

# Court of Honour

## Minutes

**Scoutmaster A. B. Cram.**

**1966-1967**

**PLs Council Minutes.**

**1967-1968**

### **Editorial Introduction**

*The Court of Honour (COH) was the name given to the meetings that were held between the Patrol Leaders and their Scoutmaster. These meetings were usually chaired by the Troop Leader while another Patrol Leader recorded the minutes. The Court of Honour covered anything relating to the running of the Troop, including decisions on promotions, reshuffling of Patrols, Troop night programmes, camps, hikes, fund raising, equipment, finance, progress through badges etc. It was also a disciplinary body that could hold miscreant Scouts to account and decide what sanctions should be taken versus Scouts that misbehaved, showed poor attendance or did not pull their weight, especially when it came to Bob-a-Job Week. The COH worked best when the Scoutmaster paid attention to the wishes of his PLs and used persuasion or discussion to influence any decision making, rather than imposing his own will. By the same token, the system worked smoothly if the PLs paid due respect to the wishes and experience of the Scoutmaster and backed down from any decisions which the Scoutmaster thought inappropriate or unworkable. Essentially, the Scoutmaster had the right to veto any decisions taken, but this was only to be used in extremis.*

*As a result of the radical changes introduced into Scouting in 1966, the 'Court of Honour' was considered an outdated term. Consequently, the name was changed to the Patrol Leaders Council (PLC). However, the function and roles of the PLC were essentially the same as the Court of Honour. Each Troop had a five-year transition period in which to move from the 'old system' to the 'new system'. However, the 70<sup>th</sup> chose to convert to the new system at the start of the 1967-68 Scout Year.*

*The content of the COH/PLC minutes book is transcribed below with minimal modifications. Such modifications are indicated in italics and are purely to correct or clarify the wording. Editorial notes are provided at the end of each set of minutes that clarify or elaborate certain points arising from the minutes. Red superscript numbers within the original text indicate when such notes are applicable. An appendix at the end also provides a short summary of the individuals identified in the minutes.*

### **Abbreviations**

*A.P.L. Assistant Patrol Leader; A.S.L. Assistant Scout Leader; ASM Assistant Scout Master; COH Court of Honour; P.L. Patrol Leader; PLC Patrol Leaders' Council; Sec. Second; SL Scout Leader; SM Scoutmaster*

**1st September 1966**

7.00- 8.00 p.m.

Finnart Church Hall  
Madeira Street

Present:

S.M.	A. Cram
A.S.M.	R. Crawford
P.L.	J. Barr
P.L.	D. White <sup>1</sup>
P.L.	G. Conway <sup>2</sup>
P.L.	D. Flockhart <sup>3</sup>
P.L.	A. Aitkenhead
P.L.	J. Lyle

This was *the* first *COH* of the session and there were no minutes read.

### Promotions<sup>1</sup>

It was decided unanimously that the new P.L. of the Seal Patrol was to be G. Paterson and the new P.L. of the Fox Patrol – R. Beattie. *The* new P.L. of the Falcon patrol was *to be* P. Robertson and the new *Second* of the Falcon Patrol – G. Morris.

### New Recruits

Brian Jagger joining troop and going into<sup>4</sup>

E. Dale - Falcon & M. Dale - Fox.

Also 5 cubs coming up on 7th October- B. Kerr, I. Goudie, J. Bruce, J. Dagleish, and G. Lyle.

### Leaving.

G. Conway and B. Gunn<sup>5</sup> – *Joining* Venture Scouts

R. Reid – Australia<sup>6</sup>

Numbers now stand at 46.

### Everton.

PLs and *Seconds* Training Weekend to be held at Everton 24<sup>th</sup> - 25th September 1966.

### Projects

Are going to be organised each month, starting with mapping.

### Store.

After Summer Camp, each Patrol has to go en masse down to the store to help clear up the mess.

### Competition.

Signalling competition to be this month?<sup>7</sup>

### Logs.

Troop log has to be written every two weeks by the Duty P.L.<sup>8</sup> and a log has to be handed in at the end of each month by every Patrol.<sup>9</sup>

### Patrol Flags.

And every Patrol has to have a flag<sup>10</sup>.

### Appointments.

C.F. Leaders<sup>11</sup>: A. Aitkenhead & J. Lyle – joint C.F. leaders

A. Aitkenhead – new C.O.H. Chairman<sup>12</sup>

Two P.L.'s to help as joint QMs this year.

### Subs.

Subs are to be, from now on, 1/-<sup>13</sup> each week and 6<sup>d</sup> <sup>14</sup> back for Patrol funds providing each man pays his 1/- and all money is to be recorded.

Signed                      Alex Aitkenhead (Chairman)  
   John A. Lyle

### **Editorial Notes for 1<sup>st</sup> September 1966**

- 1. David White was resigning as PL of the Falcon Patrol. Peter Robertson (Second of the Falcon Patrol) was promoted to PL, and Gordon Morris was promoted to Second. Gordon may have transferred from the Seagull to the Falcon at this point.*
- 2. George Conway was resigning as PL of the Seal Patrol. Gordon Paterson, who was the Patrol's Second, was promoted to PL. Charles Stewart (Seal) was promoted to Second.*
- 3. David Flockhart was resigning as PL of the Fox Patrol. Robert Beattie was Second of the Kingfisher Patrol and transferred to the Fox Patrol to become PL. Malcolm Dale was promoted to Second of the Fox Patrol. David Shearer took over as Second of the Kingfisher Patrol.*
- 4. A space was left to enter the Patrol, but it was not filled in. Brian Jagger joined the Fox Patrol.*
- 5. Billy Gunn had been promoted to Troop Leader (without Patrol) during the Summer camp of 1966. It is possible that Alex Aitkenhead may have taken over as Troop Leader*
- 6. The editor thinks that it was New Zealand that Russell Reid emigrated to.*
- 7. The District Scout Signalling Competition involved teams of four from each competing Troop sending messages in either morse code or semaphore. The trophy had been introduced during the 1950s and the 70<sup>th</sup> had an excellent record of winning the competition. An ability to use morse or semaphore was tested in both the 2<sup>nd</sup> Class and 1<sup>st</sup> Class badges. However, these tests were dropped when the new system of Scout Standard and Advanced Scout Standard were introduced. As a result, the Signalling Competition was eventually discontinued, and the trophy was awarded instead for orienteering. The question mark might indicate a doubt as to whether the Signalling Competition was to be held in 1966.*
- 8. Usually, a specific Scout (not a PL) was appointed as 'Troop Scribe' with the responsibility of keeping the Troop Log up to date. It's not clear how the new system would work, as there was a different Duty Patrol each week. Unfortunately, the Troop Log covering 1966-1968 is currently missing.*
- 9. The Seal Patrol Log from January 1967 to March 1968 survives, as does the Tiger Patrol Log from January 1968 to September 1970.*
- 10. This consisted of a small triangular cloth pennant which contained the Patrol symbol in red on a white background. The flag was attached to the top of a Scout Staff which the PL would hold when the patrol formed up.*
- 11. Its not specified what is meant by C.F. Leaders. One possibility is that it stands for Campfire leaders.*



12. Usually the Troop Leader was appointed Chairman of the COH, but that was not a golden rule. It's not known whether Alex Aitkenhead was appointed Troop Leader or not.

13. The 1/- (1 shilling or 'bob') coin was replaced by the 5p coin following decimalisation. There were 20 shillings to the pound. 1/- in 1966 was the equivalent in value to £1.17 today (as of 2024). During the 1965/66 session, the subscriptions were increased from 6d to 2/6 weekly. Alternatively, an annual subscription of £6-10/- could be paid. This was part of the fund-raising push coordinated by the Parents Committee to raise funds towards a Scout HQ.

14. 6d stands for 6 pennies. There were 12 pennies in a shilling. Therefore 6d was half a shilling.

**2nd September 1966**

9.40-10.15.

Finnart Church Hall  
Madeira St

Present: SM<sup>1</sup>

Promotions.

C. Stewart to be new *Second* of the Seal.

D Shearer to be new *Second* of the Kingfisher.

Left.

J. Kirk.

Duty Patrol Leader<sup>2</sup>

To hand in requests for campfire.

Comp.<sup>3</sup>

C.O.H. approve of entering a team for the International Rifle Comp.<sup>3</sup>

Patrols.

To send thank-you letters<sup>4</sup> to Mr. Dagleish<sup>5</sup> of the Firth of Clyde Drydock.<sup>6</sup>

Alex Aitkenhead (Chairman)

Signed: John A. Lyle (Secretary).

**Editorial Notes for 2nd September 1966**

1. A space was left to enter everyone attending, but it was not filled in.
2. A Duty Patrol was appointed at each Troop Meeting. The Duty Patrol was responsible for flagbreak and flagdown, choosing the interpatrol game, and clearing up the Church Hall after the meeting.
3. The word in the minutes book could be 'comp.' or 'camp.' The former seems more likely. It's not known what this involved.
4. The entry suggests that each Patrol sent their own 'Thank-you' letter.
5. It is likely that Mr. Dagleish of the Inchgreen Drydock was father to Philip, John, Chris and Gordon Dagleish, all of whom were 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts.
6. Presumably, the Scouts had made a recent visit to Inchgreen Drydock.

16th September 1966

Finnart Church Hall

9.40- 10.30 p.m.

Madeira St.

Present:

S.M.	A.Cram
A.S.M.	R. Crawford
A.S.M.	A. Riddell
P.L.	A. Aitkenhead
P.L.	R. Beattie
P.L.	G. Paterson
P.L.	J. Barr
P.L.	P. Robertson (promoted rec <sup>1</sup> )
P.L.	D. White
P.L.	J. Lyle

Leaving.

D. Flockhart until age for Venture Scouts.<sup>2</sup>

Badge Secretary.

R. Crawford expressed *his* wish that when Scouts come and asked him for a badge form that they must know what they have to do.<sup>3</sup>

Attendance.

40 Scouts were present tonight and the SM asked for 100% cooperation from the PLs.

42 Scouts in the troop at present.

47 Scouts when the Cubs come up.

Campfire Songs.

It was decided that a new songbook<sup>4</sup> was to be made and all songs we know to be copied into this book.

Patrol Games.

Instead of Crab Football<sup>5</sup> every week, we decided (C.O.H) that different games were to be played each week with no two games played twice a month.<sup>6</sup>

?<sup>7</sup>

A new patrol<sup>8</sup> has to be formed as patrols are getting too large.

Signed:            Alex Aitkenhead        (Chairman).  
                         John A. Lyle                (Secretary)

**Editorial Notes for 16th September 1966**

1. Presumably stands for recently. However, it's not clear why this did not also apply to Robert Beattie and Gordon Paterson.

- 2. Under the new system, Scouts could join Venture Scouts at the age of 16. As David was born in 1951, he would not be able to join Venture Scouts until the following year. It's not clear why he chose to resign at this point. One possibility is that his birthday was in January and he chose to resign as he only had to wait a few months before joining the Venture Unit. It's not known whether he actually did join the Unit, however.*
- 3. Under the old system, all Proficiency Badges were assessed by external examiners appointed by the District – a system that ensured that standards were uniform across the District. When a Scout felt ready to be assessed for a Proficiency Badge, he had to fill up a green form which was then sent to the appropriate Examiner, who would then make arrangements for the assessment, which would normally be carried out outwith the normal Troop Meeting.*
- 4. Only one book containing campfire songs remains in the Troop Records and this probably predated the one planned.*
- 5. Crab football was an interpatrol game that was played like football, but the players all had to remain seated. The only players allowed to stand were the goalkeepers, but they were not allowed to come out of their goal or to use their hands. When moving about, the players were allowed to move like crabs using both their hands and feet. However, their hands had to be behind them, and they were not allowed to turn round and crawl. During the period that the Troop met in the Church Hall, there was a height rule in terms of how high the ball could be kicked. Any ball hit higher than the side partition (about waist height) resulted in the offender being sent off. This rule was introduced to minimise the risk of breakages to windows or wall heaters. That rule became less necessary when the Troop moved to the new Scout HQ in 1969.*
- 6. The preference for Crab Football as the Patrol Game often led to measures like this. However, such was the popularity of Crab Football that measures designed to limit how often it was played usually only lasted a few months before Crab Football once more became the default choice.*
- 7. The reason for the question mark is unclear.*
- 8. The new patrol, once it was formed, was called the Tiger Patrol.*

**The Firth of Clyde Dry Dock Company Ltd.<sup>1</sup>**

Telephone: Port Glasgow 42091-2-3-4 (4 lines).

Telex 77720.

Telegrams: FirthClyde, Greenock.

Our ref. PG/BM

Your ref -

Inchgreen

Greenock.

16th September 1966.

A. B. Cram, Esq.,  
71, South Street,  
GREENOCK.

Dear Mr. Cram,

We do not normally send thank you letters for thank you letters, but the follow up to the visit of your Scouts here is such that this is necessary.

We much appreciate the trouble which you and your Patrol Leaders have taken in preparing such a blanket vote of thanks and we would like to know like you to know what pleasure this has given us.

Yours sincerely,

Jos.<sup>2</sup> Dagleish

**Editorial Notes for Letter**

1. The letter from Mr. Dagleish was sent in response to the 'Thank-you' letters sent by the Scouts regarding their visit to the Dry Dock. It suggests that each Patrol sent their own Thank you letter, rather than the Alistair Cram sending a letter on behalf of the Troop.

2. The Signature suggests that the Christian name was 'Jos' (possibly Joseph). Joseph Dagleish was father to Philip, John, Chris and Gordon Dagleish, who were all 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts.



**23rd September 1966**

9.45- 10.35

Finnart Church Hall  
Madeira St.

Present:

S.M.	A. Cram
A.S.M.	R. Crawford
A.S.M.	A. Riddell
A.S.M.	A. Runcie
P.L.	A. Aitkenhead
P.L.	P. Robertson
P.L.	G. Paterson
P.L.	J. Barr
P.L.	R. Beattie
P.L.	J. Lyle

Application for Membership.

From John Chivers<sup>1</sup> (a friend of G. Paterson) who wants to join us so as he can obtain his Scout Cords. (?!)<sup>2</sup>

S.M.

A Seventh Patrol<sup>3</sup> to be formed with

P.L.	J. Barr	(Curlew)
Sec.	J. Duncan	(Fox)
1st Scout	G. McBride	(Seagull)
2nd Scout	J. Tait	(Falcon)
3rd Scout	A. Crumlish	(Kingfisher)
4th Scout	S. More	(Seal)

Promotions.

J. Martin as the new PL of Curlew.<sup>4</sup>

M. Dale as the new Second of Fox.<sup>5</sup>

Everton.

Training weekend at Everton<sup>6</sup>.

Dry Dock.

S.M. received on behalf of the troop a letter from Mr. Dagleish (*see above*).

Badge Secretary.

R. Crawford stresses that all badge forms not handed *in* must be handed in soon.

Summer Camp.

Next year's summer camp is to be held in Northern Ireland.

Signed:

John A. Lyle

(Chairman).

(Secretary)

**Editorial Notes for 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1966**

1. *Unfortunately, very little is known about John Chivers and he did not stay long in the Troop.*
2. *The '?!' might indicate that the Secretary (John Lyle) thought this rather ambitious. Alternatively, he might have been querying why anyone would join for that reason.*
3. *This was to named later as the Tiger Patrol.*
4. *This decision was necessary because of John Barr being appointed PL of the new Patrol. However, the decision to promote John Martin was reversed following the training weekend at Everton.*
5. *This implies that Jimmy Duncan was the previous Second of the Fox Patrol.*
6. *The training weekend at Everton was held during the 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September and was aimed at PLs and Seconds.*

30th September 1966

Finnart Church Hall

7.00- 7.25 p.m.

Madeira St.

Present:

S.M.	A. Cram
A.S.M.	I. Fraser
P.L.	A. Aitkenhead
P.L.	G. Paterson
P.L.	P. Robertson
P.L.	J. Barr
P.L.	J. Lyle

Promotions.

? J. Martin new PL of the Curlew<sup>1</sup>, but after discussion and after last week's training weekend, the C.O.H. decided jointly NO.<sup>1</sup>

We then decided that J. Duncan was fit to be the new PL Curlew.

Signed: (Chairman).  
John A. Lyle (Secretary)

**Editorial Notes for 30th September 1966**

- 1. It had been decided on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September to appoint John Martin as P of the Curlew Patrol, but that decision was almost certainly kept under wraps so that John's performance at the following Training camp (held on the 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September) could be assessed.*
- 2. Presumably John's performance at the Training Camp (24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September) was such that the COH did not consider him ready to be promoted to PL. Alternatively, he might have been outshone by Jimmy Duncan at the camp.*

**Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1966**

7.30 - p.m.

J. Barr  
140 Finnart St.<sup>1</sup>

Present:

S.M.	A.Cram
A.S.M.	A. Riddell
P.L.	A. Aitkenhead
P.L.	J. Duncan
P.L.	J. Barr
P.L.	G. Paterson
P.L.	R. Beattie
P.L.	P. Robertson

SM's Report. July - September 1966.

A number of non-uniform troop meetings<sup>2</sup> were held and seemed successful. Despite this, the average attendance was not high and a ? must be raised over these meetings for next year.

Weekend camps to Blairmore<sup>3</sup> and Everton<sup>4</sup> were held. These were not too well supported; although the boys who went seemed to enjoy themselves. The number of boys who do not camp regularly is disturbing.

Summer camp at Achnacarnan<sup>5</sup> this year attracted only about half the Troop. This could be attributed to;

- 1) Lack of originality of the site.<sup>6</sup>
- 2) The average age of the Troop being young.<sup>7</sup>
- 3). Lack of pushing and preparation by the PLs and Scouters.

The camp, however, was the most successful in my memory and my thanks must go to the G.S.M.<sup>8</sup> who ran it so well. We want to aim at, at least 30 boys going to Northern Ireland<sup>9</sup>.

Troop meetings started with a full turnout and a visit to Firth of Clyde Dry Dock which proved a very enjoyable evening.<sup>10</sup>

The Friday night programmes in September had mapping as their theme and I hope everyone in the Troop now knows something more than before. A Troop week-end camp was planned for Blairmore. As the weather was bad and the campsite was flooded, the camp was changed to Everton, and proved successful.<sup>11</sup> Also proving most successful was the PL's and Secs training weekend at Everton.<sup>11</sup>

The attendances have been exceptionally good - in fact perfect. I hope *this* will be kept up.

SM's Report. A. Cram.

PLs Reports

\*Curlew

J. Barr obtained 1st Class<sup>12</sup>

J. Martin has done his hike this weekend<sup>13</sup> and should have his 1st class by end of October.

S. Lee second class certainly by end of November.

K. MacKenzie. Half of first class by end of this month.

I. McCreery. Same as S. Lee.

J McMaster. Second class<sup>12</sup> end of December.

\*Falcon.

P. Robertson 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge soon.  
G. Morris. Same.  
J. Tait. 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge soon.  
A. Loch. Same  
P. Bennett. Tenderfoot.<sup>14</sup>  
A. Duncan.<sup>15</sup> 2nd Class.  
E. Dale. Tenderfoot.<sup>14</sup>

\*Fox.

R. Beattie: 1st Class soon  
D. Loch: 2nd Class soon  
I. Anderson: 2<sup>nd</sup> Class soon  
I *Lyall* : Mapping soon.

\*Kingfisher.

J. Lyle. 1<sup>st</sup> Class this coming Friday if possible.  
D. Shearer: Firelighting and retest Tenderfoot for 2nd Class.  
D. Watson: Care of cycle and retest Tenderfoot for 2nd Class.  
A. Anderson: Half of 1<sup>st</sup> Class, end of this month.  
A. Crumlish: Few tests<sup>16</sup> for 2<sup>nd</sup> Class.  
R. Reid: Few tests<sup>16</sup> for 2<sup>nd</sup> Class.  
A. Lyon: Few tests<sup>16</sup> for 2<sup>nd</sup> Class.

\*Seal.

G. Paterson -----<sup>17</sup>  
C. Stewart. 2nd Class<sup>18</sup>  
G. Patrick. 2nd Class<sup>18</sup>  
A. Christie. 2nd Class<sup>18</sup>  
I. Anderson. 1st Class<sup>19</sup>

\*Seagull.

A. Aitkenhead. Hike<sup>20</sup> next week. Haven't passed any tests lately.  
A. Barron. Made 3D map.  
G. McBride. Not getting on very well.  
D. Malcolm. Practising first aid!  
I. Notman Not here very often.  
S. Anderson. Learning tests. Hike, map, compass.

Troop Expeditions.<sup>21</sup>

1. Gang Show.<sup>22</sup>
2. Ice rink.<sup>23</sup>

3. Snow expedition?
4. Night expedition?
5. PLs Scouters expedition sometime near New Year.
6. Shielhill Glen to Scout Cairn.

### Summer Camp<sup>24</sup>

? How long to go for (10 to 14 days). Taking bikes or not.  
Cost (Transport and such).

### 7th Patrol

Name for Friday.<sup>25</sup>

### Promotion.

D. Anderson of the Seal. New Second of the Fox.<sup>26</sup>

### New Cubs.<sup>27</sup>

Falcon: Billy Kerr

Fox: Graeme Lyle ?<sup>28</sup>

Seal: John Dagleish and Ian Goudie.

Seagull: John Bruce.

### Projects for Winter Evenings.

The following projects have been suggested.

1. Build a canoe ('Not at the moment' – SM)<sup>29</sup>
2. Build a Go-Kart.
3. A motorbike
4. Collectors evenings for wee men.<sup>30</sup>

### Library.

A suggestion was put forward by P.L. J. Lyle to start the Troop Library<sup>31</sup>. This was approved and P.L. J. Barr as librarian.

### Uniform.

!Wearing of lapel badges a must!<sup>32</sup>

### Lem and crisps.

PLs to take order for each member of the Patrol and to give it to A. Aitkenhead and J. Lyle.<sup>33</sup>

### Party

? Halloween party (5th November).<sup>34</sup>

Treasurer's Report<sup>35</sup>

To Chairman of COH - 2/10/66

Ode by the Treasurer.

Firstly, my apologies for absence I must tender,  
Secondly, my report to the COH I render:-  
The treasury at present is going through a sticky spot  
The income is but little and the expenditure a lot!  
At present, we have 12 Guineas<sup>36</sup> in the bank  
So if we want to buy a tent I'm 'fraid we're up the stank.  
That we all have some cash on hand. it is very true,  
But even here, the pounds we have, they are but very few.  
The summer camp this year, I'm sorry, made a loss,  
The fees they were more than £100<sup>37</sup> but could not affect the cost.  
This above statement, it may make you mutter,  
But what can you expect when patrols eat peanut butter.  
Dear chairman of the court I hope to me you all list,  
How goes your sale of Friday sales of lemonade and crisps.<sup>38</sup>  
I have at my home a large Lawson's account<sup>39</sup>,  
But in the lem and crisps fund I don't have this amount.  
So send me the money from your sales amount most quick,  
And I'll pay them immediately before they have a fit.  
The sale of pens<sup>40</sup>, my lads, is but very slow, so get the finger out dear scouts that the treasury  
may grow.  
It is now essential that funds we raise most quick,  
Or you'll find the treasury bankrupt and the treasurer in the nick.  
This sad tale to you I do disgorge,  
But you'll now understand my sympathies with brother George<sup>41</sup>.  
PS - Dear Jim, I'm sure I'm missing a supper most fine,  
but I'm sure it ain't beyond you all to eat both yours and mine.

A. Runcie [treasurer (honorary)].

NB - The significance of this being written in red!

### Reading of constitution

This was written by P. Robertson in the absence of J. Lyle.

Signed:            G. Paterson    (Acting Chairman).  
                         John A. Lyle        (Secretary)

### **Editorial Notes for 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1966**

1. *This was the home address for Jim Barr.*
2. *It is assumed that these meetings were held over the summer months (July and August).*

3. Blairmore was a popular destination for several Greenock Troops during the 1950s and 1960s, and it is believed that DC Jim Swan was responsible for getting the farmer to allow the Scouts to use it. At the time, it was easy to get to as there was a regular ferry service from Gourrock pier to the Holy Loch and Blairmore. The campsite was also within walking distance of Blairmore Pier. The campsite was a field that was uphill from Blairmore Farm and downhill from the cottages once occupied by miners working in the area. Once the ferry service to Blairmore was stopped, the campsite became less popular as it was no longer easily accessible. The 70<sup>th</sup> still had camps there during the 1970s, but it is unlikely that it was used by Scouts after that. The field is virtually unchanged (as of 2024) but most people in the area are unaware that it was once used by the Scouts.
4. Everton has been the official Scout campsite for Greenock Scouting since the 1930s. The camp building that is currently present (as of 2024) was not present during the 1960s. Instead, there was a small green, wooden cabin that provided accommodation for the Camp Skipper. Toilet facilities during the 1960s were also rather basic and there were no showers unless one stood out in the rain. On the other hand, the swimming pool was frequently used. In recent years, that was emptied on health and safety grounds as it was not possible to monitor its use during the week.
5. Achnacarnan is a farm on the eastern side of West Loch Tarbert. The campsite was a field that was up the hill from the farm and was the venue for both the 1965 and 1966 Sumer Camps. The area in which the 70<sup>th</sup> camped during the 1960s looks much the same today (as of 2024).
6. The same site was used in 1966 as in 1965.
7. During 1965, there was a substantial intake of Scouts born in 1954, resulting in about 25% of the troop belonging to that cohort.
8. The Group Scout Master (G.S.M.) was Bob Miller, who had been Scout Master from 1960 until just before the summer of 1966 when Alistair Cram took on the role of Scoutmaster. As a result, although Alistair Cram was Scoutmaster during the summer camp of 1966. Bob Miller was effectively in charge of arranging and running the camp.
9. It is highly likely that it was Alistair Cram's decision to go to Northern Ireland as he was keen to lead the 70<sup>th</sup> into the new era that Scouting was not entering. The choice of Northern Ireland was a substantial break from the usual Summer Camp venues used by the 70<sup>th</sup>, all of which had been easily accessible by ferry or train. Northern Ireland would be the first time that the 70<sup>th</sup> had camped outwith Scotland.
10. The date of the visit has not been identified, but it is almost certain that it took place towards the end of August 1966.
11. No record or photographs for this camp have been identified to date.
12. Up until 1966, the progressive Scout Training Scheme involved gaining four badges (Tenderfoot, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, 1<sup>st</sup> Class and Queen's Scout). Most Scouts gained their Tenderfoot badge within a month or two, and their 2<sup>nd</sup> Class badge within a year or two. The 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge was more demanding and could take another couple of years or more. In theory, Scouts were expected to have gained their 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge before being considered for promotion to PL. In practice, this was not always feasible, but any Scouts that were promoted to PL were expected to gain their 1<sup>st</sup> Badge as soon as possible. Only a minority of Scouts went on to gain the Queen's Scout Badge, which required gaining the Venturer's Badge, the Bushman's Thong and a number of demanding Proficiency Badges.
13. The 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> October 1966.
14. The Tenderfoot badge had been completed
15. Very little is known about A. Duncan. The fact that he is listed as 4<sup>th</sup> Scout with a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class badge is odd. It might suggest that he had joined the 70<sup>th</sup> from another Troop
16. Ambiguous. It is not clear whether this meant that only a few tests had been passed or only a few tests remained to be passed.
17. It's not known why this was left blank.
18. Working on 2<sup>nd</sup> Class
19. This is an error. I. Anderson was in the Fox patrol. His brother ( David) joined the 70<sup>th</sup> about this time and was initially placed in the Seal Patrol. He was working towards his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge.
20. This would have been his 1<sup>st</sup> Class hike.
21. It is assumed that these were Troop Expeditions planned for the future. It is not known whether these expeditions took place or not.



22. *This might refer to a Gang Show in Greenock or in Glasgow.*
23. *This probably refers to the Crossmyloof Ice Rink in Glasgow. The ice rink originally opened in 1907 and closed in 1986.*
24. *Early discussion on the Summer Camp to Ireland scheduled for 1967*
25. *The patrol was to be called the Tiger patrol.*
26. *Macolm Dale was meant to be the new Second of the Fox Patrol, but must have resigned from the Troop fairly soon after this decision was taken. David Anderson joined the Troop in September 1966 and was placed in the Seal Patrol before being promoted to Second of the fox Patrol.*
27. *The new Cubs were due to join the Troop at the next Troop meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 1966.*
28. *The question mark might indicate the possibility of a further Cub joining. Graeme Lyle certainly joined the Fox patrol when he moved up to the Troop.*
29. *Presumably, the Scout Master, Alastair Cram, vetoed this idea*
30. *Possibly this related to activities that would allow younger Scouts to gain their Collector's Proficiency Badge.*
31. *The Troop Library consisted chiefly of Scouting books, of which there were many. Many of these were borrowed by Scouts wishing to pass Proficiency Badges or tests towards 2<sup>nd</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badges.*
32. *Lapel badges were not technically part of uniform, but Scouts were encouraged to wear small metal lapel badges on their school blazers to show they were Scouts.*
33. *It is likely that this related to the Scout Shop on Troop nights. This usually opened after the meeting was over and was run by PLs. This proposal was probably an attempt to prepare orders in advance to avoid long queues.*
34. *The Troop's Halloween party was an established annual tradition. It's not clear what the question mark signifies.*
35. *Since the Treasurer (Albert Runcie) was unable to attend the meeting, he sent his report in the form of a poem written in red ink.*
36. *A guinea was equal to £1 1/-. Therefore, 12 guineas corresponded to £12 12/-. This had the equivalent value to £294 today (as of 2024).*
37. *This would correspond to the total income received for Summer Camp.*
38. *This related to the Troop shop that sold lemonade and crisps after the troop meeting. The shop was set up in the Church kitchen.*
39. *Lawsons was a local soft drink manufacturer that sold a large variety of different flavoured fizzy drinks during the 1960s. The labels on their glass bottles featured Clyde built ships.*
40. *As part of the fund raising efforts aimed at raising money for the new Scout HQ, the Scouts were given supplies of pens labelled with '70<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire Scouts' to sell to friends and relations.*
41. *It's not known who this refers to.*



**6th November 1966**

7.00 -

P. Robertson  
Union St.<sup>1</sup>

Present:	S.M.	A.Cram
	A.S.M.	A. Runcie
	P.L.	J. Barr
	P.L.	A. Aitkenhead
	P.L.	G. Paterson
	P.L.	R. Beattie
	P.L.	J. Duncan
	P.L.	P. Robertson

SM's Report.

The sale of lemonade a waste of time<sup>2</sup>. The patrol game<sup>3</sup> to be changed from the beginning to the middle of the meeting. There is to be more drill, and the Scouts have to smarten appearances in future.

40-50 boys at parade next Sunday<sup>4</sup>.

Suggestion: gift prize to best boy (out)<sup>5</sup>

suggestion: books dreads<sup>6</sup>.

suggestion:

G.S.M.

R.K. Miller appeared for 5 minutes to give talk about jumble<sup>7</sup>. The PL's to get Scouts to collect the jumble during the week. A Scouter will be in charge every night. Lists of addresses at which to call will be posted on a cardboard notice board in the outer dunny.<sup>8</sup>

SM's Report (continued)

\*Easter camp

Is Calor Gas wanted so as to be used on dull days. Rather expensive. Stick to wood fires and stoves. Last Easter camp excellent<sup>9</sup>. Combination with the 5th again?

Suggestion from I. Fraser - place to go:- Duns Castle which is wildlife reserve.

IF<sup>10</sup> Report.

1. Tents to be re-proofed.
2. Old tents inspected.
3. Bell to be replaced.
4. Primus stoves.
5. Contents of tea chests to be cleaned.
6. New tent bags to be made.

### Summer Camp

Forms must be in quickly, approximately 30 forms not in. Double Decker bus to Stranraer. Bikes 16/- extra, but bike advantage - sands 5 miles away from campsite.<sup>11</sup>

### Miscellaneous.

\*Care of cycle under the PLs.<sup>12</sup>

Everybody without the test passed<sup>13</sup>

To try and renovate 4 bikes, thereby bringing in a possible £20.<sup>14</sup>

### Suggestions.

\*Wide Games<sup>15</sup> for December.

\*More night hikes in future.

\*More yells at campfire.

\*Christmas party - dance.

\*Camp at Christmas.

\*Ringstick<sup>16</sup> to be continued.

Signed:           A. Aitkenhead           (Chairman).  
                          John A. Lyle             (Secretary)

Scribed by P.L. J. Barr.

### Calor Gas.<sup>17</sup>

The Scribe to the Court of Honour has unfortunately missed the most important point. A straight vote on Calor gas versus wood fires was taken and by a majority of 6-0, Calor gas was rejected.

The SL would point out that, while he congratulates the Court on a highly praiseworthy decision, he wishes it recorded that the Patrol Leaders were given the opportunity to effect the change over.

Alistair B. Cram. SL 70th. January 1967

### **Editorial Notes for 6<sup>th</sup> November 1966**

- 1. The Court of Honour was held at Peter Robertson's house at 75A Union Street.*
- 2. It's not clear why Alistair Cram stated this.*
- 3. The interpatrol game involved several ties on a knock out basis.*
- 4. This was presumably the estimated turn out for the annual Armistice Day Parade.*
- 5. Not clear what this signifies. One possibility is that a prize would be given to the smartest Scout at the Church parade.*
- 6. Possibly books were being suggested as a prize, but the 'dreaded' might indicate displeasure by the scribe.*
- 7. Jumble Sales were a popular fund raising activity during the 1960s. It involved a lot of work on the part of the Scouts to advertise collections around the local neighbourhood and to collect the Jumble. The Jumble collected was stored in the Church cellars (dunny) until the evening before the Jumble Sale when it was transported to where the Sale would take place. The Jumble Sale itself relied on the help of parents, Scouters and older Scouts. The profits from this particular jumble sale went towards the HQ Fund that was organised by the Parents Committee. The jumble sale raised £61-0-5. This was worth the equivalent of £1424 today (as of 2024).*

8. *The dunny refers to the church cellars*
9. *Unfortunately, there are no report or photographs for the Easter Camps held during 1965 and 1966.*
10. *ASM Ian Fraser was presumably Troop Quartermaster.*
11. *There is no written or photographic evidence of bikes being used at Summer camp in Northern Ireland during 1967.*
12. *This suggests that the PLs were running bases on cycle care with younger Scouts.*
13. *Care of Cycle was one of the tests that counted towards the 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge.*
14. *This might have been a fund-raising idea on the part of the PLs .*
15. *Wide Games were played outside and varied quite substantially in nature. Some seemed to re-enact World War II, while others involved stealth and guile.*
16. *Ringstick was a well-established interpatrol game that had been played for many years. It involved two patrols, each having a goalkeeper standing on a chair at either end of the hall. The goalkeeper held a stick and the aim of the game was for each patrol to gain control of a rubber ring and throw it so that it would end up n the stick held by the goalkeeper. The goalkeeper was not allowed to touch the ring but could move the stick, such that ring was successfully captured. The game was very physical and was played like rugby when trying to gain control of the ring. Occasionally, it proved possible to pass the ring from one member of the patrol to another. However, more often than not the ring ended up buried under a pile of bodies. At that stage the referee would intervene, collect the ring and throw it back into the arena. Occasionally, the ring ended up being torn in two as the two sides tried to gain control of it. The log book entry suggests that the game might have been at risk of being banned. However, it is more likely that it was proving to be an effective alternative to Crab Football, and was to be continued in that sense.*
17. *The following passage was added to the COH minutes in January 1970 by Scoutmaster, Alastair Cram. It appears that he wanted it to be clearly stated that the decision not to use Calor Gas at Easter Camp was made by the PLs. This does seem to suggest that Alastair Cram favoured the use of Calor Gas over wood fires at Easter Camp.*

***Date: Not stated (December 1966)***<sup>1</sup>

H.Q. Robertson St.

9.50- 10.15.

Present:	S.M.	A.Cram
	A.S.M.	A. Riddell
	A.S.M.	R. Crawford
	A.S.M.	A. Runcie
	A.S.M.	I. Fraser
	P.L.	P. Robertson
	P.L.	J. Barr
	P.L.	J. Duncan
	P.L.	A. Aitkenhead
	P.L.	G. Patterson
	P.L.	R. Beattie
	P.L.	J. Lyle

Pollok Trophy.<sup>2</sup>

Challenge to Fox Patrol (holders)<sup>3</sup> and other patrols to produce their best log for the month of January.<sup>4</sup>

Troop Restart

The Troop starts again 6th January 1967.<sup>5</sup>

Suggestions.

Snow expedition.<sup>6</sup>

Night Hike to be arranged.<sup>6</sup>

Camp (Summer) first two weeks in August.<sup>7</sup>

Promotions.

J. Lyle to be made Junior Scouter (an Instructor) who will relieve PLs of wee men for the teaching of tests.

J. Martin AP/L<sup>8</sup> of Curlew Patrol to be new P.L. of Kingfisher Patrol as from the New Year.

Signed: (Chairman).  
John A. Lyle (Secretary)

**Editorial Notes for undated COH (December 1966)**

1. The date on which this COH meeting took place was not identified. However, the contents imply that it probably took place before Christmas in December 1966. Moreover, the fact that the meeting took place at District HQ in Robertson Street with a full complement of Scouters present suggest that the meeting was convened after a Friday-night Troop Meeting. It was unusual to hold a Troop Meeting at the District Scout HQ which suggests that the Church Hall was unavailable that particularly evening.

- 2. The Pollok (or Pollock) Trophy was donated to the Troop in January 1966 by a Mrs. Pollock in memory of her husband. The Cup was to be awarded annually to the winner of an inter-patrol competition, and it was decided in January 1966 that it would be awarded for the best Patrol Log covering a Patrol Camp during the year. It was also stipulated that the competition should be different each year.*
- 3. As the Competition for the Pollock Trophy involved a Patrol Camp, it is likely that the Fox won the trophy following a camp led by PL David Flockhart.*
- 4. This was in keeping with the stipulation that the competition had to be varied each year. might imply that this COH was held after the last Troop meeting before Christmas.*
- 5. This might imply that this COH was held after the last Troop meeting before Christmas.*
- 6. As the Troop log covering 1966 to 1968 is missing, it is not known whether this activity took place or not.*
- 7. The actual dates were the 31<sup>st</sup> July to the 12<sup>th</sup> August 1967.*
- 8. This was the first example in the COH minutes of the new terminology 'Assistant Patrol Leader' in place of 'Patrol Second'. However, the old terminology of Scout Master (S.M.) and Assistant Scout Master (A.S.M.) was still used.*

6th January 1967

7.00 – 7.25 p.m.

Finnart Church Hall  
Madeira Street.

Present:           S.M.           A. Cram  
                  A.S.M.       A. Runcie  
                  A.S.M.       I. Fraser  
                  P.L.           P. Robertson  
                  P.L.           R. Beattie  
                  P.L.           A. Aitkenhead  
                  P.L.           J. Barr  
                  P.L.           G. Paterson  
                  P.L.           J. Duncan  
                  P.L.           J. Lyle<sup>1</sup>

S.M. Suggestions.

A. Cram suggests that each P.L. should, if he wishes, obtain or purchase “The Scouter” which has now incorporated “The Scout” which has stopped.<sup>2</sup>

Drummond Vase<sup>3</sup>

R Crawford’s talk about the Drummond vase.

J. Duncan to lead one team.

?       to lead the other team.

Suggestions.

\*For the Diamond Jubilee year<sup>4</sup> and what we're going to do in 1967.

\*Duty patrol to go down to the store<sup>5</sup> every Friday night before the meeting and clean up any mess. Every tent to be re proofed before Summer Camp.

\*People attending the Rifle Club should enter for the ‘National Rifle Comp.’<sup>6</sup>

\*PLs training course on Friday nights.

Signed:           A. Aitkenhead       (Chairman).

                  John A. Lyle        (Secretary)

**Editorial Notes for 6<sup>th</sup> January 1967**

1. This was John Lyle’s last night as Patrol Leader of the Kingfisher Patrol before being designated a Junior Scouter (Instructor). John Martin took over as Patrol Leader. It is likely that Stewart Lee was promoted to APL of the Kingfisher Patrol to replace John Martin.

2. “The Scouter” was a monthly publication aimed at Scouters, whereas “The Scout” had been a weekly publication aimed at Scouts. “The Scouter” was eventually replaced some years later by a monthly publication called “Scouting”.

3. The Drummond Vase was one of the more important District Scout Competitions and covered First Aid skills.

4. The Scout Movement had started in 1907 and was now 60 years old.

5. The Troop equipment was mostly stored in the Church cellars (or dunny). However, the editor has a vague memory of some kind of separate store sitting outside the entrance to the dunny. Some equipment was also kept in the Church kitchen during the 1960s.

6. See also note 3 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1966 regarding the ‘National Rifle Comp.’.

29th January 1967

J. Duncan  
South Street.

Present:	S.M.	A.Cram	now S.L.
	A.S.M.	A. Runcie	A.S.L.
	A.S.M.	A. Riddell <sup>1</sup>	A.S.L.
	I/SL.	J. Lyle	
	P.L.	R. Beattie ( <i>Fox</i> )	
	P.L.	A. Aitkenhead	
	P.L.	G. Paterson ( <i>Seal</i> )	
	P.L.	J. Duncan ( <i>Curlew</i> )	
	P.L.	J. Barr ( <i>Tiger</i> )	
	P.L.	J. Martin <sup>1b</sup> ( <i>Kingfisher</i> )	
	P.L.	P. Robertson ( <i>Falcon</i> )	

Previous minutes read:

Patrol Reports.

\*Seal - Patrol meetings are held every Tuesday night in various houses. G. Patrick - has now obtained 2<sup>nd</sup> Class<sup>2</sup>. C. Stewart – Estimation<sup>3</sup> to pass this Friday. A. Christie - hoping to have 2nd Class before Easter.<sup>4</sup>

\*Tiger – No Patrol meetings during this month due to exams. J. Tait expected to obtain 2<sup>nd</sup> Class this week. Unfortunately, no Patrol Outings have been held. J. Chivers obtaining 1<sup>st</sup> Class<sup>2</sup> in the near future.

\*Fox - No Patrol meetings have been held this year. D. Anderson *moving towards* 1st Class. D. Loch - some 2<sup>nd</sup> Class tests still to pass. R. Fraser now on 1st Class tests. I. Lyall trying to pass 2nd Class tests. J. Morton - unfortunately not turning up. G. Lyle – 2<sup>nd</sup> Class knots.

\**Curlew*<sup>5</sup>

S. Lee - Six common trees<sup>6</sup> passed by this coming Friday.

K. McKenzie - 12 common trees<sup>7</sup> leading to likewise.<sup>8</sup>

I. McCreery – 2<sup>nd</sup> Class obtained last week.

J. McMaster - Trying to pass Minor Accidents.<sup>9</sup>

J. Duncan - with hopes of obtaining 1st Class in the near future.

\*Seagull

A. Barron - Not attempting to pass much.

M. Duncan – 2<sup>nd</sup> Class to be obtained soon.

J. Bruce - passing 2nd Class knots by Friday.

D. Gibbs - progressing at a steady rate with 2nd Class tests.

A. Runcie. Troop Treasurers Report.

Subs must be paid each week. money being handed in on Fridays not sufficient. Money owed to Patrols. Grand Total of Troop funds at present.

£68 – 16 - 8.<sup>10</sup>



### A. Cram – S.L.s Report

#### \* H.Q. Fund and Accessories<sup>11</sup>

Ground application for H.Q. passed, but £200<sup>12</sup> short of target needed. Grant Aid hoped to be obtained at the end of March. Unfortunately, the parents feel that they're doing too much for the HQ and that the Scouts are not helping enough.

Fund-raising ideas were put forward by the PLs Council, *such as* car washing. Unfortunately, some other ideas were not good enough.

#### \* Easter Camp.

The combination of the 70th and 5th for this camp has fallen through. Therefore, *the camp will probably take the form of touring* in the North of Scotland.<sup>13</sup>

#### \*Attendance.

Not up to standard. As the Seal Patrol were the only patrol with full attendance for the month, they are to be awarded a Silva compass.

#### \* Pollock Trophy.<sup>14</sup>

Logs to be submitted next week to decide the winner.

#### \*Promotion

An A./P.L. is needed for the Curlew. Unfortunately, no decision was made just now – see later.<sup>15</sup>

#### \* Badge Work and Tests - Fairly good but not quite up to standard.

### QM's Report – I. Fraser.

#### \* Rifle Shooting Competition

The number of teams entering the Conarch Shield to be submitted. The teams are to be made-up in age groups but only to be under 16.<sup>16</sup> One team from the 70th to enter.

#### \*Abbotsinch Airport - now Glasgow Airport.

Visit arranged for the 25th February<sup>17</sup> and 11th March. The cost is to be 6/-<sup>18</sup>. Still room on bus for a Patrol expedition.

\*Hunterston nuclear power station visit<sup>19</sup> - minimum age to be 15. Party to be split into small groups on arrival. Strict discipline must be observed during the visit.

### General:

\*Weights needed in order to be able to pitch indoor tent.<sup>20</sup>

\*Minor repairs needed to *be* carried out on the trek cart.<sup>21</sup>

Axes to be sound and reshafted and sharpened. Saws to be resharpened.

\*Scout staves to be marked.<sup>22</sup>

The church is to be left in a decent state when we leave for H.Q.<sup>23</sup>

### Promotion

A unanimous decision was made by the P.L. Council on the appointment of the new A/PL of the Curlew. S. Lee was chosen.

### General.

The Troop Library<sup>24</sup> is to be started again – J. Barr, PL of Tiger Patrol, will supervise the reconstruction of this needful project.

### Activities.

Several instructions courses<sup>25</sup> have been arranged by A. Liddell<sup>26</sup> on many different hobbies.

Signed:           A. Aitkenhead           (Chairman).  
                  John A. Lyle           (Troop Secretary)

### **Editorial Notes for 29<sup>th</sup> January 1967**

1. *The name written in the Minutes is 'A. Liddell' but this is most likely an error and that it should be 'A. Riddell'.*
- 1b. *This was John Martin's first Court of Honour Meeting as PL of the Kingfisher Patrol.*
2. *See note 12 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1966 regarding the old training Scheme of Tenderfoot, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, 1<sup>st</sup> Class and Queen's Scout Badges.*
3. *Estimation was a test that counted towards the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge. It involved the use of a Scout Staff and simple trigonometry to estimate heights, widths and distances. Estimating weights had also been part of the test but had been dropped at some point before 1966. Estimation was dropped from the new Training Scheme involving the Scout Standard and Advanced Scout Standard.*
4. *Iain Anderson, John Dagleish and Ian Goudie were also in the Seal Patrol at this time but were not mentioned in the report.*
5. *The report following was wrongly attributed to the Falcon Patrol in the Minutes. No report for the Falcon Patrol was provided at all. It is likely that the person writing up the Minutes from his notes made an error and missed the Falcon report out, jumping instead to the report provided by the Curlew Patrol.*
6. *Identifying 6 Common Trees was a test that counted towards the 2<sup>nd</sup> Class badge.*
7. *Identifying 12 Common Trees was a test that counted towards the 1st Class badge.*
8. *Possibly this meant that the test was expected to be passed by this coming Friday*
9. *Minor accidents was a test that counted towards the 2<sup>nd</sup> Class badge.*
10. *£68 – 16 – 8 in 1967 had the equivalent value to £1566.13 today (as of 2024).*
11. *Serious efforts towards the funding of a Scout H.Q. began with the setting up of a Parents Committee in June 1965. That Committee played the key role in both raising funds and dealing with the necessary paperwork involved in legal documentation and approval. The minutes book of that committee from June 1965 to February 1968 has survived and can be viewed on the Website. The new Scout HQ, itself, was opened in April 1969.*
12. *£200 in 1967 had the equivalent value to £4549 today (as of 2024).*
13. *There is no written or photographic evidence of an Easter Camp taking place during 1967. However, the log book covering the period is currently missing.*
14. *See notes 2 and 3 for the COH meeting held in December 1966 regarding the Pollock Trophy.*
15. *The decision was taken later during the same meeting. Stewart Lee (1<sup>st</sup> Scout of the Curlew Patrol) was promoted to Second.*
16. *It is highly likely that this was the Rifle Shooting Competition mentioned at earlier COH meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 1966 and 6<sup>th</sup> January 1967). The wording is slightly confusing here. Moreover, the name of the Shield has probably been misspelt. The Shield in question was more likely to be the 'Connaught Shield' which was an established International Rifle Competition that was held purely for Scout Groups around the world. The Competition started as early as 1925 and continued running until 1975. It then stopped for several years before*



restarting in 1999. It has the full title of the 'H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught's Shield Competition' There were two age categories and the Junior Connaught Shield was for Scouts under the age of 16. A Canadian Troop won the Shield in 1966.

17. The visit planned for Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February certainly took place and was reported in the Seal Patrol Log book. It's not known whether the visit on the 11<sup>th</sup> March took place though.

18. 6/- represents six shillings. There were 20 shillings to the pound and so 6/- equalled £0.3. In 1967, this had the equivalent value to £13.65 today (as of 2024).

19. This visit was reported in the Seal Patrol Log as taking place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 1967. Some Scouts from the 33<sup>rd</sup> joined the 70<sup>th</sup> for the visit.

20. Metal weights were obtained. Guy lines that were normally pegged down could be attached to the weights instead. The weights also came in useful as door stops.

21. The trek cart had originally been purchased in 1939 at the beginning of the war and was still in use, although the original wheels had been replaced long ago.

22. Scout staffs (or staves) were made from ash wood about 5 to 6 feet long and had markings a foot apart. At the top of the staff, the last foot had markings representing inches. It is believed that 6 of the 12 inches making up a foot were marked. Scout staves were used for multiple purposes including estimation, hiking, carrying water at camp, gadget making, Patrol flagstaffs and games.

23. This is a slightly confusing statement. 'H.Q.' might refer to the new Scout HQ that the 70<sup>th</sup> aimed to have built. However, building the new HQ had not even started, and the HQ was not opened until April 1969 and transferring Troop equipment to the new H.Q. was not at all imminent. However, it is possible that the Parents committee and the Church had come up with a long-term statement regarding the eventual move.

24. The Troop Library consisted chiefly of Scouting books, of which there were many. Many of these were borrowed by Scouts wishing to pass Proficiency Badges or tests towards 2<sup>nd</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badges.

25. It is likely that these courses were designed to train Scouts towards achieving a range of Proficiency Badges.

26. This is the second mention of A.S.L. A. Liddell. He also attended a COH meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 1965. It is believed that the Scribe misheard the name and that this was in fact A. Riddell.

### **Editorial Comment for March and April 1967**

*There is a large gap in the COH/PLC Minutes, with no reports of meetings taking place during March or April. It seems unlikely that no meetings took place during this period and so it is assumed that meetings throughout this period were left unreported.*

**12th May 1967**

Finnart Church Hall

10.00 p.m.

Madeira St.

Present:

S.L.	A.Cram
A.S.L.	A. Runcie
A.S.L.	R. Crawford
A.S.L.	A. Riddell
I/S.L.	J. Lyle
P.L.	J. Barr
P.L.	J. Martin
P.L.	A. Aitkenhead
P.L.	P. Robertson
P.L.	G. Paterson
P.L.	R. Beattie
P.L.	J. Duncan

General.

Store<sup>1</sup> to be cleaned out by patrols.

Tents to be reproofed by patrols and QM's.

Reshafting axes.

Renovating the trek cart<sup>2</sup>.

Tent poles to be catalogued<sup>3</sup>

Signed:           A. Aitkenhead           (Chairman).  
                          John A. Lyle           (Troop Secy)

**Editorial Notes for 12<sup>th</sup> May 1967**

1. See note 5 for the 6<sup>th</sup> January 1967 regarding storage of the Troop equipment.

2. See note 21 for the 29<sup>th</sup> January 1967 regarding the trek cart.

3. This probably involved putting different coloured tape on the poles for each Patrol tent such that the poles would not get mixed up.

19th May 1967

Madeira Street  
Church Hall

Tonight the A/P.L.s were present for a short while - along with P.L.s and the Scouters.

A.S.L. A. Riddell.

Stunt tonight was very badly done and there was a lack of co-operation of the A/PL's & PL's and, therefore, very little attempt was made to make a simple map.

S.L. A. Cram.

The standard of the Troop work just now is very low - the County Flag team's<sup>1</sup> show was not the best they could do. Therefore, more effort is required by everyone, but mainly P/L's and A/PL's.

A.S.L. / QM. I. Fraser.

The store<sup>2</sup> has not all the troop gear in it. A very large amount of this gear is on loan but should be returned to the store in a decent condition.

\*Dixies should be clean.

\*Tents should be well aired.

\*Groundsheets should be dry.

A little more thought on behalf of the borrowers would be appreciated.

APLs Departure: At this point in the P.L. council, the A/P.L.s left.

Canoes.<sup>3</sup>

Volunteers needed within P.L.C., apart from A. Aitkenhead and J. Lyle, for the job of renovating the canoe(s).

Activities.

\*Woollens and rags are great requirements to enlarge the Activities fund.<sup>4</sup>

\*Car maintenance has been rejected.

\*Instructors for air activities are to be provided.<sup>5</sup>

Signed:           A. Aitkenhead           (Chairman).  
                          John A. Lyle            (Secretary)

#### **Editorial Notes for 19<sup>th</sup> May 1967**

1. The Scouts involved in the County Flag team of 1966/67 have not been identified.

2. See note 5 for the 6<sup>th</sup> January 1967 regarding storage of the Troop equipment.

3. It's not known what canoes were owned by the Troop at the time. Photographs taken at Summer Camp, 1967 show that 4 kayaks were present at the camp, including one double kayak. These might be the canoes referred to here, but that begs the question as to how they were transported to Northern Ireland.

4. It's not clear why woollens and rags were considered desirable.

5. It's not clear what kind of air activities were practical at the time.

28<sup>th</sup> July 1967

A. Cram. S.L.  
71 South Street,<sup>1</sup>  
Greenock  
7.45 p.m.

### Pre-Summer Camp Meeting.

Attendance:           S.L.           A.Cram  
                          A.S.L.        R. Crawford  
                          I/S.L. & QM<sup>2</sup> J. Lyle  
                          P.L. & QM<sup>2</sup> A. Aitkenhead  
                          P.L.           J. Duncan  
                          P.L.           J. Barr  
                          P.L.           P. Robertson  
                          P.L.           J. Martin  
                          A/P.L.        C. Stewart

#### General.

Logs to be handed in to a Scouter every morning by the P.Ls.<sup>3</sup>

#### Transport

The bus<sup>4</sup> to Stranraer is to be ready to leave at 6.15 – 6.20 a.m. The Scouters<sup>5</sup> and QMs<sup>6</sup> to be at the hall at 5.30 a.m. PLs<sup>7</sup> at 5.45 a.m.

Boat at Stranraer at 12 o'clock<sup>8</sup>. QM's and Senior Scouts to help to transfer the gear to the boat at high speed. There is to be no delays.

Arrive at Larne at 2.30 pm. Minibus and lorry are the convenience of gear to the campsite<sup>9</sup>

#### Setting up Camp

When tents etc are unloaded from the van<sup>10</sup>, they have to be erected at high speed. Also, the shelters. After these are put up, Altar fire, table and seat gadgets are to be made. One wet pit<sup>11</sup> and two dry pits<sup>12</sup> have also to be made on arrival. Timber has been ordered by the Troop<sup>13</sup>. This wood has to be used for tables, seats and altar fires only. Monday's<sup>14</sup> tea will be cooked by the Scouters. Patrols will be called for when wanted – they have to be ready when called.

#### Miscellaneous

\* If making good time on the journey to Stranraer, a stop will be made en route.

\* "Marzene" travel sickness pills are to be donated to the campers by our Camp Doctor R. Crawford.

\* Smoking at camp is forbidden at camp unless you have reached the age of 16 or obtained special permission by parents.<sup>15</sup> No smoking at all when in S.U.<sup>16</sup>

\* The burn can be used for washing up, provided all washing of any sort is done in a basin.<sup>17</sup> Drinking water is to be obtained down at the farm.<sup>18</sup>

\* The indentation system will be used once more.<sup>19</sup>

\* Stoves are to be issued to all patrols by the QM's only.<sup>20</sup>

\*A Scouter will be dining with the patrols *at* all meals apart from breakfast or otherwise stated.<sup>21</sup>

\*The Gilwell system of issuing food is to be used when issuing food<sup>22</sup>. Every thing?<sup>23</sup> given to patrols for cooking must be well cooked.

\* If patrol site is well established and everything in order, then those concerned will be allowed to visit Larne on Tuesday afternoon.<sup>24</sup>

### Badges.

After, whatever badge or group of tests you are on, you will then start the new scheme of tests.<sup>25</sup>

### Other Points

\*Any canoeing done is to be supervised by a Scouter or QM.<sup>26</sup>

\*A lot of excursions are to be done at camp in the minibus which has been hired for this purpose.<sup>27</sup>

\* 1<sup>st</sup> Class Hikes and Duke of Edinburgh hikes can be done at camp if so desired.<sup>28</sup>

### Presentation.

Mr. Stewart, the minister of Finnart Church and the Troop Chaplain and good supporter, is to retire in September, after 30 years faithful service to the church.

A gift of value approximately £30<sup>29</sup> is to be given to him on behalf of the group. Therefore, every person must contribute at least 5/-<sup>30</sup>. This presentation will be carried out at Everton in September<sup>31</sup>. The Cubs, Scouts and Venture Scouts will be present. Mr. Stewart will take his last Scouts Own<sup>32</sup> and then the presentation will be made.

### Troop Numbers.

\*The Troop numbers stand at present at 51.

\* Six are leaving for the Venture Scouts – 45.<sup>33</sup>

\* J. Chivers leaving – 44

Probably a few more departures. Applications for new members have been received by S.L. Maximum Troop Strength 56.

### Future PLs

In line for next years PLs are the following A/PLs. Unfortunately, no decision on *those* concerned will be made until after camp.

A/PLs S. Lee, G. Morris, D. Anderson, D Shearer, C Stewart.

Other members of the Troop are being considered but are to remain *anonymous* at this point.

A. Aitkenhead (Chairman).  
John A. Lyle (Troop Secretary)

### **Editorial Notes for 28<sup>th</sup> July 1967**

1. *The PLC was held at Alastair Cram's home at 71 South Street.*
2. *Quartermaster specifically for Summer Camp in Northern Ireland, with no responsibility for a Patrol during the camp.*
3. *Each Patrol was expected to hand in a Patrol Log during Summer Camp.*
4. *This may have been a double-decker bus (see COH entry for 6<sup>th</sup> November 1966).*
5. *The Scouters known to be present were Alastair Cram, Robin Crawford, Tom Caldwell, and Donald Williamson/*
6. *The QMs were Alex Aitkenhead and John Lyle.*
7. *The PLs in charge of Patrols at the camp were Jimmy Duncan, Peter Robertson, John Martin, Jim Barr and Gordon Paterson.*
8. *It's not clear whether this was the estimated arrival of the bus at Stranraer or the departure time of the ferry.*
9. *It is assumed that both vehicles were hired in Larne.*
10. *It is possible that the 'van' was distinct from the lorry and minibus identified above. One of the photographs taken at the Summer Camp show a small van which might conceivably be the van owned by Donald Williamson. If so, Donald may have used his van to transport the tents and shelters across on the ferry. This would certainly have eased the logistical problems in transferring equipment from the bus to the ferry at Stranraer.*
11. *A wet pit involved digging a square hole about 2 feet by feet. Twigs were then criss-crossed over the top of the hole and bracken was placed on top of that. The bracken served as a filter. Dirty water that had been used for washing dishes etc. was poured through the bracken which would capture any food remnants. The ferns would then be burnt on the altar fire and new bracken placed over the wet pit. The filtered water in the wet pit was left to seep into the soil.*
12. *A dry pit was dug for solid 'unburnables'. This typically involved food tins that were either cleaned or burned before being bashed flat with a mallet. These were then placed in the dry pit and eventually the dry pit was filled in. The process was known as 'Burn, Bash and Bury'. This was commonplace during the 1960s but in later years, it became unacceptable to bury metal waste. Instead, metal tins were burnt or cleaned as before, bashed, then placed in a binbag (Burn, Bash and Binbag). This did away with the need for dry pits. At camp.*
13. *It's not known what the source of that timber was.*
14. *Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July was the first day of Summer Camp.*
15. *This was a surprisingly liberal approach. By the 1970s, smoking was forbidden at camp for all Scouts, regardless of whether they were 16.*
16. *S.U. = Scout Uniform.*
17. *Any such water used for washing then had to be disposed of well away from the stream.*
18. *The location of the farm has still to be located.*
19. *It is not known what the indentation system was.*
20. *The Patrols were expected to cook all their meals over wood fires. However, stoves were available should the weather prove exceptionally bad.*
21. *The purpose of the Scouter being present was to ensure that the Patrols were cooking their meals properly and that all the Scouts were eating healthily. The Scouters were guests and were not to end up cooking meals for the Scouts, unless there were extenuating circumstances. Scouters who received a good meal usually volunteered to help out with some of the washing up, but there was no obligation to do so. In later years, Scouters only dined with the patrols for the main evening meal and the Patrols cooked breakfast and lunch 'unsupervised'. By that, one means that the Patrols were not aware of being supervised.*
22. *It's not known what this involved. However, the system used at 70<sup>th</sup> Summer Camps was for the PL of each Patrol to allocate the role of Patrol QM to one of the younger Scouts. When the Troop QM blew four whistles, the Patrol QMs raced to the main Store tent to collect stores for their patrols. Each Patrol QM was expected to bring a basin and a Dixie to carry the goodies back to his patrol. Extra goodies were often given to the Patrol QM arriving first.*
23. *The question mark was possibly made by the scribe to make the point that not everything provided as food needed to be well cooked (e.g. cereal, sandwiches etc).*
24. *The minibus was presumably used to shuttle Scouts in and out of Larne.*



25. *The wording is rather confusing here. However, it is likely that the 70<sup>th</sup> set a time limit of one year for Scouts to complete badges under the old training scheme (i.e. 2<sup>nd</sup> Class and 1<sup>st</sup> Class). Presumably, after the Summer Camp of 1967, all Scouts had to transfer over to the new training scheme involving the Scout Standard and Advanced Scout Standard. However, if so, there was clearly a bit of flexibility when it came to specific individuals. For example, Alan Anderson and Gordon Morris were awarded their 1<sup>st</sup> Class during February 1968. These are believed to be the last 1st Class Badges awarded in the 70<sup>th</sup>. However, there is a possibility that Kenneth MacKenzie might have gained his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge as late as July 1968.*
26. *The canoeing appears to have taken place on a lake that was situated just south of Kilwaughty Castle (see the website).*
27. *One of these excursions was a trip to the Giant's Causeway. However, it is not known what other excursions were carried out.*
28. *There is no evidence of any such hike taking place during Summer Camp.*
29. *£30 in 1967 had the equivalent value to £683 today (as of 2024)*
30. *5/- (5 shillings or £0.25) in 1967 had the equivalent value to £5.70 today (as of 2024)*
31. *The weekend chosen was the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> September 1967.*
32. *This would have taken place on Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1967*
33. *It is not known for certain which Scouts moved to the Venture Scouts during the summer, but they certainly included Jim Barr (Tiger) and Alex Aitkenhead (Seagull). Robert Beattie (Fox), and Gordon Paterson (Seal) may also have moved on to the Unit. John Lyle is another possibility.*

17<sup>th</sup> August 1967

Finnart Church Hall  
Madeira St.

Present:<sup>1</sup>

S.L.	A. Cram
P.L.	A. Aitkenhead
P.L.	J. Martin
P.L.	J. Duncan
P.L.	R. Beattie
P.L.	D. White (on leave) <sup>6</sup>
P.L.	P. Robertson
P.L.	J. Barr

### General talk

General talk upon Mr Stewart's presentation<sup>2</sup> which is to be done down at Everton. This presentation will be probably the first September weekend<sup>3</sup>. The group will attend en masse at Everton.

### Promotions

\* New PLs     Fox – D. Anderson  
                  Seagull – G. Morris  
                  Seal – C. Stewart  
                  Tiger – S. Lee.

\*New A/PLs    Curlew- K. MacKenzie  
                  Falcon- A. Anderson

Signed:            J. Duncan     (Chairman).<sup>4</sup>  
                      J. A. Lyle     (Troop Scribe)<sup>5</sup>

### **Editorial Notes for 17<sup>th</sup> August 1967**

- 1. This was the last PLC attended by Alex Aitkenhead (Curlew), Robert Beattie (Fox) and Jim Barr (Tiger). Gordon Paterson (Seal) was absent from this COH and may have resigned immediately after Summer Camp. It is not known how many Scouts moved up to the Venture Scouts in August 1967, but it is known that Alex Aitkenhead and Jim Barr were two of that number.*
- 2. See also entry for 28<sup>th</sup> July 1967 regarding Mr. Stewart's presentation.*
- 3. It was indeed the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> September 1967. A report on the weekend was given in the Seal Patrol Log.*
- 4. Jimmy Duncan took over as Chairman of the PLC from Alex Aitkenhead at this meeting. The Chairman was usually the Troop Leader, but by now the 70<sup>th</sup> had changed over to the new system. Therefore, it is likely that Jimmy was appointed as the 70<sup>th</sup>'s first Senior Patrol Leader (S.P.L.).*
- 5. This was John Lyle's last meeting as Troop Minutes Scribe.*
- 6. David White had been promoted PL of the Falcon patrol but had to leave the troop soon after the summer of 1966 because he went to Gordonstoun School. However, he was probably registered as a Lone Scout with the 70<sup>th</sup> and maintained contact for some time. He attended the Summer Camp in 1967 and was clearly invited to attend he COH meetings until he had to return to school.*

21<sup>st</sup> August 1967

Finnart Church Hall  
Madeira St.

**Meeting of the PL Council  
Session 1967-68**

Present:

S.L.	A.Cram
P.L.	P. Robertson ( <i>Falcon</i> )
P.L.	J. Duncan ( <i>Curlew</i> )
P.L.	C. Stewart ( <i>Seal</i> )
P.L.	S. Lee ( <i>Tiger</i> )
P.L.	G. Morris ( <i>Seagull</i> )
P.L.	J. Martin ( <i>Kingfisher</i> )

Opening of the PLC

The new P.L. Council Chairman is J. Duncan.

J. Duncan read out rules of the P.L.C. to the new P.L.s. The new P.L.s take the promise of the new session.<sup>1</sup> A new P.L., D. Anderson managed to arrive late.

Promotion of A/P.L.s

Fox – R. Fraser.

Seal – G. McBride.

Tiger – S. Anderson.

P.L.C. Secretary

P. Robertson.

Troop Log Secretary

C. Stewart.<sup>2</sup>

General.

\*Flag bearers were proposed as Jimmy Duncan and myself<sup>3</sup>. Seconded.

\*A Troop library was to be started by David Anderson.

\*All P.L.'s to remind their men about Mr Stewart's presentation on *the* 2nd and 3rd September.

\*As regards running of Troop, Charles *said* there was too much emphasis on tests and Gordon wants more variety of games and more wide games.

\*Application had been made to the Dean of Guild for planning permission<sup>4</sup>.

\* The jumble sale was to be held at end of September<sup>5</sup>.

S.L.'s Ramble.

\*Skipper's ramble was about badge passing (more of it). Also about contents of patrol boxes.

\*P.L.s training camp *to be* 3rd weekend in September<sup>6</sup>.

\*Summer camp maybe at Gillwell.<sup>7</sup>

Signed: J. Duncan (Chairman).  
Peter Robertson (Troop minutes Scribe)

**Editorial Notes for 21st August 1967**

1. Presumably, this involved taking the Scout Promise. During the 1960s, each Court of Honour Meeting started with all PLs reaffirming the Scout Promise. The wording here suggests that the Scout Promise was only taken at the first PLC meeting. However, this is rather speculative.
2. Unfortunately, the Troop Log covering 1966-68 is no longer in the Troop's possession.
3. Peter Robertson.
4. This presumably related to the building of the new 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts HQ building at the corner of Madeira Street and Finnart Street. The Parents Committee probably submitted the application.
5. Jumble Sales had become an annual event in order to raise funds.
6. This would have been the 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September 1967. No records of this training camp survive.
7. In fact, the Summer Camp in 1968 was held at Frylands Wood.

**28th September 1967**

Finnart Church Hall  
Madeira Street.

Present:	S.L.	A.B. Cram
	A.S.L.	R. Crawford
	A.S.L.	I. Fraser
	P.L.	J. Duncan
	P.L.	J. Martin
	P.L.	D. Anderson
	P.L.	C. Stewart
	P.L.	G. Morris
	P.L.	S. Lee
	P.L.	P. Robertson

General.

- \*A proposed Troop outing to 99th and 33rd Gang Show.<sup>1</sup>
- \*Also troop outing to pantomime<sup>2</sup> (non F.S.U.)<sup>3</sup>
- \*Gordon volunteered for orienteering comp.<sup>4</sup>
- \*Patrol Leaders Camp (place and date not decided yet).<sup>5</sup>
- \* David had received leaflet from London about troop library.
- \*Patrol boxes were to be kept tidy.
- ~~\*A parade is to be held next Sunday (30<sup>th</sup>).~~<sup>6</sup>
- \*Summer camp not yet decided.<sup>7</sup>
- \*Mr Paterson<sup>8</sup> is going to come and give a talk on first aid.
- \*A new scoring system is to be introduced<sup>9</sup>.

Signed: J. Duncan (Chairman).  
Peter Robertson (Troop Minutes Scribe)

**Editorial Notes for 28<sup>th</sup> September 1967**

- 1. This might have occurred on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 1967 (Seal Patrol Log).*
- 2. The visit to the Pantomime took place on the 29<sup>th</sup> December 1967 (Alladdin at the King's Theatre, Glasgow - see Seal Patrol Log),*
- 3. Non F.S.U = non full Scout uniform.*
- 4. It is hard to say whether the word was 'comp' or 'camp, but the latter seems more likely. If so, this might have been the District Scout Orienteering Competition, which was introduced to replace the Signalling Competition. The latter was probably stopped as signalling was no longer an inherent part of the Scout Training System.*
- 5. No details of this camp have been unearthed to date.*
- 6. This bullet point was scored out. The reason for this is not known.*
- 7. The Summer Camp in 1968 was held at Frylands Wood.*
- 8. Nothing is known about Mr. Paterson. There is a possibility that this might have been Gordon Paterson's father, but that needs to be established.*
- 9. No details provided.*

**Sunday 30th September 1967**

23 Bentinck Street<sup>1</sup>

Present:	S.L.	A.Cram
	A.S.L.	I. R. Fraser
	P.L.	J. Martin
	P.L.	J. Duncan
	P.L.	G. Morris
	P.L.	S. Lee
	P.L.	C. Stewart
	P.L.	P. Robertson

General.

\*P.L.s' camp was to be held at Everton<sup>2</sup>. Arrive there by three o'clock. No uniform need be worn.

\*Ian had a fit at the state the hall was being left in. Duty P.L. was to report to a Scouter before he left.

\*Jimmy volunteered to start a troop magazine.

\*The attendance so far had not been too good and was to be improved upon.

\*Gordon once again called for more outdoor activities.

\*A troop photograph was to be taken and sold to help troop funds.<sup>3</sup>

\*Gordon volunteered to be QM.

\*Whether there is to be an Easter camp this year has yet to be decided.

SL's Ramble.

\*Skipper gave us a ramble on Gilwell Park as a campsite for a summer camp.<sup>4</sup>

\*Also about 99th and 33rd Gang Show.<sup>5</sup>

Signed: J. Duncan	(Chairman).
Peter Robertson	(Troop minutes Scribe)

**Editorial Notes for 30<sup>th</sup> September 1967**

1. *The PLC was held at the home of John Martin.*

2. *No report on this camp has been found. The camp might have been held on the first weekend of October.*

3. *The photograph was certain taken and was probably the last Troop photograph taken when the Troop still met in Finnart Church. A copy of this photograph has yet to be found.*

4. *The Summer Camp in 1968 was held at Frylands Wood.*

5. *This Gang Show might have occurred on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 1967 (Seal Patrol Log).*

5<sup>th</sup> October 1967

Finnart Church Hall  
Madeira St.

Present:

S.L.	A.Cram
A.S.L.	A. Riddell
A.S.L.	R. Crawford
A.S.L.	I. Fraser
P.L.	J. Duncan
P.L.	C. Stewart
P.L.	G. Morris
P.L.	S. Lee
P.L.	J. Martin
P.L.	D. Anderson
P.L.	P. Robertson

General.

- \* Troop outing to pantomime approved (non F.S.U.).<sup>1</sup>
- \* Final arrangements for jumble sale.<sup>2</sup>
- \* More activities to be arranged.
- \* Donations to troop library<sup>3</sup> to be handed to Jimmy.
- \* Mr. Paterson is to come and give a talk on first aid.<sup>4</sup>
- \* Outing to 99th and 33rd Gang Show.<sup>5</sup>
- \* Suggestions for Summer Camp; Gilwell Park, Lake District.<sup>6</sup>

Signed: J. Duncan (Chairman).

Peter Robertson (Troop minutes Scribe)

**Editorial Notes for 5<sup>th</sup> October 1967**

1. See notes 2 & 3 for the 28<sup>th</sup> September 1967 regarding the visit to the Pantomime.
2. During the 1960s, Jumble Sales were an annual event. They brought in a lot of money but they also involved a lot of hard work by Scouts, Scouters and Parents alike.
3. The Troop Library consisted chiefly of Scouting books, of which there were many in print during the 1960s. Many of these were borrowed by Scouts wishing to pass Proficiency Badges or tests towards 2<sup>nd</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badges.
4. See note 8 for the 28<sup>th</sup> September 1967 regarding Mr. Paterson.
5. This Gang Show might have occurred on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 1967 (Seal Patrol Log).
6. The Summer Camp in 1968 was held at Frylands Wood near London. The 70<sup>th</sup> eventually camped in the Lake District at Wray Castle near Ambleside in 1978 and 1980.

**19th October 1967**

Finnart Church Hall  
Madeira St.

Present:

S.L.	A.B. Cram
A.S.L.	A. Riddell
A.S.L.	R. Crawford
P.L.	J. Duncan
P.L.	J. Martin
P.L.	D. Anderson
P.L.	C. Stewart
P.L.	S. Lee
P.L.	P. Robertson

General.

- \*A troop photograph could be taken for fund raising.<sup>1</sup>
- \*An Easter camp was suggested.<sup>2</sup>
- \*Halloween party.<sup>3</sup>
- \*Gordon suggested that we should have a wide game.
- \*Jimmy would like to start a troop magazine.
- \*Skipper<sup>4</sup> complained about tidiness of Hall.

Signed: (Chairman).  
Peter Robertson (Scribe)

**Editorial Notes for 19<sup>th</sup> October 1967**

1. *The photograph was certain taken and was probably the last Troop photograph taken when the Troop still met in Finnart Church. A copy of this photograph has yet to be found.*
2. *As the Troop Log for 1966-68 is missing, no written or photographic evidence of an Easter Camp held in 1968 has been found.*
3. *The Scout Halloween Party was an annual event and almost certainly took place.*
4. *'Skip' or 'Skipper' was the term that the Scouts used to address Scout Leader Alistair B. Cram.*



**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 1967**

93 Octavia Terrace<sup>1</sup>

Present:

S.L.	A.B. Cram
A.S.L.	R. Crawford
P.L.	J. Duncan
P.L.	J. Martin
P.L.	D. Anderson
P.L.	G. Morris
P.L.	C. Stewart
P.L.	S. Lee
P.L.	P. Robertson

Time. 7.10 p.m. until 9.40 p.m.

General.

- \* P.L.s Reports.
- \* Suggestions for Summer Camp.<sup>2</sup>
- \* A suggestion was put forward that Easter camp be held at Lochgoilhead.<sup>3</sup>
- \* Gordon is to PL of pioneering competition team.<sup>4</sup>
- \* Graham Patrick is to be new A.P.L. of Fox.<sup>5</sup> Brian Jagger is to be transferred from Kingfisher.<sup>6</sup>
- \* Opening of library<sup>7</sup> on 10th November.
- \* I<sup>8</sup> proposed that the troop hold a parents' night.<sup>9</sup>
- \*The troop *is* not parading on Armistice Sunday<sup>10</sup>, but at a later date.

Signed: (Chairman).  
Peter Robertson ( Scribe)

**Editorial Notes for 29<sup>th</sup> October 1967**

1. *The PLC was held at the home of P.L. David Anderson.*
2. *The Summer Camp in 1968 was held at Frylands Wood near London.*
3. *As the Troop Log for 1966-68 is missing, no written or photographic evidence of an Easter Camp held in 1968 has been found.*
4. *As the Troop Log for 1966-68 is missing, it is not known what other Scouts participated or how the 70<sup>th</sup> Patrol performed.*
5. *Graham Patrick was transferred from the Seal Patrol and replaced Roy Fraser as APL of the Fox Patrol. Roy had resigned from the Troop.*
6. *It is likely that Brian Jagger also moved to the Fox Patrol*
7. *See note 3 for the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1967 regarding the Troop Library.*
8. *Peter Robertson.*
9. *The Parents night did in fact take place in the Wallace Bennett Theatre of the Arts Guild on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 1968. It took the form of a Scout Show in which the Scouts performed Patrol sketches and sang various songs. Peter Robertson had previous experience of performing in a 70<sup>th</sup> Scout Show held in December 1963 and it is likely that this was what inspired him to put on another show.*
10. *Armistice Sunday was on the 12<sup>th</sup> November in 1967.*

**10th November 1967**

Finnart Church  
Madeira St.

Present:

S.L.	A.B. Cram
A.S.L.	I. Fraser
A.S.L.	A. Riddell
A.S.L.	R. Crawford
P.L.	J. Duncan
P.L.	J. Martin
P.L.	D. Anderson
P.L.	C. Stewart
P.L.	S. Lee
P.L.	G. Morris
P.L.	P. Robertson

General.

- \* Parents night<sup>1</sup> was a good idea (no praise please<sup>2</sup>).
- \* I.F.<sup>3</sup> complained about the state the hall was being left in.
- \* Any troop gear at home was to be returned AT ONCE.<sup>4</sup>

Signed: (Chairman).  
Peter Robertson (Scribe)

**Editorial Notes for 10<sup>th</sup> November 1967**

1. See note 9 for the 29<sup>th</sup> October 1967 regarding Parents' Night.
2. Peter Robertson, who was writing the Minutes, came up with the idea of a Parents' Night at the previous PLC.
3. Ian Fraser
4. This comment may also have been made by Ian Fraser.

**Sunday 19th November 1967**

71 South Street<sup>1</sup>

Present:

S.L.	A.B. Cram
A.S.L.	I. Fraser
P.L.	J. Duncan
P.L.	J. Martin
P.L.	G. Morris
P.L.	D. Anderson
P.L.	S. Lee
P.L.	C. Stewart
P.L.	P. Robertson

Time. 7.40 p.m. to 9.35 p.m.

### General

- \* A proposal that Easter Camp<sup>2</sup> be held after 'O' levels.
- \* P.L.s Reports.
- \* The numbers of the troop are not evenly spread out. J. Black to be transferred to Falcon.<sup>3</sup>
- The formation of a new patrol was not accepted.<sup>4</sup>
- \* Ideas were sought for U.68.<sup>5</sup>
- \* The Curlew Patrol (en masse) was to apply for the County Flag.<sup>6</sup>
- \* The numbers were required for the T.V. show.<sup>7</sup>
- \* The Parents' Night to be held in Wallace Bennett.<sup>8</sup>
- \* From Friday, there would be a notice board in the hall wall.
- \* PLs training camp<sup>c</sup> was to be held on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10th December, cost 15/- + 5/- troop subsidy.
- \* The grant has been obtained for than new Hall.<sup>10</sup>

Signed:

Peter Robertson

Chairman.  
Scribe

### **Editorial Notes for 19<sup>th</sup> November 1967**

- 1. The meeting took place at the home of Alistair Cram.*
- 2. As the Troop Log for 1966-68 is missing, no written or photographic evidence of an Easter Camp held in 1968 has been found.*
- 3. John Black was initially in the Curlew Patrol.*
- 4. An 8<sup>th</sup> Patrol (Stag) was eventually formed on 29<sup>th</sup> August 1969.*
- 5. This Competition was formally called the 'Formula U. 68 Competition' and was promoted by Scottish Scout HQ to encourage Patrol activities. It took place over the Scout Session 1967-68 and there were a number of projects to be completed over the year. For example, project 1 was an 'Outdoor Activity' that had to be completed during the Autumn of 1967. Project 2 was to be completed by the 31<sup>st</sup> Decempber 1967. The Competition was mentioned in both the Seal Patrol Log and the Tiger Patrol Log (see entry for the 12<sup>th</sup> January 1968 in the Tiger Patrol Log and the entry for 15<sup>th</sup> December 1967 in the Seal Patrol Log). Therefore, the topic of discussion on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 1967 would have been on project 2 of the competition.*
- 6. The County Flag was an annual competition open to Troops throughout the County. The way in which it ran varied over the years, but it always seemed to involve an inspection of a typical Troop night programme, and a final weekend camp. In 1967-68, it seems likely that the Curlew Patrol led by Jimmy Duncan was elected to represent the Troop at the final camp. It is not known how the Troop was placed in the 1967-68 competition.*
- 7. No records have been found referring to the visit to the TV show during the 1967-68 Scout year.*
- 8. See note 9 for the 29<sup>th</sup> October 1967 regarding Parents' Night.*

9. *No written or photographic accounts of the Training Camp have been identified to date.*

10. *This refers to the planned new Scout HQ at the corner of Madeira Street and Finnart Street. The minutes of a Parents Committee meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 1968 stated that Renfrewshire Education Committee had agreed to meet £2,200 of the cost, while the Scottish Education Department had approved an application for a grant of £4,400. As a result, the work required to convert the old Civil Defence building could proceed with an estimated completion date of September 1968. The building was formally opened in April 1969.*

**Sunday 17th December 1967**

91 Octavia Terrace<sup>1</sup>

Present:

S.L.	A.B. Cram
A.S.L.	A. Riddell
P.L.	J. Duncan
P.L.	J. Martin
P.L.	D. Anderson
P.L.	S. Lee
P.L.	C. Stewart
P.L.	G. Morris

General.

- \* Christmas good turn.
- \* State of Troop gear, no Q.M.
- \* Tightening of troop discipline.
- \* Lifesaving course<sup>2</sup>.
- \* Prices for hire<sup>3</sup> of Art Guild.<sup>4</sup>
- \* Completion of U.68 by end of December.<sup>5</sup>
- \* PLs Reports.
- \* Dates of midnight hike.<sup>6</sup>
- \* Scouts Own in February.<sup>7</sup>

Skipper's Ramble.<sup>8</sup>

Robin's Ramble.<sup>9</sup>

Signed: (Chairman).  
Peter Robertson (Scribe)

**Editorial Notes for 17<sup>th</sup> December 1967**

- 1. The meeting took place at the home of P.L. Gordon Morris.*
- 2. The idea of organising a lifesaving course was probably promoted by the recent completion of the Hector McNeil Swimming Pool which was opened in 1966. It was Greenock's first public, indoor swimming pool. The pool was built close to Lady Alice Bowling Club between Inverkip Road and Brachelston Street. It was eventually demolished in 2002 and the ground has laid empty ever since.*
- 3. The Wallace Bennett theatre in the Arts Guild was hired for the Parents Night. See note 9 for the 29<sup>th</sup> October 1967 regarding Parents' Night.*
- 4. The Wallace Bennett Theatre used to be the billiards room of the West End Baths (a private club which had occupied the building since its construction in 1881 until 1941). The Wallace Bennett Theatre was the first part of the Arts Guild to be developed and it opened in 1949 with a stage and seating for 100 people. The old indoor swimming pool was converted into the main theatre with 500 seats in 1955, but the Wallace Bennett theatre was retained for smaller shows until 2012 when the Arts Guild closed. Consequently, it was ideal for the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Scout Show, which was performed in front of Parents on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 1968. Unfortunately, a detailed programme of the show has not been found. However, it is clear that each Patrol put on its own sketch or playlet, and it is also clear that the Troop sang songs.*
- 5. See note 5 for the 19<sup>th</sup> November 1967 regarding the U. 68 Competition.*
- 6. No report on the midnight hike has been found to date. However, one popular route for midnight hikes was to start at Bankfoot Farm (near Inverkip) and to take the path round the hill to the 'Roman Bridge'. From there, the route would have involved taking the unsurfaced track up to Leapmoor Forest, then descend to Everton campsite.*
- 7. The Scouts Own actually took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 1968 (Tiger Patrol Log)*
- 8. 'Skip' or 'Skipper' was the term that the Scouts used to address Scout Leader Alistair B. Cram.*

9. This would have been Robin Crawford. However, he was not identified as being present at the meeting. One possibility is that the Scribe made a mistake and missed his name out. Another possibility is that he arrived late after the meeting had started. A third possibility is that he provided a written version of his 'ramble.'

**Sunday 21st January 1968**

28A Fox Street<sup>1</sup>

Present:

S.L.	A.B. Cram
A.S.L.	R. Crawford
P.L.	J. Duncan
P.L.	J. Martin
P.L.	D. Anderson
P.L.	S. Lee
P.L.	C. Stewart
P.L.	P. Robertson

General.

- \* U 68<sup>2</sup> project was to fix troop gear.<sup>3</sup>
- \* Treasurer's report.<sup>4</sup>
- \* The Parents' Night to be held in Wallace Bennett.<sup>5</sup>
- \* PLs Reports.
- \* Skipper's<sup>6</sup> Ramble.
- \* Summer Camp.<sup>7</sup>
- \* Cubs are coming up.<sup>8</sup>
- \* Scouts Own in February.<sup>9</sup>
- \* Robin's ramble.

Signed: (Chairman). John Martin  
P. Robertson Scribe

**Editorial Notes for 21<sup>st</sup> January 1968**

1. *The meeting took place at the home of P.L. Charlie Stewart.*
2. *See note 5 for the 19<sup>th</sup> November 1967 regarding the U. 68 Competition.*
3. *It's not clear whether this refers to Project 2 which had to be completed by the end of December or Project 3 which followed on.*
4. *It's not known who the Treasurer was at this point.*
5. *See note 4 for the 17<sup>th</sup> December 1967 and note 9 for the 29<sup>th</sup> October 1967 regarding the Parents Night.*
6. *'Skip' or 'Skipper' was the term that the Scouts used to address Scout Leader Alistair B. Cram.*
7. *The Summer Camp of 1968 was held at Frylands Wood near London.*
8. *The Cubs coming up were probably Alistair Still (who joined the Kingfishers) and Kenneth Waddell (who joined the Seals) Both joined on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Gordon McTavish joined on the 26<sup>th</sup> April 1968, but may have transferred to the 70th from another Troop.*
9. *The Scouts Own actually took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 1968 (Tiger Patrol Log)*

**9th February 1968**

Finnart Church Hall  
Madeira St.

Present:

S.L.	A.B. Cram
A.S.L.	I.R. Fraser
P.L.	J. Duncan
P.L.	J. Martin
P.L.	G. Morris
P.L.	C. Stewart
P.L.	S. Lee
P.L.	P. Robertson
P.L.	D. Anderson

Special.

Jimmy has resigned from troop owing to pressure of work. Alan Anderson unanimously elected new PL.<sup>1</sup>

Signed: Peter Robertson    Chairman<sup>2</sup> and Scribe  
John Martin

**Editorial Notes for 9<sup>th</sup> February 1968**

- 1. Alan Anderson took over from Jimmy Duncan as PL of the Curlew Patrol.*
- 2. Jimmy Duncan may have stayed on until the end of February before actually leaving the Troop. However, once he did leave that left open the position of Chairman and Senior Patrol Leader. Peter Robertson may have taken on the role of Chairman for a while, but John Martin might have been appointed Chairman and SPL at a subsequent PLC. His signature on the Minutes of 21<sup>st</sup> January and 9<sup>th</sup> February might have been added retrospectively. Unfortunately, no minutes have been discovered covering PLCs for the rest of the year.*



## **Appendix 1 Summaries of Scouts, Scouters and others identified in the COH and PLC minutes.**

### **Aitkenhead, Alex**

*Alex Aitkenhead (Mowgli) was probably born in 1951 and lived at 171 Newark Street. He was a 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub and may have joined the Troop in 1962. He was a member of the Seagull Patrol and was promoted to Second in June 1964, then to PL in September 1965. By the summer of 1967, he was Chairman of the Court of Honour (PLC) – a position normally occupied the Troop Leader. Alex was clearly an active and proficient Scout as he was picked for 70<sup>th</sup> teams entering various District Competitions covering First Aid, football and camping skills. In particular, he was a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> Patrol to win the Shannon Cup in 1965. Alex attended the troop's summer camps held in 1964, 1966 and 1967, and left the Troop in August 1967 to join the Venture Scouts. During his spell in the Venture Scouts, he was on the Unit's expedition to the Austrian Alps in 1968 and then helped out the Leader team at Templars Park in 1969. On leaving school, Alex became a road engineer, then emigrated to Australia where he tried his hand at various ventures including a daffodil farm.*

### **Anderson, Alan**

*Alan Anderson was born in April 1954 and lived at 146 South Street. His father was Dr. A.G. Anderson. Alan had two younger brothers (Brian and Craig) who were also Cubs and Scouts with the 70<sup>th</sup>. Alan attended Greenock Academy and was in the 70th Wolf Cubs where he gained his Leaping Wolf Badge before joining the troop in May 1965 as a member of the Kingfisher Patrol. In September 1967, he was promoted to Patrol Second of the Falcon Patrol, then in March 1968, he was promoted to PL of the Curlew Patrol. In September 1968, he was appointed Senior Patrol Leader. Alan was one of the last 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts to gain his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge, which he achieved in February 1968, before switching to the new Training scheme and gaining his Chief Scouts Award. He also gained his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award having completed a rather demanding 15-mile hike Bronze hike with Graham Patrick, John Tait, Alan Crumlish, Stanley Anderson and Kenneth MacKenzie. As far as camps were concerned, Alan attended the Tarbert Summer Camp for 1965 for three days, then fully attended the Summer Camps held in Tarbert (1966), Northern Ireland (1967), Templar's Park (1969) and Denmark (1970). He led the Curlew Patrol at both the 1969 and 1970 Summer Camps. He also attended several weekend camps and events, including a canoeing weekend at Lochgoilhead in June 1969, and Father and Son Camp (21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> March 1970). As far as competitions were concerned, Alan participated in several orienteering competitions, winning the District Scout orienteering competition in December 1968 when paired with Alan Crumlish. In March 1970, he competed in the National Scout Orienteering Competition held in Epping Forest but was unplaced; the odds were rather stacked against Scouts with no previous knowledge of Epping Forest. Also, in 1970, Alan led an Orienteering team which competed in the County Flag. However, it is not known how well they did. Alan resigned from the Troop during the summer of 1970 to join the Venture Scouts. Alan was called 'Panly' when he was in the Scouts. It may have derived from 'Pandy', which, in turn, derived from 'Andy Pandy'. At school, Alan was a very good winger and played for the school's rugby 1<sup>st</sup> XV.*

### **Anderson, David**

*David Anderson was born in May 1952 and joined the 70<sup>th</sup> in September 1966 when he was aged 14. He already had three years Scouting experience, having been in the 11<sup>th</sup> Stirlingshire Scouts before his family moved to Greenock and took up residence at 93 Octavia Terrace. David Anderson was nicknamed 'Clockwork' for reasons unknown and he was promoted to APL within a month of joining the Troop. He was then promoted to PL of the Fox Patrol at the start of September 1967. He gained his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge before he joined the Venture Scout Unit at the end of August 1968.*

### **Anderson, Iain**

*Iain Anderson was born in March 1955 and joined the 70<sup>th</sup> on the 16th September 1966 when he was aged 11.5. He already had three years Scouting experience as a Wolf Cub and 6 months service as a Scout with the 11<sup>th</sup> Stirlingshire. On joining the 70<sup>th</sup>, Iain was initially placed in the Fox Patrol but was transferred within a couple of weeks to the Seal Patrol with Gordon Paterson as his PL. Iain remained in the Seal Patrol for almost three*

years under three different Patrol Leaders (Gordon Paterson, Charlie Stewart and Kenneth MacKenzie), and eventually became 1<sup>st</sup> Scout of the Seal Patrol in January 1968. He gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 1967, then switched over to the new training scheme to start his Advanced Scout Standard. He attended the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Summer Camp in Northern Ireland in the summer of 1967. Iain remained in the troop until the end of June, 1969 but was not promoted to APL. This may have been a factor in him resigning from the troop.

### **Anderson, Stanley**

Stanley Anderson was born in December 1954 and lived at 71 Brisbane Street. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy and had been in the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cubs for three years before moving up to the Troop in October 1965, when he joined the Seagull Patrol. Stanley was promoted to PL of the Seagull Patrol at the start of the 1968-69 session and remained as such until October 1970 when he left the Troop. Stanley attended summer camps at Tarbert (1966), Larne (1967), Templars Park (1969) and Denmark (1970).

### **Barr, Jim**

Jim Barr was probably born in 1951 and lived at 140 Finnart Street. He was invested into the Troop in March 1963 and joined the Curlew Patrol. He was promoted to Second of the Fox Patrol in September 1965, then to PL of the Curlew Patrol at some point during 1966. In September of 1966, he became the first PL of the newly formed Tiger Patrol. Jim completed his 1<sup>st</sup> Class hike in July 1966, and received his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge in September 1966. He was also a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> Patrol that won the Shannon Cup in 1965. Jim was an enthusiastic camper and attended the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Summer Camps at Tayvallaich (1963), Tarbert (1964-66), and Larne (1967). He left the Troop to join the Venture Scout Unit after the Summer Camp of 1967. In 1968, he participated in the Venture Scouts expedition to the Austrian Alps and in 1969, he helped out on the leader team at the troop's summer camp to Templars Park.

### **Barron, Alastair**

Alastair Barron lived at 47 Union Street and was probably born in 1953. His father was Dr. Peter Barron. It is not known whether Alastair was a pupil at Greenock Academy or the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack but both seem likely. He was first mentioned in the available Troop records as being 4th Scout of the Fox Patrol during the 1963-64 session with Alan Jeyes as his PL. Therefore, he may have joined after the summer of 1963. He was still a member of the Fox Patrol when the Patrol won the Patrol Championship of the Year under Robin Crawford in 1965. Alastair remained with the Fox Patrol with David Flockhart as PL for the 1965-66 session. There is evidence to show that he was promoted to Second of the Seagull Patrol after the summer of 1966 with Alex Aitkenhead as his PL. As far as the training scheme is concerned, it seems highly likely that he gained the 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge. However, it is not known whether he gained the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge. There is no evidence of Alastair attending any Summer Camp and it is likely that he left the Troop at the end of the 1966-67 session. It is not known what he did after leaving school.

### **Beattie, Robert**

Robert Beattie lived at 1 Crown Street and was probably born in 1951. It is not known whether he was a pupil at Greenock Academy or the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack. He was first mentioned in the available Troop records as being 3<sup>rd</sup> Scout of the Kingfisher Patrol during the 1963-64 session. He was promoted to Second in September 1965, but there is no record of him being promoted to PL. As far as the training scheme is concerned, he certainly gained the 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge in September 1965. However, it is not known for sure whether he gained the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge, although he certainly completed the hike for that badge in 1966. Robert attended Troop Summer Camps held in 1964, 1965 and 1966. He went on to join the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Venture Scout Unit, probably after the summer of 1967, and participated in the Unit's expedition to the Austrian Alps in 1968. It is not known what he did after leaving school.

### **Bennett, Peter**

*Peter Bennett was born in January 1955 and lived at 22 Lyle Road. Peter was a pupil at Greenock Academy and went through the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack before moving up to the troop in June 1966. He joined the Falcon Patrol and remained in the Patrol throughout his time in Scouts. He was promoted APL after the summer of 1968 with Ian Notman as PL, and that remained the case for the next two years. In September or October 1970, Peter was promoted to PL and led the Patrol until September 1971 when he moved into the Venture Scouts. During his time in the Scouts, Peter gained his Tenderfoot and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badges under the old training scheme, then transferred to the new training scheme. Unfortunately, it is not known whether he gained his ASS and CSA badges under the new scheme. Peter continued Scouting after he left the Venture Unit and has been an Assistant Cub Scout Leader, Group Scout Leader and District Commissioner. He had a break from Scouting for several years when his family were growing up but returned after a break of about 8 years or so. As a result, he is one of the longest serving members of the 70<sup>th</sup> Group in its history. After leaving school, Peter became a successful Chartered Accountant and has continued to watch over the books of several charitable organisations on a voluntary basis since his retirement. Peter married Ruth Watker who has been in charge of the 70th Pathfinders (later renamed Beavers) since its inception.*

### **Black, John**

*John Black was probably born in 1956 and joined the troop in March 1967. He was placed in the Curlew Patrol, but was transferred to the Falcon Patrol in late November 1967 when Peter Robertson was Patrol Leader. He remained in the Falcon Patrol during the three years that Ian Notman and Peter Bennett were PLs, and it is possible that he was promoted to APL when Peter Bennett became PL. It is also believed that John was PL of the Falcon Patrol during the 1971/1972 Scout year. He left the troop in September 1972, but it is not known whether he went on to Venture Scouts or not. Unfortunately, his record card has not survived, and so it has not been possible to identify how far through the Scout Training scheme he got after gaining his Scout Standard on 7<sup>th</sup> February 1969. Similarly, there is little information regarding any hikes or camps that he attended during his time in Scouts. However, he certainly attended the 70<sup>th</sup> Summer camps to Frylands wood in 1968, Templars Park in 1969, Denmark in 1970, and Inverness in 1971. However, there is no evidence of him attending the summer camp held at Broadstone Warren in 1972. Other records show that he attended a weekend at Lochgoilhead Scout Centre in June 1969.*

### **Bruce, John**

*John Bruce lived at 19 Bentinck Street, then 134 Eldon Street. He joined the Troop in October 1966 and was placed in the Seagull Patrol. He was clearly a good swimmer as he performed extremely well at the Scout Swimming Gala held in 1969, where he came second in the Scout under 16 Championship, second in the Scout diving competition, and was a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> team that won the Victory Trophy that year (J.Bruce, I. Goudie, A. Still and J.McCallum). He attended the Troop's Summer Camp to Denmark in 1970, by which time he was an APL. He was promoted to PL at the start of the 1970-71 session and attended his first conventional summer camp at Inverness in 1971. He left the Troop not long after that.*

### **Chivers, John**

*Very little information is known about John Chivers, other than he was a friend of Gordon Paterson and joined the Troop towards the end of 1967 so that he could gain his Scout Cords. This suggests that he transferred from another Troop. He was reported to be in the Tiger Patrol in January 1967 and close to gaining his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge. He also attended Summer Camp in Northern Ireland during 1967, then left the troop about the same time as Gordon Paterson. There is a possibility that he might have been appointed as Second of the Tiger Patrol during his time in the troop, but that remains to be confirmed*

### **Christie, Alex.**

*Alexander Christie (Alex or Alec) was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 1954 and lived at 6 Madeira Street. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy and initially joined the Wolf Cub Pack of the 1<sup>st</sup> Gourock Group for 2 years. He joined the 70<sup>th</sup> Troop on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1966, having been introduced by John Kirk, and was placed in the Seal*

patrol. He gained his Tenderfoot Badge on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 1966, and his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge in October 1967 before transferring to the new training scheme. However his record card covering the new training scheme has not survived and it is not known how far he got with his Advanced Scout Standard. It's also not known how many badges he ended up with but it is known that he gained the Swimmer badge in March 1967. He attended two summer camps. His first summer camp was at West Loch Tarbert in 1966 where he won the Cup for Best Camper. He also attended the following summer camp in Northern Ireland in 1967. He had probably reached the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> Scout before he departed the troop on 12<sup>th</sup> January 1968. It is likely that his family were moving away from Greenock as he was given a grand send off by the troop at his last troop meeting. This included the gift of a book, a traditional 'ducking' and a 'going over' at British Bulldog..

### **Conway, George**

George Conway was born in 1950 and lived at 1 Drums Terrace. He was the youngest of three brothers (Kenneth, Alan and George) all of whom were 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts and gained their Queen's Scout Award. Their father was Mr. Kenneth Conway who was a Clyde River Pilot. It is very likely that George was a pupil at Greenock Academy and attended the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cubs before moving up to the Troop. George was probably one of the 7 Wolf Cubs to join the Troop in October 1961, and he was placed in the Seal patrol with John Moore as his PL. He gained his Tenderfoot Badge in January 1962 and had been promoted to Second of the Seal Patrol by August 1963 with his brother Alan as PL. In June 1964, he was promoted to PL at the relatively young age of 14 and remained as PL until the summer of 1966. Unfortunately, his record card has not survived, but his brother Alan has stated that George progressed successfully through the Scout Training Scheme to gain his Queen's Scout Badge. As far as camping is concerned, George was a keen camper and is known to have attended the Summer Camps of 1964 and 1965, as well as the Easter Camp of 1962. He may well have attended other such camps but the records lack detailed information on these. George resigned during the summer of 1966. After leaving school, he became a chef and moved to England.

### **Cram, Alistair**

Alistair Cram (Skipper) was born in 1945 and lived at 71 South Street. He was member of the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Wolf Cub Pack during the 1950s, then moved up to the Troop (probably in 1956). In 1959, he was promoted to Second of the Fox Patrol. In April 1960 he became PL of the Seal Patrol, and by the summer he was Troop Leader. Alistair progressed through the entire Scout Training scheme and almost certainly earned his Queen's Scout Badge. During his time as a Scout, he attended summer camps at Pitlochry (1957), Benderloch (1958), Tarbert (1959 and 1960) and Arduaine (1961). Alistair was also picked for a number of 70<sup>th</sup> teams that entered District Competitions including the Shannon Cup, the Pioneering competition, and the Signalling trophy. The best result gained in these competitions was the winning of the signalling trophy in 1961. He resigned as Troop Leader in September 1961 when he was aged 16 and joined the leader team where he was junior ASM / ASM until 1966. In May or June of that year, He took over from Bob Miller as Scout Leader and was faced with the challenge of adapting the troop to a completely new era of Scouting following the Advance Party Report of 1966 which introduced radical changes to Scouting. Alistair rose to this challenge and successfully introduced the changes without losing the traditions, principles and spirit of pre-1966 Scouting. Over the next 15 years under Alistair's leadership, the 70<sup>th</sup> became stronger than it had ever been in its history without sacrificing the quality and standards of previous years. If anything, the quality of troop programmes, outdoor activities and Summer Camps increased substantially over those 15 years.

### **Crawford, Robin**

Robin Crawford was born in 1950 and lived at 97 Brisbane Street. He moved up from the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cubs to the Troop in March 1961 and joined the Fox Patrol. In August 1963, he was promoted to Second of the Fox Patrol, then became Patrol Leader in June 1964. At some point after that, Robin became Troop Leader. During his time in the Scouts, he worked his way through the Scout Training scheme and was awarded his Queen's Scout Badge in October 1965. He was also the PL in charge of the 70<sup>th</sup> Patrols that won the Drummond Vase and the Shannon Cup in 1965. In September 1965, he resigned as PL and TL and joined the ranks of the Scouters. Robin was very keen on astronomy and this is evident in some of the troop programmes run in 1968. Robin and

*Alan Riddell also played a crucial role in taking over the 70<sup>th</sup> Troop when Alastair Cram was on a scholarship to Calgary University, Canada, during part of 1968 and 1969. In 1970. Robin and Alan were largely in charge of the Troop's Summer Camp to Denmark and did an amazing job of looking after the welfare of the Scouts on a particularly stormy North Sea Crossing back to the UK. Robin was well liked and highly respected by both Scouts and Scouters, and he epitomised the best attributes of Scouting. On leaving school, Robin went to Glasgow University and gained an LL.B, then switched to accountancy and qualified as a Chartered Accountant. He currently lives in Bearsden (as of 2024).*

### **Crumlish, Alan**

*Alan David Crumlish (Crum) was born in June 1954 and lived at 33A Newton Street. His father was a French teacher. Alan attended Greenock Academy but did not join the Wolf Cubs. Instead, he was introduced to the Troop by Douglas Loch in October 1965 and was one of 10 boys introduced that month, causing the troop numbers to swell to 40. Alan joined the Kingfisher Patrol led by Bobby McCallum, then John Lyle. His first summer camp was to Northern Ireland in 1967. He also attended the 1968 Summer Camp to Frylands Wood. After this camp, Alan was promoted to PL of the Kingfisher Patrol before being appointed as PL of the newly formed Stag Patrol at the end of August 1969. He did not attend the 1969 camp to Templars Park, and his final summer camp was to Denmark in 1970, after which he left for the Venture Scouts. Unfortunately, his record card has not survived. However, he successfully progressed through the Scout Training Scheme. It is likely that he gained the Tenderfoot and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class badges under the old training scheme, then transferred to the new scheme to gain his Advanced Scout Standard and Chief Scouts Award (CSA). His CSA was awarded to him in Denmark on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 1970 by the Danish International Commissioner for Scouting. During his time in the troop, Alan represented the Troop in a number of orienteering Competitions including the National Scout Orienteering Competition held in Epping Forest near Gilwell in May 1970. He was unplaced, but he won the District Scout orienteering competition held at Everton in December 1968 along with Alan Anderson, and came second (with Duncan Malcolm) at the Scottish Scouts Orienteering Competition held at Fordell Firs, also in December 1968. In May 1970 Alan led the Stag Patrol as the troop's representatives at the camping part of the County Flag Competition that year. The Troop came third in the county Flag that year. Finally, Alan was a member of the 1968 Gang Show Cast.*

### **Dagleish, John**

*John Dagleish was born in September 1955 and lived at 21 Welbeck Street. He was aged 11 when he moved up from the 70<sup>th</sup> Cubs to join the Scouts, where he was placed in the Seal Patrol when Gordon Paterson was probably PL. He attended Ardgowan Primary School and Greenock High School. During his time in the Scouts, he gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge under the old training scheme, and his Advanced Scout Standard under the new training scheme. He was promoted to APL in May 1968 when David Anderson was PL, and continued to serve as APL of the Seal Patrol for a further two years when Kenneth MacKenzie was PL. He was promoted to PL of the Seal Patrol in September 1970, then joined the Venture Scouts in September 1971. He gained the Cup for Best Camper in 1967 and the Cub for Best Scout in 1968. He was also one of the cast in the Gang Show of 1968. John attended Summer Camps in 1967, 1968, 1970 and 1971. John had an older brother (Phillip) and two younger brothers (Christopher and Gordon) who were also 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts)*

### **Dale, Ewan**

*Ewan Dale was born on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 1955 and lived at 6 Fort Matilda Terrace. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy and had been a Wolf Cub for three years. His older brother, Malcolm, was also in the troop. Ewan joined the troop on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1966, having been introduced by his brother. The fact that Malcolm introduced his brother to the Troop suggests that Ewan had been a Wolf Cub in another Scout Group. Ewan was placed in the Falcon Patrol with Peter Robertson as his PL. In terms of his progress through the Scout Training Scheme, Ewan gained his Tenderfoot Badge on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 1966 and his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 1968. He then transferred to the new training scheme. Unfortunately, his record card from that point on has not survived and it is not known whether he gained his Advanced Scout Standard and Chief Scouts Award. It is also*

*not known whether he was promoted to APL or PL. He certainly attended Summer Camps held in Northern Ireland (1967) and Frylands Wood (1968) but it is not known what other camps he might have attended during his period in the troop. It is also not known when he left the Troop.*

### **Dale, Malcolm**

*Malcolm Dale lived at 6 Fort Matilda Terrace and was the older brother of Ewan Dale. His father was Mr. Thomas Dale. Information regarding Malcolm is sparse as his record cards have not survived. Therefore, it is not known when he was born or when he joined the troop. It is known that he gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge in June 1965 and that he was in the Fox Patrol at that point with Robin Crawford as his PL. Indeed, Malcolm was a member of the Fox Patrol that won the Patrol of the Year Competition for the 1964-65 session. He was also a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> team that won the District's Drummond Vase First Aid Competition in March 1965. The last mention of Malcolm in the available records was in March 1966 and it was stated that Malcolm was once more in one of the 70<sup>th</sup>'s two teams entered for the Drummond Vase Competition. Unfortunately, the 70<sup>th</sup> came last and second last on that occasion. The Court of Honour minutes show that Malcolm was promoted to Second of the Fox Patrol in September 1966 with Robert Beattie as his PL. However, he clearly resigned from the Troop within the month. It's not known whether he joined the Venture Scout Unit at that point or not. It's also not known what he did on leaving school.*

### **Duncan, Andrew**

*Very little is known about Andrew Duncan. He lived at 60 South Street and joined the Troop on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 1966. It is unlikely that anyone would move up from the Wolf Cub pack at the end of June and this suggests that he must have transferred to the 70<sup>th</sup> from another Scout Troop, especially as it was reported on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1966 that he had his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge. Andrew was placed in the Falcon Patrol with Peter Robertson as his PL. However, his record card has not survived and no other information is known about him. He resigned from the Troop on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 1967.*

### **Duncan, Jimmy**

*Jimmy Duncan was born on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1952 and lived at 24 Margaret Street, then 60 South Street. His father (Charles S. Duncan) might have been a newsagent. Jimmy was a pupil at Greenock Academy and a Wolf Cub in the 70<sup>th</sup> Pack for 2 years. It is likely that he moved up to the troop on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1963 to join the Falcon Patrol with Ian Fraser as his PL. Jimmy gained the Cup for Best Scout during the 1965-66 session and was promoted to Second in June 1966. However, he was not a Patrol Second as he was speedily promoted to become PL of the Curlew Patrol in October 1966. In August 1967, he was promoted to Senior Patrol Leader under the new 'system' that had just been introduced. Thus, it is believed that Jimmy was the 70<sup>th</sup>'s first ever Senior Patrol Leader or SPL.*

*As far as the training scheme was concerned, Jimmy gained his Tenderfoot Badge in 1963. It's not known when he gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge, but he gained his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge at the end of August 1967. He then transferred to the new training scheme, but it is not known whether he gained the Chief Scout's Award or not. Jimmy attended Summer Camps at West Loch Tarbert during 1964 and 1966, as well as Northern Ireland in 1967. Jimmy resigned towards the end of February 1968, but it is not known whether he joined the Venture Scouts or not.*

### **Flockhart, David.**

*David Flockhart was probably born in 1951 and lived at 12 Lylefoot Crescent. David's father (John) was a lecturer at Paisley College of Technology and his mother, Irene (maiden name Zoller), had been an Assistant Cub Mistress before she was married. David's nickname (Bouncer) was derived from his rather 'large' physique, but he took this in good humour and was well liked by Scouts of all ages. It is likely that he joined the Troop in 1962 and was placed in the Fox Patrol. By the start of the 1963/64 session, he was 1<sup>st</sup> Scout with Alan Jeyes as his PL. He was then promoted to Second in June 1964 with Robin Crawford as PL, then to PL in September 1965. Unfortunately, his record card has not survived and so it is not known how far he got through*

*the Scout Training scheme, although it seems likely that he had gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class badge by the summer of 1963. David attended Summer camps at Tayvallich (1963) and West Loch Tarbert (1964 & 1965), as well as Easter Camp at Pitlochry (1964) and several weekend camps, including Blairmore in 1965. He may well have been at other camps that were not reported in the available Troop records. In terms of competitions, David was a member of the successful 4-man team to win the District First Aid Competition (Drummond Vase) in March 1965. In addition, he was a member of the Fox Patrol to win the Patrol of the Year Competition for the 1964-65 session. David resigned from the Troop on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 1966 with the intention of joining the Venture Scout Unit when he reached the age of 16. However, it is not known whether he did so or not. It is not known what he did on leaving school, but he may have emigrated to New Zealand when he retired.*

### **Fraser, Ian R.**

*Ian Fraser lived at 34 Fancy Farm Road and had been a 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub and Boy Scout during the 1950s and 1960s. He was PL of the Falcon Patrol for almost four years (1960-1964), becoming Troop Leader in 1963. Ian was a very proficient Scout and was a member of the Shannon Cup team that came second in 1959, as well as the 4-man team that won the Signalling Trophy in 1961. He gained his Queen Scouts Badge in 1964 then, joined the ranks of the Scouters in June of that year, initially as a Junior ASM. He qualified as a fully warranted ASM/ASL and remained in post until he resigned at the end of the 1968 Summer Camp. His resignation was precipitated as he was moving to Birmingham (presumably because of work).*

### **Fraser, Roy**

*Roy Fraser was born during 1954 and was a pupil at Greenock Academy. His father is thought to have owned a furniture removal firm. Roy joined the Troop in May 1965 and was placed in the Fox Patrol with Robin Crawford as his PL. As a result, he was a member of the Patrol that won the Patrol Championship for the Scouting year 1964-1965. Roy passed his Tenderfoot and was invested in June 1965. Unfortunately records covering 1966-1968 are scarce but there is some evidence to suggest that he had gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class badge by the end of January 1967. He was promoted to APL of the Fox Patrol on the 21<sup>st</sup> August 1967 at about the same time that David Anderson was promoted to PL of the Patrol. However, the available records indicate that he left the Troop during October of the same year. During his time in the Troop, he attended a few days at Summer Camp held at West Loch Tarbert in 1965, as well as the full camp held in Northern Ireland in 1967. Roy was a very good tennis player and performed well in various local competitions. On leaving school, he studied chemistry at Glasgow University and was then employed as a Medical Sales representative by a Pharmaceutical Company.*

### **Gibb, David**

*David Gibb was born on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1955 and lived at 179 Finnart Street. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy, then Glasgow High School. David was a 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub for three years before joining the Troop on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1966. He was then placed in the Seagull Patrol. He passed his Tenderfoot Badge on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 1966 and made some progress through his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge. He was present at the 70<sup>th</sup> Summer Camp held in 1967 in Northern Ireland. However, he left the Troop on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 1968. This might have coincided with him starting to attend Glasgow High School. It is not known what he did on leaving school.*

### **Goudie, Ian**

*Ian Goudie lived at 59 Octavia Terrace and was probably born in 1955. He attended Greenock Academy and it is likely that he was in the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack. He joined the troop in October 1966 and was placed in the Seal patrol where he would have had Gordon Paterson then Charile Stewart as his PL. He was promoted to APL in August 1969 and was moved to the Curlew Patrol in August 1969 when Alan Anderson was SPL. In September 1970, Ian was promoted to PL of the Curlew Patrol. Unfortunately, his record card has not survived and so it is not known how many badges he gained or how many camps he attended. However, it is known that he attended the troop's summer camps at Inverness in 1971. The troop log also shows that he was a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> team that won the Victory Trophy at the Scout Swimming Gala held in March 1969. In June 1969, he attended a*

weekend at Lochgoilhead Scout centre. He left the troop in August 1971, but it is not known whether he joined the Venture Scouts or not.

### **Gunn, Billy**

*William Gunn was better known as 'Billy', 'Bang-Bang', or B<sup>2</sup>. There is some evidence to suggest that his birthday was close to the 18<sup>th</sup> March and that he was born in 1950. His father was Mr. John A. Gunn and the family lived at 138 Finnart Street until 1965, then moved to "Woodside", 68 Reservoir Road, Gourrock. It is assumed that Billy was a pupil at Greenock Academy. He was also a Wolf Cub in the 70<sup>th</sup> Pack and gained his Leaping Wolf before moving up to the troop at the beginning of October 1961. It is not known which Patrol he first joined but it might have been the Falcon Patrol. At the end of August 1963, Billy was promoted to Patrol Second of the Falcon Patrol with Ian Fraser as his PL. He was then promoted to PL in June 1964 and remained in charge for two years until August 1966 when he was promoted to Troop Leader during Summer Camp. However, he was only Troop Leader for a month as he left the Troop on the 1<sup>st</sup> September to join the newly formed Venture Scout Unit. Unfortunately, his record card has not survived and although it is known that he gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge, it is not known whether he completed the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge and Queen's Scout Badge. In terms of Summer Camps, he attended those held at Tayvallich (1963) and Tarbert (1964, 1965 and 1966). It is likely that he remained with the 70th Venture Unit until he turned 20. He returned to the Troop as an ASM towards the end of 1970 or the start of 1971. However, it's not known how long he remained. It's also not known what he did on leaving school.*

### **Jagger Brian**

*Brian Jagger was born on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 1953 and lived at 156 Finnart Street. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy and had been a Wolf Cub and Boy Scout with the 5<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire (2 years in each section). He was introduced to the Troop by John Martin on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 1966, which suggests that the two of them were friends. Brian was initially placed in the Kingfisher Patrol and was then transferred to the Fox Patrol on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 1967. He completed his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 1968 before transferring to the new training scheme. However, he could not have progressed very far towards his Advanced Scout Standard as he left the Troop on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1968. Brian attended the 1967 Summer Camp in Northern Ireland. It's not known what he did on leaving Scouts.*

### **Kerr, Billy**

*Billy Kerr was probably born in 1955 and lived at 56 Newark Street. He had a younger brother Peter who was also in the troop. It is probable that he went to Greenock Academy and went through the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack. He joined the troop in October 1966 and was placed in the Falcon Patrol under PL Peter Robertson. In October 1968, Billy was moved to the Kingfisher Patrol as its new APL, with Alan Crumlish, then John McCallum as the PL. In February 1970, Billy transferred to the Tiger as APL to John Tait. When John Tait left in August 1970, Billy took over as PL of the Tiger Patrol until he left in August 1971. Unfortunately Billy's record card no longer exists and so there is no information regarding his progress through the training scheme. Nor is there much detail on camps and other events. However, evidence from the troop log shows that he was at the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Summer Camps to Templars Park in 1969, and Denmark in 1970.*

### **Kirk, John**

*John Kirk was probably born in 1954 or 1955 and was a pupil at Greenock Academy. It's thought that he might have stayed in Bedford Street. John was a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack and moved up to the troop in October 1965 along with 8 other Wolf Cubs, most of whom were classmates at school. He was placed in the Seal Patrol with George Conway as his PL. It is likely that he gained his Tenderfoot Badge, but it seems unlikely that he gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge as he left the troop during the summer of 1966. No other information is known about his time on the Scouts.*



## **Lee, Stewart**

*Stewart Lee was born on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1953 and lived at 1 Lyle Road. His father was John Lee. Stewart was a pupil at Greenock Academy and initially joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Gourock Scout Group. He was a Wolf Cub with the 1<sup>st</sup> Gourock for 3 years then moved up to the 1<sup>st</sup> Gourock Scout Troop at the beginning of October 1964. After six months, however, he transferred to the 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 1965, having been introduced by David Shearer. This suggests that the pair of them were friends. Stewart was placed in the Curlew Patrol when he first joined. For some reason, Stewart took a relatively long time to complete his Tenderfoot badge and finally gained it on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 1965 one he was with the 70th. However, he progressed through his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge far more swiftly and gained the badge on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1967. He made a start on the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge and complete his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Hike on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1967 but then transferred to the new training scheme. However, it is not known whether he completed his Advanced Scout Standard or not as his record card under the new scheme has not survived. It is also not known how many proficiency badges he gained, other than the Swimmer, Cyclist and Marksman. Similarly it is not known how many camps he attended, but he certainly attended Summer Camp in Northern Ireland during 1967. In terms of promotions, Stewart was promoted to Patrol Second on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1967, then to Patrol Leader of the Tiger Patrol on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 1967. It is likely that he transferred from the Curlew to the Tiger Patrol as a result of getting promoted, but it is not known whether this followed on from his promotion to Patrol Second or to Patrol Leader. Stewart left the troop in June 1968 and it is not known whether he remained in Scouting after that date.*

## **Liddell, A.**

*A. Liddell was identified as an Assistant Scout Master who attended the Troop in the first half of 1967. However, it is believed that this is an error and the entries actually refer to A. Riddell. It's quite possible that the Scribe misheard his name.*

## **Loch, Alistair**

*Alastair Loch was born during 1954 and lived at 27 Newton Street. His father (Mr. G.C. Loch) may have been an accountant. Alastair had an older brother, Douglas, who was also in the Troop. Alastair was a pupil at Greenock Academy and a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub pack. He moved up to the Troop on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 1965 to join the Falcon Patrol. Unfortunately, his record card has not survived and it is not known whether he succeeded in gaining his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge before leaving the Troop. He was reported as being close to finishing the badge in October 1966, but it is not known when he left the Troop, other than that it was during the 1966-67 session. It seems likely that he left in 1967 rather than 1966 as his brother was still in the Troop in January 1967.*

## **Loch, Douglas**

*Douglas Loch was Alastair Loch's older brother and was born in 1953. His father (Mr. G.C. Loch) may have been an accountant and the family lived at 27 Newton Street. Douglas was a pupil at Greenock Academy, but it is not known whether he was in the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Wolf Cub Pack or not. There is no record of when he joined the Troop although it was probably 1964. Douglas was placed in the Fox Patrol and he was a member of that Patrol when it won the Patrol Championship for the Year 1965-65. Unfortunately, his record card has not survived and so it is not known how many badges he achieved or which camps he attended. Douglas was still in the Troop on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1966. However, that was the last reference to him and it is possible that he left the Troop before the summer of 1966. On the other hand, the Troop Log covering 1966-68 is missing and so it is not possible to be certain about that.*

## **Lyall, Ian**

*Ian Lyall was born in April 1955 and lived at 49 Octavia Terrace. His father was the medical consultant, Mr. A. Lyall. Ian was a pupil at Greenock Academy and a 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub for 2 years. He moved up to the troop in June 1966 at the age of 11 and was placed in the Fox patrol. He was promoted to APL of the Patrol after the summer of 1968, then was made PL after the summer of 1970. As far as the training scheme was concerned, he gained his Tenderfoot Badge in June 1966 and his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge in April 1968. He then switched over to the new*

training scheme. However, his record card covering that had not survived and it is not known whether he gained the ASS and CSA badges. He certainly gained proficiency badges for photography and stamp collecting, but he may well have gained more; for example the lifesaving Proficiency Badge. Missing records make it difficult to identify what camps and hikes he attended. There is some evidence to suggest that he was at the Summer Camp held at Frylands Wood in 1968, and there is firm evidence of him attending the Summer Camp held at Inverness in 1971. Ian left the troop after the summer of 1971, but it is not known whether he joined the Venture Scouts or not.

### **Lyle, Graeme**

Graeme Lyle (Wiggly) was born in November 1955 and lived at 35 Fox Street, then 94 Brisbane Street. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy and went through the 70<sup>th</sup> Cubs before moving up to Scouts in October 1966. At that point, he was placed in the Fox patrol and remained with that Patrol throughout his time in Scouts. Graeme was one of the last Scouts to win his Tenderfoot Badge in November 1966 under the old training scheme. He then transferred over to the new training system and gained his Scout Standard in August 1969 and his Advanced Scout Standard in March 1971. He attended Summer Camps at Northern Ireland in 1967, Templars Park in 1969, and Denmark in 1970. At the Templars Park Summer Camp, he was Acting APL of the Fox Patrol, as Iain Lyall was not present. However, his actual promotion to APL was in September 1970, by which time Iain Lyall was PL of the Fox Patrol. Graeme left the Troop in September 1971 and joined the Venture Scouts. Graeme's nickname of 'Wiggly' was prompted by the fact that he was often shaking his head from side to side.

### **Lyle, John A.**

John Lyle was born on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 1950 and he lived at 73 Brisbane Street, then 35 Fox Street. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy and was a Wolf Cub with the 70<sup>th</sup> Pack for 4 years. He moved up to the Troop to join the Curlew Patrol. The exact date is not known, although it might have been the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1961. In June 1964, John was promoted to Second of the Curlew Patrol, and was then promoted to PL of the Kingfisher Patrol in January 1966. As far as the Scout training scheme is concerned, John gained his Tenderfoot Badge in January 1962, then his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge in March 1965. It is not known whether he passed his 1<sup>st</sup> Class badge, but he passed the 2-day hike in October 1966 and only had knots and splices to pass in order to gain the badge. It seems likely that he did gain the badge but it is very unlikely that he would have had time to pass the Queen Scout's Badge. As far as camping is concerned, John attended Summer Camps at Tayvallich (1962 and 1963), Tarbert (1964 & 1966) and Northern Ireland (1967). He was also at the Easter camp at Pitlochry in April 1966. On the 6<sup>th</sup> January 1967, John resigned as PL and took on the role of Junior Scouter (Instructor). He still attended Court of Honour Meetings until 17<sup>th</sup> August 1967. It is likely that he left the Troop at that point to join the Venture Scout Unit. However, that remains to be confirmed.

### **Lyon, Andrew**

Andrew Lyon (nickname 'Liggy') was born in February 1955 and lived at 45 Newark Street. His father was Dr. Lyon. Andrew was a pupil at Greenock Academy and a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack for three years before moving up to the troop on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1966. He was placed in the Kingfisher Patrol when John Lyle was PL. He gained his Tenderfoot Badge within the month. Unfortunately, his record cards are incomplete and so it is not known when he switched to the new training system or how many badges he gained. Records on camps attended are also missing. However, it is known that he attended the Inverness Summer Camp held in 1971. As far as promotions are concerned, he moved to the Stag Patrol at the end of August 1969 after being promoted to APL. There is also evidence that he was promoted to PL of the Stag Patrol in August 1970. He left the Troop in September 1971, but it is not known whether he joined the Venture Scouts or not. Andrew was remarkably tall for his age and stood head and shoulders above everybody else at any parade. He is clearly visible in the cine film footage covering the opening of the New 70<sup>th</sup> HQ in April 1969. His nickname may have derived originally from 'Leggy'.

## **MacKenzie, Kenneth**

*Kenneth McKenzie was born in November 1954 and lived at 96 Finnart Street. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy and a 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub before moving up to the troop in October 1965 to join the Curlew Patrol. By August 1966, he had completed his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge and probably switched to the new training scheme. It is thought that he went on to gain his Advanced Scout Standard and Chief Scouts Award. He was promoted to PL of the Seal Patrol in 1968 and remained as PL for 2 years before leaving the troop in the summer of 1970. Kenneth attended summer camps at Tarbert (1966), Larne (1967) and Denmark (1970). On leaving school he studied medicine and qualified as a GP.*

## **Malcolm, Duncan**

*Duncan Malcolm (Dunckling) was born in March 1954 and lived at 73 Forsyth Street. Curiously, Duncan was christened at Finnart Church on the same day as Graham Patrick, not that either have much memory of the event. Duncan was unusually small for his age, but had a huge personality. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy, then Glasgow High School. He had also been through the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cubs before moving up to the troop in May 1965 (at the same time as Graham Patrick and Alan Anderson). He was placed in the Seagull Patrol and attended the Tarbert Summer Camp of 1965 for three days, where he had the unusual honour of being invested into the Troop while in camp. Duncan then spent four nights at the Tarbert camp of 1966, before attending the 1967 camp in Northern Ireland in its entirety. He did not attend the camp at Frylands Wood camp in 1968, but was present at Templars Park in 1969. By that stage he had been promoted to APL of the Seagull Patrol and had gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class badge. Other camps attended by Duncan included a week-long proficiency badge course at Fordell Firs in August 1968 and a water activities weekend at Lochgoilhead in June 1969. From October 1969 to January 1970, Duncan was Troop Scribe and seemed to delight in 'slagging off' one of the ASLs, Alan Urquart (Rusty). Duncan left the troop at the start of February 1970 as he was moving schools to Glasgow High.*

## **Martin, John**

*John Martin was born on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 1952 and lived at 23 Bentinck Street. His father was Dr. W.I. Martin and the family attended St. Paul's Church. John was a pupil at Greenock Academy and joined the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack for 2 years before moving up to the troop in May 1963 to join the Curlew Patrol. John was promoted to Patrol Second in January 1966, then in January 1967, he was promoted to PL of the Kingfisher Patrol. At the beginning of March 1968, John was elected Senior Patrol Leader - the second 70<sup>th</sup> Scout to be so elected. During his time in the 70<sup>th</sup>, John made very good progress through the old Scout Training scheme, gaining his Tenderfoot badge in June 1963, his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class in February 1965 and his 1<sup>st</sup> Class in April 1967. He also gained several Proficiency Badges and was awarded the Cup for Best Scout during the 1964-65 session. It is almost certain that he would have gained his Queen's Scout Badge under the old training scheme if it had not been for the changes made to Scouting in 1966. As it is, it is not known whether John gained his Chief Scout's Award in the Troop or his Queen's Scout Award in the Venture Scout Unit. In terms of camps, John attended summer camps at Carsaig Bay (1963), Tarbert (1964, 1965 and 1966), Northern Ireland (1967) and Frylands Wood (1968). He also attended at least three Easter camps (1963, 1964 and 1966) and numerous weekend camps. John also had the honour of being one of the Scouts making up the 70<sup>th</sup> Patrol that won the Shannon Cup in 1965. He left the Troop to join the Venture Scout Unit on the 30<sup>th</sup> August 1968.*

## **McBride, Graham**

*Graham McBride was born on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1952 and lived at 3 Kincaid Street Greenock. His father is thought to have worked for Caledonian MacBrayne. Graeme was a pupil at Greenock Academy and had been a Wolf Cub in the 70<sup>th</sup> Pack for 2 years before moving up to the Troop on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1964 to join the Seagull Patrol. Graham gained his Tenderfoot Badge in March 1965 which represents an unusually long period between joining and getting invested. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1966, Graham was transferred from the Seagull Patrol to become 1<sup>st</sup> Scout of the newly formed Tiger Patrol, and on 21<sup>st</sup> August 1967 he was moved again to become APL of the Seal patrol. In terms of the Scout Training Scheme, he gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge at the start of February 1968. As far as camps were concerned he attended summer Camps held at Tarbert (1965) and*

Northern Ireland (1967). Graham left the Troop at the beginning of May 1968, but it is not known whether he joined the Venture Scout Unit or not. On leaving school, Graham is believed to have joined the office staff at Caledonian Macbrayne.

### **McCreery, Iain**

Iain McCreery was born on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 1954 and lived at 93 Finnart Street. His father was Harry Murray McCreery who was a Wolf Cub and Boy Scout with the 70<sup>th</sup> during the late 1930s. Iain was a pupil at Greenock Academy and a Wolf Cub in the 70<sup>th</sup> Pack for 3 years. He moved up to the Troop on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 1965 and was placed in the Curlew Patrol. He passed his Tenderfoot Badge in December 1965 and went on to gain his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge in January 1967. In November 1967, he was a member of the Curlew Patrol that was chosen to represent the Troop at the County Flag Competition. He left the troop on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 1968.

### **McMaster, John**

John McMaster was born on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 1953 and lived at 18 Stoneleigh Road Greenock. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy and was a 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub for three years before moving up to the Troop in May 1965 to join the Curlew Patrol. He gained his Tenderfoot Badge in October 1965 and attended the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Summer Camp in Northern Ireland during 1967. By that point he was about half way through his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class badge. Unfortunately, it is not known whether he completed the badge before leaving the Troop in November or December 1968.

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

Bob Miller was born in 1938 and lived at 18 Johnstone Street. His father was a Flesher (Butcher). It is likely that Bob attended Greenock Academy but it is not known whether he was a 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub. It is likely that he joined the Troop in 1951 and was placed in the Curlew Patrol. In March 1954, he was promoted to PL of the Curlew Patrol. During his time as a Scout, Bob successfully gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class and 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badges, his Bushman's Thong and his Queen's Scout Badge. In June 1954, he was one of four 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts to receive his Queen's Scout Badge certificate from the Chief Scout. Bob was an enthusiastic camper and represented the Troop at the Blair Atholl Jamborette in 1954. He was also picked to represent the 70<sup>th</sup> in District Competitions on First Aid and Signalling. As a result, he was part of the team that won the signalling competition in 1953. In September 1954, he joined the ranks of the Scouters when Ian Blake was Scout Master. When Ian Blake was compelled to move to Trinidad for work in December 1959, Bob took over the role of Scout Master. His first few years were difficult as the Troop experienced a substantial drop in numbers following the departure of Ian Blake and the resignation of many older Scouts. However, he built up the Troop again and it was thriving once more when he resigned as Scout Master in 1966 and took over the roles of Rover Scout Leader and Group Scout Master. Due to the missing Log Book covering 1966 to 1968, it is not known how long Bob Miller remained in these new roles. However, he may have resigned at some point during 1968. Bob revisited the Troop on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 1969 to judge the fancy dress costumes at the Halloween Party.

### **More, Stewart**

Stewart More was born on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1955 and lived at 11 Bentinck Street. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy and was a Wolf Cub for three years before joining the Troop on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1966, at which point he was placed in the Seal Patrol. He gained his Tenderfoot Badge in November 1966, then transferred to the new Training Scheme. Unfortunately, his record card has not survived and so it is not known what other badges he gained to camps he attended. At some point, he was transferred from the Seal Patrol to the Tiger Patrol, possibly when the Patrol was first formed. He left the Troop on the 27<sup>th</sup> August 1969.

### **Morris, Gordon**

Gordon Morris was the son of Dr. J.B. Morris and was born in December 1952. He lived at 91 Octavia Terrace and attended Greenock Academy. He moved up from the Cub pack to the Scouts in May 1964 and joined the Seagull Patrol. In September 1966, he was promoted to Second. A year later he was promoted to PL (possibly of

the Seagull Patrol). Gordon successfully completed the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge and attended the Summer Camps held in 1964, 1966, 1967 and 1968.

### **Morton, John**

Very little information is known about John Morton. The only mention of him in the available records was in the Court of Honour Minutes for the 29<sup>th</sup> January 1967. This revealed that he was a member of the Fox patrol but was not turning up. Other than that, nothing else is known. It is not even known when he joined or when he left. This suggests that he was probably in the Troop for only a few months, if not weeks.

### **Notman, Ian**

Ian Notman was born in October 1954 and lived at 98 Eldon Street. Ian was a pupil at Greenock Academy and had been a 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub before joining the troop in October 1965. His hobbies at the time were swimming and cricket, but he later became more interested in golf. Ian was in the Seagull Patrol until he was promoted to APL in March 1968, at which point he joined the Falcon Patrol. After the 1968 Summer Camp, he took over the Falcon Patrol as PL for the next two years before joining the Venture Scouts in 1970. On leaving school, Ian qualified as a General Practitioner.

### **Paterson, Gordon**

Gordon Paterson was probably born during 1951. He lived at 3 Stoneleigh Road and his older brother (Ian) had also been a 70<sup>th</sup> Scout. As Ian had earned himself the nickname of 'Kipper', Gordon was duly nicknamed 'Herring'. It is likely that Gordon was a pupil at Greenock Academy and had been through the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack, but neither of these facts is known for certain. The date on which he joined the Troop is not known but it was probably during 1962. It is also likely that he was placed in the Fox Patrol as he was certainly in that Patrol at the start of the 1963-64 session with Alan Jeyes as his PL. In June 1964, Gordon was promoted to Second of the Seal Patrol with George Conway as PL. When George resigned on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 1966, Gordon was chosen to take over the Seal Patrol. Gordon's record card has not survived and so it has not been possible to identify whether he gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> Class badges or not. However, it is almost certain that he gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge and highly likely that he gained his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge. In terms of Camps, Gordon attended Summer Camps at Tayvallich (1963), Tarbert (1965) and Northern Ireland (1967). He resigned after Summer Camp in Northern Ireland but it is not known whether he joined the Venture Scout Unit or not. It is also not known what he did after school.

### **Patrick, Graham**

Graham Patrick (Glip) was born in March 1954 and lived at 2 Kincaid Street. He attended Ardgowan and Greenock Academy. He joined the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub pack and gained his Leaping Wolf before moving up to the troop in May 1965 to join the Seal Patrol. He was promoted to APL of the Fox patrol in November 1967, then to PL of the patrol in August 1968. Graham gained his Tenderfoot and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badges under the old training scheme, then transferred to the new training scheme to gain his Advanced Scout Standard, and Chief Scouts Award. He attended the 70<sup>th</sup> Summer Camps held in 1965 (3 days only), 1967, 1968, 1969 and 1970. He left the troop in September 1970 to join the Venture Unit where he gained his Queen's Scout Badge and the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. In 1974, he returned to the 70<sup>th</sup> Troop as an Assistant Scout Leader and attended most of the Troop Summer Camps held between 1974 and the early 1990s. He also ran a number of "Everest Challenges" from 1979 to the early 1990s before resigning from the Troop. On leaving school, Graham went to Glasgow University to study Chemistry, then spent several years as a research chemist in a variety of Universities and pharmaceutical industries, before concentrating on lecturing and writing. Graham's younger brother (Slip) also joined the 70<sup>th</sup> during the 1970s.

### **Reid, Russell**

Russell Reid was probably born in 1954. His Grandfather was the Rev. A.R. Reid who was minister of Finnart Church in the early 1930s and the man most responsible for founding the 70<sup>th</sup> in 1932. Russell was a pupil at Greenock Academy and a member of the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Wolf Cub Pack. He moved up to the Troop on the 8<sup>th</sup> October

1965 and was placed in the Kingfisher Patrol. He passed his Tenderfoot Badge in February 1966 then attended Summer Camp at West Loch Tarbert where he was invited with other 'first timers' to the first ever 'GSL's Tea Party' organised by Bob Miller. Russell was very popular and everyone who knew him was disappointed when he left the Troop after the summer of 1966. This was because his family was emigrating to the other side of the world. Troop Records indicate that the family moved to Australia. On the other hand, Graham Patrick thought it was New Zealand.

### **Riddell, Alan**

Alan Riddell (Piddell or Piddle) was a Scout in the 5<sup>th</sup> Renfrewshire Scouts and joined the 70<sup>th</sup> as an ASM in May 1966. He played a crucial role in running the troop with Robin Crawford during the period that Alastair Cram was on a scholarship in Calgary, Canada (1968-69). His first Summer Camp with the 70<sup>th</sup> was at Templar's Park in Aberdeen (1969). In 1970, he and Robin were in charge of the Scouts for most of the Troop's Summer Camp to Denmark. One of the more unpleasant aspects of that camp occurred on the extremely stormy voyage back home when Alan joined Robin in the rather unpleasant task of cleaning out blocked sinks in the various cabins occupied by Scouts. At some point after 1970, Alan took over the role as Venture Scout Leader until 1974 when he moved to Eyemouth. Alan was originally a school teacher who taught economics at Greenock Academy. He was also involved in the SSC and was very popular amongst school pupils, Scouts and Venture Scouts. He left school teaching not long after moving to Eyemouth and joined the Civil Service in London, where he rose to quite a high level.

### **Robertson, Peter**

Peter Robertson lived at 75A Union Street and was probably born in 1952. It seems likely that he was a pupil of Greenock Academy and a member of the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Wolf Cub pack. It is not known when he joined the Troop but it was probably during 1963 as he was reported to be in the Seagull Patrol at the start of the 1963-64 Scout session with D. Morrison as his PL. At the beginning of September 1965, Peter was promoted to Second of the Falcon Patrol. A year later on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 1966, he was promoted to Patrol Leader of the Falcon to replace David White. He remained Patrol Leader for two years before leaving the Troop on the 30<sup>th</sup> August 1968. Unfortunately, his record card has not survived and so information is lacking on how many badges he gained or which camps he attended. However, it is almost certain that he passed both his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class and 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badges. He was close to completing his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge in October 1966 and so he had sufficient time to go on to gain his Queen's Scout Badge. However, it is not known whether he succeeded or not. In terms of camping, Peter attended Summer Camps at West Loch Tarbert (1964, 1965 & 1966) and Northern Ireland (1967). Peter also performed in the Troop's Scout Show performed in December 1963 and this may have been a factor in proposing another Scout Show which was performed on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 1968. Peter might have joined the Venture Scout Unit when he resigned in 1968, but this cannot be stated with any certainty as no records of the Unit have survived.

### **Runcie, Albert**

Albert Runcie (Oz) had been a 70<sup>th</sup> Scout during the late 1950s and was promoted to Patrol Leader of the Kingfisher Patrol in 1960. In 1962, he was promoted to Troop Leader until 1963 when he resigned and joined the ranks of the Scouters. During his time as a Scout, he gained his Queen's Scout Badge, which was awarded in 1963. Oz was an Assistant Scout Master from 1963 until at least 1966. Unfortunately, the troop log for 1966-1968 has been mislaid and so it is not known when he resigned as ASM, but it was certainly before July 1968.

### **Shearer, David**

David Shearer was born on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 1953 and lived at 18 Lyle Road. He was a pupil at Greenock Academy but did not join the 70<sup>th</sup> Wolf Cub Pack. There is no evidence of him being a Wolf Cub with any other Group before he joined the Troop in September 1964 and was placed in the Kingfisher Patrol with Bobby McCallum as his PL. By February 1966, David had risen to 1<sup>st</sup> Scout of the Patrol with John Lyle now as PL. David was promoted to Second of the Patrol in September 1966. As far as badgework was concerned, he gained his Tenderfoot Badge in February 1965 and his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge in October 1966 before transferring to the new

Training scheme introduced in 1966. He also gained a few Proficiency Badges including the Cyclist and Marksman. As far as camps were concerned he attended the Summer Camps held at West Loch Tarbert (1966) and Northern Ireland (1967). David left the Troop on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 1968 when he was aged 14, but it is not known whether he moved to another Group or not. It's also not known what he did on leaving school.

### **Stewart, Charlie**

Charles R. Stewart (Charlie) was born on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 1953 and lived at 28A Fox Street. His father (Neil H. Stewart) worked with Fisher Henderson and Co. Ltd, Tanners and Fellmongers at Ladynurn. The Stewarts were members of Finnart Church, then St. Mark's, Greenbank. Charlie was a pupil at Greenock Academy and captained the Greenock Academy 1<sup>st</sup> XI cricket team. As far as Scouting is concerned, he was a Wolf Cub in the 70<sup>th</sup> Pack for three years before moving up to the troop on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 1964. He joined the Seal patrol and was swiftly promoted to Second at the beginning of September 1966. A year later, he was promoted to Patrol Leader at the age of 14, which was comparatively young at the time. In terms of his progress through the Scout Training Scheme, Charlie passed his Tenderfoot Badge and was invested in February 1965. At the end of October 1966, he gained his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge, and by August 1967, he was well on the way to gaining his 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge. However, he may well have transferred over to the new training scheme at the beginning of September 1967. Unfortunately, his record card relating to the new scheme has not survived and so it is not known whether he gained his Advanced Scout Standard and Chief Scout's Award before leaving the troop. It's also not known whether he gained any proficiency badges. In terms of Summer Camps, Charlie attended Summer Camps held at West Loch Tarbert in 1965 and 1966, as well as Summer Camp in Northern Ireland during 1967. He did not attend Summer Camp in 1968 and he left the Troop on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 1968.

### **Stewart Rev. D. H.**

The Reverend Donald H. Stewart was minister of Finnart Church and Troop Chaplain from the late 1930s to the 1960s. He was a stalwart support of the Group throughout that period and played a particularly major role in keeping the Troop functioning during the war years by taking on the duties of a Group Scout Master. He regularly dropped in on Troop Meetings to see how things were going and also attended regular Scouts Owns held in Finnart Church. He also gained a reputation for never turning any Scout away during Bob-a-Job Week and his garden was probably turned over several times during that week. He resigned from the ministry in September 1968 and the Group showed its gratitude by laying on a presentation for him at a camp organised on the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> September. Donald took his last Scouts Own on that occasion. Donald continued to take an interest in the group and led the outdoor service held at the opening of the new Scout HQ in April 1969.

### **Tait, John**

John Tait was born in August 1954 and lived at 145 Eldon Street. He attended Greenock Academy and was a Wolf Cub in the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Wolf Cub Pack. He moved up to the troop in October 1965 and joined the Falcon Patrol. He was promoted to Second/APL in September 1967, then to PL of the Tiger Patrol at the start of the 1968-69 session. John gained his Tenderfoot and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class badges under the new training scheme, then transferred to the new training scheme to gain his Advanced Scout Standard. He may well have gained his Chief Scout's Award, but this remains to be confirmed. He certainly progressed through the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and gained his Gold Award. John was very active in Scouting and attended Summer Camps at West Loch Tarbert (1966), Ireland (1967), Frylands Wood (1968), Templar's Park (1969) and Denmark (1970). He left the Troop after the summer of 1970 and joined the Venture Scouts for the next four years. At that point, he left Scouting but occasionally helped out on various hill climbs involving Scouts. On leaving school, John became a successful Chartered Accountant in Glasgow.

### **Watson, Andrew**

Drew Watson was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1953 and lived at 24 Caledonia Crescent. His father was a member of Ashton Church. Drew was a pupil at Greenock Academy and was a Wolf Cub in the 1<sup>st</sup> Gourrock CDO Wolf Cub Pack for 2 years. However, he left the Group at some point without moving up to Scouts. Stewart Lee introduced him to the 70<sup>th</sup> Troop, which he joined on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 1965 when he was aged 12. He was placed in the

*Kingfisher Patrol. As far as badges are concerned, he gained his Tenderfoot Badge on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 1966 and his 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Badge on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 1967. He also made inroads into the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badge but did not complete it. He also gained the Swimmer and Marksman Proficiency Badges. As far as camps are concerned, he attended a weekend cap at Everton in June 1966 and Summer Camp in Northern Ireland in 1967. He may well have attended other camps and hikes that were not reported in the Troop records. Drew left the Troop on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1967. It is not known whether he continued his Scouting elsewhere or not. On leaving school, Drew may have worked for the local authority. His son was later to join the 70<sup>th</sup> Scouts.*

### **White, David**

*David White was born in 1952 and lived at 113 South Street then 16 Newark Street, His father was Chief Executive of the outdoor company, Blacks of Greenock. David was a pupil at Greenock Academy then Gordonstoun in Moray. It's not known whether David was a member of the 70<sup>th</sup>'s Wolf Cub Pack or not. However, it is likely that he joined the Troop during 1963 and was placed in the Falcon Patrol. At the beginning of September 1965, he was promoted to Second of the Patrol, then on the 21<sup>st</sup> August 1966, he was promoted to Patrol Leader during Summer Camp at West Loch Tarbert. By the time he was 14, he had gained his Tenderfoot, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, and 1<sup>st</sup> Class Badges as well as the Venturer Badge and his Scout Cords. He also had a clutch of Proficiency Badges which included the Explorer Badge which was awarded to him in camp. David was well on the way to gaining his Queen's Scout Badge and would almost certainly have gained it if he been able to remain with the troop. David was also an enthusiastic camper and attended the Summer Camps held at West Loch Tarbert (1964, 1965 & 1966) and Northern Ireland (1967). He also attended various hikes and weekend camps which were not recorded in the available records. As far as competitions are concerned, David was a member of the 70<sup>th</sup> team to win the Shannon Cup in 1965. After the summer of 1966, David moved school to Gordonstoun. As a result, he had to resign from the Troop. However, it is possible that he registered as a 'Lone Scout' with the 70<sup>th</sup> as he was present during the Summer Camp of 1967 and also attended some Court of Honour Meetings towards the end of that summer. On leaving school, David became an Investment Banker and moved to London. However, he still visits Greenock on a regular basis (as of 2024) and donated the Falcon Patrol Log covering the Summer Camp of 1966.*