



100 Years of 1st Cobham Scouting





Forward

In 2007, to celebrate the Centenary of Scouting, Grahame Coombe, County Archivist, produced an article every month for Surrey Scout about the early history of scouts in surrey. One such article mentioned Cobham Troop camping on the Isle of Sheppey in the 1900's. It was a report of them being the first troop to ever save lives from a ship wreck that happened at that time.

Peter Amys, Scout Leader at 1st Cobham, contacted Grahame to seek more information after realising that if this was true, our group records about the history of 1st Cobham (and when it began) were incorrect.

After various letters and research Grahame supplied us with a start date, recorded in the "Headquarters Gazette Magazine", and a list of the early leaders. This established beyond any doubt the origins of Scouting in Cobham.

In winter 2008, the Group Executive started planning our Centenary Celebration and I thought a great way to record 100 years of 1st Cobham would be to produce a memorial book. Unfortunately, there were no records at our hut and very little information to hand. So a long road began of dusty books, libraries, history centres, old papers, cold church vestry's, land registry, maps, photos galore, tired eyes, brain freeze, chasing old members for memories and hours upon hours of sifting through information.....I thought it would be so simple and easy!! And don't mention typing and scanning, thank the Lord for spell check.

So finally in September 2010, with the fabulous typing skills of my sister Stephanie, this first draft of 100 years of 1st Cobham Scout Group began.

I hope you enjoy reading some of the many wonderful stories, fascinating history and memories that the members of our group have had and continue to have.

Alyson, Akela , 1st Cobham Cubs

[Unless stated otherwise, all photos have been donated by members and graphics taken from Microsoft Clipart. We have produced this booklet with the best of intentions to show 1st Cobham Scout's history, with our research continuing. However, any errors or omissions of fact or attribution are entirely our responsibility and we would welcome you to contact us with any new or revised information.]

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Origins of Scouting

As a military officer, Baden-Powell was stationed in British India and Africa in the 1880s and 1890s. Since his youth, he had been fond of woodcraft and military scouting, and—as part of their training—showed his men how to survive in the wilderness. He noticed that it helped the soldiers to develop independence rather than just blindly follow officers' orders....

...in South Africa during the Second Boer War, Baden-Powell was besieged in the small town of Mafeking by a much larger Boer army (the Siege of Mafeking). The Mafeking Cadet Corps was a group of youths that supported the troops by carrying messages, which freed the men for military duties and kept the boys occupied during the long siege. The Cadet Corps performed well, helping in the defence of the town (1899–1900), and were one of the many factors that inspired Baden-Powell to form the Scouting movement. Each member received a badge that illustrated a combined compass point and spearhead. The badge's logo was similar to the fleur-de-lis that Scouting later adopted as its international symbol.

In the United Kingdom, the public followed Baden-Powell's struggle to hold Mafeking through newspapers, and when the siege was broken, he had become a national hero. This rise to fame fuelled the sales of a small instruction book he had written about military scouting, *Aids to Scouting*.

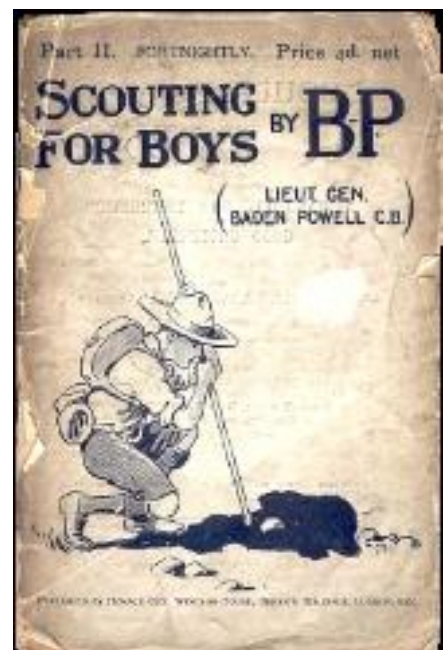
On his return to England, he noticed that boys showed considerable interest in the book, which was used by teachers and youth organizations. He was suggested by several to rewrite this book for boys, especially during an inspection of the Boys' Brigade, a large youth movement drilled with military precision. Baden-Powell thought this would not be attractive and suggested that it could grow much larger when scouting would be used. He studied other schemes, parts of which he used for Scouting.

In July 1906, Ernest Thompson Seton sent Baden-Powell a copy of his book *The Birchbark Roll of the Woodcraft Indians*. Seton, a British-born Canadian living in the United States, met Baden-Powell in October 1906, and they shared ideas about youth training programs. In 1907 Baden-Powell wrote a draft called *Boy Patrols*. In the same year, to test his ideas, he gathered 21 boys of mixed social backgrounds (from boy's schools in the London area and a section of boys from the Poole, Parkstone, Hamworthy, Bournemouth, and Winton Boys' Brigade units) and held a week-long camp in August on Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour, Dorset, England. His organizational method, now known as the Patrol System and a key part of Scouting training, allowed the boys to organize themselves into small groups with an elected patrol leader.

In the autumn of 1907, Baden-Powell went on an extensive speaking tour arranged by his publisher, Arthur Pearson, to promote his forthcoming book, *Scouting for Boys*. He had not simply rewritten his *Aids to Scouting*, but left out the military aspects and transferred the techniques (mainly survival) to non-military heroes: backwoodsmen, explorers (and later on, sailors and airmen). He also added innovative educational principles (the Scout method) by which he extended the attractive game to a personal mental education. *Scouting for Boys* first appeared in England in January 1908 as six fortnightly instalments, and was published in England later in 1908 in book form. The book is now the fourth-best-selling title of all time, and is now commonly considered the first version of the *Boy Scout Handbook*.

At the time, Baden-Powell intended that the scheme would be used by established organizations, in particular the Boys' Brigade, from the founder William A. Smith. However, because of the popularity of his person and the adventurous outdoor games he wrote about, boys spontaneously formed Scout patrols and flooded Baden-Powell with requests for assistance. He encouraged them, and the Scouting movement developed momentum. As the movement grew, Sea Scout, Air Scout, and other specialized units were added to the program.

[Extract from: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scouting#Origins>]





Chapter 1 1910 – 1919 – How It All Began

Leadership and Membership Information

Position	Name	Date	Where	At
Scout Master	Mr Edward Cripps	July 1910 - February 1914	Cobham Patrol	Pyports Barn
Scout Master	Rev. H P B Chubb	July 1910 -	Hatchford & Downside Patrol	The Institute
Assistant SM	Mr R D Skelton	August 1910 -	Cobham	
Assistant SM	Mr J Potter	January 1911 - February 1913 (D)	Cobham	
Assistant SM	Mr Harris	February 1911 -	Hatchford and Downside	
Assistant SM	Mr W A Hook	June 1912 -	Hatchford and Downside	
Scouts	A Veale	July 1911 -	Hatchford and Downside	
	W Worsfold			
	C Woodger			
	D Mackenzie			
	E Reddick			
	H Pullen			
	W Hook			
	J Moore			
Scouts	G Veale	May 1913 -		
	J Worsfold			
	M Norman			

In February 1914, Cobham Troop is disbanded by Mr E Cripps. We believe the death (in September 1912) of John Potter – Assistant Scout Master deeply affected the Troop and, with war looming, he has never been replaced. Many of the boys are members of St Andrews' Boys Club (which also meets on Wednesday) so support is low. Rev. Chubb continues at Hatchford and Downside and he welcomes any Cobham members to join him. The 1914 – 1918 war also has a dramatic influence as many of the scouts take the call to arms. Rev. Chubb continues his Scout Meetings throughout this time.

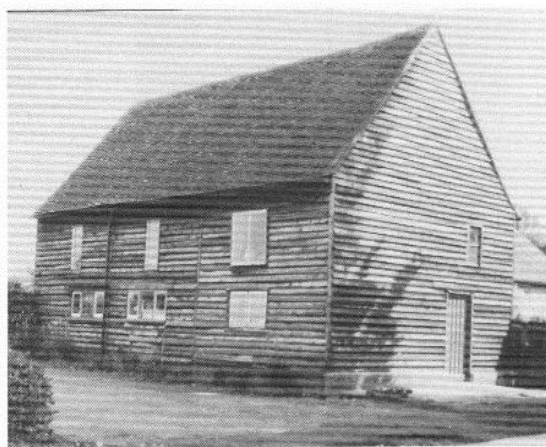
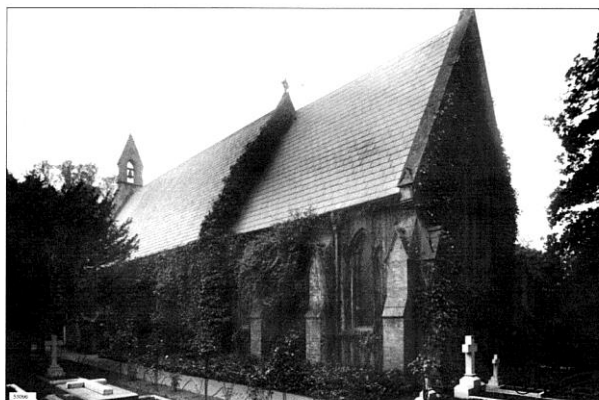
It is interesting to note that the surnames of many local families and businesses appear on the Rosta.

History of First Cobham Scouts.... What we think happened

1910 – 1919 – How It All Began

Rev. H B Chubb, Curate in charge of Hatchford Church and Downside Parish, part of Cobham Parish, became an avid supporter of Scouting after a chance meeting with General Baden Powell at one of the many camps he held around the country to promote his cause. (see blog below).

Although there are no records, we are assuming that after this event Rev. Chubb spoke with Mr Edward Cripps, (age 24) living at Pyports House whose father was a Lay Helper at St Andrews Church, and they decided to open the first Scout Troop in Cobham closely followed by a Scout Troop in Hatchford & Downside.



The Cobham Troop met at Pyports Barn Monday and Wednesday from 7pm – 9.30pm, with Edward Cripps as Chief Scoutmaster, and Hatchford & Downside Troop met at The Institute with Rev. Chubb as Scoutmaster.

[Hatchford Church Cobham (above) and Pyports Barn (left), photos reproduced with kind permission of Surrey History Centre.]

[All Rev. Chubb's Blogs have been extracted from Cobham Parish Magazine (below).]

August 1909

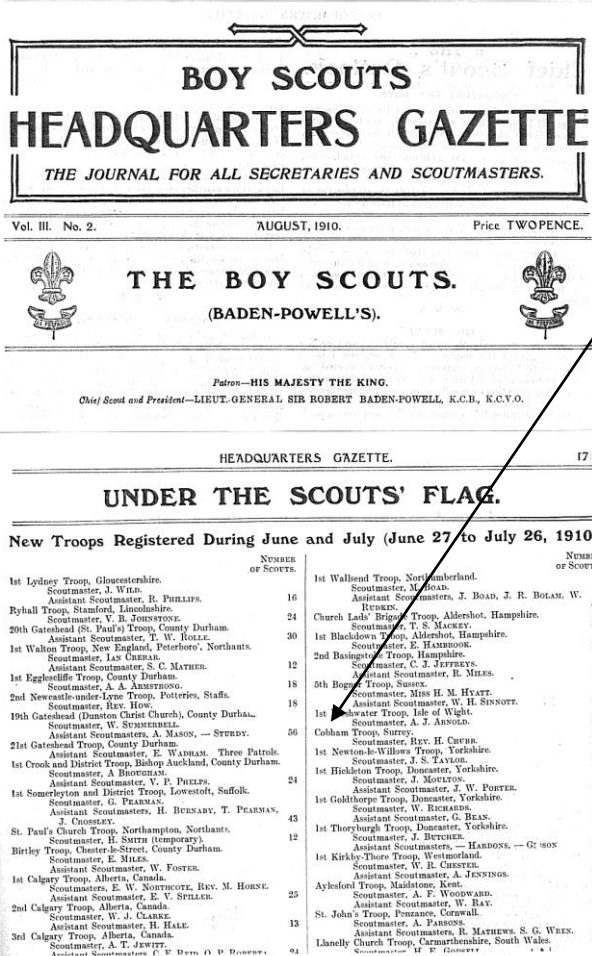
Rev. Chubb's Blog

Our rural calm at Hatchford has been agreeably disturbed by an invasion of a large body of Boy Scouts; the heath by the Little Hut Pond, that was so recently the scene of a disastrous fire, having been selected as an ideal site for the first official camp of Baden Powell's Scouts. It's an ill wind that blows no one any good, even in a raging heath fire. In fact, I heard the General say, as we sat out there having supper after the Review, that he hoped it might be possible to use it as a permanent camping ground every summer. The lack of a good bathing place is, however, a serious draw back, one of the officers getting his foot badly cut by one of the bottles thrown by the thoughtless into the big pond.

The whole Corps of Scouts, amounting to some 140 in all, filled the nave of our Church on the fourth Sunday in August, at a Church Parade at 10am. It was a heart-stirring sight, and one full of cheering promise when one hears so much about national decadence. A short and excellent address was given by the Commandant, a Lay Reader of the Diocese of Chichester, his shirt sleeves being hidden by a surplice and M.A. hood with which he covered up his workaday costume.

Although everyone knows the Boy Scouts by sight, there is a great amount of ignorance as to the ideals that govern the organisation. There is a widespread idea that the lads are merely engaging in a glorified game of soldiers. This is quite an erroneous idea. Military drill occupies a very subordinate place in the scheme, though cheerful obedience to authority, chivalry, courage, and courtesy to all, which are the hall-marks of every good soldier, are put in the forefront of the high ideal placed before the boys in their "scout law".

Early Years and Registration



In the early years, many Troops had been up and running for some time before they were officially registered. The Editor of the "Headquarters Gazette", wanting to give as much publicity as possible to the movement, recorded new registrations each month.

Cobham Troop was first registered in 1910 and became part of Kingston Local Association. It did not transfer to Esher Local Association (now Esher District) until 25th October 1948.

Much of our early history has been gained from Rev. Chubb's Parish Reports. He comes across as a very forward thinking, young vicar who wanted local children to have every chance to improve themselves and felt that the Scouting Movement could provide this.

You can clearly see that both he and Edward Cripps often joined the troops together to complete activities, go to sporting events that had been organised or join with local dignitaries at their estates, who supported the troops, for Afternoon Tea! We have recorded his notes as "Rev. Chubb's Blog"!

[Extract (opposite) reproduced with kind permission of Graham Coombe from Scouting archive records]

July 1909

Rev. Chubb's Blog

A strong Patrol of ten Scouts, from Hatchford and Downside, has been enrolled and affiliated to that which has been raised at Cobham, by Mr. E. Cripps, who is our chief Scout-Master. The boys present a very smart appearance and will, I feel sure, by and bye, give a very good account of themselves when they have been fully trained. They and the Cobham Patrol had a very pleasant field day recently, when - after parading at Hatchford Park and receiving some kindly words of encouragement and good advice from Sir Henry Samuelson - they took part in some combined manoeuvres with the Ripley and Ockham Patrols, and afterwards marched to Ripley Court, where they were kindly entertained at tea by Mr. and Mrs. Cleverley, and shown one or two "wrinkles" by the Ripley Scouts.



Ripley and Ockham Patrols, and afterwards marched to Ripley Court, where they were kindly entertained at tea by Mr. and Mrs. Cleverley, and shown one or two "wrinkles" by the Ripley Scouts.

Picture taken outside Downside Club c1900, we think this photo is of the Mothers Union with Rev. Chubb the local Vicar. His wife was member!

[Photo reproduced with kind permission of Surrey History Centre]

August 1910 – Week-end camp near Telegraph Town followed by tea and supper on Sunday with Cobham Scouts inc. both patrols repelling a night attack on the camp from Ripley

Rev. Chubb's Blog

Our Patrol of Scouts much enjoyed a "week-end" camp near Telegraph Town from August 20th to 22nd. It was chiefly of the nature of an experiment, and proved to be a very happy one for us all. I enjoyed the two nights under canvas in the Pine Woods as much as anyone, and found it a most instructive experiment for myself as well as for the lads. It was a great pleasure to have the Cobham Patrol with us at tea and supper on Sunday, and they with their Assistant Scoutmaster, Mr. R. D. Skelton, assisted us in repelling a night attack made on our camp by Ripley (not a raiding attack), in which the latter were the decided victors in a task in which the defence has much the hardest job. The severity of the attack is indicated in the fact that all three of us Scoutmasters were taken prisoners, including Dr. Gaskell, of South African scouting fame, who directed our defence. Would that I had space for more; to dwell on the delights of the wonderful Irish stew made by the Ripley Scout who was our excellent cook, or that of ladling out our tea to our friends from a bucket; but probably they would rather be spared any further reference to what they perhaps regarded as an indignity and an offence...

September 1910 – Cricket Match

Rev. Chubb's Blog

Our Saturday, September 10th, a Cricket Match took place between the Ripley and Ockham and Cobham and Downside Scouts, and resulted in a decided victory for the latter.

October 1910 – Garden Party given by Sir Henry & Lady Samuelson

Rev. Chubb's Blog

Both patrols of our Scouts, together with the Choir boys, were most kindly invited to a Garden Party that Sir HENRY and Lady SAMUELSON recently gave to the wives and children of the workers on their estate; and this was immensely enjoyed by us all. There were over 70 who sat down to tea, I believe. The day was most fortunately gloriously fine. How extraordinary to be sitting on the grass on an October evening! Many were the extra attractions provided by our ever kind host and hostess, among them being the best Punch and Judy Show that I have ever seen, Aunt Sally, and coconut shies and races. Not only were there prizes for the latter, but there were presents for all as well. Before we went home we expressed our grateful thanks in three very hearty cheers.

November 1910 – Cobham Troop's first fundraising event

Rev. Chubb's Blog

On Thursday, Nov. 17th, the Village Hall was filled to overflowing for a FOLLIES' ENTERTAINMENT to help defray the expenses incidental to the maintenance of two Patrols of COBHAM BOY SCOUTS. Mr. Edward Cripps to whom, with Dr. Gaskell, the chief credit of this excellent institution belongs, in addition to the personal trouble, care and enthusiasm he has put into the equipment and training work involved, had the happy thought which took shape in what was certainly one of the greatest successes which has ever distinguished the platform of our local Lyceum. Mr. Cripps is gratified by the kindness of the people who rallied to assist him in his venture to replenish the Scouts' Treasury, but he certainly rewarded them generously by the splendid variety programme of the evening. With the generosity which so often distinguishes the artistic world, all the performers freely gave their admirable services, except of course out of pocket expenses which in such an undertaking must be heavy. I feel that not only the Scouts, but Cobham folk generally (who can now sleep secure in their beds), and especially the audience of this particular evening, owe the warmest thanks to Mr. Tennant and his extremely entertaining companions. The Cobham Boy Scouts, who now muster two full Patrols - 16 in all - were much in evidence, and as usual were usefully employed. The movement is a grand one, with immense possibilities, and well deserves all the support and success that falls to it.

November 1910 – Report on balance sheet following entertainment in village hall [POSS DELETE]

Rev. Chubb's Blog

I have received from another of our kind Lay-helpers, Mr. Edward Cripps, the Balance-Sheet of the splendid Entertainment so many of us enjoyed at the Village Hall in November. The net profit available towards the expenses of the COBHAM SCOUTS, on whose behalf the affair was organised, is naturally rather a disappointment to its energetic promoter, as it amounts to the sum of £8 12s. out of gross receipts for admission amounting to £42 17s. This is mainly owing to the Company's expenses having amounted to nearly £10 more than their estimate, namely, £29 13s. 6d, besides the necessary local expenses of £14 11s. 6d. The Hall was so crowded that it was natural to hope for a larger result, especially as everything which the great hospitality of Pypports could offer was done to minimise the personal expenses of the Company. Railway and other charges for the transport of stage "properties" must have been, one supposes, very severe. We can only sympathise with Mr. Cripps and wish him "better luck next time."

1911

February 1911 – Rev. Harris joins Hatchford Troop

Rev. Chubb's Blog

Our Scouts are fortunate in having secured a new Assistant Scout-Master in Mr. Harris, a student at Wisley Gardens, whose services are most invaluable, as he is not only full of keenness, but especially distinguished himself as a Scout in Scotland, having been the first Scout for his country.

They are interested just now in fitting up their new head-quarters in a loft at the Parsonage, and are setting about providing it with home-made furniture, under Mr. Harris' directions.

June 1911 – Coronation Tea at Hatchford Park

Rev. Chubb's Blog

At 2p.m. the Scouts led the procession of children into the Park, the girls carrying posies of red, white and blue flowers mounted on sticks, which had a very pretty effect, and with these held aloft they sang some loyal songs on the lawn before Lady Samuelson, finally closing up till they formed a big nosegay. For this pretty introduction to the programme we are indebted to Miss Hayter and Miss Marlowe, who had kindly drilled the children beforehand.

Then followed the children's and adult sports, the women's and the infants' races having, however, to be postponed owing to the rain after tea. The huge marquee, in which over 500 adults sat down to their meat tea and at which their wants were attended to by nearly 40 waiters, under the skilful superintendence of the caterer, Mr. Darracott, proved to be a great boon after tea also. When the tables had been cleared away the people danced to the strains of the Band of the royal Engineers, which the Committee was so fortunate in securing.

We were very glad that the Vicar was able to add much to our pleasure by sparing a few minutes from the festivities at Pain's Hill and Cobham to be with us, and in his speech at the adults' tea he thanked Sir Henry and Lady Samuelson for their wonderful kindness and generosity in entertaining us all in words that evoked the most hearty cheers and musical honours. We were grateful, too, for his boldness in lifting our thoughts on to the highest plane in speaking of the spiritual significance of the Coronation. We were especially glad, too, to find Mr. Frank Mount, who had hurried back from the Coronation, in our midst.

July 1911 – Play

Rev. Chubb's Blog

I shall be kept in touch with Hatchford and Downside while at Folkestone through our Scouts, who are camping out at Hythe for the first time. To enable them to do this I have received very kind and generous donations from Mrs. Deacon and Sir H. Samuelson, in addition to the small balance in hand as the result of the two Concerts which were given on their behalf.

This reminds me that I have never acknowledged on this page the kindness of those who assisted our Scouts to give the Dramatic Entertainment that took place at the Schools some two months ago.

The first part of the programme consisted of a play, entitled "A Carrier's Wife," in which the following Scouts, past and present, took part: A. Veale, W. Worsfold, C. Woodger, D. Mackenzie, E. Reddick, H. Pullen, W. Hook, and J. Moore; their acting was wonderfully good, and they were very heartily congratulated. Mr. Cook gave us most valuable help in assisting me with the work of Stage Management, and Mr. Hook, Mr. Wright and Mr. Worsfold kindly erected the stage.

The Scout play was followed by some really first-class acting in "The Area Belle," in which the following gentlemen took part: Messrs. Gregory, Cook, Farmer, Shepherd, and Kimmell. Better acting than this has never been seen in Downside, and we tender our most grateful thanks to the above gentlemen, together with Mr. Whitely, Mr. Tidy, Mr. Passmore and others for giving us some music between the plays.

Just before I left, Mr. E. James kindly examined the Scouts for their Ambulance badges. Four out of the Patrol of eight successfully passed.

September 1911 – Camp in Hythe

Rev. Chubb's Blog

The summer camp of our Scouts on the Golf Club Grounds, at Hythe, proved to be a great success in every way. The only regret of the boys being that it came so quickly to an end. We were very fortunate in having Mr. Arney of Weybridge, who brought his own Scouts with him, in charge of the Camp; and Mr. Longhurst gave most valuable help in travelling down with the troop and giving evidence of his culinary skill during his two days' stay

We received a most hearty patronal welcome from some North London Scouts who had a large camp close to ours, and who gave us all tea on our arrival. But our sense of comradeship thus happily inaugurated was rather spoilt when we discovered next morning that they had raided our camp in the night, captured our kettle and the Weybridge flag.

Mr. Arney had decided not to post any sentries on the first night as the boys were tired after a long journey. The raid, too, was unjustifiable, it being against Baden-Powell's distinct orders to raid a camp after 11p.m. and without giving previous notice. The kettle was promptly returned next day and the incident would have been regarded as "closed" had not the "enemy" refused to return the flag which they paraded through Folkestone and Hythe with the added device, "Captured from Weybridge" and with the postscript "Did Hythe capture ours?" "No." This referred to an unsuccessful raid by Hythe when the invaders were all captured and secured in the "Guard Room."

However, "all's well that ends well," and the flag has at length been restored after a sharply worded letter.

While the Scouts enjoyed almost complete freedom from routine work, the educative and instructive value of camp life was not lost sight of, and when scouting one morning our boys got within signalling distance of the Territorials and gave them some information they needed, and on another occasion rendered first aid to a soldier over some by heat. It was extremely gratifying, too, to learn that the ambulance work of our boys was in advance of that of their Weybridge comrades. And here once again I heartily congratulate Mr. James and Mr. Hook on this little harvest of good results of their

instruction. And still more gratifying was it to find that Mr. Arney had so high an opinion of the character of our boys, that too, he thought was ----, but I will refrain and spare the blushes of my scout readers.

We were exceedingly fortunate in having no mishaps, beyond an occasional sting from a jelly-fish or wasp, and we were a sad and silent party on the last morning of what had proved to be a most instructive and much enjoyed holiday.

1912

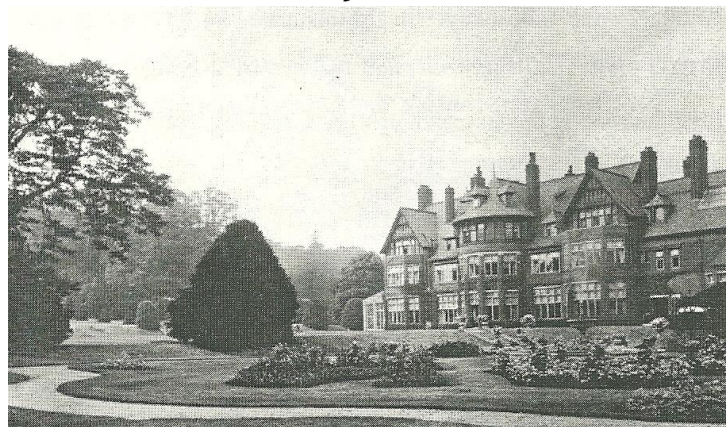
May 1912 – Entertainment at Downside to raise money in aid of Scout's summer camp and exhibition of Boy Scout handiwork

Rev. Chubb's Blog

The Entertainment recently given in Downside in aid of our Scouts' summer camp has been spoken of as the very best that has ever been given in Downside. Perhaps that is an exaggeration, but I should certainly say that it is true of the period since I have been here. The length of the programme and the lack of space here forbids any detailed account, but what gave it a special distinction was the singing of Mr. Ooziest, a tenor of London fame, who very kindly and generously sang without fee or reward, and few, I think, begrudged the discomfort consequent on the endeavour to pack about 30 more people into the Girls' School than it can comfortably hold. But never again must one put such a strain on the good nature of an audience, or rather on those who had tickets and scarcely had audience at all. Miss Winlock Pollen's tableau of Britannia, supported as she and her two friends "Justice" and "Truth" were, by our local Patrol of Scouts and surmounted by the Union Jack, was very effective and we can't thank her and the other performers too much for all the kind trouble they took on our behalf.

The play given by the scouts, past and present, gave great amusement, and there was individually some quite excellent acting. We were especially fortunate in securing the services of Mr. F. Gray who stepped into the play as a "Bobby" at the eleventh hour. The other principal parts were taken by A. and H. Veale, B. Pullen, G. and M. Norman, E. Reddick and W. Hook. The net. proceeds amounted to £5 14s. 0d. We have much needed a special effort of this kind because we have neither a camp hand-cart nor a bell tent and the expenses of a summer camp at the seaside are considerable.

At the recent exhibition of Boy Scout handiwork, at Guildford, which was a really wonderful one and opened all eyes, we were very proud that one of our scouts, Jack Moore, won a second prize for a basket made under the supervision of Miss Mount. We sent half-a-dozen exhibits and they could all have been easily sold had we not wished to retain them for the sale at the fête to be held in Hatchford Park, by the great kindness of Sir Henry and Lady Samuelson, in July. The proceeds are to be given to the S.P.G. and the gate money to the Cricket Club. Please see posters for a detailed notice and don't miss this opportunity of doing a good turn for work abroad and sound and good recreation at home. [Hatchlands photo with kind permission of Elmbridge Museum]



June 1912 – Sports day held on Downside Common, Ambulance Society and attendance by Scouts at the Rehearsal of the Naval and Military Tournament at Olympia

Rev. Chubb's Blog

The usual Sports were held on Downside Common on Whitsun Monday, and the weather being all that could be desired, the decision, that was left to rather too late a date, not to postpone them until the August Bank Holiday, was quite justified, if one might judge from the great crowd of our own people and of many visitors, who evidently thoroughly enjoyed this great annual social gathering on the green.....

The Children's races proved to be, as usual, as great an attraction to the grown-ups as to themselves, and few there must have been who received no prizes.

We congratulate Mr. A. Mundy on again winning the long-distance race of twice around the Common.

The importance of having a local branch of the Ambulance Society was demonstrated in the first aid that Mr. G. Williams so ably rendered to a man who had injured his knee at one of the side shows which had done a roaring trade up to the time of the accident.

There was rather an absence of senior boys at the sports, this being partly accounted for by the fact that our Scout Patrol had marched in the early morning, in charge of Mr. W. Hook, to the County Rally, at the Lord-Lieutenant's Park, near Dorking. At the Exhibition there J. Moore again won a second prize for a basket made at Miss Mount's class, and a very clever model of Telegraph Tower, made by Mr. Hook, with the assistance of the Patrol, was also exhibited.

I took four of our senior Scouts to the Rehearsal of the Naval and Military Tournament, at Olympia, through the generosity of the promoters, who gave free admission to some 3000 Scouts. The educative value of this great show thoroughly justified the wisdom and generosity of the offer.

1913

January/February 1913 – Memorial to the Death of John Potter, Assistant Scoutmaster

Rev. Chubb's Blog

Within the last six months the parish has been visited with the loss of two young lives for which it is the poorer. Harold Lynn was taken from us with tragic suddenness in September, and John Potter, after a short illness, on the 1st February.....

John Potter had become particularly well known to some of us both by his place in the Church Choir, from which for the last ten years and from the age of 7 he had rarely been absent, and by reason of his leadership of the Cobham Scout patrols—itsself a position which testifies both to moral as well as physical proficiency. We repeat words spoken of him in Church on the Sunday after his death: "The charm of his character consisted most, perhaps, in his affection and in the child-like simplicity which never left him to the end, as well as in the reverence and constancy of his religious habits, by which, even in extreme illness, he would not leave his daily prayers unsaid."

On Friday, February 7th, we laid his body to rest by the side of his friend and school-fellow, Harold Lynn, in accordance with the happy suggestion of Mrs. Lynn. The Clergy, Choir, Scouts, Ringers, and a large attendance of parishioners joined in singing John's favourite hymns, and in showing their affection for him and their sympathy with his family.

February 1913 – Scouts Parade (Ripley, West Horsley, Cobham, Book ham and Hatchford and comments on the death and funeral of James Potter Assistant Scoutmaster

Rev. Chubb's Blog

I had no space in our last issue for a notice of the Church Parade for the Scouts in our district, held on Septuagesima Sunday. Notwithstanding the heavy downpour of rain not a single scout, I believe, stayed away on this account, and there was a good attendance of scouts, though only half-a dozen parishioners were present, who were equally fearless of the rain. There were about 60 scouts from the parishes of Ripley, West Horsley, Cobham, Book ham, and Hatchford, attended by their scoutmasters. I gave an address on the motto of the scouts, "Be Prepared." The absence of the Cobham Patrol leader, John Potter, who was so well known to us all in Hatchford, was sympathetically referred to and the prayers of his comrades asked for. It was with deep sorrow that we heard of his death soon after, and the Hatchford Scouts all took part in the funeral service held at the Parish Church.

May 1913 – Guildford Scout Exhibition

Rev. Chubb's Blog

We heartily congratulate our Scouts on their winning the prize at Guildford Scout Exhibition for the best exhibit by any one Patrol in the district, the prize being a Patrol Tent. Certificates were also won by some of the patrol for bread and basket making, which gave special pleasure to Miss Mount, who instructed them in basket work, and to Mrs. W. Mundy, who gave them a course of lessons in cookery.

A very pleasant two days were spent in Camp near Telegraph Town in Whitsun week. It is not easy in two days to get much work done, but even for a short time it teaches valuable lessons in self-discipline and self-reliance. The annual concert given at Downside in aid of the Summer Camp was a great financial success, over £5 being cleared. After a short programme of music, accompanied by the crash of thunder, vivid lightning, and a great down-pour of rain, which fortunately did not commence till after the audience was assembled, a very brilliantly acted play was given by Mrs. Ionised and some of her friends, and in conclusion a Scout play, entitled "A Good Turn," was given by the boys, assisted by the Assistant Scoutmaster, Mr. W. A. Hook, and W. and J. Worsfold, the names of the Scouts taking part being W. Hook, M. Norman, G. Veale...

September 1913 – Parade from Downside to Church

Rev. Chubb's Blog

I feel sure that we shall never forget the claims of our Hospitals, in fact, the children's offerings of fruit and vegetables at the Harvest Festival went to the Cottage Hospital, for which, too, we have an annual collection, and on the Sunday after we had our first "Church Parade" on behalf of the County Hospital, when the collection amounted to nearly £13.

Those who took part in the Parade and who collected £5 on the road consisted of the members of the Fire Brigade, by kind permission of the Captain, Dr. Kitching, the members of the Ambulance Brigade and the Upshot, Cobham and Hatchford Troops of Boy Scouts. Preceded by the Cobham band they marched from Downside to the Church through Hatchford Park. The arrangements were all very ably carried out by Mr. H. James and Mr. W. A. Hook. The lesson was read by Sir H. Samuelson, and the preacher was the Rev. E. Burroughs, the Vicar of Ripley.

1914

February 1914 – Boy's Club clash leads to Scout disbandment

Rev. Chubb's Blog

Boy Scouts — We hear, with much regret, that it has been decided to disband the Cobham Troop of Boy Scouts. Mr. Edward Cripps, who has worked so unsparingly and enthusiastically to develop this work, writes to say that the determination to disband has only been arrived at after due consideration by those interested in the movement, and after every effort has been made to keep the Troop together; but that, owing to lack of support and enthusiasm on the part of the majority of the boys, there appears to be no alternative. We have to confess that this complaint is but too well founded, and that Mr. Cripps' efforts have not been met in the right spirit. Mr. Cripps adds that "Should a substantial demand arise again at any future time we shall be only too ready to give our assistance and any knowledge we may have acquired on the subject, but we feel that the Boys' Club has filled a great want in the Village, and it should be the ambition of every boy on leaving school to join this." We feel sure we are expressing the general feeling in saying that the Village is very grateful to Mr. Cripps for his labours on behalf of the Boy Scouts. The movement was initiated by him, and has been carried on for some years in the face of many difficulties. Such good work should have met with a richer reward of appreciation.

Note: We understand from Cobham Parish Magazine that although the Cobham Troop disbanded, some boys continued in Scouts by joining Rev. Chubb at Hatchford.

1918

September 1918 – Some Cobham Boys ?

Rev. Chubb's Blog

Some of our Scouts took part in the great "Rally" of Scouts that took place recently at Richmond and which was reviewed by the Chief Scout Gen. Baden-Powell. The gathering of such an enormous number of scouts, each marching with the Troops and Patrol Banners, and some preceded by their band, was an imposing and inspiring sight. We were keenly disappointed at being unable at the last moment, owing to the sudden illness of one of our boys, to take part in the competition in Ambulance work for which we had entered, more especially as the four boys who were to compete had recently won the coveted ambulance badge which is no easy badge to win and were much complimented on their work by the Scoutmaster, Mr. Stedman, of Oxshott, who examined them. However we found plenty to interest us and enjoy in the role of spectators and in listening to the stirring speech of the General.



Chapter 2 1920 – 1929 – Cobham Troop Returns

Leadership and Membership Information

Position	Name	Date	Where	At
Scout Master	Mr L G Payne	1920 ?month	Cobham Troop	Congregational Institute
Assistant SM	Mr A A Bennett	April 1921 - October 1922		
Cub Master	Mr A J N Turner	April 1921 - November 1924		
Assistant Cub Master	Mr G C Bentall	April 1921 - November 1924		
Assistant SM	Mr E G Copus	July 1922 - January 1923		
Scout Master	Mr A J N Turner	April 1923 - September 1929		
Cub Master	Mr G C Bentall	December 1924 - November 1928		
Assistant SM	Mr T E C Bond	March 1925 -		
Group SM (1 st ever)	Mr H H Cook	December 1928 -		
Cub Master	Mr H H Cook	December 1928 -		
Scout Master	Mr H G Smith	October 1929 -		
Assistant CM	Mr H J Hussey	October 1929 -		

August 1929 - 1st Cobham transferred to Weybridge District. January 1933 2nd Esher joins them. ?? No info as to why.

1920 – 1929 – Cobham Troop Returns

1920

Cobham Scout Troop is back – Annual Inspection and Display held at Congregational Institute on 8th December 1920

Rev. XXXXXX (Minister at St Andrew's Cobham); Extracted from Cobham Parish Magazine

An excellent show was made by the Cobham Troop of Boy Scouts at their first Annual Inspection and Display held at the Congregational Institute on Wednesday evening, December 8th. The lively and varied programme makes me only regret the more the attack of 'flu which kept me away. It is satisfactory however to know that the "house" was so full that an empty chair must have been a positive blessing. Hearty congratulations to Mr. L. G. Payne, the enthusiastic Scoutmaster, Mr. Newton Turner, and the Instructor Mr. W. J. Gregory, and to all the boys who had responded so well to their opportunities. Mr. T. M. McAlpine, whose address some time ago at our Boys' School is still gratefully remembered, made another of his happy speeches, and Major Pells, R.E., Inspecting Officer, was evidently satisfied.

Unfortunately, we have been unable to find any further information in this decade of 1st Cobham's history. If you are able to provide any more information or memories, we would love to hear from you.



Chapter 3 1930 – 1939 – The Missing Years

Leadership and Membership Information

Position	Name	Date	Where	At
Assistant Scout Master	Mr H J Dimond	June 1936 -	Cobham Troop	
Assistant SM	Mr H F Thomson	June 1936 -		
Cub Master	Mr E A Cook	June 1936 -		
Assistant CM	Mr G F Riches	June 1936 -		
Rover Scout Master	Mr K H H Cook	June 1936 -		

1930 – 1939 – The Missing Years

Unfortunately, we have been unable to find any further information in this decade of 1st Cobham's history. If you are able to provide any more information or memories, we would love to hear from you.



Chapter 4 1940 – 1949 – Sharing With The Guides

Leadership and Membership Information

Position	Name	Date	Where	At
Scout Master	Mr R A Clare	1947 ?Month	Cobham Troop	Guide Hall Spenser Road
Assistant SM	S R Rudram	1947 ?		
Cub Master	Rev. H E Forder	December 1948 - March 1951	Cobham Troop	
Group Scout Master	Mr R A Clare	January 1949 - December 1955	Cobham Troop	

April 1947 - 1st Cobham reregistered with Esher District.

All part of Kingston District until 1949. This split into 4 areas Kingston, Malden & Coombe, Surbiton and Esher.

1940 – 1949 – Sharing With The Guides

In the 1940's, 1st Cobham Scouts held their meetings in the Guide Hall, Spencer Road, Cobham. At that time the Scout Master was Mr Robert Clare, Director of Purefoys Factory in Stoke D'Abernon, who went on to become the Group Scout Master until 1955. Reverend R Forder, local minister, was the Cub Scout Leader until 1955.



Norman Hicks, who lived on Portsmouth Road near the Fairmile junction at the time, joined the Scout Troop in 1947. He couldn't join the group before then as the Cub Pack was full up. The Scout meetings took place every Wednesday.

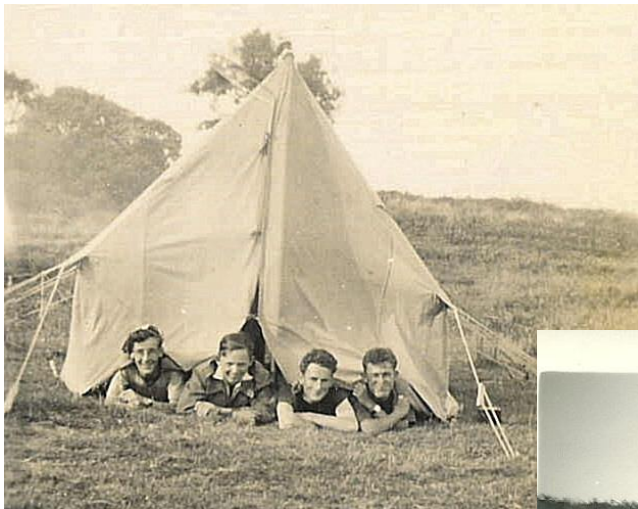
In the late 1940's, 1st Cobham Scouts moved to new headquarters, from the Spencer Road Guide Hall, up to the scrubland at the top of Freeland's Road, into an old army hut that was positioned on stilts. At this time, the Tartar Road Estate and Freeland's Road were not joined.

It is a possibility that the wooden hut was an old army hut that had been used by the troops that manned the anti-aircraft guns which, during the war, were positioned where St Andrew's school is now located.

1940's

Memory Page from John Wood (now living in Spain)

Unfortunately, I can only find 2 photos of Troop Camp. This was Hogchester Farm in Charmouth, Dorset, the year, 1952.



In front of the tent is, L to R: Norman Hicks, Mike Coombes, myself and Sid Swadling.

"Grub Up" : Sid Swadling, Norman Hicks, Mike Coombs and I think Gordon Marx





I am also including the photo of the Scout Statue at Polyapes – the two young ladies are my nieces ! You will see the date !! (1957) What a shame the statue has been stolen.

Unfortunately, we have been unable to find any further information in this decade of 1st Cobham's history. If you are able to provide any more information or memories, we would love to hear from you.



Chapter 5 1950 – 1959 – Norman Hicks’ Years: At the Wooden Hut on Stilts

Leadership and Membership Information

Position	Name	Date	Where	At
Assistant CM	G Vincent	February 1950 - December 1950		Wooden Hut Top Freelands Road
Assistant CM	Mrs M O Vincent	April 1950 - January 1956		
Scout Master	F E Goodman	April 1952 - November 1954		
Assistant SM	J C Wood	April 1952 - March 1955		
Assistant SM	M R A Nicholls	November 1952 - May 1967		Wooden Hut Moved to Hogshill Lane
Assistant SM	S J Swadling	December 1953 - November 1956		
Assistant SM	A A Forhead	May 1954 - November 1954		
Scout Master	A A Forhead	November 1954 - October 1963		
Assistant SM	N E Hicks	November 1954 - October 1963		
Assistant CM	Miss F C Coombes	November 1954 - December 1960		
Group Scout Master	G Vincent	1955 - 1956		
Cub Master	Miss R A Coombes	November 1956 - January 1961		
Assistant CM	Miss R A Coombes	August 1956 - November 1956		
Cub Master	P S J Evans	June 1958 - March 1961		
Assistant CM	Miss J Jones	July 1958 - October 1963		

1950 – 1959 – Norman Hicks' Years: At the Wooden Hut on Stilts

1950

In the early 1950's, Elmbridge Council decided to join Freelands Road and Tartar Road, resulting in the wooden hut being moved to our present position in Hogshill Lane.

Norman was a Scout, Patrol Leader, Senior Scout and Rover Scout. He then went on to become a major leader in the troop under the guidance of Alec Forhead, Scout Master, who had joined in 1954. Norman has many fond memories of Alec being a "*splendid bloke who told amazing stories of his time fighting the Japanese and living in the jungle during the war*".



The troop went on many local camping weekends, and further afield for the first week of the summer holidays, which never changed, so that parents knew when they could book their own summer holiday.

When they did camp, Mr Clare would set the patrol tents far enough away so that he could message them by semaphore. It was part of the 2nd class badge.

1951 – Ringwood Camp - Peewit Patrol (left)

1954 – Ranmore Common Camp (below)



By the mid 1950's, 1st Cobham Scouts was an extremely successful group with both scout and cub sections full to capacity. As a consequence, the wooden hut could no longer support them.

This was the beginning of a major fundraising campaign for the pipe dream of a new headquarters.

1958 – Old Wooden Hut Rosemary Coombes with her cub section (below right)

Cobham Troop moves into new headquarters.

The ground that our current hut stands on was owned by Dr Hale, who lived in a house opposite the current site of the hut (we assume the house was demolished to make way for Paddocks Close). Dr Hale sold the land to the Scouts for 1 shilling (5p to those who don't remember pre-decimalisation), so that they could replace the wooden hut on stilts. The old hut had a wooden slatted floor which had gaps in it and both dust and money fell through the gaps – a number of coins were found when they knocked the wood hut down to build the new brick headquarters.



Raising Funds

For many years, Cobham Scout Troop, family and friends fundraised to build a new brick headquarters.

Every year the Scout Troop held a fundraising week. During this period they would run a number of activities, including Jumble Sale, Bingo Night – run by Bert Moore, and a Gang Show (a theatrical production of popular songs and sketches of the day). These always seemed to involve a number of the troop dressing up as women, including Norman!

Gang Show

Mr William Nicholls, member of the group committee and producer, aimed to keep the shows as lively as possible modelling them on the famous Gang Show including songs and sketches.



From L-R Martin Nicholls, William Nicholls, Arthur Vickers, Tony Nicholls, Alec Forhead, Michael Coombes, Micky Williams, Norman Hicks

“What did Delaware boys?” rendered by Tony Nicholls, Michael Comber and Norman Hicks

Finally, in 1959, enough money had been raised and they could begin.

New Hut finally built

Most of the labour was carried out by members, fathers and friends of the Scout Group, keeping the cost to a minimum, although specialist areas were carried out by contractors. Irish brick workers, friends of Alec Forhead, did the foundations and walls over Easter. The plumbing by Alec Forhead, carpentry by George Young, metal crickle windows - Norman Hicks learnt how to put the glass in with putty and the fireplace by Mr Alfie Elkins. Also many local merchants donated building materials.

Report from Esher News and Advertiser 19/07/1960

“Every night since we started on Good Friday (1959) there has been an average of ten people working voluntarily on the site. That means we have had over 3,000 working hours for nothing” said Mr Alec Forhead, Group Scoutmaster “although we felt that the plastering was a bit too much for us to tackle on our own, we are going to finish the rest ourselves.”

The building was finally opened in August 1960.



To make sure the hut had atmosphere and not looking like a clinic or dance hall, Alec Forhead hung five sets of antlers, an African Shield, a Malayan knife and many other old fashioned weapons in the hut. He also received an aboriginal waistcoat, from his mother, which was a gift from Amy Johnson (the first woman aviator to fly solo to Australia).

In later years, after finding the waist coat very dirty on the floor, Norman cleaned it up and extended the coat by adding a cotton lining with sleeves. He then attached all of his badges and wore it on every summer camp. He still has the coat safely stored at home.

Norman met his wife Daphne after she came to 1st Cobham to do her service award from the Weston Green Land Rangers. Her brother Phillip Evans was part of the leadership team at Cobham. At the time, they lived on the farm on the corner of Tilt Road by the cemetery.

Memory Page from Richard White

I must have joined the Cubs at what age? About 9 or 10 I suppose: that would have been in 1949 or 1950. I don't remember much about Cubs. Our uniform was old school style caps, green with 6 or 8 bits of gold piping running down from the crown to the rim, green woollen jumpers, very dark blue/black shorts and long socks of the same colour, with two green bands around the tops, and green garters. Scarves were royal blue with leather woggles with the fleur de lees Scout emblem embossed on it. (I still have my woggle, but seem to have mislaid the scarf.)

The cub leaders were a man called Mr Vincent, who was a primary school teacher, and his wife. Of course in those days you would not have known their first names. Were the leaders called 'Akela'? In which case it was Mrs V who was the leader. I recall mentioning to my Aunt Flo, who brought me up, that Akela had asked us to do something, to which my aunt replied - "Oh no you mustn't call her by her first name you must call her Mrs Akela. I then replied that her real name was Mrs Vincent, to which my Aunt said then you must be respectful and call her that. I recall a fruitless conversation trying to explain that the Cub hierarchy was based on Kipling's Jungle Book and all cub leaders took names from it!

That's about it for Cubs

I recall telling you and your sisters at Pains Hill that whilst we were the 1st Cobham there were actually two other Cobham Troops: Reeds School was 3rd Cobham and Feltonfleet School was 2nd Cobham. Such was the class distinction of those days, we never had any direct contact with them, I recall seeing them at a distance at some church parade or other. They wore officer style smooth cotton shirts and shorts unlike our hairy 'other rank' ones. I recall do socialising with other 'working class' Scouts from adjacent villages in Surrey in camps at Polyapes (?) and sports days etc.

The troop was divided up into patrols. I think there were four: I was in 'Hound Patrol', and we wore coloured shoulder tabs to show which we were in. The others were 'Peewits', 'Otters' and perhaps 'Kingfishers' or was it 'Beavers', but I'm not so sure about that.

Most of our activities would have been a modern-day health and safety nightmare. We all carried knives, played extremely rough and physical games, such as 'British Bulldog' in the scout hut, and when we went on local camping trips we pulled the 'Trek-cart', with our gear in, along the main roads. I recollect going camping to Charmouth, in Dorset, around 1953 or 1954. I thought that the photograph you had of camping at Charmouth, said to be 1948, was wrongly dated, but obviously the troop went there more than once. One of the boys in the photo' - Norman Hicks - had a brother called Raymond, who would have been in my year cohort, the strong familial likeness made me think at first that you had got the year wrong. We went in the back of a local remover's pantehnicon, all sat on tents and other kit, hanging out of the back. It took many long hot and dusty hours ...

Another 'Child Protection' nightmare, today, would have been 'Bob-a-Job Week' we were sent off around Easter, I think, to cold call on people around the village to look for jobs, on our own or in pairs. I recall being set upon by dogs and being asked to do outrageously hard and dirty work for very little reward.

One of the other boys in your photo' - Sid Swadling - was quite active in the 'Senior Scouts' and may have become a scout leader. He had sister called Dorothy (?) who was in the guides.

The scout leader, always referred to as "Skipper", was a large man called Mr Clare. He was the manager/director of the Purefoy engineering company who occupied the 'Tin Shed' on the Tilt (see David Taylor's book about Cobham Tilt). His son, Robert, who was away at boarding school, used to come camping with us in the holidays, but was not allowed to sleep with us village oiks, having his own, personal, one-man tent. Robert used to collect butterflies and moths. I recall at one camp he had a 'Killing Jar'. This was a large preserving jar with Plaster

of Paris at the bottom, into which had been set cyanide crystals. There was probably enough there to poison half of Surrey! I'm sure he went from killing moths to mixing 'dampers' for our tea.

I seem to recollect not getting on particularly well with 'Skipper' after a 'Gang Show' or some such event in Cobham Village Hall. My mother., who came along, had worked at the 'Tin Shed' during the war making bits for Spitfires or Bouncing Bombs, or whatever they did. She and 'Skipper', in his other incarnation, had clearly had run-ins and I recall the expression of mutual loathing on their faces when she found out the identity of 'Skipper', and he realised who my mum was. I don't know if that was the precipitating event for me leaving, or whether I had outgrown Scouts, and needed the greater excitement of gliding and rifle shooting in the Air Training Corps: that was my next 'youth organisation'.

So, what do I think about Scouts over half a century on? ... Scouts gave working class boys like me experiences that they would not otherwise have had, taught us self-reliance, and helped us to be able to draw on our personal resources. When I go sailing or fishing, I recall where and how I learned to tie the appropriate knot

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

Best Wishes, Richard White

1955

Obituary for Sir Edward Cripps, who was the founder of Cobham Troop with Rev. Chubb.

20 May 1955 – The Times - Obituary

Sir Edward Cripps, Former Broker for Government

Sir Edward Stewart Cripps, who was senior Government broker from 1937 until his retirement in 1950, died on Wednesday at his home in London. He was 69.

He was born in 1885, the son of the late F. H. Cripps, of Cobham, Surrey, and educated at Charterhouse and Oriel College, Oxford. He joined the firm of Mullens and Co., of which he later became head partner, in 1932, in time to participate in the biggest of all Government operations—the conversion of the £2,000m. of the Five per. Cent. War Loan inherited from the 1914-18 War. He bore the heavy responsibility attaching to the office of senior Government broker during the Second World War, and in the period after the war when the Government experimented in monetary and fiscal controls and there were huge transfers of compensation stocks in connexion with the nationalization programme. Through-out these years he preserved a sense of proportion, perspective, and humour, and a statesmanlike appreciation of the inward significance of the march of events. As senior member of the former board of trustees and managers of the Stock Exchange from 1945 onwards he worked behind the scenes to bring to an end the anachronistic system of dual control of the House which had defeated all earlier attempts at reform.

He gave much time to hospital service, being chairman of governors of the Royal Cancer Hospital, and a governor of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and of Sutton's Hospital in Charterhouse. In 1930 he became chairman of the pension fund for district nurses. He was knighted in 1946.

He married, in 1921, Helena, daughter of the late J. T. Nash. She died in 1949.



Chapter 6 1960 – 1969 – Norman Hick’s Years: Bricks and Mortar in Hogshill Lane

Leadership and Membership Information

Position	Name	Date	Where	At
Assistant CM	Miss H J Thompson	May 1961 - January 1965		Current HQ Hogshill
Assistant CM	Miss D F Evans	February 1963 - ?		
Assistant CM	J F Hoad	February 1963 - June 1967		
Scout Master Senior	P S Evans	March 1963 - July 1964		
Group Scout Master	A A Forhead	October 1963 - September 1971		
Scout Master	N E Hicks	October 1963 - October 1974		
Assistant SM	D G H Johnson	October 1963 - ?		
Cub Master	J Sones	October 1963 - 1978		
Assistant CM	Miss S F Churchman	February 1965 - ?		
Assistant CM	Mrs D Hicks	?? Late 60's		

4 areas Kingston, Malden & Coombe, Surbiton and Esher. In 1965 first three become part of GLSW - Esher stayed with Surrey.

1960 – 1969 Norman Hicks' Years: Bricks and Mortar in Hogshill Lane

1960 – Chapter 7

In 1965, Norman and Daphne got married and Alec, as a surprise, had all the members of 1st Cobham Group line up outside the church with wooden staves to give them an arch of honour as they walked down the path. Staves were then part of a scouts uniform and very useful. Both Norman and Daphne were completely overwhelmed.



This was the beginning of 45 years of marriage, which is still going strong today, with 22 of those years spent at Cobham.

The Camps

Over the years, Norman ran 46 summer camps. He is a very traditional scouter with a passion for knotting.



You can see by the photos that at every camp he would erect either an aerial runway or zip wire that the boys would love to use.

Whilst camping, each patrol would do pioneering, knotting, lashing along with many other activities. Norman loved to use Japanese square lashing which is a very good and quick knot for making camp furniture. Each patrol would independently cook on alter fires, clean and build camp furniture for them selves, teaching the boys valuable life skills. If you burnt it you still had to eat it!!

Here is a selection of camp photos.

1962 – Butcher Coppice

The scouts got a new trek cart from a friend of Norman's. He was the Treasurer of a London Group that unfortunately had to close. Having money left in the bank, he offered it to Norman and 1st Cobham. Norman bought the new cart.



Amazingly the cart was recently found and restored then taken along to our centenary celebration at Painshill Park. It looked as good as it did in 1962!



I think we have enough kindling to cook breakfast!! But this table is definitely a bit wobbly. Norman we need more help with the square lashings!

While the scouts were at camp, the news came over a transistor radio that Marilyn Monroe had died. Norman remembers a scout running around the camp shouting the terrible news. Being the pin-up model for most boys, many scouts were shocked and upset.

1963 – Youlbury & Walton Firs



Here is one of the many rope bridges that Norman built.

Camp was also the time of the Great Train Robbery. The news kept scouts talking all week.

They also had an important visitor.

1963 – Walton Firs

Charles Maclean, Baron Maclean, Chief Scout of The Scout Association came to visit us at Walton Firs. He was travelling around the country dropping in on camps everywhere





From l-r Alec Forhead, Dave Johnson, Phillip Evans and Norman

1964 – Downe

Travelling to and from camp in the early days was simpler. You just hired a furniture van loaded all the equipment and boys into the back and off you went! Norman would follow in his car.



This was a very popular way to travel for the boys. You can imagine their antics as they travelled through local villages and towns.



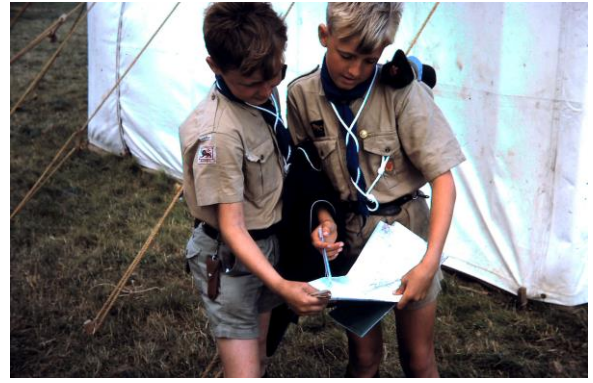
Unfortunately this method soon became a safety issue and the hiring of buses began. A local firm called Nodd Farr, home of Brewers Coaches, would remove the back seats, for the equipment, and seat the boys up front.

1965 – Charmouth



Charmouth was a popular camping site and 1st Cobham went there on many occasions.

The scouts would follow a tradition of inspection and skills as well as fun!



1966 - Youlbury



Putting their pioneering skill to good use making camp furniture.



Memory Page from Janet Sones

Janet Sones – Leader – 1963 – 1978

Before Beavers were formed

ACSL – before present HQ was built, then

CSL- until 1978

Group Secretary briefly

Too Many !!

Memory Page from Mark Worsfold

Mark Worsfold – 1960's

Akela – Mrs Sones

I have very fond memories of life as a Cub Scout at Cobham especially the canteen/tuck shop which was open half way through an evening. Cream Soda was a speciality everyone craved.

Camp at Polyapes was special. Having to wash in cold water in the barrack like wash-hut and sleeping under real canvas. I even remember joining in singing "I can play the" around a large fire. Alex Forhead the Scout Master regaled us with stories of fighting the Japanese in the Far East during the War and what life was like living in the jungle. Les (Chaz) Tupper whose son Quentin was a keen scout would drive the whole troop to Polyapes in the back of his flatbed truck. Cubs and Scouts precariously balanced on top of the tentage and equipment. Whilst parents waved us off in Hogshill Lane. It was a great feeling driving down Stoke Road holding on for grim death, faces to the breeze; something I am sure Health & Safety would frown on now.

I also remember parading for the 1966 Golden Jubilee parade in Guildford. I still have a souvenir pennant..... somewhere.

My early knowledge of the streets of Cobham came from the annual Bob A Job week. Handing out the yellow stickers with a green tick on them was great fun although some of the tasks were not. Again, I am sure it is something that Health & Safety would now frown on. I remember being given the almighty task of cleaning all the silver for an old lady in The Barton. It was hellishly boring and after a short time I made my escape by claiming I had to be home for supper. I tried my best but there was always another Cub or Scout who did much, much better fundraising.

There was also the annual rite of milk bottle top collecting, for "Guide Dogs for the Blind". My mother had a glass jar beside the sink in the kitchen into which this treasure was placed until taken up to the Scout Hut.

I now hire the Scout Hut for my own martial arts clubs and it was reassuring to see almost nothing had changed much. 35 years on it still smelt the same, looked the same and felt the same. The old gharial was pinned to the chimney breast along with a whole host of other mementoes, some familiar some not. The wolf-head flag covering the fire place is still there and I seem to remember it being made.



Chapter 7 1970 – 1979 – Norman Hicks’ Years: How High Can You Fly?

Leadership and Membership Information (in 1966, the leadership name “Master” changes to “Leader”)

Position	Name	Date	Where	At
Group Scout Leader	D A Flack	August 1972 - January 1974		
Assistant SL	J L Churchill	August 1972 - ?		
Assistant SL	T White	October 1972 - ?		
Group Scout Leader	P M Munday	April 1974 - September 1974		
Group Scout Leader	N E Hicks	October 1974 - 1987		
Assistant SL	A J How	January 1975 - ?		
Assistant SL	R Parker	July 1975 - ?		
Assistant CL	Miss K Tupper	October 1975 - ?		
Cub Leader	Miss D Richardson	? After J Sones stepped down (2 years)		
Assistant CL	P Masters	? With Diane Richardson		
Cub Leader	P Masters	? When Diane left		
Assistant CL	D Cole			

1970 – 1979 – Norman Hicks' Years: How High Can You Fly?

1971 – Kingsdown



The aerial runways seemed to get bigger and better. Maybe off the cliff next time?

1973 – Fairthorne Manor (below)

Unfortunately for Norman, Fairthorne camp broke a perfect record of safety. After being told not to go on the aerial runway as it was being dismantled, an eager scout tried anyway, fell off and broke both arms. Much to everybody's amazement, after treatment at hospital and the ok from parents, he returned to camp and finished the holiday but with much help from his patrol!

This year Oxshott Scouts joined 1st Cobham. They are on the left of the photo (below).



1975 – Bentley Copse

Part of the pioneering experience at camp meant that the 5ft staves had to be cut from the woodland. When done effectively, this helped to manage the wooded area for the landowner. The owner would select a healthy tree and then the scouts would remove all the smaller saplings around it. It was these saplings that would be used for the staves and making of camp furniture.



We have only included a small selection of Norman's photos. As you can imagine he has many!

As part of the commitment to the group, the scouts would take part in St Georges Day parades held around each district. They would also go to St Andrew's Church for the service on the 1st Sunday every month.

To keep the members and parents informed 1st Cobham Scouts also wrote a monthly magazine. Unfortunately to date none have been found.

Daphne stepped down from the cubs when their boys were born. In her time as leader she completed her Wood Badge for Cubs and Scouts. Norman left in 1987 and joined Bookham, as they still practised a much more traditional scouting whereas Cobham had become less traditional and more modern.

In all the year's Norman was involved with the scouts, he remembers that he never invested anyone with the name Norman....

Memory Page from Paul Masters

**Paul Masters – 1969/70
1970's**

Akela – Mrs Sones

When I joined the Pack in 1969/70, Janet Sones (still lives in Cedar Road @ Stoke Gabriel opposite the turning into Spencer Road) was the CSL. She was assisted by Daphne Hicks (used to live at 5 Mole Road, Fetcham – just before the railway bridge if approaching from Cobham) who held an ACSL warrant.

The Pack was approximately 28-30 strong at the time – divided up into a number of sixes including my own six – Blues. I recall obtaining the Bronze, Silver and Gold arrows as well as a number of proficiency badges and eventually became the Sixer – a very proud moment. I can still recall Janet / Akela taking me into the Scouters room and asking whether I would be prepared to take on the responsibility of leading my six when Richard Stubbs left to go into the Troop!

The GSL was Norman Hicks (Daphne's husband). I believe that Don Flac & Alec Forhead ran the Troop (of some 40 boys!). They were later assigned by Alan How (who used to live in Anyards Road).

Other Scout Leaders during the 70's and 80's included Roger Parker and Ben would help him.

My father, Ron (he and my Mother still live in French Gardens where I grew up) used to drive the Group mini bus (an old and battered blue Ford Transit with old hard wooden seats each side of the vehicle and no seat belts!) to activities and events.

I remember some brilliant Troop camps including a trip to South Wales, the South coast and Broadstone Warren together with various incident hikes etc. I think my most memorable Scout Camp had to be in a field somewhere off the River Botley; it was Jubilee year – 1977 – we spent most of the week in canoes!! – Norman & some of the other leaders had built a brilliant aerial run-way over the river. From memory it was very high and fast but I was only 14 at the time. My Patrol Leader, one of the Wort brothers, (the ASCL's son) fell off breaking both arms and having to be rushed to hospital! - I was his APL and had to take over the running of the patrol for the rest of the camp!

I obtained my Scout Standard; Advanced Scout Stand and Chief Scout Awards whilst was with 1st Cobham.

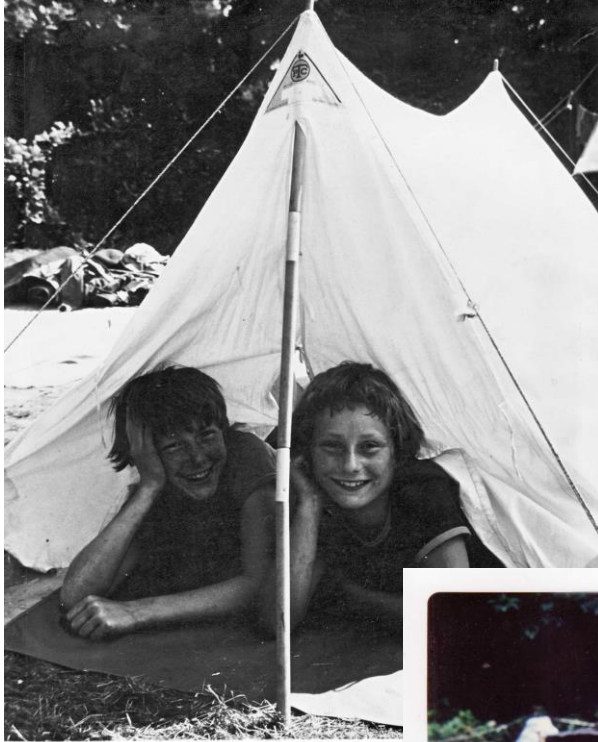
The Venture Unit was very strong as well – A mixed Unit, as many were of course. I completed the Venture Award and in 1982 gained the Queen's Scout Award – the first in the District for some 10-12 years. I remember attending the St. Georges' Day Service at Windsor that year and speaking with the Queen. I was invited to attend again the following year. I cannot remember why, perhaps because of low numbers? – The Queen Mother took the salute on that occasion.

In the same year, I completed the Gold Standard of the D of E and had the honour of meeting and talking with HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at St. James' Palace in London.

When Janet 'retired' from being Akela, her position was taken over by Diane Richardson who was then (and her other still does) living in Portsmouth Road up by the Cottage Hospital. Diane ran the pack for about two years and I was her assistant. When she gave up Scouting, I then took over with Derek Cole, who was at the time a good friend, acting as my assistant. The Pack moved from strength to strength until we had over 45 boys – far too many for one evening – at the time we were meeting on a Tuesday.

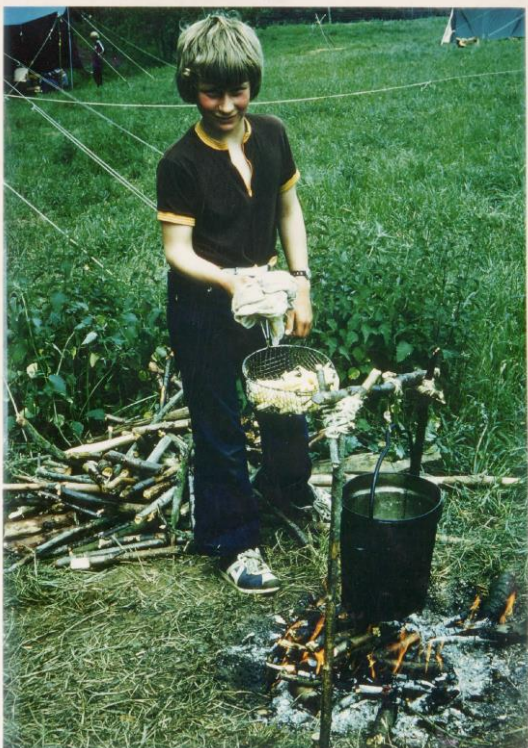
Paul Masters

Memory Page Pictures from Mark Lindsey



1975 - Bentley Copse Scout Camp

1975 - Bentley Copse Scout Camp (Plucking Pigeons for supper)



Scout Camp 1977 Godalming (Cooking lunch over an open fire)

Memory Page from Adrian Mills

Adrian Mills – 1968 – 1979

**Cub Leader – Janet Sones
Scout Leader – Norman Hicks
Assistant Leader – Alan Howe**

I've had loads of memories of scouting, always giving that sense of adventure and mischief!

The greatest thing scouts has done for me is giving me the skills to literally save my life when I've been involved in road accidents / skiing accidents. The practise and training did make a difference. But don't forget the fun, the camps and other activities, they have prepared me for so many things I've encountered in life but made it fun and adventurous in the process. The night hikes, the experience of being so exhausted that my vision was blurred at the end, but WOW, what an experience, and of course we all got back safely. Not to mention that when I got home I fell asleep in the bath!

Ariel Runways - It was great building them at camp and has inspired me to do the same for my children. It was great fun going down the rope and of course no safety harness/seat in those days and of course every year as we would tie off the return rope so it stopped before it got to the end, the victim fell off and each year someone broke an arm or shoulder despite numerous warnings not to do it.

Washing up at camp- The ever present problem doing the washing up a camp. No one wanted to do it! One solution was Tilly paste but I never really got that to work. We used to put all the washing up in a tin washing up bowl, squirted in washing up liquid and put the whole lot on the fire and leave it to boil away until it was clean but it was fine when everything was metal, but one or two members of the patrol would end up with very odd shaped plates, bowels and mugs! Then we would just have to get on and use them! No excused!

Every Christmas there was a party with dads and a flower cake was made with a chocolate on top. We took it in turns to cut a bit away and if we knocked the chocolate, you picked it up with your teeth. You can guess what happened. We all had sheath knives, cutting down sticks, etc. play splits and I don't ever remember anyone being hurt.

A wonderful experience, fantastic fun, great memories. Long may it continue.

Adrian – Oatlands Akela Cubs

Memory Page from Janet Hill

Andrew Hill – 1976

Akela – Janet Sones

I came across the flyer about the 100 year celebrations for Cobham Scouts. I have enclosed a photo that was taken at a Christmas fancy dress party in 1976. Janet Sones was Akela at the time.

Unfortunately 3 of the cubs pictured have passed away in the last two years, within months of each other. My son Andrew Hill, and his friends Ian Marsland and Ian West.

Yours Janet Hill





Chapter 8 1980 – 1989 – Two Troops, 1st and 2nd Cobham !

Leadership and Membership Information

Position	Name	Date	Where	At
Group Scout Leader	N E Hicks	October 1974 - 1987		
Cub Leader	P Masters	? With Diane Richardson		
Assistant CL	?	?		
Cub Leader	P Masters	? When Diane Left		
Assistant CL	D Cole			

In 1981, the Cub pack was so large it split into 2. Gladstones (P Masters / Tuesday) Somers (D Cole / Monday)

In 1982 both leaders left and two ladies from Wyndham Estate took over Rhonda & Sue ??

1980 – 1989 – Two Troops, 1st and 2nd Cobham

Memory Page from Paul Masters

**Paul Masters – 1969/70 – 1980's
1980's**

Akela – Mrs Sones

It was decided, in about 1981, that the Pack should split into two. I carried on with the Tuesday Pack which I named 'Gladstones' after the then current Chief Scout Sir William Gladstone (1972-1982) and Derek took over the second Pack (which then if I recall properly, met on a Monday) and named them 'Somers' after the second Chief Scout, The Lord Somers (1941-1945) – [I think I recall you saying you didn't recognise this name so I have 'dug out' a little bit of information on him for you – please see below]

Soon after the two packs split, Derek (whose family then lived in Freelands Road but have since moved to Molesey) had to leave Cobham for work and went down to the West Country – sadly we lost touch soon after.

I carried on running both Packs for a time and helped, as an ASL, on Troop nights both at 1st Cobham (Friday) and Hatchford Park (Wednesdays). In 1982, we took the HP boys to the (International) County Camp at Ardinly and met the new (6th) Chief Scout' Major-General Michael Walsh.

Shortly afterwards, due to District politics, I resigned my warrant and gave up Scouting for about 14 years. I believe that two ladies who used to live on the Council Estate over the other side of the (then A3) now the A308 took over; Rhonda and Sue – they had been mine and Derek's assistants' respectively. How long the two packs carried on I have no idea.

Since returning to Scouting in 1996 (when my son joined Beavers) I have held a CSL warrant with 7th Crawley; additionally becoming Scouter-in-Charge in 2002. I have had the honour of being presented with the Chief Scouts Commendation in 2004 and the Medal of Merit in 2008.

I am a training advisor and a member of the District Executive. I have also recently been approached to take over as District Commissioner from April 2009, upon the retirement of the current DC – an offer which I have graciously declined!!

Please feel free to visit the Group web site – www.7thcrawley.co.uk – which is a work in progress!!

Paul Masters

Unfortunately, we have been unable to find any further information in this decade of 1st Cobham's history. If you are able to provide any more information or memories, we would love to hear from you.



Chapter 9 1990 – 1999

Leadership and Membership Information

Position	Name	Date	Where	At
	Zeena Carter	1990 - 2005		
Ass Beaver Leader	Catherine Cavill			
Ass Cub Scout Leader	Grahame Carter	1993 - 1994		
Cub Scout Leader	Grahame Carter	1994 - 1996		
Scout Leader	Grahame Carter	1996 - 2001		
Cub Scout Leader	Graham Penny	1996- 2001		
Scout Leader	Graham Penny	2001 - 2004		
Group Scout Leader	Phil Watkins	1996 (Esher News & Mail Article?)		

We are currently researching this decade of 1st Cobham's history. If you are able to provide any more information or memories, we would love to hear from you.

1990 – 1999 -



Chapter 10 2000 – To Date

Leadership and Membership Information

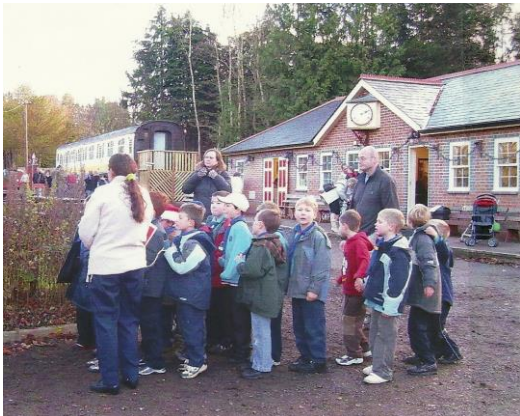
Position	Name	Date	Where	At
Cub Scout Leader	Alyson Menke	2001 - to date		
Ass Cub Scout Leader	Steve Moore	2003 - to date		
Scout Leader	Peter Amys	2004 - to date		
Ass Scout Leader	Grahame Carter	2006 - to date		
Ass Scout Leader	John Bell			
Ass Scout Leader	Greg Bell			
Beaver Leader	Alyson Menke	2005 - 2006		
Beaver Leader	Helen Amys	2006 - to date		

2000 – 2009 – To Date

Helen Amys – Beaver Leader – Spring 2006 to present day.

I took over as 1st Cobham Beaver Leader in April 2006 and some of the events are as follows:-

Beaver District Party – happens every year at Hinchley Wood School, usually with themed activities – most memorable moment was when space hopper burst underneath a leader – Me!! (see photo right)



Bazaaz – happens every 3 years at Cranleigh Showground usually with around 2000 beavers and lots of activities – most memorable moment was in 2009 when the Cranleigh Fire Brigade sprayed everyone with their hose because it was too hot!!! (see photo left)



Every year in September/October we do a sleepover at our Hut. Most years we have been to Portsmouth to the Victory Experience, but in 2010 we had a change and went to the Submarine Museum at Gosport. (see photo right)

Winter term is always finished off with a trip to the Santa train day at Knaphill – everyone gets to sit on the train and have a ride – so far it has rained every year except 2009!!



Running Beavers is challenging but great fun and with the help I have, I plan to continue for a while. The colony has grown over the last 4 years and is becoming more active – we also have a link with Beavers in Australia which we hope to keep up.

Alyson Menke – Cub Leader – to Date

I got involved with 1st Cobham in 1998, when my son Joshua joined Beavers. I went along, as a parent helper, with leader Zeena Carter to various Beaver events. I continued to support the group throughout the next 18 months. When Joshua moved up into Cubs, he started to attend camps and I became a tent pitcher and camp cook. It was a whole new experience cooking breakfast over a gas stove in a tent! I remember one activity that Graham Penny, Cub Leader, had organised. Stringing a barrel up between an A frame of poles and bouncing the Cubs up and down like a rodeo horse until they fell off onto mattresses below. I had never heard so much laughter. You can imagine, as a mum, what I thought but as Scouting say “If it’s not fun it’s not Scouting!”

In 2001, Graham decided to step down as Cub Leader and take up the position of Scout Leader. I was invited out, by the leadership team, for a drink as a thank you for all my support “and oh by the way could you sign this form as we need a new Cub Leader and you’re it!” And that is when 9 years of Akela began.

I have so many memories that I could easily fill this whole booklet. My first camp when the cookers wouldn’t work, it’s amazing what you can do over an open fire, pitching tents in the dark, so much rain that all the sleeping bags were wet through, hiking only to realise that you have the wrong co-ordinates (but we enjoyed it anyway), summer camps, winter camps, spring camps, climbing walls, caving, crafts galore, parades, cooking and chess competitions and so much more.....

I have chosen just a few of the major events that have happened over my time as Cub Leader.

District Cub Camp 2002

My one and only claim to fame! Unfortunately this was the year I was taken seriously ill at camp. Luckily I had Graham Carter there helping me and he stepped into the breach. After being rushed to hospital, with suspected meningitis, the camp was quarantined until it was confirmed; by lumber puncture (ouch!!!!) that that was not the case. Eight weeks later, after major surgery, I was released and after months of recovery I returned to Cubs to find that they had found me an amazing Assistant Leader. I have been very lucky as Kingfisher, Steve Moore, has been with me ever since and I don't know how I would run the section with out him. The down side is that for every camp since, the other District Leaders have enjoyed reminding me of that day and "are you thinking of something this year?"

SCRAM 2004 – County

This was my first SCRAM, held in Cranleigh, where over 2000 Cubs got together for a day of activities. It was madly busy and great fun. For the first time I ran an activity of Bead Badges. My fingers were so sore, from the number made, by the end of the day I had trouble tying my laces. The birds of prey display was amazing. (see right)

2005 - Starting a new Beaver Colony

Unfortunately, Beavers shut its doors in the summer of 2005. After various parents spoke to me over the holidays, I decided to re-open the colony in the September term. We advertised at St Andrews School, hoping to get a few new members. You can imagine my surprise when on the first evening, 24 children turned up! Help was quickly needed, in the guise of Joshua who was now a Scout. We invested the boys over two evenings with the assistance of the District Commissioner.

Running both Beavers and Cubs became a huge job. Luckily, in 2006, after twisting the arm of a Beaver mum, a Guide Leader at the time, she jumped ship and joined 1st Cobham. The colony has continued to grow under Helen's great leadership.

In 2006 SCRAM was held a year early, as 2007 would be the Centenary of Scouting, and I was never prouder having all three of my children in the group. Joshua, a Scout, Nathan, a Cub and finally Jessica the first girl in the group. She wanted to be both a Brownie and Cub. As there were no rules against it, she did.

This was also the 90th year for Cub Scouts. At District Camp we held a huge party and fun was had by all. Cobham Cubs had raised enough money, at a car wash, to buy new equipment which we used for the first time.



In 2007 we celebrated 100 Years of Scouting with a District Camp that included the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and all the Leaders. You can imagine how many tents were pitched, how much food was eaten and how many activities had to be organised. It was an amazing weekend, the first we had ever done, and worked so well that we now repeat the District Camp every 4 years. The weather was incredibly hot, so falling in on the water activities became a must!

What a great celebration for all that was Scouting....



In 2008 I was able to make contact with the Leader, David Ruiz, from BSA Pack 184, which was based at the International School in Cobham. And so began a friendship that has seen many joint activities. Hikes, Camps, Cookouts and Scouting for Food at Sainsbury's Cobham. A day so successful that we had to get two cars and a trailer to take the food to the local community day centre.

Even the mayor came to help. It took them weeks to distribute the amount we had collected.



And so Cobham Cubs continues to grow, ranging from 15 to 20, then over 30 children and at present I have 21. We have both girls and boys who enjoy all aspects of the group, yes even the washing up at camp....and have a great passion to earn their badges, hoping to gain the Silver Scout Award. The movement has not only helped the children but myself included. I have learnt many new skills, made fantastic friends and hopefully helped the Cubs that have been with me to become the Leaders of the future. Long may it continue.

Peter Amys – Scout Leader – September 2004 to Present Date

Having joined 1st Cobham in September 2004, on the third time of asking, moving from Godalming District after 25 years as a Leader, my trusty Assistant Leader, Greg Bell, and I had the Troop camping within a month at an international camp.

The Troop slowly grew and there became lots more Scouts with royal blue scarves. During the last six years, the Scouts discovered that their Leaders love camping, any excuse and we are off! The top camp has to be as we joined in the County Trip in 2009 and went to Kandersteg in Switzerland. It was just outstanding.... Also Narrowboating is a 1st Cobham speciality; over the years, this has been a firm favourite and has no wet tents to deal with at the end!

However we realised that our Trophy Cabinet was empty.... what could we win..... With our leader skills we built a championship Soapbox. Aha! Trophies at last- winner ones! We then managed to win the District 5-A-Side Plate, District Chess twice and the first Shooting tournament, we are good at water rockets too.....

Over the years, regular Chief Scout Gold Awards have been a feature, since 2004 we have been building a photo gallery (which is on the hut wall) of all those achieving this very important award.

In amongst lots of superb memories has to be the day we took the Scouts for an air experience day in a little 4 seater puddle jumper plane near Gatwick..... Our pilot for the day was the Chief Trainer for Virgin Airlines and he was really good, had a twinkle in his eye and we knew we were going to have fun. The last flight of the day was when we sent up our three oldest most mischievous Scouts, we tipped off the pilot. As they took off an aerobatic display began. They went up vertically, did loop the loop, flew upside down, as the Scout emerged from the plane, a greenly/white colour, huge grins and sick bags in hands, they had just had a memory for life given them, they loved it!

As always I have followed the motto, 'If it's not fun it's not Scouting', so do my trusty other Leaders, Greg, Grahame and Jon, but for me the true magic of Scouting will always be found sitting round a fire swapping yarns and cooking sausages and marshmallows, something which we can still do now around 1st Cobham's fireplace in the hut, fantastic, exceptional fun.

Fundraising for the Future - 2008

2008 was an important year for 1st Cobham Scout Group. For the first time in 20 years, we had over 70 children and young adults involved in our Scout, Cub and Beaver packs and waiting lists of children who wanted to join. We were also delighted to welcome 6 volunteers to our Leaders and Executive Committee who brought a range of expertise and new ideas to the Group. With this renewed support 1st Cobham wanted to focus on a major fund raising campaign to improve the group's facilities in the lead up to our Centenary Celebrations.

OVERVIEW

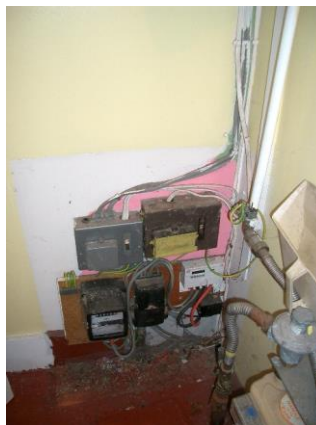
The building used by 1st Cobham Scout Group was more than 50 years old and whilst ongoing repairs had been carried out to maintain the building, it was in urgent need of capital investment to upgrade 2 structural areas:

The Roof – replace complete structure with new stronger materials including soffits, fascias, guttering and downpipes.



View of old roof, and close up of worn and torn leaking old roof felt

Toilet Block – existing toilets to be demolished and new facilities including a special needs unit to be installed. Rewiring of electric meter is also required.



Views of the existing hand wash facilities, urinals, and electric meter system!



In January 2008 the Committee agreed these major improvements were required for the Scout Hut and in April the 'Raise the Roof' Campaign was launched, with a target to raise £ 25,000 during 2008 and 2009 to pay for these improvements. By the summer of 2008 enough money had been raised for repairs to the roof to start. Work commenced on 7th October, with the removal of the old felt and batten roof, replaced by a metal sheet roofing system with breathable membrane and fibre-glass insulation. This system should last for a minimum of 25 years – and potentially another 50 years if we ensure it is maintained properly! The fibreglass insulation has the added benefit of keeping the heat in during winter which will reduce the utility bills at the same time.



Scaffolding up and first sections of new roof being installed, showing fibreglass insulation

A Community Service team gave a lick of paint to the exterior walls, windows and fencing panels, while Mr Coles & team replaced the front shiplap and guttering. Compliments on the new exterior were received from neighbours and friends!

Fundraising continued unabated and by the end of 2008 we had:

- ♣ Made more than 180 jars of Lemon Curd, Hedgerow and Blackberry Jam and Apple Chutney
- ♣ Sold 2074 raffle tickets
- ♣ Made tea and cakes for 90 people at the Mad Scouters Tea Party
- ♣ Sizzled sausages for 188 beavers, cubs, scouts and parents including guests from Boy Scouts of America Pack 184
- ♣ Cycled 111 miles overnight
- ♣ Walked by the River Mole and played Pooh Sticks
- ♣ Spent £6083 online via EasyFundraising
- ♣ Bob-a-Jobbed for a month
- ♣ Practiced high kicks in Tae Kwon Do
- ♣ Packed over 1000 Christmas shopping bags at Sainsburys
- ♣ Worn Scout uniforms to work
- ♣ Made Popcorn and Candy Floss
- ♣ Painted 100's of faces!

AND persuaded these companies and people that we are worthy of their financial support

- ♣ Surrey CVYS (£4,000)
- ♣ Perkins Homes (£4,000)
- ♣ Biffaward (£5,000)
- ♣ Surrey Community Foundation Grassroots Grants (£5,000)
- ♣ Patrick Burton (£4,125)
- ♣ Proctor & Gamble Community Matters (£3,000)
- ♣ Garfield Weston Foundation (£2,000)
- ♣ JP Kenny Ltd (£700)
- ♣ Forman Hardy Charitable Trust (£500)
- ♣ Coverpoint Solutions (£250)
- ♣ Oatlands Village Trust (£100)
- ♣ Steve Moore (£100)

Amidst all this fun we have managed to raise an incredible **£ 36,386.00!***

**This net figure is after the deduction of costs incurred as a result of the fund raising activities, and before the addition of any Gift Aid Tax.*

Not bad for 9 months work from a team of volunteers!



2009

But we didn't stop there! Spring 2009 saw the launch of Phase 2 of our fundraising efforts – 'Working for Windows', aiming to raise an additional £10,000 to pay for new windows and doors to the hut.



The building works also commenced on the complete renovation of the toilets, with the new disabled unit.



Renovated special needs unit and facilities.

By the end of 2009 half of the money needed had been raised and in the summer of 2010 the new windows were installed. As our Centenary Year comes to a close we have reached (and expect to exceed) our target of £10,000 and the new doors – the final exterior element of the refurbishments – will be fitted in December.

By the end of our Centenary Year we will have raised over £50,000 to refurbish the Scout Hut. The money raised will ensure that not only our children, but the future generations of Cobham's children will continue to have a place to meet, take part and enjoy the Scouting movement.

1910 – 2010 – 1st Cobham Scout Group

Speech by Graham Gibbs, District Advisor, Esher District 12th September 2010

I have been asked to say a few words about Scouting and 1st Cobham today, as the Group Celebrates 100 years of Scouting.

A little about myself to start.

My father was born on the Fairmile and my mother at Littleheath, both Cobham'ites, so maybe I just qualify to speak here today.

I was to join the Scout Movement early in January 1952 as a Cub Scout at Claygate.

My first Scout Adventure was St Georges' Day Parade. The service was here at St Andrews, I remember the Parade along Church Street, at that time two way traffic was still possible. It would be impossible today. I'm sure you agree !!

Five of my cousins were at the Service, members of 1st Cobham and 1st Oxshott Groups. One of these cousins (Malcolm Gibbs) was to be Cobham's Scout at the 1957 World Jamboree held at Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire. We give thanks for the founder of 1st Cobham and leaders for Scouting in the early years.

I was present at the opening of the Scout HQ in Hogshill Lane in 1963. A red letter day for the Group !

About the same time, I came to one or two Gang Shows held in the Old Village Hall in Anyards Road.

Janet Sones (Cub Leader) and her team ran the Pack, always fun with lots of excitement.

Alec Forhead was the Scout Leader. His early passing away in 1971 was to be a big blow to the Group.

The Group has and continues to take part in District Activities, Night Hikes, Day Hikes, Summer Camps, Fun Days, Cross Country Runs to name but a few.

The Group also makes full use of our two local camp sites, Polyapes and Walton Firs, and plays its part in village activities.

We thank all the current team for their work in making Scouting fun and exciting for today's young people.

As we look to the future, Scouting in Cobham has an important part to play.

Robert Baden-Powell, our founder, started it all in 1907. As we look back to yesterday and [turn] this milestone today, towards the next century, we will find that Baden-Powell's ideals will be needed even more. Long may 1st Cobham and its Blue scarf continue.

It's a great moment. Well Done! and all good wishes for the days ahead!

Graham Gibbs

Memory Page from Cameron Haxton

Cameron Haxton – Jan 2007 – July 2010

Leader – Alyson Menke

It was really fun once when Akela put the compass on the bonnet of the car and got the completely wrong direction! Baloo told her the right way!

Memory Page from Alex Haxton

Alex Haxton – Nov 2007 – July 2010

Leader – Helen Amys

It was great at Bazaaz when we saw the snakes and the pencil making. I like playing all the games – that's something good about Beavers.

Memory Page from Chris Rye

Christopher Rye – DATE

Leader – ?

I had fun meeting the American Scouts when we did Scouting For Food. I think we helped a lot of people!

Memory Page from Joshua Lad

Joshua Lad – Cub 2009 to date

Leader – Alyson Menke

My favourite scouting memory is going to SCRAM (which stands for "screaming cubs running around madly") which takes place outside in a field. When we turned up, there were a million scouts all running around madly. There were lots of places to go and lots of fun activities to try. There were enormous slides and big stalls and people on tight ropes and we had lots of fun. We went on two simulations. One was red and one was white. The red one was a futuristic roller coaster and the white one was a racing motor bike. We stayed there for a whole day. There was a fun house which was really bad, because there were just punch bags and a moving walkway. We went go-karting but there was a massive queue to race and it was freezing cold (my mum put me in shorts!) but it was worth the wait. The best activity was the WIPE-OUT which is a massive electronic stick. You strap yourself in and the stick goes round and round really fast. The man said the more you scream, the faster it goes, but he didn't mean it. It was amazing and I'm definitely going next time.



Chapter 11 1st Cobham's Centenary Celebrations



1st Cobham's Centenary Celebrations

2010 is very special for 1st Cobham Scout Group as we celebrate 100 years of Scouting since our inauguration in August 1910. The Scouting movement has changed beyond recognition since those early days, but our principles and ethos remain the same. To mark this momentous occasion we organised a number of events throughout the year.

The launch event – A **Tree Planting Ceremony** took place on **30th January 2010** at Painshill Park with the honourable Mayor of Elmbridge in attendance. During the year 100 saplings will be planted in and around Cobham to mark our 100th birthday: at Painshill; in the new pond area at St Andrews School; at Polyapes Camp and some in local gardens.

Our Centenary Badge – the design chosen from competition entries from all sections of the group – was given to each member, to be worn on uniforms throughout the year.

On **Saturday 11th September 2010** a **Community Day** was organised at Painshill Park in conjunction with Cobham Heritage Day. Over



1200 people visited the park where a host of free activities sponsored by 1st Cobham Scout Group (with a grant from the Big Lottery Fund) entertained young and old alike. Activities included archery, caricaturist, crazy golf, face painting,



giant garden games, harvest crafts, mini beast safari, nature trail hunt, orienteering, pioneering, pond dipping, scouting in miniature, soft play area, target fishing, warhammer, and Surrey Ambulance and Wildlife Aid displays. Transport from the gates on a 6 seater golf buggy proved very popular, while the Falconry Display had the crowd in awe at the beauty of these magnificent birds.



In addition, 1st Cobham sponsored the Children's section of the Cobham Horticultural & Garden Autumn Show, encouraging interest and some very innovative entries from younger members of the community.



On **Sunday 12th September 2010**, a **Commemorative Service** held at **St Andrews Church** was attended by 150 past and present members of 1st Cobham with their families, who witnessed the dedication of our new flags. This was followed by afternoon tea and scones at the Scout Hut.



[St Andrews Church (above), reproduced with kind permission of Peter Vickers of St Andrews]

The year ends as it began with the final planting of tree saplings, and a seed of hope for the future of 1st Cobham Scout Group as it moves into the next century.

2011 - Our celebrations do not stop at 100 years...

As we move into our next Century, we will continue to work closely with the community and the children of Cobham. Here we are continuing our collaboration with Painshill Park by helping to build Easter mazes from laurel for all visitors to enjoy in 2011.



mazes from laurel for all visitors to enjoy in 2011.



