

1ST SOUTHGATE SCOUT GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

The Scout Association Registration Number: 33491
Charity Registration Number: 305881

FROM THE GROUP SCOUT LEADER

Hello and Welcome to the Group Scout Leader's review March 2021 to February 2022.

As Group Scout Leader my role is to enable Scouting to support your young people to learn through fun and friendship to make the best of their opportunities. This can only be achieved with a fantastic team and my deepest thanks go to the uniformed and non-uniformed members of this Scout Group. Adapting to the changes and the pressure of the last two years has been huge.

In March 2021 we were still in 'red' – Covid lockdown, no face-to-face meetings. We had a virtual St. George's Day and A.G.M. but the upside was that we met online with people we would never have known otherwise. The Scout Association provided every Group in the Country with a licence to Zoom and then policed the software to protect us all – SO grateful. Lockdown all seems so long ago now, but as late as June 2021 we had to cancel meetings due to an upsurge in the pandemic locally. We were all exhausted by the school summer holidays.

Half of our young members lost touch during the year and we resumed face-to-face meetings with only two third of the Groups' previous membership. Several adults were not able to Zoom and a few have now stepped away from Scouting. Always so very grateful for the times they have supported the Group.

It took a while to 'get going' again in September 2021, but to lift us all we had our traditional Group Winter Event. We have a Partnership Agreement with Sir Ranulph Fiennes (SRF) Explorer Scout Unit, so although they are not part of this Group, we work closely so that young members are completely comfortable to move on in their Scouting when they reach 14 years of age. The SRF Leaders organised the Winter Event and it was a huge success, thanks to the fantastic team of adults.

All three Group sections then continued to run weekly meetings. The planning and preparation that goes into our weekly meetings means that if your child/ren attend regularly they have every chance of achieving their Chief Scout Award – the framework and measure by which we are judged. In March this year 3 of our Beavers and 4 of our Cubs respectively earned their Bronze and Silver Chief Scout Awards. This was a major achievement particularly through lockdowns. So, please, make every attempt to support as many meetings, activities and camps as is possible – it is why you all joined, I think...

So, we ended the 2021-2022 year smaller but healthy. Our team of adults is working extra hard juggling family, work, education and Scouts and I am sure I speak for all of us when I say that we are VERY grateful to all. They will say that skills are learned, shared, and a great time is had by all and the bonus is seeing young people flourish in a safe, enjoyable place. This team is human and very amazing! My thanks also to the parents who support as 'occasional helpers'; they enable us to take the children out when otherwise we would not have sufficient adult cover.

Recently a few of our adult team became instructors at tomahawk throwing – no young people were injured! So, if you thought it was all commitment and there is no fun for the adults, think again. If you ever thought you would like to get involved – now is definitely the right time!

Thank you for reading this, and now, please continue to walk, talk and work with us.

Chill
(Chris Hobbs)
Group Scout Leader

BEAVER SECTION

The first part of the Spring programme we still had Covid restrictions but this didn't stop Beavers learning about Wind Farms & Fairtrade with our Zoom guests.

As the weeks went on we were able to be face to face outside for meetings & the Beavers did First Aid, Art, Cooking, Fire Lighting and a visit to Stanford Campsite with all these activities going towards earning badges. We ended the Summer Term with a party.

With restrictions now lifted we continued to have fun doing more badge work, joining up with Cubs and going to the Winter Event organised by SRF Explorers.

At the start of 2022 the Colony was now up to 13 Beavers and with the help of the leaders and an excellent programme they were able to achieve more badges. This involved litter picking in the Community, learning about Chinese New Year, an evening spent in Tilgate Park and many more.

As Leader in Charge I would like to say a huge Thank You to everyone for their continued support in making Beavers happen each week.

Rama
(Karen Trethewey)
Leader-in-Charge.



CUBS SECTION

March 2021 and we were still in red lockdown restrictions so that meant that Cubs were zooming with the Beavers and the leaders trying to think up different things to do each week, which consisted of learning to draw, a quiz on Wales, various scavenger hunts sending the Beavers and Cubs scurrying around their houses looking for items, Mother's day cards and a pirate themed evening.

We had talks from people relating to the Rampion wind farm off the coast of Brighton (has anyone been down to Brighton to see their exhibition yet?) and a talk about the Co-op Fairtrade. Both very interesting.

Easter last year saw the lockdown restrictions turn to orange which meant that we were able to meet outside. Out came the marquee to help with that in case of rain. We went litter picking over to Loppet's field, learnt how to put up tents, coming up with socially distanced games to play. We were able to complete our Athletes activity badge.

We had a great evening with the Beavers and parents up at Stanford camp site for fun and games. We finished the term with fort building which were then used on the last night in a water fight. It was interesting to see which forts stood up to the soaking they were getting.

September and restrictions were getting lifted even further, they learnt first aid, countryside care, personal safety, about the community, and made Christmas crafts and baked. We had joint meetings with the Beavers for our usual walk around the local area (finishing up with chips at the hut), Halloween party and Christmas party. The cubs had an evening up in the forest. It was dark but with the help of torches they made some really good shelters, the remains of some are still standing today. We all enjoyed the wonderful evening at Stanford for bonfire night with fireworks, campfire and food and drink. January and we dealt with community care, healthy us, hearing awareness week, made pancakes which went down a treat.

Despite the lockdown we have had several cubs who have achieved their Silver Chief Scout Award and it was great to see this.

I do want to say a big thank you to my fellow leaders and young leaders who have helped out throughout these trying times and pleased that we are now able to run our evenings without any restrictions.

Akela
(Pauline Maddocks)
Cub Scout Leader



SCOUT SECTION

It's been a busy year for the Scouts, we have had several members move up to SRF explorers which at one point left us with 5 scouts. Thankfully, we had a new intake from cubs and some young people join who are completely new to scouting so our numbers are now at a healthy 18.

Since we were able to start back, the Scouts have participated in a varied and interesting programme both at the hut and off site – and although we have been unable to camp until recently, we have still continued with teaching the skills required for when we do go again with knife/saw and axe work, fire lighting skills, how to build smoke signals, pioneering, cooking, compass reading skills and map reading (and map building – who knew that toast and chocolate spread could help you understand how to read contour lines on a map!)

The scouts also went back to basics with learning about why we scout and the ethos behind it and developed their own code of conduct on how we should all behave.

We had an interesting evening, dissecting owl pellets to learn about what they ate – the scouts were grossed out at first but were then quite fascinated to find whole skeletons of mice and voles in a small pellet that were no bigger than their thumbs! FYI - the pellets are expelled through their mouths and not anywhere else!!

We had a Jamboree selection weekend where eligible scouts were pitched against each other to see who would be selected to attend the World Jamboree in South Korea in 2023 – sadly we did not have a scout selected but it was great to see the skills that scouts had learnt whilst with us being put to use without adult instruction – a true test of scouting.

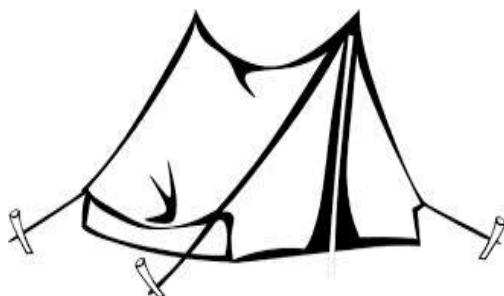
The troop has also unleashed an artistic side over the year with seasonal pumpkin carving, spooky cake decorating and an art evening where they all painted a landscape in the grounds of RHH whilst listening to music provided by DJ Kayleigh.

The Scouts in the troop have been an absolute pleasure since we started back – I think they missed us as much as we missed them!

Myself and the team – who I can't thank enough for their support – look forward to more evenings with a fantastic group of Scouts.

Thank you.

Kerry Waudby
Scout Leader



EXPLORER SECTION

SRF Explorer unit is one of 4 main Explorer units in Crawley with around 20 members and 5 leaders. Each Explorer unit is part of the Crawley District Scouting setup and therefore not directly part of any group, however, each unit is affiliated with a group. SRF does not only partner with Southgate for use of the grounds and equipment, we work closely together at activities and events throughout the year. Many of the leaders with roles at SRF are also closely involved in 1st Southgate with various roles across the group.

SRF gets its members mainly by Scouts turning 14. Our main intakes are from 1st Southgate Scouts and 7th Crawley Scouts however we have also taken Scouts from other groups in Crawley and brought in young people who have never been involved in Scouting in any capacity before. This has been achieved either through advertising or encouraging current members to bring along their friends. This large mix of members is one of SRF's greatest strengths, the young people all have very different skills and experiences that they are able to share with each other.

Although at times in the past year programme planning has been tough with the constant changes in restrictions, we have still provided a huge range of activities from cooking to laser tag. The Explorers have also had the opportunity to learn so many new skills including navigation, climbing, tomahawk throwing, archery, fire lighting, shooting and badminton. The unit also went on its first post-covid weekend camp in November last year as well as a camp just a few weeks ago helping to restore a nature trail to our local Stanford camp site. Later on this year most of our unit will also be attending Kent International Jamboree with around 5000 other scouts for a whole week of activities and entertainment.

Oliver Gidman
Explorer Scout Leader

What will you do to help?

During the last year our members have had the opportunity to participate in Section, Group, District and County activities. We want to offer a diverse and adventurous range of activities for which we need willing participants – of all ages.

Parents – You are already part of the Group. Would you like to play a bigger part? Would you like to help? Is the development of your child important to you?

No magic skills are needed, although a daft sense of humour helps and a willingness to get involved.

You do not have to jump in with both feet; just tell one of the leaders that you are interested in finding out more.

65 years of great Scouting
1ST SOUTHGATE SCOUT GROUP
Established May 1957

SCOUT SHOP

For over 17 years now, **1st Southgate Scout Group** has had the franchise to operate the **Crawley District Scout Shop**, from our headquarters, Ron Hobbs Hall, on behalf of the District. During that time it has generated around **£65,000** of profits for the Group and the District.

This has been made possible by a very small band of adult volunteers – and we really need new people to help.

Following our extended closures and restrictions of the last couple of years we are now fully re-open **on Saturday mornings from 10.00 to 12.30 and Tuesday evenings from 19.00 to 20.30.**

If you would like to find out more about it, please talk to a leader, or e-mail:

shop@cdscouts.org.uk

Thank you



Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select 1St Southgate Scout Group as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. Amazon will donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

- 1. Open the Amazon app on your phone*
- 2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programmes & Features*
- 3. Select 1St Southgate Scout Group as your charity*
- 4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app*

Useful Contacts

GROUP LEADERS

Group Scout Leader
Explorer/Young Leaders
Skills Instructors;

gsl@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Christine (Chil) Hobbs
Emily, Rhiannon, Nathan, Akshay and Avighna
Gemma; air rifles.
Pauline and Gemma; archery.

BEAVER SCOUT

07308 610750
Section Leader
Assistant Leaders
Section Assistant

River Colony meets Wednesdays 5.45-6.45pm
beavers@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Karen (Rama) Trethewey
-
Jane Hillman, James Balestrini, Abi Cole

CUB SCOUT

07308 608976
Section Leader
Assistant Leaders
Section Assistant

Mafeking Pack meets Wednesdays 7-8.30pm
cubs@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Pauline (Akela) Maddocks
Gemma Hobbs, Zoe Grimshaw, Tracy Gidman
Aaron Trethewey, Jack Lambert

SCOUT TROOP

07308 610303
Section Leader,
Assistant Leaders,

Section Assistants,

Troop meets Fridays 7-9pm
scouts@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Kerry Waudby
Jake Powell, Em Staples, Kayleigh Davis, Phoebe
Woolard
Brendan Hall

EXPLORER SCOUTS

Section Leader, Explorers
Assistant Leader, Explorers
Section Assistant

Unit meets every Monday evening
SRF.Explorers@cdscouts.org.uk
Ollie Gidman
Phoebe Woolard, Elliot Toghill
Jason Wilcock

WEBSITES

Group
International

www.1stsouthgate.ukscouts.org.uk
www.scouts.org.uk

FACEBOOK

Please ask to join our closed Facebook page: 1st Southgate Scout Group, Crawley

TRUSTEES – (Group Executive Committee)

Chair	Sam Mason	chair@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Treasurer	Simon Maddocks	treasurer@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Secretary	Sharon Ottley	secretary@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Trustee/QMs	Oliver Gidman and Elliot Toghill	
Trustee	Sara Woolard, Jane Grimshaw, Chris Prior, Helen Hughes	
Trustee/Beaver Rep	Vacant	Trustee/Cub Rep Vacant
Trustee/Scout Rep	Vacant	Trustee/Youth Rep – Phoebe Woolard
Trustee/SRF Rep	– Ollie Gidman	

CRAWLEY SCOUT SHOP

07935 882210 shop@cdscouts.org.uk
Opening Hours: Saturday mornings 10.00 - 12.30 & Tuesday evenings 7.00 to 8.30