

Scouting in Runnymede

Queen Scout Journey

Back in 2008, I started on the long journey to complete the highest youth award in the Scout Association. I would be following the family tradition to complete the highest award as my father and uncle had achieved their Queen Scout and my oldest sister, mother and grandmother were Queen Guides.

As part of the Values, Environment and Faith aspect of the award, I was part of the service team on WINGS 2009, I put 1st/4th Addlestone Lions Cub Pack through their My Faith badge and assisted with the Environment Award Group badge with 1st/4th Addlestone. I continued as an ACSL while studying at University, which gave me the opportunity to develop both my physical and skill aspects of the award.



The expedition part of the award was my favourite as I took part in the Tall Ship Trans-Atlantic Challenge where we sailed from Southampton to Vigo and then raced on to Tenerife. In July 2012, I submitted my portfolio to gain the award, and was presented with the badge in October 2012 by Roxanna Bostock.

Moving forward to St. Georges Day in 2013, I had the privilege of going to Windsor and parade with other Queen Scouts in front of the Duchess of Cambridge and other dignitaries. This was an amazing experience to parade in front of everyone, meet other Queen Scouts from Surrey and around the United Kingdom and attend the service in St. Georges Chapel.



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Once you achieve your Queen Scout Award, you are able to join the Queen Scout Working Party (QSWP) who attend and take part in events across the UK to represent the Scout Association and Queen Scouts. I have had the opportunity to be part of the QSWP parade on Remembrance Day in Whitehall, London in 2013. This was not only a privilege to do this, but an honour to meet men and women from the forces past and present. It was also very strange at 11am to hear nothing except the wind and the birds singing in central London; it gives you the presence that you're in a special place.



The final part of this journey happened a couple of weekends ago where on Saturday 15th February we went to the Guildhall in Guildford for a presentation of my Queen Scout Award certificate from the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, Dame Sarah Goad.

Richard Smith

Andy's Notes

Well it has certainly been an interesting time for all in Runnymede since last newsletter with all the flooding around us; for some more than others. It certainly bought out the Scouting spirit, with our buildings being used to help residents in Englefield Green, as storage places at Virginia Water and Chertsey, plus we were involved with the Runnymede emergency team so raising our profile again. Thank you to those groups along with other individuals. Throughout all this Scouting continued and our thoughts go out to those in the community who have suffered as a result of the flooding.

Our initial census results are in and yet again Runnymede are up year on year that is a big thank you to you our leaders, at my recent annual review with County Commissioner Roxanna was pleased with our achievements and how as a District we are moving forward in 2014 as our name says we are a movement and there will always be change however as long as we keep coming up with new ideas to face new challenges Runnymede will continue to build.

As things settle I look forward to seeing you all at forthcoming district events and let's see if we can grow again in 2014.

Andy Sainsbury Brown-District Commissioner

Secretary's Notes

Some facts and figures from this year's census.

There are 887 young people and Leaders in Runnymede as well as all the occasional helpers who

play an important part in supplying Scouting in the District.

Young People Total District Return

2014	753	887
2009	658	814
2004	579	725

Thank you to all those involved with collecting the names and numbers; perhaps this will be the last year we have to do the census in this manner. To ensure this please check your record at scouts.org.uk/members and ensure your appointment, address etc are all up to date.

We now have a new Network Leader, Matt Hewitson, who is keen to find new members for the Network, anyone aged 18 to 25 is invited to join. Matt's details are in directory.

At last District Executive meeting Alex Couzens was asked to have 1st New Haw HQ set up for shooting by the 1st September. We have the building, Money has been allocated for purchase of equipment but we do still need instructors. Don't forget you can get a grant from the District for training. Check training opportunities at Surrey Scouts or contact DC or Carol Reeves (ADC activities)

George Kerr – District Secretary

Treasury Notes

At the District Executive Committee meeting in February the budget for the year 2014-15 was approved. It was agreed that there would be no increase in the District subscription, in view of the income continuing to be generated by the District's Scout Shop (many thanks, Andy). While the HQ subscription also remains unchanged, the County's is going up by 15p, so the total subscription for the coming year will be £34.65 per head; this represents an increase of 0.4% on the current year. The breakdown is:

	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12
HQ	21.00	21.00	21.00	20.25
County	5.55	5.40	5.25	5.10
District	8.10	8.10	8.15	8.15
Total	£34.65	£34.50	£34.40	£33.50

The District subscription finances contributions to sectional activities, general District activities, such as the St George's Day parade service

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additional insurance for all leaders above the basic cover provided by HQ, and underwriting the costs of Runnymede's representatives at World Jamborees.

Invoices based on the 2014 census numbers are being issued to Group Treasurers with a request for cheques post-dated to 1 April 2014 to be sent to me by **Monday 24 March**. This is so that I have cleared funds to pass on the County and HQ by the second week of April. If any Group has difficulty in meeting this timetable, please let me know in good time.

It has also been agreed that the District's mileage allowance will remain at 45p per mile, in line with HMRC guidelines.

Richard Mason - District Treasurer

Tigers can climb walls!



Cubs from 1st/4th Addlestone Tigers spent an evening on the climbing walls at The XCEL Centre in Walton. They all had a really good time and quite a few managed to climb right to the top. Quite a feat when you stand at the bottom and look up and realise how high it is!

Gareth Jenkins - CSL

District Diary 2013-2014

March 2014

Sat 1 st and Sun 2 nd	Explorers County Night Challenge
Sun 2 nd	Cubs Cooking Competition
Sun 9 th	1 st Response Course
Sat 15 th	Scouts Day Prowl
Mon 17 th	Fellowship/Active Support Meeting
Sun 23 rd	Beaver Family Ramble

April 2014

(School holiday 7th to 22nd)

Fri 4 th	Scouts 5-a-side Football
Wed 23 rd	Fellowship St. Georges Dinner
Thr 24 th	Parade Flag Practice
Sun 27 th	St Georges Day Parade and Service

May 2014

(School half term 26th to 30th)

Sat 3 rd	1 st Response Course
Fri 9 th to Sun 11 th	National Archery Competition
Sat 10 th to Sun 11 th	Scouts Canoe Camp
Mon 12 th	District Executive Meeting
Fri 16 th	Cubs Football Competition
Sat 17 th to Sun 18 th	Beaver POW-WOW & sleep over

June 2014

Mon 2 nd	Fellowship/Active Support Meeting
Sat 7 th	Keeping Children Safe
Sat 14 th	Cubs Fun day
Thr 19 th	District AGM
Fri 27 th to Sun 29 th	Scoutabout

July 2014

(School ends 23rd)

Fri 11 th to Sun 13 th	Explorers Gilwell 24
Mon 14 th	District Executive Meeting

August 2014

Sat 2 nd to Sat 16 th	Explorers International Scout Meeting Germany
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September 2014

(School starts 2nd)

Mon 8 th	Fellowship/Active Support Meeting
Sun 14 th	Scouts Cardboard Rafting
Fri 26 th to Sun 28 th	Cubs Sixers & Seconders Camp

October 2014

(School half term 27th to 31st)

Fri 10 th to Mon 13 th	Fellowship/Active support Weekend Away
Mon 13 th	District Executive Meeting
Sun 19 th	1 st Response Course

November 2014

Mon 3 rd	Fellowship/Active Support Meeting
Fri 14 th	Cubs Night Hike

December 2014

(School ends 19th)

Sat 6 th	Cubs Day Trip
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Copy date for next issue
26th April 2014
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