

## 36<sup>th</sup> Epping Forest South (All Saints) Sea Scout Group. Group Scout Leader Report – March 2022

As in previous years, I am keeping my GSL Report brief to allow you time to read the Section Leaders Reports which will more than adequately tell you all about the excellent work that each section has been doing during the past year.

I wish to thank our Leaders and Section Helpers for their tireless dedication to provide a regular programme of meetings both on-line and, when permitted, face-to-face, which despite the restrictions has enabled our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to maintain their enthusiasm and many have gained a record number of badges over the past year.

We currently have a strong Leadership Team in all sections, but need to plan ahead and encourage additional persons to join us, so that we can ensure the continuance of the Group in the years ahead, particularly when long established Leaders retire from "active service".

As the Government gradually relaxed Covid restrictions, we were permitted to resume Sailing and other outdoor activities and the Scouts were eventually able to hold a very successful Summer camp.

We were able to re-commence "normal" meetings at All Saints in September 2021 and the Group Census in January 2022 shows that we have maintained a full level of membership throughout all of our sections

Throughout the year, our Group Executive Committee have continued to give valuable assistance to the Group by taking from the Leaders much of the administrative tasks required by The Scout Association and in particular the administration of the Groups finances.

I particularly wish to record our thanks to our Chairman James Allen, who with help from his wife and sons (both Scouts in our Group) has taken our Mini Bus out on the streets every weekend (since March 2020), to collected food items in support of the Redbridge Mutual Aid Food Bank - Our thanks to all who have donated so generously to help less fortunate families in our Parish.

The Group Executive meets about 5 times a year and we currently need additional Parents to join us so that the views of Parents with children in each section, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are represented during our discussions.

If you feel that you might be able to help and join our Committee, please speak to any of our Leaders.

I want to acknowledge the dedicated help from our District Commissioner throughout the pandemic.

Colin not only supported the Groups in Epping Forest South, but also was responsible for the amalgamation of the three separate Scout Districts in the Borough to form the new REDBRIDGE DISTRICT, which I am confident will ensure the continuation of Scouting in Redbridge for many years to come.

Finally, I want to thank the Staff and Office Team at All Saints for their continued support of the Group and for the use of the amazing facilities that enable us to meet each week.