

## 70th Renfrewshire (Finnart)

### Scout Group

### Committee

### Minute Book

Year 1965/66

#### Committee

Tel. No.

Convener	J.E. Lind	161 Newark St. Greenock	31553
Treasurer	J.A. Johnston	2 Golf Place Greenock	24158
Secretary	W.B. Cram	71, South St. Greenock	20998
	Mrs. Jas. Black	28, Esplanade Greenock	21067
	Mrs. J. Flockhart	12 Lylefoot Crescent Greenock	24053
	Mrs. D. Lyon	45, Newark St. Greenock	
	Mrs. W.I. Martin	23, Bentinck St. Greenock	21145
	Mrs. F. Morrison	101, Newark St. Greenock	31438
	Mrs. J.A. Gunn	<del>138 Finnart St. Greenock</del>	<del>22162</del>
		Woodside, 68 Reservoir Rd, Gourrock	32188
	Miss I.M. McBride	15, Ardgowan St. Greenock	22527
	Mr. K. Conway	1, Drums Ter. Greenock	32074
	Mr. J.M. Kirk	12, Bedford St.	21501
	Mr. D.S. Malcolm	73, Forsyth St.	20876
	Mr. R. Miller	18, Johnston St.	22784
	Mr. J.B. Thomson	30, Esplanade	21963
	Mrs. A. Patrick	2, Kincaid St. (resigned from Feb 1966)	31945
	Mrs. H.M. Fraser	9, Welbeck St. (Co-opted 1/12/65)	23767

#### Representing Finnart Church

Mr W.D. Laurie      Biannean, 132, Newton St.      20791

#### *Editorial Note*

*This Minute Book covers the period 1965-1968. The purpose of this Committee was to raise funds towards the building of a Scout HQ for the 70<sup>th</sup> Group. As well as raising funds, the committee dealt with the paperwork and the coordination of the building project. Appendix 1 provide shorts summaries of the individuals identified within the minutes book.*

## **Minutes of Meeting held on 2nd June 1965**

All the members of the committee were present with the exception of Mr. Kirk and of Mr. Kirk and Mr Malcolm from whom apologies were received.

In attendance Mr. W.D. Laurie.

The following appointments were made.

Convener	Mr. J.E. Lind
Treasurer	Mr. J.A. Johnston
Secretary	Mr. W.B. Cram.

It was decided that the Committee be known as The 70th Renfrewshire (Finnart) Scout Group Committee.

Following a formal discussion on the object of the Committee to raise £1000 to £1500<sup>1</sup> in one year for the Group Headquarters Fund, it was resolved;

(1) That members of the Committee should visit all the parents within the next week to explain the object and to endeavour to enlist maximum support for the project, particular care to be exercised to explain the weekly 2/6 donation<sup>2</sup>.

(2) That immediate steps be taken to advise the Management of Finnart Church of the project and to request their permission to send out an appeal by circular for the support of Finnart Church members.

(3) That a Current or Deposit Account as required to be opened with the Royal Bank of Scotland, Greenock in the name of 70th Renfrewshire (Finnart) Scout Group Committee, and that the account(s) be operated on jointly by Mr. James A. Johnston Hon. Treasurer, and Mr William B. Cram, Hon. Secretary or their successor or successors in office.

### Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was fixed for 9th June 1965.

J.E. Lind  
Chairman.

### **Editorial Comments for 2nd June 1965**

*1. The sum of £1000-£1500 in 1965 had the equivalent value of £24,266 – £36,400 today (as of 2024). The initial estimate for the cost of converting an old Civil Defence building into a Scout HQ was £4000 (equivalent in value to £97,000 today, as of 2024). The actual sum ended up being £8,000 (equivalent in value to £194,000 today, as of 2024).*

*2. The sum of 2/6 in 1965 had the equivalent value of £3 today (as of 2024). It had been decided at a meeting for all parents that the weekly subscriptions for Cubs and Scouts attending Pack and Troop meetings would be increased fivefold from sixpence a week to 2/6 per week for the duration of the 1965/66 Scout year. Provision would be made for any families unable to afford that cost. Parents were also given the option of paying an annual subscription of £6-10-0 (equivalent in value to £158 today (as of 2024)).*

## Minutes of Meeting held on 9th June 1965

All the members of the Committee were present with the exception of  
Mrs. Gunn  
Mr Conway, Mr Kirk  
from whom apologies had been received.

### Visits to Parents.

From the reports submitted on the visits made to parents, the Committee concluded;

1 Parents generally did not object to the proposed increase from 6<sup>d</sup> to 2/6 weekly in the Cubs and Scouts subscriptions. Twenty six parents indicated their intention to commute the payment on the basis of £6-10/- for the year.<sup>1</sup>

2 It appeared that the majority would support Fund raising efforts organised by the Group, but it was not clear how many were prepared to organise functions on their own or in small groups.

<u>3</u> The income estimated for the year was:-	£
from Commuted subscriptions of £6-10/-	170
from Weekly subscriptions of 2/6	140
from Cub Funds	100
from Scout projects <sup>2</sup>	130
from Coffee mornings etc	60
from Group Coffee morning <sup>3</sup>	30
Group Fete	<u>200</u> <sup>4</sup>
	<u>830</u>

### Sale of Work / Fete

The under noted sub-committee was appointed to examine the possibility of organising a large scale Sale of Work or Fete during the winter of 1965/66.<sup>4</sup>

Mrs. Martin	Mr. Johnston
Mrs. Flockhart	Mr. Miller
Miss McBride	Mr. W. Cram

J.E. Lind  
Chairman

### **Editorial Comments for 9<sup>th</sup> June 1965**

*1. The increased Subscriptions were paid throughout the 1965/66 session only. See also note 1 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965.*

*2. This may refer principally to jumble sales, Bob-a-Job week and the sale of pens.*

*3. It's not clear what the distinction was between a Group Coffee morning and normal coffee mornings. The former was clearly anticipated to bring in more money and this was the case in practice. One possibility is that the Group Coffee Morning included tables where home baking and other goods were sold.*

*4. The fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024).*

## Minutes of Meeting held on 28th July 1965.

Present E.J. Lind. Convenor  
(9) Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Patrick, Mrs. Gunn, Miss McBride,  
Mr. Conway, Mr. Nisbet, Mr. A. Cram, Mr. J.A. Johnston, Mr. W.B. Cram.

Apologies Mrs. Lyon, Mr. Thomson, Mr. Laurie, Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Kirk,  
(11) Mrs. Flockhart, Mr. Miller for whom Messrs. Nisbet and A. Cram deputised as  
Scouters.

Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on 9th June were read, approved and signed.

### Conversion of Civil Defence Building.

It was reported that Mr. Thomson had submitted a preliminary drawing showing that it would be practicable to convert the existing building at a considerable saving in cost.

### Financial Report.

The Treasurer reported receipt of the following;

(1) from Cubs and Scouts	75-8-3
(including commuted payments.)	
(2) Sale of pens by Cubs and Scouts <sup>1</sup>	32- 3-0.
(3) from Seal Patrol <sup>2</sup> per Mrs. Conway	<u>20-0-0</u>
	<u>127- 11-3.</u>

### Report of Sub Committee.

The recommendations of the sub-committee on the functions to be held during the winter for 1965/66 were accepted. These are listed below with the sub-committees appointed.

It was agreed that the Secretary should send a circular<sup>3</sup> to all parents.

<u>Approx. Date.</u>	<u>Function.</u>	<u>Sub-committee.</u>
1965		
Oct/Nov.	Concert – Greenock Male Voice Choir <sup>4</sup>	W.B. Cram, Mrs Martin, Mrs Morrison.
Nov.	Show by Cubs and Scouts produced by Mrs. Bruce. <sup>5</sup>	Scouters, R Miller, Miss I. McBride.
1966		
Feb.	Entertainment produced by Mr. Brown <sup>6</sup>	Mrs. Patrick, Mrs. Gunn, Mr. Conway.
1965/6		

Nov./early Dec. 1965 Sale of work.<sup>7</sup>

Tea room.	Mrs. Flockhart
Baking/Confections	Mrs. Martin
Soft Goods.	Mrs. Morrison.
White Elephant. <sup>8</sup>	Mrs. Patrick/Mrs. Lyon.
Groceries.	Mrs. Gunn/Mrs. Black.
Bottle Stall. <sup>9</sup>	Mr. Malcolm/Mr. Kirk.
Games etc. <sup>10</sup>	Mr. Conway/Mr. Miller.

Miss McBride agreed to ask Mr Lyle to find out cost of Town Hall Saloon for a Sale of Work / Fete.

J.E. Lind.

### Editorial Notes for 28<sup>th</sup> July 1965

- 1. The pens had an unusual triangular shape and were coloured blue and white with 'Finnart Scout Group' inscribed on them. Cubs and Scouts sold the pens for 1/- each to friends, relations and school mates. A total of £63 was eventually raised from this effort – the equivalent of £1471 today (as of 2024).*
- 2. The Seal Patrol had a Patrol Meeting to decide on a variety of fund raising ideas then 'terrorised' the neighbourhood extorting money from their victims. Graham Patrick remembers that one of the fund raising ideas was to fill a large glass bottle with jelly beans and to go round the neighbours challenging them to estimate how many jelly beans were in the bottle. A certain sum had to be paid for each guess and whoever came closest to the actual number of jelly bean would win the bottle and its contents. The winner was declared at another Patrol Meeting in George Conway's house and turned out to be a rather delighted 11-year old Graham Patrick. Graham's delight didn't last long though as his P.L. (George Conway) said that it would not be right for a member of the Patrol to win the prize. The Seal Patrol was the only Patrol reported to have carried out fund-raising activities towards the Scout HQ Fund.*
- 3. No copy of that circular has been found to date.*
- 4. The performance by the Greenock Male Voice Choir took place at Trinity Church Hall on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 1965 and raised £29 (equivalent to about £680 in 2024).*
- 5. The idea of having a Scout Show was considered seriously and feelers were sent out to find out how much it would cost to hire the Arts Guild for an evening. Despite provisional approval for the show, the project was abandoned in December 1965. Possibly, it was seen as being impractical in the end.*
- 6. A concert was performed by a Mr. Brown at the St. Andrew's Church Hall on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1966. It raised about £13 towards the HQ Fund. It's not known who Mr. Brown was, unfortunately.*
- 7. The fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024).*
- 8. A white elephant stall usually contained weird and wonderful objects that owners no longer wished to keep. They were put on sale to attract buyers looking for something unusual that tickled their fancy.*
- 9. A Bottle Stall involved displaying on a table a collection of bottles of all shapes and sizes with widely varied contents. A raffle ticket ending in a specific number (e.g. 0 or 5) would be attached to each bottle. Visitors to the stall would buy a number of raffle tickets and if any of their tickets matched a number on a bottle, they would win the bottle and its contents (whether that be vinegar or a malt whisky).*
- 10. When the fete took place, several Scouts were involved in helping to run the various games. Alastair Cram's notebook covering the first half of 1966 identified the games at the Fete as the following*  
*\*'Ping Pong balls in jars' involved trying to bounce ping-pong balls into glass jars. It's not known what sort of prizes were available or how many ping balls had to be bounced into the jars to get a prize. Different sizes of glass jars may have been used with the bigger prizes awarded for successfully bouncing the ball into the smaller jars.*

*\*'Darts at Card' involved a playing card being placed on a board. Players then had to throw a dart at the card in an attempt to hit a diamond, club, spade or heart depending on the target card. Details of how much a player had to pay for each attempt are known. Similarly, It is not known what prizes could be won. Another version of the game involves several cards being placed on the board and the thrower only having to hit the card to win a prize. The board would be further away though.*

*\*'Move a Penny' probably involved rolling an old penny down a ramp with a coin sized groove cut into it, such that the penny landed on a playing area containing several small squares. Each square would have a number or colour representing a certain reward. The reward would be gained if the penny finally came to rest within a specific square without touching any of the lines making up the square. The reward would then correspond to the number of the square. Old pennies would have been used for this game in 1966 as decimalisation did not take place until 1971.*

*\*Golf ball in buckets. A bit like the ping pong game (note 4) but this time trying to throw or bounce golf balls into buckets.*

*\*Washer along wire in electric circuit. Players were challenged to move a washer along the length of a twisted wire without touching the wire. If the washer touched the wire then a circuit was activated that caused a buzzer to go off. It was possible to achieve this challenge but it needed a very steady hand and quite a bit of practice. The washer was attached to a wooden handle and the manner in which you held the handle was crucial to whether you succeeded or not as you had to move your wrist this way and that to negotiate the various bends. It is not known whether the apparatus used at the fete was purchased or made by one of the parents, but it is likely that it remained in the Troop's possession for many years after. The editor certainly remembers it being present in the new Scout HQ. The picture shown here shows an apparatus that is similar to the one that was used at the fete.*



*\*Cover a florin in bucket of water. . A florin was a silver coin worth 2/- (2 shillings) and had the equivalent value to about £2 today (as of 2024). The game involved placing the florin in a bucket of water and players dropped another coin (e.g. an old penny) into the bucket in an attempt to land it on top of the florin such that the florin was fully covered. If they succeeded they won the florin. If they failed, they lost the coins that they used in their various attempts.*

*\*Bran tub. The 'bran tub' was a large barrel containing sawdust, shavings or straw. Various prizes were wrapped up and hidden inside. Each player paid a certain sum then searched within the tub to find a parcel. It was pot luck whether the prize was worth more or less than the sum paid to obtain it. Obviously, the odds would be weighted to ensure that a profit was made.*

## Minutes of Meeting held on 1st Sept. 1965

Mr. E.J. Lind in the Chair.

All the members were present with the exception of Mrs. Patrick and Mr. Conway from whom apologies were received.

### Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th July were read, approved and signed.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported having received the following:-

One commuted subscription	£6
Mrs. Cram - Sale of marmalade.	£5
Cubs - ex "Bob a Job".	£26
	<u>£37</u>

This makes the total funds £165.

### Fete<sup>1</sup>

It was reported that the Town Hall Saloon was available on Saturday 4th December at a cost of £10.

Mr. Johnston moved, Mr. Kirk seconded and it was unanimously resolved to proceed with the Fete and that the Town Saloon to be booked. Enquiries were to be made as to the availability of the saloon on Friday evening the 3rd December for preparatory work and the charge therefore.

Mr Johnston agreed to act as Convener of the Fete sub-committee.

### Mrs. Bruce's Show.<sup>2</sup>

The Scouters reported that Mrs. Bruce intended including pupils of the Ardgowan School in the show, which, she suggested, should be held on a Friday evening in the Arts Guild<sup>3</sup>. The cost of the theatre for one evening would be £12-10/-<sup>4</sup> and the capacity 460. The proposal was provisionally agreed to, the suggested date being Friday the 10th of December 1965.

### Visits to Parents.

It was agreed that committee members would re-visit the parents during September for the purpose of obtaining maximum support for the Group's activities and where necessary to draw attention to the unpaid commuted subscriptions<sup>5</sup>.

### Civil Defence Building and Ground.

The Convener reported that there was now some doubt as to whether the Building and / or the ground at Madeira Street would be released to us.<sup>6</sup> The question was one for the County Civil Defence Committee, which would be holding a further meeting on the 6th September. In the event of a refusal, an emergency meeting of this Committee would be called.

### Next meeting.

The next monthly meeting would be on Wednesday 29th Sept. 1965.

J.E. Lind.

### **Editorial Comments for 1<sup>st</sup> September 1965**

- 1. The fete eventually took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024).*
- 2. Despite provisional approval for the show, the project was abandoned in December 1965. Possibly, it was seen as being impractical in the end.*
- 3. The Arts Guild was located on Campbell Street near the junction with the main road. It was originally the West End Swimming Pool – the only indoor pool in Greenock. This was a private club and you had to be a member to use the pool. However, it was possible to hire the facilities and it was the venue for the District Scout Swimming Gala during the 1930s. The building was requisitioned by the forces during the Second World War, and after the war the pool was removed and the building was converted into a theatre (The Arts Guild) which opened in 1955. In 2012, it was closed when the Beacon Theatre was completed. The building itself was demolished in 2021 after several years of lying empty.*
- 4. £12-10-0 in 1965 had the equivalent value to £255 today (as of 2024).*
- 5. The commuted subscription referred to the annual subscription of £6-10-0. See also note 2 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965.*
- 6. It wasn't until the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966 that the committee learnt of the Civil Defence Association's decision to hand the site back to the Greenock Corporation, thus removing a major barrier to further progress with the HQ project.*



## Minutes of Meeting held on 15th Sept. 1965.

Mr. J.E. Lind in the Chair.

All the members were present with the exception of Mrs. Patrick, Mrs. Martin and Miss McBride from whom apologies were received.

### Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st September were read, approved and signed.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported that the Headquarters Fund now totalled £234.

### Madera Street Site.

It was reported that control of the site had passed from the Greenock Civil Defence Committee to a County Committee who had refused our application for the site.<sup>1</sup> The implications of this decision were fully discussed, together with the possibilities of the County Committee revising its decision or alternatively of a site being available behind Finnart Church<sup>2</sup>. It was decided to proceed with the Group's proposed activities for this winter.

### Fete

The Secretary reported that the Town Hall Saloon was available on the 4th December but was not free on the Friday evening for preparatory work. It was agreed that an approach be made to Messrs. Robertson, Blackburn & Co Ltd.<sup>3</sup> for the use of the Thomson Halls.<sup>4</sup>

### Mrs. Bruce's Show.<sup>5</sup>

The meeting was advised that as the Arts Guild was not available, this project would be postponed until February / March 1966.

### Male Voice Concert.<sup>6</sup>

It was reported that a verbal indication had been received that Finnart Church management had agreed to grant the use of their hall, but that written confirmation giving details of possible dates was awaited.

### Mr. Brown's Show.<sup>7</sup>

It was decided to apply for the use of St. Andrew's Church Hall.<sup>8</sup>

J.E. Lind.

## **Editorial Comments for 15th September 1965**

1. It wasn't until the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966 that the committee learnt of the Civil Defence Association's decision to hand the site back to the Greenock Corporation, thus removing a major barrier to further progress with the HQ project.

2. Details of that site and who owned it were not recorded.

3. Robertson Blackburn and Co. Ltd. is a business involved in hotels, restaurants and event catering.

4. *The Thomson Halls were on West Stewart Street. It is reported that it now houses Pyper's Superstore.*
5. *Despite provisional approval for the show, the project was abandoned in December 1965. Possibly, it was seen as being impractical in the end.*
6. *The performance by the Greenock Male Voice Choir took place at Trinity Church Hall on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 1965 and raised £29 (equivalent to about £680 in 2024).*
7. *The concert performed by Mr. Brown took place at the St. Andrew's Church Hall on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1966. It raised about £13 towards the HQ Fund.*
8. *St. Andrews Church of Scotland used to be situated at the corner of Ardgowan Street and Margaret Street. The 59<sup>th</sup> Scouts met there in the Church Hall. The congregation of St. Andrews Church united with Trinity Church in 1967 and St. Andrews Church was demolished fairly soon after that. A set of flats was built on the site.*

## **Minutes of Meeting held on 29th Sept. 1965.**

Mr. J.E. Lind in the Chair.

All the members were present with the exception of Mrs. Lyon and Mr. Kirk from whom apologies were received.

### Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th Sept. 1965 were read, approved and signed.

### CD Site.<sup>1</sup>

In view of opinions expressed from various sources that the Civil Defence Committee might yet grant us the Madera Street site, Mr. Conway moved, Mr. Thomson seconded and it was unanimously resolved that negotiations for the site at the rear of Finnart Church<sup>2</sup> should be delayed for six months.

### Fete.<sup>3</sup>

The Secretary reported that neither the Thomson Halls<sup>4</sup> nor the former Argyll Theatre<sup>5</sup> were available on 4th December, but that a verbal promise of the use of the Martyr's and North Church Hall on that date had been received. It was agreed that this hall would probably meet our requirements.

### Male Voice Concert.<sup>6</sup>

It was decided that the price of tickets for this concert to be held in Trinity Church Hall<sup>7</sup> on 25th November should be 2/6 based on an audience of 300 or over.

### Mr. Brown's Concert.<sup>8</sup>

The Secretary undertook to apply to Saint Andrews Church for the use of their hall about mid February.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported that the Headquarters Fund now totalled £240.

J.E. Lind.

## **Editorial Comments for 29th September 1965**

- 1. It wasn't until the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966 that the committee learnt of the Civil Defence Association's decision to hand the site back to the Greenock Corporation, thus removing a major barrier to further progress with the HQ project.*
- 2. Details of that site and who owned it were not recorded.*
- 3. The fete eventually took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024).*
- 4. The Thomson Halls were on West Stewart Street. It is reported that it now houses Pyper's Superstore.*
- 5. The Argyle Theatre was situated at the corner of West Stewart Street and Argyll Street and used to be St. Andrews Free Church (built in 1835). In the late 1920s, the building was converted into a music hall theatre. In 1933, it became a boxing arena, then after the war it was used a variety of purposes.*
- 6. The performance by the Greenock Male Voice Choir took place at Trinity Church Hall on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 1965 and raised £29 (equivalent to about £680 in 2024).*
- 7. Trinity Church still exists and is located on Union Street. It was renamed St. Andrews Church following an amalgamation with the St. Andrew Church that used to be located at the corner of Ardgowan and Margaret Streets. It was then renamed the Lyle Kirk following further amalgamations.*
- 8. The concert performed by Mr. Brown took place at the St. Andrew's Church Hall on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1966. It raised about £13 towards the HQ Fund.*

## **Minutes of Meeting held on 27th October 1965.**

Mr. J.E. Lind in the Chair.

All the members were present with the exception of Miss McBride and Mr. Conway from whom apologies were received.

### Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th September 1965, were read, approved and signed.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported the balance on hand was £276.

### Fete.<sup>1</sup>

It was agreed that the Fete be held on March 5th 1966 in Martyrs and North Church Hall. The Chairman reported that with Mr. Johnson he had inspected this hall and that in their view it was ideal for the purpose. The Secretary was asked to arrange for the Stall Conveners to see the hall if possible on Wednesday 10th November at 3 p.m.

### Male Voice Ensemble Concert.<sup>2</sup>

Tickets were issued to the Committee members for distribution to the parents.

### Mr. Miller - Show.<sup>3</sup>

An offer from Mr. Miller to show coloured slides was accepted but a consideration was deferred us to a suitable date. Mr. Miller was asked to submit details as to the length of his show.

### Next Meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 1st December 1965.

J.E. Lind.

### **Editorial Comments for 27th October 1965**

- 1. The fete eventually took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024).*
- 2. The performance by the Greenock Male Voice Choir took place at Trinity Church Hall on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 1965 and raised £29 (equivalent to about £680 in 2024).*
- 3. Bob Miller delivered a slide show on Israel and Moscow in Finnart Church Hall on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 1966. It is not known how much money was raised.*

## Minutes of Meeting held on 1st December 1965.

Mr. J.E. Lind in the Chair. All the members were present with the exception of Mr. Conway, Mr. Thomson and Mrs. Patrick from whom apologies were received.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th October 1965 were read, approved and signed.

### Male Voice Ensemble Concert.<sup>1</sup>

The net proceeds including donations amounted to £29.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported that the Funds now stood at £330, exclusive of the above £29 and £40 from the Scout Jumble Sale.<sup>2</sup>

### Fete<sup>3</sup>.

Members of the Committee had visited Martyrs & North Church Hall and had expressed their satisfaction with its facilities. It was agreed that an appeal be made to Finnart Church members for assistance.

### Mr. Miller - Show of Slides.<sup>4</sup>

It was agreed that this function at which Mr. Miller would show slides of Israel and Moscow would be held on 19th January 1966. The organisation to be undertaken by the Scouts and Cubs.

### Mrs. Bruce's Show.<sup>5</sup>

Miss McBride reported that this show was postponed indefinitely.

### Mr. Brown's Concert.<sup>6</sup>

The Secretary reported that this would be held in St. Andrews Church Hall on February 10th 1966. Mrs. Patrick would have tickets available for the next meeting.

### Next Meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting be held on 12th January 1966

K. Conway.

### **Editorial Comments for 1<sup>st</sup> December 1965**

- 1. The performance by the Greenock Male Voice Choir took place at Trinity Church Hall on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 1965 and raised £29 (equivalent to about £680 in 2024).*
- 2. The Jumble Sale took place at some point during November 1965 and raised £40 towards the Scout HQ Fund. £40 in 1965 was equivalent to £971 today (as of 2024).*
- 3. The fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024).*
- 4. Bob Miller delivered a slide show on Israel and Moscow in Finnart Church Hall on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 1966. It is not known how much money was raised.*
- 5. Despite provisional approval for the show at earlier meetings, the project was abandoned. Possibly, it was seen as being impractical.*
- 6. The concert raised about £13 towards the HQ Fund.*

### **Minutes of meeting held on 12th January, 1966.**

All the members were present with the exception of Messrs. Lind and Miller, and Mrs. Patrick. Mr. Conway took the Chair in the absence of Mr. Lind.

The Minutes for the meeting held on 1st December were read, approved and signed.

### Committee.

It was reported that Mrs. Patrick had intimated her resignation and that Mrs. H. Fraser had been co-opted in her place.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of £539 including a gift of £100 from Mrs. Pollock, Wood St, Greenock.

### Mr. Brown's Concert.<sup>1</sup>

It was agreed that the Secretary should send a circular<sup>2</sup> to all parents drawing attention to the Concert and the Fete, enclosing 2 tickets to be sold for the Concert.

### Fete<sup>3</sup>

Arrangements therefore were discussed in general terms.

### Mr. Miller's Lecture.<sup>4</sup>

It was reported that this would take place in the Church Hall on 19th January 1966.

### Madera St. Site.

The Secretary read an extract from the minutes of the local Town Planning Committee, a copy of which is attached.<sup>5</sup>

### Scout Circular.

It was reported that the Scouters were sending a circular to former members of the Group appealing for their support.

### Next Meeting.

The next meeting was fixed for 23rd February 1966

## Editorial Comments for 12th January 1966

1. *The concert performed by Mr. Brown took place at the St. Andrew's Church Hall on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1966. It raised about £13 towards the HQ Fund.*
2. *A copy of the circular sent to Mr. and Mrs. Gunn was added to the Troop Log and was as follows.*

<p><u>70<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire (Finnart) Scout Group Committee</u> <u>Building Fund</u></p>	<p>71 South Street, Greenock, 13<sup>th</sup> January 1966</p>
<p>Dear Mr. and Mrs. Gunn,</p> <p>On 26th August, 1965, the Committee sent you a circular setting out its plans for the Winter of 1965/1966 and it was felt that you would be interested in receiving an interim report.</p> <p>The building fund now stands at £531. This figure is considered to be very satisfactory particularly since, apart from a very generous donation of £100, it is largely made up of the proceeds of a number of individual efforts on the part of some of the parents and the boys themselves.</p> <p>I have been asked to draw your attention to two projects which are planned for the immediate future.</p> <p>1. Concert by Mr. Brown's party – St. Andrews Church Hall, Ardgowan Street, Greenock, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February 1966</p> <p>This party which has given its services to a number of local organisations presents a most enjoyable evening's entertainment.</p> <p>The Committee would appreciate your cooperation in disposing of the enclosed 2 tickets. It would also be of assistance if any unsold tickets could be returned to Mrs A. Patrick, 2 Kincaid Street, Greenock (Phone 31945) by 3rd February, 1966, and cash proceeds returned by 18th February either directly to Mrs Patrick or to the Cubmaster or Scoutmaster.</p> <p>2. Fete – In Martyrs' and North Church Hall, Westburn Street, Greenock Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 1966.</p> <p>We are relying on a successful Fete to augment the fund substantially. With a view to attracting the General Public, we are holding the Fete in the centre of the town, and here we must acknowledge our indebtedness to Martyrs' and North Church for the use of their hall. It is also intended to organize adequate publicity.</p> <p>These efforts can only be successful, however, if we have the full support of all Parents and their friends and I enclose a list of Stall Convenors who will gladly receive offers of assistance in kind and/or personal service.</p> <p>A General Meeting of all parents will be convened in April or May at which the Committee will report on the year's activities and it is hoped that each household in the Group will find it possible to be represented.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yours faithfully, W. Cram Honorary Secretary</p>	

3. *The fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024).*
4. *Bob Miller delivered a slide show on Israel and Moscow in Finnart Church Hall on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 1966. It is not known how much money was raised.*

*5. Extract from the December 1965 minutes of the Local Town Planning Committee. This revealed that the Civil Defence Committee had proposed building garages on the site on which the old CD building was located. Although the application was rejected, the Civil Defence appealed to the Secretary of State for Scotland. It is possible that Mr. Lyall wrote his letter to Dr. Mabon as a result of this appeal. The appeal to the Scottish Office was eventually rejected, and Dr. Mabon may have played an important role in that decision.*

“There was submitted a report by the Town Planning Officer, on plans received from the Clerk to the County of Renfrew Joint Civil Defence Committee of a proposed conversion by alteration of the A.R.P. Depot at Madeira Street / Finnart Street for use as a garage for Civil Defence vehicles. After discussion, it was agreed that such a development would be undesirable in this residential area and detrimental to amenity and the Town Clerk was asked to inform the Clerk to the Joint Committee that, in the event of formal application being made for sanction by the Secretary of State for the erection of the building, representations against the proposal would be made on behalf of the Corporation on the grounds stated.”



## Minutes of Meeting held on 23rd February 1966

Mr. K. Conway in the Chair.

All the members were present with the exception of Messrs. Lind, Duncan and Thomson from whom apologies were received. Mrs. Thomson deputised for Mr. Thomson.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January were read, approved and signed.

### Convenership.

The Secretary reported that due to pressure of business, Mr. Lind had found it necessary to tender his resignation. It was decided to allow the resignation lie on the table meantime, Mr. Conway agreeing to act as convener *pro tem*.<sup>1</sup>

### Mr. Brown's Concert.<sup>2</sup>

It was reported that the proceeds to date amounted to £12-16/-.

### Fete.<sup>3</sup>

Final arrangements were discussed. It was agreed that if possible all Committee members would be available on Friday evening and Saturday morning to prepare halls. Admission was fixed at 6<sup>d</sup>.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported that the balance on hand was £661.

### Parents Meeting.<sup>4</sup>

This will be held in 2 to 3 months time. Meantime, an effort would be made to obtain further information regarding the site in Madeira Street.<sup>5</sup>

### Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 30/3/66.

Jas.A. Johnston.

### **Editorial Comments for 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1966**

1. Mr. Conway took over the role of convenor / chairman until the summer of 1966, at which point Mr. Malcolm took over the role.
2. The concert performed by Mr. Brown took place at the St. Andrew's Church Hall on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1966.
3. The fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024).
4. The Parents Meeting took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> May 1966.
5. At this stage, there was still significant uncertainty as to whether the site and the old CD building would be made available to the 70<sup>th</sup>. It wasn't until October 1966 that this issue was finally resolved.

## Minutes of Meeting held on 30th of March 1966.

Mr. J.A. Johnston in the Chair.

Present Messrs. Johnston, Miller, Kirk, & Malcolm and Mrs. Lyon, Mrs Gunn, Mrs Flockhart and Mrs Fraser. Apologies intimated from Messrs. Cram, Conway, Mrs Morrison, Miss McBride.

Minutes of meeting held on 23rd February were read, approved and signed.

### Fete.<sup>1</sup>

The result of the Fete was discussed and the Treasurer intimated net receipts of around £180, which was considered satisfactory considering that another function<sup>2</sup> had been held on the same day, which undoubtedly distracted from the result. The Committee expressed thanks to the various Conveners and all who contributed to the success of the Fete.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported funds on hand at this date of £918.

### Parents' Meeting.<sup>3</sup>

The date of the Parents' Meeting was provisionally fixed for Wednesday 11th or 18th May in Finnart Church Hall at 8 p.m, and proposals for the agenda were left over until the next monthly meeting when later information might be available regarding the Madeira St. site.<sup>4</sup>

### Accounts.

The Treasurer would prepare accounts to 31st March for submission to Mr. C. Finnie, 97<sup>5</sup> Brisbane St., Greenock, and Mr. Malcolm agreed to act as Auditor.

### Deed of Trust.

Mr. Miller would obtain particulars from Scout HQ regarding Deed of Trust<sup>6</sup> and it was agreed that 2 or 3 Trustees would be appointed in accordance with requirements. At present, the Group Committee Funds are under joint control of the Secretary and Treasurer.

### Any Other Business.

Mr. Miller, Scoutmaster, expressed the thanks of the Scouts and Cubs for the efforts of the Committee and for the enthusiasm with which they had carried out their duties with such splendid results.

### Date of Next Meeting.

This was fixed for Wednesday, 27th April 1966.

K. Conway.

### **Editorial Comments for 30<sup>th</sup> March 1966**

- 1. The fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024).*
- 2. It's not known what that function was.*
- 3. The Parents Meeting took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> May 1966.*
- 4. At this stage, there was still significant uncertainty as to whether the site and the old CD building would be made available to the 70<sup>th</sup>. It wasn't until October 1966 that this issue was finally resolved.*
- 5. The writing is unclear here it, and the number might not be 97.*
- 6. The Scout Association had legal requirements when it came to the funds, property and possessions of individual Scout Groups. This was to create a potential issue when it came to leasing the site from the Corporation (see entries for the 7<sup>th</sup> December 1966 and 11th January 1967).*

## Minutes of Meeting held on 27th April 1966.

Mr. K. Conway in the Chair.

Present Messrs. Conway, Johnston, Thomson, Malcolm, Miller and Cram.  
Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Gunn, Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Morrison and Miss McBride.

Apologies: No apologies were intimated.

### Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th March were read, approved and signed.

### Finance.

An audited statement of account was submitted showing the balance on hand at 31st March 1966 as £927-2-6.

The Treasurer reported that the balance at date was £929-2-6 and Mr. Miller estimated that about £30 would come from the Scouts "Bob-a-Job".<sup>1</sup>

### Grants.

It was reported that the Government Grant Scheme may be extended to 31st March 1967.<sup>2</sup>

### Site.

It was understood that the appeal of the County Civil Defence Committee for permission to build garages on the site had been turned down by the Scottish Home and Health Dept.<sup>3</sup>

### Parents' Meeting.

The date of this meeting was fixed for Wednesday 11th May at 7.30 p.m.

### Trust Deed.<sup>4</sup>

A specimen form of Trust Deed as recommended by Scottish Scout Headquarters was submitted. It was agreed to leave this question over until a future meeting.

### Scouts.

Mr. Miller reported that Scouters had been re-organised, he becoming Group Scoutmaster, Mr. A. Cram, becoming Scoutmaster and Miss McBride continuing as Cubmaster.<sup>5</sup>

D.J. Malcolm, Chairman.

### **Editorial Comments for 27<sup>th</sup> April 1966**

- 1. Bob-a-Job week took place during the Easter school holidays in April. It is likely that most of the money raised had been handed into the Scouters by the 27<sup>th</sup> April*
- 2. The Government Grant Scheme was crucial to the success of the HQ project as the grant schemes available provided 75% of the total cost of a new HQ, the proviso being that 25% of the cost had already been raised by the applicant. The extension of the scheme was important as it was still not known for certain whether the site and the old CD building would be made available. This did not become clear until October 1966.*
- 3. The wording suggests that the decision had not yet been made public. Dr. Dickson Mabon may have informed Alexander Lyall in advance. Clearly, this was good news, but the project still depended on the Civil Defence Committee relinquishing the site and the building (see note 2).*
- 4. The Scout Association had legal requirements when it came to the funds, property and possessions of individual Scout Groups. This was to create a potential issue when it came to leasing the site from the Corporation (see entries for the 7<sup>th</sup> December 1966 and 11th January 1967).*
- 5. Bob Miller formally handed over the role of Scoutmaster to Alastair Cram on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 1966.*

### **Meeting of Parents. Wednesday 11th May 1966**

Mr. K. Conway in the Chair.

There were 22 parents present.

The Chairman having welcomed the parents called on the Secretary and Treasurer to submit their reports.

Copies of these reports are attached.

Mr. A. Lyall informed the meeting

- (i) That the Government Grant Scheme had been extended to 31st March 1967.
- (ii) That the appeal of the County Civil Defence Committee to the Scottish Home Dept. against the refusal the Greenock Corporation Planning Committee to permit the erection of C.D. Garages on the Madeira Street *site* had been turned down.

Mr. Lyall added that he would give every possible assistance in procuring the site for the Group.

The meeting decided that H.Q. Fund raising efforts should continue for a further year.

The present Committee was re-elected; Mrs Morris and Mr. Nisbet being nominated to fill the vacancies arising from the resignations of Mr. Lind and Mrs. Black.

D.S. Malcolm.

### **Copies of Reports Submitted to Meeting of Parents 11/5/66.**

#### **Report of Group Committee.**

The decision to go ahead with the effort to raise funds for Group Headquarters was made at a Meeting of Parents in May of last year. For the benefit of parents who were not present, it might be useful to summarise first of all the proceedings at that meeting. It was convened by the Scouters and Mr. Miller explained the advantages which would accrue to the Group if Headquarters could be acquired.

There was a reasonable possibility that the Civil Defence Committee of Greenock Town Council would make the site at the corner of Madeira Street and Finnart Street available for this purpose. He also indicated that quotations received put the cost of a suitable building at around £4,000. Subject to the project meeting certain conditions, it was possible to obtain 75% of the cost from public funds provided the Group first raised the balance of 25%. Mr Lyall explained the regulations governing this scheme and pointed out that according to current plans the scheme would end on 31st March 1966.

It was apparent that the two significant factors were:-

- (i) That the acquisition of the site was no more than a possibility.
- (ii) That an amount of from £1,000 to £1,500 would require to be raised in about 9 months.

After a full discussion during which Mr. Lyall and Mr. Miller satisfactorily answered a number of searching questions, it was unanimously decided to proceed with the scheme and a committee of 14 parents plus the Scoutmaster and Cubmaster was appointed.

The meeting also agreed to a proposal that the weekly subscriptions paid by Cubs and Scouts be increased from 6d to 2/6 or commuted at £6: 10: -: per annum, with the proviso that under no circumstances must this increase be operated so rigidly that it would result in any boy leaving the movement. The Cub and Scout Masters undertook that these subscriptions would be paid into the H.Q. Funds for the next year.

The Committee first met on 2nd June 1965 and appointed the following Office bearers.

Convener	-	Mr. J. E. Lind.
Treasurer	-	Mr. J. A. Johnston.
Secretary	-	Mr. W. B. Cram.

It was decided that all parents be visited and the scheme explained with emphasis being placed on the proviso to the increased subscriptions.

#### **Finance. Report by Treasurer**

It is very satisfactory to report that, despite the early doubts which we all shared, it has been possible with the generous help of parents and friends to achieve our objective in that the fund now stands at £1044 - 12/6.

This was made-up from

2/6d Subscriptions	£277
Sale of Pens by Cubs and Scouts	£63
Coffee Mornings, Concerts etc.	£144
Fete	£180.
Donations	£211
Cubs	£100
Scouts	<u>£70</u>
	£1045

The donations included two very generous donations of £100 from two members of Finnart Church.

The revenue from the 2/6 Subscriptions was somewhat lower than was estimated.

#### **Cost of HQ Building.**

After discussion and enquiry, it became evident that the estimated cost of erecting a new building as was mentioned at the parents' meeting was too low and that a figure of around £10,000 would be required. However, we are greatly indebted to Mr. J.B. Thomson who produced a plan to convert the existing Civil Defence building at a cost of approximately £6,000. This means that the Group will require to raise at least another £500. The grants scheme has been extended however to 31st March 1967. A copy of Mr Thompson's drawing is available for inspection.

## Site.

A serious situation arose at the beginning of September when it was learned that the Control of Civil Defence affairs had been transferred to a County Committee, and that they had turned down our application for the Site. The Group Committee considered this development at an emergency meeting on 13th September. Although there appeared to be no possibility of the County Committee reversing its decision, we were advised not to accept this as final and to continue our fund raising efforts. After serious consideration, it was decided to act on this advice.

On 12th January, we learned that the local Town Planning Committee had turned down the County Committee's application to convert the present building to a garage and that the latter Committee was likely to appeal to the Secretary of State. This provided a glimmer of hope.

In all matters relating to the Site, Mr Lyall has kept in close touch with local authority officials etc. on our behalf and we must express our thanks to him for his active interest.

The situation now is that we have raised roughly 2/3 of the necessary funds and that the situation regarding the Site has at least improved.

In addition to those already mentioned, the thanks of the Committee are due to the Rev. D.H. Stewart for his continued interest and help, to the parents and friends of the Group who supported our various efforts, and to the Office bearers of Trinity, St. Andrews, and Martyr's & North Churches who, though having no connection with the Group, not only willingly gave us the use of their halls but went out of their way to give us every other assistance.

Unfortunately during the year, Mrs Patrick resigned from the Committee due to the demands of other commitments; Mrs. Helen Fraser was co-opted to fill the vacancy. We also lost the services of our Convener Mr. J.E. Lind at the beginning of this year because of increased pressure of business. Mr. Conway agreed to take over the duties of Convener for the remainder of the year.

W. B. Cram.

**Year 1966/67**

**Committee.**

**Telephone No.**

Convener.	Mr. D.S. Malcolm, 73, Forsyth Street	20876
Treasurer.	J. A. Johnston, 2, Golf Place.	24158.
Secretary.	W.B. Cram, 71, South St.	20998.
	Mrs. J. Flockhart, 12, Lylefoot Crescent.	24053.
	Mrs. D. Lyon 45, Newark Street.	22170
	Mrs. W.I. Martin, 23, Bentinck St.	21145
	Mrs. F. Morrison, 101, Newark Street.	31438.
	Mrs. J.A. Gunn, Woodside, 68, Reservoir Rd, Gourock.	32188.
	Mrs. H.M. Fraser, 9, Welbeck St, Greenock.	23767.
	Mrs. J.B. Morris, 91, Octavia Terrace.	32925.
	Mr. K. Conway, 1, Drums Terrace.	32074.
	Mr. J.M. Kirk, 12, Bedford St.	21501.
	Mr. J.B. Thomson, 30, Esplanade.	21963.

Scouters

	Mr. R. Miller, 18, Johnston St.	22784
	Mr. A. Cram, 71, South St.	20998.
	Miss I. McBride, 15, Ardgowan St.	22527.

## Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 15th June 1966.

Mr. D.S. Malcolm in the Chair.

### Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Conway, Kirk, Miller and Mrs Lyon.

### Minutes.

The Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 27th April and of annual Parents' meeting held on 11th May 1966 were read, approved and signed.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of £1045-8/-.

### Election of Office Bearers.

The following Office Bearers were elected for the year 1966/67.

Convenor.	Mr. D.S. Malcolm.
Treasurer.	J. A. Johnston.
Secretary.	W.B. Cram.

### 2/6 Subscriptions.<sup>1</sup>

It was agreed that this scheme be suspended pending further information regarding the site.

### Years Activities.

The following sub-committee was appointed to draw up a provisional programme of fund raising projects for 1966/67.

The three Office Bearers with Mrs. Morrison Mrs. Fraser and Mr. Conway.

### Next Meeting.

The next meetings were fixed for  
Wednesday 31st August 1966  
Wednesday 21st September 1966

D.S. Malcolm  
Chairman.

### **Editorial Comments for 15<sup>th</sup> June 1966**

1. See note 2 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965 regarding increased subscriptions.



## Minutes of Meeting held on 5th October 1966.

Mr. D.S. Malcolm in the Chair.

Present all the members of Committee with the exception of Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Gunn and Mrs. Fraser. An apology was received from Mrs. Fraser.

### Minutes.

The Minutes for the meeting held on 15th June were read, approved and signed.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of £1079-4-10.

### Site.

Miss McBride conveyed a message from Mr. Lyle to the effect that the County Civil Defence Committee had intimated to the Greenock Town Clerk that the Committee wished to hand back the site to the Corporation. The General Purposes Committee of the Corporation had instructed the Town Chamberlain to ascertain if the C.D. Building was also being transferred to the Corporation.<sup>1</sup> D. Mabon had offered any further necessary assistance.<sup>2</sup>

In view of this information, it was decided that fund-raising activities must be resumed as a matter of urgency, the object being a further £800<sup>3</sup> by early February.

### Action.

It was decided that Secretary should circularise the parents, this to be followed by a visit to every household by members of Committee.

The foregoing projects were proposed and agreed and subcommittees appointed:-

Mannequin Parade. <sup>4</sup>	Mrs. Flockhart
	Mrs. Morrison.
	Mrs. Morris.
Group Coffee Morning. <sup>5</sup>	Mrs. Martin.
	Mrs. Gunn.
	Mrs. Fraser.
Jumble Sale. <sup>6</sup>	Mr. Miller, the Group Scoutmaster, and Scouters.
Lecture on Russia. <sup>7</sup>	Mr. Miller.

It was further decided that detailed plans and costs be drawn up for the conversion of the building. Mr. J.B. Thomson, Mr. J.M. Kirk and the Scouters were appointed to a sub-committee for this purpose.<sup>8</sup>

D.S. Malcolm.  
Chairman.

### **Editorial Comments for 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966**

*1. It was later established that the building was also to be transferred back. This removed the major obstacle that had been blocking the building project from moving forward.*

- 2. The wording of this suggests that Dr. Dickson Mabon may well have played an important role in convincing the Civil Defence Committee to remove their opposition to the proposed building project and to transfer the site back to the Corporation.*
- 3. This meant raising the £800 within four months. The deadline of early February would have been determined by the need to submit relevant grant applications before the Government Grant Scheme ended on the 31st March 1967. Those applications would have been strengthened by proof that the required amount of funding had already been raised to meet 25% of the predicted cost. £800 in 1966 had the equivalent value of £18,677 today (as of 2024).*
- 4. The Mannequin Parade took place at Seafield House on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 1966 and raised £20 (the equivalent of about £470 in 2024).*
- 5. The Group Coffee Morning took place in Finnart Church Hall on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 1966 and raised £58-5-1 (equivalent to £1360 today, as of 2024). It is assumed that there was more to a Group coffee morning than a normal coffee morning. Possibly, tables of home baking and other items for sale were set up at the coffee morning.*
- 6. The Jumble Sale was held at the Martyrs and North Church Hall on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 1966. It raised £61-0-5 (the equivalent of £1424 in 2024).*
- 7. Bob's lecture on Russia would have taken place in Finnart Church Hall. It raised £4.00 (equivalent to £94 today – as of 2024). Bob had already provided a slide show on Israel and Moscow on the 19th January 1966.*
- 8. Mr. Thomson was a quantity surveyor and Mr. Kirk was a builder. Their firms were principally involved in the building project.*

## Minutes of Meeting held on 2nd Nov. 1966.

Mr. D.S. Malcolm in the Chair.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Morris and Mrs. Flockhart, and from Messrs. Miller and Thomson.

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th October were read, approved and signed.

### Letter to Finnart Church.

It was remitted to the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary to compose and submit a letter<sup>1</sup> to Finnart Church Management Committee in reply to that Committee's request for further details regarding the project.

### Site.

It was confirmed that the site and the C.D. building thereon had been returned to the Greenock Town Council.<sup>2</sup>

### Circular and Visitations.

Members of the Committee reported on their visits to parents following the Group Circular.

### Coffee Morning.<sup>3</sup>

It was reported that this would be held in Finnart Church Hall on Wednesday 16th Nov. 1966.

### Mannequin Parade.<sup>4</sup>

It was planned to hold this in Seafield House on Wednesday evening 30th Nov. 1966.

### Jumble Sale.<sup>5</sup>

Permission had been received from Martyrs and North Church to hold the jumble sale in their Church Hall on Saturday 26th Nov. 1966.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of £1106.6.4.

### Next Meeting.

The date for the next meeting was fixed as 7th Dec. 1966.

D.S. Malcolm. Chairman.

### **Editorial Comments for 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1966**

1. No copy of that letter has been tracked down.
2. See note 1 for the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966.
3. See note 5 for the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966 regarding the Group Coffee Morning.
4. See note 4 for the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966 regarding the Mannequin Parade.
5. The Jumble Sale raised £61-0-5 (the equivalent of £1424 in 2024).

## Minutes of Meeting held on 7th December 1966.

Mr. D.S. Malcolm in the Chair.

All the members of the Committee were present with the exception of Mrs. Morris and Mr. A. Cram.

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 1966 were read, approved and signed.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported that the balance on hand was £1300-17-11. This included the following amounts realised from the Committee's projects:-

The Coffee Morning.	£58-5-1. <sup>1</sup>
Jumble Sale.	£61-0-5. <sup>2</sup>
Mannequin Parade.	£20. <sup>3</sup>
Mr. Miller's Lecture.	£4. <sup>4</sup>

### Letter to Finnart Church.<sup>5</sup>

The Chairman reported that he had replied to the letter from the Church Management Committee and had supplied the information requested. That Committee had decided that the Rev. Mr. Stewart should make an appeal on our behalf from the pulpit and that we should repeat the result of the appeal to the Management Committee. After discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Stewart be asked to make the appeal as soon as possible.

### Plans of Building and Cost thereof.

Mr. Thomson reported that Mr. McDougall was working on the necessary detailed plans.<sup>6</sup>

### Letter to Town Clerk.

The Secretary read the letter which had been sent to the Town Clerk making formal application for a lease of the site for a period of 30 years.<sup>7</sup> A copy of this letter is attached to this Minute.

### Next Meeting.

This was fixed for Wednesday 11th January 1967.

D.S. Malcolm. Chairman.

### **Editorial Comments for 7th November 1966**

*1. The Group Coffee Morning took place in Finnart Church Hall on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 1966 and raised £58-5-1 (equivalent to £1360 today, as of 2024). It is assumed that there was more to a Group coffee morning than a normal coffee morning. Possibly, tables of home baking and other items for sale were set up at the coffee morning.*

*2. The Jumble Sale was held at the Martyrs and North Church Hall on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 1966. It raised £61-0-5 (the equivalent of £1424 in 2024).*

*3. The Mannequin Parade took place at Seafield House on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 1966 and raised £20 (the equivalent of about £470 in 2024).*

*4. Bob's lecture on Russia would have taken place in Finnart Church Hall. It raised £4.00 (equivalent to £94 today – as of 2024). Bob had already provided a slide show on Israel and Moscow in January 1966.*

*5. No copy of either letter has been tracked down.*

*6. It is assumed that Mr. McDougall was an architect working for the firm Woodrow and Thomson.*

*7. The rationale in applying for a lease lasting 30 years is well made in the attached letter. However, it was to cause some opposition in the Corporation from the Burgh Architect and Town Planning Officer who wished to build housing on the site.*

*Copy of the letter sent to the Town Clerk by the Parents Committee*

**70th Renfrewshire Finnart Scout Group.**

**Group Committee.**

Treasurer.

Mr. J.A. Johnston,  
2, Golf Place,  
GREENOCK

Tele: GRK. 24158.

Chairman.

Mr. D.S. Malcolm,  
73 Forsyth Street,  
GREENOCK

Tele: GRK.20876.

Secretary.

Mr. W.B. Cram,  
71 South Street,  
GREENOCK

Tele: House GRK. 20998  
Business GRK. 21241

The Town Clerk,  
Greenock Town Council,  
Municipal Buildings,  
Greenock.

Dear Sir,

The above Scout Group is anxious to acquire its own Headquarters and I have been instructed as Hon. Secretary of the Group Committee to apply to the Council for the use of the ground at the South East corner of Madeira and Finnart Streets on which there is a disused Civil Defence building. If the application is approved, it is intended to convert the C.D. building into suitable Headquarters.

In support of this application I submit the following:-

<u>1) Strength of the Group.</u>			Leaders
a) Cubs, age group	8-11 years	36 boys	4 <sup>1</sup>
b) Scouts age group	11-16 years	48 boys	6 <sup>2</sup>
c) Venture Scouts	16-20 years	5 boys	2 <sup>3</sup>

The Venture Scouts are a new section started a few months ago with a view to catering for Scouts and others in the older age group.<sup>1</sup>

2) Present Arrangements.

The Group meets in Finnart Church Hall which unfortunately is inadequate and restricts the Group's activities. It is believed that the acquisition of its own premises would enable the group to widen its scope and so appeal to a wider range of boys.

The Church connection would be maintained.

### 3) Control and Supervision.

The present Group Committee of 13 parents, and Scout Leaders has the primary object of raising and controlling the funds necessary to carry out this project.

Further the National Regulations of the Scout Movement require that any Scout Group which acquires property of any kind

- a) Must vest Heritable Property and Trustees who shall be the Scout County President, Commissioner, Secretary and Treasurer.
- b) Must vest Movable Property in Trustees who shall be the Group Scout Leader, and the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the Group Committee.

Steps are currently being taken to comply with (b).

In addition, an audited financial Statement and inventory of property must be submitted annually to the Local Scout Association.

I enclose copies of specimen Trust Deeds for your information

### 4) Cost of Conversion.

It is estimated that the cost of converting the present building will be in the region of £7,000 / £8,000. You will appreciate that to justify expenditure to this extent, reasonable security of tenure would be essential. Also, it is intended to apply for a Government Grant, one of the conditions of which calls for 20 years occupancy of a site. My Committee would respectfully suggest that in view of these facts a lease of say 30 years would be desirable.

Finally may I mention that this Group is one of the few Youth Organisations catering for boys in the Western Area of the town.

I trust that the foregoing information is sufficient to enable the Council to consider our request favourably.<sup>4</sup>

Yours faithfully,

W.B. Cram.

Hon. Secretary.

#### **Editorial Comments**

1. *The four Cub Leaders included Isabel McBride (Akela), Esme ?? (Bagheera) and Anne Buntain (Kaa).*
2. *The Scout Leaders at the time included Alastair Cram, Albert Runcie, Ian Fraser, Robin Crawford, Alan Riddell. The identity of the sixth leader has not been identified, unless Bob Miller still counted himself as one of the Troop Leaders.*
3. *The information provided here is strong evidence that the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Venture Scout Unit was started almost as soon as the Section was introduced following the changes made to Scouting. Logically, it is likely to have started in August or September or 1966 at the start of the new Scout Year. There are no records regarding the Venture Scout Unit. However, it is thought likely that by the time the letter was written, the Venture Scout Leader would have been Donald Williamson and that he had an assistant Venture Scout Leader. Bob Miller may have been involved when the Unit first started but probably stepped back once it was going. The five Venture Scouts could have been PLs who resigned from the Troop after the summer of 1966. Billy Gunn was almost certainly one of those and there is a strong possibility that George Conway was another. John Lyle and David Flockhart are two other possibilities although it seems more likely that they joined after the New Year. One or*

*two Scouts from other Troops might also have joined the 70<sup>th</sup> Venture Scout Unit early on. One possibility would be Tom Caldwell.*

*4. The request for a 30 year lease could potentially have caused a problem as indicated in the response from the Town Clerk (see below). William Cram conferred with Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Thomson and Mr. Lyall regarding 'what steps, if any, we can take'. It's not known whether any 'steps' were taken, but it's clear that the objections of the Burgh Architect and Town Planning Officer were overruled.*

*Corporation Of Greenock  
Town Clerk's Office,  
Municipal Buildings  
Greenock  
23<sup>rd</sup> December 1966*

*W.B. Cram,  
71 South Street,  
Greenock*

*Dear Sir,*

*I would refer to your letter making application on behalf of the 70<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire (Finnart) Scout Group for the lease of the ground at the south-east corner of Madeira and Finnart Streets for conversion into Headquarters and have to advise you that when this matter was considered at the recent meeting of the Corporation, it was decided to remit the question to the next meeting of the Town Planning Committee.*

*I should, perhaps, explain that since the group desires the lease of the premises for a period of some thirty years, the planning aspect attains a great deal more importance than it perhaps otherwise would. The Burgh Architect and Town Planning Officer has rather strong views on the utilisation of this site which, he considers, should be for housing purposes and it will now be up to the Town Planning Committee to consider the matter in detail and recommend. I shall advise you as to the Corporation's ultimate decision.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Depute Town Clerk*

## Minutes of Meeting held on 11th January 1967.

Mr. D.S. Malcolm in the Chair.

All the members of the Committee were present with the exception of Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Flockhart and Mr. A. Cram, from whom apologies were received

### Appeal to Finnart Church Members

The Chairman reported a written appeal had been handed out by Scouts to Finnart Church members after the forenoon service on Sunday 25th December 1966. This had been backed by two references from the pulpit by Rev. Mr. Stewart.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported a balance of £1368 which included £23-9/- received from Finnart Church members to date.

### Site.

The Secretary stated that when our application came before the Town Council, there was some opposition<sup>1</sup> and the question was referred to the Town Planning Committee. It was understood that that Committee had since considered our application and has unanimously recommended granting the site to us. This recommendation will require to be ratified at the next meeting of the Council on January 26th.

### Building Plans.

The plans as drawn up by Mr. McDougall were submitted by Mr. Thomson. Estimates for the work are still to come.

### Funds.

It was decided to defer consideration of the means of raising the balance required of £400, until confirmation of the granting of the site by the Town Council had been received.

### Next Meeting.

This was fixed for 1st February 1967.

D.S. Malcolm. Chairman.

### **Editorial Comments for 11<sup>th</sup> January 1967**

1. The opposition came from the Burgh Architect and Town Planning Officer who wished to see the site used for new housing. See also note 4 above regarding a letter from the Town Clerk



## Minutes of Meeting held on 1st February 1967.

Mr. D.S. Malcolm in the Chair.

All the Committee members were present with the exception of Mr. Kirk, Mr. A. Cram and Miss McBride from whom apologies were received.

### Minutes.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th January were read, approved and signed.

### Finance.

It was reported that the Management Committee of Finnart Church had decided to recommend a donation of £200<sup>1</sup> to our HQ Fund. A special meeting of the congregation had been called for 6th February to consider the recommendation.

The Treasurer reported that the balance on hand was £1419-16-6. Included therein was £48 being the amount raised by Finnart Church door collections.

It was reported that donations promised in addition to the above £200 amounted to £85. This would give a total of £1704<sup>2</sup>, and two x £50 interest free loans were available.

### Site.

The Secretary reported that he had been verbally advised by the Town Clerk Depute that the Corporation had agreed to lease the site to us for a period of 30 years on terms to be arranged.<sup>3</sup>

### Estimates.

It was hoped that estimates for the conversion would be available next week.

### Venture Scout Equipment.

It was agreed that if the Venture Scouts made a donation, that this, with the equipment amount of Government Grant, would be made available to them for the purchase of equipment.

### Venture Scouts.

Mr. Miller reported that the Venture Scout section had at present 8 members with a probable 6 coming from the Scouts in the new session.<sup>4</sup>

### Next meeting.

The date of the next meeting was fixed as 8th March 1967.

D.S. Malcolm.  
Chairman.

## **Editorial Comments for 1st February 1967**

- 1. A sum of £200 in 1967 was equivalent in value to £4550 today (as of 2024).*
- 2. A sum of £1704 in 1967 was equivalent in value to £38,761 today (as of 2024).*
- 3. This indicated that the objections of the Burgh Architect and Town Planning Officer were overruled. It is not known whether any influence was exerted behind the scenes to ensure that result. However, it didn't do any harm to have the likes of Alexander Lyall and Dr. Dickson Mabon as strong supporters of the scheme.*
- 4. This represented an increase of 3 Venture Scouts from the previous tally. Two of the additional Venture Scouts were likely to have been John Lyle and David Flockhart. The additional six expected at the start of the new session would have included Robert Beattie, Alex Aitkenhead, Gordon Paterson and possibly John Chivers.*

## Minutes of Meeting held on 8th March 1967.

Mr. D.S. Malcolm in the Chair.

Ten members of the Committee were present. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Fraser, Miss McBride, Messrs. J.B. Thomson and A. Cram.

### Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st February were read, approved and signed.

### Finance.

The Treasurer intimated that the balance on hand was £1840-2-3. This included donations of £200 from Finnart Church, £100 from Mrs. A. Morrison, £50 from Mr. F. Brown, and £25 from an anonymous donor.

### Site.

The Secretary read a letter from the Town Clerk's Department confirming the Corporation's decision to lease the C.D. site to us for a period of 30 years at a rental to be agreed after a report by the District Valuer.

### Estimate.

Mr. Kirk reported that it had not yet been possible to make up a cost for the conversion, but it was expected that the information necessary for this would be available in a few days. It was agreed that if the Government Grant Scheme was not extended beyond 31st March 1967, our application should be lodged based on an estimated cost if necessary.

### Venture Scouts.

It was reported by Mr. Miller that the Venture Scouts had cleared the bushes etc at the site. In reply to a question as to how much they should do, it was agreed that Mr. Miller should consult Mr Kirk and Mr. Thomson.

### Next Meeting.

The next meeting was fixed for Wednesday 5th April 1967.

K. Conway.  
Chairman.

**Minutes of Meeting held on 5th April 1967.**

Mr. D.S. Malcolm in the Chair.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Morrison and Messrs. Kirk and Thomson.

Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th March were read, approved and signed.

Finance.

The Treasurer reported that the balance on hand was £1840-2-3.

Estimates.

The estimates for the conversion were not available and it was remitted to a sub-committee of the men to consider these when they were submitted and to lodge the claim for the Capital Grant with the appropriate authorities.

Group Subscription.

It was resolved that the 2/6 per week subscription from the Cubs and Scouts should be discontinued forthwith. The pack and troop would revert to their former level of subscription.

Next Meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting be held in September or October when the result of our application might be known.

DS Malcolm. Chairman. 14/2/68.

## **Minutes of Meeting held on 14th February 1968.**

Mr. D.S. Malcolm in the Chair.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Flockhart, Messrs. J.B. Thomson, K. Conway, and R.K. Miller.

### Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th April 1967 were read, approved and signed.

### Finance.

The Treasurer reported that the balance on hand was £1990.

### Estimates.

It was reported that the cost of the conversion was estimated at £8,800<sup>1</sup>.

### Grant.

The Secretary reported that Renfrewshire Education Committee had agreed to meet £2,200 of the cost and the Scottish Education Department had approved our application for a grant of £4,400.

In view of the foregoing, the Committee agreed that the work of conversion should proceed. It was anticipated that the work would be completed by September 1968.

### Town Clerk.

The Secretary was instructed to contact the Town Clerk with a view to agreeing on the rental terms and completion of the formal lease.

### Construction.

Oversight of the construction work was remitted to a sub-committee consisting of the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Messrs. Thompson and Kirk.

W.B. Cram  
Chairman, 27/3/69.

## **Appendix 1 Background on the Members of the Parents Committee and other named Individuals**

### **Black, Mrs. Jas.**

Mrs. Black lived at 28 Esplanade, Greenock. She was a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire (Finnart) Scout Group Committee that was set up in June 1965 to raise £1000-1500 towards the cost of a new Scout HQ. Various fund-raising activities were organized including a fete/sale of work where Mrs. Black and Mrs. Gunn organized and ran a groceries stall. The fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024). Mrs. Black resigned from the committee on the 11<sup>th</sup> May 1966. She was the mother of John Black who was in the Wolf Cubs at that time.

### **Brown, Mr.**

A concert was performed by a Mr. Brown at the St. Andrew's Church Hall on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1966. It raised about £13 towards the HQ Fund. It's not known who Mr. Brown was, unfortunately.

### **Bruce, Mrs.**

It is believed that Mrs. Bruce was a Primary School Teacher who ran PE classes and was involved in entering primary school pupils into the Annual Renfrewshire Schools Festival held at the Town Hall. It is also believed that Mrs. Bruce was the mother of John and Sandy Bruce who were both members of the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack and Scout Troop.

Mrs. Bruce was not a member of the Parent's Scout HQ Committee, but she was approached by Isabel McBride and Bob Miller to see whether she would be interested in organising a show involving the Cubs and Scouts as one of the fund raising projects towards raising money for the construction of a Scout HQ. The proposal was considered seriously and feelers were sent out to find out how much it would cost to hire the Arts Guild for such a show. Despite provisional approval for the show, the project was abandoned in December 1965. Possibly, it was seen as being impractical in the end.

### **Conway, Mr. Kenneth**

Mr. Kenneth Conway lived at 1, Drums Terrace, Greenock and was a Clyde River Pilot. He was a member of the initial Parents Committee set up on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965 to raise funds for the new Scout HQ, and continued on the committee during the 1966/67 session. During 1965/66, Mr. Conway, Mrs. Patrick and Mrs. Gunn formed a subcommittee that organized and ran an evening's concert by a Mr. Brown that took place at the St. Andrew's Church Hall on the 10th February 1966. The concert raised about £13 - equivalent to about £304 today (as of 2024). Mr. Conway and Bob Miller also organised fairground games at the fete that took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls. The fete raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024). During the first half of 1966, Mr. Conway acted as Chairman/Convenor of the Parents Committee and remained on the committee for the 1966/67 session. During that session, he was on a sub committee that drew up a programme of fund raising projects over the year. Others on the the sub committee were Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Thomson, Mr. W. Cram, Mrs. Morrison and Mrs Fraser.

Mr. Conway was the father of Kenneth, Alan and George Conway, all of whom joined the 70<sup>th</sup> Troop and gained their Queen's Scout Badge. George was a P.L. in the Troop during 1965.

### **Conway, Mrs.**

Mrs. Conway was Mr. Conway's wife. She had been a member of the very first Parents Committee that was set up in 1959. However, she was not on the Parents fund-raising committee set up in 1965. However, she did pass on £20 that had been raised by the Seal Patrol for the fund. The Seal patrol was the only patrol to actively raise money towards the fund.

### **Cram, Alastair Buchanan**

Alastair B. Cram lived at 71, South St. Greenock and was the only son of Mr. W. Cram. He joined the Committee when he was appointed Scout Master in April 1966. He had been in both the Wolf Cub pack and Scout Troop during the 1950s and early 1960s. He gained his Queen's Scout Badge and was promoted to Patrol

Leader and Troop Leader before joining the ranks of the Scouters in 1961. In 1965, he was an A.S.M. and so he did not attend Parents Committee meetings unless he was standing in for Bob Miller. However, that changed when he took over the Troop in April 1966.

#### **Cram, William Buchanan**

Mr. William B. Cram was Alastair Cram's father and lived at 71 South Street Greenock. He played an important supporting role in the 70<sup>th</sup> Group as he was the Honorary Secretary for the Parents Committee which was formed in 1959 and consisted of Messrs. Lind, Cram, and W. Fraser, as well as Mrs. Johnston, Fraser, and Conway. That Committee was originally formed to assist in the sale of Christmas Cards as a Fund Raising Effort, but it proved so successful that it kept going for another 4 years. Mr. Cram might have taken on the role of Chairman at one point during that period.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965, he was elected Secretary of a new Parents Committee [70<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire (Finnart) Scout Group Committee] that set a goal of raising £1000-£1500 towards the costs of establishing a separate Scout HQ as the Finnart Church Hall was too small for a growing Scout Troop. Mr. J. E. Lind was appointed as Convener of the Committee, while Mr. J.A. Johnston and Mr. W.B. Cram were appointed as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. One of the early fund raising activities was a performance by the Greenock Male Voice Choir at Trinity Church Gall o the 25<sup>th</sup> November 1965. This was organized by a sub-committee of Mr. Cram, Mrs. Morrison and Mrs. Martin and raised £29 (equivalent to about £680 in 2024). In 1966, Mr. Cram wrote a letter that was distributed to all parents summarizing the efforts that had been made to raise money to that point. The Committee proved highly successful in not only raising the money but also in overcoming a number of obstacles regarding approval for the modification of the Civil Defence Building at the corner of Finnart Street and Madeira Street and the leasing of the site from the council. On the 14<sup>th</sup> February 1968, a subcommittee made up of Mr. Cram, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Thomson and Mr. Kirk was set up to oversee the construction work. The Scout HQ was finally opened in April 1969 and William Cram was awarded a Thanks Badge at the opening ceremony for his "outstanding services".

#### **Cram, Mrs.**

Mrs. Cram was Alastair Cram's mother. She wasn't a member of the Parents Committee but on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 1965, she raised £5 towards the HQ Fund by selling marmalade. This was equivalent in value to £117 in 2024.

#### **Flockhart, Mrs. Irene**

Mrs. J. Flockhart (Irene) lived at 12 Lylefoot Crescent, Greenock and served on the Parents Committee during 1965-66 and 1966-1967. Mrs. Flockhart's maiden name was Irene Zoller and she was an Assistant Cub Mistress during the war. Her husband (John) was a lecturer at Paisley College of Technology. Her son, David, was in the Scout Troop between 1962 and 1966 and reached the rank of Patrol Leader. Mrs. Flockhart was a member of a sub committee set up on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 1965 to explore the possibility of organising a large-scale Sale of Work or Fete. That fete eventually took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024). Mrs. Flockhart ran a small tea room during the fete. On the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966, a sub committee of Mrs. Flockhart, Mrs. Morrison and Mrs Morris was formed to arrange a Mannequin Parade. This took place at Seafield House on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 1966 and raised £20 (the equivalent of about £470 today – as of 2024).

#### **Fraser, Mrs. Helen M.**

Mrs. Helen M. Fraser lived at 9 Welbeck Street. However, there were several Scouts by the name of Fraser in the Pack and the Troop during the 1950s and 1960s and so it has not yet been possible to identify more details. Mrs. Fraser was co-opted onto the Fund Raising Committee on the 1st of December 1965, and also served on the committee during 1966-67. On the 15<sup>th</sup> June 1966, a sub committee involving the three office bearers, Mrs. Morrison, Mrs Fraser and Mr. Conway was appointed to draw up a provisional programme of fund raising projects for 1966/67. On the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Gunn and Mrs. Fraser were selected to organise a group Coffee Morning. This took place in the Finnart Church Hall on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 1966 and raised £58-5-1 (equivalent to £1360 today as of 2024).

**Gunn, Mrs. J.A.**

*Mrs. J.A. Gunn lived at 138 Finnart Street then Woodside, 68 Reservoir Rd, Gourock. Her husband was John A. Gunn her son (Billy Gunn) was in the Scout Troop between 1961 and 1966, during which he rose to the rank of Patrol Leader and Troop Leader. Mrs. Gunn was a member of the Parents Committee for both 1965-66 and 1966-67. This Committee's role was to raise funds for a Scout HQ and to promote the construction of the building. During 1965/66, Mr. Conway, Mrs. Patrick and Mrs. Gunn formed a subcommittee that organized and ran an evening's concert by a Mr. Brown that took place at the St. Andrew's Church Hall on the 10th February 1966. The concert raised about £13 - equivalent to about £304 today (as of 2024). Mrs Gunn was also involved in the fete that took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024). At the fete, Mrs. Gunn and Mrs. Black ran a groceries stall. On the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Gunn and Mrs. Fraser were selected to organise a group Coffee Morning. This took place in the Finnart Church Hall on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 1966 and raised £58-5-1 (equivalent to £1360 today as of 2024).*

**Johnston, Mr. J. A.**

*Mr. J.A. Johnston lived at 2 Golf Place, Greenock and was the father of John Johnston who moved up from the Wolf Cub Pack to the Scout Troop in 1967. Mr. Johnston was appointed as Treasurer of the Parents Committee for both 1965-66 and 1966-67. This Committee's role was to raise funds for a Scout HQ and to promote the construction of the building. As Treasurer, Mr. Johnston was a signatory for the account set up for the fund. The other signatory was Mr. William Cram. Mr. J.A. Johnston was also appointed to a sub committee that investigated the feasibility of organising a large-scale Sale of Work during the winter of 1965/66. Once it was decided that the event was feasible, Mr. Johnston was elected as Convener of the sub committee appointed to organise the fete. The fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024). Finally, on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 1968, a sub committee made up of Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Cram, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Kirk was set up to oversee the construction work on the Scout HQ.*

**Kirk, Mr. J.M.**

*Mr. J.M. Kirk lived at 12 Bedford St. and was the father of John Kirk who moved up from the Wolf Cub Pack to the Troop in October 1965. Mr. Kirk was a member of the Parents Committee for both 1965-66 and 1966-67. This Committee's role was to raise funds for a Scout HQ and to promote the construction of the building. He was involved in the running of the fete that took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024). At the event, Mr. Kirk and Mr. Malcolm ran a bottle stall. On the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966, Mr. Kirk, Mr. Thomson and the Scouters were appointed to a sub committee to decide on detailed plans and costs for the conversion project aimed at modifying the old Civil Defence Building at the corner of Finnart Street and Madeira Street into a Scout HQ. Finally, on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 1968, a sub committee made up of Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Cram, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Kirk was set up to oversee the construction work on the Scout HQ. It is assumed that Mr. Kirk was associated with J. and R. Kirk, Building Contractors, 5 Campbell Street, Greenock. This firm was employed to carry out most of the conversion work.*

**Laurie, Mr. W.D.**

*Mr. W.D. Laurie was appointed as the representative of Finnart Church at the 70<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire (Finnart) Scout Group Committee meetings. The committee was set up in 1965 to raise £1000-1500 towards the cost of a new Scout HQ. Mr. W.D. Laurie lived at Biannean, 132 Newton Street Greenock (20791).*

**Lind, Mr. Jas. E.**

*Mr. Jas. E. Lind lived at 161 Newark St. Greenock and was the father of Ronald and Gifford Lind. Ronald was the older brother. He reached the rank of PL and was in the Troop between 1957 and 1962. He may also have helped out as part of the leader team up until 1965. Gifford was in the troop from 1961 to 1965 and rose to the rank of Patrol Leader.*

*Mr. Lind was a member of the very first Parents Committee established on the 29th September 1959 in order to coordinate the sale and distribution of Christmas cards. That committee proved so successful that it was decided to continue it. On the 4<sup>th</sup> November 1960, Mr Lind was appointed secretary, treasurer and chairman of the Parents' Committee and he was invited to attend the Troop's Halloween Party to judge the Fancy Dress costumes. On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1961, Mr. and Mrs. Lind visited the Troop's Easter camp at Pitlochry and the troop bumped into them on a hike to the Black Spout Waterfall. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. McKinnon.*

*On the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965, the Parents Committee was officially named the '70<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire (Finnart) Scout Group Committee' and it set itself a goal of raising £1000-£1500 towards the costs of establishing a separate Scout HQ as the Finnart Church Hall was too small for a growing Scout Troop. Mr. J. E. Lind was appointed as Convener/Chairman of the Committee, while Mr. J.A. Johnston and Mr. W.B. Cram were appointed as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. In February 1966, Mr. Lind had to resign due to pressures of business. However, the Committee had made good progress and by the end of the year it had not only raised the money it had targeted, but had also overcome a number of obstacles regarding the approval required to modify the Civil Defence Building at the corner of Finnart Street and Madeira Street. The committee also had to deal with other documentation before the project could go ahead. The Scout HQ was finally opened in April 1969.*

#### ***Lyll, Mr. Alexander***

*Mr. Alexander Lyll was a senior consultant surgeon who lived at 49 Octavia Terrace and had a son (Iain) who was in the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack and moved up to the troop in 1966 where he reached the rank of PL before leaving the Troop in 1971. Mr. Lyll worked at Greenock Royal Infirmary, where his secretary and personal assistant was Isabel McBride - Akela of the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub pack. Mr. Lyll was also on the Education Committee Youth Panel and was chairman of the panel in 1969.*

*Although Mr. Lyll was not a member of the committee, his prestige, contacts and interest in Educational issues, were almost certainly highly influential in ensuring that the HQ project went ahead. He was involved at the very start of the project when Bob Miller called a meeting of parents in May 1965 to propose the idea of modifying the old Civil Defence Building at the corner of Madeira Street and Finnart Street into a Scout HQ. While Bob Miller made a strong case for the advantages such a facility would offer the 70<sup>th</sup> Group, Mr. Lyll explained how such a project could be financially feasible by taking advantage of available educational grants that would cover 75% of the cost. Bob Miller and Mr. Lyll then had to field a number of searching questions, but in the end, the parents unanimously agree to proceed with the scheme and to set up a Parents Committee of 14 parents plus Scout Master and Cub Leader with the aim of raising £1000-1500 within 9 months in order to qualify for the available grants.*

*Mr. Lyll may also have played a crucial role in overcoming a major obstacle that arose when the Civil Defence Association refused to hand over the building as they wished to build civil defence garages on the site. Mr. Lyll's local contacts and influence may have been a factor in the Local Council's decision to reject the CD's plans for building garages. However, the CD Association were not easily defeated and they appealed to the Scottish Office to have the Council's decision overturned. It's known that Mr. Lyll wrote to Greenock MP, Dr. Dickson Mabon, arguing strongly that the youngsters in the West End of Greenock urgently needed a facility such as the proposed Scout HQ. This letter may well have been prompted by the appeal made by the CD to the Scottish Office. If so, Dickson Mabon may well have been influential in the Scottish office rejecting the CD's appeal.*

*Mr. Lyll attended another meeting of all Parents on the 11th May 1966 where he informed those present that the government grant scheme had been extended to 31<sup>st</sup> March 1967 and that the C.D.'s appeal to the Scottish Office had been rejected. He then stated that he would give every possible assistance in procuring the site for the group. The committee itself stated that in all matters relating to the site, Mr Lyll 'has kept in close touch with local authority officials etc. on our behalf and we must express our thanks to him for his active interest'. In*



October 1966, Mr. Lyall passed on the news that the Civil Defence Committee had decided to hand the site and the building back to the Greenock Corporation, thus removing the barrier to further progress.  
Mr. Lyall was awarded an OBE in 1970 and appointed to the Greenock Health Board in 1971.

**Lyle, Mr.**

Some of the entries provided in the Minutes book refer to a Mr. Lyle. It is felt that this is meant to be Mr. Lyall, especially as the entries concerned involve communication between 'Mr. Lyle' and Isabel McBride. As Isabel McBride was Mr. Lyall's secretary and personal assistant, Isabel would be the most natural conduit for news updates from Mr. Lyall to the committee.

**Lyon, Mrs. D.**

Mrs. D. Lyon was the wife of Dr. D. Lyon and lived at 45, Newark St. Greenock. Her son was Andrew Lyon who was in the same year at school as Iain Lyall. Like Iain, Andrew was in the Troop between 1966 and 1971, and reached the rank of PL. Andrew was also present at the opening of the Scout HQ in April 1969.

Mrs. Lyon was a member of the initial Parents Committee set up on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965 and was also on the 1966/67 committee. Mrs Lyon was involved in the fete that took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024). At the fete, Mrs. Lyon and Mrs. Patrick ran a White Elephant stall.

**Mabon, Dr. Dickson M.P. (1925-2008)**

Dr. Dickson Mabon was the Labour M.P. for Greenock from 1955-1983. During 1964-67, he was joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Scotland, then from 1967-1970, he was Secretary of State for Scotland. As a result, he was in a powerful political position to support the 70<sup>th</sup>'s project aimed at modifying an old Civil Defence building into a Scout HQ. It is known that Mr. Lyall wrote a letter to Dr. Mabon explaining the importance of the project as a resource for West End youngsters and it is likely that Mr. Lyall identified attempts to block the project by the Civil Defence Association (CDA) and some members of Greenock Corporation. Dr. Mabon may well have played a crucial role in the Scottish Office turning down the application of the CDA to build garages on the site planned for the conversion. He may also have influenced the Greenock Corporation to grant the necessary permission for the conversion and the leasing of the site. In doing so, he gained a lot of respect from many parents and Scouters in the West End of Greenock as he leant his political weight to supporting a project in an area of the town that was strongly Liberal in its political leanings. This amply exemplified the democratic principle that an M.P. should represent all his constituents and not just those that were likely to support him at the ballot box. Dr. Mabon was invited to the opening ceremony once the HQ was completed and duly attended.

**Malcolm, Mr. Duncan S.**

Mr. Duncan S. Malcolm lived at 73, Forsyth Street, Greenock. His son was also called Duncan and was in the troop between 1965 and 1967 reaching the rank of APL.

Mr. Malcolm was a member of the initial Committee set up on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965, and was elected as Chairman of the Committee between 1966 and 1968. Mr. Malcolm was involved in the fete that took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024). At the fete, Mr. Malcolm and Mr. Kirk ran a Bottle Stall. On the 30<sup>th</sup> March 1966, Mr. Malcolm agreed to act as auditor for the accounts covering the first year of the HQ Fund. On the 14<sup>th</sup> February 1968, a sub committee consisting of Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Johnston, Mr. W. Cram, Mr. Thomson and Mr. Kirk was established to oversee the construction work of the Scout HQ. Mr. Duncan was unable to be present at the opening of the Scout HQ in April 1969, but his wife was present and accepted on his behalf a Thanks Badge that had been awarded to him for 'outstanding services'.

**Martin, Mrs. W.I.**

*Mrs. W.I. Martin lived at 23, Bentinck St. Greenock. Her husband was Dr. W.I. Martin and her son (John) was a 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub before joining the Scout Troop. He was in the Troop between 1963 and 1968 and reached the rank of Senior Patrol Leader. He then joined the Venture Scout Unit and was present at the opening of the HQ. Mrs. Martin was a member of the initial Parents Committee set up on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965 to raise funds for a new Scout HQ and to promote its construction. Mrs. Martin was also appointed to a sub committee that investigated the feasibility of organising a large-scale Sale of Work/Fete during the winter of 1965/66. The fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (equivalent in value to £4200 in 2024). During the fete, Mrs. Martin ran a Baking and Confectionary Stall. Mrs. Martin was also on another sub committee with Mrs. Morrison and Mr. W. Cram that arranged a performance of the Greenock Male Voice Choir. This took place at Trinity Church Hall on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 1965 and raised £29 (equivalent to about £680 in 2024). Mrs. Martin also served on the subsequent Parents Committee for 1966-67. On the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Gunn and Mrs Fraser were appointed to a sub committee to organise a Group Coffee Morning. This took place in the Finnart Church Hall on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 1966 and raised £58-5-1 (equivalent to £1360 today as of 2024).*

#### **McBride, Miss Isabel M.**

*Miss Isabel M. McBride lived at 15, Ardgowan St. Greenock. Isabel had been the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Cub Master (Akela) since the mid 1950s, and it was in that capacity that she attended the meetings of the Parents Committee set up on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965 to raise funds for a new Scout HQ and to promote its construction. Isabel was also appointed to a sub committee that investigated the feasibility of organising a large-scale Sale of Work/Fete during the winter of 1965/66. That fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (equivalent in value to £4200 in 2024). Isabel and Bob Miller also explored the possibility of Mrs. Bruce producing a Show by the Cubs and the Scouts as one of the fund raising projects. In the end, this did not take place, possibly because of the cost of hiring the Arts Guild for the show or because of practical difficulties in putting it on.*

*Isabel also attended the meetings of the subsequent 1966/67 committee. One of her key roles was as a conduit of information between Mr. Lyall and the committee. Isabel was Mr. Lyall's Secretary and Personal Assistant, and was able to keep the Committee up to date and well informed of important information that Mr. Lyall had access to. For example, on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966, Isabel was able to pass on information from Mr. Lyall that the Civil Defence had handed back the site at the corner of Madeira Street and Finnart Street to the Greenock Corporation and that Dickson Mabon had offered any further assistance required. This removed a major obstacle to further progress and allowed the committee to resume fund raising activities more quickly than it might have done otherwise.*

#### **McDougall, Mr.**

*Mr. McDougall drew up detailed plans for the conversion of the Civil Defence Building to a Scout HQ towards the end of 1966. It is assumed that he was an employee of Woodrow and Thomson, Architects and Surveyors, 142 Cathcart Street, Greenock.*

#### **Miller, Mr. Robert K.**

*Mr. Robert K. Miller lived at 18, Johnston St. and was the longest serving member of the Group during the 1960s having been a 70<sup>th</sup> Scout and ASM during the 1950s, and SM from 1960 to 1966. It is likely that he was the prime mover in proposing a project by which the 70<sup>th</sup> would obtain its own Scout HQ. It also seems highly likely that initially approached Mr. Lyall for support and advice. This is backed up by a meeting of all parents which took place in May 1965 where Bob explained why the 70<sup>th</sup> needed its own Scout HQ and pointed out the severe limitations of using the Finnart Church Hall. He may well have pointed out that the Troop was likely to expand by 25% over the following year, based on the number of Cubs due to move up from the Pack. Crucially, Mr. Lyall also spoke at that meeting and explained how a project aimed at converting an old Civil Defence Building at the corner of Finnart Street and Madeira Street would be financially feasible as 75% of the funding could come from government grants, as long as a Parents Committee could raise 25% of the cost over the next 9 months. After several searching questions from the parents, it was unanimously agreed to set up a*

Parents Committee consisting of 14 parents and the two Section leaders that would raise £1000-1500 over the next 9 months. That Committee first met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965 with Bob attending in his role as Scout Master. Bob was also on a sub committee investigated the feasibility of organising a large-scale Sale of Work/Fete during the winter of 1965/66. That fete took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (equivalent in value to £4200 in 2024). During the fete, Mr. Conway and Mr. Miller with the assistance of several Scouts ran a series of fairground-type games that contributed towards the overall total accumulated. Isabel and Bob Miller also explored the possibility of Mrs. Bruce producing a Show by the Cubs and the Scouts as one of the fund raising projects. In the end, this did not take place, possibly because of the cost of hiring the Arts Guild for the show or because of practical difficulties in putting it on. On the 19<sup>th</sup> January 1966, Bob put on a slide show of Israel and Moscow in the Church Hall. It is not known how much money that raised. However, later in the year, Bob gave another lecture, this time on Russia, which raised £4. Bob also obtained information from Scout HQ regarding a Deed of Trust relating to the intended Scout HQ. By the 27<sup>th</sup> April, the sum raised was £929-2-6 with an additional £30 expected from the Troop as a result of Bob-a-Job Week. Bob also announced that Alastair Cram was now Scout Master with Bob now taking on the role of Group Scoutmaster. As such, both Bob and Alastair would attend future meetings. After the summer of 1966, Bob and the Scouters organised a Jumble Sale which raised £61-0-5. Bob was also on a subcommittee consisting of Mr. Thomson, Mr. Kirk and the Scouters which was charged with drawing up detailed plans and costs for the conversion of the old Civil Defence building into a Scout HQ.

It is thought that Bob Miller may have resigned as Group Scout Leader in the summer of 1968 and moved away from the area. Curiously, there is no evidence of him attending the opening of the Scout HQ in April 1969.

#### **Morris, Mrs.**

Mrs. Morris lived at 91 Octavia Terrace, Greenock and was married to Dr. J.B. Morris. Their son, Gordon, was a member of the Troop from 1964 until 1968. Mrs. Morris was not a member of the initial Parents Committee set up on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965 to raise funds for a new Scout HQ and to promote its construction. However, she joined the committee for the year 1966/67. On the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966, a sub committee of Mrs. Flockhart, Mrs. Morrison and Mrs Morris was formed to arrange a Mannequin Parade. This took place at Seafield House on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 1966 and raised £20 (the equivalent of about £470 today – as of 2024).

#### **Morrison, Mrs. A.**

No information is known about Mrs. A. Morrison, other than that she donated £100 towards the Scout HQ Fund in 1967. It's likely that she was a member of Finnart Church.

#### **Morrison, Mrs. F.**

Mrs. F. Morrison lived at 101, Newark St. Greenock and was married to Mr. Finlay W. Morrison who worked for the firm F.D. and D.A.M. She had two sons (Robert and Douglas) both of whom were in the 70<sup>th</sup> until they moved to Boarding School. Robert was in the troop from 1965 until 1967. Douglas joined the Troop in 1965 but left for an Edinburgh boarding school fairly soon after.

Mrs. Morrison was a member of the initial Parents Committee set up on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965 to raise funds for a new Scout HQ and to promote its construction. Mrs. Morrison was also on a sub committee with Mrs. Martin and Mr. W. Cram that arranged a performance of the Greenock Male Voice Choir. This took place at Trinity Church Hall on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 1965 and raised £29 (equivalent to about £680 in 2024). Mrs. Morrison was also involved in a large-scale Sale of Work/Fete. This took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls and raised £180 in total (equivalent in value to £4200 in 2024). During the fete, Mrs. Morrison ran a Soft Goods Stall. Mrs. Morrison also served on the subsequent Parents Committee for 1966-67 and was on a subcommittee that drew up a provisional programme of fund-raising projects for 1966/67. On the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966, a sub committee of Mrs. Flockhart, Mrs. Morrison and Mrs Morris was formed to arrange a Mannequin Parade. This took place at Seafield House on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 1966 and raised £20 (the equivalent of about £470 today – as of 2024).

**Nisbet, Mr.**

*Mr. Nisbet attended a couple of meetings of the Parents Committee during 1965, and became a full member of the committee in 1966. It is believed that this was ASM John Nisbet. However, there is also the possibility that it might have been John's father.*

**Patrick, Mrs. Irene**

*Mrs. Irene Patrick's maiden name was Irene Smith and she was the only daughter of Alfred and Jenny Smith (Owners of Smiths Warehouse), 99 Newark Street. Mrs Patrick lived at 2 Kincaid Street and was married to Alexander J. Patrick. She had two sons (Graham and Stuart) who both went through the 70<sup>th</sup> Cubs and Scouts. Graham was in the Pack (1962-65) and the Troop (1965-1970) and witnessed the opening of the HQ. Stuart was in the Cub Pack (1969-1972) and the Troop (1972-1978) and probably spent all of that time in the new HQ. Mrs. Patrick was a member of the initial Parents Committee set up on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965 to raise funds for a new Scout HQ and to promote its construction. Mr. Conway, Mrs. Patrick and Mrs. Gunn formed a subcommittee that organized and ran an evening's concert by a Mr. Brown that took place at the St. Andrew's Church Hall on the 10th February 1966. Mrs. Patrick organised the printing, distribution and sale of tickets. The concert raised about £13 - equivalent to about £304 today (as of 2024). Mr. Patrick and Mrs. Lyon also ran a White Elephant stall at the fete that took place on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at Martyrs and North Church Halls. The fete raised £180 in total (the equivalent in value of £4200 today as of 2024). Mrs. Patrick resigned from the Committee in the Spring of 1966 due to other commitments.*

**Thomson, Mr. James B.**

*Mr. James B. Thomson lived at 30, Esplanade, Greenock and was the father of David Thomson who was in the Troop between 1967 and 1971. Mr. Thomson might have been a quantity surveyor working for Woodrow and Thomson (Architects and Surveyors), Clydesdale Bank Buildings, 132, Cathcart Street, Greenock. He was a member of the initial Parents Committee set up on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1965 to raise funds for a new Scout HQ and to promote its construction. On the 28<sup>th</sup> July 1965, Mr. Thomson submitted a preliminary drawing which established that the Civil Defence Building at the corner of Finnart Street and Madeira Street could be converted to a Scout HQ at a significantly lower cost than building a new Scout HQ from scratch. On the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1966, a sub committee was formed of Mr. Thomson, Mr. Kirk and the Scouters in order to draw up detailed plans and costs for the conversion. A contract was signed that appointed Woodrow and Thomson as architects and surveyors for the project and the plans were drawn up by a Mr. McDougall (presumably an employee) and submitted to Mr. Thomson by the 11<sup>th</sup> January 1967. On the 14<sup>th</sup> February 1968, a sub committee consisting of Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Johnston, Mr. W. Cram, Mr. Thomson and Mr. Kirk was established to oversee the construction work of the Scout HQ. On the 9<sup>th</sup> October 1969, Woodrow and Thomson posted a cheque to the 70th for £150 as a donation to Group Funds.*

**Stewart, The Rev. Donald W.**

*The Rev. Donald H. Stewart was the troop's chaplain and minister of Finnart Church from the late 1930s until his retirement in September 1967. Throughout that period, he was a very strong supporter of the Scout Group and his support was acknowledged in the annual report of the Parents Committee covering the year 1965-66.*