

# Phillip Schofield & Co.

Chartered Valuation Surveyors  
Auctioneers & Estate Agents

SALES AND VALUATIONS  
OF  
RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL  
PROPERTY  
THROUGHOUT CALDERDALE AND  
KIRKLEES

102 Commercial Street, Brighouse. Telephone: 0484 719943

and

7 St. Peters Street, Huddersfield. Telephone: 0484 514949



Printed by Pennine Printing Services Ltd, Blackledge, Halifax

# 24th SOWERBY SCOUTS 5th SOWERBY GUIDES



# 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



# SOUVENIR BOOKLET



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

From: The Assistant Private Secretary to H.R.H. The Prince of Wales

19th April, 1982

Dear Mr Southwell,

Many thanks for your letter of 13th April. The Prince of Wales was delighted to hear that the 24th Sowerby St. Pauls Scout Group and Guide Company are celebrating their 50th Anniversary this year. His Royal Highness has asked me to pass on his congratulations and his very best wishes for the next 50 years.

Yours Sincerely  
Francis Cornish

David Southwell



Mr. L. E. FARRAR  
The Founder of  
The 24th Halifax  
Tuel Lane Methodist  
Scout Group  
1932

**TRIBUTE TO L. E. FARRAR by REGGIE LAW**

It is very true to say that Teddy Farrar, more than anyone else, was the prime mover in the formation of the 24th Halifax Scout Group, which in turn helped create the 5th Sowerby Bridge Guides and then the resulting sections.

Teddy who became affectionately known to many as "Skip" during his service to Scouting, firstly as Scoutmaster and then as Group Scoutmaster, was a person with a vision, which he tried to bring into being by his example of honesty and loyalty to all that the Scout Law meant, coupled with his ardent belief in the need for young people to be taught Christian principles. Attendance at Sunday School and Church, the first of which was essential in the early days, was a must before joining the Group.

His influence over countless young people has shown itself in the many ways that some of these have taken by following, themselves, in the leadership of youth in many ways.

We wish Teddy, in these days of illness, peace of mind and comfort and to say "WELL DONE SKIP" - Thanks for all you have done.

**Reggie Law -**

A member of the original troop

## A FEW WORDS FROM THE EDITOR . . . .

I was greatly honoured when asked by the Group to be Editor of this Souvenir Booklet. Digging deep into the past for information gave myself and Rodney a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction. As members of The 24th each for more than 30 years felt that we were well equipped with knowledge to do the job.

Our main fear was that we would concentrate too much on our Scouting days than on the years of others who had passed before us, this we have tried not to do too much. Some of the facts may not be exactly correct but please forgive us for any errors.

Most people consider Scouting in the past to have been better than it is today. This is not at all true, although some of my finest days were spent while in my 'teens and will never be taken from me. However, as a present day leader I must point out that for the young people of today Scouting is just as good and more likely to be better than things were 25 years ago. Today Scouting Standards are higher and must be to maintain success in this modern age of youth.

I will close my report by adding my congratulations to both our Units on this Our 50th Anniversary and also give, on behalf of us all, a welcome back to all past members, whom without there would not have been Scouting and Guiding at "Tuel Lane".

**DAVID SOUTHWELL**  
Akela of "Wolves" Cub Pack

Scouts



June, 1982.

TO: All Members of the 24th Sowerby St. Paul's Scout Group.

I am delighted to have this opportunity of sending my warmest congratulations to the 24th Sowerby St. Paul's Scout Group on such a splendid achievement as the celebration of your Fiftieth Anniversary. This is truly a magnificent record and one of which I am sure every past and present member of the Group must be very proud, especially your Group Founder, Mr. Teddy Farrar. It is sad to think that his loss of memory may prevent him from appreciating this milestone in the Group's history, but, who knows, perhaps some little thing may help him to remember.

At a time like this, it is good to look back and recall with gratitude all the friends, supporters and well-wishers of Scouting who have enabled the Group to play its part in the lives of young people in the Sowerby area over so many years. But we must also look forward to the future, for it is upon the foundations of Scouting laid today that the happiness and success of the Group will depend in the years to come.

My very best wishes to you all.

*Michael Walsh*

CHIEF SCOUT

## THE GROUP SCOUT LEADERS REPORT

It is with great pleasure that I write an introduction to this Brochure to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Scouting and Guiding at St. Paul's and Tuel Lane Methodist Churches.

As a recent "return to the fold" I have noticed many changes - some of which I like, and some that I wish hadn't happened. Gone are the distinctive green, orange and brown uniforms of 'Tuel Lane' to be replaced by LONG trousers and beige shirts, but, thankfully retaining the neckerchief. Gone, also, is the band as I used to know it - composed of at the most, five or six people whose knowledge and method of music was indeed limited! Now we have a fine band of strength whose music and quality puts the previous efforts to shame!

What have we now. Well, an extremely strong group of well over 100 scouts and leaders all intent on portraying for St. Paul's and Sowerby District the highest ideals of Scouting. Times change, and as I have said before, some of the changes I would have preferred not to see happen, but one has to move with the times. The strength of the group and, indeed the church itself, lies in the young people and with numbers increasing, even over the last 12 months, then the future of the 24th and St. Paul's looks encouraging. Let us hope that over the next 50 years that this strength in depth continues and encouragement is given to become part of the church in every sense of the word - for that was the object with which "Skip" Teddy Farrar set out.

I would just like to add my thanks to Rodney Oldfield and David Southwell for the invaluable hard work in compiling this brochure. Without them it would not have been possible - as indeed the 24th would not have been without "Skip".

I hope everyone enjoys the activities over this weekend of celebration.

**PHILLIP SCHOFIELD**



"The Group taken after the June Parade - 1982"

## JOHN CLAY - GROUP SCOUT LEADER 1957-1961

One thing that comes to mind when we think of John Clay was his efficiency in organising, he seemed to always have a little notebook with lists of people to see and items to discuss.

It was the same when going to camp, each day's programme was typed out and the daily menus prepared in advance, so that we all knew what was going on.

Many will recall John's wry sense of humour and infectious laugh and concern, not only as G.S.M. but also as Sunday School Secretary, for the welfare of those in his charge. He was always ready to offer a word of help and advice, and many young people have been richly blessed by having had the pleasure of his presence.



*Various Leader and Rover Crew Members at a Weekend at Crow Wood Park*

## REV. WHITFIELD RAINE - CHURCH MINISTER

In the year when Scouting and Guiding began at the former Tuel Lane Methodist Church, all the Methodist Churches in this town came, for the first time, under the jurisdiction of the same Conference.

Now that all the Methodist Churches in the town have come under one roof, we see how much we owe to the influence of Scouting and Guiding on the lives of so many people still committed in the service of Christ and his Church, for when former Guiders and Scouters renew their Promise at Scout and Guide Services, many of our most active members are among them.

If I had lived in Sowerby Bridge then I would just have been the right age to join the original Scout Troop, so it is unlikely that I will be able to have a share in your Centenary, but I hope that the next 50 years of Scouting and Guiding here may be as fruitful in producing men and women of character committed to the service of Church and Community. God Bless You.

## REUBEN HOLROYD

I could write a book on my many memories with the 24th, however, I have scribbled down the first thoughts that come to my mind.

Twenty five years ago as Senior Scout Leader the 24th celebrated their Silver Jubilee and the retirement of "Skip". Doubts were expressed as to the future of the Group without "Skip" at the helm, but during those 25 years he had firmly established high standards and ideals which carried on by the succeeding generation of leaders over the next 25 years to this Golden Jubilee.

I have many happy memories of the twenty years I was with the Group, ranging from wartime camps, where the campfires had to be put out at dusk, to the rather hairy adventures of the senior Scout Troop of the 50's and 60's. Many of my Senior Scouts have many happy memories too and occasionally tell me so, and while I listen intently to the tales of the good old days, my brain is working overtime trying to work out who this bald-headed portly fellow with face of whiskers really is? Best wishes for the celebrations.

**REUBEN HOLROYD**

(Former Senior Scout Leader)



*The Senior Troop of the late Fifties*

## REPORT BY JOHN LANE

Congratulations "24th" on reaching your 50th birthday - what a privilege it was to share some of those years with you and what memories you have given me. I will never forget the first District Parade to Rooley Lane, on a blazing hot morning or of the first Camp I attended at Copley. I have only to catch a whiff of woodsmoke to be carried back to those days. The special magic of the campfire (the warmth came from more than the flames) will never fade, indeed it grows stronger with the years. If one memory can sum up all it means to me, it's of a wet night in camp (yes, it did rain sometimes) through the wind and rain could be heard a cynical voice singing one of Ralph Reader's songs "These are the Days that we dream about"

"And Call Them the Good Old Days"

He was right you know - they ARE THE DAYS WE DREAM ABOUT they WERE THE GOOD OLD DAYS, "Thanks 24th"

"Thanks for the Memories"

**JOHN M. LANE**

Rover Mate 1958-1963

## HUNTERS HOOCH

*(A true tale by one who was there!)*

There was a scout camp long ago  
Where on the last day the food was low,  
So all that was left went into the pot,  
Spam, soup, bake beans, cornflakes, the lot.

As it was simmering and getting hot,  
Someone said "What are we to call this lot"  
Looking again at the bubbling gooch,  
Someone said, "I know, we'll call it hooch".

As we all sat down to dine  
One scout shouted "What's this in mine",  
We said, "don't worry it will be fine,"  
"What's one little greenfly from a pine"

Until we told the old old tale,  
And his little face went all pale,  
About a hunter searching in the stew,  
And he has been chosen from the few.

Hunter's Hooch was born that day,  
Although its been altered in many a way,  
And it served for quite a few years,  
With no-one? feeling any the worse.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to have been connected with the 24th over the past years.  
The friends I have gained have remained.

### RODNEY S. OLDFIELD

(Ex-24th Scout & Leader  
Presently A.D.C. Cub Scouts Sowerby District)

I was connected as an active member of the 24th Scout Group for a period of 8 years.

I started by just helping Norman Lane one night with the Scouts to make Gypsy Bread. Little did I realise that this small helping hand would turn into 8 years of total involvement with a group of such high standards as the 24th had at that time.

I was assistant to 3 Scout Leaders before taking over the group Scout Leader position to allow Norman to convert Tuel Lane Church into the St. Paul's that we know today.

During my term as G.S.L. we had to move up to Bolton Brow Church while St. Paul's was born. I have very many happy memories of my time with the 24th the Leaders, the boys and a very active parents committee which made for a few years of pleasure that I will always remember.

**J. BAKE**  
(Ex- G.S.L.)



*The "Arab" Tent and Senior Troop  
- Pecket Well 1956*

## SUSAN M. OLDFIELD - C.S.L. "Hounds"

It has been my privilege to have been connected with the 24th over the last good few years.

Quite a few incidents stand out in my mind. Not the least being when one of the cubs (my only accident) broke his arm. That is bad enough any time, but this was on Rodney's Bachelor Night out - which meant I was on my own, all alone with 24 cubs and one broken armed. What shall I do. Luckily Roland Smith came to the rescue (he had to be called out of a choir rehearsal going on upstairs).

There was a time at Bradley Wood whilst camping with the cubs I nearly knocked over a little cub who was stood at the entrance of my tent clutching a handful of bluebells, dandelions, etc. who had collected them for me. He said he had been knocking on the tent door for ages, but I must not have heard him. These and many other incidents have made it all worthwhile for me.

The cub section is very strong at the moment with two healthy cub packs "Hounds" and "Wolves". I am sure that we are in a strong position to go forward to the next 50 years and more. Congratulations good luck for the future.

**SUSAN M. OLDFIELD -**  
(Cub Scout Leader "Hounds" Pack)

## THE "BROW HIKE" JOHN AND KATHRYN CLAY

The Brow Hike was started by the Scouts at Bolton Brow Methodist Church in 1962, and was revived by the Sowerby Bridge Venture Unit in the early 70's and became the property of the 245 Eagles Venture Unit in 1973, originally it was a hike just for teams of scouts, but it is now open to both Guide and Boys Brigade teams. This annual event, now held on the last weekend in March, consists of a 25 mile hike around the old Sowerby Bridge boundary, with an overnight camp, and incidents at several checkpoints. Points are allocated for both walking speed and incidents, with trophies being awarded to the first Scout, Guide and Boys Brigade Teams. The hike, which now averages 25 teams annually, has earned a good reputation for the 24th and many thanks are expressed to all the helpers, many who come back year after year, who make this such a successful event enjoyed by all who participate.

**JOHN & KATHRYN CLAY**

## REPORT BY NORMAN LANE

Scouting is important because of the impact it can have on Society. The Christian based principles laid down by the founder seek to direct young developing minds and skills towards service in the community.

This does of course require good leadership and the 24th has over the years seen so many of its members take on responsibilities within the Group, District and County administrations.

Many of these fellow Scouts will no doubt be recalling the effect the founding leader of the 24th had on their lives. I particularly remember his efforts to draw youngsters' attention to the Scout Promise and their duty to God. His example of dedication to Scouting through a Christian way of life is one which many have admired and sought to emulate. Long may his example be remembered and long may the 24th continue in its work of helping young boys into Christian manhood.

**NORMAN LANE**  
(Assistant District Commissioner  
Scouting 1948/58 - G.S.L. 1974-1978)



*The last Rover Crew Christmas Dinner 1964 - Moorcock Inn, Norland*

## **MEMORIES FROM THE PAST**

### **Scout Troop Camp - Buckden 1960**

As usual the Troop attended Church - Buckden Methodist Church, for morning worship on Whit Sunday. The 30 or so members of our Group swelled the congregation by about 300%

The Minister announced the offertory hymn and an open plate was passed round by the Stewards, Scout Leaders quickly handed round a few pennies to odd Scouts without any money. We hadn't allowed for one young Scout "tenderfoot" for when the plate was passed to him, and in the stillness of the church he said, "can you give me 19/11 change please for this £1 note?" The Steward gave him the change, and everyone in the Church turned to look and we all cringed.

**JOHN S. MITCHELL**  
(Cub Leader 1957-1961)

## **REPORT FROM GARY SMITH**

As a Cub, Scout, Senior Scout, Rover, A.S.M. and S.M. with the 24th over a period of some 15 years, I have a lot for which to thank the Group. It gave me a glimpse of an adventurous life which in the late fifties, unlike today, was only available through Scouting. Now schools and other youth organisations, realising what a good thing the Scout Association was on to, offer much the same adventure pursuits, but they still cannot match the brotherhood offered by the Scouts.

I think that it is the Brotherhood of Scouting that draws us all back to Tuel Lane, because after all it is only a building, but on returning, every door and corner rings with happy memories of my childhood. Memories that with the passage of time seem ever happier than they may really have been. The smell of damp canvas ropes, smoke in your eyes round the camp fires, and rides to camps on the backs of waggons, - where has all the adventure gone in our lives today. We had to clean our black billies until you could see yourself in the bottom before R.S.O. would agree that they were clean. Swimming at Pecket Well, canoeing on the Calder, Camp Gateways at District Camps, Biscuit tin ovens, jam rolls cooked in a string vest - all are things I remember well.

As soon as I put my pen to the paper the happy memories came flooding back - may the 24th St. Paul's Group go forward from strength to strength giving pleasure to the boys of the future in the same way as it did to me and the hundreds of boys who have been members over the past fifty years.

**GARY SMITH**  
(Ex All.)

### **JOHN S. MOORE - District Commissioner**

It is with great pleasure that I put pen to paper and add my congratulations to the 24th Sowerby St. Paul's (Tuel Lane) Scout Group and the 5th Sowerby Bridge Guides and Brownies.

Scouting has grown as a worldwide organisation and as its development has taken place so has the development of the groups of St. Paul's. Many leaders and supporters have given thousands of hours during the last 50 years and I must congratulate them for the standard which has been obtained by the Group.

As Anniversaries come and go, we often see Groups which have a long history of success beginning to fade with the years, but this is not so at St. Paul's, in fact the Group is going from strength to strength and the standards are improving year by year.

Once again on behalf of all the Scouts and Leaders in the Sowerby District, Congratulations and keep up the good work.

**JOHN S. MOORE**  
(District Commissioner)

**PETER WHITE  
(GENERAL CONTRACTOR) LTD.**

PLUMBING · HEATING · ELECTRICAL  
JOINERY · BUILDING

*Registered Office:*  
**26 SANDBEDS ROAD, PELLON**

Office: Tel. Halifax 61560  
Homes: Halifax 61954 or 76887

**J. W. Trotter**  
*ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR*

11 THE DOB · DOB LANE · SOWERBY  
SOWERBY BRIDGE

Tel: Halifax 31090

(By Royal Appointment to Mend)



*The Mixed Venture Scout Unit "245 Eagles" taken June Parade 1982*

**SCOUT HUT ELTERWATER**

This small camping hut was placed on its present site - a piece of National Trust land in Fletchers Wood near Elterwater in 1953 by Crossley & Porter School Scout Troop. When this Troop disbanded in 1975 the hut was offered to the 24th and gratefully accepted.

Officially it accommodates five persons for sleeping purposes. Cooking and lighting are by calor gas. Constant running (cold) water is provided by a small stream which passes two yards from the front (and only) door.

Since its acquisition the hut has provided an excellent base for hiking in the Lake District and has been regularly used and maintained by the Venture Unit.

**KATH WOMERSLEY**  
(Assistant Venture Scout Leader)

**SHORT REPORT - PETER WATSON / FRANK MILNER**

On behalf of our County Commissioner and myself, may we offer you our Congratulations and Best Wishes on this splendid achievement of 50 years of Scouting at St. Paul's - Sowerby.

**PETER WATSON** - Deputy County Commissioner  
**FRANK MILNER** - County Commissioner



*The Group in the Queen's Silver Jubilee Year - 1977*



*The Brownies of the late fifties*



*"Rover Ranger Rioting" late thirties*



*Rover Crew set off for Goole on rafts. Easter early sixties*



*The Group - Coronation Year 1953*



*Guide & Scout Leader meet Mr. Gerry Denholme, District Commissioner Halifax 1958*



*The Ranger Guides shortly before they turned over to Girl Venture Scouts*

**"BE PREPARED"**  
to come to the Annual  
**Tea, Concert**  
AND  
**Prize Distribution**

which will be held in the  
**Tuel Lane Methodist Schoolroom,**  
**On Saturday, March 4th, 1933**

Tea on the tables at 4.30 p.m.  
Doors open at 4.15 p.m.

**Charge for Adults, 1/-; Children 6d.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**THE CONCERT**  
which will commence at 6.30 p.m., will be given by the  
**BOY SCOUTS,**  
and will include:-  
Camp Fire Scenes, Choruses, Songs, Recitals, Displays,  
Swedish Drill, Club Swinging, Stave Drill, etc.

Chairman - Rev. A. BARNLOW.

There will be a Collection only, for the Concert.

**PRIZE DISTRIBUTION TO FOLLOW.**  
**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

J. Akroyd, Stationer.

*1933 Concert Poster*

# M. D. REDDY

*Painting Contractor*

23 GLEANINGS AVENUE  
NORTON TOWER  
HALIFAX  
Tel: Halifax 67551

## MOORE'S

CONFECTIONERY AND CATERING SERVICES

JOHN & YVONNE MOORE  
"Heathcliffe"  
79 Claremont Villas  
Beech Road  
Sowerby Bridge  
HX6 2PQ  
Tel. HX. 39846



## THE 24th SOWERBY ST. PAUL'S SCOUT TROOP

Our Membership is around twenty and we are becoming more adventurous. The Spring Bank Camp has developed back to the standards of the late fifties and sixties. From a four day camp at Pecket Well in 1980 we have progressed to a week in Scotland and six nights at Edale (the start of the Pennine Way)

Activities have included, skiing at the dry slope in Rossendale, Canoeing down the Calder and sleeping on the top of Pen-y-Ghent. The troop enters all the local scouting events for example "the Brow Hike" in which we have come 1st, 2nd and 4th in the last few years. In recent years we have been positioned 1st, 2nd and 3rd over the last two years.

Our best recent achievement will be in October when three of our Scouts will achieve their Chief Scout Award, the highest award they can gain in the Scout Troop.

**STEVE HICKMAN**  
(Scout Troop Leader)



*The Troop on a recent Camp at Pecket Well - 1980*



*The Club Scouts taking part in the Annual Go Kart Rally at Crow Wood Park*

# You can't improve on Wade

## Specialists in home improvements and Grant work

- Grant Work
- Dormer Conversions
- Purpose-made Joinery
- Home Extensions
- Fitted Furniture
- Plastering

Wade Joiners  
and Contractors

Quarry Hill, Sowerby Bridge,  
West Yorkshire, HX6 3BQ  
Telephone: Halifax (0422)  
33044 and 32917



### THE PRESENT DAY ST. PAULS SCOUT & GUIDE BAND

Over the past few years the band has changed its style from pure military to Drum Corps - an American influence. Our drum section has seen the addition of five tin toms and a bongo cluster. This changes the overall sound of the band giving much more depth and variety.

The band is made up of around 20 Scouts and Guides, giving us a fairly good strength to enter such competitions as the Indoor and Outdoor West Yorkshire Scout Band Competition, coming 7th and 4th respectively. The band has also attended many other Galas and Scout functions.

To round off the year, the band will enter the Brighthouse North of England Band contest and the Cleethorpes Open Youth Band Championships, the first time in four years that we have left West Yorkshire to enter a competition.

**STEVE HICKMAN**  
(Band Leader)



*The Modern Day Scout & Guide Band playing at the Piece Hall, Halifax 1982*



*The Sowerby Bridge District Band of the past before the start of the Coronation Procession - 1953*

## MEMORIES OF THE PAST . . .

### Troop Camp at Crimsworth Dean (1959)

The Rover Mate (John Lane) with reluctance agreed to purchase the food for the weekend Camp. On establishing camp it was apparent we had an abundance of sausage, bacon and a large white cabbage. The Officers tried every method known to cook the stuff to get rid of it, but still there was no way of using all this food over the weekend. The sausage and bacon was eaten well into the early hours of both Saturday and Sunday mornings and a game of football was held using a cabbage.

When the day of reckoning came, a loss of £5 had been made on the food bill. Rover Crew members and Troop Officers grudgingly agreed to contribute in a whip-round (10/- each while the balance would be made up by the Rover Mate).

**G. M. MICHELL**  
(Cub Leader - 1957-61)

## HUMOUR

It was the longest thunderstorm I have ever lived through - about 17 hours. We had a Group Camp at Bradley Woods and Saturday had been warm and humid. During a campfire Sing to which the Guides came the approaching storm gave ample warning of what we could expect. By bedtime the heavens opened and the storm broke, cracks and bangs of frightening proportions assailed our ears and eyes. Lightning hit the tall electric pylons, tents were moved, tents folded up - monsoon tested or not.

In the morning, but very reluctantly, heads and bodies began to come out from behind tent flaps and an attempt was made to light a fire. After a lot of patience, a fire was however started, and at last bacon could be smelled cooking. I asked a Scout "Edwin" to fill a billycan with water and put it on the fire for me, with the intention of making a cup of tea. Next time I looked round he had poured the water all on the fire and the fire was steaming.

As Professor Joad used to say "it all depends on what you meant by put it on the fire".

**TONY HAIGH**  
(Former Scout Master of 24th Halifax)

## THE CALDERDALE HIKE

The Calderdale Hike was the brainchild of Peter White (the then Scout Master of the 24th). It is a 50 mile hike against the clock around the Calderdale Way, which was opened as a long-distance footpath in October 1978. The first Calderdale Hike was held in April 1979 for which we had 450 entrants with our own Rodney Oldfield being Hiker No. 1. Much planning goes into the hike, and it has become a prestige event for the 24th with Service teams, (who man the check-points) and competitors coming from throughout England. The event has been held each April since 1979, except for 1981 when freak snowstorms led to the hike being cancelled; the fastest time yet recorded was 7 hours 28 mins. in 1982.

**JOHN AND KATHRYN CLAY**

## SCOUTING AT TUEL LANE DURING THE YEARS OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Although we are celebrating 50 years of Scouting at Tuel Lane from 1932, we would like it to go on record that a Scout Troop existed also between around 1914 until 1918 from which the roots of today's Group started to grow. Some of the facts may not be quite correct but as far as we can tell the facts have been cross-checked with more than one person's memories. The Group was the 18th Halifax and was started by the Rev. H. B. Coventry. Scout Master was Clarence Brown (Willie Brown's brother). The patrols were Rattlesnakes, Otters, Beavers and Wood Pigeons.

Names of some of the Scouts - Birch Bentley, Harry Reddon, Ernest Wild, Harold Holroyd, Jimmy Horsfall, Teddy Farrar, George Bottomley, Harvey Whiteley, two-Greenwood lads, Cecil Crowther, Arthur Bateson, Willie Brown, Maurice Fishwick, Stephen Shaw and P. L. - Tucker.

Group uniform consisted of khaki shirt, all brown necker and dark blue trousers. The Group's equipment was scout poles and an old handcart from Dyson's plasterers, digging and tea-making tackle.

Some of the events the boys attended were at camp at Rough Hey Wood at which the battle of the Scout poles took place? A rally at Coley where our lads arrived late due to a scout being taken ill (all had to walk). The Halifax District Commissioner Rev. Henry Ironmonger was very annoyed because one of the Halifax's best teams had not arrived on time and it is believed that after the words which followed our Troop was thrown out of the district? Also some of our lads went to the "Wall" and the Troop had to fold up until October 1932 when one of its original members Mr. L. E. (Skip) Farrar reformed the Group as the 24th Halifax (Tuel Lane Methodists).

*For most of this information our thanks go out to Mr. W. P. Brown and to Mr. Stephen Shaw.*

Early in 1932 the Church leaders agreed to sponsor a Scout Troop under the leadership of Teddy Farrar. A little later the Rover Crew was formed with the Rev. W. Cass as S.L. and myself as A.R.S.L.

Initially there were twelve Rovers, three of whom had experience as Scouts with the 38th Halifax, the Sowerby Bridge Secondary School Troop. Of these Ernest Brunning and John B. Sutcliffe became the first Kings Scouts in the Troop.

The Rover Scout Motto was 'Service' and the Crew was very active, winning the Percy Waiting Trophy for hiking, - camping, instructing in the Troop, and combining with the Guide Company in fund-raising Concerts and Charitable efforts. These are all recorded in the old Log Books which have fortunately survived.

A Rover Den was acquired on Bright Street and this became the centre for Crew activities. It is impossible to estimate the number of boys who have been influenced by Scouting at Tuel Lane over the past 50 years - but long may the Group flourish to influence the coming generations with all that is best in Scouting.

**Jack Boocock**

## **B. A. NOBLE**

*Plumbing & Heating Engineer*

5 HEBBLE GARDENS  
WHEATLEY · HALIFAX  
Telephone: 65912

## **SUSAN**

12 Tower Hill  
Sowerby Bridge  
Tel: Halifax 31461

*Ladies Hairstylist ·  
Experts in all Hair Care*

## **SUE HIGGINS**

I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to St. Paul's Methodist Church Guide Company and the two Brownie packs, on their 50th Anniversary.

It would be appropriate at this time to remember the founder guider at St. Paul's, the late Mrs. Marjorie Schofield, also to thank all the leaders who have successfully run these units over the years, including the present guiders. Because of their interest in the Guide movement, a large number of girls have been able to enjoy many activities not provided for elsewhere.

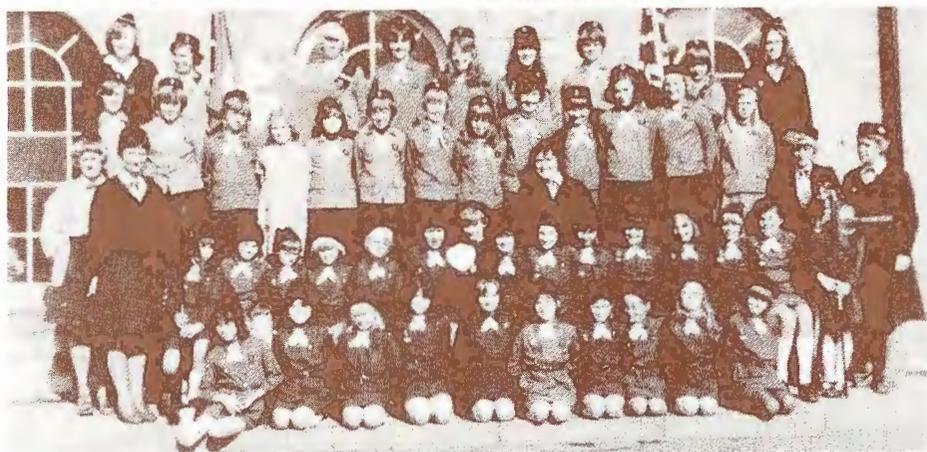
I am looking forward to attending the special service at St. Paul's and also the celebration dinner at the end of October - and in conclusion I would like to wish you all many more happy years of Guiding in these units.

**SUE HIGGINS**

(Sowerby Division Commissioner)



*The Guides & Brownies on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary - 1957*



*The Guides & Brownies during the Queen's Silver Jubilee Year - 1977*

## REPORT BY DOROTHY CLAYTON

Fifty years ago the 5th Sowerby Bridge Guide Unit came into being with Mrs. Margery Schofield as Guide Captain. The uniform has changed and the name of the leader, but the aims and principles of Guiding are the same.

Many girls have gone far and wide, Australia, America, Africa and other parts of the world, remembering the time they spent with the Guides and Leaders at Tuel Lane - now St. Paul's.

The girls of today still like to go camping and sing songs round the campfire at night with a pot of cocoa, or hiking - be it wet or fine.

I have much to thank my predecessors for and may the 5th Sowerby Bridge Guide Unit continue and celebrate their Centenary.

Congratulations also to the Scouts on their 50th Birthday and may they also go on for another 50 years.

**DOROTHY CLAYTON**  
Guide Captain since 1964



*The Guide Company taken June Parade 1982*



*The Guides and Brownies taken June Parade 1982*

## REPORT FROM ELIZABETH HULL

Fifty years ago, a lady had heard of a good idea. She understood it was called Guiding, as everyone around her said 'something like Scouts, you know, only girls'.

That lady saw an idea of worth - had the courage to join - work for it - encourage others to nurture and support the idea.

Leaders have followed in her footsteps and may other Leaders continue.

Congratulations and best wishes to St. Paul's Guide Unit.

**ELIZABETH HULL**

County Commissioner - West Yorkshire

## REPORT - BRENDA STEAD

What can you remember about the Guides when you were Guide Lieutenant? This is the question I was asked when it was discovered that the letter from Nancy (née Crapper) was lost in the post. As Nancy and her husband and family had returned to Africa it was too late for her to write again.

What could I remember about the fifties, well two completely different experiences came immediately to mind. The first was the great thrill of meeting Lady Baden-Powell when she visited Princess Mary High School in 1957 and the excitement of the Rally at Odsal Stadium when we marched past her carrying the Banner for the West Riding (N.W.) Section and two of our Guides were in the Pageant.

The other unforgettable memory was of a day trip to Scarborough when the Guides swarmed over the walls of the castle like a hoard of invading blue bottles, whilst two red faced leaders calmed down the irate gateman and paid up the entrance fees. You certainly had to "Be Prepared" for anything and it is still a good motto and a good training for life.

**BRENDA STEAD**

Former Guide Lieutenant



*Some of our Guides meet Lady Baden-Powell at Halifax*

As Guide Leader in 1939 I would like to include this record of a Guide meeting - which may be of interest to today's members:

**43 YEARS AGO**

*Guide meetings in 1939 were on Wednesday evenings.*

*The patrols were Pimpernel, Poppy, Primrose and Snowdrop - we wore embroidered badges depicting our flowers. Inspection took into account hair to shoes, ties which were triangular folded into a strip and secured with a reef knot under the collar - if the knot was a granny we lost a point - pocket contents had to include a clean handkerchief, safety pin, pencil, scrap paper and piece of string. Our subs were 1d. paid to the patrol leader with a salute.*

**JOSEPHINE MARY SYKES**

Guide Leader - back in 1939

*They'll be coming up the Valley*

*Coming up the valley*

*Coming to the rising of the Sun -*

Or - rather to the Rover-Ranger Conferences held in Sowerby Bridge in 1954, 1955, 1956. Four hundred Rovers and Rangers gathered for a weekend of serious discussion, dance and song. The meeting place was the Princes Hall, the month - March. The cost was 12/6 - 15/- in 1956.

The opening session on Saturday afternoon was attended by V.I.P.'s from all over. Our very first theme for the weekend was "Duty to God" and the evening was taken up with dancing and camp fire songs.

The feeding arrangements were in local school dining rooms. The sleeping arrangements to say the least were spartan; Bolton Brow, Sowerby New Road, Tuel Lane and Friendly Sunday Schools.

The first Church Service was held at Tuel Lane - preceded by a parade from Station Road with the Tuel Lane Scout Band leading the procession.

We had our own Conference Flag. "Reet grand to see t'Church so full of young folk" commented one senior church member. It gave me as application secretary, a great thrill to think I had a hand in bringing them together from all over the country. The following years the main Services were held at Christ Church and Bolton Brow. The Roman Catholics having their own service at St.Patricks.

The instigator of the whole idea was John Clay (Senior) who was then Rover Leader at Tuel Lane, and after visiting several conferences at Huddersfield we thought we could do as well at Sowerby Bridge. A committee was formed, many friendships formed and the rest followed.

*"They'll be going down the Valley,*

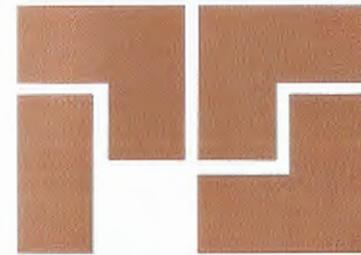
*Going down the Valley*

*Going to the setting of the Sun"*

Along with a certain landmark at the corner of Tuel Lane, a Barbers Pole . . . .

**YVONNE SMITHIES**

Former Ranger Leader



**Preservation  
Systems  
(Yorkshire) Limited**

SPECIALIST INSTALLERS

OF

DAMP PROOF COURSES

ERADICATION

AND

TREATMENT OF ALL TYPES

OF TIMBER DISEASE

**FREE SURVEYS**

Breck Top Farm

Stocks Lane · Mount Tabor

Halifax

West Yorkshire

Telephone: (0422) 884284