



Annual Report 2018/19

Aims and Objectives

Royal Greenwich District Scout Council is an unincorporated association (operating as Royal Greenwich Scouts and with a registered charity name of New Greenwich District Scouts number 1141023.) constituted in accordance with the rules of The Scout Association (registered no.13919). It exists to provide leadership, advice and support for Scout Groups (autonomous charities within the provisions of the same rules), in an area covered by The Royal Borough of Greenwich. And is supported under those rules by the Scout County of Greater London South, (Registered Charity no. 303883), covering the London Boroughs of Wandsworth, Lambeth, Southwark, Lewisham and Royal Greenwich.

The Scout Association (Registered Charity No. 306101) incorporated by Royal Charter to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The Charter of the Association provides for the making of bye-laws approved by Her Majesty in Council which, in turn, authorise the making of the rules referred to above (known as "Policy, Organization and Rules"). The District's Trustees are the District Executive Committee, who cannot act outside the Royal Charter, Bye-Laws and Rules of the Scout Association.

Our Purpose

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Our Values

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.

Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

Our Method

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

Our Vision

We are committed to the Aim and Method of the Scout Movement. Our long term vision is to continue to develop our Scout Groups so they...

- operate a programme that is relevant enjoyable, attractive and locally achievable,
- are equally available and accessible to all young people within the 6 to 25 age range in our area
- are effectively and appropriately supported by adult volunteers,
- have a positive image and identity,
- are growing,

- communicate effectively within Scouting and to the community.

Looking to the future, we can work together as a team, with a common purpose and with a clear direction. This will need a concerted effort from all our Commissioners, Leaders, Helpers, Administrators, Supporters, Groups and Units.

If we all play our part in delivering the best results for the future of Scouting in our District we can achieve a Scout District that:

- encourages the development of Scouting in our District so that all young people in Greenwich Borough have the opportunity to experience fun, friendship, everyday adventure, challenge and new experiences,
- supports all our adult volunteers so they feel recognised and valued and take pride in their Scouting,
- has an active and focused structure that will develop and maintain leader motivation through shared experiences; supported learning; strategic forward planning, clear governance and specific tailored support,
- provides a high quality, exciting programmes of activity at Group, District and District level delivered by reliable, experienced sectional teams who have abilities and skills appropriate for the role,
- provides training all adults whether leading, supporting or managing our Scout Groups which is appropriate, effective and innovative,
- Has a relevant, inspirational and supportive management structure with effective systems for communication.

Our District support structure delivers practical services that are accessible to all whatever their role. These include:

- support for the youth programme, including camping and adventurous activities,
- growth and development of the Movement in our District,
- coordination of our Scout Groups, Explorer Scout Units and our Local Scout Networks,
- ensuring that all our adult volunteers are vetted before they are authorised to undertake a role in the Movement,
- the formal appointment of adults,
- induction, training, motivation, review and development of adults in the District, including delivery of the Associations adult training programme in partnership with the County Training Team,
- the implementation of the policies and rules of the Association,
- relationships with other organisations and bodies,
- helping young people take part in decision making within our Groups, Districts and the District,
- support for our Scout Active Support Units,
- recommendations for decorations and awards,
- advice on financial and administrative matters, particularly relating to charity trusteeship,
- provide an effect chain of communication between our Scout Groups, Districts, County, Region and National Headquarters.

Registered Office:

Royal Greenwich District Scout Centre, 19 Waverly Crescent, London, SE18 7QT

President:

George Phipson CBE

Trustees

The following served as Trustees of the Charity during the year 14th July 2018 to 13th July 2019.

Ex-Officio

District Commissioner - John

Sweeney

Chairman – Alf Philpott

Secretary – Dorothy Sacre

Treasurers – Hatim & Zulfi

District Explorer Scout Commissioner – Andrew Barber

District Scout Network Commissioner – Samantha Hall

District Youth Commissioner – Joseph Shippam (from May 2019)

DCs Nominations

Christopher Bishop - Chairman, Premises and Estates Sub-committee

Barry Matthews – Finance Sub-committee representative

Matthew Butterfield – Deputy District Commissioner

Jim Gartlan (until Feb 19)

Lorraine Durrant

Elected Members

James Vallely

Jenny Grant

Jo Graham

Stephen Ellis

Conway Tearle

Principal Bankers

LloydsTSB Bank Plc, Blackheath Village Branch

Custodian Trustee

The land and buildings vested in the District are held on its behalf by the Scout Association Trust Corporation Limited.

Sub-committees

The District has three sub-committees:

- Premises (Chair, Chris Bishop)
- Finance
- District Appointments Advisory Committee



Our Reports

... from the armchair

Every year is a fascination working with a team that everyone but me has put together. This year, this has again been true as we continue the work of reflecting on the quality of activity, programme and achievement around the district; endeavour to spend money wisely; support all our incredible volunteers and seek to meet the challenge of caring for our premises. During the year we have welcomed into our midst Joe, our District Youth Commissioner thus maintaining a great age spread across our District Exec. My thanks go to all who have served, both those who may continue and any who may not. And, whilst we do act as a body, I would like to say a particular thank you to Barry Matthews who has been at the forefront of seemingly endless conversations with Royal Greenwich Borough over the lease of Briset Road. The good news is that these discussions have come to a satisfactory CONCLUSION.

Supporting Groups happens in a variety of ways and certainly not only if things go wrong. Many of the challenges we face as a District currently arise because so many young people want to join. This is itself a testimony to the success that everyone contributes to. This fact, along with high profile events such as Showtime and our annual awards evening, speak volumes about everyone involved in RGS offers young people in terms of fun, adventure, achievement and personal development. This is just as true of all that happens week by week in gatherings small, medium and large.

As you read through the pages of this annual report, I hope you feel the same buzz as me whenever I look back over what our District achieves and that at some point you want to say WOW!

Well done everyone!
Alf (District Chair)

John Talks

Every year I think to myself, that was a quiet year. Then I read others Reports and I think, maybe not. At this point, I really do want to say a big thank you to all the District Team. I really do feel lucky when I look at the people in Royal Greenwich and the true Scouting family we have.

So, away from activities, how has the year been? For those of you who are dedicated readers of my ramble may remember that I gave a challenge to get a Nights Away Permit Holder not just in each Group but in each Section. Well, we didn't quite make it but you gave it a damned good go. Those seven sections out of the eighty we have in the District will have someone by next year! Training has really been at the forefront this year with Wood Badges plopping through my letterbox at a regular rate. Well done all. We aren't quite there yet. It would be great if, this time next year, I could report that all the Leaders who should have a Wood Badge has one. It isn't just the adults, the Young Leaders scheme is an overwhelming success in this District. The team have enjoyed having over 15 young people attending training each month. Those belt buckles are flying off the shelf. Now if the Young Leaders can do it....

Scouting across the District has its ups and downs with waiting lists in some areas and lack of numbers in others. Numbers across the District are up again.

Our Estates Team continue to do sterling work at each of our premises. Why not spend a weekend or two helping to spruce one of our Centres up? Believe it or not, the long running saga of the lease at The Hub is over! What will the District Executive do now? Talking of the Exec, it is pleasing to hear from someone at County that it is always refreshing coming to one of our meetings with the average age being a lot lower than in other areas and our not taking ourselves too seriously but getting the job done!

Our ever-expanding Appointments Panel has been very busy, yet again, this year with my promise of "doing it just once a year" now there. The Panel saw over 40 new adults and we are at the stage where new adults are being seen within three months of "signing up." It was still disappointing, though, to have regular no-shows. I'd be grateful if you more experienced Leaders could remind our newcomers that we are all volunteers and give up our time to put these sort of things on.

What an absolutely brilliant night the annual Awards Night was. We found a new, larger venue as we had outgrown the previous venue. The Sikh Temple looked huge when we first got there with the mammoth task of putting the chairs out. With over 500 chairs out we felt that was sufficient, but no! This just shows the great programme you all put on to have this many Award winners attend.

Another great District event is Gang Show. We are lucky to have two Shows in the District, with them alternating. This year it was the turn of Showtime and modesty forbids me from commenting on the Show. Comments from those that saw it tend to suggest it was a great Show! For me, it is seeing young people grow in confidence and putting their all into it. So what if you aren't the best dancer or can't sing, it's all about DOING YOUR BEST! It was great to see young people and Leaders from 14 groups across the District taking part in one form or the other. Another of the old barriers broken down!

The Diary for 19/20 has been one of the hardest to put together. I see this as a good thing. We, as a District, have so much to cram in that it is difficult not to clash sometimes. I just hope that people now take the opportunity to avail themselves of the opportunities the District offer them. I look forward to seeing you all throughout the year. Will we get one event when all our Groups and Units have a representation?

Onwards and upwards!

John

Beaver Bit

Here we are again, another AGM and yearly report.

First, the District Team would like to thank all the leaders, assistants, helpers and rostered parents for all their tireless work, week in and week out, within the colonies of Royal Greenwich District.

The district run events that have been held during the past year, although not massively well attended, have allowed many Beavers to meet with others, and along with leaders and helpers, to join in the fun and often gaining badges that will have hopefully enhanced your programmes. We have yet to see all the district colonies represented at an event, but we have as yet not given up all hope of achieving this in the future!

Please, please let us know of anything you would like us to put on for you all in the District. Here's hoping that the Beaver events on the District Diary will be used to help you all to plan your programmes for the coming year.

Once again, thank you all for your time and energies put into Royal Greenwich District Scouting.

Jenny (ADC Beavers)

Cub Chat

Once again, we have had another positive year in the cub section the number of cubs from different packs attending activities has gone up. This year we have tried some new activities like the session help at Zap Space Stratford in October where three packs got very hot and tired on various types of trampoline. Due to the bad weather in November we postponed the Pioneers badge day and this we incorporated into the district camp, this was also the case with the Local Knowledge Badge. At least the weather improved by March so cubs from four packs took part in the kick rounders competition which was won by a team from the 3rd Royal Eltham, this theme continued into May where 5 packs camped at Avery Hill and were joined by the 1st RE for the day of pioneer themed activities organised by Hayley and the team from D&H Knotting where 43 cubs earned the badge. Final activities for the year will be the combined beaver cub Funday at Frylands in June and the Watersports day in July reports on these activities will have to wait till next year's report.

As I come to the end of my report I would like to say a big thank you to Jo Graham for helping me with the minutes of our sectional meetings, most importantly to Hayley who gives up lots of her time to help me organise and run the district activities, but a special thank you goes to all the leaders for their support this year with district activities but more importantly for their hard work and dedication in providing such an active, fun and rewarding programme for the cubs to enjoy.

As we look forward to our ninth year my hope is that as we already have a programme of District activities, badge days and outings that we can get more packs to join in with these and so more cubs meet other cubs and get to earn more badges, but most importantly have lots of fun.

Please remember all activities are on the district diary for you to check.
Looking forward to an even better year.

Graham (ADC Cubs)

Scout Stuff

Another year another dollar, what's that, you don't get paid? Well join the club but who really wants to be paid with hard cash when you can enjoy such activities as Volleyball, Laser Tag, Bromley Pirates, Gangshow, Tag Rugby and a gentle stroll around Downe in the form of the Expedition challenge.

This year as with most started with a sports event in The Hub, the chosen sport Volleyball. Despite a rather low turnout (not the lowest this year) of 13 scouts, the afternoon went particularly well with good interaction between groups and a high pace to the afternoon. Due to the low numbers, the teams completed two sets of matches and so with an hour or so left we played human noughts and crosses and other running games to finish the day. Our thanks to Anthony Ellis 36thW for helping organise the event and running it and Barry

Munden 27thW and Terry Matthews 1stRG for running the games at the end. The following months were quite for the scout section until February when 53 scouts attended a third party company lead (Combatlasergames) game of laser tag. The afternoon was broken down in to three skirmishes consisting of capture the flag, Hold the base, and last person standing. The company was well organised and the scouts had tremendous fun. The weather held which was a plus as the activity was outside, not that the weather would have spoiled things. Our thanks goes to Caroline Gregory 10thRE for organising this event. March saw the scouts climbing, sliding and running around an indoor maze in a game of Cat & Mouse. Again, the low numbers (14 scouts) did not spoil the event and allowed those that attended more time on the course. We also whittled an Elder Wood whistle between games. Our thanks goes to Terry Matthews 1stRG for organising and running this event and our thanks to 22nd Bromley for allowing us use of their facilities.

The district lead Gang Show came and went and with high praise from both the audience and participants. From a slightly biased point of view, both James and I believed this show was one of the best we have been involved with for a while. May followed April and with it brought us Tag Rugby, this event has been running for a few years now and always brings high numbers (let's be honest it's an easy evening for most groups). The weather was kind to us and the threat of rain stayed away. Our thanks goes to Terry Wiggins 8thRE for running the event, the leaders and parents that were co-oped in to becoming "managers" or ref's and to the team of leaders and husbands that turned Avery Hill into a site suitable for playing Tag Rugby (I know it wasn't easy, so thank you).

Our last event of the year kind of fizzled out. After a promising start and good engagement with leaders, a date, location and routes was discussed and agreed for our Expedition Challenge weekend. Leaders agreed a minimum standard required to take part and take up was good. Over the next few months different groups dropped out due to lack of take-up or were concerned with the Scouts abilities, until on the day it was down to one group. This was the most disheartened we have felt. Lots of effort goes into these types of events and whilst we don't blame the leaders or scouts we do need to understand what went wrong so please talk to us.

Our parting comments are as always ones of thanks. Thanks to the leaders, support teams and Scouts that have supported our events or helped organise/run them.

Until next time,

James & Stephen (District Scout Leaders)

Explorers Exploration

Another great year for Explorers across the District. We have over 100 young people involved in Explorer Scouting, which is a great number. Each of our Unit Leaders have really put the time in to put on a fantastic programme. I thank you all for your dedication. One success has been the introduction of bi-monthly meetings for Explorer Leaders, meeting at the same time as the other District Briefings.

With over 30 of Explorers and Leaders off to the World Jamboree or Canada this year, it's going to be a great summer for Explorer Scouting in RG.

Andy (DESC)

Network Nuggets

Royal Greenwich Network have had a busy time, this past year. There have been a variety of activities done including; trampoline parks, aqua parks, BBQ's and some groups have attended country wide camps. We also had a representation at the Cenotaph and WW1 Commemoration at Westminster Abbey.

We are still organising more district meets for Network to allow opportunities for everyone and everyone to meet each other. We have also organised some explorer and network events for the end of this year. This year has also led to more networkers becoming involved in their Queens Scout Awards and Duke of Edinburgh's.

Royal Greenwich Network has continued to grow in size over the past year, some groups have almost doubled in numbers. Our main focus for the coming year is to have more district network events and more explorer meets to help with recruitment for the next few years.

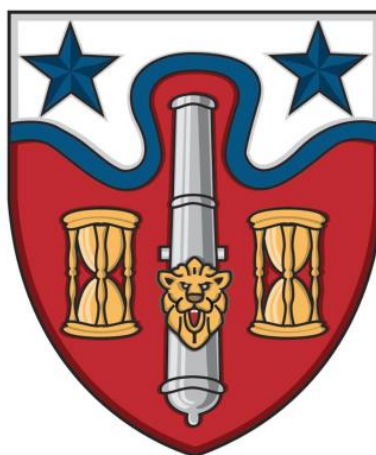
Sammi (Network Commissioner)

Scout Active Support

Another good year for the SAS across the District, supporting Groups and other activities. Some of our members help out on a Tuesday and Thursday night with the Shooting and Archery Activities. When groups call for help, there is always someone on call, ready to help. We were out in force to help out at "Showtime". On a Wednesday you can find a group of us helping out at the Avery Hill shop selling uniforms, supplying badges and making lots of tea and coffee.

I would like to thank everyone for their support this past year and their continuing willingness to help.

Joe Davis (SAS Co-ordinator)



Our Wood Badges

Laura Matthews	1st Royal Greenwich	Beavers
Terry Matthews	1st Royal Greenwich	Scouts
Katherine Guy	8th Royal Eltham	Beavers
Diane Pincott	8th Royal Greenwich	Beavers
Destiny Pincott	8th Royal Greenwich	Cubs
Samantha Howe	9th Royal Eltham	Scouts
Martina Douglas	10th Royal Etham	Scouts
James Vallely	27th Woolwich	Scouts
Lisa Kelly	27th Woolwich	Beavers
Mark Blackett	36th Woolwich	Scouts
Samantha Blackett	36th Woolwich	Cubs

Our Length of Service Awards

5 years

Lee Worms	2 nd Royal Eltham	Cubs
Aaron Thompson	3 rd Royal Eltham	Cubs
Dominic Minney	3 rd Royal Eltham	Cubs
Christopher Blaylock	3 rd Royal Eltham	Scouts
Mohammad Dabiri	3 rd Royal Greenwich	AGSL
Peter Tye	8 th Royal Eltham	GSL
Lua Pieri	51 st Royal Greenwich	Scouts
Kay Campbell	54 th Greenwich	Group Executive
Linda Green	Twang and Bang	SAS
Anna Philpott	SAS	SAS
Graham Moody	SAS	SAS

10 years

Laura Matthews	1 st Royal Greenwich	Beavers
Richard Butler	1 st Royal Greenwich	Cubs
Neil Tye	8 th Royal Eltham	Cubs
Samantha Blackett	36 th Woolwich	Cubs
Chris Bishop	40 th Greenwich	Cubs
Roseanne Standing	46 th Woolwich	Scouts
Barbara Bayne	Twang and Bang	SAS

15 years

Sam Beattie	8 th /15 th Woolwich	Beavers
Sue Tearle	40 th Greenwich	Beavers
Beth Axtell	49 th Greenwich	Beavers
Paul Gosling	Twang and Bang	SAS

20 years

Reina O'Brien	4 th Royal Greenwich	GSL
Steve Mann	8 th /15 th Woolwich	GSL

25 years

Jo Graham	2 nd Royal Eltham	Cubs
Karen Dibben	38 th Woolwich	GSL

40 years

Alex Bienkov

10th Royal Eltham

GSL

Our Merit Awards

Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Service

Russell Grant	1 st Royal Eltham	Cubs
Laura Matthews	1 st Royal Greenwich	Beavers
Sally Salter	1 st Royal Greenwich	Beavers
Dan Almond	2 nd Royal Eltham	Scouts
Lorraine Durrant	3 rd Royal Eltham	Beavers
Dawn Burton	3 rd Royal Eltham	Cubs
Sam Whitehead	3 rd Royal Eltham	Scouts
Michael Shand	4 th Royal Greenwich	Scouts
Michelle McNaboe	4 th Royal Greenwich	Scouts
Neil Tye	8 th Royal Eltham	Cubs
Diane Pincott	8 th Royal Greenwich	GSL
Sam Beattie	8 th /15 th Woolwich	Beavers
Caroline Gregory	10 th Royal Eltham	Scouts
Catriona Welch	13 th Woolwich	Cubs
Lisa Cook	13 th Woolwich	Cubs
Samantha Blackett	36 th Woolwich	Beavers
Mark Blackett	36 th Woolwich	Scouts
Graham Cooper	38 th Woolwich	Cubs
Sue Tearle	40 th Greenwich	Beavers
Chris Bishop	40 th Greenwich	Cubs
Ben Wood	40 th Greenwich	Scouts
Lindsey Wood	40 th Greenwich	Scouts
Matt Proctor	40 th Greenwich	Scouts
Elizabeth Proctor	40 th Greenwich	Group Executive
Jack Berry	46 th Greenwich	Scouts
Richard Hunter	49 th Greenwich	Cubs
Paul Woodgate	49 th Greenwich	Scouts
Irene Olaleye	51 st Royal Greenwich	Group Executive
David Horton	Showtime	SAS
Ian Broughton	Showtime	SAS
Karen Crook	Showtime	SAS
Michael Jordan	Showtime	SAS
Roger Hazelden	SAS	SAS

Award for Merit

Bernard Kettle	4 th Royal Eltham	Scouts
Steve Mann	8 th /15 th Woolwich	GSL
Amy Rope	27 th Woolwich	Cubs
Michael Standing	46 th Woolwich	GSL
Beth Axtell	49 th Greenwich	Beavers
Steve Silcock	49 th Greenwich	Cubs
James Tobias	49 th Greenwich	Scouts
Paddy O'Donnell	49 th Greenwich	Scouts
Rachel Tobias	49 th Greenwich	GSL
Julie Howard	54 th Greenwich	Beavers
Paul Howard	54 th Greenwich	Beavers
Jenny Grant	ADC (Beavers)	Beavers
Graham Openshaw	ADC (Cubs)	Cubs

Thelma Watling

SAS

SAS

Our Young Leaders

Belt Buckle

Florenza Meldrum	4 th Royal Eltham	Cubs
Nathan Mansfield	4 th Royal Eltham	Cubs
Emily Guy	8 th Royal Eltham	Beavers
Joe Hooton	8 th Royal Eltham	Cubs
Jamie Welch	13 th Woolwich	Scouts
Alana Green	49 th Greenwich	Beavers
Leanne Sawkins	54 th Greenwich	Beavers
Taylor Levinson	54 th Greenwich	Cubs