



CAMPFIRE 营火

Light 火

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SCOUT GROUP -

MITA(P)NO. 323/06/98

VOL. 39 MAR 1999



Highlights

50th Anniversary Campfire

Campcraft Competition

PSA Presentation

50th Anniversary Campfire



A Note From The Editor

I am proud to present to you the 39th publication of Campfire Light. This issue is going to be more exciting than ever. The highlights of this issue includes the 50th Anniversary Campfire, 4th bi-annually Campcraft Competition and the President Scout Award. You can also get to read more about knots, shelter and camping gadgets under the skill section.

Girls watch out! In this issue, we will tell you the importance of Girl Ventures. There is also an application form for you to sign up as Ventures and join our big Scouting family.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to those who have contributed in one way or another to the success of this publication.

Front row(from left to right):

Chen Weihe, Hoo Kuan Cien, Angie Chua, Lin Shilie, Cheng You Kai

Back row(from left to right):

Chen Weiping, Chua Jia Lin Tan Hao Kai, Chong Wee Kiat

Absent: Erwin Chan, Wong Tsai Wah, Elizabeth Tang



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CAMPFIRE LIGHT

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CAMPFIRE LIGHT is published by the
Catholic High School Scout Group
9 Bishan Street 22
Singapore 579767

For inquiries regarding
CAMPFIRE LIGHT reproduction of
materials, please write to the above address.

Design, colour separation and printing by
PCL Printers (Pte) Ltd
1 Kallang Sector
#01-03 Kolam Ayer Industrial Estate
Singapore 349276
Tel: 745 8733 Fax: 745 8213

OVERALL PROGRAMME FOR 1999

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ⇒ 9-1-99 | Scout Orientation |
| ⇒ 16-1-99 | Scout Orientation |
| ⇒ 23-1-99 to 24-1-99 | Group Anniversary |
| ⇒ 30-1-99 | Orienteering trip to Bukit Timah Hill |
| ⇒ 13-2-99 | Investiture |
| ⇒ 20-2-99 | Founder's Day |
| ⇒ 10-4-99 | Backwoods Cooking |
| ⇒ 4-6-99 to 7-6-99 | Group Camp |
| ⇒ 19-6-99 | National Orienteering Competition |
| ⇒ 26-6-99 | Community Service |
| ⇒ 17-7-99 | Lorequest Competition |
| ⇒ 6-8-99 to 9-8-99 | Tioman Trip |
| ⇒ 4-9-99 | Ubin Canoeing Trip |
| ⇒ 2-12-99 to 6-12-99 | NPC Competition |

GSL receives Award

Our GSL Mr Andrew Chua received an award from the Persekutuan Pengakap Malaysia (The Scout Association of Malaysia).

Malaysia's Chief Scout, YB Datuk Amar Dr. Sulaiman bin Haji Daud conferred on him the PPM Pingat Perkhidmatan Sedia (Medal of Superior Merit). Four other Scout Commissioners from the Singapore Scout Association were also presented with this PPM Good Service Award.

The ceremony took place at Kem Temasya Rimba Templer, KL, at the closing ceremony of Jambori Prostar Pengakap on 5th December 1998.

Heartiest Congratulations, Mr Chua.



Pages from the past

童軍活動的目的

訓練童軍的目的，是培養未來的好公民，尤其是品格和健康方面，化自私為服務，使他們將個人所知所學造福人群。

童軍活動的意旨和實踐，就在童軍規律和誓詞上。童軍活動是少年們的遊戲，由年紀較大的領導年紀較小的，較大的童軍尋找好的環境，鼓勵較小的童軍。注重健康的活動如意志培養，以提高公民的精神，而最好的方法就是注重自然研習(NATURE STUDY)和森林知識(WOODCRAFT)因為這會影響個性發展而非團體性。這也提高了智慧和道德觀。

少年們對於童軍的觀念是：它使他們合而為友，兄弟少年們自然的組織，不管是在遊戲，在惡作劇或在游手好閒，它使他們穿上了好看的制服和配備，這適合了他們的幻想和羅曼蒂克，使他們接近大自然而可之締結不解之緣。

家長們對於童軍的觀念却是：它使少年增強體格，培養精力，教導少年機智和手藝，灌輸少年們對於規律、勇氣、仗義和愛國的觀念。用另一句話說，就是培養品格。這是少年們將來要應付生活最重要的訓練。

童軍活動吸引了各階層的少年，它甚至擴大到殘廢兒童、聾啞兒童中去。它激發求知欲。童軍活動的原則就是：少年們要學習，鼓勵他們教育自己，而不是被拉着走。

除了初中、高級等主要課程，考驗童軍的才能如游泳、斥候、遠征、森林等剛勇和靈巧的技術外，對於各種專科的訓練也很重要。我們供給這麼多的基本常識和訓練，為的就是要使他們有機會接觸各方面的工作，而風長就能明瞭每少年的特長而鼓勵他們向他們的特長發展。這也是培養他們的個性和使他們走向成功大道的好方面。

——黃澗——



The CCA Presentation '98

Andrew Chua came to lend his support for the Troop.

White Lion gave us the signal to form up five minutes before the presentation. Refreshed and ready, the command was shouted loudly. A smattering of applause calmed our frayed nerves and the contingent halted by the side of the stage. After a brief introduction, it was time to give out the awards and my turn came first. I was already

perspiring uncomfortably, but the show had to go on. Surprisingly, it went on without a hitch! Lionel and

Zhenhan did not fair poorly either. Actually, the Ceremony was far from over; the Group Photo-taking took an awfully long time. Nobody seemed to mind as long as his face was in the photograph.

At least the weather was sunny on the 19th of September, for it was the day three of our Scouts received their Chief Commissioner's Award. You would have observed that the three of us were close to panic! Before we left the den, Siu San gave us a few words of advice and 'shooed' us to the Headquarters.

There were about 28 awardees that day and I knew that everybody was nervous. White Lion greeted us at the ground floor and highlighted the main events for the day. Seems that the Frank Cooper Sands Award Presentation would be held before our Ceremony. Oh well, so be it. The biggest problem was that the whole lot of us had to wait for four more hours.

Impressive levels of endurance were displayed before me on that very afternoon. The air-conditioning made many drowsy. Some resorted to placing toothpicks on their eyes to fight sleep while Lionel, Zhenhan and I with a few SJI Scouts went to the guest room for a breather. The awardees were not allowed to witness the Frank Sands

award because there were not enough seats. Anyway, I saw quite a number of yellows and white scarves, it seemed that we had turned out in full force. Even Mr.

*The 19th of September dawned bright and gay,
We must look and behave the best for this day.
For it was the Chief Commissioner's Award Presentation at Headquarters,
The very thought just gave me the jitters!
Siu San then looked at me in the eye,
I hoped her consoling was not all a white lie...
Our three beleaguered heroes finally marched up to the Ceremony Hall,
Only to find out that it was Frank Sand's call.*

We waited, and waited,

CCA Poem



The three of us scarcely touched our tea, as we were busily shuttling back and forth, posing for photographs and exchanging congratulations with other awardees. Soon it was time to go. Before I end this, on behalf of the C.C.A holders, I particularly wish to thank our Scout Mistress Ms. Pang for her tireless effort in guiding us in the right direction. We also hope that we did not give her too much undue stress.

Written by Leonhard Wee
Venture



FRANK SANDS AWARD

The Frank Cooper Sands

Award is the one of the highest award a scout group can achieve. High requirements and expectations would have to be met by the scout group in order to receive this prestigious award. Only by the consistent hard work and determination by the scouts throughout the year, will the scout group obtain this award. After a whole 365 days of endurance and continual strife, Catholic High Scout Group managed to clinch The Frank Cooper Sands Award for all 3 categories - Cadet Scout Unit, Scout Unit and Venture Unit. We may well have been one of the only schools which obtained all these three prestigious award.



The Chief

Commissioner's

Award is the test of mental and physical strength of a scout through the various tests he undertakes in his scouting life and is the highest award a scout can achieve. His endurance and leadership qualities are all put to the test. After these so many months of hard work, Catholic High is proud to produce 3 Chief Commissioner's Awardees in 1998. On the 19th of December 1998, these two honorable awards presentation were held in the Scout Headquarters. Two hours before the presentation, the awardees and representatives from the various scout groups streamed into the auditorium. As the crowds seated themselves, speeches were made, including one by the Chief Commissioner. Glued to their seats, we waited in anxiety. Finally, the presentation started at about 3 p.m. 3 Catholic High Scouts marched out smartly to receive the Frank Cooper sands Award, before the other three ventures, Leonhard, Lionel and Zhenhan trooped up with a group of about 30 scouts, from all over Singapore, up on stage, each receiving his award with, both pride and dignity.

As this day has marked one of the proudest moments in their lives, it is only a continuation of the many awards and trophies in the years to come for Catholic High Scout Group...

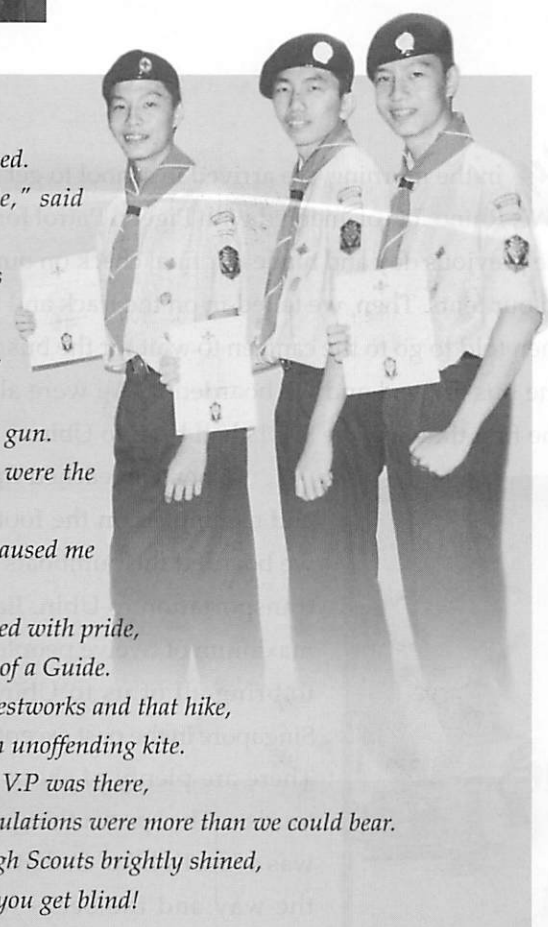
*Finally our chance was created.
"Form up, contingent style," said
White Lion,
My body felt as though it was
made of heavy iron
Leonhard Wee, Lionel Wee,
Cai Zhenhan!*

*Our minds raced as fast as a gun.
Cameras snapped and loud were the
cheers,
All that excitement nearly caused me
a few tears.*

*The focus was I and I exploded with pride,
Too bad there wasn't a trace of a Guide.
Gone were the memories of testworks and that hike,
Like the wind carrying off an unoffending kite.
Proud parents and even our V.P was there,
The handshakes and congratulations were more than we could bear.
Once again, the Catholic High Scouts brightly shined,
Put on your sunglasses lest you get blind!*

Poem by Leonhard Wee
Venture

By Lim Huai Yang
Instructor Patrol





UBIN HIKE

Early in the morning, we arrived in school to get ready for our Pulau Ubin overnight hike. We, Rhino Patrol, merged with Pigeon Patrol for the hike. We had packed our rucksacks the previous day and made our final check on our food and the equipment required to build our tents. Then, we falled-in on the track and the Ventures checked our bags. We were then told to go to the canteen to wait for the bus to take us to Changi Jetty. After a while, the bus arrived and we boarded it. We were all very excited about this hike, as it was the first time we, the Sec 1s had been to Ubin.

When we reached the jetty, we got off the bus and assembled on the footpath. After a short wait, we boarded the bumboats which were our mode of transportation to Ubin. Each bumboat can carry a maximum of twelve people and it took several boats to bring all of us to Ubin. Pulau Ubin looks like Singapore in the past except for its community centre. There are plenty of shops that rent out bicycles to tourists. The special thing about this hike was that it was a "Sec1's hike" in that we, the Sec 1s, had to lead the way and the Sec2s were supposed to follow behind and not to help us. The Ventures rented



bicycles and were either stationed at specific checkpoints or travelled around Ubin, to check on us.

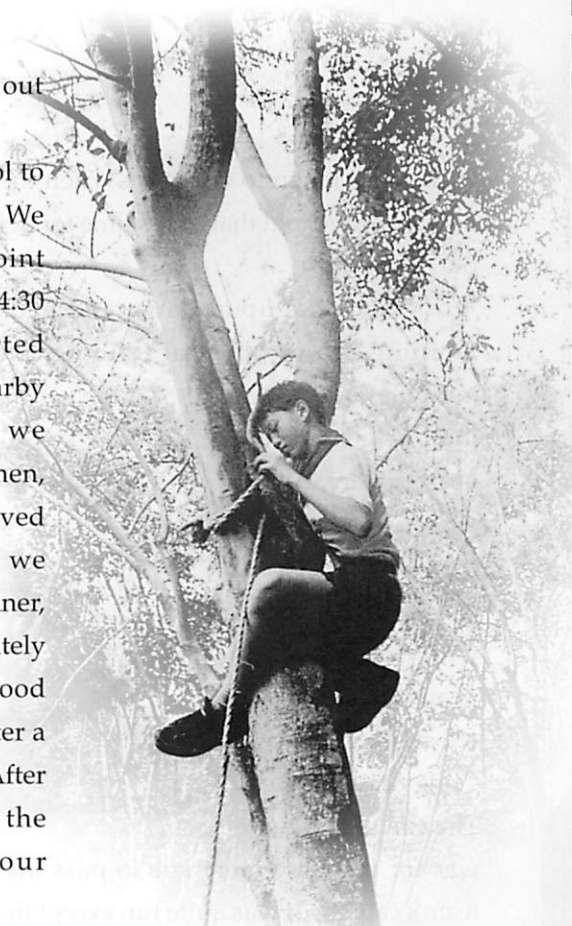
Our patrol was the first to start the hike as our first station was the furthest. It was the trigonometrical station at the top of a quarry. As we walked on, the cemented road was slowly replaced by dirt paths. We had ten check-points to go and we had to finish the hike by 5.00pm. Each time we reached a check-point, we had to record down what the conditions there were like, the time of arrival and departure, the traffic, etc. We also had a limited water supply of one 1.5L bottle per person. When we reached the fourth check-point, the NPCC campsite, we ate our lunch and then continued on. Some check-points had special scenarios which we had to act out. For example, when we reached one of our check-points, the Orchid Garden, we were given a scenario where we survived a nuclear war and it was going to rain. We had to build a shelter to avoid the radioactive rain. It was a fun experience, and

we enjoyed ourselves acting out the scene.

We were the first patrol to complete the whole hike. We reached the final check-point which was Tian-Chi around 4:30 in the afternoon. We started building our tents at the nearby campsite. In the evening, we started cooking dinner. By then, all the other patrols had arrived at the campsite. Just when we were cooking noodles for dinner, it started to rain. We immediately took ponchos to cover our food and fire. The rain stopped after a while and we started eating. After clearing up, we prepared the equipment needed for our campfire.

The campfire started at around 8p.m. with our camp chief, Wee Kiat declaring the campfire open. Each patrol came up with a short play. We sang songs and the campfire ended after that. After the campfire, it was time for the night games. Before the game started, the Ventures warned us not to shine our torches at trees. We were to find as many water

bottles as possible and each bottle was worth one point. Sometimes, the instructors would give us sweets and two sweets would be equivalent to one point. After the game, the Sec1s were taken to wash up and the Sec2s went to collect firewood. When we returned, Miss Pang taught us how to find directions by looking at the stars. During that time, the



Sec2s were taken to wash up. When they came back, we were told that it was time for lights out.

We woke up at dawn and had our morning P.T. or physical training. We did

jumping-jacks, star-jumps and ran to a nearby quarry. When we returned, we ate our breakfast, consisting of bread with either kaya or peanut butter. Then, we had our beach game – captain's ball. The aim of this game

was for the team members to pass the ball to the team's captain. It was quite fun except that the water was dirty as the sea was filled with rubbish and oil. We got out of the water after that and returned to the quarry where we had our bath. As the weather looked ominous, we returned to the campsite, changed and dismantled the tents.

We had intended to go to the highest point on Pulau Ubin – Puaka Quarry top. However, it started to rain and going up the quarry then would be dangerous. So, we made our way back to the jetty



and reached there in 35 minutes. Again, we boarded boats and headed back to the main island. We reached Changi Jetty and went to a nearby hawker centre to eat. We were given one hour as the bus would only arrive in

one hour's time to take us back to school. After that hour, we had to walk out to the main road for the bus to pick us up. It was raining whilst we were walking to the jetty back in Pulau Ubin and we were drenched. To make things worse, we were sitting in an air-conditioned bus, as such, we were all freezing by the time we reached school.

We reached Catholic High and started unloading our things. We had to wash the groundsheets and clear up the Q.M. After that, we had our camp evaluation. My patrol got the Best

Patrol Award and the Best Special Effects for using fireworks during the campfire. After the evaluation, we were all dismissed. It was the end of our Pulau Ubin Overnight Hike.

**Done by Damien Yeo
Rhino Patrol**



In contributing this article about the President Scout Award, I had never hoped for it to be didactic in nature. Perhaps readers of this column would have expected a list of tests that I had to overcome. Or even a summary of the course I undertook to reach this goal I set out to achieve. No, I would not dare to spoil the mystic that surrounds this award. Brother scouts will undeniably have heard of this award in at least one step of their scouting career. But I ask you of this:

standards to the award itself. Hence the issue again about the bliss in the ignorance of the award.

We are all guilty of self-imposed ignorance; we all lie to ourselves, pretend not to see things that are perfectly obvious, go cross-eyed in our attempts to avoid glimpsing awareness of our failures. We court happiness by deliberately obscuring our vision. The decision process to pursue the award undoes this shortcoming of ours. The award simply is too important, too pure to be tainted by our own dirt. Thus we are forced to peek into our weaknesses. I was forced to examine my own blotchy skills. Though I never did dare ask my fellow ventures if they went through the same process, I doubt if they ever skipped it; no President Scout should or could.

It must be obvious that this article goes out mainly to the younger scouts. I wanted the article to head in such a direction

Again, this pint subscribes to my main idea of the whole ignorance about the award. You have to tell yourself that you can indeed cross the finish line. It was always an uphill battle for me. Who knows? Maybe you will find the award a breeze or you may toil even harder than you thought possible. I guess the award is like opening Pandora's Box or more infamously put by Forrest Gump, "You never know what you're gonna get."

In conclusion, I would like to give my sincere gratitude to all those who have helped me trudge through this journey. This especially goes out to Weilong and Siu San, who have toiled much for the troop and for scouts like me. It is not an exaggeration when I say that half the pentagon that stands on my sleeve belongs to their efforts. I simply may never have come so far without their help. For all the memories, thanks!

By Shawn Lin
Venture Scout



President Scout Award

The first time you learnt knowledge of it, how far can you confirm your surety of the award or even what it entails and most importantly the will to pursue it? You simply cannot.

I had doubts. At first it seemed too momentous a task, too daunting, too tiring. Yet this is the process that I cherished to this very day. Cynical as it may sound, I believed this to be the beauty of the award. As a scout, the question was first thrust into me during Secondary Two; my batch, as a whole, was asked if any of us would like to pursue the award. I doubt if Weilong ever remembers this, but when he asked us, we were dumbfounded. No one dared to raise his hand, no one had the courage to voice the words "I" resoundingly. Why? Simply put, we thought it too audacious to draw a parallel between our scouting

because "you" (the younger generation) is simply the future of our troop and future President Scouts. I can, confidently say that most of "you" feel small and puny. To a certain extent, "you" may even develop feelings of utter unimportance. However, I ask of "you" never to doubt your own capabilities. Have self-confidence. It is this aspect that I deem the most important in any scout's pursuit of the award. Many a time, when the workload seemed too heavy a burden to shoulder, when feelings of doubt creep into my mind, it was self-confidence that filled my breathless lungs.

Actually, there really is not much that I can convey about the award itself. It is a very individualized experience. The award is only as good as the effort you put in to achieve it.



《成长·列车》



成长是一条漫长的道路，有时坎坷弯曲，有时平坦笔直，其中变化莫测，反复无常。但我深信，只要身旁至少有一两位知心的挚友，便可为这成长道路铺上几分色彩。设想看，成长犹如一幅油画，里头有一条崎岖的小路，就等待著我们去为它添上蓝蓝的天、绿油油的原野、展翅飞跃的鸟儿、五颜六色的花海……

也许这样，我搭上了公教童军的青春列车来寻觅那位某某知己。

至今，青春列车已驶进了第五个年头，而第六个年头也将在多几日内从起点出发。还记得，那时诗烈在学校为了筹备第38期《营火》翻看相簿的当儿，竟引起了许多感触。原来大家都在不知不觉中成长了。

中一时的佳霖竟然是那么的“俊”，脸上毫无任何瑕疵。相比之下，现在的他可差了十万八千里！另外，也发现伟和与伟平小时候原来长的那么相似，而WEEKIAT有“发福”的经历。其实，我也有过“发福”的日子，但随著岁月的成长已顺利减肥成功，脸上却出现了不胜枚举的红豆豆虽然还不能称帅哥，但比起当年那呆呆板板的样子已算了不起了哦！

可惜，大家却在途中失去了童真，失去了那份即单纯又无知的心态。大家似乎变得严肃多了，从前那灿烂的笑容也因此收敛了许多，而脸上常画上“忧





虑”、“为情所困”的痕迹。现在，有时看到那些童军在一旁尽情地玩乐，便会下意识地联想当年的一切。营火会的表演，在炎日下绑旗杆，为队长们“做牛做马”——都在我心门上留下深深的烙印。其中，与“神父”(EDMUND)合唱《当年擦肩而过》最为刻骨铭心而虽然他早在去年已离开了青春列车，我却还对他念念不忘。每逢看到他的照片，总会有点泪盈眉睫因为我知道，我们俩再也没有机会同台演出了……。

我并不怪他半途离队，毕竟每个人所走的道路都不同；他只是选择走属于自己的途径罢了。我们这群爱玩爱闹的先进军们却仍然选择乘搭这辆永垂不朽的列车，让我们能继续并肩作战。我想，这就是所谓的缘分。从陌生到熟悉到死党，一切就是那么的难得与巧合。你们觉得呢？

所谓世上无不散之宴席，列车即将在不久的未来抵达终点，然后从此各自离去为前程而奋斗，或光明或灰暗全掌握在自己手中，大家便不能再互相扶持彼此了。而对于只在今年才搭上的ANGIE和ELIZABETH，我只能希望，列车能在这短短的日子里

为你们谱写一首动听的生命小插曲；虽不可称大题小作，但至少能带来无数回音。祝福你们！

在此希望大家能在接下来的日子继续维持这份真诚的友情，直到白发苍苍的时候。就让我们珍惜每次重逢吧！

莫忘……

何光前 先进军

29/12/98 11:10pm 止笔

P/S 青春列车会一直停放在 SCOUT DEN 外。





compete in the 400m doubles in which they were meters short of a medal.

The competition came to a stand still then as we had an hour long lunch break. During that period



As our scouts had qualified for all of the finals, we had to reach Kallang Riverside Park by 8:00am, thus we went to school at 7:00am. After a short bus ride, we arrived at the Kallang Riverside Park, which was the competition venue. After a long and boring wait, the flag raising ceremony was finally held and the competition started.

of time, the Ventures were busy building their gigantic raft for the raft building competition. After the lunch break, we had the piggy back event, in which Trevor Kuang, Jason Chen and I competed. Before the race started, Jason and I were dropped at

Finally, it was time to launch the raft that our Ventures had put in so much effort in building. There was no stiff competition as St Andrew's scout group was the only other competitor. Although we had a gigantic raft, we still failed to overtake the St Andrew's raft. The next event was the Eskimo roll which we did not take part in. Before the last event of the day, Roger Kua, Singapore's wake boarding champion skied onto the river to impress the crowd which attracted cheers and applause from the appreciating crowd.

We then had the last event of the day, which was the Iron Scout triathlon which Vincent Wei and I took part in. From the opposite side of the beach, we swam to the other side and ran across the bridge back to the opposite side. At that point of time, a medal hope was high for me as I came in 2nd after swimming and running. Only at the last part which

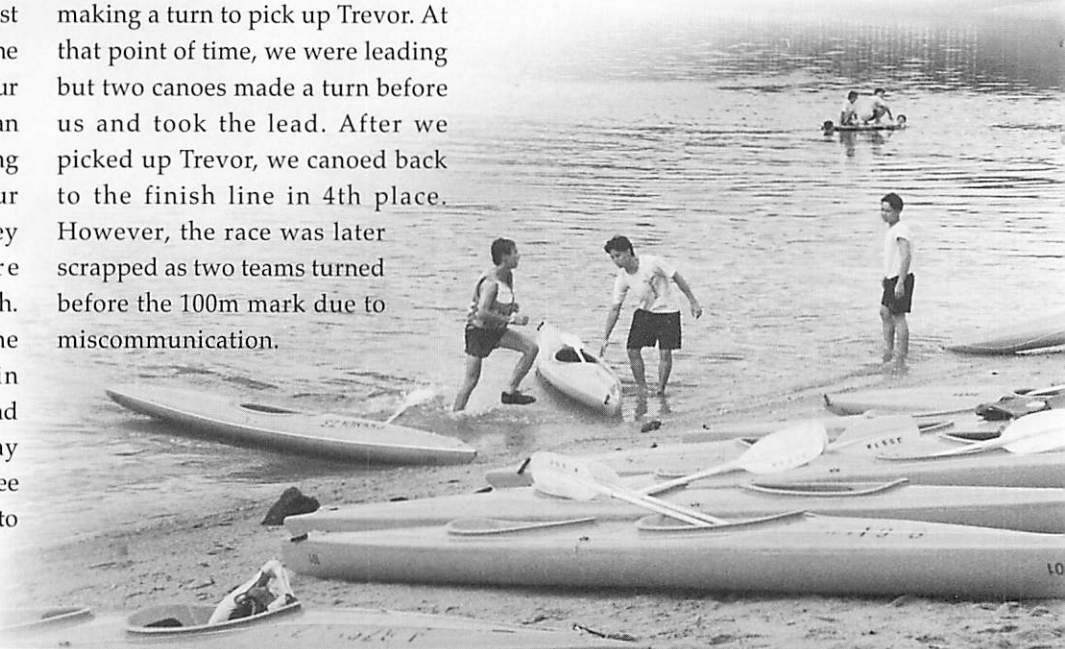
1st Scout Regatta


The first event was the 200m opens heats in which we did not compete. After that, Jimmy Pan (Instructor Patrol) competed in the 200m-speed race, singles (scout category). We had high hopes for him to win a medal, but we lost as he lost control of the canoe. Then, we had the 200m speed race doubles in which our team comprising Wee Tat and Brian Wong competed. They were leading for the first 100m, which kept our medal hopes alive. However, they eventually lost to the more experienced sea scouts to come in 4th. For the next event, which was the 400m singles, Jimmy Pan again competed. Once again, the swift and experienced sea scouts went away with all the honours. Then, Ng Wee Tat and Kingston Chen teamed up to

the half-way point where we held on desperately to the buoy. After the air horn sounded, Trevor in a doublecanoe canoed to us and got out of the canoe, then we got in and canoed another 100m before making a turn to pick up Trevor. At that point of time, we were leading but two canoes made a turn before us and took the lead. After we picked up Trevor, we canoed back to the finish line in 4th place. However, the race was later scrapped as two teams turned before the 100m mark due to miscommunication.

was canoeing, did my skills fail me, pulling me down to 7th position and Vincent overtaking me to come in 5th.

Reported by: Terence Tham
Tiger patrol






Mrs Ong-Sim Li Ching

Ms Varessa Ng


Ms Martina Tan

Interview with 3 new teachers


When did you join Catholic High Scout Group and what was your first impression?


 I joined the Cadet Scout Troop in January 1998. I felt that the cadet Scouts were very active.


 I joined the Scout Troop in July 1998.

 I joined Catholic High Scout Group in June 1998 shortly after being posted to Catholic High as a teacher. My first impression was that the boys were very well-disciplined and they were being stretched to their potential esp. during the June camp. Basically, I was very impressed.


What are the more memorable incidents you have encountered?


 *Pirates Nite* which was organized by HQ. 50th Anniversary Campfire which was organized by our own Scouts.


 The most memorable incidents would be the 50th Anniversary Campfire, 50th Anniversary Dinner and *Pirates' Nite* organized by Headquarters.

 Not that I am a sadist but I was particularly impressed when the troop imposed a punishment on the Scouts when the flag was stuck (half mast) on a particular flag-raising ceremony. The love and respect for the troop was really very evident. The spirit of the Scout Group before self/individual was really evident.


What do you think you have learnt from Catholic High Scouts?


 The Scouts spirit is very much alive in all the Scouts. I've learnt that it is important to be organized with running an organisation like a Scout Troop.


 Scouts Spirit.

 I have learnt that perseverance is indeed a virtue that will bring out the best in every child. I have also learnt to survive in not-so-comfortable situations from the Ubin camp (first time there) and definitely learnt about filing and recording from our Scout Leader (Siu San).


In what ways are the Cadet Scouts different from the students you teach?


 They are more disciplined and considerate.


 More obedient and considerate.

 They are different in the sense that they know when to be naughty (in class) and when not to be (during Scouts). They also exhibit leadership qualities.

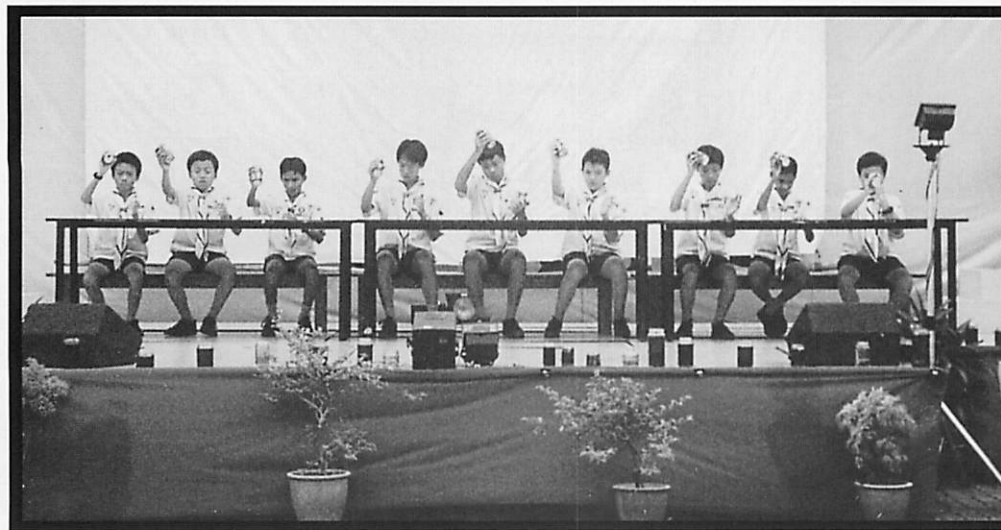
What are your hopes/wishes for the Scout troop in the future?

 To be the best Scout group.

 Better team spirits. More outings and events to enhance their interests in Scouts.

 I hope that the Scouts will be able to live up to their Scouts promise as they journey through their lives. For the Scout group, I hope that we will be the best, the best that we can be.

Chen Weihe
Venture Scout



As the days went by in the year 1998, the whole troop anticipated the arrival of the largest event of the year—our 50th Anniversary Campfire. After our exam break, we returned to Scouting and started guessing what sort of impressive things we would see.

The actual preparations started as early as the 24th of October. We tried out a giant pioneering project in the field. It was a prototype of our actual campfire gateway. It was large, the basic structure comprising of two 7-m high A-frames. We also had to think of a Campfire theme, and the Ventures came up with 'Ignis', which means fire in latin. The very next week, we started to plan the

50th

Campfire grounds. We built 4 A-structures in the field and tried to raise the campfire pit. It took us a very long time, but however hard we tried, it just wouldn't lift off the tables.

Our Scout-leaders also came up with a song list for us to learn. We made good progress, but bad news struck. We couldn't use the field, as it would be returned during the school holidays. As we were limited by space, we reduced the guest list. Nonetheless, many invitations were sent out.

The very next





Anniversary

Saturday, we tried out the campfire in the Founder's square. We carried the heavy fire pit to the square and attached it to chains and then to four sotongs (thick ropes). We then tied them to the school pillars and the nearby carpark. We tried with all our might but could not even lift the pit off the ground by an inch. Then we tried to use pulleys, but to no avail. The next week we went higher up, to the top level of the carpark. It worked, the pit was raised. Unfortunately, it wasn't raised sufficiently. We then called it a day, the firepit could be raised.

Campfire





Finally, it was only a week to the actual Campfire. The backdrop was completed and the supporting frame made. We practised raising it several times. The gateway in the field was taken down and shifted to the Founder's Square. Then on the Thursday before the campfire, we put everything together, with all the scouts helping out. The JC 1s were in charge of the Campfire structure,

a massive pyramid of height 7 m. With the addition of a few more secondary structures, the height of the main structure was raised to ten metres. It was a tiring task as we worked till midnight. Then on Friday, we built the ramps. We tried out several methods and finally the ramp was up, sturdy and almost good looking. The gateway was improved and many reinforcing measures and final touches were added to the it. We then had a test run of the campfire with the school public addressing system. The backdrop frame was tightened and raised. We also set up the stage and skirting.

On the actual day of the campfire, we were all very excited, thus we worked with extra zest and efficiency. We tightened all the knots on the gateway and checked the backdrop for mistakes. Several touch-ups were made to the backdrop to make it more



eye-catching and appealing. Some scouts were sent to the home-econs room to prepare the refreshments. We also raised the pit to a unprecedented height. The firewood was brought up to the square and laid out. Then the chairs were arranged. Soon after, the sound crew arrived with high-tech equipment. We looked at them with awe and amazement. Time flew by and we changed and prepared for the big event.

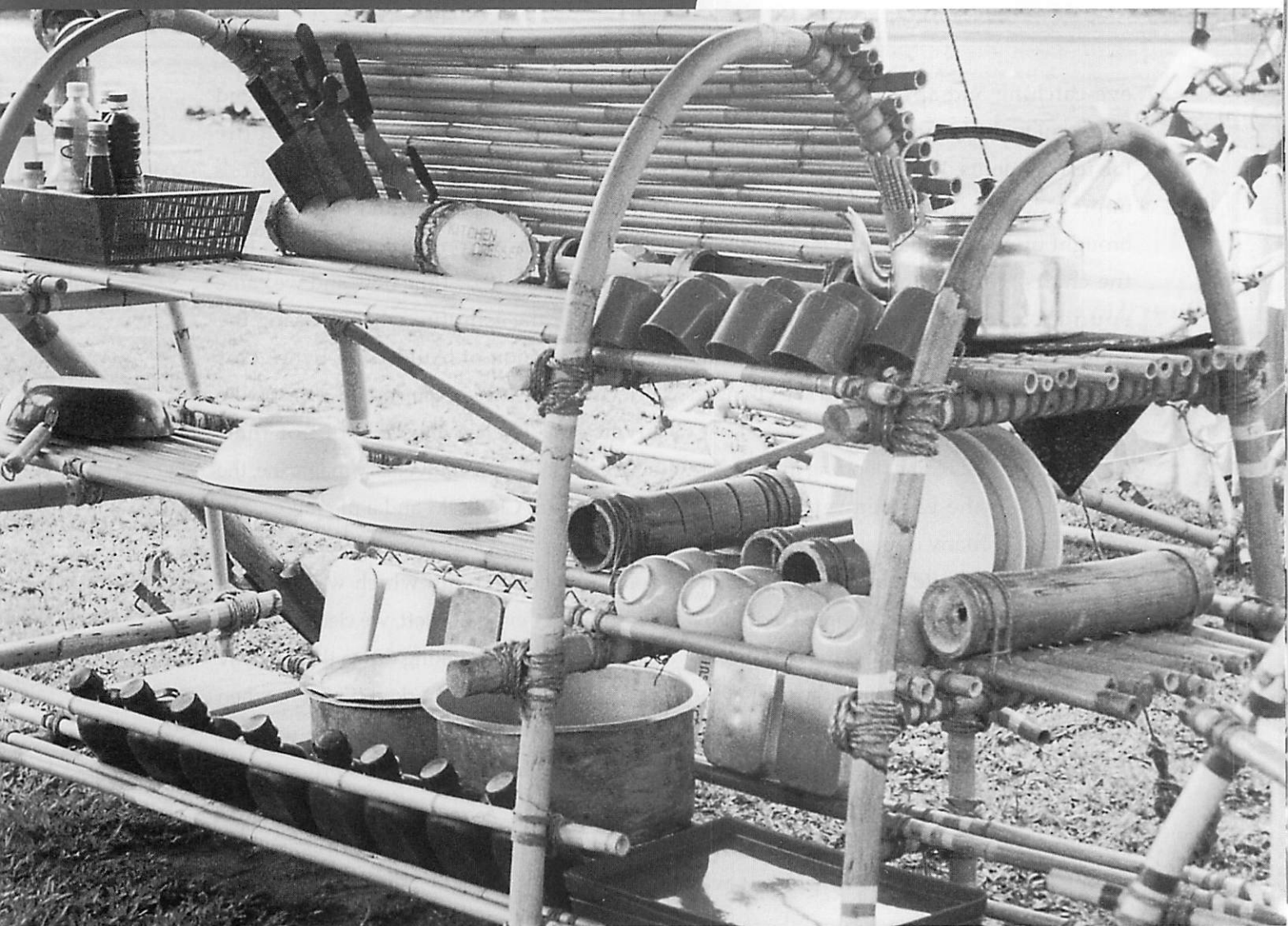
Then guests came flooding in. We were kept busy in the canteen setting up the refreshments. Many of us were sent around the school, doing odd jobs. Then dusk came and the sky darkened. The projected 'Ignis' (Ignis was the theme of the campfire and was projected on the screen before the start of the campfire) became clearer and our two hosts went on stage with torches. The crowd went wild with screams and shouts. We then presented our multimedia opening. It was astonishing and everybody present was impressed.

Then, the fire was magically lighted and Mr. Chua our GSL declared the campfire open. The opening song was 'Campfire's burning' and we sang it with gusto. The two hosts led us from song to song and the first item was presented. Time flew and we came the end of the campfire when we sang the Chinese version of 'Auld Lang Syne'. Our principal gave her speech and the prizes were given out. Then every school got their souvenirs -our 50th anniversary magazine, the opening item CD-ROM and a plaque.

Then Mr. Chua our GSL led us in the solemn Scout's Hymn which was sung in unison. After everyone left, we cleared up the canteen and started taking down the gateway and campfire pit. We worked till 5 am, when finally everything was cleared up and returned to the quartermaster store.

**Done by Jimmy Pan
Instructor Patrol**





Camping Gadgets



2

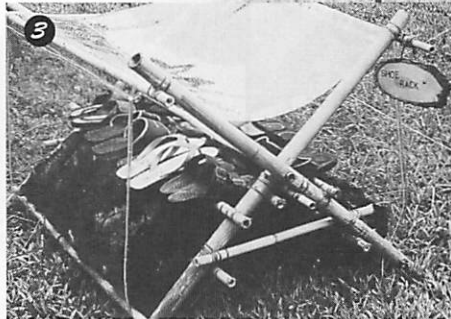
Camping gadgets are a part and parcel of every campsite. They can be as basic as a simple improvised clothesline to as complicated as a Shoe Rack covered with a transparent sheet. However, be it elementary or complicated, each of these gadgets must obey some basic principles like its purpose, practicability, stability, creativity, size, resource materials needed etc..... It is therefore in this context

that I hope to share some pointers on gadget construction with all of you budding campers out there; they need not be strictly adhered to but are merely a brief guideline to some extremely important aspects of camping gadgets.

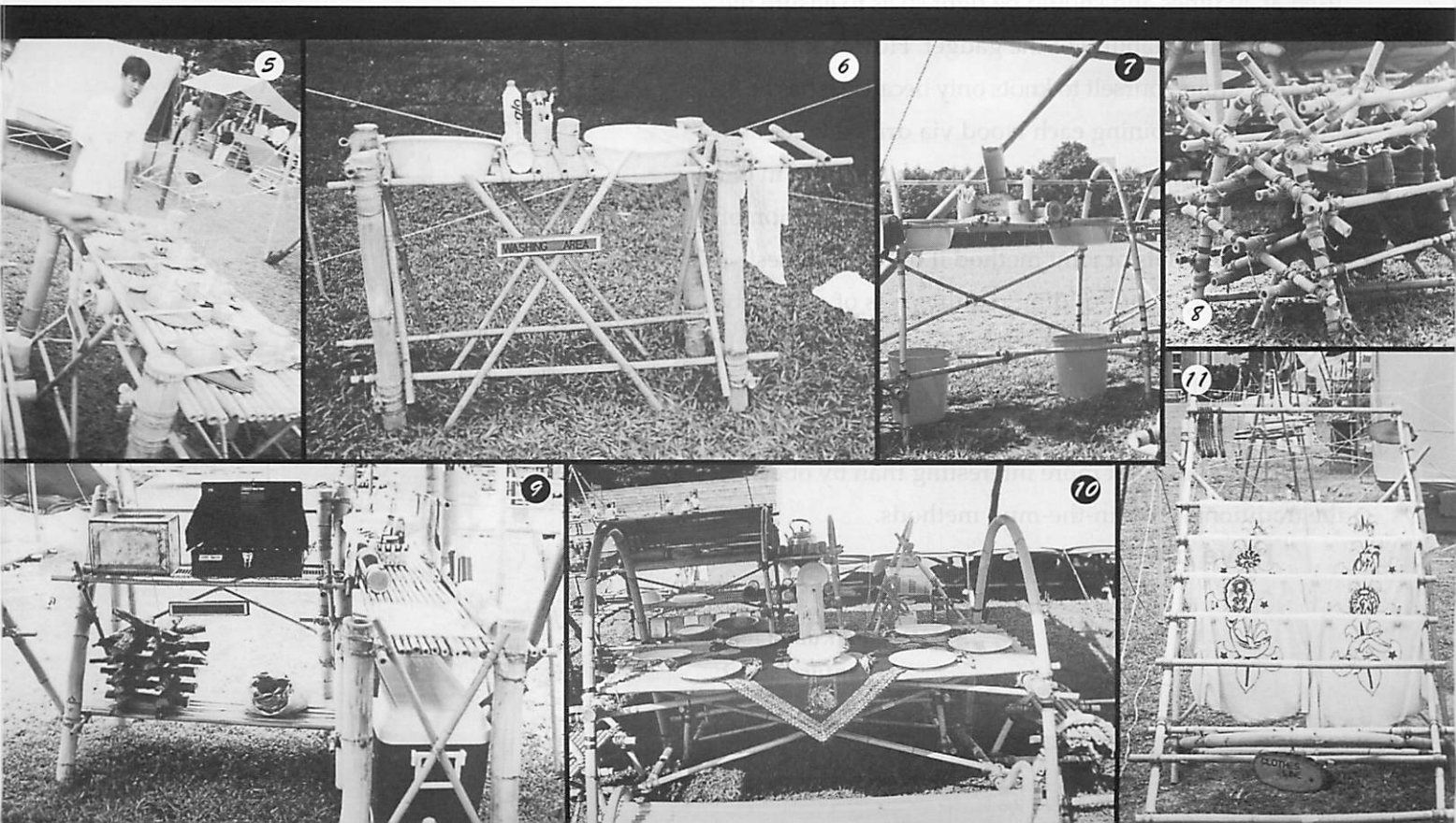
First and foremost, we must ask ourselves the question:-

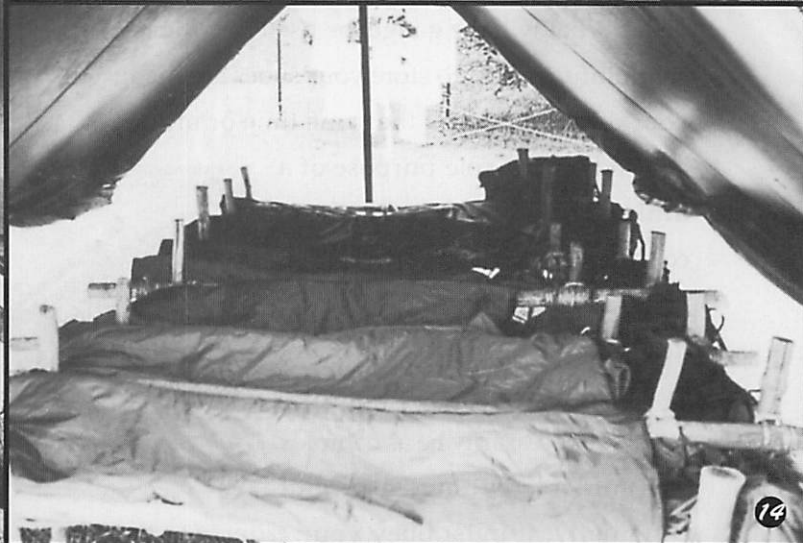
WHAT'S THE PURPOSE?

What will the gadget be used for? Must it be multifunctional to store your shoes and hang your dirty laundry at the same time or must it be used for the sole purpose of a dining table? Only with these conditions and factors clearly in mind can you then start upon designing the gadget, which will be your next move. The design need not necessarily be as complex as a foldable Dining Table, but essentially, it must obey your criteria to the thumb. Usually, this involves everyone to get into a brainstorming session, followed by a series of rough sketches and measurements; the first few sketches may seem impracticable but please do not despair. After all the designing work has been completed, it's time to put your theories to



- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Kitchen Dresser '98 | 7 Washing Area '98 |
| 2 Shoe Rack '94 | 8 Shoe Rack '98 |
| 3 Shoe Rack '96 | 9 Cooking Area '94 |
| 4 Clothesline '96 | 10 Dining Table '98 |
| 5 Dining Table '94 | 11 Clothesline '98 |
| 6 Washing Area '94 | |



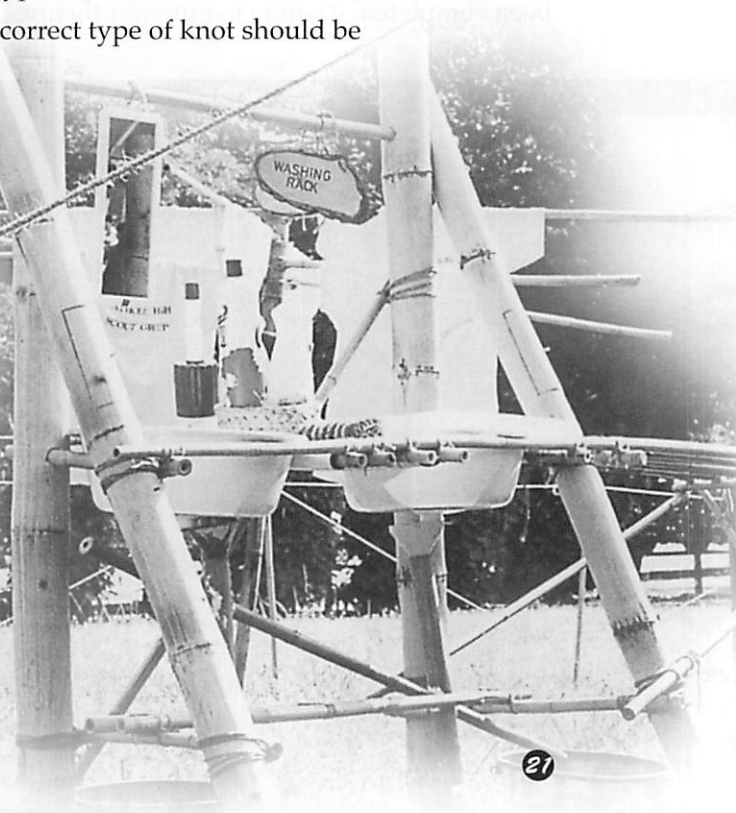


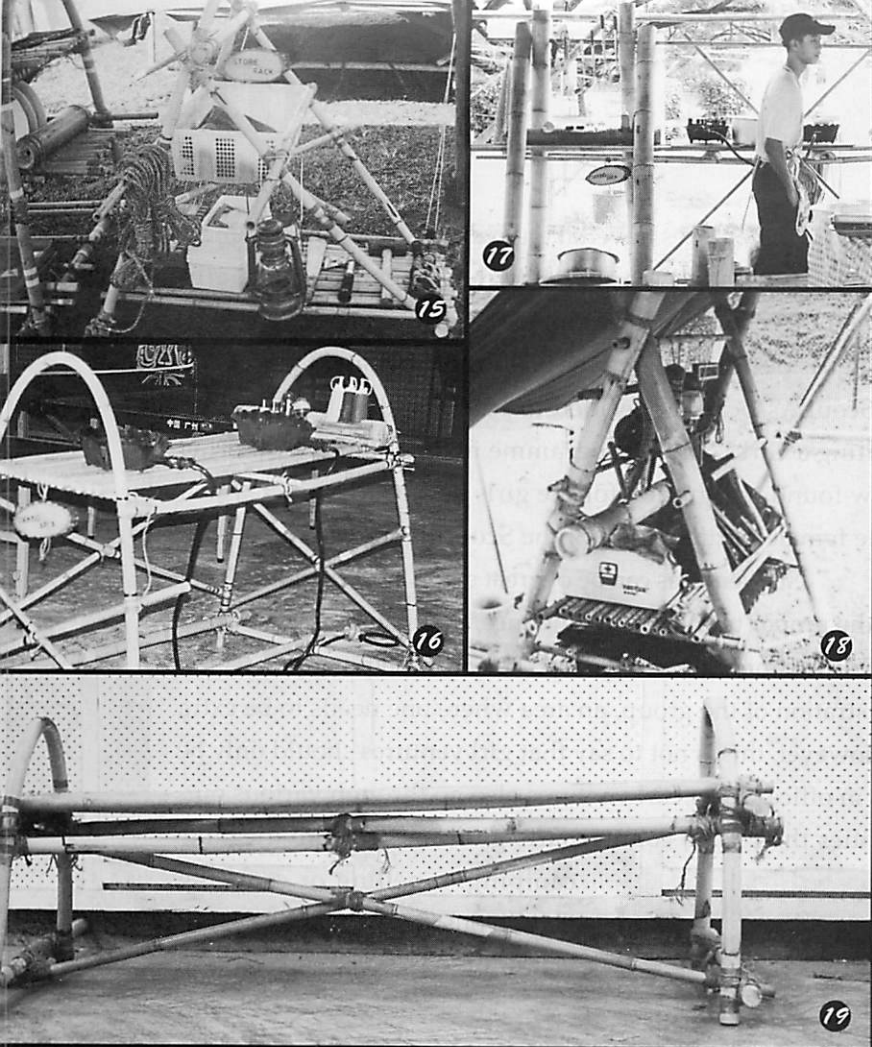
the practical test. The selection of the appropriate material and knots plays an important role in determining the result of the construction; bamboo is a popular material as it is light and easy to work with, but there are still many types of material to work with, depending on the nature of your gadget. As for knots, the correct type of knot should be used at all times and should be tight so as to ensure the durability and stability of the gadget. However, please do not restrain yourself to knots only because it has been proven that by joining each wood via drilled holes and joints can just be as effective (examine the pictures in the opposite page). You may even adopt a combination of different materials or joint method if the need arises!

In all, gadget building requires lots of creativity and physical effort for the final product to be both practical and 'smart'-looking. So, do keep your brain juices on the flow at all times, and you will certainly find gadget building a lot more interesting than by obeying the traditional stick-in-the-mud methods.

Have fun!!!

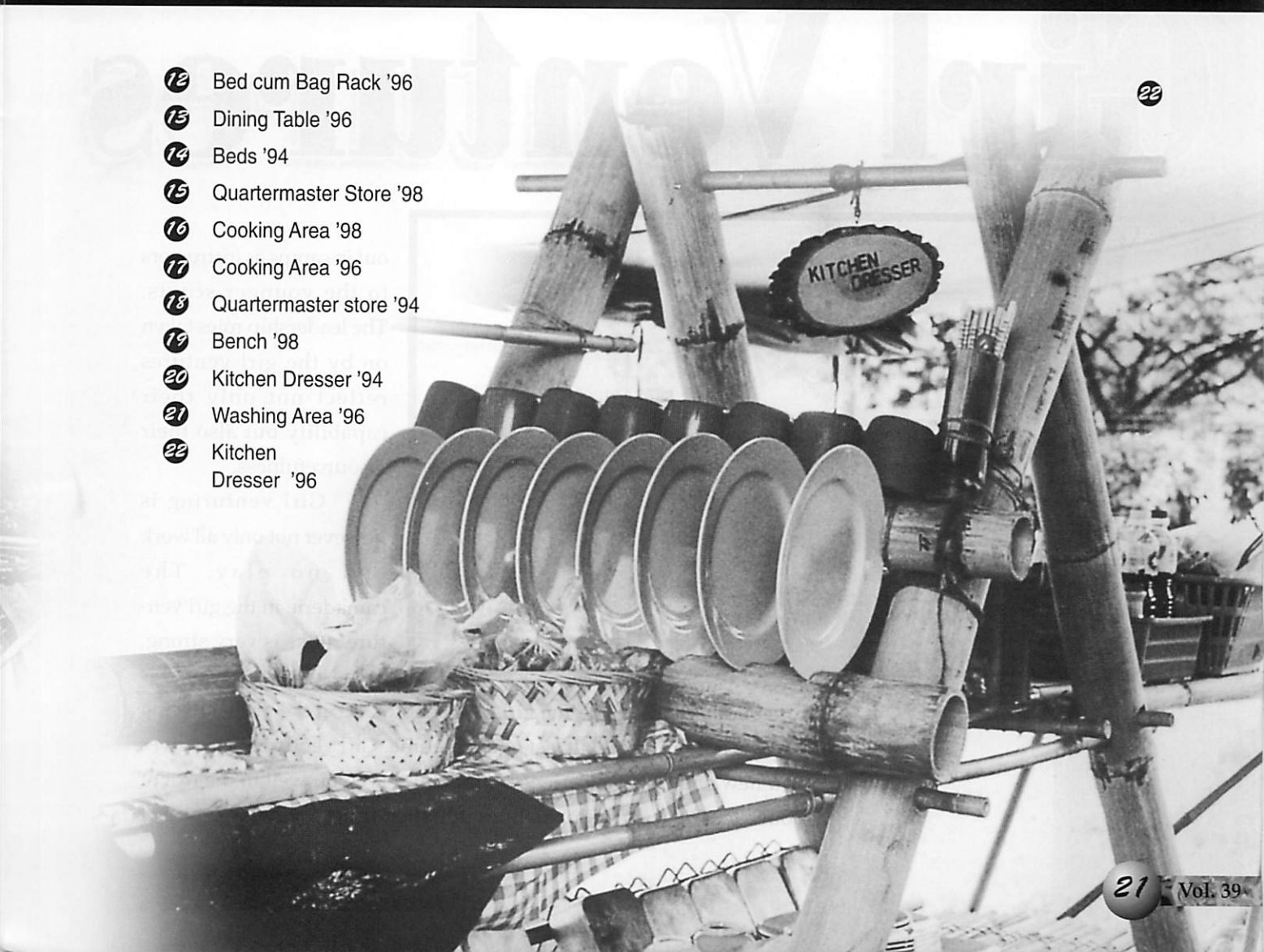
Hoo Kuan Cien,
Venture Scout

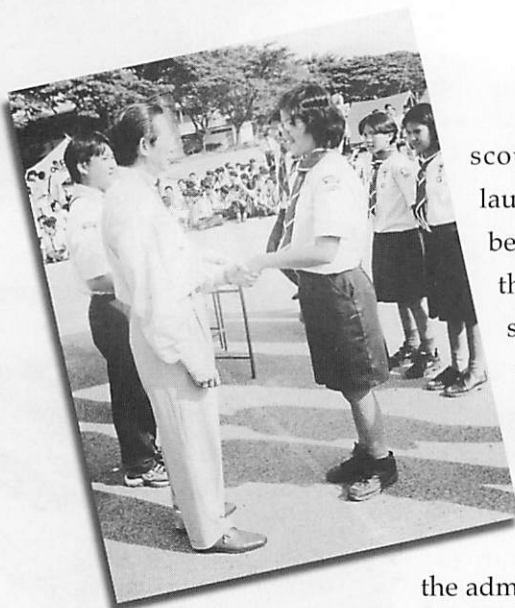




- 12 Bed cum Bag Rack '96
- 13 Dining Table '96
- 14 Beds '94
- 15 Quartermaster Store '98
- 16 Cooking Area '98
- 17 Cooking Area '96
- 18 Quartermaster store '94
- 19 Bench '98
- 20 Kitchen Dresser '94
- 21 Washing Area '96
- 22 Kitchen Dresser '96

22





Girl Ventures have taken over the forefront of female scouting since the Singapore Scout Association officially launched this new movement in 1990. With an increasing number of girls deciding to join the Scouting movement as Rovers, the Scout Association decided to accommodate this trend by starting a Girl Venture programme in the Scout groups. This new found recognition for the girls has led to an increase in the female participation of the Scouting movement.

Girl ventures can be of great aid to a Scout group. With the proper training and guidance, they can be of great help in the running of the group. They can help a great deal in the administration of the group, an area where one needs to be extra prudent. However, this is not to say that girl ventures should only be cooped up in office work. Girl ventures also go through various outdoor activities their male counterparts go through. Activities like camping, repelling or canoeing give an outdoor perspective to girl venturing. Girl ventures even help

Importance of

Girl Ventures



out in camps as instructors to the younger scouts. The leadership roles taken on by the girl ventures reflect not only their capability but also their resourcefulness.

Girl venturing is however not only all work and no play. The camaraderie in the girl venture ranks is very strong. A sense of a sisterhood is

often harboured among the girls. A friend made in the girl venturing circle is a friend that will last you a lifetime. Girl venturing also gives you new and novel experiences that will serve you well in the rest of your life. The leadership qualities inherited from running a group of



their own against their male counterparts, but also played a vital role in their various teams. The females proved undaunted by the mammoth task held before them and displayed great adversity by going through exactly what their male counterparts went through. No special concessions were given or asked by these girl ventures. This enormous display by them was definitely a sign of the success in the girl venture programme.

Scouts will no doubt be useful to you in your adult life. The skills one picks up in her girl venturing years like orienteering or camping will come in useful when she goes out into the great outdoors. So, for any of you GI Jane wannabes out there, do not hesitate and join the ranks of girl venturing!

Recently in the 1998 Campcraft Competition, girl ventures emerged among the competitors of the Venture Bridge and Tower competitions. This was a significant stepping stone for the girl ventures. During the competition, they not only manages to hold

Girl venturing in Singapore has only just started but given time, it will mature and grow. The increasing number of girl ventures in more and more scout groups also supports this trend. It is in no doubt that as the Girl Venture movement develops, their role in Scouting will also progress. Girl ventures will definitely prove to be a boon to scouting in Singapore in the long run.

By Erwin Chan
Venture Scout

Application Form to Join The Girl Ventures of Catholic High Scout Group

Name: _____

Name of School / Organization: _____

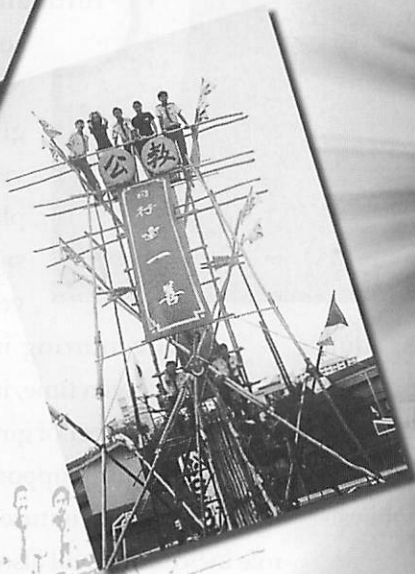
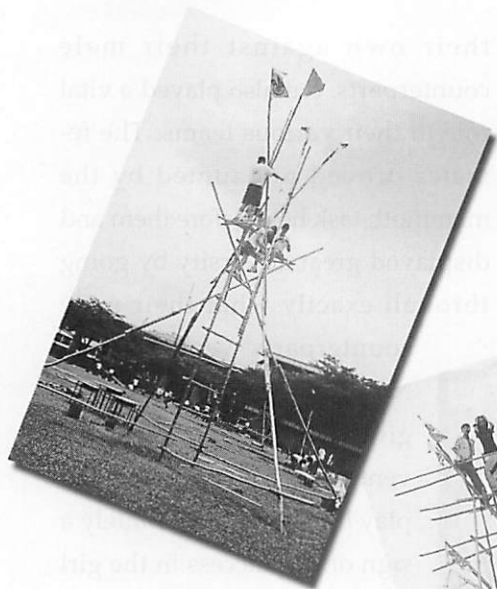
Date of birth: _____ Guiding Experience: Yes / No

Race: _____ NRIC Number: _____

Nationality: _____ Telephone Number (Home): _____

Address: _____

Upon completion, send to Catholic High Scout Group
9 Bishan Street 22 Singapore 579767



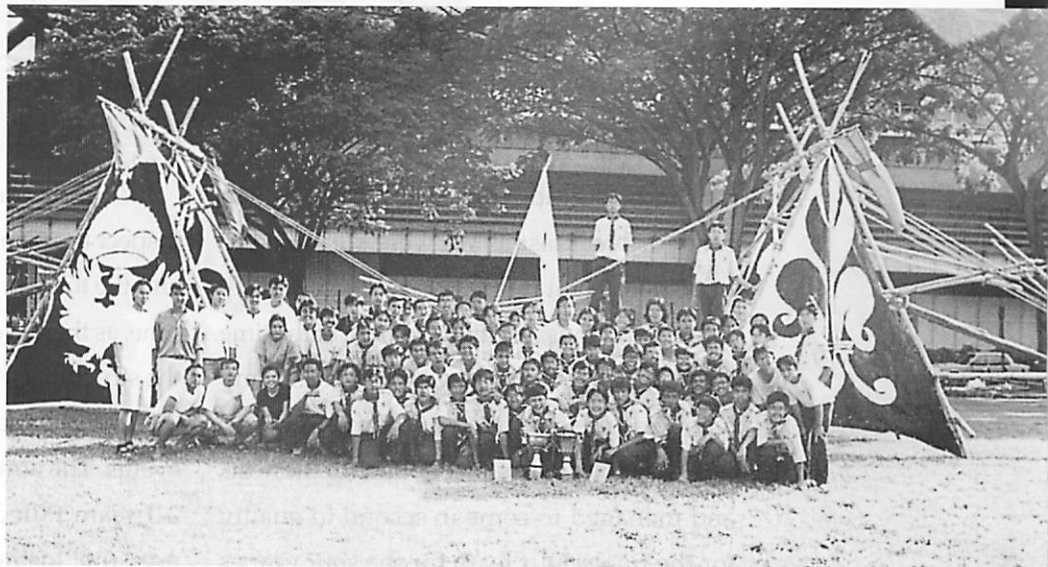
Report On Campcraft

On the 11th of September, the Catholic High Scouts gathered at 7.00am and assembled on the track. This day was not the actual competition day for the smaller events but the start of the Campcraft best campsite competition and the Towers and Bridge building competition. However, all the scouts came on this day to help in the transporting of the equipment to the competition ground which was New Town Secondary School. It was a tedious job, but together with the Ventures, we managed to complete the task by 9.30a.m. The scouts were then released for breakfast while the competitors got ready.

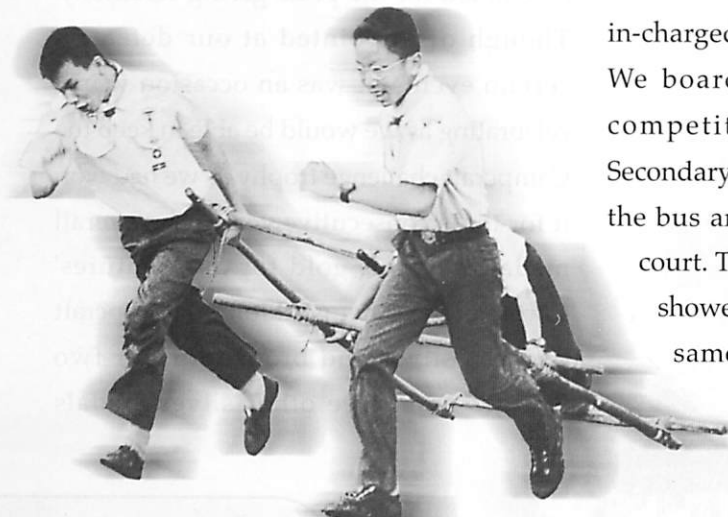
The competition finally started at around noon. Most of the scouts were dismissed but some had to stay back to guard the equipment and run errands. We looked on as our brother Scouts competed with other schools like SJI, Anglican High, Monks Hill and Monfort. Our scouts seemed to be more efficient at their work and their structures seemed to be of a higher standard, thus our confidence and morale was greatly boosted. At around 3pm, most of the service scouts left, as they had to rest in order to be sufficiently energised the next day. The competitors worked till evening when the judges suddenly announced that extra time would be given. Though at a disadvantage, our Scouts

were still confident about their victory.

Finally, the moment every scout had eagerly anticipated had arrived. The next day, the actual bi-annual Campcraft competition was held. The Catholic High Scouts assembled in school at 6.45am on the track outside the den. By 7.15am, all the scouts were present and everybody waited eagerly for the bus to arrive. Miss Tan was



Competition



in-charged and things went as scheduled. We boarded the bus headed for the competition ground at New Town Secondary School. Upon arrival, we got off the bus and assembled at the basketball court. The expression on each boy's face showed how eager they were and at the same time, their nervousness and excitement. There, we met the Scouts and Ventures who had

stayed overnight from the previous day.

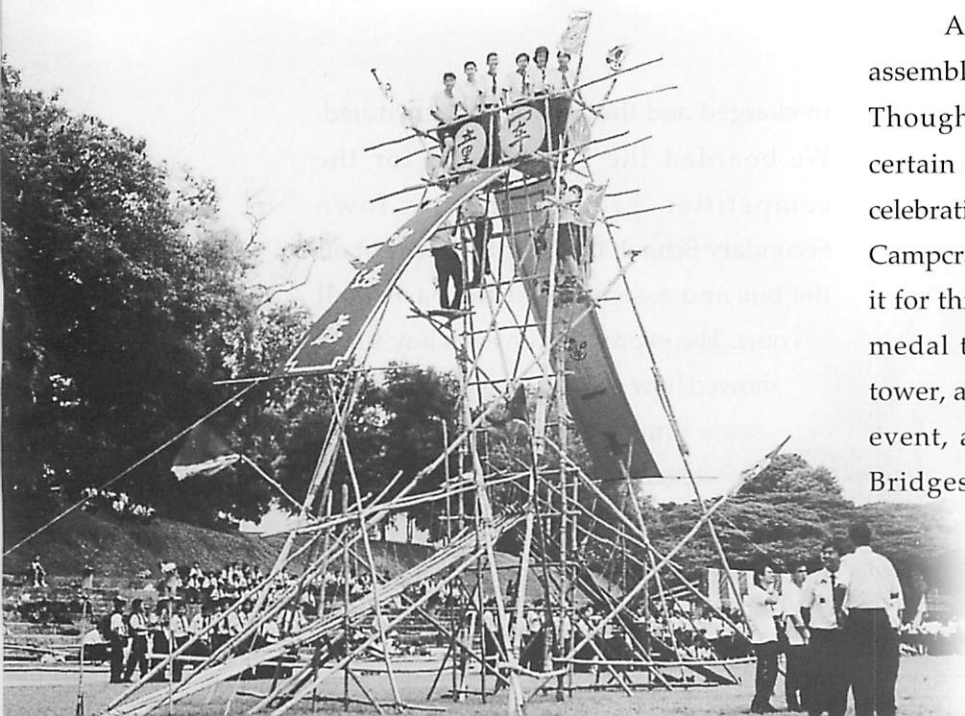
Wei Long then gave the small event scouts a briefing. 3-2-1 flagpole was to compete first, followed by chariot race, sour grapes, cannon

ball and lastly, logging. We were not given time for breakfast as we were supposed to have taken it at home. We were free till 10 o'clock, and thus, we made full use of the time by practising for our event. At 10a.m. my team was the first to compete in our event, 3-2-1 flagpole. We put in our best for the heats and managed to come in second to qualify for the finals. Our team for the sour grapes event also got into the finals. However, our chariot race was not as fortunate as our team was disqualified. Shu Jun's cannon ball managed to come in second, losing by a mere few metres to the Westlake Scouts.



After the heats, the judges went to inspect the Campcraft campsite, the bridges and the towers. The judging took quite some time, as there were some minor disputes over the structures. When the VIPs finally arrived, they proceeded into the finals of the small events. The atmosphere was tense and the 3-2-1 team failed to work efficiently under pressure, losing out to Dunman High. The same fate befell our sour grapes team. As for logging, under the morale boosting cheer of the supporters, our Sec. 3 team managed to clinch silver. However, the original team was a letdown, after months of tough training, they still lost to the Sec. 3s.

After the last event was competed, we assembled for the prize giving ceremony. Though disappointed at our defeat in certain events, it was an occasion worth celebrating as we would be able to keep the Campcraft challenge trophy as we had won it for three consecutive years. The overall medal tally was gold for our Ventures' tower, and another gold for the Campcraft event, a silver and bronze for our two Bridges and three other silver medals



coming from the logging, cannon ball and sour grapes events. Though we could be considered the over-all champions, the unfair judging by the judges made the Ventures and Wei Long very frustrated. They actually put our Venture's and Scout's bridges in 3rd and 2nd placing respectively, even though it was apparent which was the better project. Anyway, after the ceremony, we took group photographs in front of all our structures. It was a joyous occasion and everyone smiled in front of the camera.

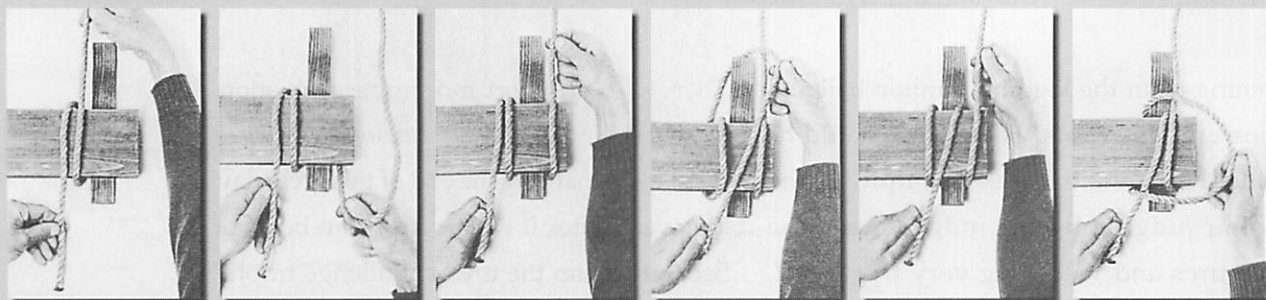
By 5 o'clock, we were halfway packing up and loading our equipment on the trucks. Some scouts went back to school by lorry while others, by bus. At around 6p.m., we started to return everything to the quarter master store. The Q.M. was in a big mess and it proved to be a problem for Jimmy. Luckily there were Ventures and Rovers to help us. It was a tiring task, but with co-operation and great effort, we finally managed to get everything in place back in the Q.M. by 8.30.

Then, we had a short and simple evaluation. When everything was settled, we were dismissed, marking the end of this great day. Two years later, it will be up to our batch of Sec.3s to claim the tower challenge trophy and keep it for good.

Huai Yang
Instructor Patrol

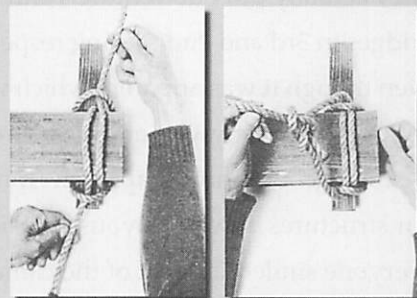


Knots



Scaffold Hitch

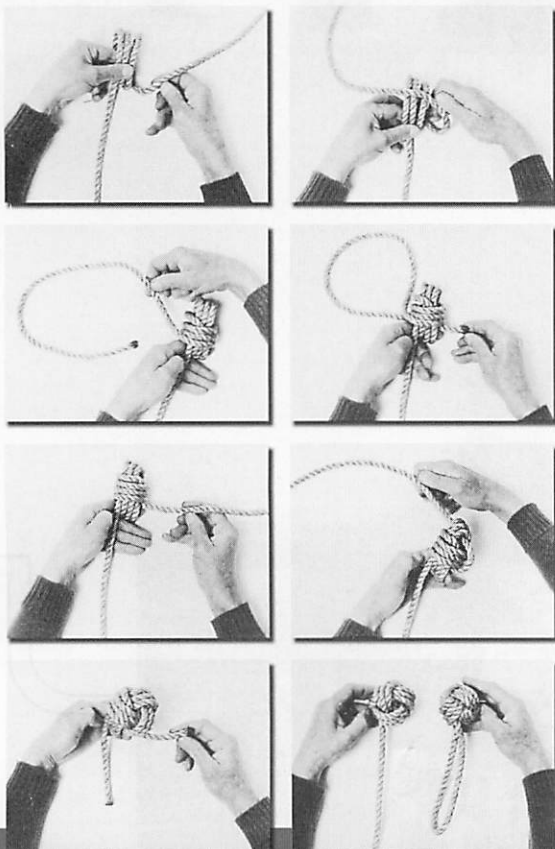
The sole purpose of this knot, made at both ends of a plank of wood is to support the plank, or stage as it is called when used in this manner, not only horizontally, but also in such a manner that it will not twist or cant.



The horn is the smaller piece of timber, nailed at right angles to the stage. In tying this knot, the first complete turn is taken on the inside of the horn and the second on the outside. The first turn is then not only lifted over the second but its bight is also passed around the log end of the horn, resulting in two parts of rope crossing the underside of the horn diagonally.

The original second turn is then lifted completely over the first and third turns and this bight is placed downwards over the end of the stage, the resulting bights formed at each edge of the stage being suitable adjusted.

The whole may be formed on the end of a rope with a sufficiently long tail to make fast in a bowline, to the standing part some distance above the stage, as illustrated. Otherwise and preferably, the knot is made on a bight of a rope, giving two standing parts, each of which can be adjusted to make the stage level.



Monkey's Fist

Made in the end of a heaving line with a metal ball or similar weight, inserted into the weave, it's purpose is to give carrying quality to the line.

Measure off nine hand turns of line and work from this point back towards the tail end, inserting the weight before completing the last three turns. Work the knot tight and to shape, cutting off and burying the tail end.

As heaving line is a comparatively expendable item a separate fist can be made of a better quality cordage, with a protruding eye, to which the heaving line is made fast. By this method the fist can be re-used when it is necessary to replace the line. To do this, an eye-splice is first formed in the end of the line and the splice buried in the first turns.

Shelter And Making Camp



Shelter is necessary to give shade, to repel wind and rain and to keep in warmth. Sleep and adequate rest are essential and the time and effort you put into making your shelter comfortable will make them easier to get. If you are the victim of a plane crash or a vehicle that has let you down, it may provide a shelter or materials from which one can be built—but if there is fire or the threat of fuel tanks exploding wait until it has burned out before attempting salvage.

If you are the unequipped victim of an accident, are trapped by unexpected mist or caught by nightfall in terrain where it is not safe to proceed, or if exhaustion or injury prevents you going further, you may have to make do with any natural shelter that you can find for the night, or until you can more fully assess the situation. In this case, virtually any protection from wind, rain and cold will be welcome. If movement down a slope seems risky, traversing even a short way along the contour may bring you out of the wind. If no cave or crevice is available to give shelter, make use of any hollow in the ground. Add to its height, if you can, by piling up rocks — but make sure that any structure is stable and use a back-pack, if you have one, to increase the windshield before settling down on the leeward side.

If there is still daylight to see by, you have no injuries to handicap you and are not isolated by unnegotiable cliffs or other barriers, it will be worth seeking possible better places in the vicinity. For a long-term camp you should find a secure site with convenient access to your major needs.

Where to camp

If you are on high exposed ground go lower down to find a sheltered spot, but on low, wet ground you will need to climb higher to find somewhere securely dry. Look for somewhere

BAD PLACES TO CAMP

- 1 Hilltops exposed to wind (move down and look for shelter on the leeside).
- 2 Valley bottoms and deep hollows—could be damp and, especially when the sky is clear, more liable to frost at night.
- 3 Hillside terraces where the ground holds moisture.
- 4 Spurs which lead down to water, which are often routes to animals' watering places.

sheltered from the wind, on rising ground that has no risk of flooding and is safe from rock falls or avalanches.

Hot air rises, cold air sinks, so valley bottoms will often contain pockets of colder air and, in cold weather, be susceptible to frost and damp mist. In areas that get plenty of rainfall terraces across a slope will often be damper than the steeper ground above and below them, for water collects there before flowing further downward.

Ideally you should be near water, with a plentiful supply of wood near at hand. Pitching camp too close to water, however, may lead you to be troubled by insects, and the sound of running water can hide other noises which might indicate danger, or the sound of search or rescue parties.

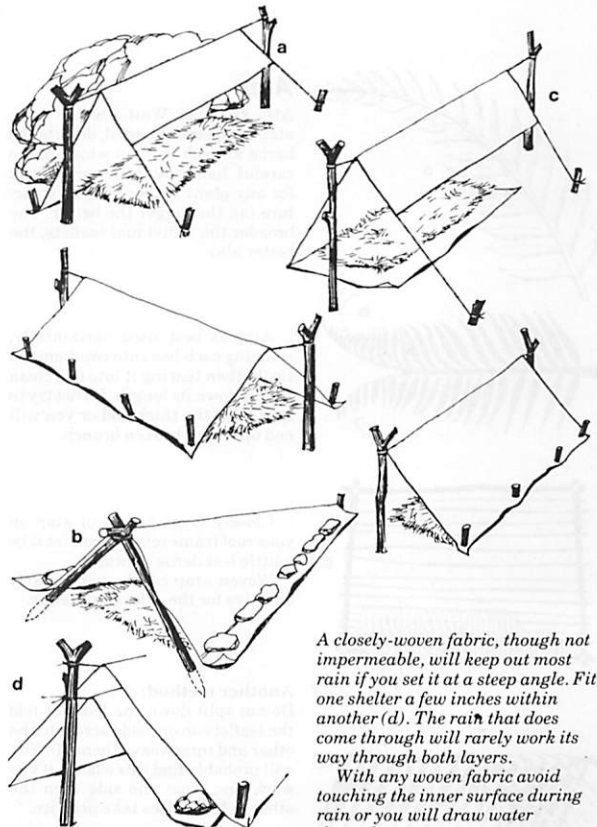
On river banks look for the high water mark: in mountain regions streams can become torrents in minutes, rising as much as 5m (17ft) in an hour! Even on plains keep out of

old watercourses, no matter how dry they are. Heavy rainfall in nearby hills can easily send water rushing down them in flash floods, with practically no warning. Choose ground that is reasonably flat and free of rocks and make sure that you have space to lay out signals and that you can be easily spotted by rescue parties.

Check above your head for bees' or hornets' nests and for dead wood in trees that could come crashing down in the next storm or high wind. Keep away from solitary trees, which attract lightning, and in forest areas keep to the edges, where you can see what is going on around you. Don't camp across a game trail—you don't want marauding animals as unwelcome guests or to find your bivouac flattened by a herd of animals on their way to a waterhole—but stay near to any obvious human tracks.

Shelter sheet

With a waterproof poncho, groundsheet or a piece of plastic sheeting or canvas, you can quickly and easily make a number of different shelters which will suffice until you can build something more efficient. Make use of natural shelter (a) or make a triangular shelter with the apex pointing into the wind (b). Stake or weigh down edges. If it is long enough, curl the sheeting below you — running downhill so that it keeps out surface water (c). Use dry grass or bracken as bedding. Do not lie on cold or damp ground.

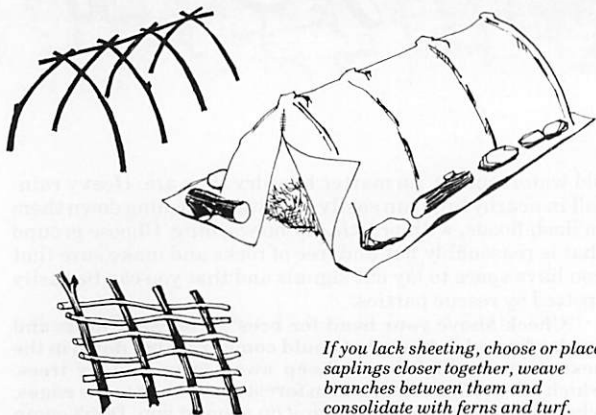


A closely-woven fabric, though not impermeable, will keep out most rain if you set it at a steep angle. Fit one shelter a few inches within another (d). The rain that does come through will rarely work its way through both layers. With any woven fabric avoid touching the inner surface during rain or you will draw water through.

Sapling shelter

If suitable sapling growth is available, select two lines of saplings, clear the ground between them of any obstructions and lash their tops together to form a support frame for sheeting. Weight down the bottom edges of the sheeting with rocks or timber.

You can make a similar shelter from pliable branches driven into the ground.

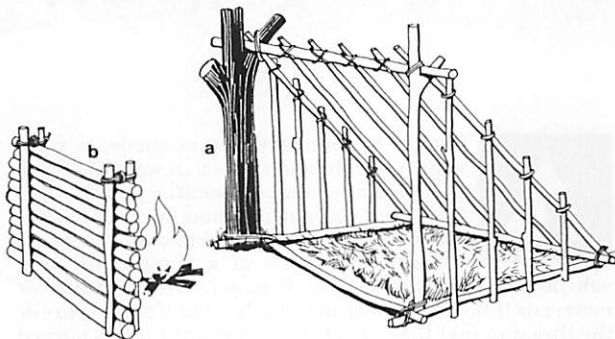


If you lack sheeting, choose or place saplings closer together, weave branches between them and consolidate with ferns and turf.

Open lean-to shelter

If there is nothing solid to lean a roof against and you are not trying to keep out heavy rain or a blizzard, use panels of wattle or frames covered in grass for protection.

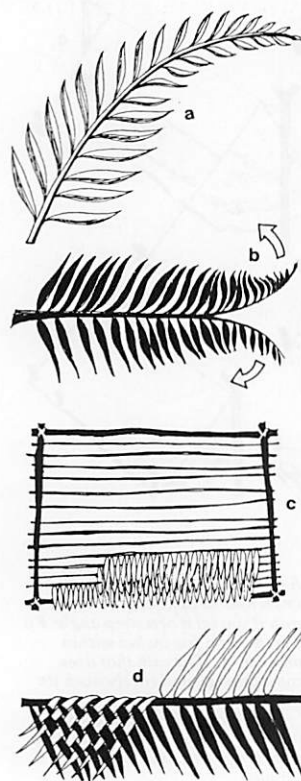
Erect a horizontal cross-piece between trees or on simple supports. On the windward side lean a panel of wattle, or tie or lean saplings at 45 degrees to make a roof. Add side walls as necessary (a). Site your fire on the leeward. Add side pieces and — this is the trick — build a reflector (b) on the other side of the fire to make sure that you get the full benefit of the warmth.



TROPICAL SHELTERS

In rain forests and tropical jungle the ground is damp and likely to be crawling with insect life, leeches and other undesirables. Instead of bedding down on the ground you will be better in a raised bed. Consequently you may want to make higher shelters.

Unless you are at an altitude high enough to make the nights cold, you will be less concerned with protection from the wind than with keeping reasonably dry. A thatching of palm, banana and other large leaves makes the best roofs and walls.



Atap

Also known as 'Wait-a-while vine', atap is especially useful, despite the barbs at each leaf tip which make careful handling necessary. Look for any plant with a similar structure (a), the bigger the better. The broader the individual leaflets, the better also.

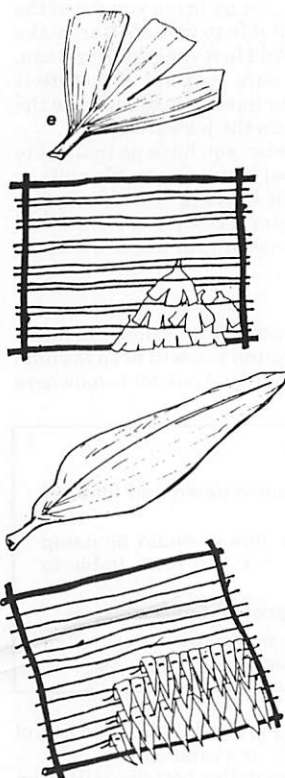
Atap is best used horizontally, splitting each leaf into two from the tip (b) then tearing it into two clean halves down its length. Do not try to split from the thick end or you will end up with a broken branch.

Closely layer halves of atap on your roof frame (c). You can let it be a little less dense on walls.

Woven atap can be particularly effective for the sides of a shelter.

Another method:

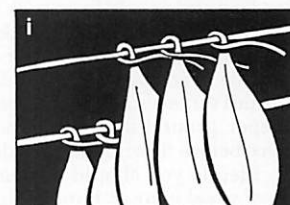
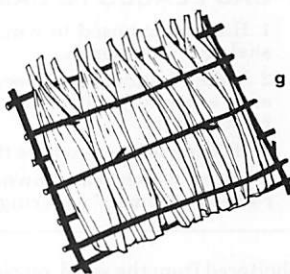
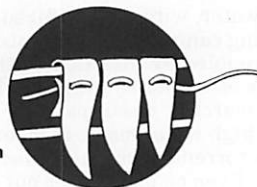
Do not split down the leaf but fold the leaflets on one side across to the other and interweave them (d). You will probably find this easiest if you work first from one side then the other — but it does take practice.



Three-lobed leaves or leaves cut in this fashion (e) can be locked over a thatching frame without any other fixing being necessary to hold them in place (f).

Elephant grass and other large leaves can be woven between the cross-pieces (g). Only a small number are needed to produce a shelter very quickly.

Long broad leaves can be sown along the thatching battens with vines (h).



Palm and other long-stemmed leaves can be secured by carrying the stem around the batten and over the front of the leaf, where it is held in place by the next leaf (i). Leaves must overlap those below on the outside of the shelter.

What Can You Do With Problem Kids?

Michael Lee Zwiers Leader, August/September 1998

Last Modified: 25 May 1998

"Hello, Mrs. Harris? This is Hal Renick, Jason's scout leader. Jason got into a fight at the meeting again tonight. I've sent him home and, I'm sorry, but he's not welcomed back at scouts."

I've been a Scouter for the past 10 years and have never had to oust a Scout from the troop. Still, I know more than one group that has kicked out a member, and it happened to a number of boys when I was a youth member myself.

What do young people do to get themselves into this situation? What do leaders do or do not that force them to make this kind of decision? This article tries to address some of the factors to help Scouters take more control of the outcome.

I believe that, more than anyone, young people want to do the right thing. As preschoolers, children want to please adults. After all, adults feed them, clothe them, and give them everything they need. More importantly, adults tell children when they are doing things the right

(or wrong) way and, by doing so, help them construct their own image.

As young children begin to interact with others their own age, they receive feedback that tells them whether what they are doing is acceptable and, ultimately, whether they are accepted.

With the two groups-significant adults and peers-as reference points, it is easy to see what motivates children to do things. Into this picture comes the child's need to be independent. Sometimes children express their need for independence through non-compliant behavior or rule breaking, and this is when we most often notice it. More often, children find socially acceptable ways to express individuality and independence-creativity, high achievement, hobbies, interests, and the like.

When young people start breaking rules, it is often a clue that they are not getting enough positive feedback from either their peers or the adults in their lives. We can hardly influence a youngster's interactions outside

of Scouting, but we can have a great deal of influence within our group.

If Scouts are not accepted by their peer group, they will tend to respond in a number of ways.

1. They will do things to annoy others so that they, at least, catch their attention. These youngsters end up being scapegoats for their peer group.

2. They will become the "disturber"-one who breaks rules or causes disruptions to get attention. These youngsters end up doing dirty work for their peer group.

3. They will remove themselves from their peer group to avoid negative interactions. These youngsters are on the fringes of the group, unaccepted and barely noticed.

Each of these young people needs help to fit in. Any one could easily become the Scout who is kicked out of the troop. There are, fortunately, a number of simple things Scouters can do to help young people with problems and, ultimately, all the youth members in their group.

1. Tell them what you expect from them. So often, we never lay down the ground rules. Instead we simply expect young people to do the right things. If your members know what you want, they will have great opportunities for success.

2. Tell them when they are doing a good job. It can be as simple as "Your uniform looks smart tonight. I'm glad you remembered your beret this week" or "You did a fantastic job cooking for your patrol at the camp last weekend."

3. Give them a chance to make their own plans. Give them time to plan outings and work on badges and provide the support they need to get things done.

4. Tell them you like them. Let them know you appreciate their talents.

5. Keep in touch with them. Watch out for signs that any of your young members may not be feeling good about themselves. Ask them how they feel about Scout group. It helps to nip problems in the bud.

All right, those are the things Scouters can do directly as significant adults in young members' lives. But how can you influence the peer group?

First, set an example yourself. Your young members want to be like you and, if they see you being positive and caring, they will tend to

act the same way towards each other.

Second, emphasize the importance of each member in the group. Every person has skills that others may not have. Point out to your patrol leaders the individual talents of their patrol members. Emphasize the value of each member to the success of the patrol.

Finally, eliminate bullying. If you see bullying or bugging, stop it. Call a meeting of the young people involved and ask them if they realize what they are doing. Explain that intolerance is unacceptable because nobody has the right to hurt other people either physically or emotionally. Talk about the Scout law.

If you follow through on these steps, you will often catch and stop problems before they get out of hand. If things do go wrong, however, there is still a lot you can do.

Try to find out why your young members are acting out. Do they know what they are supposed to do? Are you giving them enough positive feedback for their good effort? Do they have a chance to be involved in planning and doing things with the group? What is their relationship with their peers in the patrol and within the troop?

Asking these questions will help you get to the root of the problem. Next, talk with the Scout about what he needs to do

to get back on track. Tell him what you are going to do, then bring in his patrol leader as part of the problem-solving team. Keep a close eye on how things progress. Talk regularly with both the Scout and the patrol leader to give them a positive feedback and keep them in touch with their changing feelings.

Talking positive action will generally work much like preventive medicine to keep problems to a minimum. When they do occur, tracking them to their roots will help you solve them efficiently. Unfortunately, there will always be situations where neither approach will work. Some of the young people we attract to Scouting come with problems bigger than we can deal with. If a child had a poor self-image for a long time, it will take a lot of work to change it, if a child has the habit of breaking rules to gain acceptance, he may be too disruptive to the rest of the group. We may find we have no choice but to ask him to leave. After all, we're volunteer Scouters, not professional youth workers. But, before you reach such a point, try the positive alternatives. The young people you kick out may be the ones who need you the most.

**Scouter Michael Lee Zwiers
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Scouts, Edmonton, Alberta.**

Scout's New Year Resolution for 1999

Try and improve my fitness, both physically and mentally

Khong Wen, Pigeon Patrol

Improve my skills, especially 1st Aid

Melvin Low, Pigeon Patrol

Get closer to my peers

Eugene Poh, Eagle Patrol

Achieve Best Patrol this Year

Kingston Chen, Rhino Patrol

Improve my skills and attitude

Brian Wong, Shark Patrol

Be a better and more responsible Scout

Woo Sheng Yao, Shark Patrol

Get Scout Standard Badge

Daniel Yeo, Rhino Patrol

Change my flaws and achieve perfection

Jonathan Tang, Tiger Patrol

To work well together with my peers

Low Junjie, Wolf Patrol

Aim for higher standards

Ngiam Jusheng, Cobra Patrol

