

UNIT REPORT

The Editor approached me sometime last month and asked me if I would write a report on the Unit for the magazine. After due thought and consideration I said "No", giving my reason as "Not enough time", but the Editor being a persuasive character, pressed his point home and here is the result of that pressure.

Membership.

We are getting a number of new faces down to meetings on Tuesdays as well as most of the regulars. A number of the Unit are finally reaching the grand old age of 20, therefore the influx of new members from both feeder troops and outside scouting is greatly welcomed. We have welcomed five new members in the last few months. At the moment we have approximately 20 members between the ages of 16 and 20, plus a good number of Instructors.

Activities.

Approximately 15 months ago the Unit van met with an accident, somewhere in the wilds of Surrey, and since then the Unit has had to hire vehicles for all its major activities, something which considerably raises the cost of a Unit weekend. Fortunately this has not prevented the Unit from pursuing its activities. We have had the usual caving weekends to Somerset, South Wales and Yorkshire. Canoeing has also continued at Harlow. The Arun race saw Fred winning his class with Pete and Mick also finishing in the same class, and JB and Richard also finished in their doubles class, while Fred also competed in the Exe Descent and finished 9th. (Fred's report can be read elsewhere in this edition Ed.)

A Hike in Derbyshire of some 30 miles was very successful, but one in Yorkshire was ended prematurely because of bad weather. A canoe expedition on the R. Wye was held up when the front half of the 'Gannet' was parted from the back half, (only temporarily we hope.)

Tuesdays and Thursdays have followed the usual pattern. Tuesdays have seen the Unit listening to talks on the local Borough council to playing 'Risk'. Thursdays have again been popular with the caving, canoeing and handball bods.

The Unit committee has continued to run the Unit and has made a very good job of an extremely difficult task. The E.C. has seen a number of changes over the past year, a good policy because new blood always has new ideas.

Financial Policy.

The Unit's financial policy has remained the same as before. We wish to remain as self supporting as possible. We are fortunate in being able to use the HQ of the 1st Streatham Common to whom we are greatly indebted. Equipment wise we are

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