



# “THE COOT”



Founded 1994

ISSUE 2007-01, October

[www.bvsq.co.uk](http://www.bvsq.co.uk)

## PIONEER TROOP - SUMMER CAMP



It all seems so long ago now! The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Scouting celebrated on an island in Poole Harbour, just a short boat trip from Brownsea Island where it all started with Baden-Powell in 1907.

Senior Scouts, leaders and parents made their way across to Long Island in small boats in the pouring rain on the Friday. A beach head was established and the Royal Marines delivered the rest of the Troop to the island by Landing Craft on the Saturday.



A contingent from 1<sup>st</sup> Mortimer BP Group were picked up from Brownsea that afternoon and they joined in the efforts to establish the campsite on an area untouched by humans for thirty years!

The weather got better and the camp was great fun. We visited Brownsea, attended the church service and posed for photos at the inaugural campsite when the opportunity was taken to present some warrants to leaders.



We met up with the retired Brownsea Island Commissioner and his wife, old friends, who accompanied us to the Trading post and introduced us all to his successor.



Badge work, beach, boats and sunshine were the order of the day .....





Wednesday the Scouts take to the River Frome and visited the old fortified Saxon market town of Wareham. 'Big Yank' was nick-named "Big Leak" but still managed to make the journey thanks to sterling repair efforts by John Walter:



Thursday saw a brief change in the weather when Beavers from Nova Scotia Colony and Wolf Cubs from Hastings Pack joined the Scouts for a day on Long ("Treasure") Island. However, the appearance of pirates .....



.....brought out the sun and chased the clouds away long enough for the Ice Cream boat to appear (every harbour has one!)



"THE COOT"

A camp fire to end the camp - and a very pleasant memory for all involved.



**DoE AWARD**

Three Scouts from Pioneer Troop are nearing completion of their Silver Award. Having passed the Fireman Badge, achieved the Caterer Badge and explored caves in Devon, they wondered what to do next...



After practicing in the Surrey hills....



They ended up in the mountains of Wales. Our new Group minibus provided sterling service in transporting them there and back safely for two outings to the green valleys.





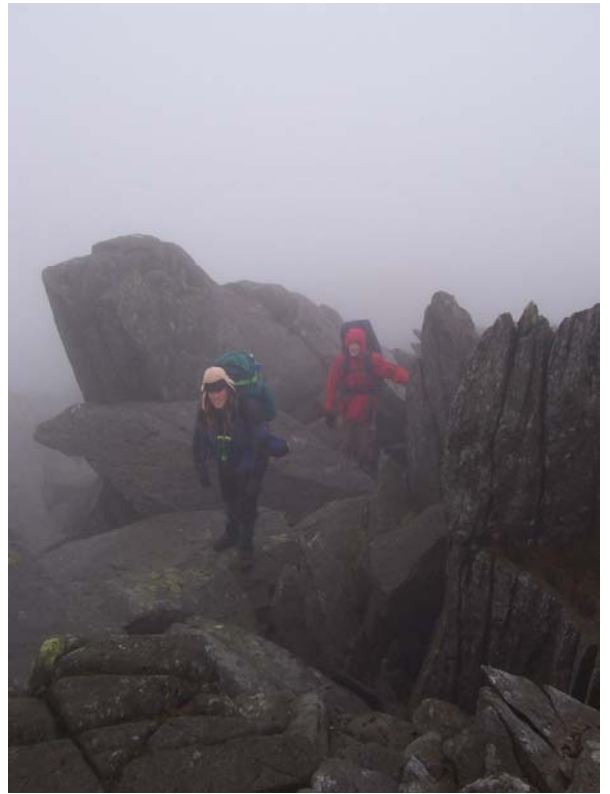
They came across rain and mist, took a break in the local shops and tried local fashions...



But did get to see some decent scenery....



Although the mist and rain was always around and you cannot stop or 'get off the ride' when it occurs. If you can safely do so, you carry on.....



.....or stop and camp to look after yourselves – on top of the world..



Well done lads and thanks to Gerry McGeehan for supporting them.

## AROUND & ABOUT THE HUT

**Earlier this year** - The roof has been worked on with leaks stopped and broken skylights repaired. The kitchen floor has been repaired, carpet tiles laid down. One of the wall electric hot water machines has been commissioned. In the hall a hole in the centre of the floor has been repaired and carpet tiles laid throughout.

**More recently** – The sink and tap in the ladies toilet has been replaced. The kitchen has been cleaned and painted. In the hall the computer and DVD player have been organised and installed. Paint work about the inside has been re-done. **Outside** the back of the hut has been sprayed with wood preservative, fascia board on the front of the hut has been replaced and fascia board on the side painted with preservative.

There is still more to be done and Sharon Joel would welcome any assistance that she can get.

## SITUATIONS VACANT



The families and friends of those in the Group run our Group. Like our Association, all are volunteers. If you can help and participate in running the Group to keep our flag flying in any way please step forward.

- **Fund Raising STILL NEEDS HELP**

Fund raising has achieved wonderfully over this last year with a new minibus purchased for £17,000.00 !!. That has been achieved by soliciting donations from local companies and a lot of effort running stalls at local fairs, organising events and just being there !

A sample of some things done and how the money is being raised:

- Holly Lodge Fair 26<sup>th</sup> June - £198.00
- BPSA Summer Fair July - £765.22
- Summer Cake sales - £50.70
- Lego game - £34.00
- Donations - £18.50
- Ash Fun Day July - £272.17

And there are plans in place for events and participation to come:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> November Asda Appeal
- 7<sup>th</sup> November Firework night
- 17<sup>th</sup> November Holly Lodge Fair
- 18<sup>th</sup> November Scout Christmas Fair
- 1<sup>st</sup> December Christmas Fantasia Ash

*If you are in any doubt about whether or not your assistance and participation is needed and will make a difference, **please know that it will.***

- **Hut Maintenance & gardening**

### STILL NEEDS HELP

Sharon Joel has a list of jobs to be done. If you are willing/able to pitch in and help achieve, please contact her. *“The Truth lies in the doing, not the saying”* Sharon has been ‘doing’ a lot, please get in there and help.

## TRANSPORT

Cubette is not very well at the moment and efforts are being made to get her better. However, it may be that she has to go to that big bus resting place in the sky....we shall see.

However, just like the Hut and all the other equipment that we have. None of it can be put to good use if there is not the support from the parents of children within the group. If you can help fly the flag in any way that you are not already doing, please consider doing so.

## USEFUL NUMBERS

**GSM** – Richard Llewellyn 01276 63940  
**Chairman** – Dawn Bradley 01252 323062  
**Treasurer** – John Lewis 01252 650066  
**Membership** - Margaret Young 01252 835014  
**Q'master** – Mark Howarth 01252 682197  
**Uniform** – Michele Llewellyn 01276 63940

