

THE MEAK SHALL
INHERIT THE EARTH
IF THAT'S OK
WITH THE REST
OF YOU

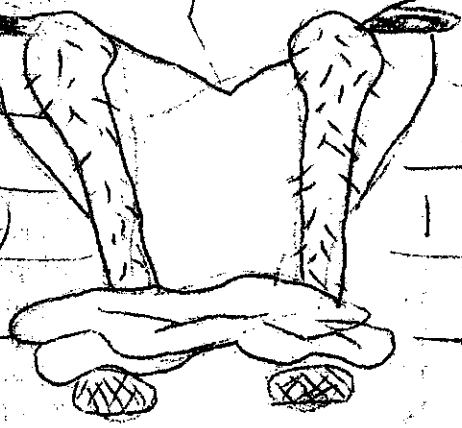
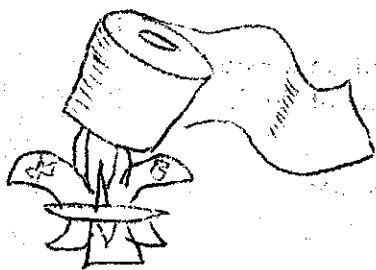
RALPH REEDER
WOZ
OVER E!

love
by Peg

love?
by P+S

COVER
+ PLUS +
THE
ASHBY HASTINGS
VENTURE
SCOUT
MAS

THIS EDITION
SHOULD BE
ABOUT
THREE PEE



Welcome to this, the first edition of Cover Blue. It is intended to bring out the magazine annually at about Easter. This magazine has been written and produced by the ASHBY-HASTINGS VENTURE SCOUT UNIT and any proceeds from it will go to unit funds.

We apologise for the late appearance of this edition, but like other, better known papers we have been having some difficulty with printing. However, unlike these papers we HAVE got our copy 'on the streets'. Subsequently, a few of the articles which were written at about Easter may not be quite up to date.

Next years issue should be out around Easter 1980 and will cover Group, Unit, Troop and Pack events between Whitsuntide 1979 and Easter, 1980. Readers letters and any other contributions for next years magazine should reach the Venture Scout Unit Chairman no later than 29th February, 1980.

PLEASE NOTE: Spelling mistakes are printing errors!

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (HASTINGS) VENTURE SCOUT UNIT? SCOUT H.O.,
WILLESLEY GARDENS, ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

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COVER DESIGN BY

THE SCOUT TUCK SHOP ... for good value confectionery
Most prices below those of commercial traders - OPEN AT EVERY SCOUT MEETING

WHO'S WHO

<u>DISTRICT</u>	Tel:
District Commissioner	Mr. R. Saunders Coalville 34031
<u>GROUP</u>	
Group Scout Leader	Miss P. D. Smith Ashby 2509
Chairman	Mr. D. Evans Ashby 6294
Treasurer	Mr. R. Davenport Ashby 2576
Secretary	Mr. J. White Ashby 2355
Quartermasters:	Mr. R. S. Oldham Ashby 2967
	Mr. T. B. Spotswood Ashby 3676
Technical Adviser	Mr. K. Grose Ashby 3761
Publicity Officer	Mrs. D. Fill Ashby 5600
<u>CUB SCOUTS</u>	
Cub Scout Leader	Mrs. M. Redfern None
A.C.S.L.	Mrs. S. Whiten Ashby 3361
<u>SCOUTS</u>	
Scout Leader	Mr. J. Whiten Ashby 3361
A.S.L.	Mr. A. Steel Ashby 5358
A.S.L.	Mr. T. Logan Ashby 4866
A.S.L.	Mr. C. A. V. Smith Ashby 3893
Senior Patrol Leader	Mr. C. P. Smith Ashby 3893
<u>PATROL LEADERS COUNCIL</u>	
Chairman	Mr. G. P. Smith Ashby 3893
Treasurer	Mrs. D. Buchan Ashby 3638
Secretary	Mr. R. White Ashby 2355
Quartermaster	Mr. N. Oldham Ashby 2967
Badge Secretary	Mr. J. Barnsley Ashby 2487
<u>VENTURE SCOUTS</u>	
Venture Scout Leader	Mr. E. Bowers Ashby 2180
<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u>	
Chairman	Mr. C. A. V. Smith Ashby 3893
Treasurer	Mr. G. A. T. Smith Ashby 3893
Secretary	Mr. N. Redfern None
General Assistant	Mr. R. Exton Ashby 3596

BACKGROUND by Arthur Peewit

There was at one time three Scout groups in Ashby (the first, second and third Ashby-de-la-Zouch). The following in these troops had, by the 1970's dropped considerably and only one troop was formed from all the members still interested in continuing in Scouting. This troop (the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Hastings) continued as it was for quite some time, but then due to a quick succession and lack in number of leaders, the programme became unsettled and progress slow. Eventually, due to pressure of work, the last remaining leader left the troop, causing the termination of Scouting in Ashby in Spring, 1975. (i)

A year later Ashby Scouting had a sudden revival. This was when, with help from the Blackfordby Troop, the Ashby Hastings was re-started. (ii)

To begin with there were seven members from this previous troop, which made its official reappearance, six strong, at the District Whit Camp in 1976. After this came a series of informal meetings and canoeing sessions during which a second new leader was gained. When the summer had come and gone, the troop discovered that it had regained most of its previous members as well as the "new recruits". In September/October yet another leader arrived in Ashby and attempts were made to set up a Venture Scout Unit. This saw some success and in November ran a Patrol Leaders training camp.

Since this time the troop has gained many new members as well as some new leaders. This allows a larger and more varied number of activities, many of which are put forward and organised by the Patrol Leaders Council which was set up in January, 1977. These activities include:-

Shooting, Canoeing, Swimming, Hiking, Night Hiking
Cycling and of course weekend camps and the annual
Summer Camps - 2 so far, 1 in the Lake District and the
other in Central Wales.

This year's camp is to be at Gilwell Park (1979). Other activities such as boat building are soon to begin.

The Hastings Troop is now well established again and a Venture Unit is finally "on the road" and will be official as from this Easter (1979).

- i This does not include the Cob Scout section which continued as normal
- ii By coincidence, in the same week as Ashby Hastings re-formed, a new group was started in Ashby, the 4th Ashby (Baptist) - this is not a closed group

SITUATIONS VACANT

Satellite Navigator: Hours variable. Pay Good. No previous experience necessary. Contact: N.A.S.S.A., U.S.A.

Seasonal Work: Candle Maker. Pay negotiations in progress.
Contact: National Union of Mineworkers

CUB SCOUT SECTION By A Cub

A cub will join his pack at a minimum age of eight years old and will be unable to continue as a Cub after he is over ten and a half years old. Over these two and a half years the Cubs main aim is to gain as many of the progress badges as possible i.e. Bronze, Silver and Gold Arrows. As well as these, there are the proficiency badges. For a Cub who has decided to 'graduate' into Scouts there is an initiation badge called the Link Badge.

A Cub's life is not always work tho'. Cub meetings will start with Flag Break and inspection. The inspection may be on anything from full uniform to good deeds, so the cub must always come prepared. Following this there is a quick game to get them warmed up for the evening. Badge work is then done in groups, according to the Cub's arrow standard. After this there will be the final game followed by announcements, flag down, prayers and dismissal.

Ashby Hastings Pack consists of thirty cubs in five sixes. A 'six' is the cubs equivalent to the scouts patrol. The pack meets at the Scout Hut every Thursday from 6.30pm to 7.45pm and is run by Akela - Margaret Redfern and Baloo - Steph Whiten.

Unlike Scouts, the cub pack has a waiting list and it can sometimes take years before acceptance. Once accepted, a cub has to be invested, saying both Law and Promise by heart and being presented with the Pack necker and the world wide Scout Movement badge.

SCOUT SECTION By Enid Blythe

The scout training scheme consists of three parts: the Scout Standard, Advanced Scout Standard and Chief Scouts Award.

If a scout goes to a summer camp he will usually have passed his Scout Standard by his return as it has a lot to do with various aspects of camping. The Advanced Scout Standard also has a section to do with camping, but at a higher level. It also has a section on service.

During recent years, several members of the troop have attained the Chief Scouts Award. This award has a practical section as the above but also includes sections on leadership and responsibility.

Recently the scout hut has been undergoing repairs and the scouts have been assisting with this.

This year the troop will be having their annual summer camp at Gilwell. They have also gone to the WHIT camp at Willesley.* One of the activities for the summer is swimming at Ashby Baths.

* More about this in next years issue.

WEEKEND CAMPS

by T. Entpole

Mention scouting to anyone outside the movement and most likely their first thoughts will be of camping, rubbing sticks together and baked beans. Who can blame them, as a great deal of the scout training scheme is based on camping skills.

After its reformation one of the troops' first camps was a Patrol Leaders training course at Willesley campsite in November 1976. Perhaps the word 'training' gives the wrong impression - perhaps we should say retraining. A memory oiler for rusty scouts, the lads were taught on the basis that they would be teaching skills learned to their own patrols. The idea of the patrol leaders council was also introduced at this camp.

A regular feature of the scout year is the Whit district camp at Willesley. This again could be regarded as a refresher, or for first timers - an ice-breaker for the summers camping ahead.

The highlight of the scout year is the summer camp, the main idea of which is to have a good time. It is important to bear in mind that this is somewhat different from a family summer holiday. The main idea is to mix fun with work (although all the work is not all fun and all the fun is not work).

Between troop camps most patrols hold a patrol camp at least once a year.

ELEPHANTS

Q. Why do elephants paint the soles of their feet yellow?

A. So that they can hide upside down in custard.

Q. Why do elephants paint their toenails red?

A. So that they can hide in cherry trees.

Q. Have you ever seen an elephant in a cherry tree?

A. Shows it works then.

Summer Camp of 1977 - Great Towers Scout Camp Site - Windermere

The troop left Scout HQ at twelve noon, travelling in a mini-bus and a car, going up the M6 to arrive at Great Towers camp site (on Windermere in the Lake District) at about 5pm. The heat was intense and the scouts struggled to carry the heavy equipment 400 yards up a steep hill from the car park.

When set up the site consisted of: a store tent, scouters tents and two patrol tents, facing each other, with their own kitchen areas.

After the confusion of the first day a daily routine was established. Each patrol leader would supervise his own patrol, ensuring its members rose and did their various jobs around the site. One member of each patrol would be sent to get provisions from the small camp shop, which although only $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away was difficult to reach as we were camped in a remote part of the site and there was no path through the woods and marshland. The assistant P.L.'s organised the fetching of water and wood for cooking. When breakfast was finished and cleared away the troop assembled for flagbreak. From then on each day was different.

The first morning was spent roping off the separate cooking and chopping areas, digging of latrines and making camp gadgets such as plate and mug stands. In the afternoon there was a trip into Bowness-on-Windermere. The troop indulged in many activities during the camp including hiking, orienteering, wide games, swimming and a camp fire.

The hike was to be 12 miles and would take up most of one day. The two patrols set off with about half an hour between them. Gannets patrol took a later ferry across Windermere. The route to the half way stage was about 6 miles and the Vultures Patrol were the first to set off, climbing up and away from the lake and then walking parallel to its shore. This first stage was through a forest on paths that often resembled streams or bogs. Vultures Patrol arrived at the half way stage (Wray Castle) on time and tucked into their lunch. After an hour when Gannets had not yet arrived the Vultures started on their return journey along the shore of lake Windermere. Meanwhile, the Gannets had got lost and arrived at Wray two hours late, therefore they returned to the site by car.

The orienteering took up an afternoon, each patrol was given a starting point and a list of bearings with a 'target' for each, e.g. 275' large rock or 128' clump of tree stumps. Each of

these 'targets' had a red painted square on them with a number which was taken down for checking. The two patrols raced each other round the same course in opposite directions. The result was a draw, the scouts showing the high standard they had reached in using the compass.

Various wide games were played at night before having cocoa and going to bed. During these, one patrol was usually hunters while the other patrol had to get to a fixed point before a certain time. These sometimes went wrong with people going to sleep while hiding and a search party having to be organised.

As the weather was so hot a very popular activity was swimming. The campsite had its own stretch of beach where all the troops swam.

On the Thursday night the troop went to the camp fire, which is held every week, where they met scouts from Scotland, Ireland and Holland.

At the end of the week after a very successful camp the troop left the campsite at 11.00am, but for most (those travelling the Minibus) the camp was not yet over. At about 1.00pm the bus broke down on the motorway and had to be towed to a Kennings service station on the M62 where another night was spent under canvas with meals provided by Kennings. The trouble had apparently been put right by noon on Sunday and the journey was resumed. However at 3.30 the bus had more trouble and was apparently beyond roadside repairs. Now near home, the scouts were ferried back by parents, arriving in Ashby about 30 hours after leaving Great Towers.

SCOUT CYCLING TRIP WALES 1977

By

Alice Throymerton

Although only three scouts went on this trip, it was both interesting and enjoyable. I should like to thank the parents who provided transport to and from the start and finish points.

The accompanying map and notes illustrate the route that was taken, this was mainly on roads but some of the cycling was done on rough forest tracks and lanes.

The route taken was partially in the Snowdonia National Park and showed us some of the most beautiful of Welsh scenery. Many lakes and reservoirs were visited as well as the Llanberis pass on Snowdon. About forty five miles of the ride was along the coast, some of which was rather monotonous and uninteresting, however, this did not spoil the expedition as a whole which went very smoothly without any major breakdown. The weather for the most part was good which helped make it an enjoyable trip.

I would thoroughly recommend this route to anyone, except perhaps the sections round Snowdon and along the coast from Portmadoc to Harlech. It should, however, be pointed out that parts of the tracks from Ffair rhos to Elan Village and through the Dovey forest were very steep and rough. It is hoped to run some similar expeditions in the future.

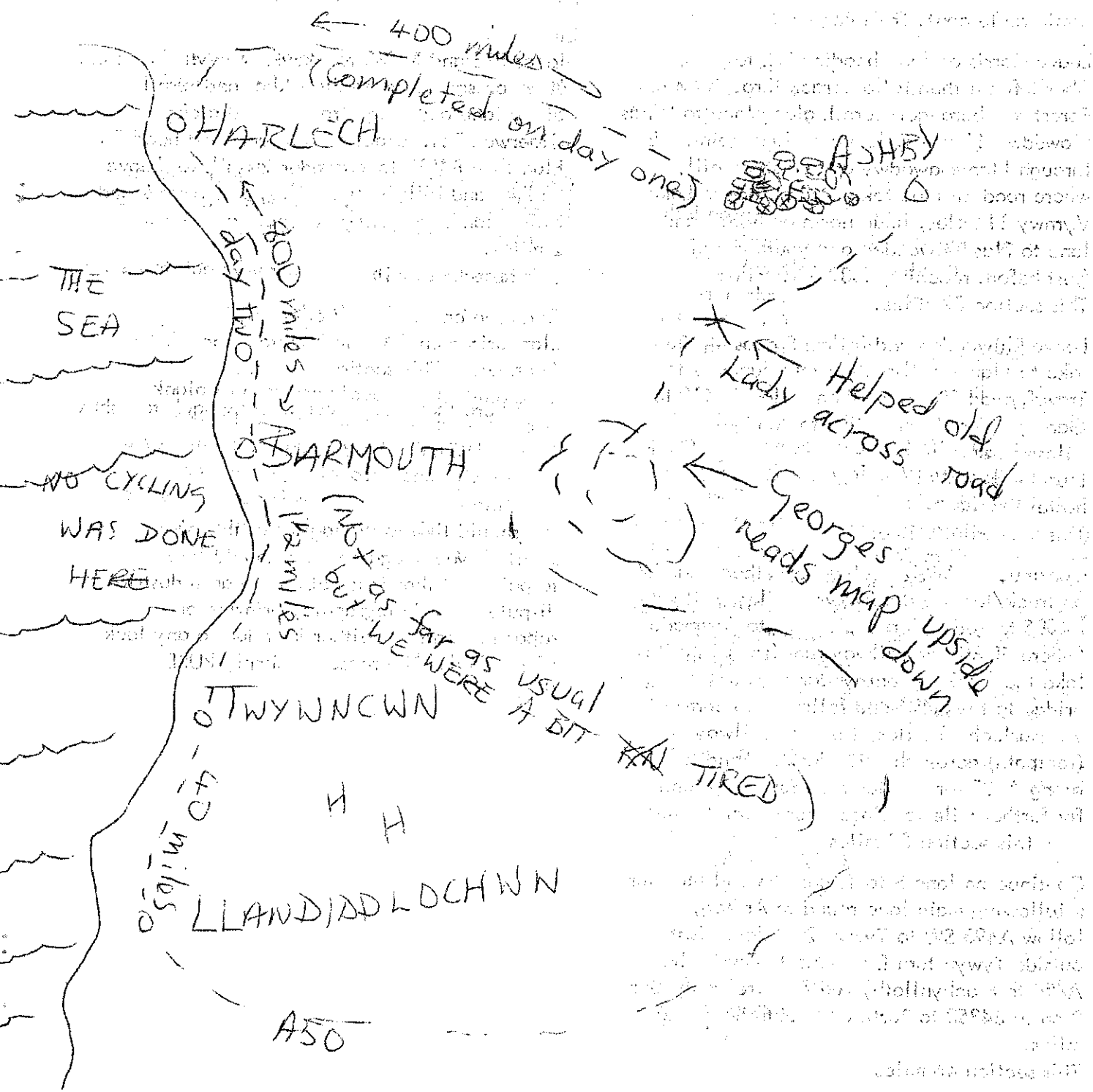
THE ROUTE TAKEN

From Ashby by car to Newtown (Powys) South on lane to Dolfor 4 miles, 5 miles S on A483 then turn Right on lane to Bwlch-y-Sarnau. Leave Won lane to B4518, turn S through St. Harmon to Rhayader 15 miles, leave on B4518 but turn R on to lane just outside town, head NW to Cwmystwyth 14 miles, continue on same lane to B4574 and follow to

Devils Bridge. Turn R on A4120 to Parsons Bridge footpath, follow to Ystumtuen and Youth Hostel 6 miles.
Distance this section 44 miles.

Ystumtuen to Pont-Erwyd by lane then turn N on lane to Nant-y-Moch Res. W on lane to Talybont 16 miles, NINE on A487 through Machynlleth to Pantperthig then lane to Corris 17 miles. This section 33 miles.

MAP TO CYCLING 1977



Cycle route cont. from page 11:

Leave Corris on lane heading NE to Aberllefenni then follow track through Dovey Forest to Aberangell turn L along lane to Dinas Mawddwy 11 miles, leave on lane going NE through Llanymawddwy and up steep hill, where road divides take R hand fork to Lake Vyrnwy 11 miles, head north on B4393 and lane to Plas Rhiwaedog and youth hostel. (just before reaching B4391) 10 miles.
This section 32 miles.

Leave Rhiwaedog and follow S coast on Bala lake to Llanuwchllyn then take lanes W to Trawsfynydd 20 miles, then follow B4410 to Garreg. Turn R on A4085 to Beddgelert 13 miles head NE on A498. At T junction turn L up Llanberis Pass to Pen-y-Pass youth hostel 9 miles.
This section 43 miles.

Continue on A4086 to Llanberis then head W on track/lane to Waunfawr 9 miles, follow A4085 to Beddgelert then A498 to Portmadoc (where Ffestiniog railway runs from) 16 miles, take the A487 to Penrhynardh go over the toll bridge to the A496 and follow it to Barmouth via Harlech 21 miles, take the railway bridge (footpath) across the river estuary and turn L along A439 for 4 miles then turn R up lane for further mile to Kings Youth Hostel 7 miles.
This section 53 miles

Continue on lane S to T junction and then turn R following main lane round to Arthog, follow A493 SW to Tywyn 20 miles. Just outside Tywyn turn E on lane to Cwrt, then A493 to Machynlleth, A487 to Tre'rddot turn R on to B4353 to Borth and youth hostel 26 miles.
This section 46 miles.

Borth SE to Llandre down A487 and A44 to Capel-Bangor 8 miles, follow lanes and A4120 SE to Llanfaihangell-y-Creuddyn then

lanes ESE and B4343 to Ysbyty Ystwyth 12 miles. Keep on same road to Ffair Rhos and turn L along lane and rough track to and along Claerwen Res. Meet road at dam and head E to Elan then B4518 to Rhayader 20 miles. Leave on A44 and follow for 6 miles, then turn L and follow lanes to Niant-y-Dernol youth hostel 2 miles.
This section 48 miles.

Continue on lane on W bank of River Wye to Llangurig then A492 to Newtown and A483 to Abermule. This section 28 miles.

From here there was a car journey back to Ashby.

TOTAL DISTANCE 327 miles

We should like to apologise for this blank space in your magazine and should like to point out that it is not due to an industrial dispute with photographic, printing or reporting staff. Neither is it due to any lack of material. The reason is simply PURE IDLENESS

SUMMER CAMP 1978 - CRAFNAW Gwynedd WALES

By (site position indicated on cycling map)

The week started out promisingly - clear skies, clean, dry clothes etc. Although the ground was soft a good spot was chosen for our tents etc. It was not the troop's first visit to the Welsh site, only a few miles from Barmouth. The previous Easter the site had been visited for the approval of the Patrol Leaders. The site itself was 'walled in' by a river on one side and a mountain on the other. It was near to being the ideal natural campsite with plenty of wood, water and spaces.

On a clear night one is treated to a spectacular view of the heavens - an incomparable array of stars with the Milky Way directly above spanning from horizon to horizon.

There was plenty of activity going on during the camp; the day started with a jogging session before breakfast and that was greeted with great enthusiasm. The rest of the day would be spent improving the site, hiking, swimming in a deep pool, doing badge work, wood collecting or one of the many other activities. A visit to Barmouth was also on the agenda followed by a night's bivouacing on the mountainside.

The event that made the week something of a rarity happened early in the morning - a sudden downpour of rain. One would see the occasional dead sheep tumble past in the once clear but now murky water. There was the obvious danger of scouts being washed away. One of the tents was "washed away" when a new river suddenly appeared stretching the length of the site. Wet clothes and some young scouts were taken down to the launderette in "Skip's Ark" while trenches were dug to hold back the water. But this incident only added to the fun. At least one can look back and laugh which cannot always be done with a dry camp.

BIVOUACING 1978 by

This was one of the many activities undertaken while at summer camp in Wales 1978. A bivouac is a temporary shelter built from natural or man-made materials or a combination of both.

Most, if not all of the scouts on this trip had never built such a shelter before. The materials used were: groundsheets, stones, ferns, sticks and string. The scouts had an hour or two (before it got dark) in which to build these shelters. Although half way up a mountain the site chosen had a sufficient quantity of the natural materials required. On the whole the bivouacs were very good for a first attempt, the only criticism being that they were too small for the numbers. It would have been more satisfactory, and perhaps quicker to have built several smaller shelters, each to house half the number of scouts. Consequently, due to the cramped conditions, not much sleep was had that night.

In the morning the site was cleared up, stones and other materials being returned to their previous positions. Then the hike back down the mountain for breakfast waiting at camp.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Depressed ? Lonely ? Worried ? ----- So am I

Marriage Advice Bureau. Strictest confidence - Contact the Dr. Crippen Society,
London Phone 999

VENTURE SCOUTS

By Gloria Toggie

The Venture unit has only just officially started although there have been venture scouts in Ashby since mid 1976. Since this time, there have been three or four attempts to get a unit properly established, all of which have been harassed by influential people, both within and outside the Hastings Group.

The first attempt was made in November, 1976 when attempts were made to set up a joint unit with the Ranger Guides. This went as far as having both long and short term programme worked out. The Ranger leaders inexplicably pulled out and the Ventures were prevented from accepting female members by the district (many Rangers approached us wishing to join the unit as Ventures).

Later in November the Ventures ran a patrol leaders training camp which was quite a success (the only one in these early days).

For the next two years nothing much happened. Despite attempts to establish and run the Unit properly, meetings were irregular and unsettled, there was no definite programme and the original leader left the district in June 1977 (not to be replaced until Easter 1979).

Among the few things that did happen was a cycling trip to the Peak District at Easter 1977.

In June 1978 another attempt was made to start a Venture Unit. There were only three members at the time. The award scheme was discussed and a rough, flexible programme was made. Meetings, although few, were regular, and some progress was made. This attempt seems to have worked and there should be another five members coming up from the Scout section this Easter, at which time the Unit will be officially recognised as being in existence.

There are several things happening at the moment, madazine production, cookery and expeditions being the main themes. A walking trip in the Peak District is going ahead this Easter and another to the Forest of Bowland is planned for August. A project which should get underway in the near future is the building of a go-cart.

It is expected that two or three Venture awards will be gained by the end of the year and several more in approximately a years time. There will, hopefully, be a few Queens Scouts in a couple of years also.

However, at present, the main concern is to maintain interest in the Unit and to increase membership with the aim of becoming a mixed unit by this time next year.

MAP TO WALKING EASTER 1 9 7 9

Ashby



Lunch at the
'Dog and Duck'
(lemonade +
CRISPS)

Open Easter
Eggs, two choruses
of 'I've got that
BP feeling'

OTHER ACTIVITIES

By Georges

Over the past few years the troop has participated in a number of other activities. These are normally carried out on other nights to meetings and have had a strong following.

CANOEING

Canoeing took place in the summers of 1977 and 1978 at the Staunton Harold lake. The Ivanhoe Canoe Club (of which the troop is a member) provided the canoes and an instructor whose help was most valuable. Several scouts became quite at home in the canoes and the weekly venture was enjoyed by all.

SHOOTING

In the Spring of 1977 air rifle shooting took place inside the Scout Hut. Each scout shot at targets from twenty five yards and at the end of the season a prize was awarded to Martin Carbert for the highest score attained with a set of six shots.

NIGHT HIKES

In recent months two night hikes have been arranged, both were enjoyed immensely by the scouts, young and old alike. The hikes would take the form of an eight or nine mile trek back into Ashby after being dropped off out in the countryside. On arrival the scouts would have a hot snack then sleep the rest of the night in the Scout Hut.

DROODLES

Identify the following:

- Answers:
1. Camel balancing books to improve posture
 2. Early bird who caught strong worm
 3. Lady wearing ultimate uplift bra
 4. Sliced golf ball

