
1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

FOUNDED 1908

REGISTERED 5TH MARCH 1909

Sparks Hall, Pyne Road, Tolworth, KT6 7BN

OUT OF

NOVEMBER

FAYRE

SATURDAY

18TH NOVEMBER

2PM – 4PM

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
Group President	Margaret Warry	margaret.warry@blueyonder.co.uk
Vice President	Graham Warnes	graham.warnes@blueyonder.co.uk
Circle Chair	Margaret Warry	margaret.warry@blueyonder.co.uk

Diary of Events

NOVEMBER

- Tue 7th 20.00 for 20.15 - Group Trustee Board meeting - Sparks Hall
 Sun 12th 11.00 - Remembrance Day Parade, Surbiton War Memorial
 Thu 16th 13.30 – 15.00 - Circle meeting - Graham’s Quiz - Margaret and Graham's house
 Sat 18th 14.00 -16.00 - November Fayre - Royal British Legion, Hollyfield Road, Surbiton KT5 9AL - Parking and Bar available
 Sun 19th. County Cooking competition

DECEMBER

- Tue 5th 20.00 for 20.15 - Group Trustee Board meeting - Sparks Hall
 Fri 8th - Sun 10th Scout Troop Christmas Camp, Bentley Copse
 Mon 11th 13.30 - Circle meeting. Christmas Lunch. Margaret and Graham’s house

JANUARY

- Tue 9th **GROUP EXECUTIVE SOCIAL EVENING** for members and a guest. Royal British Legion. 19.30.

All contributions for the January 2024 issue of OOTB to be delivered to Gayna by

11th December 2023

GSL'S REPORT

Since we have come back from the summer break a lot has been going on!

The sections are working hard on their badges, and some have already been presented.

The Beaver Colony is doing great and always seem to be enjoying the evening! On the last Friday before the summer break the Beavers had a very special guest come along to join them, Sir Ed Davey and Cllr Andrew Wooldridge! Ed was very keen to meet and join in with a section from a Royal Kingston Scout Group and I am very pleased to say he chose 1st Tolworth!

The Beavers that evening were doing soft archery and showed Ed how it was done! He did try his hand but the Beavers still beat him. Ed's companion, Tolworth Ward Councillor Andrew Wooldridge, also had a go but was no match for the 1st Tolworth Beavers!!

Ed and Andrew spent time talking to the Beavers and the Leaders and finding out what they enjoyed most about Scouts. Ed is a huge supporter of Scouting, especially in Royal Kingston and was himself a Cub Scout and a Scout.



I am very pleased to say that Ed also agreed to be an honorary member of 1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group. At the end of the meeting, I invested Ed as a member and he reaffirmed his Scout Promise. I also presented him with our Royal Blue Scarf and explained that he was now a member of one of the oldest Scout Groups in existence. Scouting started in 1907 and 1st Tolworth was registered in 1909 but did start before this.



I want to say a huge thank you to all the parents who have been helping Michelle and Peter recently when one of them has not been able to be there. It really makes a huge difference with the parent support! I suspect this may be needed more in the future as I know we have a lot to join from our waiting list.

Luke and Marina continue to build the Cub Pack and are working hard on badges. Over the next 3 months they will have three who will move up from Beavers. Rayaan has just made the next big step up to Scouts and I wish him the very best for the next stage of his Scouting adventure!

As the Cub Pack grows, they will probably need extra help. If you are free to come along and help that would be great. Maybe you could organise a Parent Helper Rota?

The Scouts continue to do their thing!

The Troop continues to grow and goes from strength to strength! There are currently about 30 Scouts! As they reach 14 years, most are moving to Atlas Explorer Unit which is based at 1st Tolworth so Atlas is becoming a thriving Explorer Unit.

A couple of weeks ago Caroline asked me to present three Chief Scout's Gold Awards which I was very happy to do! The three Scouts were Warwick, Evannah and Lucy. Warwick originally was a 6th Tolworth Scout who joined us a little while before COVID struck as 6th Tolworth at that time did not have a Scout Troop and stayed through lockdown.

When 6T Troop restarted, Warwick was asked if he wanted to stay at 1T or go back to 6T. He thought long and hard and decided to stay at 1T. I am pleased to say that Warwick has been an excellent Scout and Patrol Leader and it is amazing to see how much he has changed and grown into the person he is!

Evannah and Lucy have not come through Scouting but joined from Guiding or with no real understanding of what Scouts are. Both have had to work hard to learn about being a Scout and what it means and I am pleased to say that they both achieved this and became excellent patrol leaders.

Their names will be added to the Chief Scout's Gold Award shield. When Caroline counted the number of awards that had been presented in the 21 years since she became Scout Leader, it was an amazing 61 Scouts! A lot of Groups struggle to get the Gold Awards presented so I want to say a huge thank you to Caroline for helping the young people to complete this award.

We will soon be having the opportunity to pay our respects at the Remembrance Day service. I would like to ask you to try and attend and all the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to represent 1st Tolworth with smart uniforms. The service is at Surbiton War Memorial near Surbiton Library but will leave from the Royal British Legion Surbiton in Hollyfield Road. Please be there by 10.00 on Sunday 12th November.

Hopefully, most of you are aware that our Group November Fayre will be here soon on the 18th November.

If you can help, please contact any fundraising committee member. Details on our website. 1sttolworthscouts.org.uk

If you have anything we can use for raffle prizes or tombola that would be great. Please look out for the raffle tickets our Young People will be bringing home and help sell them to family and friends.

Thank you for all you do.

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

GROUP CHAIR'S REPORT

Not much to report this month. The normal yearly safety checks on the fire extinguishers went ahead without any issues.

It's hard to believe that the Hall is nearly 30 years old and although in good condition, will in the next couple of years need some serious maintenance. Not a surprise but something to be aware of.

Our new Beaver Leader, Michelle Nicholls, has been with us for a while and has settled in well and doing a grand job. She is a most welcome and valued addition to the 1st Tolworth (St. Matthew's) Scout Group family.

Not sure how many of you knew or remember Frank Joyce. Frank was one of those quiet people in the background who helped out from time to time with the Group. Sadly, Frank passed away on 16th August and the service to celebrate his life was held at St George's at 3:15pm on Friday 1st September. He was a member of the Group Circle and a good friend to the late Pat Frith. I always found him to be the perfect gentleman. Such a nice man. The service was well attended and we passed on our condolences to his daughter Nicky and family.

In the September issue I reported that Reverend Helen Hancock was leaving St. Matthew's Church for another position. Her last Service was held on 1st October. Following that service I, along with many others, had the opportunity to say goodbye and thank Helen and Simon. I presented Helen with a certificate which said:

WITH THANKS

Presented to Reverend Helen Hancock 1st October 2023

In recognition for the support she has given 1st Tolworth (St. Matthew's) Scout Group

I also presented Simon and Helen with a "With Thanks" Scout pin badge each.

So, standing in front of the congregation in a packed Church (not something I ever imagined I would be doing) I thanked Helen for the services she had held for the Scout Group. I related one of my fondest memories which was actually at a funeral. When Heather Mason, our Group Scout Leader at the time, died in 2016 she had listed the order of service she required. One of the hymns, which was one of Heather's favourite songs, was the action song My God is a great big God. This was not the sort of song you would expect at a funeral and anyone walking past would not have thought it was a funeral at all, with all the mourners singing My God is a great big God and performing all the actions that go along with this beautiful song. It did raise a few smiles.

We wish Helen and Simon all the best for the future.

Don't forget the November Fayre.

This year the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, Cllr Diane White, has kindly agreed to attend and formally open the Fayre. The November Fayre as you know is our main yearly fundraiser and if you haven't been to one you should come along. Come and meet the Mayor. Come and have a chat, bring the family and enjoy a pleasant social afternoon at The Royal British Legion, Hollyfield Road Surbiton KT5 9AL.

Saturday 18th November 14.00 to 16.00.

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

THAMES Beaver Scout REPORT

The Beaver Colony has been very busy since starting back in September! The numbers are growing and our first week back included a special visit from our local MP Ed Davey. That evening we did soft archery and had a mini competition which every beaver tried and really enjoyed!! I'm not sure which team won as it was so close! Ed joined in the archery too as did his councillor who attended with him. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves with the Colony. Since then we have been doing some badge work. The beavers created plasticine castles as part of the creative badge. See photos of the fantastic imaginative models they made!







We then had a coding night where the beavers came up with their own codes for the alphabet and then used their imaginations again to create their very own comic strip superhero. Please take a look at the boards which we have updated to show off the beavers work!

The beavers are always full of enthusiasm and energy so the weeks wouldn't be the same without a good old games night, and an extra special thank you to the mum who volunteered to help when I couldn't be there due to work commitments. It's great to have such supportive parents volunteering to step in for an evening!!

Plans for the rest of the term include some spookiness and lots more badge work after half term!!

Michelle Nicholls
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.

Luke and Marina
Cub Scout Leaders
Everest Cub Scout Pack
Boys and Girls age 8 – 10 ½
Wednesdays 18.30 – 20.00

SCOUT TROOP REPORT

Hi everyone!

Here we are, back after the summer and the weather is, once more, interfering with our plans. However, we are keeping busy and doing some useful activities.

Comings & Goings

We haven't done too well with investitures but we are working on that task.

Lenny has joined us – previously a Cub at 2nd Tolworth and Rayaan has come up from Everest Pack. We are pleased to have them both on board.

Evannah managed to make her chair in the summer holidays, to complete her Chief Scout's Gold Award. We had a Presentation at the end of September to Warwick, Lucy and Evannah. Big congratulations to all three of them, and to their parents who, I know, supported and encouraged them to gain the top award that you can achieve while in the Troop. Thanks also to everyone who was there on the night to join us in celebrating their success.

Evannah, Lucy, Warwick and Naomi have all disappeared from the Troop to join Atlas ESU. We wish them success and lots of fun there!

Unfortunately, Misha has left us because it is just too difficult to travel here regularly from further into London. We hope that he finds a new Scout Troop and enjoys himself with them!

Friday Evenings

Some people still have a few things to do to complete Pioneer Badge so we did a bit of rope coiling, knotting & splicing.

We have tried to get down to Polyapes to do some fire-lighting and have a campfire with S'mors but every time we have it planned ... it rains and what's more, we have Yellow Weather Warnings for rain, not just a few showers. Grrrrrrrrrrrrrr. So, we have been indoors more than we planned.

This term, we have been working on Fire Safety Badge. We have considered the dangers involved in fires outdoors (even if we haven't had the chance to light any. (Grrrrrr again!) We have looked at smoke detectors and where we ought to site them and which Fire Extinguisher should be used on what sort of fire. We have even involved our families in planning how we would get everyone out of the house if the worst happened and there was a fire in the middle of the night. Frightening prospect and I hope it doesn't happen to anyone, but what a sensible thing to include in the syllabus!

Jamie organised a Cooking Competition and each Patrol cooked a different dish. We even just about got cleared up in time before the parents arrived! We judged them on teamwork, hygiene, presentation and tidying up, as well as the standard of cooking and, bravely judged by Alex, the taste! Kingfisher Patrol won but it was very close for all the other places!

Kingfisher – Sticky Beef.



Woodpecker - Veggie Chilli



Eagle – Chicken Chow Mein.



Owl – Sausage Pasta



Raven -Thai-style Pork Rice



Now I feel hungry all over again!

Next plans:

- Remembrance Day Parade Sunday 12 November
- November Fayre Saturday 18 November
- County Cooking Competition Sunday 19 November (Looks like a busy weekend!)
- Christmas Camp at Bentley Copse 8 -10 December
- Christmas Treat What will the Scouts decide to do?
- Camp dates for 2024 out soon.

**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**

RIFLE CLUB

The Rifle Shooting club has a steady group of scouts and cubs alike. Teaching them the skills, respect and enjoyment of target shooting with both S200s and Gamo Deltas. One of our members Joshua Nicholls was awarded Silver in 6yr Rifle and Pistol. Congratulations Joshua. Overall he managed to get Top Shot in the Royal Kingston District Shooting Competition.

With 3 dedicated instructors, we are able to coach each child to advance their shooting ability. If you want your child to participate you are welcome on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 19.00. At Sparks Hall. Sessions cost £2.50 per session and require a parental permission form to be completed. Full safety briefing and training is provided.

Alex O'Sullivan
Assistant Section Leader Scouts.

CIRCLE REPORT

The funeral of Frank Joyce took place at St. George's Church on 1st September. He was 91 years of age. Members of the Circle and the Board of Trustees attended.

Frank had been a member for a few years and was noted for joining in the meetings and visits whenever he could. God Bless.

On Thursday 21 September six members visited Bognor Regis. It was a pleasant day, cloudy with sunny periods, although there was a continuous mild wind. The four who travelled by car were met by Brenda and Michael who were on holiday there.

After morning coffee Margaret and Graham spent a little time reminiscing about some highlights of their respective careers.

Lunch followed with three ordering very fresh cod, chips and peas and three ordering scampi, chips and peas.

Various drinks were enjoyed.

Afterwards we strolled along the esplanade, played with the slot machines on the pier and were lucky to win some prizes.

Ice creams followed and later on we had tea and cake. Finally, a visit to the local shops meant purchases.....

A great day.

Graham Warnes
Circle Secretary

NOVEMBER FAYRE

This year's November Fayre will be held on Saturday 18th November from 14.00 till 16.00 at The Royal British Legion, Surbiton. This 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.

Please don't forget to return the raffle tickets, either unsold or stubs with cash, to your Leaders or to the Fayre.



November Fayre

Come along to our Group's Fayre

- Meet the leaders and Exec members
- Play some table top games and tombola's
- Browse our stalls
- Take your chance on the raffle or lucky envelope game

Saturday 18th November 2023
2pm - 4pm
The Royal British Legion,
Surbiton

www.1sttolworthscouts.org.uk
charity No. 1040958

1st Tolworth
1st Tolworth



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

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**