



The Water Rat

The Newsletter of Leander Sea Scouts

May/June 2014

editor – Nigel Duffin – webmaster@leanderseascouts.co.uk

Scouts on the water



Leander AGM

The Group Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 30th June, at 7.30pm in the Headquarters.

The annual report and accounts will be presented, with opportunity for questions. Officers and members of the Group Executive Committee for the coming year will be elected.

The meeting is expected to last about an hour and refreshments will be served.

Leander (Kingston) Sea Scout Group

Headquarters: 92 Lower Ham Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT2 5BB
www.leanderseascouts.co.uk — Registered Charity Number 290029



Leander growing at a rate of knots

Leander has been very active over the past few months and badges have been going out at a rate of knots.

I have now lost count of how many new members have started at Leander since the beginning of this year – the demand is still great, with an ever-growing waiting list.

With all sections full and the continued movement from one section to another, Leander is in a very strong position.

At the end of the first quarter of the year, activity at Leander (including the Explorer Scout Unit, Leaders and Instructors) has grown substantially. Our annual census figures (31st December 2013) indicate we have increased by 12 (114 - 126 active members). This may not seem a large number to most,

but by start of the Autumn term the Group could have increased by another 10 active members.

Over the next few months there will be movement within our leadership team, with leaders taking on new challenges within the Group. That will leave a number of volunteer vacancies to be filled. With such a busy Group, we now need to build up support and administration so that leaders can concentrate on providing their sections with the best quality activities and events.

The following roles indicate the variety of opportunities on offer; some are obviously linked to section meetings, others are more flexible and can be carried out at other times. Please do think about volunteering, it's very rewarding and also very enjoyable.

Volunteer Job Roles

Section Leader (Beavers)
Assistant Section Leaders (Beavers, Cubs & Scouts)
Section Assistant (All Sections)
Section Administrator (All Sections)
Leander Exec Team (4/5 meetings per year, Monday 7.30pm)
HQ Function Administrator
HQ Gardener/Maintenance Person
Boathouse and Boats, keeping boats & equipment ship-shape.

Section meeting times

Beavers: Monday, 6.00-7.00pm
Cubs: Wednesday, 6.30-8.00pm
Scouts: Tuesday, 7.00-9.30pm
Explorers: Thursday, 7.30-9.30pm

So if you are able to give just a few hours a week or more, all help would be extremely welcomed by Leander and its very busy team.

Please contact Robin Burr (AGSL) or myself for further information, or why not pop along and have a quick talk to any of our current section leaders.

*Karen & Robin
leanderssgsl@gmail.com (Karen)
robin.burr@virgin.net (Robin)*

Active Kids



Active Kids

Thanks to all that have donated this year's Sainsbury's Active Kids 2014 vouchers to Leander.

We have already collected 1480 voucher points to enable us to order some new games and activity equipment.

On 20th May Sainsbury's finished issuing this year's vouchers. So if you have any green/blue or till-printed vouchers lying around at home, could we ask for them to be handed in to Leander, so we can order even more kit for our young members to use and enjoy.

If possible we would like to reach 1750-2000 voucher points. Closing date for all vouchers is Monday 30th June.

Karen

Canoe Coaching



Congratulations to Jon Burr, Scout Leader and Kayak/Canoe Coach, who has been awarded his British Canoe Union Level 2 Coaching Award. As a result, Jon and Andrew Jackson have started to design a more structured programme for the Scouts, to ensure that they progress through the BCU's Paddlesport scheme and get recognition and awards as they complete each stage.

In recent weeks, all the canoes and kayaks have been used, including the newly purchased paddles and safety equipment. If any parent is an experienced paddler and would like to help out on the water on a Tuesday evening, please give Andrew a call on 07802 794532.

Fundraising

During the first quarter of this year, Leander raised £38 through the easyfundraising scheme. Please sign up at

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/leanderssg.



Waitrose

The Kingston branch of Waitrose made a donation of £425, for materials to keep our fleet of boats in good repair.

Fiona