



40th Greenwich Scouts visit the Scout Stone commemorating the first-ever Scout camp conducted by Lord Robert Baden-Powell in 1907, Brownsea Island, Dorset

40th Greenwich Group Scout Council Annual Meeting of the Group Council 2023-24

95 Years of Service

26th June 2024



www.g40scouts.org.uk



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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – YEAR 2023 TO 2024

Welcome to our Annual Report sharing our achievements across the whole 40th Greenwich Scout Group for the last 12 months. We are a large Scout Group with six sections, 2 Beaver colonies, 2 Cub Packs and 2 Scout Troops and this year, we have just passed our 95th Birthday, an incredible achievement.

The Trustee Board is a team of volunteers who work together, as charity trustees, to make sure Scouts is run safely and legally. At the heart of their role is a focus on strategy, performance and assurance.

Our Trustee Board exists to support our Group Lead Volunteer for 40th Greenwich Scouts, Conway Tearle, in meeting the responsibilities of their appointment. Its members act collectively as charity trustees of 40th Greenwich Group Scout Council and in the best interests of our members.

Scouting for all of our six section across Beavers, Cubs and Scouts continue to enjoy a wide range of activities and opportunities including camping and night's away, the water sports for cubs at Danson Park, a days outing to the RAF Museum for the Beavers. The Scouts visited Brownsea Island, the site of a boys' camping event, organised by Lieutenant-General Baden-Powell, where this event is regarded as the origin of the worldwide Scout movement.

These are in addition to formal events including the Scouts Award Evening in December and the St George's Day Service in April. All six Sections continue to thrive thanks to the continued dedication and support of our Leaders who create and drive a broad and varied curriculum.

Last year we reached out to Parents and Guardians through your leaders to provide support and we have had tremendous response. This has enabled us to support many activities including cycling, camping, cooking and other sporting activities. Our 40th Greenwich Maintenance Days, under the direction of Trustee member Nick, with additional support from other Leaders including Chris, Harriet and Geraint has made great progress at the ExNet at Farejon Road. This is our commitment to support and protect Royal Greenwich District assets for the benefit of current and future Scout generations across the Borough.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the continued parents' contribution, as it makes a material difference in the way 40th Greenwich Scouts can run and operate. During 2024 to 2025, we will continue to ask for your support and it has never been easier to join up.

We have one critical-post to review and post expenses for the Group. The size of the Group means that we have a good flow of transactions and we need to pay our suppliers as quickly as we can to reserve activities. This is a volunteer group role and not a Trustee role.

Please reach out to us to join as a trustee or to just volunteer some time or specialist skill.

For those that would like to understand more about Scouts, I have highlighted the following points of reference below about the purpose of Scouting and 40th Greenwich Scout Group contribution.

Scouting's Policy Organisation and Rules (POR)

Scouting's Policy Organisation and Rules (POR) requires that we hold an Annual General Meeting. Our AGM will be held on the 28th June 2024.

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/por/4-local-organisation-of-sections-groups-districts-counties/>

The aim of the Group

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

How we are organised in the United Kingdom

Scouting in the United Kingdom is organised in Scout Groups, Scout Districts, Scout Counties and Country Headquarters. These 'units' of Scouting provide: support; channels for communication; opportunities for youth Members and adults to make decisions and take responsibility; functional units through which the design and delivery of the youth programme can be best achieved.

A Scout Group comprises one or more of any or all of the following: a Beaver Scout Colony; a Cub Scout Pack or a Scout Troop.

Our Constitution

Our Constitution on the 40th Greenwich Website which can be found here:

<https://www.g40scouts.org.uk/40th-greenwich-constitution>

The 40th Greenwich Group Trustees

We operate under The Scout Association as a Charity where the Trustees of the 40th Greenwich Scout Council.

Over the period 2023 to 2024, the Trustee Board had the following trustees:

- Group Chair (Clive Grethe)
- Group Treasurer (Mike Gibbs)
- Group Secretary (Bee Twidale)
- Group Lead Volunteer (Conway Tearle)

Trustees (Bee Twidale, John Twidale, Nick Dennison, Chris Bishop, Brenda OpenShaw, Sue Tearle, Geraint Thomas, Dylan Tonge)

All Trustees are equally responsible, but they split the tasks between them.

The members met every two months on the third Wednesday of the month to discuss finances, location of assets, upgrading of assets, continual improvements, insurance, attendance levels within the Groups, data security, waiting lists and overdue fees. The committee also approves exceptional spend.

For the next period 2024 to 2025, following guidance from the Scouts Association, the Trustee Board will be smaller and set up as follows:

- Group Chair (Clive Grethe)
- Group Treasurer (Mike Gibbs, until 31st October 2024; James Whitsed from 1st November 2024)
- Trustees (Bee Twidale, Nick Dennison, Dylan Tonge, Nick Davies, Svitlana Pasika)
- Group Lead Volunteer (Conway Tearle)

To find out more about the function of the 40th Greenwich Scout Group Trustee Board, please find more details here:

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/about-us/volunteer-experience/volunteering-together/what-this-means-for-you/moving-to-trustee-boards/trustee-board-team-description/>

GDPR

We have an up to date statement available on our website.

[GDPR & PRIVACY NOTICE | 40th Greenwich Scout](#)

Easyfundraising - www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/40thgreenwichscouts

Please remember that you can support our Scout Group by using our Easy Fundraising page www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/40thgreenwichscouts. Family and friends can sign up too so please share the link.

A huge thank you to the dedication and professionalism of the 40th Greenwich Leaders and the support from the Young Leaders & Parent/Guardian Helpers



Clive Grethe
40th Greenwich Scout Group
Group Chairman
26 June 2024

OUR LEADERS



Conway Tearle



John Twidale



Lyndsey Wood



Harriet Noakes



Brenda Openshaw



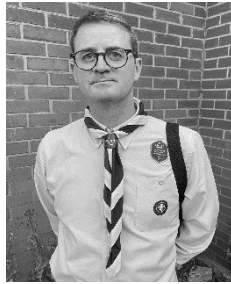
Chris Bishop



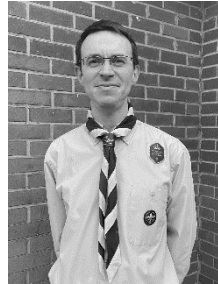
Sue Tearle



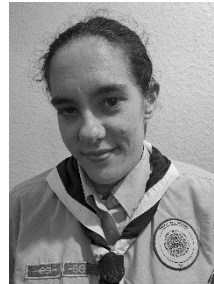
Geraint Thomas



Scott Rankin



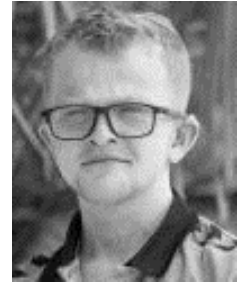
James Maloney



Samantha Gregory



Sam Chatterley



Dylan Tongue



Molly Swift



Daniel Sutton



Kevin Radford



Nicola Scott



Rachel Davies



Dean Keigan



Andy Stanley



Salla Kortenieni

Group Scout Leader /Lead Volunteer

Conway Tearle Joined Cubs at boarding school in Nova Scotia in September 1956, moved to Gravesend in September 1957 and then to Bristol, the 26th North Cote Scout Group in 1958. He came to London as a student and joined 11th Lewisham North as a leader in 1968. Subsequently 11th merged with 40th Greenwich and took their group number. Conway has 50 years' experience as a Scouter in Charge or GSL when he includes 11th Lewisham North, 7th/11th Greenwich and 40th Greenwich.

Conway is also a member of the Royal Greenwich District Trustee Board and is a Training Manager for Adults in the district.

St Michael's Sections

Scouts

John Twidale Joined the 7th Wallasey Wolf Cubs in Cheshire (but now in Merseyside) in June 1954. He became an Assistant Scout Master (pre 1967), later Scout Leader and Assistant District Commissioner in Wallasey. John moved to London in 1978 and, fittingly, from 1st April 1979 served for 10 years as District Commissioner of Greenwich and then another 10 as DC of Royal Eltham. He was Venture Scout Leader of BRAVE, which was then part of the 40th Greenwich, from 1998 to 2002 and became Scout Leader at 40th Greenwich in 2006. John also serves as a member of the District Appointments Advisory Committee and as a Nights Away Adviser.

Lindsey Wood Parent helper from 1996 co-opted into Scouts as an Assistant Scout Leader when her son joined the Scout Troop in 2004. Lindsey gained the Wood Badge (Adult Leader Training Award) 3 years later. Lindsey is also a member of the Royal Greenwich District Appointments Advisory Committee.

Andy Stanley was a Scout in his youth. He has had two children through the Group. He is a qualified Mountain Leader. He mainly supports our camps and trips.

Dean Keigan is another former Scout who has a son in the St James' Troop. He supports both Troops mainly at camps and on hikes.

Sam Chatterley was a Beaver, Cub and Scout with the Group and gained the Chief Scout's Gold Award in 2011. He was an Explorer Scout Leader in Falmouth and was a member of the International Service Team at the World Jamboree in Japan, 2015. He returned to us in November 2022.

Dylan Tonge. – Was a St Michaels Scout gaining Gold in 2019, As well as being a Young Leader with Cubs and Scouts. he also works with the Scouts. He transmogrified into an adult leader in October 2023.

Daniel Sutton is another former St Michaels scout who returned to us. Gold Award in 2010. He led the entertainer Badge for us this year. Unfortunately a new job this year means he works Friday evenings.

Molly Swift. - Another St Michaels Scout, Gold in 2020. Molly attended the South Korean Jamboree in 2023. She transmogrified in May 2024. She was a Young Leader with the Troop and she also works with the St Michaels Beaver Scouts.

Salla Korteniemi joined the team in Jan 2024 to support the Scouts

Cubs

Chris Bishop was with 6th Erith for 1 year before moving across to 40th Greenwich and has now completed over 13 years' service. Chris is also the Premises Manager for the 4 sites around the Royal Borough and the campsite at Downe and is a member of the District Trustee Board.

Kevin Radford - Like many of us, have been a previous member of the Scout movement and re-joined as a Leader.

Rachel Davis - Joined this year to support Cubs

Beavers

Brenda Openshaw was asked to become a Beaver Leader in 1984 when her son, Graham was one of the first Beavers in Royal Eltham District. She started her Scouting as an Assistant Beaver Leader in May 1984 with the 5th Royal Eltham Beaver Colony based in what we now call The Hub in Briset Road. She had no previous Scouting experience other than accompanying the Beavers as a parent helper on various outings. Brenda stayed with the 5th until September 1989 when pressure of work meant she was unable to fulfil her commitment to the Beavers and had a break in service until October 1990 where she was approached by the then Group Scout Leader of 40th Greenwich, Tom Seal to run Beavers at 40th Greenwich and has continued to do so until the present day.

At first 40th Greenwich was based at Sunfields Church at Blackheath Standard and then in 2000 when Sunfields Church was no longer available to us, she joined with 7th-11th Greenwich based at St Michael's Church. A couple of years after Brenda joined 40th Greenwich she became the District Beaver Scout Leader for Greenwich, a post she held until the District became part of Royal Greenwich. During this time Brenda was awarded the Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service in 1996 and the Medal of Merit in 2004.

Nicola Scott - Joined 40th Greenwich this year as a Leader.

Samantha Gregory - was a Rainbow, Brownie, Guide, Senior Section and an Explorer in GESS. She is currently a leader at Rainbows and Brownies as well as a leader at G40. She has been providing support to Brenda since 2012 for over 8 years.

St Germans Sections

Cubs

Geraint Thomas was a Cub, Scout and Venture in Cardiff and gained the Queen's Scout Award, after a 20-year break from Scouting he joined as a parent helper before becoming a Leader in 2016.

Harriet Noakes a holder of a gold duke of Edinburgh award, took on a Leaders role in Autumn 2016 and in 2021 returned to 40th Greenwich after two years living in the USA.

Beavers

Sue Tearle took on the job of District Secretary in 2004 for the former Greenwich District. When the district merger happened to create Royal Greenwich, she became a Group Sectional Assistant with the 40th Greenwich helping mostly at camps with Conway. In June 2015 she helped Conway set up the new sections at the Blackheath Prep and took over the leadership of the Beaver Colony there shortly afterwards.

St James Section

Scouts

Conway Tearle took on the Leaders role in Autumn 2017.

Sue Tearle took on the Leaders role in Autumn 2017.

Scott Rankin took on the Leaders role in Autumn 2021.

James Maloney took on the Leaders role in Autumn 2021

Young Leaders

The following members of the Royal Greenwich Young Leader Explorer Scout Unit have been allocated to work with the 40th Greenwich Scout Group.

St German's Beavers

Jared S. Another ex-Patrol Leader from St James Troop. Achieved Gold in 2023. Also a member of Severndroog Explorers

Henry N, A member of Severndroog Explorers , Henry will be canoeing the width of Scotland this summer for his Duke of Edinburgh expedition.



St Michael's Beavers

Rose B. – Came from Cubs in 2015 and was a Patrol Leader in St Michael's Troop. Gained Chief Scout's Gold Award in 2019. Another member of Severndroog Explorers.

Molly S.- Came from Cubs in 2015 and was a Patrol Leader in St Michael's Troop. Gained Chief Scout's Gold Award in 2019 and another Severndroog Explorer. She was selected for and attended the 25th World Jamboree in South Korea in 2023.

St German's Cubs

Holly S. – Was a founding member of the St James Troop, gained the Chief Scouts Gold Award and was Scout of the Year for that Troop in 2020 and is now a member of Severndroog Explorer Scouts, She too was selected for and attended the 25th World Jamboree in 2023.

Megan T. - Joined the Group in 2016 and Scout of the Year in 2019 for the St James Troop before graduating to Severndroog Explorers. She attended 25th World Jamboree in South Korea and this year will be walking the length of Hadrien's Wall and Canoeing the Great Glen Canoe Trail with Explorers. .

Eres T - A founding member of the St Germans Cub Pack and 2016 Cub of the Year and a Scout at St Michaels, awarded the Chief Scouts Platinum award as an Explorer at Severndroog. In 2022 she cycled round the coast of Netherlands with Explorers and canoed across Scotland for her Duke of Edinburgh expedition and last year attended South Korea for the World Jamboree.

Remy T - was awarded the Silver award at Cubs in St Germans, and Gold at St James Scouts and now another Explorer at Severndroog.

Sam H - A Cub at St German where he gained the Silver Chief Scout award then the Gold at Scouts at St James and currently an Explorer at Severndroog. Attended the county trip to Croatia last year.

St Michael's Cubs

Luke R, Maggie T, Luci B, Elsa R, Laurie B - Our current batch of superstars who are helping us as part of the D of E Scheme.

St James' Scouts (All our Young Leaders are also members of the Severndroog Explorer Scout Unit)

Lily S. – Was a St Germans Cub and St Michael's Scout and gained Gold in 2021.

Tallulah P - Was a St James' Scout and gained Gold in 2022.

Bea S - Was a St Michael's Scout and gained Gold in 2022.

Lois C - Was a St Michael's Scout and gained Gold in 2022.

St Michael's Scouts (All our Young Leaders are also members of the Severndroog Explorer Scout Unit)

Sam B. - Was a St Michael's Scout who gained Gold in 2021.

Oscar B-F - Was a St Germans Beaver and Cub, St James' Scout who gained Gold in 2022.

Fenella K - Another St Germans Cub and St James Scout, Gold in 2022.

Natalie S - Also from St Germans Cubs and St James Troop. Gold in 2023. Attended the County trip to Croatia last year.

There are other Explorer Scouts who we use as temporary Young Leaders at Camps and events.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The following three pages set out the Statements of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet for 40th Greenwich Scouts Group for the year ended 31 March 2024, with the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 shown for comparison. This year's accounts have not yet been reviewed by an Independent Examiner, as the previous one is not available. John Howard has kindly agreed to review accounts post the AGM.

I have been Treasurer for G40 for two years now and due to changes by Scout headquarters this role will now be split. It would be good for G40 to get some more volunteers to help with the approval of expenses for the Group. Please contact me if you are able to help.

Overall, almost all income comes in via go cardless with the exception of the Charity Tax Reclaim (not claimed in this period) and a few other transactions. All expenses (149 transactions last year) out of the bank account require two approvals. The leaders and young leaders generally use the Online Scout Manager to collate their bills and expenses. So overall we luckily have a lot of dedicated leaders putting on some great activities and using a finance system that is highly controlled.

At a high level we can see that Income and Expenses were roughly in-line last year. We generated a deficit of £3,099 but when the gift aid claims are reprocessed this will bring in approximately an additional £4,500. We had £15,773 in the bank at year end. If we were to make a surplus every year then our balance sheet (savings) would continue to increase which would also not be desirable. In the prior years we made a deficit of £1,760 and surpluses of £8,015 and £7,677 in the years prior to this. Remembering that budgeting during the COVID period was understandably more complicated. Overall, the leaders are experienced in budgeting for events and therefore there are not significant losses or surpluses on events.

Last year a number of changes were made to the accounts including changing from cash accounting to accrual account and constructing the balance sheet to include the scouts assets. This year there are a few transactions that I will flag to you.

The minibus was unfortunately stolen and a replacement was purchased. The insurance proceeds we received of £8,350 were £663 higher than the book value in the accounts for the minibus so we show a gain in the statement of financial activity in relation to this transaction. The new minibus that has been purchased cost slightly less than the prior one at £6,800. We applied straight line depreciation over 8 years with a residual value estimate of £1k. For simplicity I have assumed a full years' depreciation for this partial year of ownership.

Additionally, I would like to explain that G40 group does not own storage facilities and therefore in recent years has used the garages at the District's camp site at Downe to store its tents and other assets. The roof there developed several leaks that put the Group's assets at risk. In order to protect our assets we agreed to organise and fund the replacement of the roof which was done in lieu of rent to the District. One third of the £5,280 total cost of the roof was then reimbursed to us by the District. We have been seeking a further contribution from a Guide Group who have also used part of those storage facilities for some time and we will continue to try to recover this, however the prudent action is at this point to recognise these amounts may not be recovered and therefore we have written the £1,760 amount off.

The equipment has always been insured as is one of the responsibilities of the Leadership. In the notes to the accounts you can see the insurance value of these assets £31,690 which is the cost if all the assets were stolen or destroyed and we had to replace them all. In contrast the accounts show the market value. The Executive all judge the resale value of the equipment to be a lot lower. We have assumed the market value is only 10%, so £3,169.

Overall, the Executive believes G40 provides significant value for money in terms of the camps and activities that run throughout the year and seeks to break even both by individual event and across the year. Planning for a large body of scouts where attendance can be uncertain is however complex, so both surpluses and deficits arise.

40th Greenwich are committed to making Scouting accessible to all. If you are having difficulty paying for any activities or camps please do talk confidently to your section leader or myself.

Please remember that you can support our Scout Group by using our Easy Fundraising page www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/40thgreenwichscouts. Family and friends can sign up too so please share the link – and if available to you please consider accessing matched funding made available by your employer.



Mike Gibbs, Group Treasurer

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	2023/2024 <u>Overall Group</u>	2022/2023 <u>Overall Group</u> £
INCOME		
Income from membership		
- Membership subscriptions	24,600	24,565
- less Annual Membership Fee ①	<u>(12,555)</u>	<u>(12,410)</u> ①
	12,045	12,155
Income from activities		
- Camp fees	33,066	31,891
- Activities	4,090	7,291
- Mini-bus net proceeds	663	
Fundraising & donations		
Gift		
Aid		9,117
Other income	<u>421</u>	<u>240</u>
	<u>50,285</u>	<u>60,694</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Infrastructure Costs		
- Venue Hire	(5,820)	(5,112)
- Insurance	(971)	(874)
- Roof repairs	(3,520)	-
Cost of activities		
- Camps	(22,509)	(29,376)
- Jamboree		(3,000)
- Meetings & Activities	(13,911)	(17,344)
- Badges	(2,164)	(2,860)
Equipment costs		
- Camping equipment	(648)	(151)
- Repairs & maintenance	(199)	-
- Minibus depreciation	(725)	(955)
- Minibus expenditure	(2,917)	(2,385)
Administration & sundry expenses		(100)
Charitable donations		(297)
Accruals		
	<u>(53,384)</u>	<u>(62,454)</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME / (DEFICIT)	(3,099)	(1,760)
BALANCE 1 APRIL 2023 (/2022)	36,376	38,137
BALANCE 31 MARCH 2024 (/2023)	<u>33,277</u>	<u>36,376</u>

① The Scout Association policy is to net these two as we are only acting as agents for them in this payment.

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Year 2023/2024	Year 2022/2023
Assets		
Minibus	6,075	7,687
Camping Equipment	3,169	3,105
Bank Balance	15,773	19,199
	25,017	29,991
Prepayments by G40 & Debtors		
District membership fees	12,555	12,163
Camp & Activities		733
	12,555	12,895
Liabilities		
Payments in advance (by parents)	(1,264)	(1,908)
Creditors	(3,031)	(4,602)
	(4,295)	(6,510)
	33,277	36,376
Movement in reserves		(3,099)

Account Notes

1) Depreciation method for the minibus is straight line over 8 years. 8 years represents the estimated useful life of the minibus assuming sales proceeds of £1,000 in 8 years. The replacement minibus cost £6,800, annual depreciation charge is therefore £725. A full year has been charged as a conservative approach and for simplicity.

2) Other assets are shown in the balance sheet at the lower of market value or replacement cost. The Executives/Trustees estimate that market value is considerably lower than replacement costs and are valuing these assets at 10% of replacement cost. Replacement cost is £31,690 and therefore we are valuing the equipment at £3,169.

GROUP LEAD VOLUNTEER REPORT

I will report on the events that were for everyone in our group and some Leaders' news.

Our annual Family camp continues to be a popular event, especially for the younger members and their families. It is the one event that is truly for anyone in G40. Overall, in 2023 there were 56 campers who enjoyed a hike on the Saturday afternoon followed by a 'hog roast' and campfire. Do put the date in your diary of the next Family Camp – **27th - 29th Sept 2024**.

I should tell you that all adults attending will need a scout based DBS clearance to stay overnight. See below on how to get one.

All leaders and the Group Trustee Board continue to ensure that we regularly refresh our training on the key topics as mandated by the Scouts Association such as the First Aid, Safeguarding and Safety training. Some of our new leaders will be undertaking some 20 training modules in the next few years to achieve their Adult Leader Training Award known as the 'Wood Badge'. We appreciate the additional time spent by the leaders to complete the courses or attend the re-fresher courses to enable them to offer the best support and guidance to the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

25th World Scout Jamboree - Korea2023 "Draw Your Dream"

The World Scout Jamboree is the largest scouting event organised by the Scout Movement, gathering up to 50,000 people from all over the world. It is above all an educational event to promote peace and understanding.

We are delighted that six 40th Greenwich Scouts were selected to represent South London Scouts at the 25th World Scout Jamboree that was held in Korea in August 2023!



Eres T., Megan T., Molly S. , Clara B. , Ella W. and Holly S.

South London Scouts Croatia 2023 #SLSCroatia23

South London Scouts hosted an International activity experience in Croatia in 2023. The focus was on fun and growth, and giving the whole team new experiences. We are delighted that eight 40th Greenwich Scouts were selected to join this event out of over 130 South London representatives.

Mimi V., Kate G., Arran Q, Oscar BF., Sam H., Oliver PS., Jared S. and Natalie S.



26th World Scout Jamboree - Poland 2027 "Bravely"

The 26th World Scout Jamboree is an upcoming World Scout Jamboree that is scheduled to be held in 2027 in Gdańsk, Pomeranian Voivodeship, Northern Poland from 30th July to 8th August 2027. Participants will be between the ages of 14 and 17 at the time of the start of the camp. Individuals who are older than 18 years of age can take part as volunteer International Service Team members. I expect that there will be an invitation going out early in 2025 to those who can qualify.

DBS clearance

You will need one from the Scout Association if you want to help regularly (more than three times a term) or help with an overnight camp or sleepover. This includes staying overnight at the Family Camp. This is separate from one for your work or other activities. If you have already done one it is valid for five years. If you would like to have one then please contact Conway Tearle – gsl@g40scouts.org.uk who will help with getting one for you.

Gift Aid Scheme

Can I encourage you to sign up for the Gift Aid Scheme, please? This can be done via the Parent Portal in OSM. This effectively increases the annual subscription (£50 x 3) from £150 to £187.50 and helps us to keep the cost of our scouting down..

Lastly, I would like to add my congratulations to all who have earned badges or gained awards in the last twelve months. Thanks are due to so many who have contributed in some way, however small or large it may be, to the success of our group.

Conway Tearle, Group Lead Volunteer

gsl@g40scouts.org.uk

SCOUT TROOP REPORT

We plan and run a common programme together.

Since the last annual meeting of the Group Council, the two Scout Troops have met at St Michael's and St James's respectively or run activities elsewhere on 37 Fridays. We have offered 19 Nights away, 16 in tents and 3 members attended the Scout County trip to Croatia.

Membership

The St Michael's Troop began the year with 35 members and now have 37. Seven 14 year olds have left to join Severndroog Explorer Scout Unit.

The St James's Troop began the year with 28 members and now have 25. Two 14 year olds have left to join Severndroog Explorer Scout Unit.

Chief Scout's Gold Award

From the St Michael's troop James Dennison and Eleanor Stewart received their certificates at the annual meeting last year and Daniel Whitehouse and Alex Balls at the St George's Day Service in April.

From the St James's troop Sam Horrell and Jack Myers Lusty received their certificates at the annual meeting last year.



Since the annual meeting last year the weekly programme for both troops has included:

Summer 2023 Cyclist Badge and Skills Challenge.

Autumn 2023 Model Making, International Badge, Hike Planning, more Skills Challenge

Spring 2024 Entertainer Badge, Fire Safety Badge, Fundraising Badge, Local Knowledge Badge, Global Issues Badge.

Summer 2024 Problem Solving, First Aid, Outdoor Challenge.

For other activities the two Scout Troops combined.

July **Cyclist Badge** – a ride up the Lee Valley.

Soggy BBQ at Avery Hill for the last meeting of term.

28 Scouts attended a seven night Summer Camp at Foxlease, near Lyndhurst in the New Forest.

For the Leaders the two Saturdays will never be forgotten. It started to rain just as we arrived and continued until 3am yet we pitched 16 tents and shelters, cooked a hot meal over a fire and all got to bed at a reasonable time. The forecast for the last Saturday was more rain and we became nervous wrecks deciding when the tents were dry enough to strike. **We are indebted to the extra adult help on the Saturday morning.** The rain arrived just as we were getting on the coach. We had a canoe trip on the Beaulieu River, A cycle trip hike in the New Forest and a day out at Brownsea Island, where Scouting started, followed by a meal in a Turkish restaurant on Poole Quay. Of course, there was a hike and a cooking competition, campfires and all the usual things.

September 21 Scouts attended a "laid Back" two night camp at Eleven Acres, Downe.

October Jamboree on the Air – Jamboree on the Internet at Severndroog Castle.

November 41 Scouts joined the 17th Annual Night Hike in the North Downs.

December Food Collection at TESCO Woolwich for the Greenwich Foodbank.

Christmas Parents' Evening at St Michael's.

53 Scouts and 10 Young Leaders - Ice Skating and Pizza in Greenwich with a Secret Santa.

January The New Year Family Hike was around Cudham and Downe with lunch in The Blacksmith's.

18 Scouts at an Environmental Project at Westcombe Woodlands.

February 45 Scouts for an Activity Weekend at Kingswood, Ashford

26 Scouts at the sponsored Cardboard Box Sleepout at St Michaels.

March 28 joined a Hike along the North Downs Way - Wrotham via Otford to Shoreham.

April South London Scouts (Top Events) Team ran an introductory weekend of paddle sports for 9 older Scouts.

May 43 Scouts at the 3 night May Camp at Eleven Acres, Downe.

June The Expedition Challenge for 19 Older Scouts. Two day Hike camping at Frylands Wood.

Water Sports at Danson Park

June Camp at Eleven Acres.

We offer a huge thank you to all our parents for paying for all the activities, providing transport and all their other support.

John and Conway

Scout Leaders



Summer Camp



Kingswood



End of Summer Camp



Summer Camp



March Hike



With Baden-Powell on Poole Quay



Westcombe Woodland maintenance



Foodbank Collection



May Camp



Cardboard Box Sleepout



St George's Day



CUB PACKS

JOINT ACTIVITIES

We are also delighted to report that we have two full packs of Cubs, have had a busy year and have awarded lots of badges, we have run some joint activities including:

Thriftwood indoor camp where the Cubs spent a weekend doing fun activities including the zip line, Cresta run, peddle cars and inflatable before a campfire on the Saturday night.

We both visited the Creekside Centre where the Cubs wore fetching thigh length waders and walked up the Quaggy river at low tide and learnt all about the local wildlife that calls the creek home.

We'll finish the year with three exciting nights of Watersports at the lake at Danson Park, Sailing, Kayaking and Canoeing.

ST GERMANS PACK REPORT

In Autumn 2023 we had a night hike and a trip to Clip and Climb. Megan, Holly and Eres, the Young Leaders who attended the Jamboree last year, told us all about their eventful trip to South Korea and brought in some Korean snacks. We looked at the Mexican festival of Day of the Dead and took part in Parliament Week and had a conker competition, We finished 2023 off with an exciting trip to Laser Tag and we made Christmas decorations for a local charity

We started off 2024 with some of the parents coming in to tell us about other countries they have lived in for the International badge, this is one of our favourite nights of the year as the parents also bring in some home cooked local food. We also had a skills night and the Young Leaders ran a World Religions night.

We organised a Saturday session to clean up Farjeon Road where the Cubs cut back the weeds, filled the composting, restacked the insect hotel and enjoyed some marshmallows roasted over an open fire.

We started the summer term with a Team Building night, followed by maps and navigation and a walk from the Heath, to Kidbrook and the Cator Estate and back, via the playpark.

Last weekend we went to Eleven Acres where we camped with the Scouts in tents, cooked eggy bread and baked potatoes over an open fire, played wide games and rounder and enjoyed a campfire with the Scouts.

Badges completed include such diverse subjects as: Pioneering, International, Artist, Book Readers, Artist and Road Safety.

Silver Chief Scouts awards were completed by Jonah, Naveen, Ben, Kenzie, Sebastian GT, Silvan, Isabella and Remy.

We are very grateful to our fantastic young leaders and the parents that help at camps, hikes and other activities, we could not do it without you !

Yours in (Cub) Scouting

**Geraint and Harriet
Cubs Leaders**

Silver Chief Scouts Award Winners

The following young people attained their Chief Scout Silver Award this year.

Eva Wray, Thea Wearmouth, Evie Smith, Ethan Onura, Jasmine Stuckey, Sebastian Usher, Theo Cambell, Gawain Fawkener-Jones, Michael Maunder, Hugh Barron, James Whitehouse, Lottie Popple, Alex Griffiths, Mathew Balls, Annika Quille, Max Holbrook, Charlotte Soulsby, Thomas Coltrini, Seya Vaidya, Rufus Hodges, Ben Radford, George Pape, James Klaentschi, Helena Keeling, George Morrison.



Activities

We undertook the following activities in the last year

Skills night , Camping Skills, Bug Hotel, Creekside walk, Woodlands Hike, Wide Games Greenwich Park, Orienteering / Map reading, Home, Personal, Fire Safety, International Charities, Pirate Night, Pancake Night, Paper challenge, Team Building, Clip & Climb, Debate Night, Night Hike, Origami Night, Artist Badge, Film & Pizza Night.

Camps

The Wednesday pack experienced a wet and rainy last July at Downe. It was great fun !. The Cubs learnt a lot of new skills and some said it was the highlight of their year. By the Saturday afternoon, the sun was out and the ground was dry.

In October we enjoyed a Halloween camp at Thriftwood campsite, Brentwood. It rained there as well. We pitched up pretty much in the dark and enjoyed the evening under an amazing full moon.

There was a multitude of activities on the go, which meant that everyone got to have a go at what they chose - Peddle Cars, Cresta Run, Climbing, Camp Fire, Cave Bus. I remember all the kids running round playing games together in their halloween costumes. Kevin made a fantastic chilli which we had with jacket potatoes which we made all the nice being in our shelter nice and dry with the rain outside. On the Sunday morning we enjoyed a breakfast outside, cooked by the cubs. The sun was out and the trees were golden brown.

In march we went again to Thriftwood for indoor camp jointly with the Thursday group, we did lots of activities, Cresta Run, etc.

Everyone got stuck in and helped out, with the cooking, cleaning etc.

In July this year we are booked in at Frylands Wood. We will be again camping outside in the woodland and undertaking fun activities

We could not have delivered all of the above without the help of the team: -

Leaders

I would like to say a massive thank you to Kevin Radford, Dylan Tonge and Rachel Davis. All have not only organised evenings, Kevin has supported many camps, organised evenings and organised and coordinated out badge records. Dylan has organised evenings, coordinated our young leaders and organised all of our Wednesday equipment. Rachel has kindly joined the team this year and has already strengthened our outdoors activities programme, organising the hike last week and the orienteering, risk assessments and is joining us on camp next week with her husband.

Young Leaders

Many thanks, as always to our fantastic young leaders and to the parents who help out at Cub meetings. They have all been with us over a year, taking the pressure off and running evenings for us on occasions

In the Wednesday group we rely heavily on our word of mouth via our parents and the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme for our Young Leader support. I would therefore like to say a special thanks to all our young leaders this year, who have given up their time in the middle of the school week, juggling homework, revision and mocks to help us out. I would like to give a massive thanks to Maggie, Luke, Elsa and Laurie. All have been with us for over a year. Thank you !

Parents

I would also like to thank all of our parents who have helped out on camps, in particular, Erika, Laiyan and Graham and all the other parents who stepped forward and made all the activities possible.

As ever, it is the spirit of doing things together, the camaraderie, the development of young people and seeing all the young people learning new skills and having much fun is very inspirational.

Many thanks,

Chris, Kevin, Dylan and Rachel
Cubs Leaders





An exciting range of cubs activities over the last year

Programme - St. Michaels

Brenda Openshaw, Beaver Scout Leader

Report for St Michael and All Angels Beaver Colony

We are coming to the end of another scouting year and it is time to reflect on another very busy and successful one. Once again from September 2023 to July 2024 the Beavers have had an action- packed time full of new experiences and challenges.

At St Michael's 18 Beavers joined, 1 left and 10 went up to cubs with 7 waiting to go up to cubs in September and for the first time since before the pandemic the colony was full for the Summer Term.

We aim to give the Beavers a fun experience using games, challenges and opportunities to interact with the other Beavers. We are looking to improve their confidence and they are encouraged to take part in every activity whether it is to their liking or not and usually once they try the challenge they enjoy it.

Programme

Once again this year the Beavers, as the name suggests, have been very busy and shown themselves to be very enthusiastic and very conscientious with extra badges being completed at home. Over the year there have been 430 badges awarded including Challenge badges, Activity Badges and Staged Badges. We have concentrated on the Communicator, Creative, Cyclist, Disability Awareness, Global Issues, Health and Fitness, Safety, and Sports Activity Badges and various members earned Staged Badges. Alongside all the badge work the beavers have to earn 6 Challenge badges in order to achieve their Chief Scout's Bronze award, the highest award a beaver can earn.

This year I have had the pleasure of presenting Monty C., Rafferty H., George C., Dominic B., Leo S. Django L. and Stanley J.W. with their Bronze Awards. Congratulations to them all and we wish them every success in their future scouting.



This year we supported the District at their Builder Badge and Camp Craft days and in February we joined in the District Beavers at Trampolining day. In May we joined in the District Stroll from Thamesmead to the Cutty Sark meeting them at the O2 and walked to the Cutty Sark and back stopping for a picnic at the Cutty Sark. All the Beavers and their parents enjoyed the walk. We thank the parents for all their help.

When we started back in September, we immediately booked outings to Climbing and in October we visited the Imperial War Museum at Lambeth travelling there by bus. After an interesting visit to the museum we found a children's playground adjacent to the museum and the Beavers spent a very active hour playing on all the rides. The Beavers made up stories and acted them out on the rides. It was another unplanned team building exercise.

At Christmas we had our craft sessions making cards, calendars and presents and for Mother's Day we made a card and a decorated bag which contained a bag of chocolates for the Mums, this was closely followed by Easter when we had an Easter Egg Hunt and made Easter nests. Recently we spent a very pleasant evening walking in Greenwich Park following a map, finding facts about some of the very famous buildings in the park and answering questions about them. Our thanks to the parents who accompanied us on the walk. The remainder of the term will be spent doing the Sports Badge with a possible visit to Lee Green Fire Station on the last night.

The highlight of our very busy year was our Fun Day and Sleepover in June at Avery Hill Scout Centre. 20 beavers spent a very happy day pitching tents, playing parachute games, building dens and bug hotels, cooking their lunch on bbqs, and bouldering while being entertained by a very inquisitive fox. After 5 pm when the day visitors had gone home the 13 beavers left made a marble cake for dessert after dinner from scratch, a true team building exercise. Then during the evening we built a fire and had a campfire sing song, then despite the light evening the campers went to bed but because the fox was on the prowl they could not get to sleep. Eventually the camp was quiet about

midnight but the fox had other ideas and went round shaking the guy ropes on the tents so once again everyone was awake. Having settled down once again the beavers slept until the first awakened at 5am. Sam had spent most of the night chasing the fox away. Sunday was spent packing, tracking, playing foot cricket, making a fire and cooking smores and badges were given out.

Our thanks to Sam's Mum Jill who cooked all the meals over the weekend and to James Whitsted who had offered to help on Saturday and then on Saturday afternoon when Nicola was unable to join us, James volunteered to stay over night and stay on Sunday otherwise we would have had to cancel the sleepover and send all the beavers home.

It is with great regret that I have decided that in the interest of the future of the colony I will cease to be the Beaver Leader in July next year and will hand over the Colony to Sam but I will always be prepared to assist her should the need arrive.

This July we also have to say goodbye to our wonderful Explorer Scouts, Rose and Molly, who have been supporting the Colony since May 2020, doing everything that was expected of them. They are both destined for University and we wish them well in their future endeavours and say thanks for all their support, the beavers and leaders will miss them.

As I am not getting any younger, I have relied very much on Sam especially and Rose and Molly and now Nicola to help me maintain my presence at Beavers and to provide our programme throughout the year. Thank you all so much and thanks also for the parental support, your children and the leaders have benefited a great deal from your offers of assistance and that is why the colony is flourishing.

I would like to thank Hayley and Graham for their continued support.

I cannot finish without a special thank you to Sam who has been ever present communicating with the parents, keeping OSM up to date and supporting me. The beavers, parents and I owe you a great debt of gratitude Sam for all your contributions that help to make G40 a very successful colony.

Brenda Openshaw

Beaver Leader

Programme – St Germans

Sue Tearle, Beaver Scout Leader

We aim to give the Beavers a fun experience using games, challenges and opportunities to interact with the other Beavers. We are looking to improve their confidence and they are encouraged to take part in every activity whether it is to their liking or not and usually once they try the challenge they enjoy it.

Our programme gives the Beavers the opportunity to earn challenge and activity badges with the highest award being the Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

This year collectively the Beavers have gained 277 badges including 7 Bronze awards:

William R, Dimi S, Niam H, Alexander D, Kalam P, Tomos Y, Sophia-Louise D, Arthur L
Well done to all of them.



Since this time last year 19 have moved up to Cubs, 1 has left, 1 transferred and 21 have joined, so we only have 4 Beavers in the colony now who were with us this time last year.

Over the year, we have worked on the various parts of the challenge badges and done our usual collection of crafts for Christmas, Easter & Mother's day.

In the autumn term, we did the Safety badge, including a visit to the Fire station, the Communicator badge, went to Clip n Climb and held a mini Christmas Fair to raise money for the London Air Ambulance.

13 Beavers attended a Secret Agent themed Fun Day and Sleepover in November and 3 more to the Fun day and 2 Beavers also attended the Family Camp at Eleven Acres at the start of October.

In the Spring term we worked on the Experiment, Hobbies & Collector and Space badges including a visit to the Planetarium.

The Summer term started with the Group St George's Day service at St Michael's, which a number of Beavers attended

We have done our Gardener badge and International badge. We went to Greenwich Park for our annual Beaver ramble and gained a Hike away and Navigator level 1.

We have done some outdoor activities and some adventurous activities and will finish the term with a mini Olympics.

Thank you to the parents who have helped this year.

My special thanks go to my fantastic team of leaders and young leaders - Conway, Scott, Jamie & Stephen and to Jared & Henry, my young leaders, our success could not have been achieved without your support.

Sue Tearle

Beaver Leader



Dressed as Secret Agents at the Beaver Sleepover



Beavers at Greenwich Park



Clip n Climb

40th Greenwich Maintenance Days

G40 have again run a number of sessions so far this year to assist the District to maintain and improve our District's Assets to benefit current and future Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

Farjeon Road – 18 May 2024

Approximately 20 cubs, leaders and parents met for a Spring clean maintenance day:

- Strimming and weed clearance; wildflower seeds scattered on the fresh earth
- Redistribution of biodegradable debris to tidy the site
- Clearance and repurposing of an area to create dedicated planters for future projects

We were blessed with the weather and enjoyed hot drinks from the Kelly Kettles and smores cooked on an open fire.

Many thanks to everyone involved. A very productive day!



There are plans for major renovations at Farjeon Road, with architectural designs already produced for an environmentally friendly build with modern sustainable features.

Eleven Acres, Downe - H1 2024

The G40 team have been working very hard at the Eleven Acres undertaking substantial maintenance and renovation work. There has been infrastructural work in the Brownsea Hut and the toilet block, as well as rationalisation in our storage block.

The site is looking fantastic!

Invitations will be forthcoming for an Eleven Acres maintenance day, planned for September 2024.



If you are interested to help, please watch out for more details from the Leaders or contact Clive clive.grethe@icloud.com

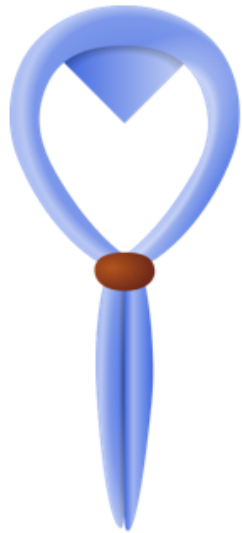
Nick Dennison

40th Greenwich Scouts



95 years of service

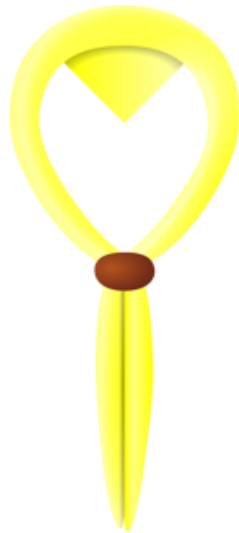
3rd May 1929



1946



1955



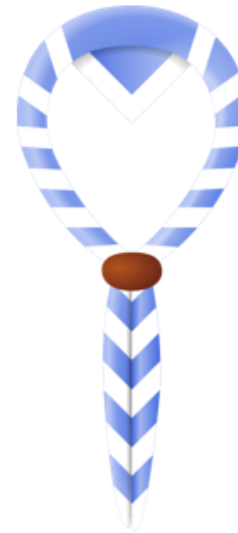
1981



1990



2001



2015



Royal Blue	Yellow with Royal blue border	Lemon yellow	Lemon yellow with white border	Lemon and Scout purple with white border	Royal blue and dark red with white border	Royal blue and white border
40 th Greenwich First registered	50 th Greenwich formed by leaders of 40 th Greenwich	11 th Lewisham North	Moved from Village Hall	7 th Greenwich joined 40 th Greenwich	40 th Greenwich and 11 th Lewisham North merged	Royal blue and white border
	Royal Air Force orphanage	Blackheath Village Hall	St Michael's	Ferrier Kidbrooke Estate	Sunfields Church / St Michael's	Blackheath Prep and St James

Helping to simplify Scouting Terminology

40th Greenwich (G40)	40th Greenwich Scout Group is part of the District of Royal Greenwich, which exists to provide support to and promote co-operation between Groups. The District is led by a District Commissioner supported by a team of Assistant District Commissioners. The District are supported by a County Commissioner and their team of Assistant County Commissioners. Royal Greenwich District is supported by South London County.
ABSL	Assistant Beaver Scout Leader
ACC	Assistance County Commissioners
ACSL	Assistant Cub Scout Leader
ADC	Assistance District Commissioners
AESL	Assistant Explorer Scout Leader
AGSL	Assistant Group Scout Leader
ASL	Assistant Scout Leader
Beaver Colony	A Beaver Scout Section that may be divided into small groups called Lodges. Beavers are aged 6 - 8.
Beaver section Leaders	Beavers section Leaders are named after wild animals.
BSL	Beaver Scout Leader (Brenda Openshaw - St Michaels, Sue Tearle - Blackheath Prep).
CC	County Commissioner (Darren Lodge - South London).
CSL	Cub Scout Leader (Chris Bishop - St Michaels, Geraint Thomas - Blackheath Prep).
Cub Pack	A Cub Scout Section that will be divided into groups called Sixes, each led by a Sixer. Cubs are aged 8 - 10½.
Cub section Leaders	Cub Section Leaders are named after Rudyard's Kipling's Jungle Book. The CSL is called 'Akela' and Assistant Leaders use the names of other characters.
DC	District Commissioner (John Sweeney - Royal Greenwich)
ESL	Explorer Scout Leader
Trustee Board	Besides the Leaders, the Group will have a team of other adults who provide support chiefly with administration and fund raising. These will be led by a Group Chairperson. The Group Chairperson is strictly speaking the Chairperson of the Group Scout Council. This meets annually at the Group Annual General Meeting 'AGM' and includes all those, especially parents, who are connected to the Group. The more routine management of the Group's affairs is conducted by the Group Trustee Board and meets on a monthly basis.
Explorer Unit	An Explorer Scout Unit is managed by the District. Members are 14 - 18.
Group	The local unit of Scouting that will consist of one or more section led by a Group Scout Leader GSL .
GSL	The Group Scout Leader ensures the effective operation of the Scout Group. The Scout Group consists of the three Sections – Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. The Group Scout Leader is responsible with the Group Leadership Team for ensuring that the Group has a team of 'fit and proper' adults who are well inducted and supported, and that a Balanced Programme is being delivered to all young people in the Group. (Conway Tearle - 40th Greenwich).
Helpers	Other adults may be Helpers or Skills Instructors. Helpers usually provide general help to a section on a regular basis whilst Skills Instructors provide more specialised support. Both are issued with Certificates of Appointment.
JOTA JOTI	Jamboree on the Air and Jamboree on the Internet (JOTA JOTI) are real jamborees during which Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas shared using radios, phones, chat rooms and skype.
OSM	Online Scout Manager manages the administration of 95% of UK scout groups.
POR	Scouting's Policy Organisation and Rules (POR) provides support and guidance to help us all run Scouting. https://www.scouts.org.uk/por/
Scout Network	This is a County coordinated network for members aged 18 - 25.
Scout Troop	A Scout Section that will be made up of a number of patrols each led by a Patrol Leader. Scouts are aged between 10½ - 14.
Section Leaders	Each Section will have its own Leaders, usually a Section Leader supported by Assistant Section Leaders together with helpers and instructors.
SL	Scout Leader (John Twidale - St Michaels, Conway Tearle - St James).
TSA	The Scout Association.
Warrant	The terms Leader and Scouter are both used to describe those adults who hold a Warrant. The warrant is the appointment card that is given to those who accept the appointment as a uniformed Leader. Such appointments are made by the Scout District.
YL	Young Leaders of the district Explorer (YL) section aged 14 to 18.

Useful QR Codes

1. 40th Greenwich Scouts Constitution

<https://www.g40scouts.org.uk/40th-greenwich-constitution>



2. 40th Greenwich AGM Report's

The 40th Greenwich Group Scout Council Annual Meeting of the Group Council for this year and previous years can be found here:

<https://www.g40scouts.org.uk/copy-of-osm>



3. Scouts Policies, Organisation and Rules

Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) applies in all parts of The Scout Association in the United Kingdom,

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/por/4-local-organisation-of-sections-groups-districts-counties/>



4. 40th Greenwich Web Site

<https://www.g40scouts.org.uk/>

