



Explorer, Scout, Cub and Beaver highlights

40th Greenwich Group Scout Council Annual Meeting of the Group Council 2025-26

19th June 2026



www.g40scouts.org.uk

BEAVERS
SCOUTS

cubs
EXPLORERS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	A note from the Chairman
5	Our Leaders
8	Young Leaders
10	Financial Summary
13	Group Lead Volunteer Report
14	Scout Troops' Report
17	Cub Scout Packs' Report
21	Beaver Scout Colonies' Report
25	Explorer Scout Report
27	History of the 40 th Greenwich Scarves
28	Scouting Terminology
29	Useful QR Codes

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – YEAR 2025 TO 2026

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 seven sections, 2 Beaver colonies, 2 Cub Packs, 2 Scout Troops and an Explorers section.

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 seven sections across Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer 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 and attending the war memorials in Belgium.

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 the support many activities including cycling, camping, cooking and other sporting activities.

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 2026 to 2027, we will continue to ask for your support and it has never been easier to join up.

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 19th June 2026.

<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 can be found 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 2025 to 2026, the Trustee Board had the following trustees:

- Group Chair (Clive Grethe)
- Group Treasurer (Michael Carlyon)
- Trustees (Gloria Mutsvanzva, Rachael Leong, Dylan Tonge, Nick Davies, Svitlana Pasika)
- Group Lead Volunteer (Conway Tearle)

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.

As Chair, it has been a real honour to be able to provide my experience and management to support the growth of 40th Greenwich Scouts over the last 11 years and work with such dedicated and passionate Leaders. They are a complete credit to the success for 40th Greenwich Scouts. I am now handing over the Leadership to Judith who brings significant skills from her role as Chair and Parent Governor at John Ball Primary School in addition to business and charity Trustee and Director experience.

For the next period 2026 to 2027, the Trustee Board will be set up as follows:

- Group Chair (Judith Wilkinson)
- Group Treasurer (Michael Carlyon)
- Trustees (Gloria Mutsvanzva, Rachael Leong, 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 again 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
19 June 2026

OUR LEADERS



Conway Tearle



John Twidale



Lyndsey Wood



Harriet Noakes



Sue Tearle



Geraint Thomas



Kevin Radord



Rachel Davies



Scott Rankin



Samantha Gregory



Dylan Tonge



Andy Stanley



Dean Keigan



Elizabeth Dowson



Benoit Becar



Agnieszka Bazan



Martin Prescott



Karis Stanley



Tallulah Philips



Lily Swift

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.

St Michael's Section Leaders

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. Andy is now also the Manager of the Eleven Acres District camp site.

Karis Stanley - was a member of the Scout Troop from January 2010. She achieved the Gold Award in May 2013. Amazingly, she completed 100 nights away as a Scout before moving on to Explorer Scouts. She attended the World Jamboree in Japan, 2015. She returned to the Troop in July 2025.

Cubs

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

Rachel Davis - Joined last year to support the Cubs. As a dedicated volunteer for London Search and Rescue, Rachel brings a wealth of experience to the St. Michael's cub pack.

Dylan Tonge - Has seamlessly moved up through scouting from a young age, supporting different sections over the years and is a core member of the St. Michael's cub pack leadership.

Dimah Ajeeb - Dimah has recently joined the team as a parent helper and is becoming more involved in the day to day leadership of the pack.

Beavers

Nicola Scott - Joined 40th Greenwich in 2024 as a Leader.

Samantha Gregory - was a Rainbow, Brownie, Guide, Senior Section and an Explorer in GESS. She is currently a leader at Brownies as well as a Beaver leader at G40. Having supported Brenda since 2012 and took over the Beaver Leadership at St. Michaels from September 2025.

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.

Scott Rankin has been helping with Beavers since March 2022 following taking up a leader role with the St James troop the previous Autumn.

St James Section

Scouts

Conway Tearle took on the Leaders role in Autumn 2017.

Sue Tearle took on the Leaders role in Autumn 2017.

Martin Prescott joined the team in Spring 2026.

Tallulah Phillips - joined St James Scouts in 2020. She became a Young Leader with St James Scouts in Autumn 2021 and became a Leader with St James Scouts on turning 18 in February this year

Lily Swift - joined St Germans Cubs in 2015 and moved up to St Michael's Scouts in Autumn 2018. She became a Young Leader with St James Scouts in Spring 2022 and became a Leader with St James Scouts on turning 18 in February this year.

Blackheath Explorer Scout Unit

Dean Keigan is a former Scout who has a son who is now in the new Blackheath Explorer Scout Unit. He has supported both Troops mainly at camps and on hikes and is now one of the new Blackheath Explorer unit leaders.

Elizabeth Dowson has supported the new emerging Blackheath Explorers Scout Unit for a year now. Her youngest is in Cubs, oldest is now a member of BESU and her daughter very recently joined Scouts. She supports leaders as much as possible, helps on camps, with Wednesday evening sessions and Duke of Edinburgh sessions as well as general communication and much needed organisation!

Benoit Becar joined the Blackheath Explorers Scout Unit last year. A former Scout Explorer in France, he wanted to give back to the international scouting family when the opportunity arose with BESU. Benoit has two sons — both active in the Greenwich 40th Scout Troop and our newly founded Blackheath Explorer Unit.

Agnieszka Bazan's journey with Explorers began when her youngest son turned 14 and moved up from Scouts to Explorers. Since then, she has enjoyed supporting young people, helping them develop new skills and gain confidence through new experiences. Giving back to the community and working with young people are causes close to her heart.

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, was a cub before moving to America. On his return he joined Severndroog Explorers. With them he has walked Hadrian wall and canoed the width of Scotland last summer for his Duke of Edinburgh Gold expedition.

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

St Michael's Beavers

Martha P - Was a St Michaels Scout and is also a member of Blackheath Explorer Scout Unit. She completed the Gold Award in 2024.

Ottoline N - started as a Beaver, then joined Cubs and St James' Scouts receiving her Chief Scout's Gold award in 2024. She is also a member of Severndroog Explorers

Maverick J - Was a St James' Scout and is a member of Blackheath Explorer Scout Unit. He gained Gold 2024.



St German's Cubs

Ruby - A former Cub with the pack, Ruby has returned to us to do her Duke of Edinburgh bronze award volunteering.

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 has walked the length of Hadrien's Wall and the Cleveland Way and completed the Great Glen Canoe Trail with Explorers. She has completed over 125 nights away.

Owen T - A former Cub in the pack, Owen is currently a Severndroog explorer after gaining his Gold award and being awarded Scout of the year with the St James Scout troop. He will be canoeing down the River Severn this year for his Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition. He has completed over 100 nights away.

Remy T - was awarded the Silver award at Cubs in St Germans, and Gold at St James Scouts and now another Explorer at Severndroog and there has completed expeditions including the Cleveland Way, Hadrian's Wall and the Great Glen Canoe Trail.

Angel - An Explorer at BESU and actor with a local performance troop, Angel showed us her theatrical skills whilst performing a play for the Cubs.

St Michael's Cubs

Maggie T, Alannah B, Laurie B, Daniel R, Benedict A, Flora B and Tara C - Our current batch of superstars who are helping us as part of the D of E Scheme.

St James' Scouts

Lois C. – Was St Michaels Scout. Gained Gold in 2022 and is a member of Severndroog ESU

Bea S. – Was St Michaels Scout. Gained Gold in 2022 and is a member of Severndroog ESU

Edward C. – Was St Michaels Scout. Gained Gold in 2024 and is a member of Severndroog ESU

Arthur C. - Was St Michaels Scout. Gained Gold in 2025 and is a member of the Blackheath ESU.

St Michael's Scouts

Alex B. – was a St Michael's Cub and Scout and gained Gold in 2024.

Alex Bar. – Another St Michael's Beaver, Cub and Scout and also Gold in 2024. He is a member of The Blackheath Explorer Scout Unit.

Oscar B-F – Was a St German's Beaver, Cub and a St James' Scout and a member of Severndroog Explorer Scout Unit. Gold in 2022. He ceased to be a Young Leader on his 18th birthday in May.

Fenella K – Another St German's Beaver and Cub and St James' Scout. Gold in 2022. A member of Severndroog. She will be leaving us on her 18th birthday in July.

Emma M – A St Michael's Scout who gained Gold in 2025. She is a member of the Blackheath ESU.

Zoe M-Y - Also a St Michael's Scout who gained Gold in 2025. She is a member of the Blackheath ESU.

Daniel W – A St Michael's Cub and Scout who gained Gold in 2024 and is a member of Severndroog ESU.

There are also other Explorer Scouts and Young Leaders in the other sections of the Group who we use as temporary Young Leaders at camp and on events.

The following three pages set out a financial summary for 40th Greenwich Scouts Group for the year ended 31 March 2026 including the Statement of Financial Activities for the year and Balance Sheet as of 31 March 2026, with the figures for the year ended 31 March 2025 shown for comparison. This year's accounts have not yet been reviewed by an Independent Examiner. However, this is something we will ensure is completed within a reasonable time frame following the AGM.

I joined 40th Greenwich Scouts Group as Group Treasurer in September 2025 following a period of handover over the summer of 2025 with previous Group Treasurer James Whitsed supported also by his predecessor Mike Gibbs. I am also very grateful to Group Chairman Clive Grethe and Group Lead Volunteer Conway Tearle who have both been very generous with their time and considerable experience which have been invaluable to me as I learn the ropes at 40th Greenwich.

I am pleased to report that the Group's finances remain strong and healthy and have been so throughout the past year. The result for the 2025-26 financial year was a small surplus of £191. This year was the first full year of operation for the new Blackheath Explorer Scout Unit (BESU), which, whilst technically belonging to the Royal Greenwich Scouts District, are administered on a day-to-day basis by 40th Greenwich in partnership with the District. BESU generated a deficit for the year which is very much to be expected in the first year of operating due to set-up costs, and this was offset by a net surplus generated across the Group's six other sections.

The Group's modest overall surplus for the year is a real testament to the experience and budgeting discipline of all the leaders, and is exactly what we aim for as a not-for-profit organisation, because it means that the fantastic programme of activities that so enriches the lives of all our young people has been achieved for the lowest possible cost to their parents and carers, ensuring Scouting remains as affordable and accessible to our members as it possibly can be.

The Group's most significant individual asset in historic cost terms is the minibus, which was purchased in September 2023. The minibus is a great practical resource for the Group's activities. Additionally, proceeds from renting it out to other Scout Groups in the region provides a very helpful offset to its annual running costs while providing valuable support to those other Groups to deliver their programmes of activities. The net cost of the minibus (being rental income, less depreciation, insurance and other maintenance costs) was £648 for 2025-26 (2024-25 net cost of £333). The minibus is likely to need replacing in 3-5 years' time, and I have already begun to set aside funds so that we are well-prepared when the time comes.

As a well-established Scout Group, 40th Greenwich continues to make good use of its existing camping and other equipment and has therefore not needed to make any significant investments during the past year. The Group currently accounts for its equipment assets based on an assumed resale value of 10% of original cost, which is the value of £3,430 that you see on the balance sheet. The "new-for-old" replacement value of these assets, which is used for insurance purposes only, is £34,297.

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

www.easypfundraising.org.uk/causes/40thgreenwichscouts

If anyone has questions or needs support with payments, please don't hesitate to talk to your section leader or to me.

Michael Carlyon, Group Treasurer



Figure 1 - Draft Statement of Financial Activities

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2026

	<u>Explorers</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Overall</u>	<u>Overall</u>
	<u>31 March</u>	<u>Sections</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Group</u>
	<u>2026</u>	<u>31 March</u>	<u>31 March</u>	<u>31 March</u>
	<u>2026</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Minibus	-	4,625	4,625	5,350
Camping Equipment	-	3,430	3,430	3,371
	<u>-</u>	<u>8,055</u>	<u>8,055</u>	<u>8,721</u>
Current assets				
Cash at bank	-	7,812	7,812	15,757
Prepaid District membership fees	1,714	13,260	14,974	14,573
Accrued Gift Aid	-	8,053	8,053	-
Advance to Explorers from Group	-	2,412	2,412	-
	<u>1,714</u>	<u>31,537</u>	<u>33,251</u>	<u>30,330</u>
LIABILITIES				
Payments in advance (by parents)	-	(650)	(650)	(571)
Creditors	(1,173)	(3,467)	(4,640)	(3,307)
Advance to Explorers from Group	(2,412)	-	(2,412)	-
	<u>(3,585)</u>	<u>(4,117)</u>	<u>(7,702)</u>	<u>(3,878)</u>
RESERVES	<u>(1,871)</u>	<u>35,475</u>	<u>33,604</u>	<u>35,173</u>
MOVEMENT IN RESERVES	(1,871)	302	(1,569)	1,896

	<u>Explorers</u> 2025-26	<u>Other Sections</u> 2025-26	<u>Overall Group</u> 2025-26	<u>Overall Group</u> 2024-25
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Income from membership				
- Membership subscriptions	2,900	23,450	26,350	27,300
- less Annual Membership Fee □	(1,714)	(12,859)	(14,573)	(14,573)
	1,186	10,591	11,777	12,727
Income from activities				
- Camp fees	4,625	(38,172)	(33,547)	33,499
- Activities	2,245	90,299	92,544	8,966
- Mini-bus net proceeds	-	(493)	(493)	1,137
Other income				
- Gift Aid	-	8,053	8,053	6,418
- Contribution for roof repairs	-	45	45	-
- Other	-	258	258	32
	8,056	70,581	78,637	62,779
EXPENDITURE				
Infrastructure Costs				
- Venue Hire	(850)	(7,953)	(8,803)	(6,729)
- Insurance	-	(2,564)	(2,564)	(2,108)
Cost of activities				
- Camps	(5,435)	(39,645)	(45,080)	(33,080)
- Meetings & Activities	(3,358)	(15,747)	(19,105)	(12,990)
- Badges	(284)	(2,526)	(2,810)	(2,715)
Equipment costs				
- Camping equipment	-	(588)	(588)	(1,564)
- Repairs & maintenance	-	-	-	(168)
- Minibus depreciation	-	(725)	(725)	(725)
- Minibus expenditure	-	(1,348)	(1,348)	(804)
Administration and sundry expenses	-	(30)	(30)	-
Charitable donations	-	(175)	(175)	-
	(9,927)	(71,301)	(81,228)	(60,883)
Surplus/ (deficit) of income over expenditure	(1,871)	(720)	(2,591)	1,896
Reserves balance at 1 April 2025 (2024)	-	35,173	35,173	33,277
Reserves balance at 31 March 2026 (2025)	(1,871)	34,453	32,582	35,173

□ The Blackheath Explorer Scout Unit was established in April 2025. Explorer Unit figures are required to be shown separately from other Sections

□ The Scout Association's policy is to net these two as the Group are acting as agents for the Association with respect to membership payments.

Account Notes

1) The purchase price of the minibus was £6,800 in 2023 and the depreciation method for the minibus is straight-line over an estimated useful life of 8 years with an estimated residual value of £1,000 at the end of this period, resulting in an annual depreciation charge of £725 (£6,800 - £1,000 divided by 8). A full year's depreciation was charged in the year of purchase for the sake of prudence and simplicity.

2) Other assets are shown on the balance sheet at the lower of fair market value or replacement cost. The Trustees estimate that fair market value is considerably lower than replacement cost and the assets are therefore valued at 10% of replacement cost which is considered by the Trustees to be a reasonable approximation of fair market value. The total replacement cost at 31 March 2026 is £34,297 (2025 £33,710) so the value of equipment recognised on the balance sheet is £3,430 (2025 £3,371).

We have had another busy year as the reports of the section leaders will confirm. A lot of what we do as a scout group whilst organised by the leaders would not happen but for the continued support of many parents who help at weekly meetings, camps and other activities. We owe them and the leaders a huge thank you.

I can report that our waiting list has largely disappeared for the first time in years, probably because we have been telling everyone that we have a long waiting list and to look elsewhere to join scouting. This might be considered a good thing but it does mean that we are now below numbers, especially so for the beaver sections. We have been advertising in some of the schools from whence our beavers have traditionally come and I can report it is looking likely that both colonies will be back to full strength after the summer holidays.

I will now 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 2025 there were 45 campers and 13 day visitors 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 – **25th - 27th Sept 2026**.

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.

The Group Trustee Board continues to ensure that all our leaders 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 new courses or attend the re-fresher courses to enable them to offer the best support and guidance to the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.



26th World Scout Jamboree - Poland 2027 "Bravely"

Sadly, for our scouts and explorers, no one from our group was selected to go on this particular Jamboree. This is partly because the numbers going from the UK this time was reduced overall so halving the number going from our scout county.

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.

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 TROOPS REPORT



The Scout Troops meet in St James Church Hall, Kidbrooke Park Road and St Michael's Church Hall, Pond Road. Both meet at 19:00 on Fridays in term time.

They run similar meetings on Fridays and combine for most other camps and activities. The aim is to provide a programme that covers all the requirements of the Chief Scout's Gold Award in about three years.

Since the last annual meeting of the Group Council in June 2025, the Scout Troops have met or held activities on 35 Fridays. We have offered 21 Nights away, 16 of these in tents.

Membership

St Michael's began the year with 37 members and now have 29 while St James began with 25 and now have 38.

Seven of those who reached their 14th birthday have transferred to The Blackheath Explorer Scout Unit and one to Severndroog ESU.

Chief Scout's Gold Award

Arthur C., George F., Emma M., Zoë M-Y from the St Michael's Troop and Nieve S. and Robbie M-A from St James' were presented with the Gold Awards in December.

Felix C., Daniel R. and Jaden D. will receive theirs at the Annual Group Council Meeting in June.



PROGRAMME 2025/6

June Canoeing, Sailing, Dragon Boats at Danson Park.

July More Water Activities at Danson Park.

Seven night Summer Camp at Blackland Farm near East Grinstead included a ride on the Bluebell Railway. There was canoeing, raft building, climbing and so much more.



September Two night Camp at Eleven Acres

October World Scout Jamboree 2027 Poland Selection Weekend at the South London Scout Centre. We have had Scouts selected for the last 4 World Jamborees but we failed this year.

Climbing at The Reach Climbing Wall (St Michael's only)

November

19th Annual Night Hike from Keston Ponds to Eleven Acres.



A coach trip through the Channel Tunnel to Belgium and France.
Two nights at The Peace Village, Mesen near Ypres.
On Saturday, a visit to the Tyne Cot Cemetery, Hill 46, The Flanders Field Museum and, in the evening, attend the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. Invested new in St Georges Church in Ypres.

Dinner was held in the Captain Cook restaurant, Ypres.

Sunday, La Coupole V2 base near Saint-Omer (Nord-Pas-de-Calais), where 40th Greenwich Scouts held our own Remembrance Day Service.

**November**

We collected gifts of food and money for the Greenwich Food Bank at TESCO, Woolwich

**December**

Christmas Parents' Evening at St Michaels.

We joined St Michael's for their annual Toy Service.

Ice skating at the Queens House Ice rink and then back for a pizza at St Alfege church hall and a Secret Santa.

January

New Year Family Hike – A short walk around Shoreham and lunch in The Samuel Palmer.

A Chinese meal at the Sun Ya to mark Tallulah & Lily's transmogrification into adulthood.

February

Activity Weekend - PGL at Grosvenor Hall, Kennington, Ashford,

March

"Cardboard Box City" sleepover outside St Michael's Hall to raise funds for our charity of the year, The Greenwich Homeless Project.
We raised £4228.00.



Climbing at The Reach Climbing Wall (St James' only)

April

Royal Greenwich District Scouts Superhero St George's Day at Avery Hill.

May

May Camp – 3 nights at Eleven Acres.

Environmental Project – Mycenae Gardens

Environmental Project - Woolwich Common

Paddle Sports Camp at Thriftwood organised by South London Scouts (Top Awards) Team. (over 13s only)

Geocaching in Greenwich Park

Group BBQ & Annual Meeting of The Group Council

Strangely, the Expedition Challenge does not appear in our report this year. We held it just before the Annual Meeting in 2025 and it will be just after this year.

There are so many people we must thank who contribute to making this programme work.
St Michael and All Angels, Greater London Scout County, Royal Greenwich Scout District, Greenwich Food Bank, Greenwich Homeless Project, Friends of Mycenae Gardens, Friends of Plumstead Common, The Reach, Danson Park.

But most of all the Leaders from the other sections who stepped in to help and all those parents who found time and those who camped with us.

We couldn't run the Night Hike without the 20 odd parents who turn out.

Conway & John



Remembrance Reefs, Menin Gate, Belgium 2025



WWI Tunnels, Belgium 2025



Investiture 2025 St George's Church, Ypres



Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium 2025



Cubs are celebrating their 110th Birthday across the UK in 2026

CUB PACKS

JOINT ACTIVITIES (does this need updating???)

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:

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 both also attended two weeks of Orienteering at Woodlands Farm, learning about map reading and using landmarks so we don't get lost!

We are jointly running a camp next weekend at Downe, with activities such as a hike to a local farm, shelter building, camp fire activities and wide games.

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

Another year has flown by, filled with fun adventures and experiences for our 28 cubs in the St Germans cub group.

In the autumn term last year, we explored space, making star tubes and looking at the planets. We completed our night hike and spent the following two weeks learning about democracy, holding votes on issues affecting our young people. We had an interesting visitor, a local Green Party councillor, Lakshan Saldin, with whom we learned how local politics work. We finished the year off going to Clip 'N Climb, and every Christmas, we support a local Care Leavers Charity- collecting treats for their Christmas hampers and making decorations for their tree.

During the spring term, we held our ever-popular international night. Our families came together, bringing food and traditions to show the cubs the different cultures in our group. We had 13 tables this year, from America to Zimbabwe. One of our young leaders, Angel, is involved with a local youth theatre troop- The Science Playhouse. They came along to showcase their play all about astronomy and Moon exploration, using drama, storytelling, and puppetry. The cubs were engrossed and asked good questions afterwards.

The highlight of the year was our first-ever visit to the Golden Hinde in Southwark. We took 28 cubs and 3 young leaders to sleep overnight on the Golden Hinde. We dressed up and learned about life on board Sir Francis Drake's Elizabethan galleon, including the cannons, the animals kept, the food and the surgery that took place. It was fascinating, and we all learned what life would have felt like on the open seas.

During the summer term, we spend most sessions outside, starting with the Creekside walk. This takes place in Deptford, and we boot up and take our sticks and walk along the creek at low tide. Looking out for the bird life, human rubbish and nature. The cubs love this trip out, especially looking at all the 'treasures' that have been found over the years. This year, we will do our biennial trip to Woodlands Farm and practice our map-reading skills and use of a compass to navigate around the fields to the checkpoints. This is a perfect starting point for the cubs that go on to scouts when they must map-read around the countryside. A joint weekend camp with G40 St Michael's Cub Group at Eleven Acres is taking place this year, which is exciting. We will be doing nature activities together and a little hike to the local animal farm.

We also have our annual water sports activities nights at Danson Park, and hopefully a jump into the lake to finish off the cub year.

Silver award

Silver chief scout awards were awarded to Rowan, Ulysse, Iancu, William, Georgia, Dimi, Rory, Seth, Laurence, Niam, Frank, Kalam, Tomos, Harriet and Tristan



Young Leaders

Thank you to all our parents who help us out and our young leaders, Megan, Remy, Angel, Owen and Ruby. We couldn't run a successful programme without you.

Yours in (Cub) Scouting

Harriet and Geraint

Cubs Leaders



Visit to the Golden Hyde



Visit to the Golden Hyde



Woodlands Farm



Visit to the Golden Hyde



District St George's Day



Creekside

ST MICHAELS PACK REPORT

In Autumn, we focussed on map reading, compass reading and orienteering evenings. We held a young leaders activities evening focussing on Team Leadership. Towards Christmas, we created Christmas crafts and a hand print Christmas tree thank you poster for St. Michael's Church.

In the Spring term we started with a Pack Forum on activities for the year. This was very informative for our leadership team to understand the successes and challenges of the year. We ran an Astronomy evening with parents telescopes - a fascinating view into the solar system and beyond. We asked the cubs to present their hobbies and collections to get excited about their own interests. We held an Ash Wednesday (Shrove Pancake Day!!) evening when the cubs made their own mix, and prepared their fruit mixes then cooked on multiple burners - thanks to additional parental support. After half term we had a brilliant trip to the Lee Fire Station and met the amazing personnel learning about the engines and fired water. Also we had the benefit of seeing the training sessions of the young volunteers and had a chance to talk to them. Towards the end of the term we focused an evening on the History of Cubs to support the 110 year anniversary and setting up our own group Code of Conduct. We completed the term with a focus on first aid with Level 1 overview and held an Easter crafts night.

The start of the summer term has worked more into Levels 2 and 3 on First Aid. We have and will spend our time outside with evenings in Farjeon Road, Greenwich Park, Deptford Creekside, Woodlands Farm, Downe Campsite and Danson Park. The young leaders took their evening to focus on teamwork with games and activities which was loved by the Cubs.

Silver Award

The Silver Chief Scout Award was given to Remy U, Monty C, Ben S and George C. We are delighted to present the award to the following cubs this summer - Astrid P, Harry W, Mateo G, Efe A and Rafferty H.



Young Leaders

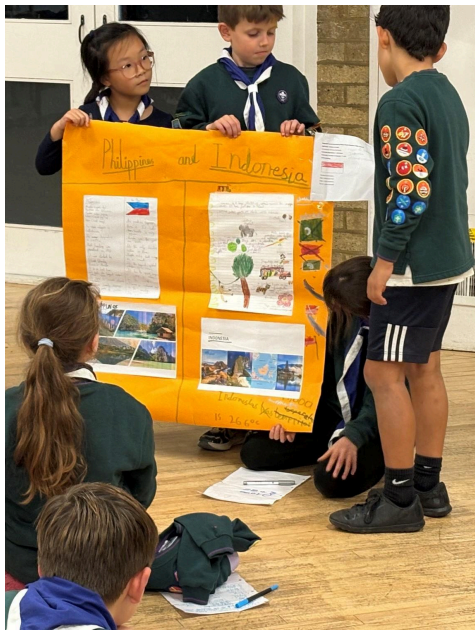
We could not have delivered all of the above without the help of the team.

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,

Kevin, Rachel, Dylan and Dimah
Cubs Leaders

..



International evening 2025



First Aid 2026



Trip to Lee Fire Station 2026



Pancake making 2026



Map reading - camp prep 2026



Creek walk in Deptford 2026



Beavers are celebrating their 40th Birthday in 2026

Programme - St. Michaels

Samantha Gregory, 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 2025 to July 2026 the Beavers have had an action-packed time full of new experiences and challenges.

At St Michael's 14 Beavers joined, 2 transferred out and 8 went to Cubs with 1 waiting to go up to Cubs in September.

Program

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 more than 320 badges and still counting. The badges awarded included Safety, Creative, and International, Cyclist and Hike Away as well as both Activity and Staged Badges. Alongside all the badge work, the Beavers must earn 6 Challenge badges to achieve their Chief Scout's Bronze award, the highest award a Beaver can earn.

This year we joined the district at their St. George's day celebration and we supported the district during their badge days.

The Beavers were also given the chance to camp at G40's family camp, and there was a joint sleepover at The Shaw's Cudham, with our sister colony. 20 Beavers enjoyed a fun packed 24 hours of axe throwing, soft archery, sledging and much more. This helped me gain my Nights Away Permit. There are plans to have another sleepover soon.

When we started back in September, we immediately booked outings to Trampolining in October and Ten Pin Bowling in February, both were well attended and a great time was had by all. We did some pioneering work where the Beavers. The challenge that worked best: mini marshmallows and cocktail sticks or jelly tots and cocktail sticks. They decided jelly tots and cocktail sticks worked best.

At Christmas we had our craft sessions making cards and calendars. For Mother's Day we made a wooded flower display and this was closely followed by Easter when we had an Easter egg hunt and made Easter nests. The remainder of the term will be spent doing challenges for badges, such as cooking their own barbecue and a visit to Lee Green Fire station.

Bronze Award

This year I have had the pleasure of presenting Djordje T, Sara D, Mina P, Alexander F, Joshua V.G, and Arwel D with their Bronze awards. Congratulations to them all and we wish them every success in their future scouting.



Young Leaders

This year Maverick J joined Ottie N. and Martha P in supporting me as Young Leaders. They all have a unique way of talking to beavers and helping them grow and develop their understanding of the world around them. I set them a task when doing the International Badge to find out about beavers or the equivalent in another country. They told us about beavers from U.S.A., Canada, Hong Kong.

Brenda left as a leader at the start of the year then, Nicola left in February and neither were replaced. To keep Beavers running I need parents to help me at meetings otherwise Beavers would not be able to run. I need minimum of 2 adults each week to support 20-24 Beavers next term, I would be grateful for additional support.

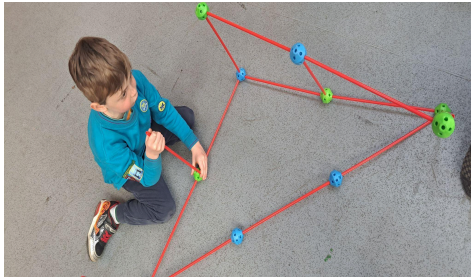
I would like to thank Brenda, Young Leaders and all the parents who helped me out this year by coming to Beavers, outings and being there sometimes with an hour's notice otherwise Beavers would have been cancelled. I want to say a huge thank you especially to Neil C., who for the best part of the year has helped me out most weeks.



Pets at Home Visit



Pets at Home visit



Camp Craft Day



Making armpit fudge

Samantha Gregory
Beaver Leader

Programme – St Germans

Sue Tearle, Beaver Scout Leader

It has been another fun filled year.

We aim to give the Beavers a fun experience using games, challenges and opportunities to interact with the other Beavers and of course badges to earn. 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.

Bronze Award

This year collectively the Beavers have gained 256 badges including 8 Bronze awards: Luke M, Sia B, Luna T, Alexander P, Lucca L, Edward M, Theodore S, Josephine R Well done to all of them.



Since this time last year 14 have moved up to Cubs, 2 have left and 8 have joined.

Program

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 and visited the Fire station, had a harvest themed evening with a collection for the food bank, did some problem solving, the Communicator badge, some junk modelling, and the Book Reader badge and finished with a trip to Lewisham lanes for Christmas Bowling.

5 Beavers attended the Family Camp at Eleven Acres at the end of September.

We held a joint sleepover at The Shaw's Cudham with the St Michael's colony. 20 beavers enjoyed a fun packed 24 hours of axe throwing, soft archery, sledging and much more.

In the Spring term we did the Experiment badge, the Space badge, plenty of craft for Mother's day & Easter and a visit to Clip n Climb.

12 Beavers attended the District Beaver Sleepover, which was animal themed and included a visit from the "Owl man" with a chance to hold an owl. We had an indoor campfire and there was even a quiz where the Beavers had to identify which poo belonged to which animal.

The Summer term started with the Group St George's Day event which a number of Beavers attended. They tried axe throwing and soft archery, got to sit in a police car and fire engine and had a go with riot gear.

We had fun with the Gardener badge, planting seeds and making miniature gardens. We learnt about Emergency Aid and completed our International badge including trying food from different countries. We also visited Greenwich Park for our annual Beaver ramble and gained a Hike away and Navigator level 1. We have some outdoor activities planned for the rest of the term.

Thank you to the parents who have helped this year.

Leaders and Young Leaders

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

Sue Tearle

Beaver Leader



Clip n Climb



Clip n Climb



District Beaver Sleepover



Indoor Camp Fire



Visit from owls

EXPLORER REPORT

Blackheath Explorer Scout Unit meets in St Michaels Church Hall, Pond Road. Both meet at 20:00 – 21:30 on Wednesdays in school term time.

This year we've really got the Unit up and running. We have welcomed three new leaders – Agnieszka Bazan, Benoit Becar and Elizabeth Dowson.

Piggy backing on the Scouts camp we ran a parallel Summer camp for the Explorers which was a great transition for the unit.

Since then we've run a number of activities including wide games in Greenwich Park, Oxleas Woods in the dark. First aid, self defence, pizza making, canoeing, kayaking, pancake making, morse code, climbing, bike maintenance and riding and lots of DofE Silver activities.

A local Fencing Master visited us one evening and taught the Explorers how to fence with swords. Or tried to, at least! We've built and launched bottle rockets, had a cupcake decorating competition, remote piloted Space Rovers and staged a Film Night.

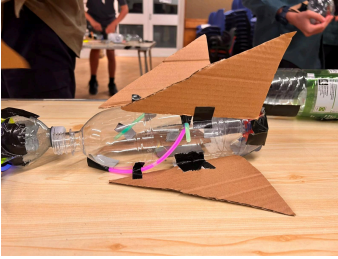
We've been forging relationships with other Explorer groups in the area and had a wide game with the Severndroog and Poseidon Units. Severndroog have invited us for a human table football later this year.

This year we have been working with the Top Awards Team to deliver a Silver D of E program. The Explorers will be doing their expedition in canoes so there has been a heavy emphasis on water skills and safety, first aid and planning.

From an initial start of around 10 Explorers we have now almost doubled our membership. We look forward to welcoming more Explorers as they leave G40 Scouts.

Still to come - no tent camping at Avery hill, an overnight bike expedition planned by the Explorers, the Silver expedition practice and the full event. Plus a visit from the RNLI to deliver a talk on water safety and the job they do.



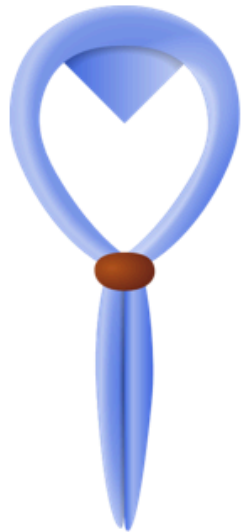


40th Greenwich Scouts



95 years of service

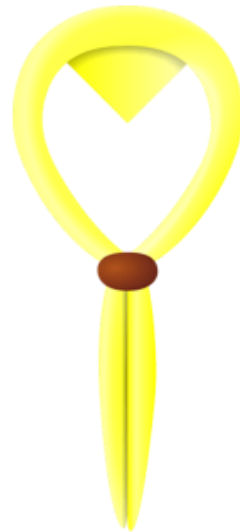
3rd May 1929



1946



1955



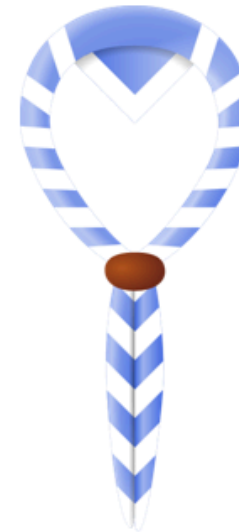
1981



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
Appointment	The terms Leader and Scouter are both used to describe those adults who hold an appointment as a uniformed Leader. Such appointments are made by the Scout District.
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 (Judith Freeman - South London).
CSL	Cub Scout Leader (Kevin Radford - 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
Explorer Unit	Blackheath Explorer Scout Unit (BESU) is closely associated with our group but is managed by the District. Members are 14 - 18.
Group	The local unit of Scouting that will consist of one or more sections led by a Group Lead Volunteer (GLV) .
GLV	The Group Lead Volunteer (GSL) ensures the effective operation of the Scout Group. The Scout Group consists of the three Sections – Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. The GLV 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).
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.
TSA	The Scout Association.
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/>

