

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

OUT

OF

**WELCOME
BACK TO
LOTS MORE
ACTIVITIES**

THE

BLUE



SCOUTS

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1040958

Group Scout Leader	John Bowman	gsl@1sttolworthscouts.org.uk
Group Chair	Martin Smith	chair1sttolworthscouts@btinternet.com
Group Secretary	Gayna Brice	1sttolworthfundraising@gmail.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

SEPTEMBER

Tue 5th Group Trustee Board meeting. Sparks Hall. 20.00 for 20.15.
 Thu 21st Circle meeting - Visit to Bognor Regis - Date to be confirmed.

OCTOBER

Tue 3rd Group Trustee Board meeting. Sparks Hall. 20.00 for 20.15.
 Thu 19th Circle meeting - Games Activity. Margaret and Graham's house.
 13.30 – 15.00.

NOVEMBER

Tue 7th Group Trustee Board meeting. Sparks Hall. 20.00 for 20.15.
 Thu 16th Circle meeting - Graham's Quiz. Margaret and Graham's house.
 13.30 – 15.00.
 Sat 18th. November Fayre. 14.00 – 16.00. Royal British Legion, Hollyfield
 Road, Surbiton KT5 9AL.

Other events and any amendments are advised by Leadership Team members and for the Circle by the Secretary/Treasurer.

All contributions for the **November** issue of **OOTB** to be delivered

by 11TH October

to

Gayna Brice E-mail: 1sttolworthfundraising@gmail.com

GSL'S REPORT

Wow! What a difference a year makes! This time last year we had temperatures over 40c, water rationing, roads melting and wildfires! So far this year we have had the hottest June on record and that is it, and just loads of rain!

1st Tolworth has carried on regardless (isn't that a film?) and continued Scouting. I want to say a massive thankyou to Courtney who without her help we would have a real problem keeping the Beaver Colony going! Courtney is taking a step back due to family and work commitments which makes it hard for her to get to Beavers in time on a Friday. She is not leaving and will still be part of the Colony when she can get there so we will still see her from time to time.

I am pleased to say that Michelle Nicholls has agreed to accept the role of Beaver Leader. Michelle has an amazing amount to offer as she is also a Brownie Leader in Guides. Michelle will have a lot to learn about Scouting but as a Guider she is used to working with young people. Peter is continuing with Beavers and will help Michelle to learn the ropes!

The Beaver Colony is growing with an expected five new young people joining on the first Friday back. Good luck to the team and hope it all goes well! Please can I ask you to support Michelle and Peter as much as possible.

Luke and Marina are doing a brilliant job with Everest Cub Pack even though there have been some behaviour issues before summer, which I hope are now behind us! I would also like to wish Marina a speedy recovery as she has to go into hospital for an operation the day before Cubs return so unfortunately she won't be there for the first meeting. We also need to wish Luke all the best as he is revising hard for exams he has soon!

Caroline took the Troop on summer camp to Somerset and I know they had an amazing time, but I will let her tell you about that in her report!

I look forward to seeing everyone in September.

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

GROUP CHAIR'S REPORT

When you read this the summer holidays will be over and we will be starting another year of Scouting. Summer camps are a distant memory and the year ahead something to look forward to. I hope you all enjoyed the summer break and managed to recharge your batteries and made the most of the good weather.

As the reports are required two weeks before publication I am writing this report in the middle of August. Hopefully, there are still some warm sunny days left before the end of the break.

Not everyone has been relaxing and taking it easy over the summer break. Our Scout Troop have been on their yearly summer camp, only made possible by our leaders giving up their time to do this. Well done and thank you to Scout Troop Leader Caroline, Assistant Scout Troop Leaders and all the Young Leaders that helped make the camp possible. I am looking forward to reading Caroline's report.

November Fayre:

Although it's only September the Group November Fayre, which is the Group's main fundraiser for the year, is only three months away and will be upon us in no time. It will be on Saturday 18th November from 14.00 at the Royal British Legion, Hollyfield Road, Surbiton KT5 9AL. We hope to have the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames attending to officially open the Fayre. Please do come along and support the Group at this event. I hope to see you there. *See Page 14 For Full Details*

You may have heard that Reverend Helen Hancock is leaving St. Matthew's and taking on the post of Resident Minister at St John's Churt & Rushmoor in Guildford Diocese. In her own words, she and Simon will be sad to leave St. Matthew's but they are looking forward to the opportunity for a better work life balance and excited to take on a fresh chapter of ministry with new opportunities and challenges.

In December 2012, I was fortunate to be invited to St Mathew's church when Helen was invested as Team Rector. It's hard to believe it's been over ten years. How the time has flown! Over those years we, the Scout Group, have been very fortunate to have such an accommodating person in Helen, always supported by her husband Simon, in the Services that have been held at St Matthew's on behalf of the Scout Group. I personally will miss her and the friendship we have, also missed will be her boundless enthusiasm at the services held for the Scouts.

So on behalf of 1st Tolworth (St. Matthew's) Scout Group I would like to thank Helen for her most valued support. I'm sure that St John's Churt & Rushmoor will soon realise how lucky they are to have Helen and Simon joining them. Wishing you both all the best for the future.

My usual September Reminder:

I'm sure you are all aware of this however, but please bear in mind our neighbours when you drop off or collect your children. Please do not park in such a way that our immediate neighbours have no room to reverse in or out of their driveway. Pyne Road is quite narrow and there is not much room for turning. Please also remember that Picton Place is a private access road and should not be used for parking. Thanking you for your continued support.

That's it for this month.

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

THAMES BEAVER SCOUT REPORT

NO REPORT

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

EVEREST CUB SCOUT REPORT

NO REPORT

Cub Scout Leader
Everest Cub Scout Pack
Boys and Girls age 8 – 10 ½
Wednesdays 18.30 – 20.00

SCOUT TROOP REPORT

Hi everyone!

I hope that you have had a super summer break, but all good things have to come to an end and we are now back to reality! Lots to look forward to this autumn but, writing this in the middle of August, I am not quite sure what they are!

I'll just tell you what we have been doing since the last edition!

Comings & Goings

We invested Misha and Naomi in July and hope to get Ezgi and Charlotte into uniform in early September.

Warwick, Lucy, Evannah and Naomi will be progressing up to Atlas ESU in the autumn but we have presentations before that.

Warwick and Lucy have both gained their Chief Scout's Gold and Evannah should be there too, after the holidays. It all involves making a chair for her Personal Challenge, and this takes time and Dad's assistance. Sounds brilliant and I can't wait to see the pictures!

Presentations planned for Friday 22 September at the end of Scouts. Well done to all three of you, and, of course, your parents!

Friday evenings

We escaped outdoors once more to the Dustbowl in Oxshott Woods for some Tracking and other team games. Complicated evening as, unbeknown to me, they were starting roadworks that evening, just outside the Dustbowl Car Park. First I knew of it was heavy lorries arriving and parking just outside, blocking the Car Park entrance! Some poor parents had trouble

getting to us, with roads closed and plenty of confusion. The workmen did let us out eventually. Sorry folks! Should have had that Crystal Ball turned on sooner!

Strategy

Strategy is an annual national event run in Cirencester Park. Stuart, Alex and I went to support them and join in the fun. Here is view of the site to give you an idea!

Lucy has written up the story of the weekend:



Strategy is a wide event in which many Scout Troops and Guide Groups take part in and we were lucky to be a part of it this year. We arrived on Friday, and camped for two nights over the weekend, along with many other groups. We had the privilege of meeting new people, practising and honing skills, and taking part in an array of fun events. The event was hosted in Cirencester, and over 600 people took part.

1. Friday evening

We left our Scout hall at around 6pm and began the journey to Strategy. We planned our route cards for the next day and began to discuss our plans in groups of how many checkpoints we were planning to go to the next day. We also had fun singing “Sweet Caroline”.

We arrived at the campsite at 9pm and we walked to find somewhere to set up camp. Me, Warwick and Evannah organised the setting up in order to help towards our Chief Scout's Gold Awards. However, we discovered as we were setting up that the group near us still had some tents to put up. So, we moved our tents forward and the leaders got chatting to one of their leaders. They found out that the leader from the Bristol Scout group near us used to live in New Malden and had only moved west to work on the animation for the film "Chicken Run".

After our tents had been set up, we headed out onto the field to explore the park. It was great to walk around in the dark for a while and we had a fun time running around. Then we went to bed.

2. Saturday

On Saturday morning, we got called down to breakfast at different times based on the colour of the wristbands we were given. We had bacon/sausage baps for breakfast and they were really nice.

The weather was amazing so we collected our packed lunches and put lots of suncream on. Once we were ready, we headed down to where all the groups were, and we were instructed on the activity we were preparing for the night before. We were split into two groups. Me, Alfie, Emmie, Lee, and Evannah, Josh, Jonah, Emilia, Warwick. We were to find various checkpoints along a map and try to complete challenges at them to the best of our ability, in order to score points.

Caroline, Alex & Stuart were out on a Checkpoint, doing a mainly "sitting down" job!



Different checkpoints were worth different points, either 50, 100, or 150. We had to try lots of unique challenges, for example following a course blindfolded or discovering we needed to pick up litter, rock climbing or rifle shooting. We began at about 8.30/9am, and arrived back at around 5pm! It was a long day but an extremely enjoyable experience!

In the evening we had the choice between meatballs or chicken curry – the food was so nice! We also got the opportunity to buy souvenirs from the shop and food at the café. In the evening they played music and we had a great time dancing and singing.



3. Sunday

On Sunday morning the winners of the challenge the day before were announced, and then we got to enjoy a fair, they put up bouncy inflatables, zorbs and go karts! I had to leave early but I got to experience some of it! Everyone else then packed up and went home in the minivan.

Thanks are due to all the leaders for taking us, especially to Stuart for doing all the driving.

Summer Camp

Last week of July at Huish Woods Scout Campsite, near Taunton, Somerset.

Ten of our Scouts (Alfie, Joshua, Chanel, Reuben, Tom, Emilia, Lee, Jonah, Vinnie & Misha), plus Nathan, Emma and Gabriela from 4th Tolworth.

Four Young Leaders (Ella, Esme, Alice and Lucy).

Eight leaders – Stuart & Alex, Peter & Keira, Millie, Tia from 4th, John and myself, plus Luke & Marina joined us for Sunday & Monday.

Weather not too bad. Wet on Saturday evening – tents were only half up when it started but only a few short showers after that. We were lucky.

Site was smaller than we really wanted but that was just how things worked out. They were preparing for a big Guide event during the whole of the following week so that was it!



On site we did Climbing, Shooting & Orienteering.

Of course there was cooking on fires, sleeping in tents, wide games and campfires.

We went on a hike which was a little difficult due to a field with an electric fence blocking the route but we made new friends who gave the Scouts a cold drink while the Leaders came and found them. Tia and I tried to get through from the other side of the electric fence and failed. So not any of our faults!

Off site we went caving at Cheddar – not just the tourist bit. Boiler suits, wellies, hard hats and lights were in order to get through small spaces and dark holes in the rocks. Pretty brave!

We went to Flip Out Trampoline Park for lots of jumping and Laser Tag.

There was High Ropes in Taunton. Lots of walking on ropes high in the air plus getting down again by abseiling and power fans then onto Brean to cool off in the Leisure Pool for flumes and swimming.

We ended up doing some Shooting & Archery to help other Groups who were camping there at the same time. Thanks to Peter, Millie, Alex & Tia for making that happen.

Big “Thank You’s” to Julie who drove the van down to get our equipment to camp and to Chris who drove it to bring us home again. Couldn’t have done it without you.

Thanks due to Stuart & Millie for all the minibus driving, Peter, Alex and Millie for all the cooking, Keira for the First Aid and the whole team for being there to make the whole camp happen!







Coming soon

Not sure what is happening before then but...

Summer Camp 2024 – An International Camp at Braggers Wood near Christchurch.

Saturdays 27 July - 3 August.

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

On Sunday 16 July four members of the Circle visited Borde Hill Garden, near Haywards Heath. It is a Grade 2 listed landscape with stunning views.

On arrival we enjoyed coffee and cake followed a couple of hours later with a light lunch.

From 13.00-15.00 we listened to Music in the Garden. The 5 piece Sussex-based Collective of seasoned musicians, called Caveau, played jazz, blues and beats. They recreated the atmosphere of a Parisian jazz cellar. The female lead singer had a lovely voice.

The music was great, finger tapping and foot tapping. There was an appreciative audience who requested an encore and got two!

Afterwards we had a stroll around the garden and then went to the shop.

The weather was very windy and at times we had to hold on to our hats!

Graham Warnes.
Treasurer and Secretary

UNIFORMS – HELPING WITH THE COST OF LIVING

We have in stock various items of uniform for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Please speak to your child's Leader as the stock is kept at Sparks Hall. Thank you.

We also accept donations of unwanted uniforms.

Brenda Pawley
Group Trustee

POSTAGE STAMPS

The Charity Dog A.I.D. (Assistance in Disability) is collecting Great Britain and International stamps. They request that they are cut from envelopes, leaving about 1cm/1/4" of paper around each stamp. Thanks for doing this.

Please leave them in the box in the kitchen at Sparks Hall.

Margaret Warry
Group President

NOVEMBER FAYRE

This year's November Fayre will be held on Saturday 18th November from 2pm till 4pm at The Royal British Legion, Surbiton.

Royal British Legion, Hollyfield Road, Surbiton KT5 9AL

Since Graham and Margaret have retired from running the Jumble Sales and selling at Boot Fairs on behalf of the group this really is our main fundraiser of the year. Money raised goes towards the Annual running costs of the Group and helps us to keep your weekly subs from being increased.

We ask that you all (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Parents/guardians) support this event as much as you can. There are many ways that you can get involved on the run up to the Fayre as well as ensuring you and your children are available on the day to attend and help on the stalls.

The more people we have volunteering the less everyone has to do and all of us can enjoy the Fun of the Fayre. So please put the date in your diary and watch out for the emails from the Leaders that will give more information on how you can help.

You can expect us to be asking for donations of the following types of items so if you are having a clear out please consider giving them items to us:
Good condition Books, Toys, Jigsaws, Teddies, Kitchen items, ornaments, unwanted gifts, unused toiletries, Jewellery.

Nearer the time there will be Mufti evenings where we will ask for donations of Bottles or Sweets that can be used on the Tombola stalls.

On the day we will ask for volunteers to help us set up (from about 11am), help on the stalls during the event and clear up from 4pm.

If anyone has any ideas of ways we can make the Fayre a success or would be interested in helping us sort through donations, advertise the event etc please do get in touch.

Gayna, Brenda, Fiona, Terry
November Fayre Sub Committee
1stTolworthfundraising@gmail.com