma shrouding us. It continued to pelt with rain and blow a gale but the fire burned very well and just before dusk we ate our sausages, put out the fire, tidied our site and started back along the now flooded river path. The smallest cub remarked from beneath a sodden cap "Oh my legs do ache - when are we going for another hike?" This seemed to sum the afternoon up nicely as in spite of the weather we were all tired but happy.

There has been no note of Badges gained in the last few months, and there have been so many there is not enough space to give names. However, nearly every Cub in the Pack has won at least one badge and the numbers awarded are as follows:-

7 Cyclist - 5 Teamplayer - 5 Collector - 3 Swimmer - 7 Guide - 3 House-Orderly - 2 Observer - 2 Homecraft - 2 Gardener - 1 First Aider and 1 Artist.

Consequently another 6 Cubs now have their Leaping Welf Badges. Brian Martin has just completed the tests for his last badge and has now gained every badge possible for a Wolf Cub. Congratulations Brian.

AKELA.

SCOUT TESTS PASSED.

Despatch Riders Badge	~	I.	Dow	M	Webb.	B. Car	r
First Class	-), R.	Lenthall	(3)
Second Class	**	I.	Hunt (7))			
Tenderfoot (completed)	-	В	\mathtt{Cole}	Κ.	Maund		
ATTENDED OF STREET		Τ.	α.				
QUEEN'S SCOUT		_ ₿.	Carr				

BOY SCOUTS' ASSOCIATION

"LEANDER" (Kingston) SEA SCOUT GROUP (5969)

UNIFORM

WOLF CUBS

CAP Green, with yellow piping, with cloth Wolf Cub badge in front.

SCARF

As Scouts - see below.

STOCKINGS SHOES (or Boots)

SCOUTS, SENIOR SCOUTS and ROVERS

CAP Blue cloth in Winter, white duck in Summer.

SCARF Black Silk, with Surrey emblem on point, worn with Turks Head formed from black leather lace.

LANYARD & KNIFE Not to be worn until after enrollment.

JERSEY Blue woollen, worn with sleeves rolled above elbows.

SHIRT

White flannel, with blue binding at neck and pocket for knife. SHORTS Blue serge, worn with blue cricket belt or plain leather belt.

STOCKINGS Blue woollen, with plain tops and green tabs to garters.

SHOES (or BOOTS) Black leather, except for boating and indoor games, when

plimsols, preferably white, are to be worn.

To ensure as much uniformity as possible, the above should be purchased from the Group's official outfitter:-

Bob Simester, 2, Clarence Chambers, London Road, Kingston

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