



Scouts

Bristol South



AGM 2019

Bristolsouthscouts.org.uk

#SkillsForLife



Another Year of delivering skills for life

Welcome to our new look 2019 AGM report!

We have had another jam packed year across the district with 20 groups, 3 explorer units and our network unit all delivering #skillsforlife to even more young people than ever before.

We have grown once again this year, by an additional 92 young people, which is 8.2% and our uniformed leadership grew by 21 (10.7%).

We now have more young people in Bristol South than ever before, with 1214 at census 2019 compared to our record of 1162 in 2001.

We have also seen an increase in the amount of top awards that have been achieved for young people. Up by 9% to 32% in total. Our aim is to have more than 50% of all young people, who are eligible, to achieve the top award.

We want to thank every single volunteer who has helped us to support each and every young person from our section leaders to executive members.

Thank you.

Bristol South Scouts

Chairman's Report

It's been another busy year for the District with growth in some areas and challenges in others. The District team works hard to try and understand the challenges faced by groups so that support and guidance can be provided whilst supporting important events like the Gang Show. The ongoing success of our District is almost entirely due to the commitment and efforts of our volunteers and I remain in awe of everyone from our DC and ADCs, who never seems to be off duty, to all of the leaders, helpers and committee members who do so much for young people. It's easy to forget that everyone is a volunteer when looking at the array of Group and District activities that take place every year so we must remember to take care of our volunteers as much as we take care of our young people. In the spirit of Scouting, the District committee has committed to ensure that not only is Scouting available to as many young people as possible but to positively encourage those with health conditions or impairments to join Scouting and a meaningful long-term plan will be developed to clearly identify ambitions and provide an outline of the plan to deliver them.

Andy



Youth Commissioner

The last year has seen Gemma change her role from Youth Commissioner to network commissioner. Thank you to Gemma for everything she has done for the role.

We haven't had a youth commissioner for most of the last year but we are excited to announce that Beth Haines is taking up the role of Youth Commissioner from September 2019 so watch this space!

Nights Away

We all know young people love camps and nights away from home!

In 2018 we had 79 nights away events across the district.

We are encouraging leaders to gain their nights away permits and we have set up information evenings to help and support. We already have had 6 new permits issued in 2019 as a result.

A special thank you to Alan Nicholls who has recently stepped down from the nights away advisors role but has supported 100's of our leaders through the permit over his time!

We have a new team of advisors so contact us if you are interested in gaining your permit!

A few word from our District Commissioner – Scott

I always feel immensely proud to lead Bristol South but when the AGM write ups hit I am always so taken back by what has been achieved by everyone in our district.

You can look at all the numbers and statics that clearly show things are working in Bristol South but the truth can be seen even more clearly when you visit our amazing sections. I visit a section or a group every week and I love being able to see the enjoyment and achievements of so many young people.

A moment that stick's out in my mind as I write this is when I attended the 229th, Ashton in February 2019. Anne and her team were investing 29 new young people across all 3 sections, 5 new adult leaders and 8 young people achieved their top award. 141 young people were at the joint night. The group have grown in the last 12 months by almost 100% by adding new sections. Growth is great but its less about the seeing the growth numbers and more about the seeing the impact we will have on even more young peoples lives and I got to see how big that impact really was that night.

I have been the DC of Bristol South for 5 years this year, how the time has flown by! I set out a plan about what I wanted to achieve all those years ago. I thought I would be sat sipping tea doing a few emails every week by now! But as we all know things in scouting never quite go as you think and that is all part of excitement and challenge. No 2 days are ever the same and even though I've not done everything I set out to do 5 years ago we have achieved so much more and so many things that I didn't even put on the plan! And for anyone who is thinking my term is up... you will have to put up with me for a few more years yet! I still have a few things I want to do before I hand the baton over.

Thank you to each and every person who has volunteered their time to supporting scouting in Bristol South, it is truly amazing.

Lets see what the next 12 months brings!

Scott

Activities

2018 seen our highest ever record of notifications at 227!

We have seen an increase in the amount of activities that are weird and wonderful – Football golf being a highlight!

John Jones our ADC for activities is always on hand if you need some advice about activities and permits.

A reminder that all nights away and activities that are adventurous or outside of the district boundary need to be put on a notification form on the website at least 7 days before.



Beavers – A few words from Teresa

Since taking on the role of ADC beavers I have visited all Groups in our District and now doing second innings!! I have loved seeing all our different colony's and being able to meet our amazing leaders. I have assisted with 2 sleepovers, one as a nice to do, the other in order to gain nights away permit, which was successful.

I have been supporting several groups over the year with support for various reasons; this support is still on going or the foreseeable future to ensure they can continue to thrive as colonies in the future.

I have been invited to so many places to visit and I have come along to everything possible, it is so great to see our young people enjoying scouting.

I am still on a learning curve but thoroughly enjoying the role and I look forward to supporting even more over the coming year.

Bristol South Scouts

Scouts – A few words from Nick

Unfortunately due to personal and family circumstances this year I haven't been able to get up and running in this new role as quickly as I would of liked over the last year. The main focus as I have met troops is to explain about Explorers & Young Leaders and try to encourage groups to mix more and share resources. At the start of March we ran an orienteering competition around the Priddy area, this was attended by the 256th and 145th and was enjoyed by all, the SAS team also came along and made sure everyone had some hot food and drink which was well received as the weather became wet & cold! Later in March we ran our first Patrol Leaders training weekend, Roger Whitter from 255th and Tony Goring from Windmill Hill were the driving force behind this and we used Scouts from their groups as Guinea Pigs for the format! Again it was well received and some lessons learnt for the next time we run it. In September we will be holding a Patrol Challenge Weekend open to both Scouts & Explorer Scouts across the District at the Chelwood Campsite.

The weekend will have a number of Challenges & competitions with the Scouts Catering for themselves and traditional scouting activities. We will have a number of Leaders and SAS members there to help teach the younger scouts that have less experience so hopefully there are no barriers to those that want to attend attending.

Over the next year my focus is on strengthening and supporting the link between Scouts & Explorers and exploring where I/we can help facilitate activities between troops that may not have the skills, experience and numbers to do things themselves. Also I would like to run a combined event with the older scouts in the district and Explorers to help with the progression from scouts to Explorers. I would like to thank all that have supported me and the Scout Sections over the last year, especially Cyril and the SAS team that have continued to support the events and specific Groups.

Nick

Cubs – A few words from Andy

The cub section continues to be the strongest section across the district and it's great to see so many great activities going on across the district.

We have been supporting different groups across the district to ensure that a varied programme is in place to help young people achieve the top award and get the most out of cubs.

I have attended a number of nights across the packs to help and support on one off activities and it's great to get involved.

Looking forward we have the pinewood derby and a few other events coming up which I want to encourage more of.

I will be getting out and about into the packs over the coming months, if you need any support from me then please do just drop me a line and I will support you as and when I can.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support and look forward to another amazing year of cubs!
Andy

Explorers

We currently have 3 explorer units within the district along with a D of E unit and Young leaders.

Our 3 units are spread across the district and on different days of the week. With one being Sea Scout unit.

Our D of E unit and Young leaders meet in the core part of the year to ensure training is up to date and for the D of E unit lots of planning is required for the expeditions.

Explorers has been one area where historically we haven't done as well as we want.

The district have put a plan in place to look at how we get more young people to make the transition to explorers and how we can attract more adult volunteers to the section.

Our aim in the next few years is to have 5 successful units or who closely linked with scout troops.

If you can support us please speak to one of the team!

Network – A few words from Gemma

Network has been running strong over the past year. We've had a number of new members join. We run a programme full of a variety of different activities, which allows us to meet every second Tuesday of the month. Last year we had a Swiss exchange scout join our Network for a few months. It gave us an opportunity to understand how scouting worked in Switzerland and to show her how Network works in the UK.

We also had a great camp in September at Woodhouse.

In the coming year we plan to advertise Gert Lush Network to recruit new members from explorers to ensure they stay within scouting. We also are looking to run our first district event for the young people.

Gemma



Adult Support – A few words from Sean

I would like to say thank you to everyone for the warm welcome I have received from everyone since returning to scouting this year, and for the opportunity to be your Assistant District Commissioner for Adult Support.

As I have only been in post for a short while, there is little for me to reflect on from the past year, though I am thrilled to see the energy and passion our adult leaders are putting into their sections, groups and the district as a whole. I have already had the pleasure of recommending two people for their woodbadge which is fantastic, and I hope to recommend more very soon.

Looking forward to the year ahead, I will be getting out in person to meet with our adult leaders to ensure they are well supported whatever their role and motivations. Part of this, I hope, will include holding regular drop in sessions where adult members have the opportunity to meet with me. No appointment will be needed and individuals will be able to discuss anything that is directly or indirectly impacting on their scouting or any aspects of their training with which they are having a particular problem.

Anybody wanting to contact me is welcome to do so, preferably by email at sean.hegarty@avonscouts.org.uk.

Scout Active Support

Our Scout Active support has been supporting many events over the year as well as supporting groups deliver parts of their programme.

We supported the PL training weekend and the orienteering scout section event this year as well the sea scouts challenge badge.

We have also supported groups with teaching more traditional scouting skills such as knots and rope making along with glass engraving, first aid and orienteering.

We have also worked at Centenary

If you would like us to support any events or support you with aspects of your programme do contact myself or any of the SAS members.

Cyril Mullens

Check out our new website!

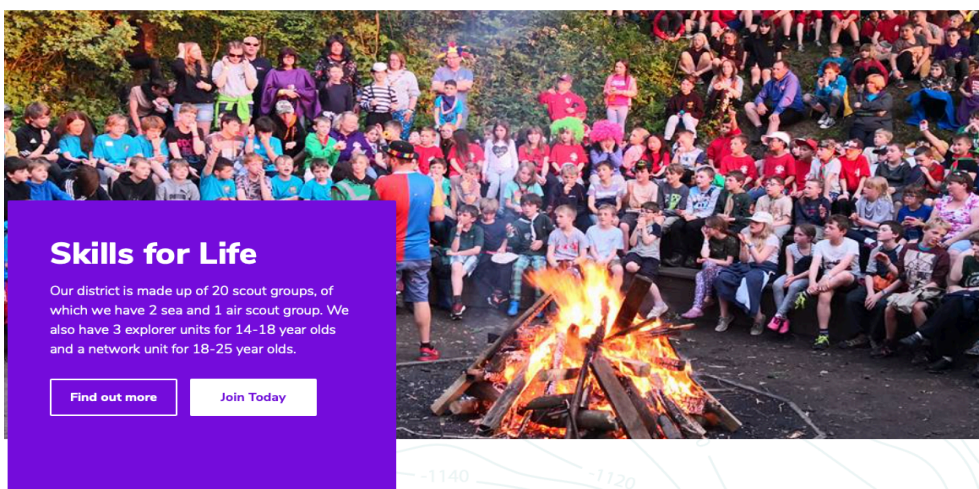


We have completely revamped our district website!

Why not check it out! We have added in the basics to ensure that anyone who wants to join see's what we get up too and know how to contact us for more information but we also want it to be a site for our members to visit for the key information.

If you have any suggestions let us know!

www.bristolsouthscouts.org.uk



Avon Jamboree 2020 is taking place from the 22nd to 25th May 2020!

The whole of Avon County are once again coming together for a Jamboree.

It's a fantastic opportunity for young people and adults to meet other from across Avon make new friends and connections as well as take part in 100s of activities!

There are different opportunities to attend as a participant or you can get involved with being part of the team that deliver the jamboree.

Visit Avon scouts website for more information!
www.avonscouts.org.uk

Avon Jamboree 2020



Save the date!

Bristol South Adult Celebration Evening

Monday 28th October 2019

