

# 15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Scout Group

## Annual Report 2021/22



Meet the Team

Group Scout Leader - Acting Jan Padgett/Sarah Yates

Beaver Scout Leader - Jan Padgett

Assistant Beaver Scout Leader - Nicola Blain

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Seeonee Cub Pack

Cub Scout Leader – Jonathan Booth

Assistant Cub Scout Leader Mark Whittock

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Waingunga Cub Pack

Assistant Cub Scout Leaders – Jo Toogood & Richard Bell

Section Assistant - Mirisa Du Toit

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Scout Leader - Richard Snook

Section Assistants - Tim Wilson (until July 22) and Richard Ellis

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Group Chairman Sean Forrest

Group Secretary- Becky Hill

Membership Secretary - Sarah Yates

Group Treasurer - Tess Robson (until August 2022)

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## 15th (Oxford) Sevenoaks Scout Group – ember 2021

### Chairman's Report

First of all, I would like to say at this time how deeply saddening it is that Scout Association and all its members and friends have recently lost their patron Her Majesty Queen. We will remember her and give thanks for her support and service over many years. May she rest in peace.

It is great to see that following the challenges of recent years dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic the group is now fully operational again. We have been able to resume regular meetings at the scout hut and enjoy varied and numerous activities as outlined in the Section Leader Reports contained herein.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Leadership Team, Executive Committee and parent helpers for all their hard work, dedication and support during the last 12 Months.

Unfortunately, our Group Treasurer Tess Robinson has had to step down from her position on the Executive Committee at the end of August and I would especially like to say a very big thank you from everyone at the group for all of her commitment and hard work for us over the past 4 years, you've been amazing Tess.

This of course leaves the position of Group Treasurer vacant at the moment and we are currently looking for someone who might be willing to volunteer to help out. If you are interested, please speak with one of the Leaders or Executive Committee.

As regards fund raising events this year. With much regret, due to a lack of volunteers at the time, we were unable to provide the usual Scout BBQ this year at the Annual Village Fete and due to safety issues within the Chalk Pit we will not be able to hold the Scout Firework Display this year

either. This is a real shame but we hope to be able to provide both of these again next year, fingers crossed.

I hope you enjoy reading the Section Leader Reports and wish you all a very happy year ahead.

Keep safe and stay well.

**Sean Forrest (Chairman)**

**15<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks (Otford) Scout Group**

## Beaver Scout Report

This has been another exciting year for the Otford Beaver Colony. With plenty of scouting fun for our young people and, happily, the last 12 months have been a return to pre-pandemic activities.

The Colony is currently full with 24 members with a waiting list that includes young people old enough to join us but with no space to accommodate them. In the last year 14 beavers have moved on and are now invested in Otford Cubs.

I am pleased and proud that in the last year we have awarded a total of 235 badges. These include 83 Challenge Badges, 141 Activity Badges and Staged Activity Badges including 13 Nights Away and I have been proud to award 9 Chief Scout Bronze Awards.

Our weekly activities have concentrated on trying to complete the six Challenge Badges during the time that Beavers are with us, this has meant we have made bird-feeders, made nature art, did a scavenger hunt, made junk model robots, played wide games, cooked pancakes, painted remembrance stones and much much more. We also celebrated St George's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, Pancake Day, and Easter.

As part of the My World Challenge Badge we learnt about the work of the Sevenoaks Food Bank and whilst doing 'good-turns at home the Beavers collected donations totalling £130.

Towards the end of the summer term we held a sleepover at the hut where Beavers completed their Builder Activity badge, gained a Night Away and joined the scouts section for a campfire and a marshmallow.

I would like to thank Nicki for her support over the last year, it wouldn't be possible without you.

**Jan Padgett (Skylark)**

## **Beaver Scout Leader**

### **Waingunga Cub Scout Report**

Since the last report we have had a great summer of Scouting. We sent several of our Cubs up to Scouts and have welcomed some new starters, both from Beaver colonies and from the waiting list.

We currently have 15 Cubs and 3 leaders having said goodbye to our 2 DofE volunteers in July.

Highlights of last term included our postponed trip to Hemel Hempstead for a taster ski session at the Snow Centre.

Learning vital knife skills making a hearty minestrone soup which the Cubs all really enjoyed.

Taking a scooter hike up to McDonalds for a hamburger and back.

A hawk throwing evening.

Finishing with a water fight with games and water balloons for our last summer meeting.

35 badges were awarded over this period. We are looking forward to the paddle boarding day Bagheera has organized jointly with the District. Our plans for the autumn term include hikes, map reading, celebrating Diwali, finishing off with some traditional Am Dram and a trip to see Pro Dram in the form of the Sevenoaks Pantomime. I have booked in for some Nights Away training and hope we can get a Waingunga Camp organized for spring next year.

**Joanne Toogood (Hathi)**

**Richard Bell (Bagheera)**

**Mirisa Du Toit - Sahi**

**15<sup>th</sup> Otford Scout Group – Waingunga Cub pack Leaders (Thursdays)**

## Seeonee Cub Scout Report

Before I checked my records I could have sworn that the last year had been fairly quiet, that we had just ticked along as we become used to full time Scouting again. However I was surprised to see that the Pack has done/achieved quite a lot.

Our weekly meetings have been fun and varied, including 'midnight' hikes, Christmas craft, an RC night, Burn's Night (haggis tasting and Scottish dancing), Prusiking, water rockets, fire lighting and knife work. During this same period we have also covered 1st aid and personal safety badges. The topics covered during the latter badge ranged from how to escape a burning building, to dealing with inquisitive cattle.

The pack has been away twice this year, a spring residential at Wilberforce Scout site, where we concentrated on basic Scouting skills and more recently 'Crash out on Cavalier' which saw the CUBs staying overnight on a WW2 destroyer (followed by museum visit) at Chatham Dockyard. Those who attended also added to their nights away and hikes staged badges.

Other notable events include, St George's Day, and making recycled plastic flowers to mark the Queen's Jubilee - which were planted at the pond. Other badges earned as a Pack include team work, world, skills, adventure and personal challenge badges which ultimately resulted in two of our older Cubs achieving the Chief Scout's Silver award, the highest a Cub can earn. No mean feat bearing in mind the disruption to Scouting during 2020-21.

Some cubs have made an individual effort to complete badges outside of meetings, such as sports enthusiast, martial arts, home help, cyclist and time on the water. Rather pleasingly a number of Cubs have also pushed themselves to finish their personal challenge badge, tackling swimming challenges, charity efforts, and walking up some of England's highest peaks.

The pack has remained strong throughout this period and currently has 21 Cubs. Those that we have lost through age have all gone up to our Troop, where I hope the adventure will continue.

Thanks as always to Baloo for his friendship both inside and out of Scouting, and Lucy, for putting up with my 'hobby'....it's only two hours a week!

**Akela (Jonathan)**

**Seeonee Cub Leader**

## Scout Leader Report

Last term at Scouts we have been trying to concentrate and put focus on some badge work. The activities we have done include pioneering, map work, going on a hike, having a sleep over under canvas at the hut before running the coconut shy at the church fete - but I'm not convinced a lot of sleep was actually achieved!

We also had a troop from Tonbridge stay over so a fun evening we had with them. It was a year for K.I.J and a number of Scouts attended for the week's camp in the summer. We already have some plans in the diary for this year so far so we are hoping for a fun packed first term back! We start the term with a leader, assistant leader and 3 young leaders.

**Rik Snook**

**(15th Otford Scout Leaders)**

# Annual General Meeting 15th (Oxford) Sevenoaks Scout Group 16th September 2022

**Location: Oxford Scout Hut**

**Time: 7.30pm**

## **Agenda**

**1. Welcome and introductions** (*Group Chairman*)

**2. Apologies for Absence:**

**3. Minutes of the previous AGM**

**4. Approval of annual report/Accounts** (*presented by the Group Chairman*) **(A)**

**Annual Report Proposer:**

Secunder:

Seek approval of the meeting:

**(B) Accounts Proposer:**

Secunder:

Seek approval of the meeting:

**5. Approval of the Group Scout Leader's nomination of the Group Chairman**

GSL's nomination: Sean Forrest Seek approval of the meeting:

**6. Approval of the Group Scout Leader's nomination of members of the Group**

**Executive Committee** (*Section Leaders etc*)

GSL's nominations: Seek approval of the meeting:

**7. Election of the Group Secretary** (*no proposer or seconder required*)

Name: Becky Hill Seek approval of the meeting:

**8. Election of the Group Treasurer**

Name:            Seek approval of the meeting:

**9. Election of the Group Scout Council to the Group Executive Committee**

(*Parent Representatives/Active Scout Group Supporters*)

Name/s: Seek approval of the meeting:

**[10. Appointment of independent auditor, examiner or scrutineer]**

(*confirm current*)

**11. Guest speaker (District Representative)** (*Optional*)

**12. Presentations and awards (Section Leaders)** (*Optional*)

**Close of meeting**

# Annual General Meeting 15th (Otford) Sevenoaks Scout Group

## 10th November 2021

**Location: Zoom meeting 8pm**

**1. (GC) Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence:**

Tess Robson (Treasurer)

**2. (GC) Minutes of the previous AGM**

Approved

**3. (GC) Matters arising (from minutes):**

None

**4. (GC) Chairman's Report/Review – Sean Forrest**

**5. (GT) Treasurer's Report and (GC) Adoption of the accounts**

*(report presented by Chair on behalf of Treasurer and invite questions, Chair resumes and requests proposer and seconder to accept accounts)*

GC noted on behalf of the Treasurer that this report reflected not having a full year of scouting and no income from the usual fundraisers. The Group has benefitted from grants to keep it afloat and in a 'status quo' position. The accounts can be found on the group's website.

**(GC) Adoption of accounts**

**Proposer:** Sean Forrest

**Secunder:** Jan Padgett

**6. Approval of the Group Scout Leader's Nominations for membership of the Executive Committee: (handover to GSL)**

**(GSL) (a) Nomination for Chairman**

GSL's nomination:

**Sean Forrest**

Seek approval of the meeting:

Approved



GC noted that whilst Tess had expressed a desire to step down after many years successfully fulfilling the role she had confirmed she would continue until a successor is identified, which the Group are in the process of identifying.

**8. (GC) Appointment of independent auditor, examiner or scrutineer**

**(GC) Appointment of Satish Mathue as Independent Examiner**      **Proposer:** Sean Forrest

Seconded: Jan Padgett

**9. (GC) Invite District Representative address (Jo Brookbank):**

Short address to all present by Jo Brookbank (DC) . Jo thanked all in the group on behalf of the District for their fantastic job maintaining numbers through the very odd 18 months everyone had experienced.

A couple of corrections were noted for the annual report to include acting GSL's Jan padgett and Sarah Yates and that all Leaders are part of the Exec unless they wish to opt out.

**10. (GC) Invite VIP/Guest Speaker (optional)**

None for this meeting.

**11. (GC) AOB (at discretion of Chairman)**

None.

**12. (GSL) Presentations and awards (optional)**

No awards made this year due to the circumstances.

**13. (GC) Close of meeting**

*Exec Committee members agreed to schedule an Exec meeting for wednesday 1st December at 8pm, location TBC. Next AGM to be in June 2022, aligned to the usual cadence, with the aim to have a face to face AGM if possible.*