

# 23<sup>RD</sup> BROMLEY (ST AGUSTINES) SCOUT GROUP

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2019

HELD AT WILBERFORCE SCOUT CAMP AT 1PM.

**PRESENT.** Fifty Seven members and supporters.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman who called for the president Mr T Manthorpe to welcome everyone and to thank them for coming to the A.G.M.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mr D Wilcox, Mr S Vickers, Mr P Gubby, Mrs H Smith.

**MINUTES OF LAST A.G.M.** Minutes of the 2018 A.G.M. were circulated and were taken as read.

**MATTERS ARISING.** There were no matters arising.

**CHAIRMANS REPORT.** Mr J Bruce welcomed everyone and reminded all present that the A.G.M. and Scout Council meeting covered the period up to March 2019. This being the only formal occasion when all adult members of the group including parents get together to hear from the Group Executive and hold them to account. The group was formed 80 years ago meeting at St Luke's then at the dance hall behind Southborough library. Some 33 years later we got our own scout hall, boys only. Now we have as many girls in the group and need new facilities and this will be our next big project.

We are able to raise funds if you use Amazon Smile who will donate 0.5% using their new app.

So what has happened this year? Our GSL and section leaders will give details. Here are the headlines.

We changed the timing of the Christmas Fayre and this was a success (next one Dec 7<sup>th</sup>). The Group Carol Service was another high light (next one Dec 20<sup>th</sup>). Then Claire Pester's Panto Beauty and the Beast. Rehearsals for Sleeping Beauty next January have started.

The Gang Show involving around 140 boys and girls took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> January. Long service and Chief Scout awards were handed out. No Gang show in 2020.

We celebrated the life of Mick Golding with a BBQ and giant bonfire. In July Stella Green retired after 30 years running Spitfire Beavers and her Beavers and colleagues gave her a party. The group will hold a afternoon tea party on the 16<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm in the H.Q. Our thanks to Laura and Jo for taking over as new Beaver Leaders.

This summer 6 of our Explorers were selected to go to the world jamboree in the USA. The 23<sup>rd</sup> have supplied a contingent every four years for the past 50 years.

Some changes to the Group Executive, last year we lost Richard Miles but we welcomed Richard Townsend and this year Richard Jones is standing down as Group Treasurer and Stuart Vickers is retiring. Both have been significant members and have been of immense help to the Executive and to me personally. However we do have to new candidates to join. They are Johnathan Pownall as Treasurer and the Rev. Steve Spencer.]

The final thing to mention is that after 9 years as chairman and 10 as GSL I have decided to retire but fear not I think I have found a really excellent successor. The other thing to mention was that I was proud to receive the Silver Wolf (the highest award) at the St George's Day event.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT.

Mr Richard Jones distributed the audited accounts to all present and advised that the group was in a healthy position. It was to be noted that the format of the accounts had changed to show both unrestricted and restricted amounts. Fund raising amounted to £1676.67 and rents received £2390. Over £7000 was now in the restricted building fund.

Because of the need to raise more funds scout's fees were increased which meant a profit after paying to District the capitation fee. The Panto money of £2,571.78 to be passed to the treasurer. Accounts show we have over £40,000 in the bank.

#### FUND RAISING REPORT.

As Mr D Wilcox was unable to attend his report was read out by the Chairman.

Firstly I would like to thank all the fund raising committee members for their help and support over the last year. Some of whom have been supporting the 23<sup>rd</sup> for over 30 years.

This year the fund raising committee has only held one event which was the Christmas Fayre, giving the committee time to look at different ways of fund raising. Again the FRC are looking for items for the next Christmas Fayre on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, a note has been sent to all sections and is on the 23<sup>rd</sup> web site.

For the future we are looking at a 100 club to be run on a monthly basis, a quiz night and a race night. The most adventurous event will be a Summer Festival on the week end of the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020 organised by Alan.

Like all organisations succession plans must be in place to keep the FRC at a level to take on the challenge of the future. New members are needed so new ideas can be developed. Many thanks to everyone who has supported the FRC over the year.

#### GROUP SCOUT LEADERS REPORT.

JO reported that currently we have 111 boys and 53 girls a total of 164 young people in the group together with 5 young leaders and 27 adult leaders. In addition to this the Network group have 13 members and the Fellowship/ friends of the group 25. We are one of the largest Scout Groups in the district.

JO said that she would leave the sections to tell you what they have been up to in the last year. As for the group as a whole last December we held the Xmas Fayre and Christmas Carol Service. In January the panto Beauty and the beast was performed followed by the Gang Show both being a great success. Mick Golding's memorial BBQ and campfire took place in April. In June the annual sports day at Norman Park went off very well.

July saw Stella Green retire after 32 years as leader of the Spitfires with Laura Evans and Joe Tregent taking over. August saw 6 of our Explorers off to the USA for the World Jamboree.

JO wished to put on record her thanks to all leaders and helpers for their hard work and dedication, without them there would be no 23<sup>rd</sup>. Thanks to the Group Executive who work behind the scenes to make sure the group runs smoothly.

A special thanks to John Bruce, Richard Jones and Stuart Vickers., together with the Fund Raising Committee who support the group with new and exciting events.

Lastly but by no-means least thanks to Sandra, I could not do the job without her.

#### SECTION REPORTS.

Explorers. David Goodwin with the help of Claire Pester, Ellen Alexander and Patrick Walker organised through the year 3 camps and visits to Bird of Prey, Judo, American Football plus a climbing dinner, where is Wally evening and a special task to spend £13 on 26 food items to donate to the Bromley Food Bank.

Scout Troop. David Hudson reported that the troop comprised 42 members of which there was 23 boys and 19 girls plus 7 leaders three of which recently were young leaders. In addition to this there is 1 young leader. 15 scouts have moved to explorers recently and we have welcomed 3 scouts from other groups. The troop took part in 3 district events these being the swimming gala, scouts of steel and the St George's Day Parade. During the last 12 months we have had 5 camps at Gilwell, Downe, Thriftwood, Frylands Wood and Sevenoaks. Plus 2 Wilberforce activities events. Other events were Sports day, bike ride at Bewl, Danson Park sailing and 30 scouts took part in the Gang Show. Chip was awarded his 5 year Service award and George Miles was awarded the Queens Scout award.

Baloo Pack. The Autumn term saw us giving out badges to some of the cubs that they had completed at home. We took part in the swimming gala in November- 3 cubs took part and we won our first medal at this event. Big congratulations to Emily, Anna & George.

Halloween, Christmas and the Christmas Fayre past by very quickly followed by the gang show where we performed I need a Hero. A winter madness camp was held in a cold February which was very enjoyable. Through the year we had craft evenings for Christmas, Mothers Day and Fathers Day. An Easter Egg Hunt was enjoyed by everyone. Family Camp this year had a Egyptian theme and was held with the Spitfires Beaver Colony. Outings to Christmas Tree Farm and the annual sports day were well represented. The summer camp was at Broadstone Warren and included a visit to Herstmonceaux and a swimming pool. Scientists badges were gained by all who attended. A Baloo BBQ brought the year to a enjoyable end and then the following weekend we were all at HQ to say goodbye to our

Friend and Spitfire Leader Stella Green. Thanks to all parents for their support and to our leaders Karen AND Mick Shipp.

Kim Pack. The pack has 34 members currently and 5 leaders. Events that took place through the year were Air Jump, narrow boat trip, bouncy castle, Pinewood Derby. There was a winter camp and a father and cub camp.

Spitfire Colony. Laura Evans advised as she had only recently taken over as leader she would only report on current activities. The colony have been making volcanos. They also visited a fire station and have been completing for there cycling badge. A camp is planned in the next 2 weeks with a planet theme.

Hurricane Colony. We have got 12 boys and 1 girl together with 4 leaders myself Alison Ancrum, Tania Wardley and Rob Powell and 1 young leader Matthew Higginbottom who is amazing. We started the year off by doing the team work challenge badge. We welcomed a few visitors over the year which included a talk on water safety, then the Amazing Animal World brought in various animals to hold and stroke. Then Alan Alexander came to teach the beavers first aid. One evening was spent in Jubilee Park looking for bugs and leaves. Half term we did a Halloween dress up making ghost cakes and skeletons. Hurricanes took part in the gang show doing a illusion dance and they all did very well. Some of the beavers did the District Build a bridge Day playing with Lego. During the summer term we decided to start with 15 minutes of Yoga which made the beavers more relaxed. We have done the health and fitness badge and had a target practice night where the beavers had to shoot paint, water and bow and arrows. This September we introduced 6 new beavers to the colony and did beaver Bingo. We have also made gluten free brownies visited Air Jump with Kim Pack.

Jamboree Presentation. 4 of the 6 Explorers who went to West Virginia USA gave a interesting talk on there visit to the World Jamboree. Of the 100 applicants in the south east London area only 36 were successful of which 23<sup>rd</sup> had 6 a great achievement. All had to find £3800 by fund raising. They initially flew to New York and were able to visit the Statue of Liberty and other attractions. They then flew to the Jamboree in Virginia which was an amazing site with over 45000 scouts attending. The Jamboree was hosted jointly by the USA Canada and Mexico and our team were called the Bobcats. Among the activities were the second highest climbing wall, a zip line and many water events. After leaving the Jamboree they were taken to Washington and saw a baseball game. Finally they then flew to Canada and went to Vancouver visiting the winter Olympic Park. A truly once in a lifetime experience.

AWARDS. 15 year service award was presented to Richard Jones and a 5 year award to Henry Hudson.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

All current committee members apart from Mr Stuart Vickers agreed to serve for another year. All present were asked to a show of hands and this was passed.

Mr John Bruce then advised his resignation and asked Mr Colin Goodwin to take over as Chairman which he accepted.

Mr Richard Jones then advised his resignation and asked Mr Jonathan Pownall to serve as Treasurer which he accepted.

Mr A Gorman our Auditor has decided not to continue so we are looking for a replacement.

A.O.C.B. None.

The meeting was then brought to a close by the Chairman.