



**ROYAL KINGSTON DISTRICT SCOUT  
COUNCIL**

**AGM Report and Review 2010/2011**



## **INDEX**

### **MINUTES OF AGM WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010**

**DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**BEAVER SCOUT REPORT**

**CUB SCOUT REPORT**

**SCOUT REPORT**

**EXPLORER SCOUT REPORT**

**NETWORK SCOUT REPORT**

**ACTIVE SUPPORT UNIT REPORT**

**CHESSINGTON REPORT**

**2<sup>ND</sup> HOOK (ST PAULS) REPORT**

**3<sup>RD</sup> KINGSTON REPORT**

**1<sup>ST</sup> KINGSTON HILL REPORT**

**LEANDER SEA SCOUT REPORT**

**1<sup>ST</sup> MALDEN REPORT**

**7<sup>TH</sup> MALDEN REPORT**

**2<sup>ND</sup> NORBITON (ST PETERS) REPORT**

**1<sup>ST</sup> OLD MALDEN REPORT**

**1<sup>ST</sup> SURBITON (SEALION) REPORT**

**1<sup>ST</sup> TOLWORTH REPORT**

**2<sup>ND</sup> TOLWORTH REPORT**

**4<sup>TH</sup> TOLWORTH REPORT**

**6<sup>TH</sup> TOLWORTH REPORT**

**DISTRICT AIR RIFLE CLUB**

**ROYAL KINGSTON ARCHERY CLUB**

**KINGSTON & MALDEN SCOUT & GUIDE BAND REPORT**

**ROYAL KINGSTON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2011**

**1<sup>st</sup> Hook Headquarters 7.45 for 8.00pm start**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Fanfare**
- 2. President's Address**
- 3. Remembrance of Absent Friends**
- 4. Prayer**
- 5. Apologies for Absence**
- 6. Approval of Minutes for 2010 AGM**
- 7. Approval of 2010/11 Annual Report to The Trustees - (separate document)**
- 8. Approval of the District Commissioner's nomination for Chairman**
- 9. Election of District Secretary**
- 10. Election of District Treasurer**
- 11. Approval of the District Commissioner's nominations to the District Executive Committee**
- 12. Election of members to the District Executive Committee**
- 13. Election of representatives to the Polyapes Management Committee**
- 14. Election of Independent Examiner**
- 15. The District Commissioner**
- 16. Presentations**
- 17. District Chairman**
- 18. Guest Speakers**
- 19. Any Other Business**

# Minutes of The Royal Kingston Scout District Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010 - Dysart School

**1. Fanfare:**

The Meeting was formally opened with a fanfare from representatives from 1<sup>st</sup> Hook and K & M Bands. Trevor then gave a very big thank you to members of the bands for the wonderful opening.

**2. President's Welcome:**

Ken opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the AGM at Dysart School. He said it gave him great pleasure to welcome our new Mayor, Councillor Chrissie Hiscock a good friend of Scouting in this Borough, our County representatives namely Ian Newbery, Martin Whiting, Chris Dean and Bob Prescott together with Jane Donovan who was representing the Guide Movement.

Ken then went on to say that the AGM evoked mixed feelings as we were saying goodbye to Bob Bushell our hardworking District Commissioner, who had spent approximately sixteen years with us in the Borough, but we are also giving a hearty welcome to our new D.C. Dave Batten.

He hoped that everyone would find the meeting interesting and constructive and would stay to enjoy the refreshments and the social gathering afterwards meeting up with old friends.

**3. Remembrance of Absent Friends:**

Trevor thanked Ken for his opening. Flowers were then presented by a Cub Scout to our Mayor Councillor Chrissie Hiscock and Jackie Paddon.

Trevor then told the meeting that it was at this time of year that we remembered absent friends and, in particular,

Tim Eggitt – GSL at 1<sup>st</sup> Old Malden

Dave Meineck – Amongst other things, member of 1<sup>st</sup> Hook Fellowship

Philip Howell – A very young man who was a Cub Scout and Scout at 1<sup>st</sup> Hook

Stan Lacey – Former Chair of 2<sup>nd</sup> Hook

Nancy Kemp – Former Cub Leader at 2<sup>nd</sup> Hook, and

John Curtis – Ex GSL of 1<sup>st</sup> Malden

He then said that probably, most people attending the meeting would know of someone else in Royal Kingston District Scouts who had died within the last year. He then asked everyone to stand for a short while in silence so we could remember them.

**4. Prayer:**

Trevor then called upon Dave Batten to say a prayer.

**5. Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies had been received from the following:

Zac Goldsmith MP for Richmond Park

Edward Davey MP for Kingston and Surbiton

Susan Kramer, Friend of Royal Kingston Scouts

Lesley Bixbey, County Secretary

Chong Wha Kim, County Treasurer

Shirley Ling and Gwen Owen form Guides

Ron Howard, Leslie Woodgate, Jack Wilson, Roy & Wendy Sutton, Brenda Pawley, Dermott

Castles, Sybil Richmond, Linda Bennett, Sue & Kevin Barden, John Eggitt, Lindsay Highfield,

Roger Vosper, Roy Bromley, Bryn Regan, Chris Stone, Sue Smith, Barry Sullivan and Jean

Wilkinson.

**6. Approval of the Minutes for 2009 AGM:**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2009 were approved by the meeting.

**7. Approval of 2009/10 Annual Report to The Trustees:**

Firstly, Ian thanked all those Groups and Units who managed to pay their membership fees on time. This made it much easier to comply with the timetables set by County and by HQ. Ian then told the meeting that at the end of the year the District had a deficit of £6,530 as opposed to a deficit of some £2,300 in the previous year.

He then said that until the end of 2009 the main income for the District was the rental received from Gloster Road – almost £1,000 per month. The person renting the building stopped at the end of 2009 and since then the District income has, apart from Membership Fees, been minimal. How easy it had been to assume that this money would continue indefinitely but it has, unfortunately ceased. At the time your Executive took the decision that we could continue with the present programmes for 2010 but, if no other user could be found then matters would have to be scaled back. Since the start of the year Trevor has devoted much time to try to find a tenant and I am sure he would wish to say more on this later. I hope this will all turn out well for the future but the rent received is likely, at least in the short term, to be quite a bit less.

Ian then said that the remainder of the deficit was, as mentioned last year, due to the payment of £4,000 to GLSW in respect of Development – the actual sum shown is £3,040 as the balance arose from an overpayment of £960 to the County in respect of 2009 membership Fees. Another contributor was the payment of £2,750 as the first down payment for the 2011 World Jamboree.

Expenditure on Southwood rose significantly during the year through the need to replace the garage roofs including the removal of asbestos. There are also outstanding monies due to Southwood which have been included within our liabilities.

Membership fees, mostly passing through the accounts do not provide a significant income for the District. As far as 2010 fees are concerned the HQ fee per head rose to £19.50 (an increase of £0.90 from 2009) while the GLSW fee remained at £6. One consequence of the lack of income from Gloster Road was the decision to raise the District element of the Membership fee from £2.40 to £4.30. In 2007 the sum had been £3 and was reduced to £2.40 in 2008 and 2009. This, as one might expect, was not received with universal acclaim but £4.30 represents 8 pence per capita per week. It is also the case that out of this sum the District meets the membership fees of those who carry out a District role and this amounted to nearly £2,000 for 76 people. If it is not possible to get a tenant for Gloster Road then these fees will be likely to rise again in future.

Ian continued by saying that equipment purchased during the year has included 2-way radios, a strimmer, equipment for the Rifle Club and assistance to the Kingston and Malden Scout and Guide Band.

The cost of Communications rose again in 2009/10. Much of the cost relates to Insight and is something that will need to be monitored closely in future if there is still no income from Gloster Road.

Page 8 sets out details of the District events held during the year and the income and expenditure associated with each. Again I would like to thank the leaders of these events for the way in which they meticulously account for the income and expenditure relating to these events.

Ian said that he would also like to mention the £1,578 raised through the St George's Day coin collection which was passed on to a number of charities. Although it falls into this year, a further £500 was raised at St George's Day this year and is being passed to the London Air Ambulance.

Ian said that he would also like to mention the £1,578 raised through the St George's Day coin collection which was passed on to a number of charities. Although it falls into this year, a further £500 was raised at St George's Day this year and is being passed to the London Air Ambulance.

A summary of the financial position of all Explorer Groups is shown on page 9 together with similar information from the other District Units which produce their own accounts. Again, thanks to everyone for their cooperation. I am very pleased to say that Neil Findlay has agreed to assist with task of verifying the accounts of the Explorer Units and it will be good to have his assistance in future.

Finally, Ian expressed his thanks to our auditor, Pauline Farr, who had devoted a considerable amount of time to auditing our accounts at no cost to the District and Ian believed that she would be willing to continue in 2011. Ian then passed on his and District's thanks for all her hard work.

Ian closed by saying that he had a "formal" signed copy of the accounts available for inspection.

There were no questions from the floor on the Annual Report to The Trustees and the Accounts and Report were then approved by the meeting.

**8. Closing Words by Bob Bushell our Outgoing District Commissioner:**

Bob thanked the District Team and Executive, Appointments Advisory Committee, Group Leaders and Executive Members, Unit Leaders, Skills Instructors and all other supporters who have ensured that Royal Kingston is a successful District providing good Scouting to so many young people. He also thanked Susan for her loyal support.

He referred to 'Focus on the Future', held in July 2004, and also mentioned some of the thirty District events which are organized each year. He highlighted several of the Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer Scout Activities which had taken place and how some had been changed, and new ones introduced, to improve the overall District programme. He felt that some of the most memorable events had occurred during the Centenary Year.

Bob went on to say that there are now more Sections in the District than there were five years ago, including Scout Network and Fellowship/Scout Active Support, membership has increased by over 24% and, during this time, he has presented more than 400 Warrants/Certificates of Appointment and Length of Service Certificates, 88 Good Service Awards and 74 Wood Badges. These statistics show the commitment of so many adults throughout Royal Kingston.

Finally Bob wished Dave every success in leading the District in the future.

**9. Investiture of Dave Batten our Incoming District Commissioner:**

Ian Newbery our County Commissioner then invested Dave Batten as District Commissioner.

**10. Approval of the District Commissioner's nomination for Chairman:**

Dave asked the meeting to approve his nomination of Trevor Strong as District Chairman. The nomination was approved by the meeting.

**11. Election of District Secretary:**

Trevor then proposed that Jackie Paddon be re-elected as District Secretary. This was approved by the meeting.

**12. Election of District Treasurer:**

Trevor then proposed that Ian Fleming be re-elected as District Treasurer. This was approved by the meeting.

**13. Approval of the District Commissioner's nominations to the District Executive Committee:**

Dave then proposed that Sheila Marett, Roger Jones and Michael Farnon be re-elected to the District Executive as Chairman of the Advisory sub-Committee, Development Officer and Communications Officer respectively. The nominations were approved by the meeting.

**14. Election of three members to the District Executive Committee:**

Trevor then proposed that the following members be re-elected to the District Executive:  
Peter Eden as Southwood Project Manager  
Michael A'Bear for Fund Raising  
and additionally Peter Churchill for Gloster Road Project Manager  
These were approved by the meeting.

**15. Election of representatives to the Polyapes Management Committee:**

Trevor proposed the following people to serve on the Polyapes Management Committee:  
Ian Marsden, Paul Francis and Kevin Jones  
These were approved by the meeting.

Trevor noted that Rory Traynor had stepped down as one of the District Representatives and thanked him for his hard work on this important committee. He added that this meant that the District was now a representative short, and asked if anyone present would like to come forward and take on the role. With no volunteer from those present, he asked that this vacancy be communicated further afield in the District.

**16. Election of Independent Examiner:**

Trevor proposed that Pauline Farr be re-elected as Independent Examiner.  
This was approved by the meeting.

**18. Presentations:**

Matt Green representing Cotswold Essential Outdoor Ltd in Kingston presented Bob with an engraved Multi-Tool to recognise his outstanding service to Scouting and to the promotion of Cotswold as suppliers of camping equipment etc to members of the District.

Stuart Thompson then made the following presentations to the following for their D of E

**19. District Chairman:**

Trevor told the meeting that based on what Dave had just said, he also thought that the District had had another excellent year.

He said that people will see from his written report that we should be able to sign the lease for Southwood Activity Centre very soon now.

He told the meeting that we had sadly lost the probation team from the site, and our thanks go to them for all the help they have given us. Gloster Road has unfortunately lost its income from the tenants – all have now moved out. However, he was able to say that it looks as though we will be leasing it to a person who wishes to start a pre-school nursery or playgroup. Negotiations are on-going at present. If this goes ahead, we will have to remove the garage at the back of the hall to give the children a small outside play area. This will cost about £2,500 and we are actively looking for a

## 20. Guest Speakers:

### **Councillor Chrissie Hiscock, The Worshipful the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames:**

The Mayor told the meeting that she first met Bob in 1994 when she was Deputy Mayor and then again in 1998 when she was Mayor for the first time. During her time in office she has always enjoyed taking part in the events put on by Royal Kingston Scout District. She was also especially proud to be able to present a special badge to Kingston and Malden Scout and Guide Band.

She then went on to thank Bob on behalf of the Borough for all his dedication and hard work giving Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Network the foundation to grow in confidence and enjoy lots of outdoor activities. She went on to say that the Scouts were the biggest Youth Organisation in the Borough and stood for all that is good in our young people.

She then thanked all the Leaders and helpers on behalf of the Borough for all their hard work in ensuring that their youngsters enjoy a well balanced programme of learning and activities.

The Mayor closed by wishing Dave every success for the future in his role as District Commissioner.

### **County Commissioner – Ian Newbery:**

Ian told the meeting that three years ago when he became County Commissioner he met with Bob and was more than happy for him to carry on as DC. The merger between the two Districts had gone very smoothly and this was mainly due to the work that Bob and his Team had put in to ensure that it was a success. Ian then passed on the County's thanks for all his hard work and dedication during that past few years.

Ian told the meeting that the centre in Bethesda in Wales was doing very well and with the improvements made was now providing an excellent centre for outdoor activities.

As of the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010 Bow Lane is no longer being used as the County Base. This will enable the resident Scout Group to grow and have more space. County has bought a small piece of land at Cannon Hill and this will be developed into the new County Base as soon as possible. Ian assured the meeting that County will not be using levy money to help with the funding of this project.

The Boundary Review recently carried out by Region does not seem to have affected us at present and it has been agreed that other Counties move to the Borough system that we successfully adopted some time ago.

London Region are funding over the next three years the recruitment of three new Development Officers.

Ian was pleased to report that Sue Russell had been awarded the Regional Adult Appreciation Award for 2010.

Ian then made the following presentations to Groups that had grown from last years Census to this.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Malden
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tolworth
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tolworth
- 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Kingston 'Little Shepherds'

20.

1<sup>st</sup> Malden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tolworth  
4<sup>th</sup> Tolworth  
1<sup>st</sup> Royal Kingston ‘Little Shepherds’  
Leander  
2<sup>nd</sup> Hook  
2<sup>nd</sup> Norbiton  
1<sup>st</sup> Hook  
1<sup>st</sup> Kingston Hill  
1<sup>st</sup> Old Malden  
1<sup>st</sup> Surbiton  
7<sup>th</sup> Malden  
Berrylands

Lastly Ian made the point that in years past, Scouting was so prominent in the Community that people used to give directions based on Scout HQs rather like they do with Pubs now, and it is time that we regained that prominence in the general public’s mind.

Post AGM it was found that the above list was incorrect. The following list reflects the Groups that increased in numbers.

**Group Numbers Up By**

Chessington 18  
1<sup>st</sup> Hook 5  
2<sup>nd</sup> Hook 4  
3<sup>rd</sup> Kingston 4  
Leander 11  
1<sup>st</sup> Royal Kingston 13  
2<sup>nd</sup> Norbiton 16  
1<sup>st</sup> Surbiton 15  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tolworth 18  
4<sup>th</sup> Tolworth 4  
6<sup>th</sup> Tolworth 12

Lastly Ian made the point that in years past, Scouting was so prominent in the Community that people used to give directions based on Scout HQs rather like they do with Pubs now, and it is time that we regained that prominence in the general public’s mind.

Post AGM it was found that the above list was incorrect. The following list reflects the Groups that increased in numbers.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Numbers Up By</b>
Chessington	18
1 <sup>st</sup> Hook	5
2 <sup>nd</sup> Hook	4
3 <sup>rd</sup> Kingston	4
Leander	11
1 <sup>st</sup> Royal Kingston	13
2 <sup>nd</sup> Norbiton	16
1 <sup>st</sup> Surbiton	15
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tolworth	18
4 <sup>th</sup> Tolworth	4
6 <sup>th</sup> Tolworth	12

## **DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Casting my mind back over the year – or nearly a year – since I took on the reins of District Commissioner of Royal Kingston, I find it hard to pick out any one event to highlight over any other since they have all been, to my mind at least, as enjoyable as each other, though for different reasons. For a complete record of what has gone on, you need simply glance down the Section and Group reports, so I am going to make no attempt to list them all here. I will, however, touch upon a few – not because, as mentioned earlier, they stand out more than others, but because they have had a particular relevance to me personally and because they may not appear in any other report.

I have attended as much as I could, and these activities have ranged across: celebration, such as the District Band's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner, the Jack Petchey Awards evening and the dedication of the new statue at Polyapes; entertainment, such as the SouWest Gang Show (the first time, I am ashamed to say, that I have ever attended – but I would recommend it to anyone!) and the Band concerts; competitions, such as the Cub 5-a-side; badge days, such as the Beaver and Cub Science days; residential events, such as the Scout survival weekend, the Beaver sleepover, the Yorkshire Three Peaks and every sleepover, Pack Holiday, Camp and Expedition organised throughout the Groups and Units; the various activities enjoyed by the Network section and, along with their dedicated service, the Scout Active Support Unit; fundraising events, such as the District Quiz; ceremonial events, such as the Mayor's Civic Services; and County events, such as the Queen's Scout Award evening; and, of course the training (where would we be without training?!) with two Safeguarding Awareness evenings being run in the year. Then there are the clubs (Rifle, Archery, Canoe) that go on regularly – the Archery Club itself being a new Club started in the last year, and going strong – and the extra activities, such as the DofE expeditions. And then, of course, there are the regular weekly meetings taking part on every night of the week all over the Royal Borough. Far, far too much for me to even attempt to elaborate upon, hence my exhortation to read all the other reports – this list just gives you a small glimpse as to the massive amount of activity that has gone on throughout the year and for which every single person involved in Scouting in the District – adult and youngster alike – should be proud of.

Rightly, the dedication of our adults is recognised by awards and I offer congratulations to all those who have received awards this year, and in particular the following Good Service Awards: Dave Ashton, who received the Silver Acorn; Muriel Drury, who received the Bar to the Award for Merit; Karl Bromley, Tim Evans, Karl Nicholas and Paul Nicholas who each received the Award for Merit; and Louise Tuck, who received the Chief Scout's Commendation.

And because of the dedication of everyone in the District, we have enjoyed modest growth again: from 1769 in January 2010 to 1803 in January 2011, an overall increase of 50, or approximately 2%. But we must not be complacent – we must not allow this good news of growth to mask the fact that we are struggling to find sufficient Leaders in the District to keep all sections running. We are particularly in need in the Cub section but we also need to find more Leaders all round. It is never pleasant to have to close sections and, in the last year, we have seen one Beaver Colony and one Cub Pack close through want of Leaders – and others are at risk. (We have also had to close one Explorer Unit, but that has effectively, in a sense, been balanced by the opening of another.) So we need to be aware to the difficulties we face and keep our eyes open to the recruitment of more adult help.

St George's Day, as always, was a highlight of the year, Despite the difficulty of arranging the date, falling on a long Bank Holiday weekend which also happened to coincide with the Royal Wedding, and with three Groups away at Camp, we still had some 850 on Parade, showcasing the strength of Scouting in Royal Kingston and, for the first time in many a year, the Mayor, Councillor Chrissie Hitchcock, marched with us. It was Ian Appleford's first year of MCing the Service and he did an excellent and memorable job. Of course, I got to see both services – both the Beaver service and the older sections, and both, to my mind, were excellent. Congratulations to all involved.

As I write this report, there are less than two months to go before 11 of our young people set off on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure to the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Scout Jamboree in Sweden. Having been selected at a weekend back in March 2010, they have been working towards this for over a year, with various training camps, social activities and fundraising events, and have been doing all this alongside their regular Scouting. Their itinerary commences with two days (at the end of July) at a pre-Jamboree event in Copenhagen; followed by two weeks at Rinkaby in Sweden; then three days of Home Hospitality in Poland before catching the flight home via Brussels (mid-August). They are going to have a fantastic, unforgettable time, and when they get back, I hope you can find the time to attend one of their report-back sessions. I ought also to mention that Martin Meacher, ADC Cubs, is one of the Unit Assistant Leaders attending the Jamboree and has been very involved in the build-up over the year alongside his ADC role. And we also have two leaders in the District attending as IST (International Support Team): Matt Green and Chris Stone.

Of course, as many of you will know, I am a Leader for the Jamboree, and this has required a significant involvement from me over the year, which I admit has necessarily distracted me somewhat from my role as DC. I would therefore like to thank everyone, particularly the District Team and District Executive, for all their support in making the last year a successful one, and I look forward to devoting more time to the role in 2011/2012 as I will, to a large extent, be 'Jamboree-free'!

Dave Batten

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Again, the District has had another very successful year. The uniformed side is covered in the D.C.'s report and in the Group and Team reports. On the non-uniformed side, we can now report that we have at last been able to renew the lease with Kingston Council for the use of Southwood Activity Centre.

Speaking of Southwood, we have now managed to regain the services of the Probation Service. This enables us to use the time and energy of people, who are required to do community service as part of their sentence, free of charge.

Regarding Gloster Road, in December 2009 we lost our tenants. This made quite a hole in our income and we were very happy when we received an approach from a nursery to use the HQ. This has only just started but although we had hoped it would be a fruitful arrangement, we are having problems at the moment with Kingston Council regarding change of use. Watch this space .....

Last November we had the well supported District Quiz which made over £500. This was added to the Jamboree fund to help our youngsters in their fund-raising. The next one will be on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 1<sup>st</sup> Hook HQ so why not get a team together and come along. It's a fun evening and we supply a ploughman's type supper.

Many congratulations to Bob Bushell who received a Mayor's Community Award for his work in the community.

Best wishes to all Groups for the future.

Trevor Strong

### **DISTRICT BEAVER SCOUT REPORT**

It has, as usual been a busy year for the Beaver Scout section.

During the year we introduced the idea of having a District Sleepover at Polyapes Camp Site and this was a great success with the Beavers really enjoying the freedom to play in the great outdoors and at the same time try out a few Scouting skills, experience a proper camp fire complete with some very silly songs .and get to know our District Camp Site a little.

A further Sleepover was held at Berrylands HQ later in the year and was also much enjoyed.

We have otherwise followed our usual programme of events with a Bowling Competition, two Exploring Afternoons for older Beavers and a Scientific Afternoon for the younger ones.

The District Party is always a fun-filled, noisy affair and the Sports morning, held this time at Green Lane Primary School in Worcester Park, was as usual greatly enjoyed by competitors and spectators alike.

Sadly one Colony has had to close due to a lack of Leaders and several others are struggling with less than adequate adult help but all our Colonies run exciting and imaginative programmes.

Whenever we run District events we receive much needed help from members of the Scout Active Support Unit and we are most grateful to them for their traffic and parking control plus also helping with sports judging and running science bases for us.

Almost all our Colonies have waiting lists and we also find that youngsters are clamouring to join Scouting but so far we are just about finding spaces for them all.

They must be hearing about what a great thing it is to be a Beaver in Royal Kingston!

Heather Mason

### **DISTRICT CUB SCOUT REPORT**

Since last years AGM the Cub section has had a very busy 12 months.

Starting with the summer period when the first event was the Cub Sports Day, once again this was held at Imber Court - we were very lucky with the weather. 12 packs took part last year with 1<sup>st</sup> Surbiton 'Dolphin' taking home the first place trophy. It was a very well supported event with lots of families and friends on the day supporting the Cubs; let us hope we will be lucky with the weather again this year.

After Sports Day it wasn't long until the Cubs broke up from school to start their long summer holidays. Most packs had camps, pack holidays and outings making most of the hot sunny weather to explore the great outdoors.

After the school summer holidays all packs resumed their weekly meetings. While the evenings were still light and the weather still warm it gave packs the opportunity to hold meetings at the park and make the most of the last few weeks of summer before winter kicked in.

Next on the Cub Calendar was the Swimming Gala. This took place in October and once again was held at the Rainbow Leisure Centre in Epsom. We had a great turn out with 14 packs taking part and a good level of support from families and friends.

Christmas has now come and gone and we are into 2011 and before we knew it the Arts and Crafts Competition was upon us again, this was held at 1<sup>st</sup> Hook Headquarters. We used the same format as last year, where the Cubs turned up on the day and did three crafts of their choice. The theme this year was 'Royalty' to celebrate the Royal Wedding.



The District held a Quiz at 1<sup>st</sup> Hook, where the County set all questions to run inline with a County Quiz. All 5 districts in Greater London South West sent their top three teams from the District round to the County Quiz. This event also took place at 1st Hook. The teams from Royal Kingston that went forward to the County Quiz were Chessington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Hook 'Hawk and' 1<sup>st</sup> Surbiton 'Dolphin'. 1<sup>st</sup> Place went to a team from Sutton District. Royal Kingston's three teams finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and meant Royal Kingston took home the trophy for the highest score adding all the points from all three teams in the District.



We are now getting into spring - the first outdoor event of the year being the 5 a-side football. This was held at Kingsmeadow Sports Ground, Kingston. 16 teams from the District entered with lots of support from families and friends in what was a fun and friendly morning. 1<sup>st</sup> place this year went to 2<sup>nd</sup> Norbiton and the runners up trophy going to 2<sup>nd</sup> Hook 'Hawk'



We are now about to embark on another busy fun filled 12 months in the Cub section.

None of the above would have been possible without the support and hard work of the Cub leaders who give up hours and hours of their free time throughout the year to make sure that all the Cubs get the best out of Scouting.



I would like to take this opportunity to say a big THANK YOU to all of the Cub Leaders, Assistant Leaders, Pack Helpers and Supporters for making Cub Scouting in Royal Kingston such a great success over the last 12 months.

The Cub section at the moment are in desperate need for extra adult help! If you know of anyone who would be willing to give up a couple of hours a week or help out here and there please can you point them in my direction?



Martin Meacher  
Assistant District Commissioner Cub Scouts



## **DISTRICT EXPLORER REPORT**

This last year has been a year of ups and downs; however Explorer Scout numbers have remained constant. Early in 2011 the decision was taken to close Discovery Explorer Scout Unit. The numbers had dropped dramatically because most of the Explorer Scouts who had been there from the beginning were now reaching 18. With no new recruits in the New Malden area wanting to join it seemed the best thing to do.

Not all doom and gloom though, because it was becoming apparent that the number of Scouts over in the Tolworth area was on the increase, so on 9<sup>th</sup> May; Endeavour Explorer Unit opened its doors. Although there are only a handful of members, I am sure that they will increase in the coming months.

All of the units have been active over the year, from helping to repair the boats at Leander ESU to Voyager ESU completing the Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge. Sealion ESU have been rock climbing and hiking and Titan ESU were recently featured in the Surrey Comet along with their host group for being the best fundraising team in the country at the recent YMCA Sleep easy event, they spent the night sleeping rough in Kingston town centre, where they raised approximately £2,500 in sponsorship to go towards long-term homeless projects. Surbiton South ESU has seen their numbers increase, particularly with many of the Jamboree participants joining the Unit, which has led to the Unit running a Race night as a fundraiser to help their members. Phoenix ESU participated in Operation Red Flare – a night hike with incidents and like all of the units many Explorer Scouts have been working towards achieving the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze or Silver awards. Columbus Young Leader ESU has gone from strength to strength with their number doubling.

All of this would not happen without the dedication of the leaders who turn up every week to run the programs for the young people and I would not be able to do the job that I do without the help of the District Explorer Scout Administrator. This is a role that goes on in the back ground; much of the work is gathering information from groups so that when Scouts reach the upper age limit they move to Explorer Scouts is seamless. Up until the end of March this year this job was undertaken by Barry Pegram. Barry took on the role when Explorer Scouts were formed and has been doing it ever since. He has ensured that when the annual Census takes place collating all the figures which is no mean feat. Barry decided that it was time to hand over to someone else and we have been lucky to have Sarah Yule agree to take over the reins who has a hard act to follow, although Barry is still in the wings there to give help and advice.

Sue Barden - DESC

## **DISTRICT NETWORK REPORT**

It has been a difficult year as we gain a greater understanding of the journey Scouters make through Network, especially with how Network aligns with higher education. This means that we have lost a number of members in September, but maintain links through a newly instituted associate membership programme to ensure we continue social relationships during this period of their lives. In response to the loss of numbers we are holding open evenings to bring in prospective members as we have seen our membership move from 20+ to 10 active members.

Financially, Network aims to charge as little as possible to be a member and we have started a scheme whereby those that contribute to fundraising events can use revenue raised to offset their membership fees and allow inclusion for all. We have no annual subscriptions and no premises so the need for cash surplus is minimal.

Highlights of the year have included building relationships with other clubs within the District. We have spent several nights on the water with the Canoe club and a fantastic evening at 1<sup>st</sup> Hook with the Archery club.

In December we met at Hampton Lido for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Christmas swim before retiring for a warm beverage, later in the month Network used Berryland's Sterling Walk HQ to host a Christmas meal and party for all our members which was attended by over 25 people, many returning from university; a good time was had by all. We have also held quizzes, an alternative sports day, cooking competitions and a treasure hunt.

Stuart Sutch

## **ROYAL KINGSTON DISTRICT SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT UNIT**

We have had a very busy 12 months, providing an increased level of "active support" to the District and running a number of well received social events for members as well as handling the transition from Scout Fellowship to Scout Active Support Unit, which was completed at the end of December 2010.

In terms of "active support" we helped behind the scenes at the St Georges Day Service & Parade, provided refreshments at the County AGM and several District Training sessions, manned checkpoints and provided help at base camp for the District Weyside Wander; provided refreshments to parents at the District Beaver Sports Day, helped with car parking and judging at the District Beaver Scout Party and helped with car parking and judging at the District Beaver Exploring Afternoon and Scientific Afternoon.

We also found the time to enjoy ourselves with a number of social events. Highlights included Rifle Shooting in April, Archery and a BBQ along with our AGM in May, attending the Ealing Beer Festival in July, a night at the Wimbledon Dog Track in September, a night out in Teddington and an evening Ten Pin Bowling in November and a New Year ramble along the Thames in January.



During the year, we strengthened the organisation of the Unit with the appointment of Kevin Barden as Scout Active Support Coordinator and by putting in place a formal Service Agreement with the District, and once again raised sufficient funds to cover our costs.

The District Scout Active Support Unit is open to anyone aged 18 or over who wants to gain or maintain a link with Scouting without the commitment of helping on a regular basis, and membership is also open to uniformed leaders and non-uniformed helpers within the District who are looking for an additional challenge and would like to mix with like minded people. If you are interested in joining us or would like to know more about us then please contact Chris Wright at [chris.wright.uk@gmail.com](mailto:chris.wright.uk@gmail.com).

Chris Wright  
District Scout Active Support Manager

## CHESSINGTON GROUP REPORT

We've had another successful year with respect to the number of members at Chessington Scout Group. We're currently running with numbers just up on last year for the Group as a whole and we have frequent requests for new joiners across the sections. The Scout Troop which split out from Cubs last September has been very successful and wouldn't have been possible without Mark Wilson stepping up to the challenge of Scout Leader having had no previous experience.

Amelia Strudwick, Martin Meacher and Mark have really done an excellent job providing an exciting and varied programme for our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts which has enabled us to attract new members over the year. The Leadership team for the sections have continued meeting on a regular basis at Scouters meetings which enables us to coordinate activities and get actions in place to make improvements within the group.

The sections have had a full and varied programme and have been actively involved in a number of District events. The Beavers have been working hard towards their badges with seven Beavers gaining the Bronze Chief Scout Award before moving on to Cubs. The Cubs came first in the District Quiz and went on to come third in the County round in the process helping the Royal Kingston District to win overall. The Cubs have also been on two camps over the last year. The Scouts have been introduced to a number of new skills and challenges as well as going on a Survival Camp. As a Group we were awarded the Bridger Family trophy on St George's Day parade for being the smartest Group on parade – a very welcome surprise! The above photo is the Group gathered just after the parade.



There are a few areas where we didn't succeed this year such as our church parade attendance, getting a Group newsletter out, getting more parents involved in the Group via parent representatives on the Executive Committee as well as parent rotas, the recruitment of adult volunteers in general, and fundraising. As a Group our development plan for the coming year will focus on these areas. We've had some large outgoings this year to deal with maintenance of the Scout HQ so fundraising will be very important. The biggest challenge however is going to be getting more adult volunteers involved in the Group to keep us running, many of which we are going to need in the short term. If anyone is interested or knows of anyone who may be able to donate some time and get involved then please get in touch.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to Martin as our acting Cub Leader as well as more recently Siobhan Harker who have done so much to bring our Cub pack back to life over the last few years. Martin and Siobhan will be taking a step back from Chessington in the summer so we will have a number of open roles within Cubs to keep the pack running so well.

I'd also like to extend my thanks to the whole executive committee for their continued support and in particular Jim Wray and Chris Jenkins who are stepping down this year.

Finally I'd like to thank all our uniformed Leaders and assistants, Amelia, Sophie Townley-Hill, Martin, Daniel Hardwick, Siobhan, Mark, Paivi Nevalainen and James Weston for the efforts over the last year and making the Group such a success. I hope we can continue to improve in the coming year.

Bryn Regan

Group Scout Leader, Chessington <http://www.chessingtonscouts.org.uk/>

## **2<sup>ND</sup> HOOK (ST PAUL'S) SCOUT GROUP REPORT**

Another very successful year for the Group with the numbers of young people coming in to Scouting increasing during the last year. This, of course, creates certain problems in recruiting new people to provide assistance to our existing leaders and in this connection I am always hopeful that members of the local community will come forward to offer their services. Beaver Scout numbers are very high although there are a few vacancies but the Cub pack is now full. We continue to look to recruit young people aged from 10–11 for the Scout troop.

In addition to their normal meetings Beaver Scouts have earned many badges and also played a significant part in the District events. There was an exploring day, the sports day, and a sleepover which were all thoroughly enjoyed. A joint colony party was held on a very snowy day just prior to Christmas which was well attended and finished the term off well.

The Cub pack has again been active not only in gaining badges but also in the number of activities which have been undertaken during the last year. There were District and County Quizzes, and a number of District events such as arts and crafts, sports day where the pack finished runners-up, a sleepover at Cobham and an enjoyable hike around Wisley on an extremely hot day. There was also a sleepover at the headquarters, a hike from Claygate Common back to the HQ and our weeks selling programmes for the Group fair as well as a week long camp during the summer break.

The Troop is now beginning to make progress but is looking to recruit more members. There have been a number of activities including photography, circus skills which was very popular, administrative skills and fire safety as well as undertaking a wardening weekend at Cobham.

The Group does play an active role within the local community and within the Church which remains our Sponsors. Our fair held in May was a good example of an event for Hook. The Cub Pack became involved with local people and members of 1<sup>st</sup> Hook Band in donating many presents and handing these out to sick children in Kingston Hospital in the week prior to Christmas. We continue with our own parade services at the same time joining with 1<sup>st</sup> Hook Scout Group three times during the year for parade services when it is difficult to fit everyone into the Church. The Remembrance Day parade is always well attended with many local people joining with the Group for the brief service outside the Church prior to the main service.

I very much appreciate the support and assistance of the warranted leaders as well as that of the Executive Committee over the last year but I am always interested to know of anyone else who wishes to assist with the Group and join the adventure.

Alan Cooke GSL

### 3<sup>RD</sup> KINGSTON REPORT

Wow – what a year! 3<sup>rd</sup> Kingston has, once again, had another year of continued growth with our membership at census time up by 74% (youth members up by 71% and adults up by 88%) including the forming of a new Scout Troop last June – and our numbers continue to grow! This has come about by a fun, varied and exciting programme of activities meaning a 100% turnout just about every week. Apart from the normal weekly activities, each section has taken part in the numerous District events.

After several years without a Scout Troop, we formed one last summer as several Cubs were all at the age to move up. This proved a popular move as we were able to also recruit additional young people new to Scouting and also to recruit Christian as Scout Leader, along with Charlotte (from Beavers), Shim and Margaret as Assistant Leaders and Nick as Troop Assistant. Unfortunately, Charlotte hasn't been able to devote much time and Margaret is moving back to Hong Kong this summer.

The Scouts have had a great first year, starting with investing the initial 10 down the caves at Mestham – something I'm sure they will all remember, as will Christian and myself – this shows us having emerged from the cave as invested Scouts.

We also joined with 1<sup>st</sup> Hook Scouts for a thoroughly enjoyable Easter Camp – thanks for inviting us! - as well as learning new skills – especially those new to Scouting. In March, we entered 8 Scouts in 2 teams in the County Night Exercise who finished exceptionally well in 14<sup>th</sup> and 33<sup>rd</sup> place – bearing in mind there are probably over 100 Scout Troops in the County!

The Beavers, as always have had a busy year; attending two District led Sleepovers, one at Polyapes and one at Berrylands HQ both of which were enjoyed by the Beavers who attended, as well as other District led activities such as the Beaver Party, Sports morning, the Experiment and Explore badge days and taking part in the Surbiton Festival parade. For the first time 3<sup>rd</sup> Kingston joined the District Bowling competition and managed 3<sup>rd</sup> place!

Our weekly programme has been filled with fun and games with the underlying badge work – sometimes the Beavers don't know what they have done to achieve their badge, until they're told all the fun activities that have counted towards it. The Beavers particularly enjoyed an archery activity held at a Scout Group in Worcester Park, a visit to Surbiton Fire station and another visit out to Wendy's Workshop to paint a ceramic plate for Mothering Sunday. Other highlights have included making a magnet fishing game, an evening wander along the riverside and cooking bananas stuffed with chocolate and marshmallows on the BBQ. They even enjoyed the challenge of a Marathon Sponsored Silence in aid of Children with Leukaemia (what a blissful meeting for the Leaders!).

Many of those leaving our Beaver Colony have gone on to Cubs having attained their Chief Scout Bronze Award and gained lots of activity badges. We have been lucky to gain Tammie as a Colony Assistant recently as we continue to receive more and more requests for boys and girls to join us.



Not to be outdone, the Cubs too have been thoroughly enjoying themselves; the main highlights being a weekend away at Frylands Wood in May last year, an indoor sleepover in November as well as gaining many badges; some individually and some working as a Pack including the Entertainers and visiting Pets at Home for part of the Animal Carers badge. The Cubs have also gained the Artist badge part of which they made a collage of the Royal Wedding. We gratefully welcome Gary and Alex as Assistant Cub Leaders, both of whom joined us last summer and have been a huge asset to the Cub Pack and the Group.

We sent 13 boxes to Operation Christmas Child and are still supporting Hearing Dogs for Deaf People by collecting used postage stamps.

The Group is continuing with its social events – unfortunately, we had to cancel our race night, but we held a very successful disco/social in January: disco for the young people and drinks, food and chat for the adults – although some of the adults decided that we should swap it around next time and they will dance! We have spent quite a bit of time developing our website [www.3rdkingston-scouts.org.uk](http://www.3rdkingston-scouts.org.uk), which has certainly played its part in the growth of the Group.

As always, my hugely grateful thanks go to the Leaders: Christian, Shim, Margaret, Nick, Charlotte, Paul, Linda, Gary, Alex, Christina, Janet and Tammie, to the Group Executive, and also, and by no means least, to all our Young People who make it all worthwhile. We all look forward to the coming year, which is certain to be fun, not only for us leaders, but especially for the boys and girls in 3<sup>rd</sup> Kingston – the way things are going, I'm sure I will be saying "Wow – what a year!" for 2011/12 as well. Thank you all!

Richard Golding.

## **1ST KINGSTON HILL REPORT**

Over the past couple of years 1KH has been moving on in leaps and bounds and not only from a section level. Our Group Executive Committee has made remarkable changes to many issues within 1KH by arranging and running fundraising events and working days & weekends. All the funds raised recently have been piled back into our headquarters allowing for items such as the new central heating & hot water system, re-tiling of the main kitchen, emergency lighting & fire alarm systems and continuing decoration works inside and out. On top of this many projects are in progress or have been accomplished within our field including the long awaited Jim Fletcher memorial which now stands proudly within our headquarters grounds. My personal thanks and acknowledgment goes to all our members, their families and friends as well as our committed leader team, who have given up so much time and effort to produce what is rapidly becoming a wonderful headquarters.

We currently have sub committees within the GEC that take care of ongoing issues such as our Headquarters maintenance and refurbishment works, fund raising ventures to enable these works to be carried out, a more versatile hall booking system and our new Website construction and ongoing updates. This is really just a fraction of what 1KH Group Executive have and still our accomplishing, and on behalf of all 1KH members I thank them all for their support and time.

Our Beaver Colony continues to thrive with the hard work and dedication of Carol and her leader team. The Colonies current membership stands at 18, and the Beavers are continually having fun and learning new and exciting things. Unfortunately Carol has recently decided to stand down as our Beaver Leader due to family commitments, but has promised to stay on until July 2010 or a replacement is found whichever comes sooner.

Our Cub Pack continues to be as strong as ever with Woody at the helm and aided by Ryan and Jo. Running fun packed weekly meetings for all to enjoy, and continually taking part in District events such as sleepovers and Scouting competitions. With a current Pack membership standing at 22, 1KH is able to offer a wide range of activities to suit the age group.

Our Scout Troop numbers have dwindled slightly of late, which is primarily due to a mass exodus up to Explorer Scouts. But with new members coming up from the Cub Pack and from external influences the Troop is again beginning to fill up and current membership stands at 28. The Troop continues to offer and produce excellent Scouting opportunities for all its members.

1<sup>st</sup> Kingston Hill continues to have its partnership with the District run Explorer Unit Centura, and many of our elder Scouts have now moved onto Explorer Scouting within the Centura Unit. With the help of the Unit 1KH also has a very impressive up and coming Young Leader section, that regularly help out across all sections within the Scout Group.

It is probably common knowledge to the majority of our guests that 1KH has recently been through a very political and shaky few months, but I would like to ensure all that many of the issues are already classed as water under the bridge. I would like to emphasise that the future of 1KH has never been threatened in anyway, and that the Groups future and way forward is a much clearer and brighter path.

Last and by no means least, I would like to personally say a huge thank you from myself and all 1KH members to our Leader Team. Without these dedicated people none of what happens within 1KH could and would take place. Their efforts and time are greatly appreciated, and words cannot express what they are giving to the young people within scouting today.

Stewart Nash GSL

## **LEANDER SEA SCOUT GROUP**

Leander for the past 12 months has had many changes in personnel, members, equipment and even subscription fees.

Starting with personnel, Karen Rean stood down as BSL and Richard Wallington took over officially in January. Simon Biddulph stood down as ABSL to take up his new position as CSL. So that now gives Nick Yelland the chance to be the ACSL. Tony Cockle and John Waller stood down from ACSL to OH status, and are being replaced by Rick Reynolds & Jim Monks. Peg Morris has moved from Beavers to being the Cub Administrator, which will make life at the Troop so much easier. Robin Burr has officially handed in his notice as SL but is still in position until a suitable replacement is found. Aidan Hazard has taken out an appointment to be ASL alongside Liz Morrissey. And lastly Russell Constable has joined the team as an Instructor within the Troop alongside John Burr and Andrew Jackson on the water

Leander has lost approx 25 young people over the last year, but due to a high demand in Sea Scouting in the Kingston area we have been fortunate to allocate the empty space to many young people that have never been Scouts before.

Thanks to Albany Sailing and Canoe Centre and the Lensbury Club (Teddington), we have been able to obtain some new boats for the Troop and Unit to use. In May / June last year we purchased 3 Pico's from Albany, and in May this year we gained 4 Canoes from Lensbury.

On the HQ front, we have had a few problems but thankfully we are starting to get them fixed. For many years we have had a leak on the Bridge (Balcony) with rain water running in to the Boat Deck, but with it now sealed and with non-slip tiles no such leaks are happening. But the leaks have now moved into the skylights. So we have replaced the worst offending panel (only another 7 to go). Then we had the high winds. So that only leads to the main tree in the back garden falling over into Albany (oops). Now with it all chopped up, the Big Garden clean up begins.

For many years now Leander's subscription fees have been on a quarterly standing order. But due to the everyday Group expenses, up keep of the vast fleet of boats, insurance and building maintenance we have had to make changes. So from April this year all members are paying subs monthly.

With all of the moving around and repairs being made, all sections gained the Group Environmental Badge before Christmas. Beavers and Cubs have also been able to help 6 young people to gain the Service element for their Bronze or Silver D of E. Also all sections have been busy attending camps, Regattas, Swimming Gala's, Scooter Rally's, Sports Days, and Night Hikes along with many badge days. So for being the GSL of Leander and being the person collecting the badge orders every term from the Epsom Scout Shop, it is so wonderful to see what the Group has achieved.

Karen Loizou  
GSL

## **1<sup>ST</sup> MALDEN SCOUT GROUP REPORT**

Firstly I would like to thank my Beaver Leaders, having told me of their decision in July 2010 to step down as leaders from April 2011, continued to run a very successful Beaver Colony. The Beavers did their Faith Badge, as part of this visited the United Reformed Church where the Rev Bruce Stewart took them on a tour with lots of explanations, especially about the stained glass window. They did their Explorer Badge looking at the moon and planets. Being healthy and fit earned them their fitness badge and for their global badge cleared away litter down the High Street and looked at labels on tins in the shops for Fair Trade products. The Colony also took part in various District activities.

So come April 2011 Liza Mair, Sandra Lyons and Pat Barnard relinquished their role as leaders, Pat after being with the Beavers for nearly 30 years. We had a special evening to say goodbye and thank you to them for all that they did for Beavers and the Group.

Although we have tried hard to find new Leaders no one as of yet has come forward to be a warranted leader, but Joan Beer has come forward to help each week and with the help and support of parents we are managing to keep the Colony going.

The Cubs under the Leadership of David Messenbird and Richard Strange have been doing their D I Y badge and Emergency aid, so we should be alright when things go wrong. At Christmas they had their party with all the Cubs coming dressed as Famous People; always hard to judge. They had a visit to Radio Jackie which was a great evening with them being on Radio. Summer camp took place at Bodier Hurst, the theme being Dr Who. The cooking was done by previous leaders Mick and Wendy Glynn; it was good to catch up with them. Taking part in the District Scooter Rally under much pressure to keep their record, but as I say it's the taking part that counts.

The Scouts under the leadership of Jane Pringle, Phil Dennis and Rebecca Dunne took 20 Scouts to Chaos Camp at Tolmers. They have continued with a very busy programme, taking part in the Shelter Box Challenge around London. July saw them practicing for survival camp at the Headquarters sleeping outside with no tents. At the end of the year, we saw the older Scouts moving on to Explorers, leaving a very young Troop. October wardening at Polyapes was much fun. Two Scouts took part in the National Shooting squad. December came and ice skating at Hampton Court took place. Decorating a Christmas tree for charity at the Methodist Church and doing the Christmas Post a busy month. February they took part in the County Cooking competition and March the County Night Hike. All the Scouts have had taster sessions at rifle shooting and a team took part in the District Rifle shooting Competition. Also all the Scouts have had the opportunity to do kayaking during this half term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dave and Louise Ellis for all the help they have given the Group.

As a Group we had a successful Group B.B.Q. in June, at which we also had our A.G.M. where the chairman Rob Taylor stood down. At the time we did not have a replacement but this year Rob Pringle agreed to be our Chair. July saw us down the High Street in Malden Fortnight. Christmas we had our Annual Carol service followed by mulled wine and mince pies. May we had a lovely Group Family Camp which was great fun and the sun shone on us.

I would like to say thank you to the Group Executive which has had a very busy year organizing a new roof for the headquarters, which has taken up a lot of our time and for the many fund raising activities organized to raise money for the project. To the parents who did a big clearing project at the headquarters - thank you.

On a personal note this has not been the best year for me health wise and I would like to thank the entire Group: Scouters, Parents, Supporters, Youngsters and my family for your continued support.

Yvonne Wilkinson G.S.L. 1<sup>st</sup> Malden

## **2<sup>ND</sup> MALDEN (ST JOSEPH'S)**

Eight years after our launch at St Joseph's, the Group continues to be successful, with all three sections being full, both now and for the foreseeable future. Although not a closed Group, we work very closely with our sponsoring authority and the local Catholic school. We must be the only Group that regularly has over 60 uniformed members at Church Parade. The Group also has very close links with the 28<sup>th</sup> Wimbledon (Sacred Heart) Guides with a number of the Girl cubs transferring to them at age 10 and a flow of Young Leaders and Boating Instructors coming the other way.

We operate a successful policy of involving parents very heavily in the Group, meaning that when leader vacancies arise we hopefully have our replacements already in place. This year we have welcomed Jim Cook as Scout Leader, Nick Dunmore as GSL and in September Sharon Heptinstall will replace Rosemary Matters who is retiring after 8 years as BSL. We also welcome Mick Gallagher as ASL & Nick Singfield as ACSL.

The Group places great emphasis on outdoor activities, especially camps and most cubs can look to gaining their 20 Nights Away Badge before moving on – we also presented our first 35 nights away to one of the Cubs last year. In April 80 members of the Group completed our biennial 10 mile Trek Cart push from St Joseph's to Polyapes, before a Group Campfire and £300 Pizza Hut delivery; and in May we invited the 7<sup>th</sup> Malden Cubs to our Royal Wedding Camp where street parties were the order of the day, as well as the obligatory viewing of Dr Who.

Last year we joined the Guides at Walton Firs to celebrate their Centenary County Camp and welcomed some Ukrainian families to our Sub Camp. There aren't many Groups who can claim to have the founder and president of a National Organisation do the washing up on their camp.

In recent years we have been developing our joint 2M/28W Boating Team with the Guides and now have 9 BCU qualified Instructors. We run a Cub Water Funday with Packs from Spelthorne District and an activity day at TYM which has been supported by other groups from within our District, as well as Indoor sessions and a BCU Training weekend for the Guide Region.



## **7<sup>TH</sup> MALDEN SCOUT GROUP REPORT**

Green Lane Hall continues to be maintained to a high standard. Following on from some problems last year the central heating is now working well and we have paid off the arrears that we had with British Gas, so payments may now be reduced.

The porch has had a new roof as it had started to leak and the interior of the porch has also been painted.

We have put a new door on the side hut (the old toilet block), as the existing one was in a poor state. The toilets have also had work done on them to improve flushing. Our new notice board has been put in place behind the front fence, and now notices are being done (Activities etc.).

The Hall continues to be well used with Green Lane Montessori School using it from 8.00 am to 12.30 pm, Monday to Friday.

Beaver Scouts meet on Mondays from 5.30 to 6.30 pm.

Cub Scouts meet on Wednesdays from 6.30 to 8.00 pm.

Scouts meet on Fridays from 7.30 to 9.30 pm.

Explorer Scouts meet on Fridays from 7.30 to 9.30 pm.

Badminton on Mondays from 7.30 to 10.00 pm.

Table Tennis on Tuesdays from 7.30 to 10.00 pm.

Badminton on Wednesdays from 8.00 to 10.00 pm.

Table Tennis on Thursdays from 7.30 to 10.00 pm.

Kick Boxing on Saturday mornings.

Karate on Saturday afternoons.

Kingston Holiday Club also uses the Hall all day during the School Holidays.

## **7<sup>th</sup> MALDEN BEAVER REPORT**

The Beaver Section has kept a constant number of around 14 boys and girls through the year. They participate in District events through the year such as the Scientific Afternoon and Exploring Afternoon where they gain badges. They took part in the Sports morning at Worcester Park and came 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 17.

During the year they have gained many Activity badges and worked to gain the 6 challenge badges for which they gain the Bronze Chief Scout Award. This award is then carried forward to their Cub uniform. Six Beavers have moved to the Cub Section during the year. A further 8 Beavers will join Cubs during this coming summer period, so I have vacancies for those aged 6 to 7 ½ years old. Our meetings are always very active and busy with Fun.

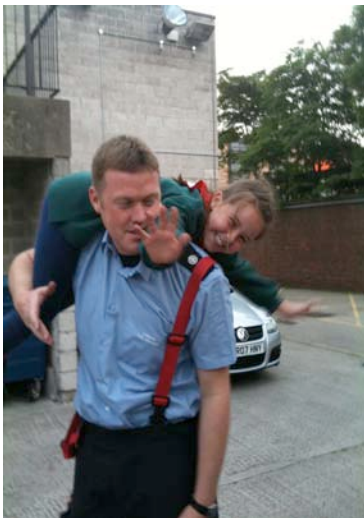
Alan Lane, Acting Beaver Leader

## **7<sup>TH</sup> MALDEN CUB PACK ANNUAL REPORT**

7<sup>th</sup> Malden Cub Pack has gone from strength to strength with another busy year. Our year began focusing on our local community, with an aim for the Cubs to earn both their Local Knowledge badge and Community Challenge. This culminated in a visit to New Malden Fire Station. After having to wait for the firemen and engine to return from a call shortly after arriving, the Cubs were allowed to ask questions and even lift the heavy car cutting equipment and spray the water hose.

7<sup>th</sup> Malden was active in many of the District activities that took place through the year. This started with the annual 5-a-side competition held at Kingsmeadow. We've always done well in this tournament, and last year was no exception, when we reached the final. Sadly, we were only runners up, but our team did exceptionally well, especially when considering we had no substitutions. The other big Royal Kingston event of the summer was the Giant Sleepover in June. Held at Polyapes campsite, the sleepover saw the Cubs participate in many outdoor activities such as cooking on open fires, archery, fake wounds, firing rockets and a campfire. A great time was had by all those who went, and it was fantastic to have the Cubs out under canvas camping. Special mention should go to Ben Walker, who managed to 'catch' a Frisbee with the back of his head to earn some time at Kingston Hospital A&E – obviously, nobody mentioned to him that the wounds the other Cubs had were fake! Autumn saw the Cubs work towards the Communicators badge. We spent weeks looking at different forms of communicating, including hidden codes, Morse code, semaphore and sign language. The half term had the annual County Gang Show return to the Secombe Theatre in Sutton. This year was especially worth noting with the Gang consisted of four Cubs from the Pack (Matteo Vittano, Rhea Hope Ridge, Jack Harrap and Daniel Foulger). At the end of 2010, we again sung festive carols round the corner in Gooding Close.

2011 began with things looking up – literally! With the dark winter nights, the Cubs took the opportunity to gain their Astronomy badge. Unfortunately, the clouds were not in our favour, and it took us a while to actually gaze on the likes of Orion and the Plough. Whilst the weather kept us indoors, the Cubs got creative. They worked towards their Creative Challenge and prepared for the District Arts & Crafts Competition. This year's theme was Royalty in honour of the wedding that was approaching. We produced a Pack collage together with the Queen's head on stamps as our focal point. For this we got a Highly Commended, and in the actual competition itself we came 7<sup>th</sup> with 7 Cubs entering, which seems somewhat right for 7<sup>th</sup> Cubs!



Over the past year, the 7<sup>th</sup> Pack has restarted the Best Six award. It has been a great success with all activities and games rewarded with points for the term long competition. So, as a role of honour, the past year winners and Sixers of the winning Sixes are: Sam Balharrie, Thomas Edge & Aaron Gray. Congratulations!

Looking forward to what the summer term brings, but before we get there, the Pack is getting ready for a joint camp with 2<sup>nd</sup> Malden at Chalfont. Following shortly after Easter, this is taking place on the new long weekend we've received because of the wedding – so we'll be celebrating in true Cub camp style, as well as the usual assortment of camp activities. Once again, I'd like to say a big thank you to the support of other leaders. The past twelve months of Cubs have been a real joy, but I'm hoping we can make the year even more enjoyable. Thanks, and see you Wednesday!

**Richard Feltham, Akela, CSL.**

## **7<sup>th</sup> MALDEN BEDELSFORD TROOP REPORT**

Bedelsford Troop meets in Bedelsford School, Kingston on a Friday Afternoon. This is a School for pupils with a wide range of physical disabilities, including profound and multiple learning difficulties and complex health issues.

The Troop numbers have grown from 8 to 9. They have gained various badges during the year. At the meetings they make various objects, colouring, memory games, dancing and other activities to help them gain confidence. The Scouts all look forward to their weekly Troop meetings.

I would like to say thank you to my Leaders at the School for their help each week. Also the support of Angela Evans Head Teacher at Bedelsford School, along with members of 7<sup>th</sup> Malden Scout Group and their support through the year.

Veronica Kerridge

## **2<sup>ND</sup> NORBITON**

It seems hardly possible that almost a year has passed since last I sat writing a GSLs report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Norbiton Annual General Meeting but, incredibly, that is indeed the case and, despite the fact that I believed that report to be my last, I find myself – laptop on lap – compiling another. I fully expected, by now, to have handed over the GSL's reins to my successor but, for one reason or another, that transition has not yet been made and so here I am. In this last 12 months, 2<sup>nd</sup> Norbiton has grown yet again as a Group. The Beaver Colony has maintained its numbers at around 24 and continues to provide excellent Scouting to its body of 6 to 8 year-olds: They have enjoyed a full and varied programme, and have been as involved as they can be with District Beaver activities and sleepovers. The Cub Pack, already nearing capacity when I last wrote, has reached maximum numbers of about 34 and continues, as with the Beavers, to entertain its 8 to 10 year-olds with an excellent balance of badge work, adventurous activities, sports, craftwork, outings and Pack Holidays (Camps). And the Troop, which not long ago was running joint meetings with 7<sup>th</sup> Malden Troop with a handful of Scouts on its books, is now standing on its own two feet and providing equally varied and entertaining activities to its near-capacity (around 27) section of 10 to 14 year-olds. And then, of course, there's the Executive Committee. At the last AGM, we stated to everyone that one of the major goals in the next year was to raise funds for a new mini bus, as Nobby II was on its last wheels, so to speak (a vehicle not having legs, of course) – and, less than a year later, the Group has raised a staggering £13,000 and purchased a nearly-new replacement. Yes, the Group all pulled together to achieve this remarkable feat but it was the Executive and the Leaders that drove it, and everyone is to be congratulated.

I have said this before, but a good thing is worth repeating: The growth of the Group is a testimony to the strength and commitment of its Leadership (including its Executive Committee) and the commitment and loyalty of the young people and their families. When I speak of Leadership I mean, of course, the Leaders and helpers (including parent rotas) that run the section meetings week in, week out – and not to any Leadership on my part as GSL which, over the course of the year, has been broadly remote oversight, as my main role of DC (and my heavy Jamboree involvement) has necessarily taken up the bulk of my time. 2<sup>nd</sup> Norbiton is strong enough to grow without needing the intervention of the GSL, though that position is still required in order to steer the Group and keep it moving forward, lest you think I am advocating it doesn't need one! I am confident that the next GSL will find a Group that is well-set for the future, and it is likely that one of the first problems he – or she – will face is what to do to accommodate the growing number of young people that is knocking on the door of the Group: 2<sup>nd</sup> Norbiton is already at capacity and needs to plan for possible future expansion; it is one of the 'consequences' of success. But what a great position to be in – especially when you consider that, just a few years ago, the Group was on the verge of closing down.

At this point, I wish to voice my thanks to 7<sup>th</sup> Malden for agreeing to the joint working of the Troops. It was of mutual benefit and helped us both to keep going and growing; without it we would both have gone through very trying times and may even have folded. Though the Troops have now split back, that bond remains and the two still enjoy a good relationship and the occasional joint activity. Long may it continue.

In closing, I offer my congratulations to everyone involved with the Group and I wish you all the very best for what, I am sure, will be a bright future.

Dave Batten

## **1<sup>ST</sup> OLD MALDEN SCOUTS SPONSORED BY ST JOHN THE BAPTIST MALDEN**

Annual Report 2011

Last year was our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and, as well as all our normal activities we held a Group Camp. This was a chance for everyone currently in the group or who had ever had any connections with the group to spend the weekend together. If they couldn't camp, they all had a chance to join us for at least one of the days. On the Sunday evening Kevin Scott joined us for a special dedication of an oak tree planted in memory of Tim Eggitt, who had done so much for the Group before he so tragically died during the previous year.

As well as the successful camp, we followed it with the most profitable fair we have ever held. The money raised at this event helps us to minimise the cost of activities to our members.

All our sections have a chance to participate in District events as well as our own programmes. Early this year our Explorer Scouts won a district trophy for shooting and the Cubs, the District trophy at a scooter rally.

To run a successful Group we need lots of adult help. This year hasn't been easy. Our Scout Leader has been off sick since last summer and we are still awaiting his return. Callum Grant, a Scout helper, has enjoyed his role so much that he has become an Assistant Scout Leader. We are very grateful to him for stepping in to run the troop until Paul Leonard returns. We haven't been so lucky with Cubs and Beavers. Felicity Grigg had to give up running Kipling Pack [one of our cub packs] due to family commitments and Lindsay Highfield has had to give up running Yukon Colony [one of our beaver colonies] due to personal circumstances. Both these sections have had to close until we can get more leaders. If you could help in anyway please have a chat with me. Remember 'every little helps' and 'many hands make light work'. You would never be on your own as we work as a team. We all believe that the more you put in the more you get out of it. Our lives are certainly enriched from the experience.

Kay Gooud

Group Scout Leader

## **1<sup>ST</sup> ROYAL KINGSTON REPORT**

The best events for 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Kingston (Little Shepherds) are yet to come!!

In June we have the MSK Olympics followed by Gilwell Park, then our first overnight outdoor camp and then the District Sports Day finishing with our Fun Day at Southwood on the 9<sup>th</sup> July.

Samir Alyafee

## **1<sup>st</sup> Surbiton (Sealion) Sea Scout Group Annual Report 2010-2011**

This has been an incredible year of change! For those who recall reading my report last year, I described a Group meeting in temporary accommodation, and waiting for a new headquarters to be completed and opened for us all to move into. It took longer than we had originally expected to complete but with a big fanfare and a formal service on 7 November to which the Mayor, Ed Davey, David Houghton, The Vicar of The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton and a number of the District hierarchy were invited, we celebrated perhaps one of the biggest days in the Group's recent history - on almost exactly our 101<sup>st</sup> birthday, we opened the John Taylor Hall, our new Headquarters. All of a sudden, the reasons for Roger Jones's work on the Headquarters project, Lynda Bennett's organisation of all the standing orders, John Ayles's work on reclaiming gift aid, Mark Connoley's organisation of the Group Executive, Matthew Bennett's financial management, and all the work the section leaders had done to keep their colonies, packs, troop and unit going came together. At the service we also saw a new Group Colour, made by Mrs Janet Jones, blessed and carried for the first time. Having the service split between St Andrew's Church and the New Headquarters building with David Houghton, the Vicar, present was highly appropriate, as without the support of the Church, we wouldn't have had our new building for a number of years, and certainly wouldn't have had some of the temporary accommodation and facilities we were extended by the Parish during the building period. They have our very sincere and heartfelt thanks.

We've now got a permanent home, and although we discuss possible improvements, and some things we wish we'd done differently in the building, it's churlish to think about such things in so many ways, because of just how far we've come in terms of facilities for our young people in such a short time. The building's now fully in use and 6 months on, it's beginning to feel like home. During the hiatus we wondered how many Cubs and Beavers we'd lose because of the temporary arrangements. We can't say it was the easiest time, but the basic answer as to how many we lost because of it all was - 0. We've actually continued to grow. We've got through the period of temporary arrangements and really have come out of it stronger. It's had its effect, though: our bank balance is depleted, owing to not only the HQ, but the purchase of a lot of new boating equipment and a new minibus. There now follows a period of restraint...

All the sections within the Group continue to be buoyant. The Beavers, as I observed last year, seemed to be the section least affected by the temporary arrangements - and they've remained so. There's over 40 of them spread between the two colonies and they seem as happy and engaged as ever. The Church was just a different playground to them: they came into their meetings in the Church with the opportunity to play with Lego before their meeting started rather than a football, and now we're in the Headquarters, they're back to footballs. For them it seems to be that simple. A Beaver meeting in the new headquarters is different - they can play games either width ways or in just half the length of the headquarters, allowing their handcraft tables to be set up in advance. All in all, as far as I can see they couldn't be happier. Besides a very full programme they've taken part in virtually all the District Beaver activities - the sports day, Beaver party, exploring and science afternoons, they've been on parade in the Surbiton Festival and on outings to Hampton Court and a joint activity afternoon with Dolphin Cubs. Generally, a very good year for a thriving section of the Group. Sally Muxworthy runs both colonies and given all her other commitments, does an amazing job providing inventive and creative programmes. She is ably assisted by Ann Beet, Penny Blundell, Simon Burrows, Jackie Taylor, Karen Gehring, Simon Lewis, Alex "Seagulls" Lever and Andrew Aiken, and my thanks go to them all for providing their little livewires with such a fine introduction to the Scouting experience.

The Cub section within the Group is also thriving. We have two Packs: Walrus and Dolphin, with over 60 cubs between them. Walrus Pack always has a great time from everything I see. They go on their main annual camp with 2<sup>nd</sup> Hook and 2<sup>nd</sup> Norbiton, as well as arranging outings and weekend camps for themselves. They've also had Cubs attend some of the District events such as the Weyside Wander as well as the District competitions. When I visit they are always happy and committed to what they're doing. They've also done well in some of the District competitions this year, particularly in the Arts and Crafts competition when they won the Pack collage category with their entry. The whole leadership team of Sue Oakes, Louise Tuck, Penny Blundell, Steve Russ works well together and I'm very grateful to them all for their dedication and time to ensure that the good times continue for everyone in Walrus Pack. Along with running Walrus Pack, the leadership team make a significant contribution to the District, running the District Swimming Gala and helping with the organisation of a number of other events. Louise has been one of the District Cub Scout Leaders since autumn 2010, increasing the number of District staff provided by 1<sup>st</sup> Surbiton to two, with Martin Meacher being Assistant District Commissioner for Cub Scouts as well as an Assistant Cub Scout Leader with Dolphin Pack.



Dolphin Cub Pack are certainly maintaining the standards they've always strived to stand for. In the time since the last report they've been to summer camp in Farnborough and had a Pack Holiday at Parkwood (near Brighton) as well as going boating with the Scouts, taking part in activities such as the District Weyside Wander, the Surbiton Festival and by doing so making sure that not having a Scout Headquarters in no way reduced anyone's enjoyment of their time in the Pack. They've also continued their winning ways in remarkable fashion: in February they won the District Arts and Crafts competition, which meant that at that point they held every one of the District trophies for the regular Cub events - the Sports Day, Five-a-side football competition, the Swimming Gala and District "Raksha" Trophy for winning the District Quiz in February 2010. They achieved the same feat when we were part of Surbiton District (twice) but this is the first time any Pack has won them all within Royal Kingston District. This would be a magnificent achievement in any situation, but set against the backdrop of being in temporary accommodation, it's even more remarkable. The leadership, Lynda Bennett, Sheila and Rory Traynor, Martin and Pauline Meacher, Eileen Granger and Ian Appleford need to be congratulated for this specifically, and for their general running of both the Pack and the District events they stage each year (the five-a-side football competition and the sports day).

The Scout section has also continued to grow and thrive. They've also had a very successful year. They used different temporary accommodation to the rest of the Group, being based in St Andrew and St Mark's school when they weren't on the River. Their growth in recent years is phenomenal, now having over 70 Scouts on the books. Like in so many other years, all their activities are based around boating and water. Their summer camp this year was at JubJam 100 in Holland, where those attending went kayaking and sailing. During the year, they've undertaken a range of activities including scuba diving in a swimming pool, and skiing at the dry ski-slope at Sandown. They've attended the District Survival Camp, and been active in District competitions. One triumph was when they won the under 14 "sculling over the stern" event at the National Sea Scout Regatta. Again, all the activities were arranged to ensure the experience was maintained while the headquarters was being redeveloped.

As detailed above, we've been realising a few dreams recently - the new headquarters and minibus, and in March, one of our others was at least partially realised. The Royal Navy run a scheme to recognise Sea Scout Groups, and a long-held ambition has been to have the Group so recognised. To achieve this standard you have to undergo what is effectively an audit, involving a visit by a Naval Officer who examines all records, programmes, attends a meeting and speaks to all the Scouts and representatives from the other sections. Lt. Cmdr Griffiths, the inspecting officer, visited at the end of March. He was with us all evening and carried out a very thorough inspection. We passed this stage of his inspection. We have a few areas to work on, but in July, we undergo the second stage of recognition process, when Lt Cmdr Griffiths will watch the troop in action on the River, to see the Scouts handling boats and undertaking the practical elements of Sea Scouting. I hope that in next year's Group report I'll be able to announce that 1<sup>st</sup> Surbiton have achieved recognition by the Royal Navy. Just to have got to this stage is a tribute to our leaders - Andrew Burns, Dominic Toloui, Floor Wouters, Richard Beddingfield, Ian Rowlands, Mark Bridger, Simon Burrows, Andrew Tyler, James Ayles, Tony and Sarah Edmonds, and others when they're not studying at University - and I thank them all.

The Sealion Explorer Scout Unit is also working very well under Jon Bridger's leadership. They've carried out a full programme over the year, including hikes and camps, as well as the range of boating activities with the Scouts. They also played an integral part of the Royal Naval Inspection in March - and looked very smart into the bargain.



A report like this can only skim the surface of what has taken place this year: the leaders have worked through and managed their sections through a major upheaval and I think we've come out the end of everything stronger. This report doesn't detail the efforts made to relocate equipment or to think of different activities (or ways of doing similar activities with a new twist to suit the different location) or moving the materials needed to run a Section meeting to and from home for 18 months. You don't realise how much you rely on being able to store basic items - footballs, pens, paper, chalks, and so on and how much further you have to think ahead to plan a meeting when you can't take the availability of items for granted. The year could have been a disaster and left us with a different type of rebuilding job - the Group rather than just a Headquarters. In practice I think the future looks bright and I for one look forward to it.

### **Ted Beddingfield**

Group Scout Leader, 1<sup>st</sup> Surbiton "Sealion" Sea Scout Group

## **1<sup>ST</sup> TOLWORTH (ST MATTHEW'S) SCOUT GROUP**

It has been another successful year for 1<sup>st</sup> Tolworth with plenty of activity, camps, sleepovers and regular attendance at District events for all three sections.

We continue to have strong leadership teams and excellent back-up from our Group Executive, other supporters and parents.

We have been able to replace our aging mini-bus with a smart, newer one which is much used. We held a successful November Fayre and continue to have a good input to our funds from such things as Jumble Sales, a Trivial Pursuit Tournament and attendance at Car Boot Sales and Outdoor Fairs by two stalwart fund raisers. We now intend to involve the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts in fund raising to subsidise their activities and are about to make a foray into the realms of bag-packing which should prove fun and hopefully show them they too can, and should, raise money for the Group. Our Rifle Club, meeting fortnightly at our hall, continues to provide an additional activity for those interested and members have achieved some notable successes at both District and National competitions. We are also always willing to welcome sections from other Groups to use our facilities if they wish. Some members of the Group have also become involved in the new District Archery Club and we hope they too will achieve success. Our Annual IT Badge Testing Day gives all our members the chance to earn the various stages of the IT Badge and is always a popular event. Due to the hard work of our older Scouts, plus a lot of cajoling from their Leaders, we achieved no less than seven Chief Scout's Gold Awards this year. This is a reflection on how we place importance on following the Balanced Programme throughout the Group (and run up a big bill for badges at the Scout Shop!). We are also delighted that a new Explorer Scout Unit, Endeavour Unit, has started meeting at our hall and we hope this partnership will prove successful and encourage our older Scouts to move on to Explorers far more than has happened in the past. So all in all another good year for the Group – now 102 years old and still thriving..

Heather Mason

## 2ND TOLWORTH REPORT

How time flies; yet another year has passed and what a year it has been for the Group. I have been so fortunate to have the continued support from everyone connected with this fantastic group from the smallest Beaver right up to the most mature member of the executive with all the families in between.

This year has seen the biggest rise that I have ever known. In the Scout section alone it has been a joy to welcome all of these young people; many never even been in our movement before. This time last year our Scouts numbered about 12 enthusiastic youngsters. Now as I write this we have 28 scouts; many are new to scouting, and we still can boast 100% moving on from Cubs, which are now at 20 with at least 3 cubs eager to move on very soon, and 20 Beavers. We can also be proud that 2 scouts have successfully moved on to Explorers. What is so very pleasing is that they still hold 2<sup>nd</sup> Tolworth very dear to their heart as they both continue a very close connection with us and continue to support the Scouts and are a very valuable part of the Beaver leadership team and attend as many Beaver activities as their studies will permit. Talking of Explorers, the troop has sent 4 of the older Scouts to Explorer Units. We wish them well and trust they will get as much enjoyment there as they apparently have had with us.

Many new skills have been taught to all our youngsters and to have the privilege of camping with them has shown me how well they are all doing.

We entered 2 Scouts into the Jamboree selection camp but unfortunately were unsuccessful as the District were only allowed 10, and over 35 scouts went that week end from 17 groups but a very well done to both. Jack Gibbons, one of our Scouts (as he was then) was awarded the Jack Petchey award, Jack achieved this award for his commitment and continuing support working within the group mainly with the Beavers and also all wardening weekends at Polyapes For this continued help wardening at Polyapes he was chosen by the Warden to represent Royal Kingston Scouts at the re-dedication of the statue. Well Done Jack.

Our Beavers once again did us proud by winning the Bowling competition th of all ages love to do best, and that is camping at different levels. We had Beav the District Sleep over. Cubs caving at Walton firs and Scouts sleeping in f building that week-end. Ha Ha!) so lots of new experiences for all of them.

Rosemary Tapping



## IN AIRGUN ACTIVITIES

During the year courses were held at Royal Kingston District Air Rifle Club, for the National Smallbore Rifle Association's Youth Proficiency Scheme in rifle and pistol, for about 50 Scouts. Some of these progressed onto the NSRA advanced award scheme. Five Scouts offered air rifle shooting as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Four courses were run by Peter Dobson & Jean Jenkins, for the NSRA Diploma, qualifying Leaders to run air rifle shooting for Scouts, as required in P.O.R. These courses attracted some 45 Scouters from Kent, Sussex, Middlesex, Berkshire & Hampshire, as well as from our County.

The spring and autumn District Competitions were well supported

Royal Kingston made up half of the GLSW Team for the Inter County Competition held at Aldersley. This competition is shot at 10 metres and with both rifles and pistols. The Team took Silver – again, (with Cheshire winning the Trophy – again)

During the year, eight of our Scouts were invited to train with the National Scout Squads; some have been good enough to be in G.B. National Junior Squads -shooting in international matches. It is so exciting that so much talent has been discovered through opportunities offered in Scouting!

October, as always, is the month of the National Scout Air Rifle Championships at Bisley. Five Groups / units from the District took part. Discovery ESU won the Senior Connaught Trophy, with a team comprising Mike Bamsey, Chris Kendall and Alex Stead. Holly Soul of 6<sup>th</sup> Tolworth won the Ladies' Plate for rifle, plus the Junior Field Target and the Chief's Prize for aggregate. Sam Lefevre of 1<sup>st</sup> Tolworth won Gold in the Senior Field Target. Other medal winners were:- Stuart Davies of 1<sup>st</sup> Malden – Silver in U12 rifle; Joseph Edwards-Rean of Leander - Silver in the 'Knockout'. An account of these 2010 Championships featured in 'The Rifleman' – the magazine of the NSRA

Also in October, Ian Marsden ran a field target shoot in horrendous driving rain. It was much enjoyed and there will be another on June 26<sup>th</sup>. at Birchmere Campsite, near Wisley.

In April, we were invited to enter a team for the Mayor's Shoot. This involved .22 smallbore rifle shooting at discs the size of a 50p at 25 metres. The event was hosted by the Surbiton Postal Rifle & Pistol Club. Other Teams were the Police, two Territorial Army teams, a Sports Council team, two Surbiton Club teams and the Mayors' team. Each team shot against each other and at the end there was a tie between Scouts and Surbiton. A shoot off was arranged and despite a jammed rifle the Scouts kept their nerve and ran out decisive winners. The Mayor, Cllr. Chrissie Hitchcock presented the Lear Cup.

Another successful year over all and, of course, owing much to our enthusiastic Instructors. Sadly, Frank Corbett, one of our Instructors died after a long illness. He was always patient and encouraging of the Scouts that he taught. He truly will be sorely missed as part of the Club Team

Jean Jenkins, Air Rifle Adviser.

## **ROYAL KINGSTON ARCHERY CLUB**

I would like to start by saying how sad all of us are at the club with the sad loss of Frank Corbett Scout Leader of 6<sup>th</sup> Tolworth.

Frank was a very caring person who loved Scouting and gave so much time and effort to all the sections of Scouting.

Franks love of Archery was passed on to the children and adults in the District by running sessions at various District, Group and County events.

With so much interest generated in archery, Royal Kingston Scout Archery Club was formed.

I would like to thank Frank for all his help and support in the beginning and 6<sup>th</sup> Tolworth for all their continuing support as the club continues to grow.

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010 was the very first meeting of the Royal Kingston Scout Archery Club.

We had 16 Explorer Scouts and Scouts and five Leaders come along and have a go at archery. For a first night, that was a great turn out!

Over the next few weeks the club began to have a few regulars and we tried to make it as much fun as possible, so at Christmas we decided not to shoot at targets but hung Christmas Decorations, baubles, balloons, and anything we could think of in front instead.

The biggest attraction though was to try and hit the baubles. These proved to be very tricky as they were hanging on a piece of string, but it was great to see the arrow hit them!!!

We started back on the 5<sup>th</sup> January and were very busy with the first Master at Arms course we have run.

There were 14 Scouts doing the 6 week course, and 1 Explorer Scout who is doing Archery as part of her D of E.

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April we went to Woking Archery club shooting ground for a practice before the Nationals. For some of our club members this was the first time they had shot outside and could see how the wind affects the flight of an arrow!

They also had a chance to try a clout shoot, this is to shoot an arrow, on command, into the air and get it to land as close as possible to a flag on a peg 100yds away!! The peg has a rope attached marked at various distances along it with scoring zones. It is then taken in a circle and all arrows in the zones score points. Clout shooting is the modern day way to simulate Archers attacking an army or castle.

After lunch they all had a go at Field Target shooting, this simulates hunting. Targets are placed in a position on the field and 2 pegs are put at various distances from them. Each archer must shoot 2 arrows from each peg and try and score. This is not as easy as it sounds as the pegs may be behind trees or bushes, anywhere that makes it tricky to get a clear shot.

On the w/e 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> May, 9 Scouts and 5 Leaders joined 316 entrants at the 6<sup>th</sup> National Scout Archery Competition at Phasels Wood Scout Camp. This means 3 scouts have now received their Master at Arms badge and a further 5 have received their Activity Plus badge.

Caroline Marsden and I arrived at lunch time on Friday as advance party and set up the mess tent and did the shopping! The Scouts from 6 different Troops in the District arrived on the Friday evening to set up their tents.

Thanks must go to Roy Watts and Matt Cheyette for driving the mini bus and Fergus Lang who brought all the kit in the van and Caroline Marsden who master minded all our food.

All the Scouts enjoyed themselves over the weekend and when not shooting they could try “taster” sessions of crate stacking, rolling rock climbing wall, zip wire and the Cube (high wire).

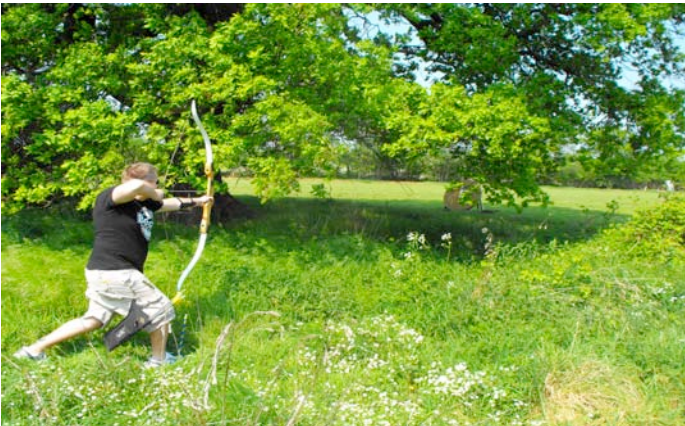
Unfortunately none of the Scouts won any prizes but the weekend was not a total loss, as Roy Watts managed to retain his title by winning the clout shoot and came a very close second in the 40yd target competition, 8 points difference!! Good luck for next year!

We have just put out the information and dates for the next Master at Arms course starting on June 8<sup>th</sup> and running for 6 weeks.

We will be having a District Archery Competition on July 2<sup>nd</sup> held at Woking Archery Club shooting grounds, Wisley, and is open to Explorer Scouts, Scouts Network and Leaders so get your forms in and try your skill! We will also be doing have-a-go sessions (for a small fee) for anyone aged 6 and upwards who wants to try Archery.

The club meets at 1<sup>st</sup> Hook Scout HQ at 7.30 on a Wednesday evening until 9.00pm for Scouts and Explorer Scouts. Leaders shoot from 9.00 till 10.00. The cost is £2.50 a week.

If you would like any more information contact, John Bowman at [archeryclub@rovalkingstonscouts.org.uk](mailto:archeryclub@rovalkingstonscouts.org.uk)





## **KINGSTON AND MALDEN SCOUT AND GUIDE BAND**

2010 was another busy year for our Band with the continued celebrations of the Band's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Highlights included a really successful tour to the Isle of Wight and a wonderful Anniversary Formal Dinner.

In July the Band held a Concert in the Bandstand at Canbury Gardens, Kingston. The weather was kind and a large crowd enjoyed music from the Band whilst sitting by the river eating their picnics.

In August the Band headed over to the Isle of Wight for a week to take part in two carnival parades in Shanklin. The second of these was an evening parade which saw all Band members making outfits by sewing fluorescent material and ribbon onto black tops and trousers. These outfits looked really effective, as well as being fun to make and were completed with head lamps (to help us to see the music) and fairy lights draped around the instruments. Between engagements we had the chance to do a bit of sight-seeing and enjoyed a bracing walk up Tennyson Down followed by a visit to Alum Bay with spectacular views of the Needles Lighthouse. The day was rounded off with a fantastic firework display. During the week we met up with a band from the Island called "The Wight Diamonds" and got the chance to play together at the end of the illuminated parade.

After the success of the Isle of Wight trip, another highlight of the year was the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Formal Dinner in October. With the transformation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cuddington Scout Hall complete, the 80 guests (leaders, parents and supporters) arrived in their best outfits ready to be served fantastic food by some of the Band's younger members, who were waiters and waitresses for the evening. They were not disappointed; the food was superb and the youngsters did a fantastic job - a truly great evening.

A small group from the Band were pleased to be able to entertain guests arriving at the GLSW Jack Petchey Awards evening in October and in November the Band were once again proud to be involved in the Lord Mayor's Show. The weather was kind and it was another memorable day for everyone involved.

In January the Band officially completed their Anniversary year with their Annual Concert and Awards evening, which had been postponed from December due to the snow! An evening of music, plus the chance for the audience to vote for their top 3 pieces, saw a 60 strong Band entertaining over 200 parents, friends and supporters. The Band's annual awards were presented to some very deserving band members.

In March the Band were asked to support the "Marsden March". This was a charity walk from the Royal Marsden Hospital in Chelsea to its sister hospital in Sutton. The Band performed to participants taking part in the event at a checkpoint which was set up in Morden. The organisers provided an open top bus for the musical entertainment, so some of the Band took their place upstairs whilst the rest of the Band formed up on the ground in front of the bus! A first for K&M – now we just need to try playing on a moving bus too!

In May the Band organised a Spring Concert at a new venue; St. Mary's Church in Worcester Park. The whole evening was very successful with a very appreciative audience helping to raise a very healthy sum for Band funds. Yet another first for K&M was Band member Katy Eyre singing a stunning vocal performance of "I Dreamed a Dream" with the Band. There were not too many dry eyes in the church by the end of Katy's performance!

Also in May some members of the Band were very lucky to get the chance to play at The Rose Theatre in support of the Mayor Cllr Chrissie Hitchcock's Charity Music and Comedy night. The Band's style of music was in stark contrast to some of the other bands performing but the audience seemed to love what they heard and it was another wonderful experience for our members.

Looking ahead to the remainder of 2011, we are pleased to be returning to the Southern England Parade Band Contest in Tonbridge on 12<sup>th</sup> June and heading to the seaside on 16<sup>th</sup> July to play in the Bandstand at Worthing. During the summer months we will also be playing at the Cuddington Village Fair on 18<sup>th</sup> June and leading the Malden Fortnight Parade on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. We welcome anyone who would like to hear and support the Band to come along to all or some of these engagements.

Another date for your diary is Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2011 which is the Annual Awards Evening at Tolworth Girls School, starting at 7.15pm.

As we look ahead to 2012 we are keen to be involved, in any way possible, in the London 2012 Olympics – so keep an eye out for us! The Band will also be participating in the bi-annual Kingston Borough Bands Tattoo in 2012. If you have not yet got your copy of the Band's first CD entitled "60"

, copies are available from Alison.

The Band continues to be recognised as an "A" classed Scout Association Band and our membership is strong at 60 plus. I would like to congratulate the Band on achieving and maintaining such a high standard in the last 12 months. My thanks go to Karl and the Leaders and Instructors Team for all their hard work and the Band's Management Committee and Parents Fundraising Team for all their continued support.

Alison Eggitt, Bandmaster (020) 8337 8587 e-mail: [alisoneggitt@aol.com](mailto:alisoneggitt@aol.com)



Performing in the Shanklin Bandstand,  
Isle of Wight – August 2010



Providing entertainment during the "Marsden  
March" Charity Walk, March 2011