
1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

FOUNDED 1908

REGISTERED 5TH MARCH 1909

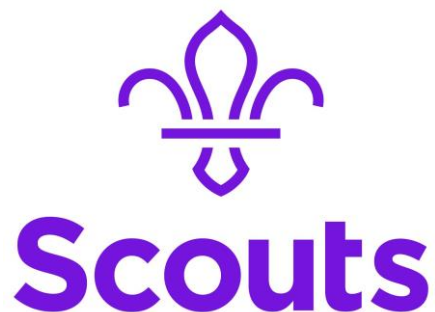
Sparks Hall, Pyne Road, Tolworth, KT6 7BN

OUT OF



Welcome back
What exciting
activities
are in store?

THE BLUE



Registered Charity Number: 1040958

September 2026

www.1sttolworthscouts.org.uk

ISSUE No. 621

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

Diary of Events

September

8th 8.15pm. Trustee Board Meeting

October

6th 8.15pm. Trustee Board Meeting

November

3rd 8.15pm. Trustee Board Meeting

21st 2pm November Fayre, The Royal British Legion

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

GROUP LEAD VOLUNTEER REPORT

No report.

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

GROUP CHAIR'S REPORT

First off I must apologise for the failure to publish our July issue of Out Of The Blue.

Initially Technical issues and human oversight were to blame, and then we got so far past the deadline we decided to not publish, again my sincere apologies.

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 didn't suffer too much due to the exceptional weather we had this summer.

As announced at the Awards AGM meeting in April, Graham Goring 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 made a most generous personal gift to the Group of a donation of eight new laptops.

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 Graham's dedication and his most generous gift we decided as a lasting tribute to name the computer suite room The Goring Room

This dedication took place at the end of the July Board of Trustees Meeting, when Graham and members of his family joined us, it was a great pleasure to unveil the Plaque and formally name THE GORING ROOM

Following the dedication we enjoyed refreshments, socialising and reminiscing with Graham, his family and others present.

Another bonus of having laptops is that we were able to decommission the desk tops, which have given us many years of service, and free up the table top space they occupied allowing us to use The Goring Room for other activities.

Not everyone however has been just relaxing and taking it easy over the summer break. Our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have been busy not just over the summer but there are also updates covering their activities since the May edition of OOTB.

All of this only made possible by our leaders giving up there time to do this. Well done and thank you to Scout Troop Leader Caroline, assistant Scout Troop Leaders Our Beaver Leader and all the young leaders that helped make all of this possible.

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 21st 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. Thanking you for your continued support.

Before I sign off I would like to remind you all and congratulate:

Oliver Stirling, Oliver Eley and Warwick Williams as joint recipients of the Heathers Hero Award

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

THAMES BEAVER SCOUT REPORT

Beaver Colony Report

This term has been full of exciting adventures, learning opportunities, and lots of fun for our Beaver Colony. The Beavers have worked hard towards earning badges, developing new skills, and building confidence while enjoying activities together.

Space Badge

The Beavers had a fantastic time working towards their Space Badge. They learned about the solar system, planets, stars, and space exploration through a variety of engaging activities. The Beavers created space-themed crafts, explored facts about astronauts, and took part in games that helped them understand the vastness of space. Their enthusiasm and curiosity were excellent, and they demonstrated a great eagerness to learn about the universe.

Beaver Sleepover

One of the highlights of the term was our joint Beaver Sleepover with 5th Worcester Park. The 4 Beavers who attended showed great independence and resilience while spending a night away from home with their friends. The event included games, team challenges, crafts, and evening activities before settling down for the night. Everyone behaved exceptionally well and supported one another, making the sleepover a memorable and enjoyable experience for all involved.

Safety Badge

The Colony has started working towards their Safety Badge, learning important skills that can help keep themselves and others safe. Activities covered topics such as road safety, fire safety, personal safety, and knowing what to do in an emergency. The Beavers took part in discussions and practical exercises, showing a good understanding of how to stay safe at home, school, and within the community.

Games in the Park

To make the most of the outdoors, the Beavers enjoyed a range of games in the park. These activities encouraged teamwork, communication, and physical fitness while allowing everyone to have fun in the fresh although hot air.

Overall, it has been a great term for the Beaver Colony. The Beavers have shown enthusiasm, teamwork, and a willingness to try new things while completing their Space and Safety Badges, enjoying the sleepover, and taking part in outdoor games. We are proud of their achievements and look forward to more exciting adventures in the coming term.

Just a reminder of our 2026 Award winners

Beaver of the Year: Alessandro Low

Runner –up: Lewis Bardhoshi

Third: Jax Peters

Lodge of the Year: Elm

DATs Trophy: Freddie Pugh

Pat Frith Award : Jacob Stockford

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

EVEREST CUB SCOUT REPORT

Apologies for not getting anything into the last edition, it was too chaotic with Troop and Pack activities & events.

Contrary to what I said before the break, Julia will be staying on to help us, and she will be joined by Grace, another Scout Patrol Leader. Excellent news!

The big, confusing, news is that Michelle will be joining us in September and she & I will be working together, doing a gradual handover through this term, so I can go back to *just* doing Scouts after Christmas. Because of this change, we will be changing our meeting night from Wednesday, to Thursdays 6 - 7.15. If you are confused, you are not the only one!!!

Comings & Goings:

We gained Albert, Phoenix, Sofia & Hazel from Thames Beavers at Christmas and I know that there is another little group joining us at the beginning of term.

We lost Fedor to Scouts at February Half-Term and Avery is starting Scouts in September. We have also lost Alfie P, and Tom will not be back after the summer break. Sad.

Wednesday evenings:

We went bowling in January, which was a fun evening. In the Spring Term we worked on Air Activities Badge, completed Space B and did Personal Safety Badge. We also did Air Rifle Shooting and Archery up at 1st Hook, with help from the Archery Club leaders. We did an evening on First Aid and made some funny Peg Birds at Easter. In the Summer we were working on Community Impact Badge by litter picking around Pyne Road & Fishponds. We need to finish that this term. We have done most of Naturalist Badge, made some Kites and flew them, with a little success!

Out and About:

Nearly all the Pack joined the District Sleepover at AirHop, Guildford. A lot of jumping on trampolines in the evening, and the next morning. Great fun. Thanks to Dan and Oana for joining the fun!

Cubs joined in the District Big Adventure Day at Polyapes and our St.George's Day celebration. (See my Scout Troop report!)

Cub of the Year: Fedor Belorukov

Runner –up: Dharshan Sheppard

Third: Eve Lynch

Six of the Year: Purple

DATs Trophy: Tom Spurdle

Pack Camp at Frylands was a good weekend. Again, most of the Pack were there plus Dan, Oana, John, both Olivers, Julia & Ida. Lovely wooded site but a little walk to the toilets. We went on a hike on Saturday, campfire Saturday evening, Pond Dipping on Sunday morning. Thanks to all parents who transported gear, especially Adam, or helped with tent pitching/striking, Olivers for the cooking & all the leaders, young & older who made it all happen.

Let's see what we can get up to between now & Christmas!!!

Caroline Marsden
Everest Cub Scout Pack
Boys and Girls age 8 – 10 ½
Thursday 18.00 – 19.15

SCOUT TROOP REPORT

Hi everyone!

I apologise for missing the last edition but we were a little busy in the middle of the summer.

Comings & Goings:

There have been lots of changes since I last wrote a report but not so many “Comings & Goings” as you might have thought. Nevaan joined us in the spring and Buzz in the summer. Fedor came up from Everest Pack in February Half-Term & Avery will be with us when we are back in September. Seth has, sadly, left us. However, we are expecting lots of the oldest members of the Troop to progress to Explorers in the autumn. Unfortunately, there will not be room for all of them to go into Atlas, which meets at Sparks Hall but we will find them a place somewhere, not too far away!

From a leadership point of view, Peter has a new job and is finding it difficult to get to us on Friday evenings, particularly in the summer, so we will only see him occasionally, from now on. He will be missed.

Friday evenings:

As planned, we did a lot of First Aid in the spring, in an effort to up-date our knowledge, including using the AED, as they are located in lots of public places now and you never know who might need one! Not sure that all the badges were updated. Perhaps we need to go back to that one?

We continued to work on a few bits toward Survival Skills including creating your own Survival Kit and thinking about hygiene when we are away on camp. (More on the Survival Weekend after the Planning Meeting.) We practised knots & did a sedan chair race around the Hall. We frequently empty the Recycling bins to create something new. Egg Drop Challenge is a favourite, (Yes, we drop an egg from above, where the Camp Stores are!) as are making vehicles or tall structures. Jamie ran an excellent Cooking Competition where the Patrols cooked foreign dishes, taking into account all the various needs & choices of our Troop members. Of course we finished late ... Sorry!

We always try and keep up with mapping skills and the Countryside Code, so we are ready for any expedition or hike. We managed a Tent Pitching evening at Southwood but meeting through all those heatwaves were more complicated. Outdoor ideas were moved indoors or cancelled completely. Usually, we have to work around the rain, but this year was different. We all have to learn to deal with changes, I guess ?

Peter was there to help us with climbing on our wall but we went to Guilford Spectrum for Ice-Skating. (Only one casualty, fortunately!) At the end of the summer term, we spent more time than I hoped on painting wooden mushrooms & staining wooden acorns, to take, for an activity, to Sweden. In a way, it was useful, as it was a peaceful, quiet thing to do in all the hot weather but more time consuming than I hoped.

Out & About:

The GLSW County Night Exercise in March was based at Boidier Hurst (Boxhill) this year and we had one team represent us : Emilia, Lee, Grace, Rayaana, Nevaan, Ray & Joohan.

They had to walk the route, challenge at each Checkpoint & points for how fast they walked (i.e. how little they got lost!) & how well they did the challenges, then collapse into bed (tent) until Breakfast in the morning. Didn't quite complete the route but came 9th out of 24 competitive teams. Not so bad!!!

For our overnight Expedition, we were joined by 4th Tolworth & 2nd Hook Scouts. 27 Scouts in 6 teams, supported by 8 adults. They walked from Witley Station (south of Godalming, Surrey) to Garners Field Campsite near Farnham) on Saturday, camped overnight & walked back to finish at Compton, before the journey home in the minibus. It is quite a challenge, every part of it. Six of our Troop were involved in planning the weekend then did a presentation afterwards to complete the Expedition Challenge: Julia, Finley, Armin, Lucian, Ida & Grace. Well done to all that completed the weekend!

Big District Adventure Day was a new Royal Kingston event held at Polyapes. Most of the Troop attended and spent the day joining in the activities in their own time. Jamie was jointly in charge of the whole event. Alex & Stuart were involved with inflatables. I sorted out Paracord Friendship bracelets all day. Excellent event, to be repeated next year.

St George's was celebrated as a Group on the following day. A disappointing turn out for our annual awards ceremony but no church service this time.

Scout of the Year: Armin Sheppard

Runner-up: Xander Delahoyde

Third Place: Lois Delahoyde

Best Newcomer: Alex Chang

Patrol of the Year: Raven

DAT's Award: Layla Keenan

Pre-Sweden camp took place at May Day Weekend at Walton Firs. 150 Scouts, Explorers & Leaders from Tolworth, Purley & Croydon who were preparing to go to Sweden in July. We camped & cooked in the 3 Groups but mixed the young people up for activities. The 4 main activities were Team building, Pioneering, Bushcraft including Axe & Saw and my activity, which was meant to put them completely out of their comfort zone – T'ai Chi and Paracord Bracelets. There was also a Cooking Competition on Saturday evening and a Campfire on Sunday night. All our leaders were involved, either organising our young people, or contributing to activities, or both. With all they did and all that was said, we hoped to prepare the Scouts & Explorers for going abroad to a major Scouting event.

15 of our Scouts attended Strategy this year. Set in Cirencester Park, Hike all day Saturday, when the teams of Scouts visit which of the 40 checkpoints they choose, gaining points depending on how well they complete the challenge at each Checkpoint. Meanwhile, the leaders are out manning the checkpoints. Stuart & I landed up on Archery! Then sports, crafts and a myriad of stuff going on, on Sunday morning, before we jump on the bus and head for home. It was a really good event. I'm just glad I'm not involved with organising that one!

The big one this summer was the Swedish Jamboree. There is so much to say about the whole trip that I am going to get some of the Scouts to write for the next edition of OOTB. Just to say that we had a brilliant time and we couldn't have organised it without the teamwork of Tia, Ame, Alex, Stuart & myself as well as our colleagues from Tomelilla & Helsingborg Scout Groups.

Future events will have to wait

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 21st November from 2pm - 4pm

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

We hope that all our members, their families and friends 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 16th November.

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 21st, 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

Scouts
1st Tolworth
(St Matthew's)

November Fayre

Saturday 21st November
2pm – 4pm

The Royal British Legion
Hollyfield Road, KT5 9AL

Come along and enjoy our traditional Fayre:

- RAFFLE
- TOMBOLAS
- TABLE TOP GAMES
- CAKE STALL
- AND LOTS MORE....

1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group
Charity No. 1040958

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**