



Scouts

Itchen South

AGM 2022

Contents

Page 2 - Contents

Page 3 – District Commissioner’s report

Page 4 – Assistant District Commissioner (Beaver Scouts) report

Page 5 - Assistant District Commissioner (Cub Scouts) report

Page 6-7 – District Explorer Scout Commissioner’s report

Page 8 – Cricket Camp report

Page 9 – Retired Member’s Club report

Page 10 – Canoe Centre report

District Commissioners Report

Once again, I find myself writing about an unusual year. Although I'm pleased to say that most of the challenges, we faced in the early part of this reporting period have now disappeared. As I look back through the last 12 months, I am somewhat shocked at the number of things that have happened.

Considering that we were still battling Covid restrictions 12 months ago, it's not been a quiet year.

We have had Reboot, where we relaunched Scouting, Nutters, Sausage Fest, As well as a huge amount of work at cricket including: Refurb of the Climbing Tower, New Rifles, Tomahawks and a Dishwasher!

There was a lot of singing and dancing this year as well with Roverang, HEGS and Gangshow 90 which included several Itchen South Scouts. This creativity has also been supported by the development of a new SASU called Footlights, who's aim is to support creative activities within the District. Thanks to Mike and Ang for launching that.

That's not the only SASU that we have seen created this year, we also have the Saga SASU (I don't think that's what they'll end up being called, it's just my affectionate name for the new unit). This unit has been created by Aileen to capture some of the older members of Scouting who are still keen to help support young people. The group are available and keen to help support activities and events.

I'm also pleased to say that Itchen South has several Scouts attending the 25th World Scout Jamboree in Korea and many taking part in Project 23, a European road trip taking place next year. I think international expeditions are one of the greatest opportunities for young people, you always see a change in the young person when they return and it's an experience that lasts a lifetime. I am pleased to say that the District continues to financially support these young people and I would encourage all young people to apply for these expeditions.

I also noted that we also had a number of senior awards in the District last year which again, in the circumstances is an amazing achievement, so well done to everyone who gained a Chief Scouts award or higher.

Whilst I've been given the freedom to type, I will also use this opportunity to let you all know that the district has purchased OSM and will be providing it to all groups. We are just working out the process of moving everyone over.

And finally, I couldn't complete my report without giving a mention to Reef. I'm sure you'll all agree that it was an amazing event, every Scout I saw seemed to be having an amazing time and even the leaders seemed pretty happy! Thanks to Emma Rex (and Richard) for heading up an amazing team to deliver the event.

Stuart Morgan
District Commissioner

BEAVERS

Beaver Scout Section

2021 has continued to be a very strange time within scouting.

The district beavers' group have embraced every challenge. I am so proud of the leadership teams of what they have achieved.

We haven't had many group events due to restrictions, but the beaver attends our district rebootday event. There were many activities to choose from. It was lovely for everyone to be back together again and enjoying what scouting it about.

At Christmas we were invited along to St Mary Church for our annual Christmas Carol Concert.

Which over 100 beavers attended.

I thank all the leaders that have continued to support the beavers during this year and let the adventure continue.

Yours in Scouting

Emily Viney

Assistant District Commissioner (Beaver Scouts)





Cub Scout Section

So, 2021-2022 has been a busy year for all the cubs.

We had an amazing turn out for the annual Christmas Carol service from the majority of groups. The cubs (and leaders) were fully entertained.

We have just had our annual Archery Competition, well done to the 6th Hamble on winning, but also a thank you for hosting it. Many thanks to the leaders who came and ran games with the cubs.

We've got a couple of things with the cubs to look forwards to including the Rifle Competition and a new competition the 'Tintin Cup', which I hope to have sorted for the after the summer break.

I would like to thank all the leadership teams at every group, I know that getting back to normal has been hard work but so many things to look forward to.

Julie Axton

Assistant District Commissioner (Cub Scouts)

EXPLORERS

Explorer Scout Section

I think I will start by saying a Massive BRAVO to all the Explorers and Unit leaders who have yet again continued to make the very best of what can only be described as a second very unusual year.

The units started the year still with zoom sessions and limited face to face meetings when restrictions allowed. They worked closely with the districts risk assessment team throughout the early part of the year progressing slowly towards getting fully up and running in the second half of 2021.

Young leader training got back up and running via a county zoom provision as did D of E which we worked closely with Itchen North to provide.

During the course of the year, we managed to get a really good number of Young People through both the bronze and silver D of E awards as well as the Dimond and Platinum Chief Scout awards which is a fantastic achievement in the circumstances.

We also had a large number of Explorers apply to attend the next World Scout Jamboree in South Korea in 2023. The selection weekend was held at Lyons Copse in October and 12 Young people from across the District were selected to attend either the Jamboree or the Hampshire Project 23. This is the highest number of participants the district has had for many years – Massive well done to them all and keep an eye open for the upcoming fundraising events I'm sure they will be running over the next year.

The first Face to Face Bone of Contention challenge was held at the districts Reboot event in September and was really well supported by 3 of the 5 district units

Following a morning of pioneering, a catapult challenge was held involving catapults, Paint and tennis balls – As you can imagine Great fun was had by all involved and the worthy winners with the highest score were Poseidon – Well done guys

Unfortunately, we were hoping to run KUDU 2021 in November this year but we had to postpone the event due to only 2 units from the 2 districts being able to attend. When we looked further into this it became clear that the Units were concentrating on getting themselves back up to speed on a weekly basis and found it better to focus on their weekly meetings for a while as there was still quite a lot of COVID apprehension and isolation disruption happening.

EXPLORERS

Explorer Scout Section - continued

I'd like to finish this report by saying a massive thankyou to all the districts awesome Explorer Units Leadership teams for all their support during my time as DESC. From January I am swapping roles with Neil O'Sullivan and taking over as ADC Scouts for a while. I am looking forward to developing stronger links between the Troops and the District Explorer Units and Neil and I will be working quite closely on this over the next year or two.



Here's looking forward to 2022 and delivering quality Scouting to the District.

Sue Parker

District Explorer Scout Commissioner (until January 2022)



Cricket Camp

Despite the past couple of years, the site is bouncing back and things are looking positive for the future.

Weekday evening use of the site has continued to be very popular, both with the use of the outdoor space as well as the onsite activities. The bookings for camping and the lodge have also seen a marked increase, with the lodge being almost fully booked every weekend during late winter and the spring period. We also have some longer bookings over the summer holidays, in particular from groups further afield who are having their annual summer camps with us. Since transferring over to OSM for our bookings, we are starting to see groups book with us who never knew we existed until they saw us on OSM. The move to OSM has been worth it!

We have continued to run the scheduled monthly working days on the first Saturday of each month with the team also providing support with duty warden responsibilities in between. If you can spare the occasional Saturday then you're more than welcome to join us.

As you know, some years ago we made the decision to stop providing an instructor with some of the permitted activities such as climbing, archery and rifles. This was purely down to the fact the site was letting groups down as we struggled to find willing instructors to help. Instead, we've started to run activity leadership courses so volunteers in the sections and groups can become more self-sufficient in providing more of the adventurous activities. As the old saying goes "If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. If you teach a man to fish, you feed him for a lifetime!" So far, we've run climbing and archery courses and we are planning on running some more in the autumn and winter.

Staying on the subject of activities, we've brought online some new activities, the first being pedal Go Karts and we have a few 'Activity in a box' activities, these include slack lining, soft archery, ball games, nature detection, parachute games and water rockets. We've also just purchased some new pioneering poles which will be available for use very soon.

Looking ahead, we are hoping to get the following done this year and into 2023:-

- Complete the bouldering wall refurbishment
- Complete the refurbishment of the campfire circle
- Introduce crate stacking to site
- Replace the oven in the lodge kitchen
- Repaint the lodge internally
- Insulate the loft space in the lodge

I hope to see you out at the site in the near future!

Mark Langdown
Cricket Camp Manager

Itchen Districts Retired Members Club

At the beginning of the year HQ introduced a new category called “Retired Members”. In May, June Burton, President ISDSC, hosted the first meeting of the Retired Members Club. Around a dozen people from, Itchen North and Itchen South, attended – some retired but active and other retired non-active. The aim is to run monthly meetings and coffee mornings for anyone (irrespective of retirement status or role) who would like to attend.

The purpose of this new role is to recognise the value of our volunteers who have given the movement fantastic service over many years.

To “qualify” for retired member status, the person

- Must have had a minimum of 10 years of service
- Holds no other active role in scouting
- Does not expect to be active at any point in the future
- This role is classified as a ‘non-Member’ and does not accrue service years.

Appointment to the role is approved by the District Commissioner. The Appointment Advisory Committee (AAC) process applies. It is not expected that the AACs would choose not to ‘interview’ these Retired Members. Disclosure checks are not needed. Retired members have no training obligations but must be familiar with safeguarding (Yellow Card) and safety requirements.

The Retired Member may attend occasional events, e.g. a District AGMs (in a non-voting capacity), an Awards ceremony organised by District or as an (escorted) visitor to a District Camp. The role only allows for supervised access to young people and with no involvement in residential / nights away activity.

Although Retired members will dress casually, but in certain circumstances they may wear their (then-current) uniform when attending these occasional events.

If anyone is interested in attending the monthly meetings or knows of former scout leaders who would like to be considered as Retired Members, please contact June Burton or Aileen Wood.

Aileen Wood

Retired Members Co-ordinator



Itchen South District Scout Canoe Centre

Like all other Scout Units, we have had an unusual year. We managed a few paddling sessions in October when there was a brief respite.

Our normal pool sessions were cancelled but we were able to commence our Saturday Club with a small number of paddlers in April while complying with strict guidelines.

Our taster sessions have been well booked from May onwards and our numbers at the Saturday Club have increased dramatically with everyone eager to get back on the water.

Our first river trip saw 12 paddlers enjoying a paddle on the non-tidal part of the River Itchen, from Woodmill, in good weather.

We have managed to obtain grants from Eastleigh Borough Council which has helped to defray our storage and insurance costs whilst we had no other income.

Our paddlers are now looking forward to a return to pre-pandemic times and future exciting river trips.

I would like to thank all the coaches and helpers who have supported us in these vastly different, and sometimes, trying times.

Joan Veal
Centre Manager
Assistant District Commissioner (Activities)