

Scouts

**1ST SOUTHGATE
SCOUT GROUP**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2022/23**

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 of the year from March 2022 to February 2023. As you may know, my role as Group Scout Leader is to support our volunteers to use Scouting to encourage your young people to achieve their potential. #Skills for Life as they say! This can only be achieved with a fantastic team and my deepest thanks go to the uniformed and non-uniformed volunteers of this Scout Group.

At the start of this 2022/23 year, I think we all thought that Covid had mostly passed and we would be able to get back to normal. It turns out that 'normal' is no longer with us, at least not recognisable. Scouting has morphed into something new and fit for current times and new challenges. Young people and adults alike in society have struggled to get back to learning, sharing, being considerate and kind to others. All of this needs us to work together and trust in the knowledge that what we are doing is right. Scouting is at its best when we all come together, work as teams and enjoy doing what we do.

At least 4 times a year this Group arranges events when we ALL get together; The Winter Event, St. George's Day, the Group AGM and Group Camp. These events are the very core of the Group and I do hope that you make every effort to support us for these memorable occasions. 2022 also saw us celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a Crawley District event at Stanford campsite which over 700 people enjoyed. (By the time you read this I hope you will also have joined us this year for the King's Coronation Capers 7MAY23 at Stanford)

A few adult volunteers stepped away from Scouting during and after Covid and this has left the team depleted and with a loss of so very much experience, knowledge and friendship; Bye to Daniel, Nic, Abi, Jack, Jason and Lyn. KarenP, James and Aaron have all stepped back but stayed in touch. Thankfully we were able to recruit Tracy and Darren and other members of the team have supported each other throughout the Group. We truly have an OUTSTANDING team. Thank you all very much.

One of Scouting's strengths is to encourage adults to gain new skills and train to share as instructors. This Group is again blessed to have such a skilled team; We have 8 adults experienced and trained to be able to take young people on Nights Away (sleepovers, camping and expeditions); to instruct in rifle shooting, archery, angel throwing (like tomahawks) and access to so much more. Our young people are so very lucky to have all this within their reach.

Scouting HQ judges the success of a Scout Group by how many Chief Scout's Awards the young people achieve. We do exceptionally well at this, however, to spend time in any of the meetings with the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers will always make anyone smile and remember exactly why we are Scouts.

We leave this year 2022/23 smaller than previous years but growing in strength. Scouting is also in 'transition' which will hopefully blow away any remnants of stuffy old-fashioned attitudes (not that there are any in this Group!). We hope to welcome new members both young and experienced in life. Volunteers both active and supportive in management, administrative and creative roles – we truly have

something for everyone. Thank you for reading this, and now, please enjoy many years in Scouting with us 😊

Chill
(Chris Hobbs)
Group Scout Leader

BEAVER SECTION

We started the year with pancakes, learning the meaning of Lent and why pancakes were made. We also had pancake races after the Beavers had filled their faces with the ones they had made.

Scijam (a science jamboree) was next run by Jacala (Zoe). The Beavers grew cress, learnt about ocean currents, water collection and finally constellations. We continued the month with first aid and celebrated Mother's Day.

In April we took part in the Queen's Jubilee where we made decorations for our hut and joined the District jubilee celebrations at Stanford Scout Campsite.

The Beavers were lucky enough to join the Cubs at Laser World for an evening of fun and also at their camp for the day to see what goes on. We have also done some badge work with one in particular being the digital citizen. For this they had to take photos to make posters on Picolage and then email the results to a Leader.

We ended the term joining up with the Cubs and had a fun water games evening.

At the start of the autumn term we welcomed some new starters. We had our Group camp, a superhero evening where we dressed up and had 2 community superheroes join us (a midwife and a paramedic). The Beavers also took part in the District Craft Day.

2023 started off with the Leaders having a planning meeting which has resulted in the Beavers making robots from recycled materials, team building, the Winter Event at Stanford Scout Campsite, first aid and visits from other leaders giving talks to our young people.

During the year 3 Beavers achieved their Bronze Chief Scout's Award: Chloe, Isaac and Isabelle

We have had a great year of fun activities and earning badges and hope that this next year will be no different

Rama
(Karen Trethewey)
Leader-in-Charge.



CUBS SECTION

Throughout the year we try to provide a varied programme of activities and our evenings have included pancake day explaining the meaning, making and eating them and then pancake races. Scijam which was an evening about science experiments including planting, ocean currents and depths and making LED greetings cards. Learning about St Patrick's day, Mother's day including games and they made flower pot cards, made bug hotels for the hut grounds, athletics evening, international evening, healthy us, personal safety, problem solving, learning about recycling and making a robot from recycled materials, first aid, learning about the countryside rules.

We had Courtney from 7th Crawley join us to run the Scouts of the World Award, the first week involved Food for Thought which taught the Cubs about food waste and carbon emissions, the second week was about Good Life Goals explaining sustainable development goals. She had the Cubs thinking and were great sessions and the Cubs were really well behaved for them.

We have had two outings during the year. The first was to Three Bridges Railway Station where they learnt about the goings on at the station and had a ride on a train, we also had a visit to Crawley Fire station where unfortunately both fire engines had to leave on a shout. They were soon back as the incident was not too serious and they were not required and came back to carry on with the evening.

The Cubs had an overnight camp in April at our hut organised by Jacala and a two night camp at Stanford in June where the Beavers joined us for part of the day to see what happens at camp. Then in September we had a group camp at Stanford which the Cubs, Scouts and Explorers took part in and joined by the Beavers overnight on the Saturday. We were very lucky with the weather each time and had a great time on each occasion.

We have had many joint evenings with the Beavers so that they get to know the Cubs before they move on up. We made easter nests and chicks and had easter related games, went to Lazer World, water games and water fight night, incident hike ending up with chips, Halloween party, and Christmas party. It is always good to see the two sections getting together.

The Cubs were able to participate in the Cub Conker competition and the District Craft Day where they were able to take part in many crafty activities.

During this busy year the Cubs, without realising it, were able to gain many badges culminating in seven Cubs achieving their Silver Chief Scout's Award. Congratulations to Harry, Eloise, Alexander, Shanaya, Arthur, Isabel and Seth.

Akela
(Pauline Maddocks)
Cub Scout Leader



SCOUT SECTION

It has been an amazing year for the Troop. We have literally doubled in size since the last AGM, which has required us to open a third Patrol. We now have Kestrels, Lions and Stags. This also gave the opportunity for 4 scouts to be 'promoted' with Dylan/ Noah and Bonnie becoming assistant patrol leaders and Leo becoming a patrol leader. They have embraced their new roles and have done extremely well so far.

All the Scouts have worked so hard with the various challenges we have thrown at them this past year – they have looked at diet and have used this knowledge when helping plan menus for camps. This has been extended at home with several scouts cooking dinners themselves for their family.

They have embraced new experiences – especially last summer when we went to Kent Jamboree with 7th Crawley – we camped at the County Showground with about 4½ thousand other scouts and leaders which was an amazing experience. They made great friendships and tried out many new activities whilst there. And amazingly for a camp – it only rained once (well it was more a torrential downpour but we survived). Some of our scouts joined with 7th for a Winter Camp in December and of course we have all enjoyed Group camp at Stanford.

Several of our scouts undertook the Expedition Challenge back in February and were a great representation of the Troop with regards to planning, participating and completing the badge requirements. They worked hard and well as a team on the weekend and truly showed great scouting skills.

The leadership team has seen a few changes as well – we have gained 2 brilliant Young Leaders Nathan and Chloe who help to bring the programme to the Scouts. Sadly, we have lost Zoe (Jacala) as she has moved away from the area but she has promised to visit and come on camps when possible. We wish her every success at her new job at Gilwell – the home of UK Scouting.

We will be shortly welcoming Elliot to the team. He has been assisting at Explorers but his work/ study commitments have changed so he will now be joining us at Scouts.

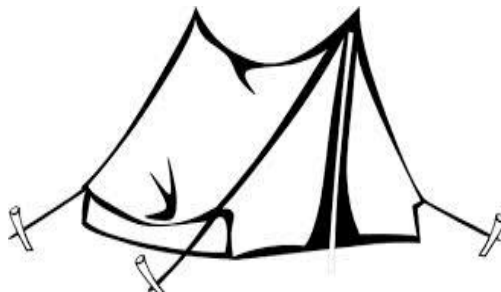
The Scouts have all been working hard on their badges over the year and I would like to thank all the parents and families for their support to help the Scouts achieve this and to thank the leaders in the team for their enthusiasm for delivering a wide and varied programme – this year the scouts have earned an impressive **186 badges** between them.

Our 2 original Patrol leaders William and Jacob have been a credit to the troop and at the time of finishing writing this, I am just waiting for a report on their volunteering day before they have completed their Gold Chief Scout's Award. They have worked so hard to achieve this – especially as it normally takes 3 years to achieve this and they have done it in 2 (due to a certain virus that shut down the world!) Watch this space for a celebration update very soon.

We are now looking forward to camping in June as a troop at Stanford and our joint Summer Camp at Ferny Crofts with 7th Crawley and 1st Langley Green in August.

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. All of the leaders with roles at SRF are also closely involved in 1st Southgate with various roles across the group.

SRF is fed 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.

During the last year the number of young people in SRF has remained steady in the low – mid twenties. On the other hand, the number of leaders has decreased to two regular leaders. This has led to a couple of meeting cancellations and we are currently trying to increase the number of leaders. Any help is always welcome! During 2022 SRF went on a weekend camp in the spring, attended KIJ, a week-long Jamboree in Kent and joined 1st Southgate for group camp in September. Our weekly meetings in 2022 were varied, ranging from the annual ex-members reunion, all the way to navigation badges and night hikes. In addition, we held a number of additional events including our annual Christmas dinner. 2023 has got off to a great start with a varied programme that included attending the annual London Monopoly Run. Hopefully this great start to the year continues with our annual spring camp in May.

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.

SCOUT SHOP

For over 18 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 **£68,000** 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.

We are 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

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



We've registered 1st Southgate Scout Group with #easyfundraising, which means over 7,000 brands will now donate to us for FREE every time you use #easyfundraising to shop with them.

There is a handy link to sign-up from on the front page of our website
<https://1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk/>

Useful Contacts

GROUP LEADERS

Group Scout Leader gsl@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Christine (Chil) Hobbs
Asst Group Scout Leader Phoebe Woolard
Group Section Assistants Zoe Grimshaw, Elliot Toghill
Explorer/Young Leaders Emily, Rhiannon, Nathan, Chloe, Akshay & Avighna
Skills Instructors; Gemma: air rifles. Pauline: archery. Phoebe, Ollie and Kerry: Angel/Tomahawk Throwing

BEAVER SCOUT

07308 610750 *River Colony meets Wednesdays 5.45-6.45pm*
beavers@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Section Leader Karen (Rama) Trethewey
Assistant Leaders VACANT
Section Assistant Jane Hillman

CUB SCOUT

07308 608976 *Mafeking Pack meets Wednesdays 7-8.30pm*
cubs@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Section Leader Pauline (Akela) Maddocks
Assistant Leaders Gemma Hobbs, Tracy Gidman
Section Assistant Darren King

SCOUT TROOP

07308 610303 *Troop meets Fridays 7-9pm*
scouts@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Section Leader, Kerry Waudby
Assistant Leaders, Em Staples, Kayleigh Davis
Section Assistants, Jake Powell, Brendan Hall

EXPLORER SCOUTS

Unit meets every Monday evening
SRF.Explorers@cdscouts.org.uk
Section Leader, Explorers Ollie Gidman
Assistant Leader, Explorers Phoebe Woolard

WEBSITES

Group <https://1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk/>
International <https://www.scouts.org.uk/>

FACEBOOK

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

TRUSTEES – (Group Executive Committee)

Chair VACANT chair@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Treasurer Simon Maddocks treasurer@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Secretary Sharon Ottley secretary@1stsouthgate.cdscouts.org.uk
Trustee/QMs VACANT
Trustee Sara Woolard, Chris Prior, Sam Mason, Elliot Toghill
Trustee/Beaver Parent Rep VACANT Trustee/Cub Parent Rep VACANT
Trustee/Scout Parent Rep VACANT
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

(Accounts page here)