
1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

FOUNDED 1908

REGISTERED 5TH MARCH 1909

Sparks Hall, Pyne Road, Tolworth, KT6 7BN

OUT OF



Thank you
For attending
Our AGM

THE BLUE



Registered Charity Number: 1040958

May 2026

www.1sttolworthscouts.org.uk

ISSUE No. 620

Group Section Leader	Jamie Pickard	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
Circle Chairperson	Margaret Warry	margaret.warry@blueyonder.co.uk

Diary of Events

May

5 May 8.15pm. Trustee Board Meeting

June

2 June 8.15pm. Trustee Board Meeting

23 June 7:00pm Hall Spring Clean : Any Help Appreciated

All contributions for the next issue of OOTB to be delivered to Gayna
by 25th June 2026

GROUP LEAD VOLUNTEER REPORT

This GLV update follows the District Adventure Day that was on the 25th April 2026.

The Big Activity Day is the first District event to have occurred in over 6 years. With a new District Lead Volunteer, it was very much time to remedy that and so the Activity Day was created. A small team of leaders from across the district came together and planned the day, and on Saturday we welcomed over 600 young people, ranging from Beavers to explorer scouts to Polyapes Campsite in Cobham and kicked off a full day of activity.

Inflatable Zip Wire, Inflatable Assault Course, Air Rifles, Archery, Tomahawks, to name some of the 'Big Ticket' items and then each Scout Group attending running an activity, which ranged from Water Balloon Catapults (much needed cooling for the weather), Nerf Battle Zone, Tug of War, Paracord Friendship bracelets and more. 1st Tolworth took 42 young persons, 15 Cubs and 27 Scouts took part, (Unfortunately we couldn't take the Beavers this time, but next year!). Everyone had fun and the day ended with a District wide Promise Renewal, something done every year around St Georges Day. The District Lead Volunteer has already booked Polyapes for next year! I would also like to thank Dan Cadman, Debbie Shallcross and Oana Muti for coming along and helping us out during the day.

On Sunday 26th April 2026, we held our AGM and Group Awards at the Surbiton Royal British Legion. I was unable to attend, but would like to thank Martin, Terry and Gayna for undertaking this, and Michelle Nichols for reading my report. Caroline Marsden gets a special shout out from me for being able to attend Windsor for the National Scout Event there and for then making it back to Surbiton for the Awards. I am sure no speeding was done and that a time machine was used instead! I would also like to congratulate all the winners from the Sections this year. I know how hard these are earned, and that the kids named are always worthy recipients. I wont name them this time as I know some are still awaiting being awarded.

Graham Goring was presented by the leaders a digital photo frame with pictures from his time in Scouting. Graham Goring left us late last year to spend more time with the family, and many will be aware that Graham spent many many years with the Scout Section at 1st Tolworth, and was a lynchpin to Caroline for so long.

As April comes to an end, we are now only 2 and a bit months away from 12 Scouts heading off to attend the Swedish Jamboree as guests of the Swedish Scout Association. This of course will be the opportunity to remember, there will be some further fundraising events going on to help with this, so if you can, please do support.

I would also like to welcome Charlotte to 1st Tolworth; Charlotte joins us as Assistant Beaver Leader with Michelle, and is already proving to be an asset!

As ever, we are always happy to welcome adults to the group to help out in any capacity that they can. be this as a parent helper at a section meeting, joining the Board of Trustees or volunteering with fundraising, building maintenance or helping out at an event. If this interests you, please let one of the leaders know, or find me out and we can discuss.

Yours in Scouting
Jamie Pickard
Group Lead Volunteer
gsl@1sttolworthscouts.org.uk

GROUP CHAIR'S REPORT

I would like to open my report with a thank you to everyone that made the effort to attend the Annual General Meeting and Awards meeting held at the Surbiton Royal British Legion on Sunday 26th April. With a special thank you to Jane Pringle, Lead Volunteer Royal Kingston District:

This was a change to how we normally hold the AGM and was in some part a success. I opened the meeting with the normal safety messages.

The meeting continued with a look at the group constitution, which details how we run and operate 1st Tolworth (St. Matthew's) Scout Group, the constitution "1T Group Constitution 2024" was re-adopted and approved by all those present. As stated in the May 2026 edition of OOTB the minutes from the 2025 AGM were agreed as a True record and accepted by all those present with no matters arising.

Unfortunately, due to work commitments Jamie our Group Lead Volunteer was unable to attend. He had prepared a short report which Michelle read out. Before the approval of the Annual Report. I gave a brief update on where we are.

Two years in on the new Digital System and we are still looking at the new ways we should be doing things:

The role of a Trustee differs from that of an Executive committee member.

In the past the ExEc looked after everything none Scouting related.

These duties in the new world are to be split between

- The Board of Trustees; Governance Tasks
- Support Groups; Operational tasks and Support Tasks.

Support Groups to be made up of additional Volunteers and will be managed through the Group Leadership Team. Operational tasks such as maintaining the Hall, fundraising and similar are still really important. These tasks can still be carried out by people who are Trustees; however, they will be managed under the relevant operational team rather than in their Trustee role.

So at the moment, as you can imagine, this has not affect how we do things, it's still Old ExEc members carrying out these tasks. So we could do with Volunteers to take on Support Tasks.

I then briefly went over the events of the last year which are of course detailed in my report in the March 2026 edition of OOTB. I mentioned the November Fayre and thanked the Surbiton British Legion for their continued support, and everyone who helped out on the day. Also a special thanks to the Fayre Co-ordination Team, without their hard work this event would not happen.

In October 2025 we welcomed Jamie Pickard as our Group Lead Volunteer. Caroline is still doing a wonderful Job running both the Troop and Cubs, Michelle is also doing great job running Beavers. And we welcome Charlotte, our new assistant Beaver Scout Leader

The March OOTB was accepted as the Yearly report and a copy was signed by myself.

Terry talked through the accounts, of which copies were available for the attendees. Terry mentioned that he has been the groups treasurer for 17 years. He thanked Trevor Strong for doing the audit. There were no issues with the accounts.

Mr Trevor Strong has agreed to audit the accounts for another year and was appointed as the Group Auditor

Margaret Warrey has agreed to stay in her role and was re-appointed as Group President. Margaret, Spoke of Graham and thanked those who asked after him. She went on to say that we have the privilege of being one of the oldest Scout

Groups, started as a group for naughty choir boys. 1909 was our earliest official registration as it took those boys a long time to raise their first year's subscription fee. If we wish the group to carry on we need more volunteers. If you want to do something you will find the time to do it.

She then regaled us with her memories of starting a Scout Group in Belgium and the wonderful times she spent there.

I then explained that under our constitution we don't need to vote for the board of Trustees as they were voted in last year for a three year period. I also explained that the climbing wall was not being used to its full capacity, as Peter Keen who was instrumental in getting the wall up and running again and getting himself authorised as an instructor has to step away due to work commitments. If any parents have climbed or are interested in climbing and are able to help by taking on a Climbing Instructor role this would be very much welcome.

We are 117 years old, and we have enjoyed continued scouting during those years, only made possible because of the volunteers. We do need a Beaver Leader so please consider, if you could help and speak to us afterwards.

Jane Pringle District Lead Volunteer was asked to address the meeting; she said that when taking on the temporary role which she has now agreed to take on permanently, we were the first group that she visited and the Beavers were climbing.

She added that she really enjoys reading the OOTB and hearing about the existing things we do. And if you can volunteer you could be part of a group of Beaver leaders who could share the responsibility. This works well in other groups and feels less daunting.

Before closing the meeting I again thanked Jane and everyone for attending with a special thanks to the Board of Trustee members, for their support during the last year and look forward to their continued support in the next.

I thanked Terry our treasurer (Supported by his Wife Carol) is continuing to do a fantastic job and I thank him for all his time and efforts in managing the Groups finances.

And lastly I thanked my wife, Viv, as without her continuous support and understanding I could not fulfil my role as Group Chair

Following the meeting, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Leaders and Adult Scouters had the opportunity to renew their Scout promise.

The presentation of the yearly awards followed, unfortunately the number of recipients who were not in attendance outnumbered those who were. This must have been very disappointing for Caroline and Michelle who as leaders put so much effort into running the sections. It was a real shame that so many of our young members had not attended.

Following the yearly awards the sponsored awards were presented, I ran through what each award was for and the history of how they came about. Unfortunately this suffered the same recipient none attendance as the yearly awards. Out of the five awards, only one could be presented on the day. Again a disappointment in attendance.

I then thanked Graham Goring for his most generous personal gift to the Group of a donation of eight new laptops.

Graham has been an assistant Scout Leader since 2004 and has fulfilled that role with great enthusiasm. However Graham has recently decided to take a step back, but he wanted to do one last thing. Graham was a great instigator in establishing the Computer suite.

And his work with the Scouts in all things technology was second to none. So in honour of Grahams dedication and his most generous gift I informed him that we will be naming the computer suite room **THE GORING ROOM**

The Hall needs a Spring Clean so if you can spare a couple of hours on Tuesday June 23rd from 7pm we would love to see you there.

Next edition of OOTB will be the July Issue See you then...

I am so proud to be part of 1st Tolworth (St. Matthew's) Scout Group.

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

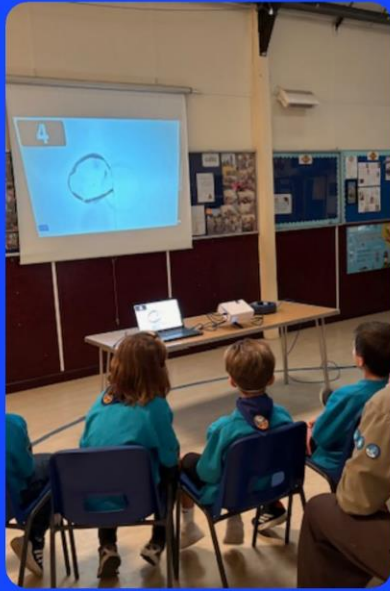
THAMES BEAVER SCOUT REPORT

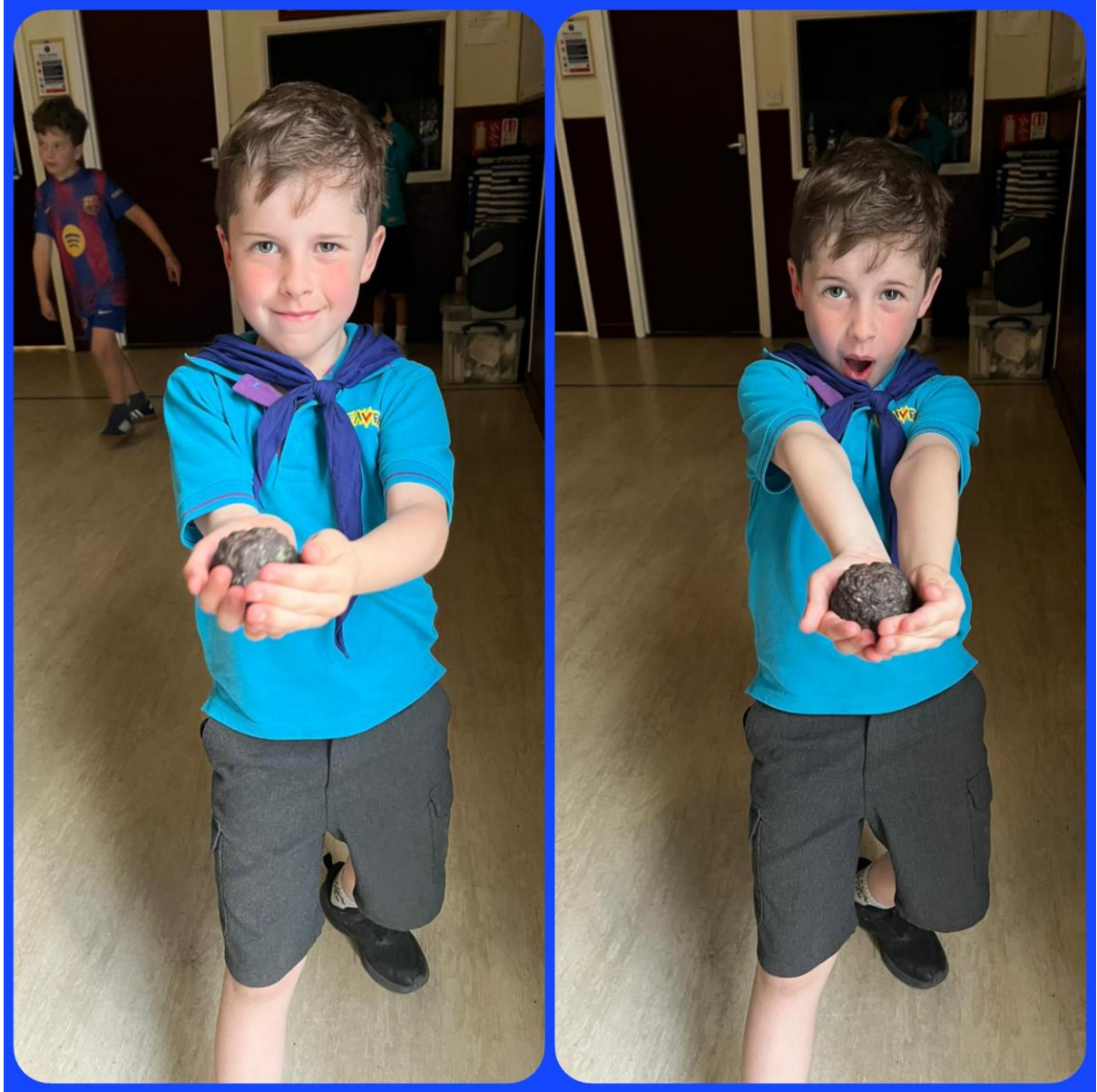
How quickly time passes since the last issue of out of the blue!! It seems like only yesterday! But since then we have had the Easter break which I hope everyone managed to enjoy some down time! And then we were straight back into the summer term! And importantly welcomed our new assistant beaver leader Charlotte who has joined us to make sure the colony can still run!

We still need more leaders though so if you would like to help or know someone who would please get in contact with me or Jamie!

Since the term began we have got stuck back in! We had a games night where we played parachute games, we had St George's day activities, two of our beavers attended our St George's day promise renewal, AGM and awards afternoon - Jasper and Evanthie, and have started our space badge, where we even got to hold a meteorite that belongs to Charlotte!! Enjoy the pictures of our adventures so far this term!!



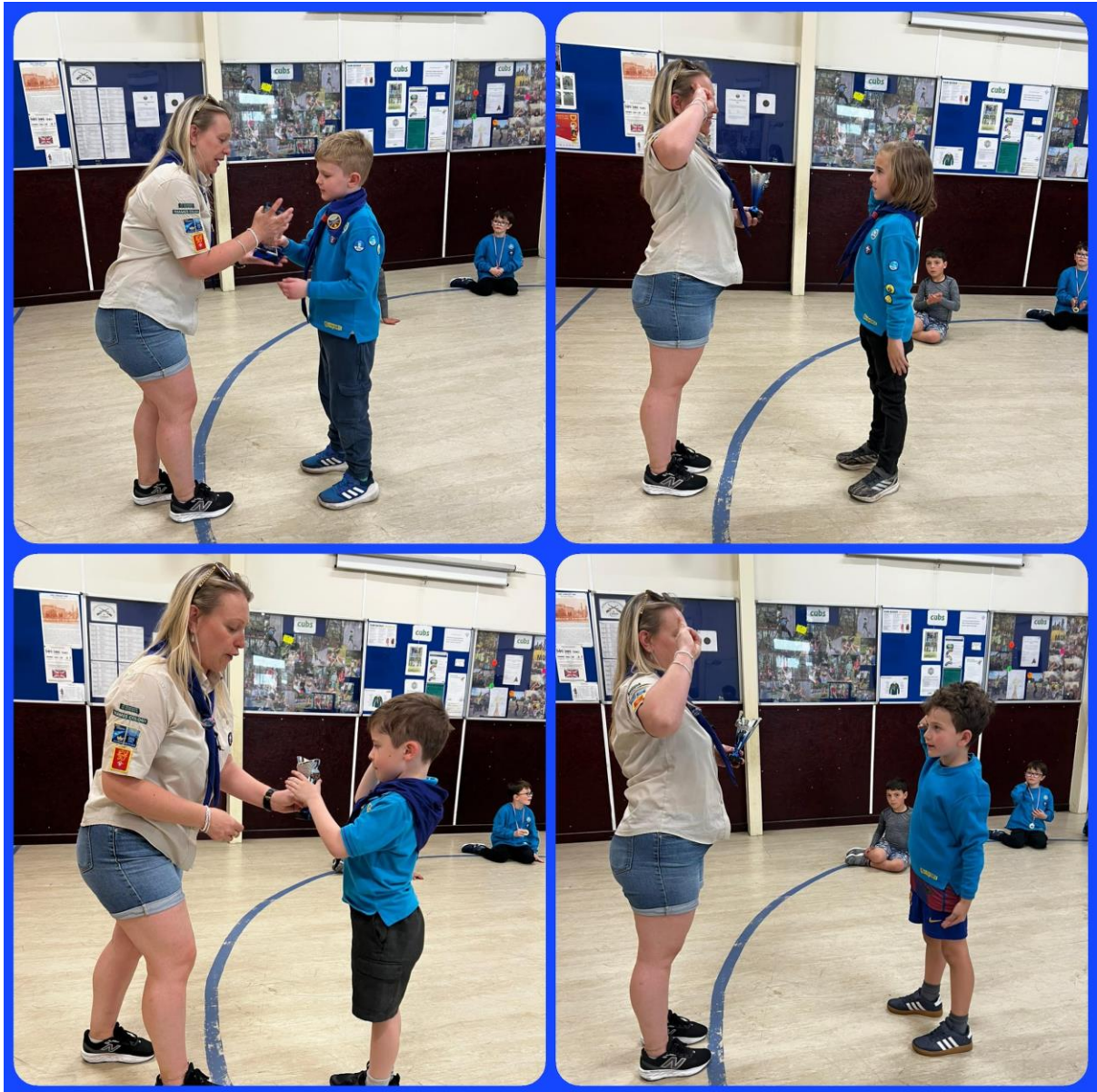












Michelle
Lead Volunteer
Thames Beaver Scout Colony
Boys and Girls age 5 ¾ - 8
Fridays 17.45 – 18.45

EVEREST CUB SCOUT REPORT

The full report will be in the next OOTB.

Caroline Marsden

Everest Cub Scout Pack

**Boys and Girls age 8 – 10 ½
Wednesdays 18.30 – 20.00**

SCOUT TROOP REPORT

The Scouts have been busy at camps and fun days. Caroline deserves a medal as well as a rest. The report will be in the next OOTB.

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**

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**