

# Scouting in Romford in 1982

## F O R E W O R D

**PLEASE NOTE:** All names and details are applicable to 1982 and by no means represent the current status of Scout Groups in Romford District.

When Dr. Johnson had finished the great labour of producing the first English dictionary, he defined 'lexicographer' as 'a maker of dictionaries; a harmless drudge'. Now whether the compiler of the following pages would consent to be called harmless, I shall not enquire; but that extensive drudgery has been gladly, even gleefully, undertaken is without doubt.

The writing of the 'History of Romford Scouting' as part of our 75th anniversary celebrations was an early suggestion by the 1982 Committee; but even as the suggestion was made, back in July 1982, the less stout-hearted among us quailed at the enormity of the task.

We had hoped that the Groups would produce their own individual histories and thereby write a large part of the tale. Many did, and to them we are very grateful. Some disappointingly did not. Some entries have been reduced, some expanded and where in doubt information has been checked, as far as possible.

But the Scout movement is, as a body, not greatly dedicated to administration and the keeping of records, finding so many other interesting and worthwhile ways of occupying its time.

Its membership, too, is continually changing so that much of its past history in Romford is enshrined in the hearts and minds of very many people now scattered far and wide over the world.

The written records that do exist have been consulted and what follows is the result of much reading and thought - not to mention hours of typing. That much, perhaps most, of it has been done by Joan Walker ought to be recorded; as well as the gratitude of her fellow members of the 1982 Committee for getting them off the hook of one of their more grandiose and unlikely schemes.

Dr. Johnson also said when his dictionary was finished 'I knew very well what I was undertaking and very well how to do it - and have done it very well'. Joan can, in the opinion of her colleagues, rightly say the same.

Perhaps this publication is not, after all, the book we thought of in our first enthusiasm nearly two years ago when we dreamed of a hard-back edition with dozens of colour photographs, selling like hot cakes locally at £1 or £1.50.

That was obviously never going to happen; many times in the interval we began to think that nothing at all was going to happen But here it is - and on time!

We hope that it will jog many readers memories, perhaps to the extent that items of our history not recorded anywhere but in happy memories, will flood into us and, who knows, in two or three years we can really produce a longer definitive History of Romford Scouting. In which case this publication will be seen as the most important part of it all - the foundation stone.

STAN HALL.  
Chairman :  
Committee for 1982.  
The Scout Association  
Romford and District.

June 1982



## ROMFORD DISTRICT

In 1908 two lone Scouters without much knowledge of Scouting, or its requirements, met one evening for a chat. They talked of two Troops working without rules or regulations and doing very much as they pleased. The outcome of the chat was a visit to Headquarters and interview with B.P.'s Secretary, Mr. Eric Walker. One Scouter returned with a warrant as one of the first Essex Scouters and soon Romford and District Boy Scouts' Association was born, The 1st Romford with 40 members and the 2nd Romford with 60 members.

The First World War came and hopes of keeping Troops together seemed an impossibility; however many Groups carried on led by Patrol Leaders. Very few Scouters returned to their Groups after the war and those senior lads carried on as warranted officers.

Other Groups were formed and so the District grew. A slogan of 'Catch My Pal' helped Scouts to encourage friends to join and numbers increased.

In 1934 numbers were still increasing, but so was the population of the area. Activities at that time were mainly camping, swimming and boxing. The District Commissioner of the time, Mr. A.M. Turner, commenting on the Marathon, emphasised the importance of 'log writing' and 'sketching'. Those who enter the District Marathon now will know that this is still considered important.

Camps were held then by permission of Mr. & Mrs. Platfor at 'The Manor House', Great Nelmes. The Scout Sub Committee had been formed in June 1933 and they also discussed the St. Georges Day Parade, the Franklin Shield and the Marathon; items still on that committee's agenda this month.

The Rovers held quarterly Socials and after many years the Scouts obtained the sole use of Mawney Road Swimming Baths for one hour every week. This practise continued until the demolition of the pool, when regrettably the Scout Swimming Club was forced to close, although there were still some hundred members.

It is noted that in the mid thirties an order was placed for ten thousand envelopes to ensure that Scouters were kept well posted of current events, with a monthly circular. Times have changed and those envelopes have been replaced by 'pigeon holes' at the District Headquarters where the monthly circular is placed for each group to collect, together with other relevant information.

At that time, to mark the Coronation of King George VI, Scouts were aiming to become King Scouts; today in this Year of the Scout, a repetition of this challenge sees Scouts trying to make this a record year for Queen Scouts in the District.

Annual Dances were held in the Nimbus Ballroom, with 120 present. A like number attended the Annual Dinner Dance of the District this year, at the Hutton Masonic Hall.

Census figures for 1934 and 1935 were 1059 and 1163 respectively, with a jump to 1247 in 1936. At this time some 800 Scouts were camping annually on a camp site in Bedfords (Park). A District Cub Camp was held on 19th and 20th June 1937, exactly the same weekend as this years District Cub Camp in Weald Park - 18th to 20th June 1982. In the Romford Charter Tattoo, transforming our town into a Borough in 1937, a Rover Scout organised a show based on St. George and the Dragon, with Cubs as the tail of the dragon - likewise this year we will find St George and the Dragon portrayed on a carnival float by a Romford Scout Group.

Perhaps we really do have a lot in common with the thirties. Four Rover Scouts attended the Second World Rover Moot at Ingaro, Stockholm in 1935 and there are glowing reports of their journey on the good ship 'Nevasa'. Some 36 years later (1971) the S.S. Nevasa was packed with some thousand Scouts from Greater London, very many from Romford District, also sailing for Scandinavia on a Scout Cruise.

Three Scouters and sixteen Scouts attended the 1937 World Jamboree at Vogelenzang, from Romford and more recently we have had representatives at Jamborees in the U.S.A., Japan and Norway. Tradition continues and in 1983 a Romford Scout will be attending the Jamboree in Canada.

Mr. E. C. Crisp, District Commissioner carried on during the difficult years of the Second World War, when numbers dropped and many district activities were curtailed, but nevertheless Scouts, Rovers and Scouters left at home, did yeoman service as Messengers, Fire Watchers, First Aiders, Report Centre Clerks, Telephonists, etc, as well as serving their own Scout Groups.

Mr. Crisp was followed by Mr. W G. Archer, fondly known as 'Badger', who believes 'that Scouting is an active Movement which does not stagnate, but as trials come and times change, Scouting adapts itself to the altered circumstances and carries on, ever trying to make healthy and upright citizens'.

We are proud that our present County Commissioner, John Moore held a warrant as Assistant Scout Master in Romford during the mid forties and was subsequently an Assistant District Commissioner here.

Romford was a large District and on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1947 was divided to create the now flourishing District of Squirrels Heath. Groups originally in Romford and forming this new District were :

3rd Romford	(Kims Hall)
5th Romford	(Holy Cross Church)
1st Gidea Park	(Arnaud Lodge)
2nd Gidea Park	(Gidea Park Methodist)
1st Harold Wood	(Harold Wood Methodist)
3rd Harold Wood	(Queens Park Road)
1 <sup>st</sup> Ardleigh Green	(Ardleigh Green Mission)

Naturally many of these groups have maintained close links with fellow Scouters in Romford.

Cub Packs were opened, sometimes at alarming speed by A.D.C. Cub Scouts, Miss. Phyllis King prior to her marriage to Mr. Wilfred Brown, both well loved and remembered District Scouters, serving Romford and then Squirrels Heath Districts.

A high light of the Romford District was in 1956 when land was purchased in Park Drive on which to build the present District Headquarters. Much of this work was organised by Mr. Vic Vaughan, a very dedicated Scouter of long standing, to whom many owe so much. The District Headquarters was opened in 1962 by the Deputy Mayor of the time W. H. Pike.

The District Store was provided for in this Headquarters and Mr. & Mrs. Syd Feldwick have been responsible for this wonderful service to the District for many years, only this year handing over to our recently retired District Commissioner, Mr. Bill Adams and his wife Connie, These fine Scouting personalities that mean so much to so many.

The changes that were made in Scouting nationally in 1966 brought methods in line with fresh thinking in the educational world, but still maintaining basic B.P. Scouting 'spirit'.

Romford's tradition is long and splendid and we have entered the eighties with renewed vigour. Our aim is to see more of the 'boy' population become Cubs and Scouts and Venture Scouts, joining a World Wide Movement which offers so much to the young people.

This brief synopsis will, we hope, encourage you, dear readers, to ask more! We have said little of modern day Scouting but hope that the residents of the area see us around, hear us a little and like what they see and hear.

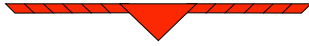
1982 Census (1129)

Cub Scouts	573
Scouts	304
Venture Scouts	69
Scouters/Others	170

## THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION.

Romford and District President	Councillor. W. Smith.
Chairman :	H. Layer.
Secretary	D. Hart.
Treasurer	B. Johnson.
Store Managers	Mr. & Mrs. W. Adams.
Public Relations Officer	Mrs. B. Hart.
Badge Secretary	Mrs. A. Wenborn.
Circular Secretary	Mrs. J. Marshall.
District Commissioner	Mr. Roy Walker.
A.D.C. Cub Scouts	Mrs. J. Walker.
A.D.C. Scouts	E. Webster.
A.D.C. Venture Scouts	A. Jones.
A.D.C. Leader Training	J. Twite.
District Extension Advisor	G. Don.
Warden of Crow Camp	J. B. Warren.
Hon. Chaplains :	Rev. David Jennings.
	Rev. S. Shields.
	Rev. D. Bradburn.

## 1ST ROMFORD



Scarf : SCARLET  
Meetings : Brownsea Hall, Kniglton Close, Knighton Road, Romford.  
Cub Scouts : Tues. 6.45.pm to 8.15.prn.  
Scouts : Weds. 7.15.pm to 9.15.pm.  
G.S.L. Mr. J. H. Miles.,

This Troop was formed in 1908 by D.C.Mackness and F. Hay—Davies, who subsequently formed a Cub Pack in 1913, although Cub Scouts were not officially inaugurated until 1916. The meetings were initially held in St.Edwards School, but in 1928 Brownsea Hall(I) was built on land leased from Messrs. Ind Coope Ltd., in Waterloo Road. This H.Q. was destroyed by fire on June 10th 1934 and both Group and District records were lost.

In 1937 it is recorded that Brownsea Hall(II) had been rebuilt, a Parents Committee had been formed and was giving valuable support to the leaders. At this time the H.Q. was in use every evening for meetings, Gym Classes and Band Practise, with the 1st Romford Band a valuable asset to the District. During the war the H.Q. was used to store furniture from bombed houses.

When Ind Coope required the Group to vacate their land, Brownsea Hall III was built and opened by Alderman. W. Pike in June 1961.

Over the years the Group has supported many charities, Christmas 1936 saw them delivering parcels to people whose means were limited and more recently funds have been raised for Guide Dogs for the Blind, Lifeboats, Havering Talking Newspaper and this year endeavouring to get someone mobile with an electric wheelchair.

Hundreds of people have been involved with this Group over the years : E.Cleaver, W. Gould, E.Baskett, A. Gage, P. Miles (Cherry), K. English, D. Jones — to mention but a few. Dave Marfell and Ivy Newham are the present section leaders.

A detailed history is available from the Group.

## 2ND ROMFORD



Scarf OLD GOLD  
Meetings Ashby Hall, Abbots Close,  
Romford.  
Cub Scouts : Thur. 6.30.pm to 8.30.pm  
Scouts Mon. 7.30.pm to 9.30.pm  
Scouter in charge Mr. P. H. Leeper.

The Group was founded in 1908 as a result of a meeting of the Athletic Committee of the Trinity Guild. The first Scoutmaster was Francis W. Ashby and the troop met in Trinity Hall. As the troop grew sections were formed in Newbury Park, Hornchurch, Squirrels Heath and Park Lane.

During the 1914—1918 War the troop was under the leadership of a lady Scoutmaster, Mrs. N. Shelford. In 1927 a Rover Crew was formed, led by Syd Feidwick, who is still serving Scouting in Romford.

In 1935 the Troop left their H.Q. in Trinity Hall and met anywhere they could, various halls, homes, even round lamp posts, but in 1936 Mr. T. England gave them a piece of land adjacent to the River Rom in Mawney Road, with the proviso that they built a H.Q. within two years. This they did — Ashby Hall, named after the first Scoutmaster.

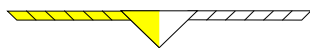
During the second World War the Troop and Pack carried on although for two years there were no official leaders and their H.Q. was requisitioned for the storage of the furniture of bombed homes.

As Scouters returned from the armed services the Group again flourished and continued a tradition of Scout awards, with several lads gaining Queen's Scout Awards and some the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

The present Scout Leader is Paul Leeper and the Cub Scout Leader Mrs. P. Hunter, who are helped in their work by six assistant leaders. Other names recorded over the years have included

S. Milbourne, J. Button, M. Feldwick, E. Barton, B. Buck,  
R. Bradfield, B. Adams, C. Adams. — just a random few.

## 6TH ROMFORD.



Scarf Yellow and White halves.  
Meetings St.Edwards Roman Catholic Church Parish Hall, Romford.  
Cub Scouts : Tues. 6.pm to 7.30.pm  
Scouts : Tues. 7.45.pm to 9.15.pm  
Scouter in charge Mrs. G. Ellis,

A Group with a mysterious past Extensive research has failed to reveal when it was originally formed. However it has been possible to trace the history to June 1945 when the Group was reformed.

It was Mr. E. R. Hotton's idea to restart the Group and he became the first Scout Leader. Catholic boys from Romford and Collier Row parishes joined the troop and there were enough for two patrols.

Mr. Hotten (*two different spellings of Hotten in original 1982 document*) was only able to be with the Troop for a short time before being called for war service. The Troop was then run by a Senior Scout, A. Powers, with the help of the Assistant District Commissioner, Mr. Wilfred Brown. At that time Scouting duties for the boys included erecting Morrison Air Raid Shelters for elderly people and ARP duties at the Town Hall during the weekends.

The Cub Pack was started a few years later under the leadership of the late Grace. F. How, better known to most people for her duties to the Borough, as registrar.

The Cubs greatest claim to fame was in the 1960s when they won the Swimming Trophy seven times, then again in 1980. They have always been a lively and happy bunch of boys.

In 1957 the Group had its first and as yet only, Queens Scout, Paul Capps. He remembers it as enjoyable hard work.

The present section leaders are John Ellis and Ursula Salmon.

## 8TH ROMFORD.



Scarf : Maroon.  
Meetings : St. John's Church Hall,  
Mawney Road, Romford.  
Cub Scouts : Tues. 6.pm to 7.30.pm  
Scouts : Thur. from 7.45.pm  
Venture Sc.: 2nd Thursday in each month.  
G.S.L. Mr. R. J. Young,

It is believed that this Group was started in 1923 and met in St. John's Hall, Willow Street. The first Scout master was Will Payne and George Payne ran the Cub pack.

The 'Eighth' have always been a thriving group, giving support to their Church and District. Smart? Obviously as their records show that in 1924 they won a cup for the 'Best Turned Out Troop':

In 1954 they won the Franklin Shield Competition and it seems in all their reports they were especially known, at that time, for their 'Scouty' spirit.

Generally they have a fine tradition of both Pack and Troop annual camps, one following the other. These have included Walberswick, Dovercourt Bay, St. Lawrence Bay, Mottisfont and more recently heading for Thorrington.

In the past the Group has excelled in Physical Training and Boxing, Gang Shows, and Swimming. The Goody Cup was presented by a member of the 8th Romford (Roger Goody), himself a superb swimmer anxious to encourage swimming amongst small boys. This Cup is awarded annually to a Cub Scout in the District.

An interesting excerpt from 1938 records shows the 'Eighth' as having gained 61 Proficiency Badges, 8 Second Class, 1 First Class, 1 Kings Scout and 5 All—Round Cords, Green, Red and Gold. Four members of the Troop attended the World Jamboree in Holland at that time.

Names well remembered in the Group include E. Davis, H. Sharpe, F. Koester, E. Vaughan, Vaughan, W. Sidebottom, R. Stigant, J. Dear, V. Levoir, J. Dell, E. Dell, L. Thorogood, G. Arber, B. Richards, I. Lockhart, J Simons, and now N. Edwards and S. Young and helpers.



## 10TH ROMFORD.

Scarf Green, with Blue border and Gold Bead.

Meetings : St.Andrews Church Hall,  
Cotleigh Road, Romford.

'A' Cub Scouts Weds. 6.50.pm to 7.45.pm 'B' Cub Scouts : Weds.  
6.30.pm to 7.45.pm

(st Agnes Hall, Jutsums Lane)

Scouts Fri. 7.30.pm to 9.30.pm

Venture.S6 : Thur. 8.pm to 9.50.pm

(The Rectory, London Road)

The modern history of this groups starts in 1948 with one Scouter, six boys and a bell tent and then over 50 members in 1950. A second troop and pack were formed meeting in Rush Green but by the mid fifties was established enough to become the 11th Romford Group.

The 10th gained high places in the Franklin Shield and Cub Swimming and St Georges Competitions. In 1960 the Senior Scout Troop was formed with excellent numbers and a first Queen Scout, Bob Strange. Many became keen on Sub—Aqua diving and some manned Rescue Boats for Speed Boat Races on the Thames.

A second Cub Pack was formed meeting at Jutsums Lane.

1966 — the year the Group obtained its first van, giving the Group many new opportunities, camping further afield including Harlem in Holland as guests of Dutch Scouts.

Regular Cub Camps were held, full of fun and activity. During the period 1960 to 1980 there had been several scout Leaders, each giving the troop the benefit of their own talents. Ron Barton raised the standard of the troop, its smartness and camping standards. Unfortunately Ron's life was cut short but we remember him annually in competition for the Ron Barton Trophy.

Activities have expanded and include parascending, rock— climbing, and helping weekly at a Youth Club for the handicapped. Girls in the Venture Unit and an enthusiastic programme. Membership is between 80 and 100, maintained over 25 years. May the next 25 years be as fruitful?

## 11TH ROMFORD



Scarf Maroon and Yellow halves,  
Meetings : St.Augustine's Church Hall,  
Birkbeck Road, Romford.

'A' Cub Scouts Weds, 6.pm to 7.50.pm B Cub Scouts Mon. 6.15.pm  
to 7.45.pm

Scouts : Fri. 7.30.pm to 9.30.pm

Venture Sc.: Alt. Sun. 7.30.pm to 9.50.pm

G.S.L. Mr. J. Gregory,

In 1936 this Group was one of several attached to the Royal Liberty School. It re—opened in 1952, having been established earlier as part of the 10th Romford Group. The Group is the one Group in the District affiliated to the Church Army.

Our Scouters have included Father Restall, Ken Mitchell, Tom Wyborn and Fred Feaver.

The present team began when Olive Gregory became Akela of 'A' Pack and John Gregory who had previously Scouted in Bethnal Green, becoming an A.S.L.in 1969.

Time went by and leaders came and went including Norman Hardington, Marcia Hilistead, Cohn Seeley, but many stalwarts are still with us, Maureen and Geoff Preston, Jean Cameron and in 1978 we were joined by Bill Harris.

So in this year of the Scout we have a team of 11 leaders, 4 Venture Scouts, 20 Scouts and 38 Cub Scouts, with 4 instructors and a wonderful supportive Executive Committee.

The group has an excellent record of camping over the years and in many instances the Cub Scouts have had the benefit of two camps or Pack Holidays each year. This, thanks to the unstinting time and work put in by Scouters and supporters alike.

All sections of the group take an active part in District events and activities and have won various trophies and shields on several occasions. In 1981 the 'B' Pack won the very important St Georges Competition and the Scouts held their own by taking third place in the District 'Cyclo Cross' event.

So may have helped and are still helping to make Scouting a growing part of the community in Rush Green.

## 13TH ROMFORD.



Scarf : Green with Gold Border.  
Meetings Trinity Methodist Church Hall,  
Angel Way, Romford.  
Cub Scouts Mon. 6.30.pm to 8.pn  
Scouts Wed. 5.pm to 9.50.pm  
Venture Sc.: Mon. from 8.pm.  
G.S.L. : Mr. N. W. Hilton.,.  
A Group with a long tradition who celebrated their Golden Jubilee in  
1980.

The Group was started by Mr. A.G.Taylor, with Don Gosh as Scoutmaster and Phyl King as Cub Master. Later, names like Alec Cheetham, Don Dunball, Stan Gustard, Harold Dunball, Fred Fulcher and Syd Bragg come into the picture.

The 13th have always had birthday celebrations and as early as the age of five were celebrating with a Group Gang Show. Gang Shows were happening both before and after the war. The annual re—dedication service brings past and present members together each November.. at one time just a 'bun fight', but now a far more sophisticated affair.

Regular camps — long hot journeys in Copsey's lorries to Mottisfont, Udimore, Stanbridge Ranvilles, Woodborough — before the days of motorways and by passes — 'Chum', (Mrs Dorothy Carr) dealing with the sick and the rest singing to ensure they heard the arrival at Trinity.

Boys came from many parts and a regular transport service was operated by Dads from Rise Park to get boys to the Monday Pack.

There have been many Queen Scouts, many boys and members - to World Jamborees, seven in fact to the Jamboree, Indaba and Moot at Sutton Coldfield in 1957. The Greater London Cruise was a highlight for the Group — 28 members were sponsored by the Group on this memorable occasion, visiting Copenhagen, Gothenburg:, Malmo and Oslo.

Scouters in the Group have always had close links with the Church, often having duties other than Scouting, in a supportive role at Trinity, thus maintaining a close community spirit in the area.

Scouting is great in the 13th

## 16TH ROMFORD.

Scarf : Blue and Gold halves.  
Meetings Marshals Park Lower School,  
Petits Lane, Romford.  
Cub Scouts Fri : 6.pm to 7.50.pm  
Scouts : Fri : 7.pm to 9.50.pm.  
C. S. L. Mr. A. Chariton,  
.

Group Census as at 31.5.82.  
Cub Scouts 13  
Scouts 11  
Scouters 3

## 19TH ROMFORD.



Scarf Green with Red border.  
Meetings : St. Albans Church Hall,  
Princes Road, Romford.  
Cub Scouts wed.; 6.45.pm to 8.15.pm  
Scouts : Tues: 7.50.pm to 9.pm.  
C. S. L. Mr. P. B. Spence.,  
.

Group Census as at 31.3.82.  
Cub Scouts 20  
Scouts 6  
Scouters 1  
Instructors .... 1

## 3RD GIDEA PARK.



Scarf Old Gold with Black border.  
Meetings : Rowswell Hall, St Michael's  
Main Road, Gidea Park.  
'A' Cub Scouts Tues : 6.45.pm to 8. 15.pm  
'B' Cub Scouts : Fri 6.30.pm to 8pm  
'C' Cub Scouts : Tues : 5.pm to 6.30.pm  
Scouts Thur 7.25.pm to 9.pm  
Venture Sc.: Thur 8.30.pm to 10.pm  
G.S.L. Mr. A. Matthews.

The Group started in 1954 and the first troop camp at Botley, was held that year. The Group has always been centred on St Michaels Church. Before the church halls were built they met in a hut off Balgores Lane.

The first Group Scout Master was the Rev. Elvin, with Freddie Rowswell (a master at Brentwood School), as the Assistant Scout Master.

1955 saw the first of many foreign camps — three days in Brussels and eleven days in the Ardennes.

The Group kept going through the war years, boys helping with wartime emergency services. After the war, 1946 the Troop was again camping abroad.

In 1952 the Rover Crew was established and a Group Gang Show took place. As the years ticked by Scouters were found for the increasing number of boys. Freddie Rowswell became Group Scout Master, followed by R.Gingell, P.Rance and now Allen Matthews, a member for 55 years.

The present Group H.Q. was built under the watchful eye of Tony Jones, by willing parent help. The premises are shared with the Guides. The name — Rowswell Hall — aptly named after this keen 3rd Gidea Park Scouter who still maintains contact with his many Scouts around the world. The Hall provided better facilities for Scouting and events to attract parental involvement.

Throughout its near half century the Group has maintained close association with the Church, nevertheless it is an - open group and many denominations figure among its number.

## 4TH GIDEA PARK.



Scarf : White and Scarlet halves.  
Meetings Heabon Way United Reformed  
Church.  
Straight Road, Romford.  
Cub Scouts Fri. 6.30.pm to 8.pm  
Scouts Fri. 7.50.pn to 9.15.pm  
G.S.L. Mr. S. Lucas.,

This group was formed in 1938, having been registered on 3rd November.

The meeting place was the Crusader Hall, Colchester Road, Romford. It was started as an Open Group, with 20 Wolf Cubs, 20 Scouts, 10 Rover Scouts and 6 Scouters.

On formation the Group Scoutmaster was J. Newton Davey Scoutmaster was David Bennett

Assistant Scoutmaster was Laurie Swetman Cub Master was N. Watson

Assistant Cub Master was I. Parrott

Mr. J. Newton Davey also acted as Rover Scout Leader.

Records show that during the late 1940s and early 1950s the Group met in St. Georges Hall, under the leadership of Mr. G. Clements. They had a Scout football team at that time and they entertained a French Scout at their Summer Camp in Shanklin, Isle of Wight. A subsequent leader in the Group was Mrs. Bunny Patrick, who became a member of the Essex Training Team.

In October 1961 the Group became a Sponsored Group; the sponsors being the Congregational Church. Since this date the group has met in the United Reformed Church in Heaton Way.

In February 1982 a Cornwell Badge was presented to a member of the group.

## 2ND COLLIER ROW.



Scarf : Old Gold and Scarlet halves. Meetings : Worthington Hall,  
Collier Row Road, Romford

'A' Cub Scouts : Thurs 6.30.pm to 8.pm

'B' Cub Scouts : Weds : 6.50.pui to 8.pm

'C' Cub Scouts : Tues : 6.50.pm to 8.pm

Scouts : Mon : 7.pm to 9.pm

Venture Sc.: Weds : 8.15.pm to 10.pm

G.S.L. : Mr. D. H. Rolls.,

Although this Group has its own Headquarters opened in 1971, it previously met in the hall of the Church of the Ascension. The Group is sponsored by the Church and has always maintained close connections there.

In 1945 a Group was in existence, with Cub meetings led by Miss. Olive Smith, assisted by Geoff Higgs and Tony Burrows. However the group was officially re—formed in 1949, with Wally Worthington as the Group Scout Master. Other Group Scout Leaders have included Ron Watton, David Hart, Alistair Cox and now Dennis Rolls.

For many years the Smith Family held -the group together with an excellent and supportive parents committee, with Mrs. Hart (Senior) as an original member.

There have always been strong 'family' connections, going back to the 'Smith (Olive, Norman and John), the 'Harts' (David, Betty, Mrs. Hart Snr, and Beryl) and now the present 'families' who are working so hard to maintain the standards that have always persisted in the Group. No doubt this is the reason for strength of numbers, requiring three Cub Pack a Scout Troop, and a Venture Unit — all bringing a fresh outlook to modern day Scouting.

Over the years their achievements in District events and competitions have been consistently high in all sections.

### 3RD COLLIER ROW



Scarf : Black with Green border and Lone Pine Badge.

Meetings : Lone Pine Lodge.,

307, Carter Drive, Collier Ro

'A' Cub Scouts : Thur.: 6.30.pm to 8.pm

'B' Cub Scouts : Tues : 7.pm to 8.30.pm

Scouts Mon. : 7.30.pm to 9.30.pm

Venture Sc.: Weds : 8.pm to 10.30.pm

Scouter in Charge

Mr. A. A. Reeve,

The Troop was formed as an unofficial Lone Patrol in 1942 with the present Leader as P.L. During its first year the Patrol was instrumental in discovering, tracking and effecting the capture of a fifth columnist.

Lord Somers, Chief Scout received a request for the Troop to be recognised and on 30th December 1943 it became the 3rd Collier Row.

The first Scoutmaster was John Hatton, holder of the Cornwell Badge and for 21 years the group met in Clockhouse Lane School. The first Cub Pack with Elsie Jones (Castle) as leader started in 1944 and in 1969 a second pack was started under the leadership of Joyce Reeve.

With a strong Parent's Committee working hard, land was purchased and the group moved to its own H.Q. in 1966.

Troop Leader, Ted Hall, led the Romford Contingent to the Jamboree at Floisson, France in 1946 and three members also attended the Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield in 1957. The S.L took part in Ralph Reader's Gang Show.

Troop camps have been held in the South of France and Luxembourg and Senior Scouts and Rovers have travelled to various places on the Continent. The Group has twice won the Dyer Cup and patrols have won the Franklin Shield and Norman Trophy.

Two present Venture Scouters and four Troop Scouters have come through the Group. Jack Jones (G.S.L. 10th Romford) and Stan Lucas (G.S.L.. 4th Gidea Park) have served with the group.



## 4TH COLLIER ROW



Scarf Yellow with White Border,  
Meetings : Corpus Christi Church Hall,  
Lowshoe Lane, Collier Row.  
Cub Scouts Weds 6.pm to 7.25.pm  
Scouts Weds : 7,.30.pm to 9.30.pm  
G.S.L. : Mr. J. Piper.,

The Group was formed in 1974 and commenced meetings in February 1975, so one of the youngest groups in Romford.

It is a sponsored open group and takes boys of all denominations.

The Group started with a Cub Pack only, under the leadership of Jeff Piper, assisted by John Ellis and in 1978 the Scout Troop was formed, led by Adrian Prior and subsequently Nick Banda.

The Group has always had a full complement of boys and both Pack and Troop have taken part and been successful in many District activities. The Pack have won the Cub Sports Shield three times and the Troop won the Swimming Gala this year. One boy, Chris Totten has gained his Chief Scouts Award.

There is an active and supportive Parents Committee, organising the social and financial side of the Group.

The present Cub Scouters are Joe Connor, Pat Maskell, and Mick Murray and the Scout Scouters are Nick Banda, Peter Boyer and Chris Totten.

The Group looks forward to a future of exciting activities to keep the boys interested and involved. Plans are already in hand for next years camps and pack holidays.

This seventy fifth year of Scouting will continue with many exciting prospects in store.

1st HAVERING.



Scarf Black and Yellow halves.  
Meetings St.James Church Hall,  
Chase Cross Road, Collier Row  
Cub Scouts : Tues: 6.pm to 7.50.prn.  
Scouter in Charge Mrs. T. A. Webb,

The 1st Havering Scout Group was formed in June 1954 and the full title was then the 1st Havering-atte-Bower (St. Johns).

The Group Scout Master in those early days was Mr. F. B. Wadley and in 1956 Miss. Pemberton Barnes presented the Group with their colours. Members of the 2nd Romford and 13th Romford were present at this event.

In 1944 a patrol from the 1st Havering joined with the 3rd Collier Row.

In 1950 the Group was based at Clockhouse Lane School, with Cubs, Scouts, Senior Scouts and Rovers.

Miss. Kathleen Humphries was a long serving member of the Group, with a very strong and thriving Cub Pack during the 1950s.

The official Headquarters of the Group is on land in Belle Vue Road. The Hall there was built by the dedication of Scouters and parents involved with the Group at that time.

We remember with gratitude the services of Arthur Moore and Beryl Hull.

As with most groups there are 'ups and 'downs' for a variety of reasons and numbers in the group dwindled.

A high light came on 22nd January 1980 when the Cub Scout pack was re-started with five boys, three of whom are still with the pack and one has recently gone into the 3rd Havering Troop, with whom we have strong links.

A sad day came in June 1980 when the hall was burned down and as a result the pack now meet each week in St James Church Hall. At the present time we are trying to rebuild the hall and are grateful for their hospitality.

## 2ND HAVERING.



Scarf : Orange and Green halves.  
Meetings : Rise Park Junior School.  
Annan Way, Rise Park.  
Cub Scouts : Thur. 7.pm to 8.30.pm  
Scouts Non. : 7.30.pm to 9.pn.  
G.S.L. : Mr. J. H. Jones.,

During the early 1960's this group came into being under the leadership of Mr. & Mrs. EL Allen. Since then loyal leaders have included A. Gill, IC. Worsley, EL. Sharpe, J. Marshall, and S. Pitter.

The Cub Scout Pack is now led by Mrs. Sheila Webb and the Scout Troop by Mr. David Cunningham. Membership of the group is now 33.

Summer camps have been a regular feature of the group's activities.

1969 Windermere, Lake District  
1970 Ringstead Bay, Dorset  
1971 Keswick, Lake District  
1972 Ross on Wye, Wye Valley  
1974 Screens Park, Essex  
1975 Screens Park, Edex  
1976 Downe, Kent.  
1978 Ringstead Bay, Dorset  
1979 Porlock, Somerset.  
1980 Thetford, Norfolk.  
1981 Thetford, Norfolk.

Go—karts and Canoes are in regular use with the group.

The older boys in the Group formed the nucleus of the District Venture Unit when it was formed in the late 1970's.

## 3RD HAVERING



Scarf : Claret and Sky flue haltes. Meetings : St James' Church Hall,  
Chase Cross Road, Collier Row.  
Cub Scouts : Weds 6.pm to 7.50.pm.  
Scouts : Weds : 7.45.pm to 9.15.pm  
Acting G.S.L. Mr. E. A. Still.,

Group Census as at 31.3.82.  
Cub Scouts 24  
Scouts 18  
Scouters 6  
Instructors .... 1

## 4TH HAVERING



Scarf : Brown with Yellow border. Meetings : Havering Road  
Methodist Church, Romford.  
Cub Scouts : Mons 5.45.pm to 7.15.pm  
Scouter in Charge :  
Mrs. M. Sales.,

,  
.  
Group Census as at 31.3.82  
Cub Scouts 10  
Scouters 4

## 1ST HAROLD HILL



Scarf : Light blue and Dark Blue halves.  
Meetings Warren Hall, Dewsbury Road  
Harold Hill.

'A' Cub Scouts : Tues : 6.30. to 8.pm

'B' Cub Scouts : Weds : 6.30. to 8.pm

Scouts : Mons : 7.30. to 9.pm.

G.S.L. : Mr. J. B. Warren.,

This Group was started in 1950 by Mr. Ted Butcher, first under a lamp-post in Petersfield Avenue and then for two years in the estate contractors canteen, until Mead School was opened. The Cub Pack was started by Miss P. King (Brown) in 1952. One of the original helpers Mrs. D. Sanderson retired from the group in 1981 after 29 years Service.

At the peak there were three Cub Packs.

In 1954 a P.L. Michael Crawley suggested that a building fund should be started and with other fund raising a temporary building was opened in 1958 by Mrs. Olive Roberts, Councillor deputising for the Mayor. Later a hall was added and formally opened in 1962 by Mr. John Sweet, Field Commissioner. extensions were built in 1970.

The group has had a Senior Scout Troop, Sea Scout Troop, and Rover Crew at various times in its history and more recently a Venture Unit.

Between 1958 and 1968 the Group produced twelve Queen Scouts, but since then has had to be content with a succession of Chief Scout's Awards.

Three other groups have been absorbed on closure, namely the 2nd Harold Hill (Catholic), the original 3rd Harold Hill (since re—started) and the 4th Harold Hill (Jewish)!

The Group has close links with the 8th Skien in Norway and since 1950 two visits have been made to them, and we have entertained their members every four years since then.

### **3RD HAROLD HILL**



Scarf : Red with White Border.  
Meetings St. Georges Church Hall,  
Chippenham Road,  
Harold Hill.  
Cub Scouts : Tues. 6.15.pm to 7.30.pm  
Scouts Tues. 7.30.pm to 9.pm  
Scouter in Charge  
Mrs. P. A. Jones.,  
.  
Group Census as at 31.3.82.  
Cub Scouts 24  
Scouts 11  
Scouters 4

### **DISTRICT VENTURE UNIT**

Meetings Romford District H.Q.  
Rear 24 Park Drive,  
Romford.  
Fri: 8.pm to 10.pm.  
Leader Mr. A. Jones.,  
A.D.C. Venture Scouts.  
.

This is a mixed unit started in 1979 to accommodate those of Venture Scout age in Groups without their own Venture Unit. In this short time they are already able to place on record two Queen Scout Awards, including the first female in Romford District to gain the award.

We hope that this little book sums up the activities of a number of groups over the years. It is appreciated that many readers will have been associated with groups which no longer function or have been merged with other groups.

In these pages you will have read of things long past and names that are only remembered by a few. Each Group has its own memories of those people, who, with great energy and determination, started Scouting in Romford, kept it going through good and difficult times, and handed it on to others as time went by. It is to them we owe our thanks, for without them there could be no 75th Anniversary celebrations.

As long ago as 1934 Headquarters were stressing the value of an 'Old Scouts' branch; the present trend is a Scout Fellowship — perhaps this may be one of results of 75 years of Scouting in Romford. Friends who have been Scouts, those who are interested in supporting Scouting in this District ... I would be pleased to hear from you.

ROY WALKER.

District Commissioner.