

1st Bournemouth Scout Group

(http://www.bournemouth-scouts.org.uk/town_groups/1st_Bournemouth.html)

The '1st Bournemouth' Scout Group name has been in existence for over a hundred years - and for over half that time it has been based at the Church of the Holy Epiphany in Castle Lane.

I'm sure there will be many Moordown folk who will have fond memories of their time spent with one(or more!) sections of the Group, over the years.

On this page we shall detail as much of the history of the group as we can.....if you can add memories.. or photos ...then please do let us know...

To start, we include some historical details about the Group from the current Beaver Scout Colony Leader, Paul Sutton.

Paul writes....

"Its interesting that the registration that the Scout Association have on their system is 1969 ... but we knew that the group existed before then. I suspect there is an error in the years.

The booklet on the history of Scouting lists the group as registered at Holy Epiphany in 1961 and then closed in 1964".....

(It seems possible that the 'North Bmth C of E (1953)' registration, mentioned below, was actually for the Holy Epiphany location, but was not actually registered as Holy Epiphany until 1961)

...."Prior to that the 1st Bournemouth was registered at St Johns, Boscombe (1909), Butchers Coppice Rover Crew (1940) & North Bmth C of E (1953) but no closure date is listed for the 1953 registration'.

Plus Wolf Cubs at the 1st were registered in 1925 at St Johns, Boscombe".

"In 1969 the Group was in Bournemouth Scouts, West District, and the Scouter in charge was Jean Moores. I know Jean was Cub Scout Leader until approx 1974 and was still involved in the group for several years afterwards.

Jean and her husband, Paul taught swimming to the Cub Scouts at Stokewood Road Baths on Monday evenings. In fact they taught me to swim at the age of 8 in 1979!!

'Scouter in Charge' is now known as Group Scout Leader and this post was held by John Rimmel until 2000, and now held by Ken Ford"

"As for the Cub Pack I think I am right in saying that Jean stepped down, Wendy Prendergast took over as Akela for a short term and then stepped down to Baloo when Jan Domeney (now Kingsland) took over in approx 1977. Jan is still Cub Scout Leader in 2014."

"My sketchy understanding for the Scout Troop on is that Dr James Fisher was the leader at some stage but I definately know that John Rimmel was the leader in late 60s/early 70s followed by Roger Domeney. Roger stepped down in 1985 and handed over to Alan Kingsland. Alan stepped down in approximately 1999 handing over to John Honeybun.

Since John stepped down there have been other leaders for the Scout section (not sure on years) Martin Gomm, Paul Sutton, Andy Packer, Ken Ford and Simon Blake (current)."

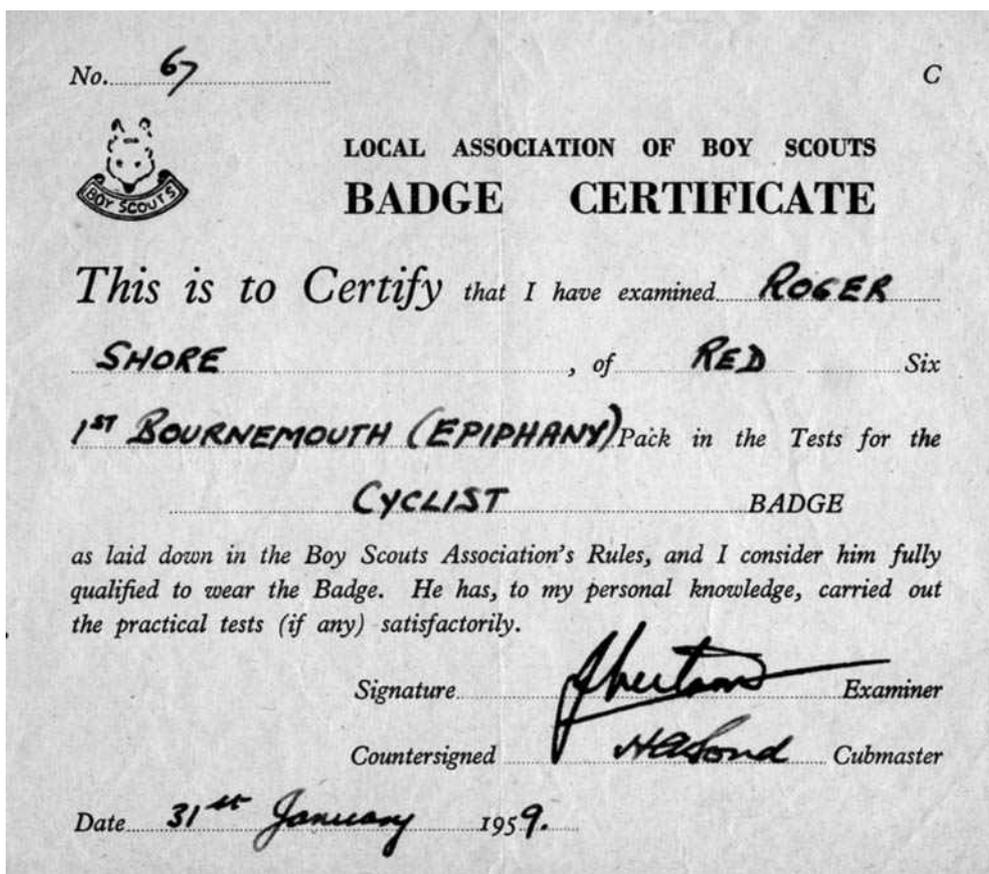
Paul also points out that the 1st Bournemouth is called a 'Group' these days, (that's the overall banner with the three sections being Beaver Scout Colony, Cub Scout Pack & Scout Troop). All prefixed by 1st Bournemouth.

In earlier times, there would have been no 'Beaver Colony' for the youngest members, and the 'Cub Scouts' would have been known as a 'Wolf Cub Pack'.

I remember my own membership of that 'pack' in the late 1950s, when 'Akela' was Harold Bond. (Sadly, Paul tells me that Mr. Bond passed away very recently, at the age of 91).

We shall be able to add more details as we learn them --and hopefully there will be photos and other mementos relating to the Group. If you have anything.. do let us know!

As a starter, I'm attaching my own 'Cyclist' badge certificate from January 1959. Signed by Harold Bond, and listing the 1st Bournemouth as (Epiphany) - even though the official records only have that from 1961. Looks as if the administration records may not be 100% accurate, as Paul suggests?.....



Do let us know if you have any snippets about the 1st Bournemouth....

Roger Shore Feb 2014