
1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

FOUNDED 1908

REGISTERED 5TH MARCH 1909

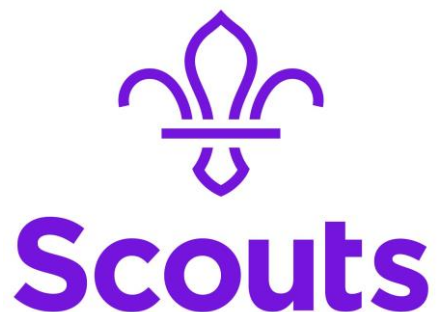
Sparks Hall, Pyne Road, Tolworth, KT6 7BN

OUT OF



November
Fayre
Saturday
15th
November

THE BLUE



Registered Charity Number: 1040958

September 2025

www.1sttolworthscouts.org.uk

ISSUE No. 616

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Circle Chairperson	Margaret Warry	margaret.warry@blueyonder.co.uk

Diary of Events

September

2 Sep 8.15pm Trustee Board Meeting

October

7 Oct 8.15pm Trustee Board Meeting

November

4 Nov 8.15pm Trustee Board Meeting

9 Nov.. Remembrance Day Parade, (Details from Leaders)

15 Nov 2pm November Fayre, The Royal British Legion, Hollyfield Road, Surbiton

All contributions for the issue of OOTB to be delivered to Gayna
by 25th October 2025

GROUP LEAD VOLUNTEER REPORT

No report - post vacant!

Group Lead Volunteer
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. I hope you all enjoyed the summer break and managed to recharge your batteries and made the most of the good weather we had this summer.

Not everyone however has been just relaxing and taking it easy over the summer break. Some of our Scout Troop, shame it was only four; have been on their yearly summer camp, Cubs have also been at camp, only made possible by our leaders giving up their time to do this. Well done and thank you to Scout Troop Leader Caroline also Peter and Stuart with the Troop camp and a list of helpers, see Caroline Everest Report, that helped make the camps possible.

Caroline as you may know is still running the Cub meetings at the moment, so a big thank you to her.

Remembrance Day Parade:

To be held on Sunday 9 November 2025

This year will be a special one, as we, as a nation, commemorate Eighty Years since the end of World War Two. And as always gives us a chance to honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice then and remember those who have done so since.

I'm looking forward to Remembrance Sunday; it always makes me feel proud of our group when I see the Leaders and youngsters on parade in uniform.

Full Details of times etc. from Leaders nearer the date.

November Fayre:

Although it's only September the group November Fayre which is the group's main fundraiser for the year is only two months away and will be upon us in no time.

The November Fayre this year will be on Saturday 15th November [2pm Start] and again will be held in the British Legion Hall, 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.

Hope to see you at the Fayre...

My usual September Reminder:

I'm sure you are all aware of this however 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. Thank you for your continued support.

And lastly;

Following on from the emergency meeting held on Friday 11th July where Stewart Nash our District Lead Volunteer explained the current leadership crises we are facing and asked for volunteers, as far as I am aware nobody has responded. Perhaps you haven't decided yet what you can offer to help us keep the Group functioning. Even if you can offer some time but not on a regular basis, please let us know.

If you would like any further information, please contact your child's leader or myself.

chair1sttolworthscouts@btinternet.com

Any enquiries will be most welcome but not be seen as a binding obligation...

That's it for this month.

Proud to be 1st

Martin Smith

Group Chair

chair1sttolworthscouts@btinternet.com

THAMES BEAVER SCOUT REPORT

I hope you have all enjoyed your summer. Good luck to Leonardo who will be starting the new term as a Cub with 1st Tolworth and to Aaron who has moved to Gibraltar and was hoping to find a Cub pack there to join. We wish him well and hope he settles into his new home quickly.

By the time you read this I am sure we will have sorted an exciting programme out for the next few weeks.

If you would like to join our Leadership team we would love to hear from you. Peter And I would really welcome some help.....

Michelle

Beaver Lead Volunteer

Thames Beaver Scout Colony

Boys and Girls age 5 ¾ - 8

Fridays 17.45 – 18.45

EVEREST CUB SCOUT REPORT

I must apologize here too for not writing a report last time. I was just too busy, running Troop & Pack, that is all. So, here it is, what we have been doing since Half-Term in the Spring Term!

Comings & Goings:

We have been joined by quite a number of new members during March & April: Alfie P, Ethan & Thomas have come from outside Scouting, Tom, Alfie H, Jude, Sharanya, Edward & Ansel have come from Thames Beavers. Unfortunately, Sharanya has moved away, but all the others are now invested and joining in the fun.

Oscar & Aaron left us to progress up to the Scout Troop at Easter. With this influx, we went to three Sixes from two.

The Sixers, at the moment, are Gabriel, Joohan & Sebastiano. Seconders are Ian, Avery & Fedor.

Sebastiano has left us at the end of the Summer Term to go to Scouts. Leonardo is just joining us from Thames Colony.

Our Young Leaders, Oliver & Oliver, have been absent for a lot of the Summer Term, because Public Exams MUST come first. A big "Thank You" to the Scouts who came to help me while they were gone.

Cub Scout of the Year:

The leaders choose who they think deserves these awards but Six of the Year is based on the activities we do on Wednesday evenings.

Cub of the Year:	Gabriel
Runner up Cub of the Year:	Joohan
Third Place Cub of the Year:	Fedor
Six of the Year:	Purple
DATs Trophy:	Ivan

Wednesday evenings:

We eventually completed Communicator Badge – solving codes, remembering messages, NATO phonetic alphabet, introducing themselves and using phones, e-mails & texts. Quite a lot of useful skills – modern & traditional. Well done all!

We sat the Cubs down and got them to talk about what they wanted to do at camp. Illuminating!

Oliver S & Arran from Atlas, aided by various parents, ran an evening comparing Catholic, Anglican & Orthodox Church Services & beliefs. I found it very interesting. We always think we know what other Christian Churches do, but I learned a lot!

We have been working on Artist Badge. The Cubs have worked on Welcome Cards to give to new members of the Pack when they join. They drew new covers for their favourite books plus imagining a scene from the book. Dan had them doing a “Still life” by drawing various objects – mugs, jugs etc. that he found in the kitchen.

We went to the Dustbowl at Oxshott Dustbowl Heath to follow a Trail & play a Wide Game, all towards Navigator Badge.

The Cubs had some ideas about what they would like to do at Camp and we talked about lighting fires, in preparation for our own camp.

We spent an evening at Alexandra Rec. with Dan testing for Athletics Badge. All too energetic for me – all this sack racing, ball throwing, running & team races. Well done all & thank you, Dan.

At the end of term, when the Olivers were back, we tackled Musician Badge. They taught various singing & percussion exercises & rhythms. Then they learned to sing “Camp Fire’s Burning” as a Round and the Chorus of “We will Rock You” with rhythmic stamping!

On our last meeting, we met at Ivan’s House to see his Dad’s Submarine. Ivan’s Dad explained all about the craft and how he had got it back & lifted into the garden by a crane. Everyone got a chance to climb up and sit inside. Certainly a different way to spend the evening! Thanks to the whole family.

Weekend Camp at Bentley Copse.

We went to camp for the weekend in June with the whole Pack plus, Peter, Dan, Victoria & both Olivers.

We had Jacob’s Ladder, Crate Stacking & Abseiling booked. There was a little hassle because the times I thought were booked had been changed, and I hadn’t received the e-mail ! Quick re-organise time but we coped. It all involved making Tripods!

We were also working on Backwoods Cooking Badge & the Cubs needed to be involved in preparing the fires and to cook using the embers (baked potatoes), on a skewer (Marshmallows) and in a billie (various things). We had been preparing beforehand, so the Cubs knew about safety around fires and how to build a wood pile. They all passed the badge!

Really good weekend, with all the traditional elements including pitching the tents, campfires and wide games. We were lucky with the weather – a bit hot, if anything.

Lots of “Thank You’s” – Dan & Victoria, Peter for the catering, the Olivers for being involved in everything, all the parents for helping at the beginning & end of the weekend & particularly to Adam for driving the van for equipment.

Future Events

We haven’t done our planning yet but I have a few ideas ...

We know about **Remembrance Day Parade & our Fayre in November.**

Otherwise, watch this space...

Caroline Marsden

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

SCOUT TROOP REPORT

Hi everyone!

Firstly, I must apologize for not putting in a Troop Report in the last edition, but the final date for reports came between two weekend’s camping, and I ran out of time & energy. So now I need to write a bumper report covering from February Half-Term until Summer Camp at the end of July. Here goes!

Comings & Goings:

We were joined by Ciaran from 2nd Hook Cub Pack in March plus Oscar & Aaron from Everest at Easter. They are now all invested and in uniform. Oscar managed to complete his Chief Scout’s Silver Award, as they are allowed to do in the first 6 months in the Troop, so congratulations to him!

Jonah has, unfortunately, left us and Thejas has moved away. We hope that he finds a nice Troop to join in Worcester Park.

We lost our oldest members as they progressed to Atlas Explorers at Easter. It was a shock to lose so many all at once and it was a little quieter once Oliver, Alfie, Chanel, Lukas, Reuben & Teddy were no longer there on Friday evenings. Congratulations to Oliver & Lukas, who achieved Chief Scout’s Gold Award, which was awarded in April. No mean feat!

We decided to go back to 5 Patrols again. This meant re-organising the whole Troop. It was good to get Kingfisher Patrol back and it gives more opportunities to hone those leadership skills!

From Easter, our Patrol Leaders have been Ida, Julia, Grace, Xander & Lee.

Our APLs are Lucian, Armin, Finlay, Emilia & Thomas.

Good Team!

Scout of the Year :

These were awarded at our traditional ceremony after St.George's Day Parade.

Points are awarded for attendance, smartness of uniform, events joined, badges gained, games won etc.etc.

Scout of the Year :	Lucian
Runner up to Scout of the Year:	Lukas
Third Place Scout of the Year:	Alfie & Lee
Troop's Choice Scout of the Year:	Grace
Best Newcomer:	Ray
Patrol of the Year:	Eagle
DAT's Award:	Arthur

Congratulations to you all!

Friday evenings:

In the spring, we went to Southwood twice. Once on a showery evening when we were supposed to be doing Axe & Saw training, amongst other things, but it was just not safe in the wet, so we were forced to play Wide Games – each Patrol ran one – Ame & I supervised!

On the second occasion, Eagle Patrol ran a Sedan Chair Race. This involved each Patrol choosing which items to “purchase” to create their “Chair”. They had to build a contraption so one member could be carried through the course by the others. It all involves staves & other wooden poles, lashings, panic, running and a lot of laughter (mainly from the leaders) when it all falls to pieces.

The amazing thing on this occasion was that the race was won, on more than one occasion, by Raven Patrol, whose “Chair” looked as if a stiff puff of wind would make it collapse, as opposed to that made by Owl Patrol, which looked pretty decent, but they lost every race. There must be a moral there somewhere, but I am not quite sure what it is!!!

Woodpecker Patrol ran a Murder Mystery. No Scouts were actually murdered, I hasten to add, but I still have a black & white checked shirt that someone brought as their costume, and it is still in a bag on the pegs at Sparks Hall. I would love it to disappear to its rightful owner?

Atlas Explorers ran an interesting evening about disabilities. Useful badge work all round. Thank you, guys! Peter ran a Blind-fold Assault course around the Hall.

Owl Patrol ran a Cooking Competition at the end of Term. They decided who would cook what and the leaders were only allowed to check on the safety of the whole farrago. Sounds easy ...

With the Patrol running evenings, most of the Troop gained one or more parts of the You Shape Award. It is the large round one at the bottom of the Right Sleeve. You can't miss it! Really good evenings run & enjoyed by all.

After Easter, our first meeting back involved those leading teams on the Expedition doing their Presentations about the weekend. As usual, it all involved Ms PowerPoint, in-jokes & incriminating photos. Well done to Oliver, Lukas, Reuben, Emilia & Lee, plus friends from 4thTolworth, for completing this important Challenge.

After this, we had the Presentation of Chief Scouts Gold Award to Oliver & Lukas. Thank you to Stewart, our GLV & DLV, for joining us. It should not be underestimated the effort that goes into achieving the highest award you can gain in the Troop, both for the Scout and their parents!

We developed a little theme around the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. Chris Nicholls kindly came and talked to the Scouts about what it was all about and why it is so important. We have been working on Air Activities Badge and we made sure that, apart from folding & flying paper planes, learning the NATO Phonetic alphabet & talking about going on an aeroplane, we included identifying WWII planes. Jamie ran a Cooking Competition using War-time recipes. They ended up cooking Bubble & Squeak and other recipes that they had never heard of.

We went to The Dustbowl on Oxshott Heath for Wide Games and followed a Trail. We used the Climbing Wall, now that Peter is qualified & we are allowed to climb again. At last!!!

We revised First Aid for when we are out & about and enjoyed an evening of sports at Alexandra Rec..

Thanks are due to all members of the Troop leadership team. We don't very often all land up all of us together, but everyone is there sometimes.

Just keeping busy!

County Night Exercise:

We entered two teams to this annual event, which was based at Bentley Copse this year.

The Scouts arrive in the afternoon & pitch the tents. They then go out on the hike where they gain, or lose, points for how long they take to complete the route and how well they tackle the challenge at each Checkpoint.

Meanwhile, the leaders get involved with helping to run the whole event – manning the radio, talking to teams that think they are lost, checking kit etc.

When people return, their tents are already there for them to go to sleep, immediately, until woken for bacon butties in the morning.

Thanks to Peter for coming with me and thus allowing our Scouts to compete.

Both our teams completed the route – better than the last few years!

41 teams entered in all.

1st.Tolworth team A (12th) Lee, Thomas, Emilia, Rayaam & Noah H.

1st.Tolworth team B (14th) Oliver, Finlay, Grace, Ray, Jacob & Sofia.

Well done everyone!

Expedition

In an effort to not stand still for too long, we created a new route for an Expedition, using Jordan heights, a Scout campsite new to most of the team. I had camped there before but so long ago that I hardly recognised it ! It is an interesting site, with minimal car parking on a narrow track with an ascending zig-zag path to reach the site.

We had 4 teams, from 1st & 4th Tolworth Troops. Leaders involved were Tia, Ame, Stuart & Aidan, Peter & myself.

The Scouts started at the Racecourse of Epsom Downs and ended up at Jordan Heights, via the Fort on Reigate Hill, by the end of the day. After pitching tents, cooking an evening meal on Trangia Stoves, bed was tempting. On Sunday morning, after striking the camp, the Scouts walked back westwards, finishing at Box Hill. Picking them up was a bit of fun, as it was so hot, the world, his wife & kids were up there!

We were lucky with the weather, map-reading was variable and team-work mostly good. Well done to all that walked both days and completed the weekend.

April Challenge Camp:

Stuart ran a Weekend Challenge Camp in the Easter Holidays at Boidier Hurst. It was a good weekend with lots of skills learned & a bit of badgework as well. Gadgets were made – Tripods and Towel Racks. We practised putting up Stormhavens – actually, the leaders did mostly teaching, because we don't use them that often. Cooking, eating & campfires, of course. Nice gentle weekend. Thanks to Stuart & Ame & well done to Stuart for passing his Nights Away Permit.

Archery Nationals:

Rayaam was the only member of the Troop to join the Archery Club at this annual event at Phasels Wood Scout campsite. We enjoyed 20 yard target archery, Field Archery and Clout. We came away with lots of medals this time, but none for Rayaam & me. Rayaam did complete his Master-at Arms Badge though. Well done!

Strategy:

We had about half the Troop join this annual event this time. We left Tolworth in the early evening, drove to the site in Cirencester Park. For travel, we joined with 4th.Tolworth Troop plus Atlas & Horizon ESUs. Between us, 3 Minibuses & a van.

We got to the site at past 10, put up tents as it was getting dark and went to bed. Not everyone slept well. I was woken up by Scouts (NOT from Tolworth), playing football at 4.30 in the morning !

The site is packed They told us 2,500.

There were certainly 314 Scout Teams & 139 Explorer Teams.

The Scouts set off in teams 4 – 7, to hike and visit as many Checkpoints as they can before 4.30 in the afternoon. Points are gained by how well they do the task at each Checkpoint and, of course, it is a competition.

1st.Tolworth Woodpeckers were 211st equal & Owls 210th but Eagles were 89th !

There was quite a bit of swapping teams, so I am not quite sure who deserves the credit in the end. All of them, I guess!

Lots of activities to do in the evening plus sports & crafts on Sunday morning, before heading for home. Stuart & I were involved with the paracord. Stuart was constantly using the hot knife for hours!

Next time, I have decided, we are leaving as early as we can, so we should be able to pitch the tents in the light, and give us all a Friday evening to enjoy, so we aren't so tired before we start!

Summer Camp :

Well this was an interesting one! We knew it would only be a select group. In the end it was 4 Scouts plus Peter, Stuart & I. I have had various comments ranging from "Why did you bother to go at all with those numbers?" to "Good on you for giving those 4 Scouts a good week!".



And we did have a good week at Bushy Wood in Hailsham, near Eastbourne. Yes, it was showery, in fact Friday was the only completely dry day. That didn't stop us enjoying Jacob's Ladder, Archery, Swimming, Ten-Pin Bowling, Tie & Dye, a hike, orienteering, fire-lighting, cooking, eating etc.



To finish off the camp, on the last night, the Scouts slept out, under the stars. I wasn't sure if they would be keen ...



A good time was had by all, and we got all the kit back DRY! Whoopie!!!

Thanks so much to Stuart and Peter for coming with me. Good week.

Future Events:

Not quite sure what we will be up to this term but there will be Remembrance Day Parade & our Fayre in November.

There is talk of a Survivals Skills Weekend Camp in the Spring.

The big one is the Swedish Jamboree next Summer. We had a Parent's Meeting about this in July. We are hoping that parents will be able to help us with fund raising. We are going to have to sign up in the autumn and plans for some fund-raising events are already underway. Watch this space...

Caroline Marsden

**Lead Volunteer, Scout Troop
Boys and Girls age 10 ½ - 14
Fridays 19.30 – 21.30**

**Contact: Mrs Caroline Marsden – 07889 192 765
marsden697@btinternet.com**

November Fayre - Saturday 15th November from 2pm - 4pm

The annual fundraising event is only a couple of months away.

We hope that all our members are able to attend and support the event which helps us raise enough funds to keep subs low for the parents and the programme of activities both interesting and adventurous for your young people.

For it to be successful we need your help.

Raffle tickets:

The leaders will be sending raffle tickets home with the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Please do your best to sell these to family and friends and return the stubs and money to the leaders by Friday 14th September at the latest.

Donations:

If you can Please donate any good condition items such as pre loved toys, soft cuddly toys or bric a brac. Or new unwanted gifts that could be used as prizes or on the tombola, bottles and sweets/chocolate.

Help:

Please let me know if you are able to volunteer a couple of hours of your time. After all, our Leaders do this every single week to run the sessions for your young people. We will need help to move donations from the Hall to the Royal British Legion on the day of the Fayre, help setting up from 11am on the 15th, staffing the stalls from 2pm to 4pm and then clearing up afterwards and moving unsold items back to the hall. Please don't stand back and leave the leaders to do it all after all many hands make light work.

I look forward to hearing from you....

Gayna Brice
Trustee Board Member
1sttolworthfundraising@gmail.com

Circle

Brenda Pawley

Giveasyoulive:

If you shop online you could be raising funds for 1st Tolworth at the same time. Sign up to Give as you live and choose 1st Tolworth As your chosen charity. Next time you shop online, access the site through 'giveasyoulive' and the company will give 1st Tolworth a % based on your shop. It costs you nothing.

Follow the link below to get started.

<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/1st-tolworth-st-matthews-scout-group>

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

A variety of charities accept stamps from the United Kingdom and International stamps. They request that they are cut from envelopes, leaving about 1cm/1/4" of paper around each stamp. We will leave a box in the kitchen at Sparks Hall to collect them and once full we will see which charity to send them to.

Many thanks.

Brenda Pawley
Group Trustee

November Fayre

Saturday 15th November

2pm – 4pm

The Royal British Legion
Hollyfield Road, KT5 9AL

Come along and enjoy our traditional Fayre:

Raffle

Tombola's

Table top games

Cake stall

And lots more....

1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

Charity No. 1040958