

SPARKS HALL, PYNE ROAD, TOLWORTH, KT6 7BN.

OUT

OF

**Enjoy your camping,
Everest Cubs.**

**Also Scouts, enjoy
your Summer Camp.**

THE

BLUE



REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1040958

Group Scout Leader	John Bowman	gsl@1sttolworthscouts.org.uk
Group Chair	Martin Smith	chair1sttolworthscouts@btinternet.com
President	Mrs Margaret Warry	margaret.warry@blueyonder.co.uk
Vice President	Mr Graham Warnes	graham.warnes@blueyonder.co.uk
Circle Chair	Mrs Margaret Warry	margaret.warry@blueyonder.co.uk

DIARY OF EVENTS

JULY

Tue 5 Group Executive. Sparks Hall. 20.00 for 20.15.

Fri 15 – Everest Cubs camp. Walton Firs Activity Centre, Cobham.

Sun 17

Thu 21 Circle visit to Bognor Regis.

Sat 23 – Troop Summer Camp. Scout Adventures Youlbury, Oxford.

Sat 30

AUGUST

Thu 18 Circle meeting. Restaurant meal.

SEPTEMBER

Tue 6 Group Executive. Sparks Hall. 20.00 for 20.15.

Thu 15 Circle meeting.

Other events and any amendments are advised by Leadership Team members and for the Circle by the Chair.

All contributions for the **NEXT ISSUE** of **OOTB** to be delivered

by 11TH AUGUST

to

SHEILA JONES, E-mail: sheilamjones@blueyonder.co.uk

GSL'S REPORT

It will not be long until all the Leaders get a well-deserved rest over the summer break! Every Leader has worked so hard to get their section back on track now that we are finally back to full Scouting.

I would like to give my congratulations to our Group President Margaret Warry who some of you may remember I presented her with her 40-year service award at St Georges Day. I am pleased to say that Margaret has also been awarded the Bar to the Silver Acorn. This was awarded a little while back but due to COVID could not be presented, This award acknowledges the ongoing work and dedication Margaret has done.

Our Deputy County Commissioner Claire Percy, who attended our AGM, presented the awards on behalf of our County Commissioner Owen Purcell who, unfortunately, was out of the country on business.

Claire also had a second award to present and this was to Sheila Jones. Sheila is a long-standing member of 1st Tolworth and for many years was the Group's Secretary until she stepped down at the 2021 AGM. Sheila has been awarded the Award for Merit and it is so well deserved!

Congratulations and thanks are also in order for Graham Warnes who has accepted the role of Group Vice President.

I would like to say thank you to all the Exec members who have agreed at the AGM to continue on the committee and continue to help and support the Group. Thank you to Martin Smith, our Chair, for agreeing to continue and Terry Goodall, our Treasurer. Also to Tina Lefevre for completing her 1st year as Group Secretary!

Some Exec members are working hard behind the scenes to redesign an area in our stores, by fitting shelving and cupboards on the lower level. This will make easier access and all the heavy canvas, tents and equipment, will be moved to the side lean-tos. Projects like this do come at a price though. It is only now possible because Graham Warnes has cut back on his fund-raising activities as he used this area to store car boot, outdoor fair, jumble sale and November Fayre items.

The Beaver Colony is doing amazingly well and even has a small waiting list. We have had a change of Leaders in the past few months. We have had to say goodbye to Rachel as Beaver Leader as she has moved away which has meant Peter Keen has had to take on the temporary role of Beaver Leader. Holly Powell is also doing an amazing job in supporting Peter to keep the Colony going. The Young Leaders, Thomas and Shreya, are doing brilliantly to help each week but unfortunately Holly will be off to university in August. This is not an easy section to run as some Beavers can be quite a handful and, without the help, it makes it harder for the Leaders to run the programme. I hope to be able to find someone to help out with the Colony. Do you think you could be that person? Please consider trying the role. You never know, you might enjoy it!

Megan is continuing to run a challenging programme with her Leaders and Young Leaders and the Cubs are enjoying every minute! If you have a child in Cubs, do you think you could help with a Parent Rota?

Some people may know that Peter Smorthit, an Assistant Cub Scout Leader, who is in a wheelchair, had a stroke a few weeks back. With the quick actions of Megan and the staff at the shooting centre, Peter is making a good recovery but has limited use of the right side of his body. He still continues to help Megan when possible and everyone in the Group wish him all the very best for a speedy recovery. Peter is planning to do two marathons back-to-back, starting on the 28th July, covering a distance of 226.2 miles to raise money for a charity called Limb Power!

Caroline continues to lead the Troop forward and has plenty of exciting evenings planned, but that is all in her report.

I hope everyone has a terrific summer holiday and enjoys the break.

John Bowman
Group Scout Leader
gsl@1sttolworthscouts.org.uk

GROUP CHAIR'S REPORT

I would like to thank the Section Leaders and supporters who attended the Group Annual General Meeting last month with a special thank you to The Reverend Helen Hancock, Claire Percy Assistant County Commissioner and our guests from Royal Kingston District, Stewart Nash District Commissioner, Stuart Thompson Assistant District Commissioner Scouts, Bob Bushell District President, Trevor Strong Assistant District President and Mrs Heather Strong.

Apologies were received from Mrs Lyn Stone, Mrs Sue Russell, Mrs Susan Bushell, Mrs Marilyn Jennings, Ms. Gayna Brice, Mrs Barbara Smith, Mrs Pauline Littrell, Mr. Richard Ford and Mr Graham Goring.

This year has seen the 113th anniversary for the Group and my 13th anniversary as Group Chair, a role I am still proud to hold.

Following the last two years of upheaval caused by the Pandemic, it felt really good to be back in the Hall for the AGM and again many thanks for those who attended. As we were not always able to pay our respects properly due to Covid restrictions, I asked all to stand to share a moment in reflection and remembrance for those we have lost since 2019. They are Mr David Alan Thomas (DAT), Mr Alan Lee, Mr Steve Scott and Mrs Pat Frith.

The meeting continued with a brief roundup of the last year, both from myself and John.

Following the approval of the Annual Report and Accounts, the meeting proceeded as per the Agenda with the elections of Executive members. With the exception of Sheila Jones, who after many years of devoted service has decided to step down, the current Executive Team was duly re-elected. Thanks again to all Executive members for your continued support.

To show our appreciation for all his hard work for the Group over many years, Graham Warnes was appointed the Honorary role as Group Vice President, a role he was glad to accept. Congratulations Graham.

Claire Percy, Assistant County Commissioner, presented our Group President, Margaret Warry, with the Bar to the Silver Acorn. Claire also presented the Award for Merit to Sheila Jones.

Congratulations to you both.

Stewart Nash, District Commissioner, congratulated the Group on its continuing success and mentioned that 1st Tolworth were one of the stronger groups in the District. He also said he was quite surprised to hear that the current Treasurer and myself as Chair, were both in our thirteenth year of office. He wished the Group all the best for the coming year.

Margaret Warry Group President, also congratulated the Group, particularly the Leaders, in their continued efforts in keeping the sections active and exciting for our young members.

Refreshments were served following the meeting. This gave those present the time to chat and we all enjoyed a relaxing evening.

So we have survived our 113th year, the last two more of a challenge than most and we are still here. So here we go, entering our 114th year of Scouting. I'm sure that whatever the future holds for us we will, in true 1st Tolworth family tradition, rise to the challenges that present themselves and we will continue to do what we do best - provide great times, life skills and excellent Scouting for the youngsters in the area.

Well, that's it for this month. Sorry it's a short report. The summer holidays are nearly upon us and I'm sure we all need a break and have time to recharge our batteries. So let's hope we have some summer weather. I hope you all have an enjoyable summer and enjoy whatever you do.

Next edition will be the September issue. See you then...

Proud to be 1st
Martin Smith Group Chair
chair1sttolworthscouts@btinternet.com

THAMES BEAVER SCOUT REPORT

Beaver Scout Leader
Thames Beaver Scout Colony
Boys and Girls age 5 ¾ - 8
Fridays 17.45 – 18.45

EVEREST CUB SCOUT REPORT

We have had a fantastic first half of the summer term packed full of fun activities and new skills. We started the new term with a games evening. Each Six, led by their Sixer, decided between them a game that they would like to play that evening and we worked our way through them all. This included the usual favourites of dodgeball, bulldog, shipwreck and Mowgli.

The following week we celebrated World Autism Acceptance Month. Several of our Cub Scouts and Leaders are Autistic/Neurodivergent and so this was a fantastic opportunity to explore and celebrate our differences and learn how we can best support and understand each other. We watched a short animated film about Autism and then had a discussion/Q&A. We talked about the sensory differences some Autistic individuals may experience and how sensory aids such as fidget toys can be useful to some people. We had a go at making our own sensory aids such as scented playdough and bouncy balls and then we finished the evening by playing some fun games. Everyone wore something gold (the colour for Autism based on the chemical compound Au), rainbow (the colour for Neurodivergence encompassing Autism, ADHD, ADD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia and more), or red (in support of the 'red instead' campaign which was set up to counter the 'light it up blue' campaign rejected by many Autistic individuals). We all brought in £1 for the National Autistic Society and also received some kind donations from the public. Altogether we raised £65 for the charity.

Next we went on a visit to Surbiton Fire Station to work towards our Fire Safety badge. We got to explore inside the fire engine, try on equipment and have a go using the powerful fire hoses which was great fun. We learnt all about the job of a fire fighter and also discussed important fire safety tips including fireworks and bonfires. We had a fire drill back at the hall and everyone made a fire escape plan for their own homes.

Another badge we have completed this term is the Global Issues badge. This included learning about international charities, thinking about how we can reduce our waste and energy use, learning about fair trade and discussing how we, as a global community, can respond to disasters (both natural and manmade).

We joined up with the Kingston Scout's Canoe Club for a taster kayaking session at Ravens Ait Island which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The Cubs earned their stage one paddle Sports badge along with their very first time on the water badge. Several Cubs ended up in the river instead of on it and so the Leaders had fun 'Cub fishing'. A few of our Cubs were nervous at the beginning but by the end of the session were padding confidently which was brilliant to see. This is something that we will definitely be putting into the programme again!

After half term we started working towards the International badge. This included learning about the different parts and meaning behind the World Scout Emblem. We worked together as a Pack and made a giant art attack version of the badge which is now proudly displayed on our notice board. We also learned about the different Cub Scout uniforms around the world and had a go at learning some Origami (paper folding) to design our own uniforms. We took part in a chopstick challenge relay race and finally made some traditional Native American friendship bracelets.

Last week the weather was so nice that we decided to head over to the local park and play a few games of rounder's, followed by stuck in the mud and red light/green light.

Coming up we have a robot wars evening, wide games, pond dipping and our weekend summer camp at Walton Firs Activity Centre!

Thank you as always to our wonderful Leadership team who volunteer their time every week to make these experiences possible for the young people. If any parents are interested in volunteering regularly, occasionally, or perhaps you have an interesting skill or activity to teach us, then please do talk to me at the end of Cubs or drop me an email at megan.1sttolworthcubs@gmail.com

Megan Taylor
Cub Scout Leader
Everest Cub Scout Pack
Boys and Girls age 8 – 10 ½
Wednesdays 18.30 – 20.00
megan.1sttolworthcubs@gmail.com

SCOUT TROOP REPORT

Hi everyone!

Enjoying the spring & summer and back to normal, with a variety of indoor and outdoor activities.

Newcomers and Changes

Noah has dropped out from being one of the Troop's Young Leaders, due to the pressure of school-work in the Sixth Form. Matthew has jumped into the breach, and we are pleased to have him back. It is always difficult during the first part of the summer for all who have school exams and we just have to cope without their support. School has to come first!

Isabel, Zac, Maddy and Shreya have now moved to Atlas Explorers. We will miss them but they aren't far away ...

We have been joined by Emily (from 2nd Tolworth Troop), Abbey from Everest Pack, Sindy, Lee and Finley from 2nd Hook Cub Pack. We have invested Emily, Chanel, Raghav, Abbey & Lee. Hopefully Sindy & Finley will be sporting Royal Blue scarves by the end of term.

We are looking forward to a new crowd from Everest in September!!! This meant that we had to re-organise the Patrols so our two new Patrol Leaders are Esme & Warwick. We have three new Assistant Patrol Leaders – Emily, Lucy & Lukas. Congratulations to all on their new leadership roles!

Scout of the Year 2022

Awards were presented (mainly) at St. George's Day Parade.

Scout of the Year	Shreya
Runner-up	Maddy
Third Place	Annouska
Best newcomer	Joshua
Patrol of the Year	Kingfisher
DAT's Trophy	Livvy

Congratulations to you all!

Friday Nights etc.

We have reviewed our Code of Conduct. Megan and Rowley came for a very interesting talk about Disability Awareness. We played video games and did some cooking on Trangia Stoves without actually setting fire to the HQ. Most people have finished their Bee Hotels and I hope they have them hanging in their gardens ready for the insects to use when hibernation time comes! We made paracord bracelets in yellow and blue to show our support for all in Ukraine. Air Rifle shooting was practiced and the Climbing Wall was used for Bouldering. Atlas Explorers came and ran an evening for us towards World Challenge (for Explorers and Scouts!) and we had a Curling competition. We have tried out the new AED Training Kit so we know how to use the real one, now on the wall in the Entrance Hall.

We went out to Nonsuch Park for a bit of Orienteering. It got complicated as the Park Warden insisted on shutting the gates so we had to move our cars out and it was more difficult for parents to pick the Scouts up as they had to approach the gate on the same side as the Park, but you live and learn!

We went to Oxshott Woods and did a trail with Tracking signs, plus some lazy games in that really hot week in June.

Badges

Biggest news is that

Annouska, Livvy and Maddy have all completed their Chief Scout's Gold Award.

Lots of their Challenge Awards completed and presented. Livvy's "Gold" was presented at St. George's Day and Annouska's at a Scout meeting in May. Shreya isn't far behind. Perhaps we can present hers and Maddy's before the summer break?

Sports Enthusiast badges gained - Warwick, Evannah, Adi X 2, Alfie, Josh X 2, Reuben. Thanks to Giacomo & Matthew for testing them.

Navigator Badges:

Stage 1 – Nina, Esme, Kabi, Raghav, Chanel.

Stage 2 – Alfie, Sharfin.

County Night Exercise

This annual event had not been organised for the previous 2 years so to get there and compete was an achievement. 43 teams walked from across GLSW, 23 of them completed. Points are gained by doing the challenges at each checkpoint. Points are lost by taking too long to complete the course. We entered two teams and both completed the course. Success!!

1 st .Tolworth A	13 th place	Maddy, Nina, Kabi & Lucy.
1 st .Tolworth B	21 st place	Zac, Warwick, Evannah & Chanel.

Raghav started with Team A but found it just wasn't for him at this time. He coped until Checkpoint 3, was brought back to the Base and had a long wait for the others to complete the course. Maybe, with a little more experience, he will manage another year. Very well done for trying though!

All home safe and sound, with smiles not too far away – that is more important.

What is just as important is the support from within 1st Tolworth to help this County event work. Our Peter walked with a team from Berrylands Troop who needed a second adult with them. Matthew & Giacomo (Young Leaders) walked with an inexperienced team from 7th Malden Troop as they again had only one adult beforehand Millie helped with sending the teams on their way then joined a Checkpoint, while another Scout Leader had to go and deal with one of her Scouts who was unwell. Keira was looking after her “other” Troop – 22nd Wimbledon but spent much of the evening escorting tired Scouts from Checkpoint 2 back to the Base. Luke & Marina (Leaders with Everest Cubs) manned the Kit Check then immediately went out to deliver a replacement Tracker to a team who had dropped theirs in the woods(!) and landed up out for the rest of the night, directing Scouts back onto the path when they landed up on a particularly dodgy bit of road. Kevin (ex. Cub Leader at 1st Tolworth) was out in his Land Rover with Graham from 22nd Wimbledon doing lots of useful tasks between the Checkpoints. John managed to keep himself busy but did not leave the base – not his intention - and of course, I was managing the CB Radios with my friend Angela from 7th Purley.

These events do not run without plenty of Leader support but 1st Tolworth often seems to do more than our share. That's because we are 1st Tolworth, and anyway, we all have a good time! Many, many thanks to you all.

District Air-gun Competition Same weekend as the Night Exercise. Some of our number were competition shooting. Three Golds for 1stTolworth!

20 yard (Under 12) Joshua

20 yard (Novice) Zac

20 yard (Over 18) Megan

What a weekend!

Expedition

In an effort to get the skills back into the Troop, we repeated our Tolworth – Polyapes – Effingham – Tolworth Overnight Expedition for the older members. Federico, Nina, Esme, Emily, Warwick & Evannah walked, ably supported by Giacomo & Matthew (Young Leaders), who ably guided and taught them through the weekend. Millie, Peter, Keira, John and me acted as support crew. A good weekend, dry weather and a lot of useful lessons learned all round.

Troop Camp at May Day Bank Holiday

A new venue for us all – Buckmore Park, near Maidstone, Kent. 9 scouts plus Matthew (Young Leader), Holly (in charge of the food), Lex, plus John and me. Activities included Caving, Mountain Biking, Air-rifles, Orienteering, plus fire-lighting, a wide game or two, Campfire, gadget-making and, of course, tent-pitching. We were lucky with the weather and everything home dry. A good weekend. Thanks to all.







Archery Nationals

Royal Kingston Scout Archery Club joined the National Competition weekend at Phasels Wood. Several members of 1st Tolworth & Atlas ESU were there. Matthew & Giacomo, Nina & Sharfin, Warwick, Alfie & Joshua as well as Keira, John and me.

We came home with three medals, all in 20 yard Target archery, two of which were from 1stTolworth / Atlas ESU. Supplied equipment.

Under 18 Giacomo Winner

Under 14 Shreya 3rd place

Good to come home with a medal or two – we don't always!

Coming soon

Christmas treat. Will try and get this booked before the summer break.

Summer Camp 23 – 30 July at Youlbury, near Oxford.

Caroline Marsden
Scout Leader
Scout Troop
Boys and Girls age 10 ½ - 14
Fridays 19.30 – 21.30
Contact: Mrs Caroline Marsden – 07889 192 765
marsden697@btinternet.com

CIRCLE REPORT

At the Group's Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 7 June, Sheila Jones, Circle member, was presented with an Award for Merit by Claire Percy, Assistant County Commissioner, Greater London South West.

This is for outstanding and dedicated service as Group Secretary and OOTB Editor over a sustained period of time.

Well done and congratulations, Sheila.

Margaret Warry, Group President and Circle Chair, was formally presented by the ACC with her Bar to the Silver Acorn for further specially distinguished service.

During the meeting I was formally asked by the Chair if I would accept the honorary position of Group Vice President. Indeed an honour in grateful thanks by 1st Tolworth for the 53 years that I have dedicated to the Group since I joined in 1969 as an Assistant Scout Leader.

Graham Warnes
Circle Treasurer/Secretary