
1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

FOUNDED 1908

REGISTER 5TH MARCH 1909

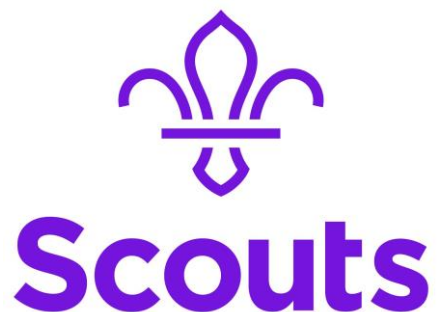
Sparks Hall, Pyne Road, Tolworth, KT6 7BN

OUT OF



St George's Day
Service and
Group Awards
Sunday 21st April

THE BLUE



Registered Charity Number: 1040958

March 2024

www.1sttolworthscouts.org.uk

ISSUE No. 607

Group Section Leader	John Bowman	gsl@1sttolworthscouts.org.uk
Chairman	Martin Smith	chair1sttolworthscouts@btinternet.com
Secretary	Gayna Brice	1sttolworthfundraising@gmail.com
Group President	Margaret Warry	margaret.warry@blueyonder.co.uk
Vise Group President	Graham Warnes	graham.warnes@blueyonder.co.uk
Circle Chairperson	Margaret Warry	margaret.warry@blueyonder.co.uk

Diary of Events

MARCH

- Tue 5th 20.00 for 20.15 - Group Trustee Board meeting - Sparks Hall
- 16/17th. County Night Exercise, Polyapes (Scouts)
- Thu 21 13.30-15.00 - Circle Meeting - Margaret's talk on the history of tea and coffee. Margaret and Graham's house.
- 23/24 Overnight Expedition, Polyapes (Scouts)

APRIL

- Tue 2nd 20.00 for 20.15 - Group Trustee Board meeting - Sparks Hall
- Sat 13th 18.30 for 19.00 - Bunny Race Night - Sparks Hall
- Thu 18th 13.30-15.00 - Circle Meeting. Family Fortunes game. M and G's house
- Sun 21st 15.00, St George's day Service, St Matthews Church
Followed by the Awards Ceremony, The Royal British Legion.

MAY

- Tue 7th 20.00 for 20.15 - Group Trustee Board meeting - Sparks Hall
- Thu 16th 13.30-15.00 - Circle Meeting. TBA. M and G's house.

All contributions for the May issue of OOTB to be delivered to Gayna by 20 April 2024

GSL'S REPORT

I hope you are all enjoying the half-term break even though the weather has not been the best!

Leading up to this week since last year, some members of our group have been working very hard to put on the GLSW Gang Show. We've had Leaders and Scouts taking part and parents helping backstage to put on a brilliant show, congratulations and well done to all of them!

The Beaver colony is doing great! We regularly get requests to join, and we have a waiting list which is now slowly going down. Michelle and Peter and the Young Leaders do a brilliant job each week, well done! Are there any parents willing to help set up a regular parent rota to help? It would help the Leaders enormously if they knew someone extra would be there, it could be worked through the parent WhatsApp group.

As most of you know, Luke and Marina stepped in to run the Cub Pack when Megan moved away. I knew that this would be for a short time as Luke and Marina are planning their marriage and also looking to move out of the area. Luke informed me and the Cub parents a couple of weeks ago that he and Marina will be stepping down as Cub Leaders at the end of February. This is because Luke has now finished his apprenticeship and his workload has increased which means he is finding it harder to be at Cubs for 6.30.

I want to thank both of them for all the hard work they have put into running the Cub Pack and helping all the Cubs enjoy their scouting adventure! I am sure you will all join me in wishing Luke and Marina all the very best for their future together.

As Luke mentioned to the Cub parents there is someone who has volunteered to join the Leadership team and help run the pack. This person has not been a Scout before but has come through Guiding. When she turned 18, she said to me she would like to help, obviously with school she will be very busy with exams and so on. Matthew will continue to be a Young Leader, but he is in the same position with exams.

I will do as much as I can to help but I can't guarantee to be there each week and I don't want to have to cancel meetings!

If anyone can help run the cub pack on a regular basis or help with a parent rota on a regular basis, PLEASE let me know by email at gsl@1sttolworthscouts.org.uk or call 07920 085098.

The Scout troop are carrying on in their own indomitable way and continue to thrive. As scouts leave, they are moving to Atlas the explorer unit at 1st Tolworth which is working really well.

As it says on the poster, we will be having a Bunny Race Night on Saturday 13th April. Please hop along and support the group to raise funds, everyone is welcome! (No bunnies will be harmed or mistreated during the race!)



As you know St George's day is a very important day in Scouting, it is the day when all Leaders, Explorer Scouts, Scouts, Cub Scouts and Beaver Scouts and anyone who has been a member of the association re affirm their promise.

We will be doing this again this year at St Matthews Church on Sunday 21st April at 3pm. During the service we will make a collection which will go to a charity. This year I have chosen "[United Nations Population Fund](#)". The UNFPA does an amazing amount of work over a wide range of topics. I would like to centre on one particular topic which is Emergency Birth Kits.

An 'Emergency Birth Kit' can save lives when women are forced to deliver their babies under challenging conditions. These kits contain the supplies needed to prevent infection during childbirth, one of the leading causes of maternal mortality globally. If you can't make the service but would still like to donate, please put it in an envelope and give it to your child's section leader marked for my attention.

After the service we will all go back to the Royal British Legion for our annual awards ceremony, there will be soft drinks and biscuits for the Young People and the bar will be open for the "Older" people! Please join us and show your support to the children as they won't know if they have won anything. This is also your chance to meet all the section leaders.

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

GROUP CHAIR'S REPORT

I hope you all enjoyed the Half Term Week in February.

You may remember we held an Easter Bunny Race Night last year. This was a success and many people have asked if we could do it again. Due to other commitments we will be holding this event after Easter so it will be a Bunny Race Night. This is the perfect opportunity to come along, have some fun and help raise funds for the Scout Group.

Children take turns throwing the large dice to make the Easter Bunny run. This is a fun for all the family event so children must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday 13th April; Sparks Hall. 18:30 for 19.00. Prompt 22.00 finish.

Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

No admission fee. No unaccompanied children.

Also fast approaching is St Georges Day and as you know this is the day when all Scouts, renew their promise. Once again we are privileged to be able to hold a short service at St. Matthew's Church.

This will be on Sunday 21st April please don't forget that this is where we all get the chance to show how proud we are of 1st Tolworth (St. Matthew's) Scout Group. As always the Service will be followed by the usual yearly awards presentations held at the Surbiton Royal British Legion.

Further information and arrangements for this years' St George's Day Service and the awards presentations will come from your Section Leaders.

At the last Trustee Board Meeting [Used to be The Executive Committee Meeting] the subject of monthly subs was discussed. As with all clubs and associations running costs have risen over the years, we have not been exempt from increasing costs, and although we have managed to carry on absorbing these additional costs, with no increase to our Subs since April 2014 it was decided that a small increase would be necessary.

So from September 2024 the Monthly subs will increase to £12.50.

The next edition of Out Of The Blue will be in May; this will be the Group's Annual Report and will give you all time to read how the group is performing before the Annual General Meeting to which you are all invited to attend.

The Group AGM will be held on Tuesday 4th June 8pm at Sparks Hall.

All dates for March, April and May events are on the "Diary Of Events Page".

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

THAMES Beaver Scout REPORT

Since returning to Beavers after Christmas we have increased numbers again, we said goodbye to 3 beavers who swam up to cubs, and welcomed a few new beavers who are welcome members of the colony!

We are going through our waiting list and hoping to increase numbers further from Easter. We have also been busy this term, the beavers have learnt a number of new skills from rolling their own scarves and setting an alarm to hand washing and kitchen safety! All going towards their challenge badges!

They have also had fun using the climbing wall at the hall for bouldering which the beavers were really good at, so will have to give that another go soon!! At the end of term we were all able to tuck into some yummy pancakes and a big thank you goes out to Gayna for coming down and helping that evening!!

After half term we will be carrying on working on our challenge badges, some Easter craft and doing a little building along the way!

Michell Nicholls
Beaver Scout Leader
Thames Beaver Scout Colony
Boys and Girls age 5 ³/₄ - 8
Fridays 17.45 – 18.45

EVEREST Cub Scout REPORT

Cub Scout Leader
Everest Cub Scout Pack
Boys and Girls age 8 – 10 ¹/₂
Wednesdays 18.30 – 20.00

SCOUT TROOP REPORT

Hi everyone!

Comings & Goings:

We have been joined by Lois from 2nd Hook Cub Pack and by Thejas from 12th Hitchen, as his family have recently moved to our area. We are pleased to have them with us. We invested both of them as 1st Tolworth Scouts around a campfire at Southwood last Friday evening.

Friday evenings:

It seems to have been a really short first half of the term. We played games and sorted out new Patrol Leaders & Assistant Patrol Leaders on the first night back. There was a bit of a shuffle around but the new PLs are Joshua, Alfie, Reuben and Tom. The newly chosen APLs are Thomas and Xander.

Jamie master-minded working on Chef Badge. The Patrols planned a menu for a whole weekend, then chose dishes from their weekend to cook. They discussed shopping and storage of food. Then they spent an evening cooking the two dishes and we had a competition, judged on team-work, preparation, & clearing-up afterwards. Brave leaders assessed the food cooked on taste, texture & edibility. Kingfishers won the competition, but only just ... Unfortunately, Eagles only managed to cook one of their chosen dishes so they will have another go at cooking.



Some of Atlas Explorers kindly ran an evening of Video Games.

We had a Badge testing evening at Half-Term for those who are seriously working on Chief Scout's Gold.

We went down to Southwood for an evening but, as usual, we managed to pick an evening that was wet! We did some teaching on the safe use of Axes, Saws and knives, as well as theory of lighting fires but everything was too damp to do much practical stuff. Peter and his team managed to get a fire going but not easy as dry wood was in short supply. Flames enough for investitures but not soon enough for them to turn to embers for S'mores before it was time to go home.

White Spider, our Christmas Treat:

The Scouts decided that they wanted to go Climbing at White Spider for our Christmas Treat. Unfortunately, White Spider couldn't accommodate us all in one session, and not on a Friday at all. So we had an extra meeting on two Thursdays, to go Climbing. Thank you 1stTolworth. We had a great time!





Next plans:

County Night Exercise at Polyapes 16/17 March.

Overnight Expedition 23/24 March Polyapes

St. George's Day Parade Sunday 21 April

Summer Camp at Braggers Wood. July 27 to August 3.

Deposits paid for a few. Anyone else want to come ?

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

Members enjoyed the Christmas meeting at our house in December. The main course was finger food including quiche, pork pies, sausage rolls, grapes, corned beef and cucumber followed by lemon tart, red velvet cake and Bucks Fizz. Afterwards there was the usual exchange of Christmas cards and cups of tea.

There wasn't a meeting in January. In February we held our Annual General Meeting with five members present.

Included were the annual reports from the Chair and the Treasurer followed by their re-election, together with the Independent Examiner. There were 15 suggestions put forward for outdoor visits without too much walking involved. These will be discussed at future meetings.

Our indoor March and April meetings were formally agreed. March is a talk on the history of tea and coffee by Margaret and April's is a jolly romp playing Family Fortunes.

Graham Warnes
Circle Treasurer and Secretary

A yellow poster for a 'Bunny Race Night' fundraiser. At the top, there are silhouettes of two rabbits jumping and a pair of bunny ears. Below this is a white rounded rectangle containing the event details. The text is in blue and black. At the bottom of the poster is the Scouts logo and contact information for 1st Tolworth (St Matthew's).

BUNNY RACE NIGHT

Come along to our fun fundraiser

- Free entry
- Roll the dice to race the rabbit
- Sponsor your favourite rabbit or place a bet

Saturday 13th April
Doors open - 6.30pm
First race - 7pm
Sparks Hall

10 Pyne Rd, KT6 7BN

- Bring your own drink and snacks
- All children must be accompanied by an adult
- Finish at 10pm

Scouts
1st Tolworth
(St Matthew's)
Registered Charity: 1040958

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**