



**DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2017 – 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2018**

**With**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT  
and  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2018  
(accompanying document)**

Sevenoaks District Scout Council  
Registered Charity No: 303435  
Scout Association registered No: 12717

# ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending 31 March, 2018

(Attached Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Accounts for the year ending 28 February, 2018)

PRESIDENT: Dudley Barrow MBE

VICE-PRESIDENTS: David Reburn; Michael Fallon MP

## THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

### Ex-Officio Members:

District Chairman Andrew Holland;  
District Treasurer Inga Heath;  
District Secretary Jeanette Schwarz  
District Commissioners Team: Hugh Field (01.03.17 – 13.06.17)  
Chris McCann (13.06.17 to 26.02.18);  
Caroline O'Mahony (13.06.17 to 26.02.18);  
Jo Brookbank and Michael Dreskler (13.06.17 onwards)  
Youth Commissioners: Kelly Williams (from 10.06.17)  
Thomas McKeen (from 01.09.17)  
District Network Commissioner Katie McCreadie  
District Explorer Scout Commissioner Hugh Field (to 30.08.17) then vacant

**Elected Members:** Rose Mears; Michael Schwarz;  
Anthony Hitchings; Hugh Field

**DCs Nominated Members:** Bertie Downard; Richard Parry; Nick Roberts;  
Russell Porter (13.06.17 to 12.07.17)

### SUB-COMMITTEES:

APPOINTMENTS: Chris Barrow (Appointments Chairman),  
Rose Mears (Appointments Secretary)  
(Members: John Botley, Pat Crawley, Michael Schwarz,  
John Gandon, John Talbot, Jeanette Schwarz, Barry  
Sharp, Lynne Rutherford)

FINANCE: Inga Heath; Andrew Holland and DC-Team

ESTATES: Michael Schwarz; Robert Downard and Nick Roberts

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR: Carole Hills  
DISTRICT ACTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER: Seat vacant  
DISTRICT SCOUT SHOP: Angie Davie  
DISTRICT BADGE SECRETARY: Jeanette Schwarz  
DISTRICT SCOUT QUARTERMASTER: David Hitchings  
YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE: Kelly Williams (to 10.06.17) then vacant

# SEVENOAKS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

## ANNUAL REPORT 2017–2018

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In last year's AGM report, I noted that the District was without a District Commissioner (DC), following Lesley Rutter's earlier departure. Soon after the AGM, we learned that the County Commissioner had appointed a four-person DC Team – Jo Brookbank, Michael Dreksler, Caroline O'Mahony and Chris McCann. Other commitments and other considerations meant that the latter two have withdrawn from the Team, leaving Jo and Michael to take the role forward – which they have done with energy and enthusiasm.

Prior to their appointment, Hugh Field and Caroline O'Mahony stepped up from their Assistant District Commissioner (ADC) roles to share the role of Acting District Commissioners. Both have now left the District – Caroline for Lincolnshire, Hugh for New Zealand – and I thank them both for their long-standing commitment and contribution to the smooth running of the District.

Our District Treasurer, Inga Heath, has made great progress in mastering the accounts since taking responsibility last year, and the District finances are in good health.

The District Executive Committee (DEC) has met six times since the last AGM, continuing its role of managing the District budget, managing District-held properties at Halstead, Seal and Sundridge, overseeing Group finances, responding to requests for help and advice from Groups, and selecting and helping train new and existing Leaders.

All members of the DEC have carried out their committee duties with enthusiasm, mostly in addition to their other Scouting roles, and I would like to thank them for their dedication. Here's to another year of successful Scouting in Sevenoaks!

*Andrew Holland, District Chairman*

### DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

This year represented a year of change for Sevenoaks and it is hard to believe that so much has happened in such a short time.

Hugh took the district through the St George's Day, the Big Night Out and the AGM in 2017 before handing over to Team DC, Can we take this opportunity to thank Hugh once again for looking after the district.

The first event of the District year, as ever, was the annual St George's day parade through Sevenoaks, followed by a service including our annual awards. In 2017, the Beaver "Sajo" award went to the 1<sup>st</sup> Sevenoaks, the Cub "Mickey Spearey" award to the 17<sup>th</sup> Westerham, the Scout "Dudley Barrow" award to the 15<sup>th</sup> Otford, the Explorer "John Lane" award to Leon Sylvester and Duncan Harper. The Childsbridge award went to Lesley Rutter. The main Group award went to the 6<sup>th</sup> Kemsing. In addition we had a presentation from Duncan

Ford of the Kent County Winter Survival team, who presented the 2017 award to Felix Baker, Kelly Williams and Riana Taylor who were the only team to complete the 2017 overnight challenge.

In May, 273 Young People and adults from 7 of our 11 Groups took part in the County biennial Big Night Out. Well done to all for joining in.

Team DC started as a team of four, as we and the County Commissioner were keen to spread the load and the experience in order to make some positive changes in the District. Unfortunately Caroline O'Mahony and Chris McCann had to stand down in the new year. Our thanks go to both of them for all the work they put into Team DC.

Back in June 2017, following the last AGM, with two "All Leader" meetings to allow us to understand where things were in the District and how members wanted to see the District develop.

From those meetings a number of challenges in the District became clear –

- Members missed the Scout Shop and wanted it to re-open in the District;
- Most groups had several vacancies in their uniform and executive teams, and were finding recruitment of adult volunteers difficult;
- It was felt that many groups were losing Young people towards the end of Scouts and in the first year of Explorers;
- Communication within the District was a problem - both too much and at the same time not enough;
- The District website was looking rather out of date and unloved, (including the calendar).
- Adults and Young Leaders were not completing their training under the current scheme, and the new scheme of training for managers was going to make it harder;

We have made quiet progress on many of these through the year but of course we know we have a lot more work to be done.

- We arranged for the Regional and County team to run recruitment training.
- The District Scout Shop was re-launched back in October and has gone from strength to strength. Now being run by a team of 4 headed up by Angie Davie, it has successfully enabled online ordering for parents and Groups as well as payment by card up-front, whilst retaining the option to "try on".
- Online Scout Manager (OSM) has been the choice of many sections and Groups for some time and now the Scout Association are supporting the use of OSM. The District Executive Committee felt supporting all Groups to use this system would help with communication within the District as well as meeting the new data control rules. OSM has many more benefits but the first has been to improvement communication and transition of Young people through Scouts and Explorers by "sharing" them. Improving the management of both and retaining their interest.
- The District website and calendar has been rejuvenated and there are more plans to improve the use of both with an online booking system coming soon for District equipment.

- We are still experimenting with the best way to reach everyone with the right information. Most information is going out via GSLs, but also being published on the website and our Facebook page (where appropriate). We have also started using the Compass messaging service.
- We are looking to run more training within the district and also provide managers and training advisors with more information to help them support learners better. We are planning on providing some reminders to those learners where appropriate.

The Summer term saw many members of Sevenoaks, including ourselves, both of our District Youth Commissioner's and four Groups (3<sup>rd</sup> Riverhead, 4<sup>th</sup> St. John's, 7<sup>th</sup> Halstead and 17<sup>th</sup> Westerham) attend the Kent International Jamboree (KIJ). One Sub camp was run by our District Network Commissioner, Katie McCreadie, supported by many more Sevenoaks Leaders, demonstrating the strength of experience and enthusiasm in our District. Seven Leaders and one Young Leader supported the climbing and archery teams which led to climbing and abseil permits as well as the start of a Sevenoaks "climbing team" plus a connection to the County Climbing Team. Since then a further 11 Leaders and one Young Leader have completed County training. All of which is enabling us to deliver the climbing area at Mag7 and will provide our Young people and Leaders with many more opportunities in this coming year and beyond.

In August one of our members of Network, Riana Taylor, joined a team from Devon Scouts in an Explorer Belt expedition from Spain to France, our first Explorer Belt for over five years.

The Autumn term, for the DC team, was dominated by the 24th World Scout Jamboree (WSJ) selection process. We are delighted that over 40 fantastic young people came forward to be considered for selection which resulted in nine being selected. This is the largest number to represent Sevenoaks at a WSJ. As you will see this evening and from St. George's day, they have embraced the fundraising challenges as a team and they are reaching out to all Groups to share their journey.

Many of those that did not manage to secure a place on WSJ have signed up to join the Kent County Explorer expedition to Kandersteg in 2019 with Sevenoaks members making up approximately 1/8th of the contingent of 190.

On the back of the Jamboree selection and getting ready for the census, we had a big push to record all the Young Leaders working in the District in OSM and allow Mike Randall, Explorer Scouts (Young Leader), to offer training in-District and a light programme of activities to foster a sense of community and encourage them through their Young Leader training as well as adventurous permit training. They went climbing, were the first young people to try axe throwing and 24 of them completed their Module A in January with more sessions planned in the coming year. Also two Young Leaders completed the archery permit training.

We ended the year with an in-District permit training course for archery - increasing our permit holders by a 11 people. Plans are in place too for a second archery course for a further 11 participants, an air rifle shooting course for 11 and tomahawk/axe throwing training course for 16 all to be run in April. This has helped us get to know more Leaders

in the District, as well as generated a renewed enthusiasm for activities (water permits are next) and of course enabled us to have some fantastic support in place for Mag7.

In February the census showed that overall the District had remained broadly level - one new section opening but two closing. We are delighted that many of our Explorers have graduated to Network with two becoming our new District Youth Commissioners during the year.

We have spent a lot of the past year preparing and getting ourselves fully up to speed through the latest management training as well as attending four DC days both at HQ and County. We are starting the coming year feeling more prepared for the many challenges ahead.

Goals for the year ahead:

- Support the Group Scout Leaders in recruiting and developing their Leadership teams to deliver a quality programme for the Young people in the District.
- Training - more Leaders making progress in their training and gaining their wood badges;
- Full District team – DESC (District Explorer Scout Commissioner), teams in place to focus Cub and Scout sections, LTM (Local Training Manager), more Training Advisors.
- Embrace the new 2023 strategy into our programme “Skills for Life.”
- Lose the dubious honour of being the District in the County with the longest waiting list -according to the census we have 328 Young people of age on our lists and not in Scouting.

To our Young people, thank you for your contribution to Scouting in Sevenoaks. Nothing is impossible to achieve and in the coming year we want to increase your opportunities to lead us in the right direction to help you succeed in life.

Our volunteer members are the key to our success, we thank you all for your support and we look forward to providing the support you need to help us grow and develop the District of Sevenoaks.

Let us all do our best and make things happen together.

*Jo Brookbank and Michael Dreksler, District Commissioner Team*

## **DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSIONERS REPORT**

If you had told us this time last year that we would be writing this report now, we would not have believed it! With the position of Youth Commissioner a first for the Sevenoaks District, the role has presented several exciting opportunities and challenges.

It has been a great year for youth involvement within the District, with Young Leader training opportunities, thanks to Mike Randall, and fantastic engagement in activity permits by Young people with 2 Young Leaders gaining permits.

A solid base for Network is also being formed, with the most recent meeting held at Mag 7 and a climbing social organised earlier in the year. Watch this space for an announcement regarding the Sevenoaks Network Name coming soon!

We would like to convey our thanks to the DCs and DEC for supporting us throughout the year, offering assistance and guidance when we have been stuck. Here's to the next year of youth-shaped Scouting, to which we can all achieve in all aspects of Scouting.

*Tom McKeen and Kelly Williams, District Youth Commissioners*

## **BEAVER SECTION REPORT**

It has been another great year for Sevenoaks Beavers. Not as eventful as last year with the 30th Birthday Celebrations.

Liz Field stepped down as ADC Beavers in December as she is moving to New Zealand! We wish her all the very best for her adventure and would like to thank her for all she has done for Beavers in Sevenoaks and the surrounding villages.

We have formed a partnership moving forward to replace the ADC Beaver role with a team of Leaders. The team is made up of Shelley Williams (Beaver Leader, Pinewood Beavers at the 4th), Christine Skeels (Beaver Leader at Westerham) and Jan Padgett (Beaver Leader at Otford).

We have already organised a Bronze award ceremony, the second in the year and we taking up a major role in helping organise the activities for Beavers at Mag 7.

We are looking forward to a great year of Beavers!

*Shelley Williams, Christine Skeels and Jan Padgett,  
(District Beaver Leaders Team)*

## **CUB SCOUT SECTION REPORT**

We have had a very quiet year for District activities for Cubs as there was a lot of planning and preparation for MAG7.

In February the annual District Fun Quiz (previously the District Cub Challenge) was held at the 4th HQ. Unfortunately, due to other events (non-Scouting) and illness the number of teams entered was not as many as in previous years and the event was won by a team from the 4th Wildernesse Pack.

The DC's Challenge was cancelled at the last minute again due to lack of numbers but it is hoped that it will be run at some point in the forthcoming year.

The Cub Silver presentations were held in June and December, which was a combined event

with the Beaver Bronze presentations, with approximately 30 Silvers awarded over both presentations.

Preparations for MAG7 started in earnest in the middle of last year with regular monthly meetings to finalise details. The activities chosen for the Cubs will cover a diverse range, including physical challenges, as well as traditional Scouting skills and creative activities. I would like to thank Jonathan Booth from Otford and Stephanie Everest for helping prepare and support the activities planned.

I have made the decision after 4 years to step down as ADC for Cubs and would like to take this opportunity to thank the Cub Leaders across the District for the support throughout my tenure and to wish the new team all the best for the future.

*Richard Everest, Assistant District Commissioner (Cub Scouts)*

## **SCOUT SECTION**

First of all I would like to thank John Talbot for his three years as ADC Scouts - he has presided over a programme with just the right amount of fun and challenge.

Of the four people looking after the Scout section last year, two of the District team became DC, one moved to the GSL challenge and one left the District! Consequently, the District Scout section had a relatively quiet year.

We did however manage a water sports day at Mote Park in May and Phil Caisley organised a hugely popular winter pool kayak programme supported by Hugh Field, Jo Brookbank and four Young Leaders, Ruari, Hamish, Noeni and Jared.

The District's plan to make the Plender Hike an annual event had to be postponed - there was just too much Scouting happening already.

We are looking for a small team of Leaders and assistants to form a Scout Section team to help support a District Scout programme in the coming year. If you would like to help shape the programme, please say so!

*Michael Dreksler, DC-Team (Scouts)*

## **EXPLORER SCOUT SECTION**

Huge gratitude must go to Hugh Field for his work as District Explorer Scout Commissioner (DESC) completing 5 and half years in this role until stepping down in September 2017. The search continues for a replacement but until then the Explorer team is being supported by Jo Brookbank.

The team were joined by Dave Martin following the last AGM, who has a wealth of Scouting experience having Scouted in Somerset prior to moving to Sevenoaks.

The District Section Leader role for Young Leaders was officially filled by Mike Randall in September and the first session of Module A training for over 5 years was run in Sevenoaks in January for 24 Young Leaders alongside shooting and axe throwing just for them. Module A will now be run on a regular basis moving forward and in time other modules too. Mike is looking forward to supporting more Young Leaders through their missions and achieving the Young Leader belt award.

Thanks go to Dave Martin and Erik Barrow for being part of the World Scout Jamboree (WSJ) selection process, and then agreeing to mentor the team through their journey of fundraising to West Virginia in 2019. Thanks also go to several members of the County team that assisted the District with the selection of the largest team Sevenoaks has sent to a WSJ. Nine Young people from the age of 13 to 17 year olds will be attending. In addition, we will have 3 adults representing Sevenoaks with one contingent Leader, Simon Wood, plus Erik Barrow and Riana Taylor as members of the International Service Team.

The Spring term saw the number of Explorers increase both before the census on 31<sup>st</sup> January and then again in February with the start of a new Explorer Unit based in Halstead. The new unit has been named Puxty after a family that lived and died on the site during WWII and headed up by an existing Scout Leader, Josefine Follett, further enlarging the Explorer Leadership Team as well as enabling the Explorer provision to expand to a second night on alternating weeks at the same time as offering more weekend events too. Josefine has already made a fundamental contribution to the new style of programme.

The wider District use of Online Scout Manager has resulted in sharing older Scouts ready to transition to Explorers as well as Young Leaders with the Explorer team. This in turn has meant more effective communication of the changes and updates to the programme to all 14 to 18 year olds in the District enabling the team to offer events and activities to Young Leaders as well as those regularly attending Explorer sessions. It also enabled the sharing to all Young Leaders for both Module A training and adventurous activity permit training in archery and climbing. Three Young Leaders completed permit training during the year. Other opportunities will be progressed in the coming year which we hope will inspire more of our Young Leaders to transition into Leadership roles.

Thanks of course go to all of the Explorer Leaders who have contributed throughout the year, without you all the section would not be so successful. Thanks also to the many other adults in the District that have also supported the team over the year. With a final thanks to the Young people for embracing the changes we have made with enthusiasm and contributing so much to the programme – without you we would, of course, have no section.

*Jo Brookbank, DC-Team (Acting District Explorer Scout Commissioner)*

## **COMBINED EXPLORER UNIT REPORT**

Numbers across the District grew again in the course of the year and the mix of individual as well as joint meetings again proving to be a good mixer for the Explorers and the Leadership team.

There was some progress on badge-work in evidence again this year with the Survival Skills badge. After a good start with the skinning and cooking of rabbits and some backwoods living, the aim is to finish the badge with a proper backwoods camp in the coming year. Six Explorers completed the Mountain Bike badge, following the appropriate training they completed 2 separate expedition days cycling on byways, bridleways and minor roads. As it was December they certainly earned the badge! Investiture locations have varied with the Winston Churchill statue in Westerham and the Ice Rink at Bluewater.

Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) awards remain a focus with a number of Explorers achieving their Bronze awards through Explorers. Sam and Josh Odell, Daniel Hopper, Archie Wright and Ronnie Day, Tom McKeen and Ollie Hill successfully completed their award. Several also completed a Silver practice expedition. One Silver award was also completed by Riana Taylor as well as completing her Gold expedition in the Alps.

A number of Explorers were lucky enough to attend free gliding sessions at the Kent Gliding Club and those that took to the air thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The opportunity has been broadened further this year with 24 slots available to Explorers and older Scouts.

Winter Survival again featured on the calendar. This once again lived up to its description. There was only 1 team from Sevenoaks Explorers this year but they successfully defended the title, take a bow Felix Baker, Louis DeCleyn, Ronnie Day and Adam Durbaba. A double bow is in order for Felix as he was also a member of the winning team last year. The team were presented with the Trophy at St Georges Day. The further success of the team will hopefully generate more interest for next year.

For the 11<sup>th</sup> year in succession Explorers attended Gilwell 24 - offering a huge range of activities without a bed in sight over a 24 hour period. This was followed up by Scarefest again at Gilwell in October, a similar activity based event and then a more low key sleepover/programme forum in the Spring to help the new unit get to know the rest of the District. Kent International Jamboree was offered to the Explorers but as many are Young Leaders they were either camping with their Groups during the Summer period or attending KIJ as with their Group.

The Explorers are joining with the Scout programme for MAG7 as it is hoped this will inspire the next generation of Scouts to move up and continue their Scouting in Explorers.

*Duncan Harper, Dave Martin, Rob Francis, Josefine Follett,  
Mike Randall, Chris Luche and Alan Bailey  
(The Explorer Scout Leader Team)*

## **NETWORK SECTION**

This year has been an exciting one for Network in Sevenoaks, having been set up and confirming our membership numbers early in the year we've had a few meetings with members keen to progress the development of Network Scouting in the District. We were delighted to be able to take part in St George's Day parade for the first time and our presence in being recognised across the District. In late Summer, over a hearty meal of barbecued sausages, plans were laid for an established Network Group with a defined

identity. Further plans are in place for a larger meeting at Mag7 where we intend to expand and embellish our identity further and discuss activities we can organise for ourselves and in turn activities we can support in the District over the forthcoming year.

Stay tuned in 2018/19 for Sevenoaks Network's new name, scarf and theme, expect to see a lot more of us!

Kate McCreadie (*District Network Commissioner*)

## **DISTRICT ACTIVE SUPPORT REVIEW**

This year not very many things have changed although it is good to see that we have gained a few more regular members from a Younger age Group whilst a number of our older members have had to give up active help because of failing health.

Four of our members are either on the District Executive or hold a supporting role for District – one is the District Quartermaster, one is the District Secretary and one is responsible for the Appointments Committee (with several of us helping out from time to time). We have helped at various District events including St Georges Day, the District AGM, Badge testing and supporting events - we are now preparing to help the organising team with a District Camp at the beginning of May. This camp takes place at 4 year intervals and last time was attended by over 800 District members. Seven of our regular members are still actively running their own Groups as well as their daytime jobs so are truly dedicated to Scouting.

As for our social activities, we hold our regular monthly meetings in one of our District HQ's where the Leaders are both Active Supporters and have organised some fantastic evenings – arts and crafts, old time music hall evenings, BBQ's, cookery evenings, old films and next month we are going to have an archery and shooting evening. We have also had various trips out to Teapot Island, Bewl Water and a New Year Pub Lunch. We took part, and enjoyed, the County Quiz and an activity day at Lower Grange Farm.

Pat Crawley, Active Support

## **APPOINTMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

Yet again we have seen an increase in the number of new Leaders interviewed by the committee which meets monthly and has had to resort to all day meetings on occasion, which is very encouraging. We have interviewed 54 new Leaders this year for various Groups. 15 members of Scouting have either changed role or taken on an additional role and were not required to attend appointments.

- Beaver Scout Leader x 2
- Assistant Beaver Scout Leader x 6
- Section Assistant Beavers x 9
- Assistant Cub Scout Leader x 10
- Section Assistant Cubs x 3
- Assistant Scout Leader x 11
- Section Assistant Scouts x 2

- Assistant Explorer Scout Leader x 1
- Group Scout Leader x 1
- Youth Commissioner x 2
- Skills Instructor x 5

With MAG7 this year, we saw an influx of Skills instructors going through the appointments process.

We have noticed across the District, there are a number of Leaders who have not yet completed their Getting started module. This needs addressing in the year ahead.

I would like to thank the appointments committee team members for the many hours that they give to ensuring that adults appointed within the District are suitable for a role in Scouting, working with children, Young people and being part of a Leadership team.

Thank you Rose Mears for her sterling work as Secretary, without which we would never have been able to see as many candidates.

Thanks also to Ide Hill Scout Group for allowing the use of their Scout HQ for our meetings.

*Chris Barrow, Appointments Advisory Chairman*

## TRAINING REPORT

As always, I like to start with saying the biggest thank you to all of our Training Advisers, without whom we would not get our Leaders through the Training Programme. They work tirelessly with the Leaders encouraging them all the way. We currently have 12 on our list, a good number to cover the District. However with an ever growing number of Leaders should anyone else wish to step forward as a TA (full training given) please speak to the DC Team.

There have been a number of Multi Module days within the last year, as well as M38 weekends (camp Permit training), First Aid courses and Wood Badge courses that Sevenoaks has seen many Leaders attending. All applications for any future courses should go directly through the County Website but please keep the DC team informed if you are signed up. Do not forget to keep your eyes open for up and coming dates also via email.

Once again, this year we have had several sets of Wood Beads issued. Congratulations to all those recipients.

Please keep up the hard work and effort that you all put in to get training 'out there'. It's working, and at the end of the day we do this for the 'Young People' to help us to deliver Scouting in the best way we can.

As an aside to all the above I would just like to say a personal thank you to everyone for all your support and help over the years as it is with much sadness that I am no longer going to be Scouting with you all as I no longer live in the District. Good luck and thanks to you all.

*Caroline O'Mahony, Local Training Manager*



## ADULT AWARDS

The following awards have been made in the District this year.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Award Date</b>
Elizabeth Field	Award for Merit	01/05/2017
Bertie Downard	Award for Merit	01/06/2017
Chris Barrow	Chief Scout's 15 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Richard Everest	Chief Scout's 10 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Stephanie Everest	Chief Scout's 15 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Elizabeth Field	Chief Scout's 15 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Kenneth Fowler	Chief Scout's 60 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Alan Hindley	Chief Scout's 50 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Christopher Luche	Chief Scout's 5 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Ian Manuel	Chief Scout's 10 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Caroline O'Mahony	Chief Scout's 20 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Matthew Prentice	Chief Scout's 5 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Jeanette Schwarz	Chief Scout's 25 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Michael Schwarz	Chief Scout's 15 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Tom Smythe- Wright	Chief Scout's 5 years Service Award	08/08/2017
Dave Martin	Chief Scout's 5 years Service Award	10/10/2017
Maria Palmer	Chief Scout's 5 years Service Award	10/10/2017
Hannah Burton	Chief Scout's 5 years Service Award	04/01/2018
Jamie Miles	Chief Scout's 5 years Service Award	04/01/2018
Elliot Arnold	Chief Scout's 5 years Service Award	19/03/2018
Jo Brookbank	Chief Scout's 5 years Service Award	19/03/2018
Paul Davis	Chief Scout's 20 years Service Award	19/03/2018
Chris Barrow	Wood badge: Group Scout Leader	09/11/2017
Kenneth Cooper	Wood badge: Assistant Section Leader - Scouts	08/10/2017
Caroline O'Mahony	Wood badge: Group Scout Leader	19/06/2017
Ricky Iles	Wood badge: Assistant Section Leader - Cub Scouts	22/01/2018
Rose Mears	Wood badge: Group Scout Leader	22/01/2018
Ali Miller	Wood badge: Group Scout Leader	12/06/2017
Richard Everest	Wood badge: District Assistant Commissioner - Cub Scouts	09/11/2017
Shelley Williams	Wood badge: Section Leader - Beaver Scouts	02/04/2017
Jo Brookbank	Wood badge: Group Scout Leader	08/04/2017

## DISTRICT SCOUT SHOP

There have been big changes at the Sevenoaks District Scout Shop this year. Jeanette Schwarz handed over the running of the shop to a team of volunteer parents in October 2017.

“The shop” continues to stock the basic uniform items for all sections and we hold a supply of most sizes. We can also supply sundry items for presentations, gifts and prizes and

other Scouting items on request. We have, however, moved with the times with the launch of our website! Orders are now placed online, in advance and items are collected either from the shop or via your local Scout Group. The shop opens on Saturday afternoons, broadly once a month during school term times, primarily for collection of orders and for trying on uniform. Experiences of opening the shop have been mixed to date; some days it has been very busy, particularly before the St George's and Remembrance Day Parades but other times we have had no-one come in. We can still accommodate visitors to the shop if items are not pre-ordered, however we would advise that you check the website before popping down as if no orders are to be collected on the day, the shop may not be open.

Proposed opening dates, details of the ordering process, shop location, why you should use the District shop and other relevant information is contained within the website.

Many thanks go to Jeanette for having run the shop for so long and for all her help in the handover period. Thanks also to Jo Brookbank for her support of the team and the rest of the shop team - Olivia Cornes, Elena Morente and Sophie Hunter-Brown. Finally, thanks to the parents and Groups who have supported us so far and for bearing with us while we have learned and adapted to the new system, which we are continuing to tweak!

The District Scout Shop remains a valuable resource – Leaders uniform and Group items are available at a discounted cost to all Groups and the profits from uniform sales will be distributed back to Groups. Both directly benefit the Young People of Sevenoaks District Scouts. Please consider us as your first port of call for any uniform requirements, your future support is very much appreciated and our success and continued operation is down to you.

*Angie Davie, Scout Shop Manager*

## **DISTRICT BADGE REPORT**

From 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 a total of 11,245 Badges and Awards presented to members across the District – over 2,000 more badges than the previous year. Clearly the transition of the Challenge Awards Scheme and additional Staged Activity Badges in the previous year gave more opportunities for Young people to develop and build on the skills offered by their Leadership teams – Well done everyone!

The sectional Activity Badges and Challenge Awards together with the Chief Scout Awards totalled 6,161 and the numerous Staged Activity Badges totalled 2,551 - indicative of a thriving progressive training scheme. However, to fill the District's Annual Report with pages of every Badge and Award available to our members would be unrealistic. Therefore, the following Table (Report 1) only part of the whole picture... If you wish to review the Sectional, Group and Unit progress across the District in more depth I provided the entire Report for Michael Dreksler (one of the DC Team) to disseminate amongst Groups.

Congratulations to every Young person for always 'doing your best' to achieve these Awards.

*Jeanette Schwarz, District Badge Secretary*

Report 1 : BADGES AND AWARDS (reduced) - April 2017 to March 2018

Chief Scouts Awards (Census year Feb 2017 – Jan 2018)

GROUPS -	1st	3rd	4th	6th	7th	9th	10th	12th	15th	16th	17th	Explorers	TOTALS
CHIEF SCOUTS AWARD - Bronze	1	0	19	2	6	10	6	11	0	14	3	0	72
CHIEF SCOUTS AWARD - Silver	0	5	13	0	5	0	4	5	5	5	5	0	50
CHIEF SCOUTS AWARD - Gold	1	1	6	0	5		0	3	0	1	4	0	21
DUKE OF EDINBURGH - Bronze												4	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>147</b>

Badges and Awards (reduced) - April 2017 to March 2018

BEAVER SCOUT CHALLENGE AWARDS	130	34	15	45	38	176	30	25	48	78	55	0	674
CUB SCOUT CHALLENGE AWARDS	91	278	28	0	36	35	99	67	77	48	15	0	774
SCOUT CHALLENGE AWARDS	193	71	0	0	35	0	0	50	23	123	45	0	540
<b>TOTAL - CHALLENGE AWARDS</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1988</b>

<b>TOTAL - ACTIVITY BADGES</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4024</b>
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<b>TOTAL - STAGED ACTIVITY BADGES</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2551</b>
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Please refer to the AGM calendar entry on the district website for full details.

The Scout Association Census 2018 – Summary – Sevenoaks District

	Beaver Scouts			Cub Scouts			Scouts			Explorers Scouts			Scout Network			YOUTH TOTAL			ADULT TOTAL			TOTAL
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	T
Sevenoaks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	8	20	20
Explorers & YL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	15	60	-	-	-	45	15	60	7	1	8	68
Active Support	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	10	24	24
Sevenoaks - Scout Network	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	10	40	30	10	40	-	-	-	40
1st Sevenoaks (Hicks Own)	17	5	22	27	7	34	34	17	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	78	29	107	15	15	30	137
3rd Sevenoaks (Riverhead)	17	5	22	43	17	60	76	13	89	-	-	-	-	-	-	136	35	171	22	12	34	205
4th Sevenoaks (St John's)	30	17	47	28	16	44	27	19	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	85	52	137	14	26	40	177
6th Sevenoaks (Kemsing)	18	4	22	17	1	18	9	5	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	10	54	7	7	14	68
7th Sevenoaks (Halstead)	21	2	23	15	5	20	19	3	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	55	10	65	9	11	20	85
9th Sevenoaks (Seal)	21	3	24	15	3	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	6	42	3	3	6	48
10th Sevenoaks (Weald)	17	-	17	19	1	20	15	2	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	51	3	54	9	5	14	68
12th Sevenoaks (1st Edenbridge)	19	6	25	18	13	31	11	9	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	48	28	76	15	10	25	101
15th Sevenoaks (Otford)	18	4	22	28	1	29	21	2	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	67	7	74	11	5	16	90
16th Sevenoaks (Ide Hill)	13	6	19	13	10	23	5	13	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	29	60	13	8	21	81
17th Sevenoaks (Westerham)	9	1	10	16	4	20	10	5	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	10	45	11	5	16	61
	200	53	253	239	78	317	227	88	315	45	15	60	30	10	40	741	244	985	162	126	288	1,273