

Leander (Kingston) Sea Scout Group

Report of the Trustees – year ending 31st March 2020

Charity details

Name Leander (Kingston) Sea Scout Group

Reg. charity number 290029

Scout Association 5969

Address 92 Lower Ham Road
Kingston upon Thames
KT2 5BB

Trustees Ruth Bennett
Robin Burr
Penny D'Souza (Secretary)
Nigel Duffin (Chair)
Andrew Jackson
Simon Leo
Paul Lomas-Clarke (Treasurer)
Marie Mavale
Dick Riches

Structure, Government, Management

The Group is governed and regulated by the current Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association. Trustees are elected to the Executive Committee at the Annual General Meeting of the Group Scout Council, according to Scout Association procedures.

Objectives and activities

Leander offers fun and challenging activities for over a hundred boys and girls from the age of six. Young people in Scouting get to try new activities, learn team building and leadership skills and discover their potential. Leander (Kingston) has a riverside headquarters with a large fleet of canoes, kayaks, dinghies and gigs, allowing a full range of boating activities for children from all backgrounds.

Achievements and performance

The Group Scout Leader's report covers the activities and achievements of Section members. The Group continues to be in demand and is at full capacity, given the facilities, equipment and number of leaders. The Group Executive Committee met formally six times during the year.

- An increased number of regular groups hires the hall when not used for our meetings and activities, which provides more income for maintenance of the building.
- A local cleaner now cleans three times per month to make sure that the building is welcoming for members of the Group and for hirers.
- Income from subscriptions now barely covers our regular fixed costs, so a decision was made to increase subscriptions from £15 to £18 per month with effect from April 2020.

- The warm air heating system has been repaired, but the motor and fan are still noisy. As it is more than thirty five years old, we are considering replacing it with a more modern, more efficient system.
- The gas pressure at the heater was found to be only just sufficient, so we are exploring either moving the meter or installing a wider pipe from the meter. This is proving difficult to arrange.
- We have now been granted planning permission, after many years, to improve the outdoor space at the Albany Mews entrance. Progress of this is dependent on resolving the gas pressure issue.
- The Group again supported CARA, the local Community Association's litter pick events, removing waste and debris from the river and surrounding environment.
- Social events, such as one for Fathers' Day, were organised so that parents could have an experience of boating.
- Leander members benefited from RN100 grants, to celebrate 100 years of Sea Scouting, taking part in white-water rafting and coastal sailing.
- The Group is carrying out an online survey seeking views of all parents, friends and supporters to identify priorities for the next few years.
- The annual safety check in November and regular safety reports revealed no significant problems.
- Because of COVID-19 restrictions, since mid-March all face-to-face activities and meetings have been suspended. We are following Government and Scout Association guidelines and keeping in touch by online meetings and activities.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and consider that the objectives and activities of the Group are entirely consistent with these requirements. In addition to the training of young people, access and support has been provided to other groups using the facilities and to local Community events. The Trustees also consider that they have been able to successfully support the Group Scout Leader and Section Leaders in fundraising, grant applications, maintenance of buildings and equipment, and the management of funds.

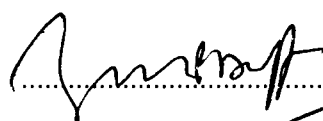
Financial Review

Details of the finances are given in the Treasurer's report. Reserves held in the bank account are to cover repairs, refurbishments and enhancement of the Headquarters and the fleet of boats. There is no outstanding deficit.

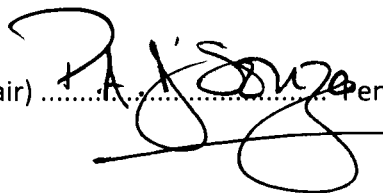
Funds held as trustees

No funds are held as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

Approved by the trustees on 18th May 2020 and signed on their behalf by



Nigel Duffin (Chair)



Penny D'Souza (Secretary)