

Thirtieth birthday for Borth scouts

timewatch

with Julie McNicholls



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THE Second Borth Scout group are celebrating their thirtieth anniversary this year and they'd like Timewatch readers to help uncover the history of scouting in the area. It all began 93 years ago when the 1st Borth Sea Scouts formed in 1910.

Do you know anyone who was a member of the sea scouts or can you identify anyone in this photograph of the group?

The Sea Scouts continued until 1948 but then it closed.

Does anyone know why? Current Scout leader, Christine Millichamp, believes that it could have something to do with the arrival of the lifeboat in Borth.

"We think that the scout group then were sea scouts because the leaders were

seamen and involved in sea life.

"The group may have closed when the lifeboat arrived because they didn't have time to get involved with both things, but we are not sure about that."

Does anyone know if that is true?

First Borth Sea Scouts reopened in 1960, although it may have reappeared for a short time in 1950.

The group continued until 1967 and the North Ceredigion Scout District Minute Book 1960-1999 recounts some of the groups problems, including this from June 1963: "District AGM minutes show that Mr A Morris said he deplored the attendance from the Aberystwyth area and said that there was no hope of helping the boys when such a lack of interest was shown."

On 5 March 1973 a new

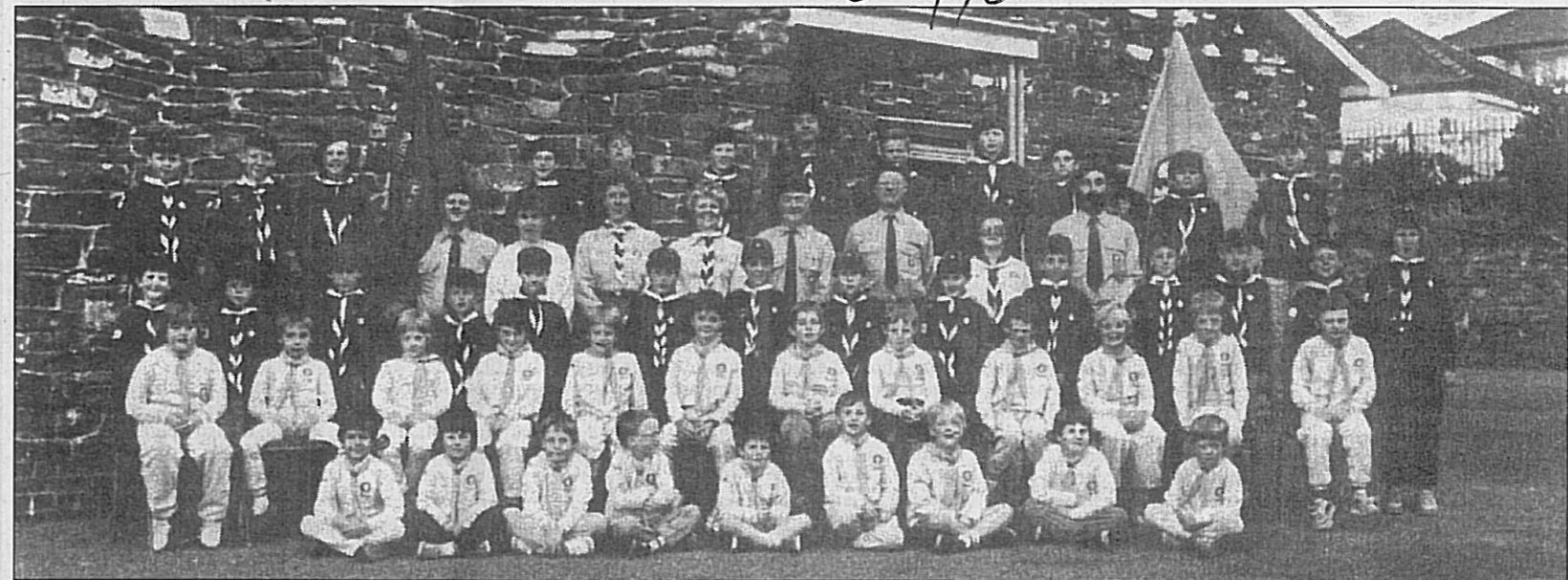


PAST: The 1st Borth Sea Scouts taken in 1910.



PRESENT: The Cub pack at Tresaith camp, March 2003.

CN 8/5/03



16 YEARS AGO: The 2nd Borth Scout Group.

group formed and the 2nd Borth Scouts were born.

Their neckerchiefs were maroon with a white border.

The *Cambrian News* from 16 March that year said: "Mr Sid Clare, Trem y Don has formed a new Cub Scout pack."

"They are meeting in the old school on Thursday evening."

"It is hoped to start a scout troop as soon as a scout leader can be found."

The minutes recall a scary time for the scouts when they went camping.

"3rd and 4th Aberystwyth scouts plus 2nd Borth scouts camped in Guernsey, Channel Islands, after surviving a terrible sea crossing."

"Mr B Jenkins remembers the coach breaking down on the M4 and trying to transfer all equipment etc. over to a replacement coach whilst also

keeping an eye on the time and wondering if they will make the ferry sailing.

"Due to their late arrival at camp and the boys being ill from the sea crossing, priority was given to getting the tents up and everyone fed and into bed after a long day."

"The Chief Commissioner of Guernsey arrived early the next morning and was unimpressed with the boys

attire and the tents not being in straight lines."

Since then the group have gone from strength to strength and have enjoyed many happy camping trips, apart from the one in May 2001 when relentless rain and midges developing a taste for the group led to them abandoning the trip after just one night!

To celebrate thirty years of the group, the 2nd Borth

Scouts are trying to find out as much as they can about the history of scouting.

If you have any stories to tell or any photographs to lend please get in touch with Scout Leader Christine Millichamp on 01970 820174.

She said: "If any has any information, we would be grateful. We would like to put all of it in to a booklet to celebrate scouting in Borth."