



# CATERHAM DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

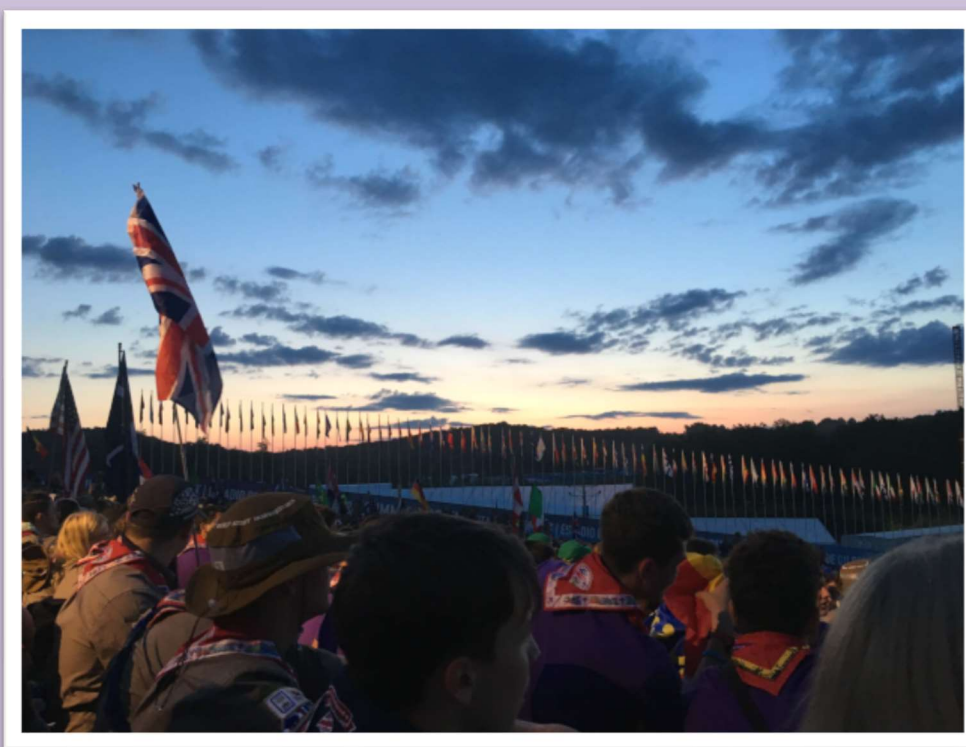


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**24<sup>TH</sup> WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE SEE PAGE 2**



## TIM'S BITS

Welcome to the first newsletter of the new Scouting year. I hope you all had a lovely summer. I am looking forward to reading about the many camps that took place over the summer holidays, some of which I know had eventful weather!

I also welcome back our three World Scout Jamboree participants and I am looking forward to reading about and hearing their stories. Our district youth commissioner,

Maisie, who was also at the Jamboree as part of the IST, managed to track down all three of them while she was in America. No small feat given the scale of the event!

There are still a good many AGMs to be held, and I have a week later in the month with five AGMs in seven days! I will be attending all of these so may see you there.

**Tim Evans, District Commissioner**



I am an Explorer Scout and also work as a Young Leader in my Group, 11<sup>th</sup> Caterham (URC). Scouting has always inspired me to attempt new things that I never thought of doing, and going to the World Scout Jamboree this summer was my biggest adventure with Scouting yet. Hearing that I had been selected to represent Caterham District at the Jamboree in North America was such an honour.

My journey to the World Scout Jamboree began in October 2017 with a selection camp to secure one of the three places open to Caterham District. Following this I was placed in a unit with 35 other Scouts and 4 leaders from across Surrey. Over the following 18 months we had a number of camps and meet ups, where we formed friendships and had a great time. We also learnt many valuable skills such as washing clothes in a bucket and cooking.

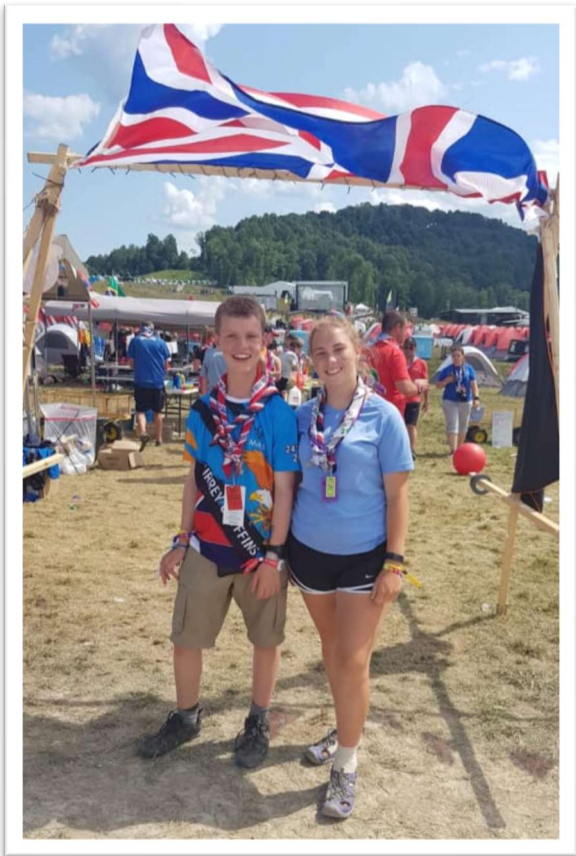
The World Scout Jamboree has a long tradition. The first jamboree was held in 1920 and was hosted by the UK at Kensington Olympia. 8,000 Scouts from 34 nations attended. This summer the jamboree was jointly hosted by Canada, the USA and Mexico, and was held in West

Virginia, USA at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, created the World Scout Jamboree as a way to draw international Scouting and the world closer together.

WSJ 2019 was the biggest ever jamboree. The campsite held 45,000 Scouts from more than 150 different countries. The site was spread out over 13,000 acres with 36 miles of mountain bike trails alone. This jamboree had the largest contingent of UK Scouting to ever go abroad, with 4,000 Scouts and leaders supported by 60 members of the UK contingent team and 750 members of IST (International Service Team).

The UK Contingent left on 20<sup>th</sup> July for a 'Big City' experience. We arrived in New York during the late afternoon and spent an amazing evening, where we were welcomed by a traditional American meal of ribs, chicken, fries and sour dough bread all on one plate at the Dallas Barbecue. We also visited Time Square. The next day we visited the UN building and our visit to New York finished with a ferry ride with amazing views of the city and the Statue of Liberty.

The Jamboree itself was 11 days and was an experience of a lifetime. The theme was 'Unlock a New World' and the aim was to work together and seek solutions to international challenges such as sustainability, poverty, hunger and conflict. We were able to listen to experts on these issues, for example the former UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon. There were a wide range of adventurous activities to experience, from zip wires to BMX tracks and kayaking. Wherever you went you met people from so many different cultures and the Culture Day allowed us to showcase our own nation and culture.



The opening ceremony had performances from the South African producer and composer Lebo M. The show's main performance was by Recycled Percussion and it finished with a drone show that stunned the audience. The closing ceremony was even better with performances from Pentatonix and Light

Balance (America's Got Talent third place act).

One major part of the Jamboree was trading. I took lots of items to be traded, such as scarves and badges. I managed to return with badges from around the world as well as a bag from Ecuador and t-shirts from Australia, The Netherlands, Hong Kong and Mexico. The overall feeling of the Jamboree was almost indescribable, as wherever you went you were confronted with new and wonderful experiences.

Following the Jamboree event, the UK Contingent travelled to Washington DC for three days, where we visited iconic landmarks, such as the White House, Washington Monument, Thomas Jefferson Memorial and the Capitol Building. Then it was on to Canada for HoHo (Hosted Hospitality) where with four other UK units we were hosted in a Canadian campsite by the Canadian Scouts. We were lucky enough to be in the Niagara area so managed to visit Niagara Falls for one of its daily firework shows.

We arrived back in the UK on 9<sup>th</sup> August. The Jamboree has been an amazing learning experience that has taught me all about international cultures. It has also shown me just how important Scouting is to the world as it is bringing people with very different backgrounds together to celebrate a common cause, promoting peace and cooperation.

In the future I am hopeful that I will be able to participate as IST at the 25<sup>th</sup> World Scout Jamboree in South Korea.

**Matt S, Unit 65, Surrey Gryffins**

The Jamboree was a once in a lifetime opportunity and one that I will never forget. Every day was filled with excitement and adventure, but the thing that will stick with me the most isn't all the activities but being immersed in an amazing atmosphere with so many amazing people from other countries all over the world.



One of my favourite evenings was one we spent with our neighbours from Taiwan. We played games as one big group and were able to share our English food with them. We also got to try a traditional Taiwanese meal. We managed to have fun and laugh even though we couldn't speak each other's languages.



The Jamboree has helped me achieve so much over the past two years. I have grown in confidence, which meant I was able to easily make friends with new people at the

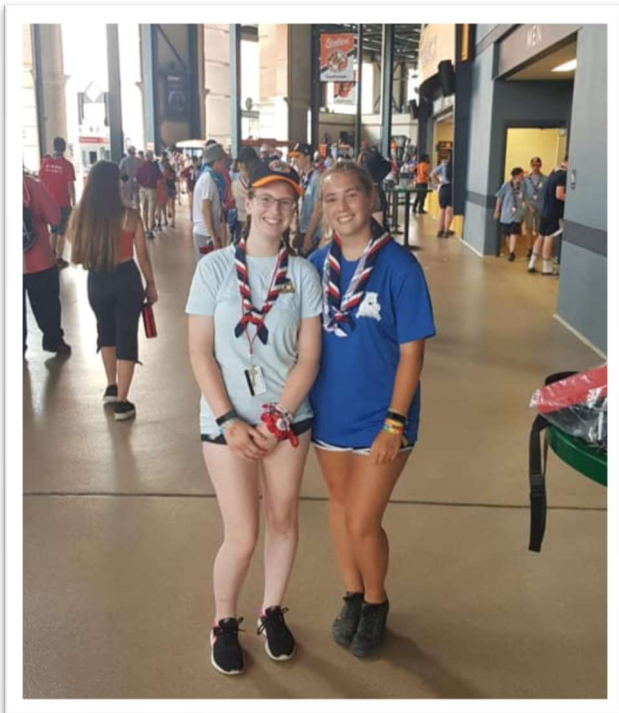
Jamboree. I have also learnt to believe in myself more so that hopefully I can accomplish bigger and better things in the future. It has also taught me that although we might still be young, together we can change the world for the better!

**Megan T, Unit 64, Surrey Sequoia**

Back in July more than 4,000 Scouts from the UK flew out to the USA for the 24<sup>th</sup> World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia. My unit, number 66, the Surrey Stingrays, landed in New York and had a fun day exploring. We saw Ground Zero and went up the One World Observatory. At the end of the day we boarded a coach to West Virginia University for an overnight stop off, and the following morning we continued our journey to the Summit Bechtel Reserve, where the jamboree was being held.



There were so many new opportunities for everyone at the jamboree, including paddle boarding, crossbow shooting, white water rafting and scuba diving. I especially enjoyed Culture Day, where I met lots of new people.



After the jamboree we headed off to Washington and then Toronto. In Toronto we were taken care of by the 115<sup>th</sup> Toronto Scout Group and went on a boat trip with a unit from Yorkshire.

I want to thank everyone who sponsored me and helped me to get to where I am today. I would definitely recommend the next World Scout Jamboree to anyone who wants to go as it is an incredible, eye-opening experience.

**Eleanor D, Unit 66, Surrey Stingrays**

## A BIG THANK YOU!

Our daughter in law, Esther, completed her walking marathon for Macmillan nurses in 7 hours and 50 minutes. I would like to say thank you to all those who bought my homemade jam, which raised £130 towards her entry fee. I hope you enjoy the jam and I look forward to doing the same next year for a different charity.

**Gwen Hoare, District Secretary**

## SUMMER CAMP

On a very wet Saturday morning, 24 Scouts, Explorers and Young Leaders, with 9 Leaders from 3<sup>rd</sup> Caterham, 1<sup>st</sup> Whyteleafe and 1<sup>st</sup> Warlingham left Caterham for summer camp. As we travelled further west the weather improved and when we finally arrived at Brownjohn's Copse Scout campsite in Dorset it was a lovely hot day.

After lunch we set up camp with four patrol areas. The Scouts were going to cook on open fires in the evening and Gaz for breakfast.

Sunday saw the Scouts making gadgets, collecting wood and generally getting to know the site.

On Monday two groups of Scouts set off on a hike. One group started at Kingston and the other group walked in the opposite direction starting at the viewpoint on top of Povington Hill. The Scouts met in the middle at Kimmeridge. On the way they also looked at the village of Tyneham.

Tuesday it was wet so the Scouts went swimming.

On Wednesday we went to Brownsea Island, where two Scouts from Warlingham and one from 3<sup>rd</sup> Caterham were invested at the commemorative stone. It's a magical place, and the Scouts even held hands.



Thursday was a day of onsite activities, including shooting, catapults, assault course and trying to get into a hammock! In the evening we held our annual cooking competition, where the Scouts were given a set of ingredients and had to choose what meal they would make.

After taking down much of the canvas on Friday morning, we had a trip to The Tank Museum in Bovington, where the Scouts enjoyed a ride in a tracked troop carrier.

Later in the day the rest of the heavy tents came down nice and dry. After the campfire all the Scouts, Explorers and Young Leaders slept out under the stars. The leaders, all bar one, took the decision to stay in their tents (not as brave as the youngsters!).

On Saturday morning the rest of the camp was packed up and we headed home.

All who went thoroughly enjoyed themselves. I would recommend the site, which is nice, secluded and quiet – the neighbours being solar panels and a quarry over the road!

**John Swanson, SL, 3<sup>rd</sup> Caterham**



## DISTRICT BUSHCRAFT CAMP



On Friday 21 June, 34 Scouts from Caterham District arrived at Frylands Wood for a weekend learning bushcraft skills. On arrival the Scouts put up their tents (for use if there was a storm – as if!) and were split into three large patrols for the rest of the weekend. First task was to collect wood – there was a lot of this over the weekend!

Bushcraft itself started the following morning when the Scouts tackled skills such as whittling tent pegs (learning how to use and care for knives), building a log pile (learning how to use axes and saws) and fire lighting techniques without the use of matches (every Scout who attended was given a firestick).



After cooking lunch (hot dogs and beans in tins) on fires that they lit themselves, the patrols set about building bivouacs in groups of three or four, although everyone

had their own shelter. They were also taught how to build a camp gadget that they'd need the next morning to cook breakfast. The patrols had to keep their fires going all day so that they could cook in the evening (kebabs on green sticks followed by yummy smores – look that one up if you don't know what they are!). Before everyone retired to their bivouacs there was a wide game.

Everyone slept out all night, which was great, but as it was the longest day the night itself was very short. The best thing was that it didn't rain!

In the morning the groups lit their own fires and cooked breakfast (bacon and eggs in a paper bag). Following this the bivouacs came down and the Scouts learnt how to lay and follow a track in the woods.

For lunch we had bannock bread cooked over a bed of embers – very tasty. It was then time to strike camp and go home.

Everyone (including the leaders!) enjoyed themselves immensely and we're all looking forward to running the camp again next year. Thank you to all who helped and thank you to all the lovely comments from the parents of the Scouts who attended.

**Hugh Franklin, SL, 1<sup>st</sup> Warlingham**

## GROUP REPORTS



### **1<sup>st</sup> Whyteleafe**

#### **My first Cub camp**

At Cub camp I had a lot of fun. First, we made flags and put them on the flag post. Our team was called the Raptors. Then it was time to go into the tents. I was sharing with Barnaby and Carl. The tent was medium sized, so just big enough for us three! I stayed up all night playing games and laughing with my Cub friends. I think we went to sleep for 30 minutes!

In the morning we packed up our stuff and we did some more activities, including in our teams. We made tepees and we got splashed with water when we ran through the Cubs and Beavers. It was the best thing we did. We did a relay race with water and had some yummy pasta for lunch.

I really enjoyed my first Cub camp and can't wait for the canal boat camp. Thanks to all the leaders for making it so much fun.

**Joshua M, age 9½, Cub**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Caterham**

#### **Group camp at Broadstone Warren**



I really enjoyed my weekend at Cub camp. It was the first time I had been away without my family and my first time to Cub camp, and I was really excited. It was fun to do all the activities like pot holing, water walking, climbing and axe throwing! We also had fun in the tents and stayed up until 12.00 and woke up at 5.00! I also enjoyed going to the shop to buy sweets. I liked playing man hunt and capture the flag. It was fun when we were able to play in the trees.

I really enjoyed my weekend at Cub camp and I can't wait to go next year. Thank you to all the helpers who also didn't get much sleep.

**Ellie A, age 8, Cub**

At camp we developed a lot of skills. My favourite activity was water-walkerz, it was really fun and we got to go in a big float – most of us did lots of front rolls.

We also had a campfire. My favourite songs were definitely the repeat after me songs! We also ate lots of treats and played games late at night. It was really fun and I'd love to do it again.

**Katie W, age 10, Scout**

#### **Some of our Beavers also attended a sleepover in the summer with 1<sup>st</sup> Warlingham.**

When I was on my way to camp, I was excited and a little bit nervous. When I got to the hall, I put my things away. I straight away joined in with colouring in with my friends. I coloured a pirate ship and a teddy bear. I enjoyed my chippy dinner and I enjoyed the sparklers. I got a certificate for being the best pinata smasher. It was good fun.

**Dylan F, age 7, Beaver**

## DISTRICT DIARY 2019



**New or changed items since the last newsletter are in bold.** If there are any events you would like more details of, please speak to Tim Evans. *For training – Pam Marshall-Jones, for Young Leader Training – Penny Stock.*

### September

- 13-15<sup>th</sup> Cubs Canal Weekend  
 18<sup>th</sup> **Module 1 Essential Information (7.30-10.00pm)**  
 21<sup>st</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Caterham Model Show  
 21<sup>st</sup> **Module 10 First Aid (First Response) (9.00am-3.30pm)**  
 22<sup>nd</sup> **4<sup>th</sup> Caterham Fun Day & AGM, 11.00am-3.00pm, St John's School**  
 23<sup>rd</sup> **Module 15 Promoting Positive Behaviour**  
 30<sup>th</sup> **Ongoing Safety Training (7.30-10.00pm)**

### October

- 1<sup>st</sup> County Scout Leader meeting, Walton Firs  
 4-6<sup>th</sup> Scout's Canal Weekend

- 7<sup>th</sup> GSLS meeting, 8.00pm, URC  
 9<sup>th</sup> **Module 3 Tools for the Role (7.30-10.00pm)**  
 11<sup>th</sup> Scout's Wide Games, 7:00-9:00pm 12<sup>th</sup> Caterham HQ

### November

- 4<sup>th</sup> **Module 11 Administration (7.30-10.00pm)**  
 11<sup>th</sup> **Module 18 Practical Skills (7.30-10.00pm)**  
 16<sup>th</sup> **Module 10 First Aid (First Response) (9.00am-3.30pm)**  
**Module 13 Growing the Section (9.15-1.45pm)**  
 16<sup>th</sup> Chief Scout's Gold Award Presentation evening  
 25<sup>th</sup> **Module 19 International (7.30-10.00pm)**

## NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2019 EDITION DEADLINE



Please submit your articles for the October edition to Susan Dobson at [Editor@Caterham-Scouts.org.uk](mailto:Editor@Caterham-Scouts.org.uk) by Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September. Photographs are welcomed, although we cannot guarantee to include everything.

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