



**30<sup>th</sup> Purley Masjid Scout Group**

# **Annual Reports and Accounts**

**1 July 2018 to 31 December 2019**



**BEAVERS** 

**cubs** 

**SCOUTS** 



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## Reference and Administration Details

<b>Name:</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> Purley Masjid Scout Group
<b>Charity Number:</b>	The Scout Association Registered charity number 306101
<b>Principal Address:</b>	The Scout Hut, Off Hillars Heath Road, CR5 2JP
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.pmscouts.com">www.pmscouts.com</a>
<b>Bank:</b>	Barclays Bank PLC

## Structure, Governance and Management

### Governing Document

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the By-Laws of the Association and the Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association. There are no amendments to the Governing document.

### Group Scout Council

The Group Scout Council is the electoral body to which the Group Executive Committee is accountable. Membership of the Group Scout Council is open to:

- Scouters
- Colony, Pack and Troop Assistants
- Administrators
- Advisers
- Patrol Leaders
- All parents of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts sections
- Any other supporters including former Scouts and their parents who may be admitted by the Group Scout Leader, the Group Executive Committee, or the Group Scout Council

### Constitution

The Group is operated as an educational charity under the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association. It has a constitution agreed by the Group Scout Council, but which is subservient to its governing documents.

## Independent Examiner

Shahbaz Hussain: 42 Theobalds Road, Holborn, London WC1X 8NW

## Leadership & Executive Committee Teams

Scout Leadership Team	
<b>Group Imaam &amp; Scout Group Visionary</b>	Sheikh Suliman Gani
<b>Group Scout Leader</b>	Assim Khokhar
<b>Assistant Group Scout Leader</b>	Sadeef Khokhar
<b>Quartermasters</b>	Sonya Dyer (Leader) Nighat Qureishi (Assistant Leader) Mushtaq Soday (Assistant Leader)
 <b>Beaver Leadership Team</b>	Sunshine   Samha Faisal (Leader) Tic Tac   Syma Ismail (Leader) Bubbles   Shabana Mirchie (Assistant Leader) Aleena Khokhar (Young Leader)
 <b>Cub Leadership Team (Raksha Girls)</b>	Akela   Sadeef Khokhar (Leader) Kaa   Sazeda Alam (Assistant Leader) Yasmin Ahmed (Young Leader)
 <b>Cub Leadership Team (Hathi Boys)</b>	Baloo   Omar Yassin (Leader) Javied Iqbal (Assistant Leader) Kazim Razvi (Section Assistant) Hussein Chatur (Section Assistant) Shahid Wahab (Section Assistant) Raees Khan (Young Leader)
 <b>Scout Leadership Team (Bukhari Boys)</b>	Abdullah Kenny (Leader) Mushtaq Soday (Assistant Leader) Khalid Mazhar (Section Assistant) Assim Khokhar (Group Scout Leader) Hishaam Abbasi (Young Leader)
 <b>Scout Leadership Team (Zaytoun Girls)</b>	Darzee   Sonya Dyer (Leader) Bagheera   Nighat Qureishi (Assistant Leader) Rikki   Reem Ali Nasr (Assistant Leader) Akela   Sadeef Khokhar (Assistant Leader)
Group Executive Committee	
Chair	Shahid Shaikh
Treasurer	Asad Lone
Secretary	Zahir Khan



## Chair's Report

Welcome to the first 30th Purley Masjid Scout Group Annual General Meeting. We had planned to hold this earlier in 2020 – like everything in our lives, Covid-19 ensued.

The AGM is a forum where all group members and parents can meet with leaders and committee members to find out and ask questions on how the group is being run and funded.

It seems only yesterday; we were celebrating our 1st anniversary in September 2019. By the grace of God, with the tremendous support of the District, MSF and our fantastic team of volunteers, we now have 124 Beavers, Cubs and Scouts groups for boys and girls; together with a venue – the Scout Hut

We will face the future with faith, confidence and resilience. We will continue to work closely with The Scout Association UK (at all levels), MSF and yourselves, to face into the future and help Scouting evolve and become stronger and even more relevant for our children, you and the wider community!

The team set out their updates below and I would appreciate it if you would spare a few moments and look through them.

*Shahid Shaikh, Chair*

## Group Scout Leader's Report

As our very first AGM approaches, I have had the chance to reflect on the 2 years of Scouting since we launched back in September 2018. I initially drafted this in March 2020 and at that time no one had any idea as to the unprecedented events that would follow with Coronavirus / COVID-19 pandemic and the onset of global lockdown.

It's probably an understatement to say that no one was prepared for the series of events that followed and the impact to so many people. We can only offer our prayers for those that succumbed to the highly infectious disease and condolences to the grieving family and friends. Life was put into true perspective and whilst restrictions are easing across many parts of the country, we must remain mindful of the fact that the 'new normal' will mean adjustments to the day to day life and also impact Scouting. I'd like to continue with some early reflection on first 18 months and then cover the last 6 months during lockdown.

The first year anniversary celebration a year ago was a lovely way to start the new term and year for the group. We had the District dignitaries, MSF deputy Chair and the Mayor of Croydon in attendance joining the leaders, children and families at our hut. The celebration event was a great way to mark the first year with some reflections of the journey that we had been on as well as sharing some well deserved recognitions with team members.

There are so many highlights to mention but here are some that I'd like to pick. Autumn brought a Jack Petchey award that was given to our Bukhari Scout Leader Abdullah Kenny (AKA Sam). It was a privilege for Sadeef and I to accompany him and his wife Saeeda Kenny to the awards ceremony in The King's Centre Chessington. It was lovely to meet Steve French (Asst County Commissioner [Perception]) and Greg Cook (Croydon District Commissioner) as well as the Mayor of Croydon Humayun Kabir at the end for an impromptu but very memorable group picture. The award was a recognition of 10 years' service to Scouting, initially with 68<sup>th</sup> Croydon and more recently with our group. This experience together with previous Jack Petchey award winner Sonya Dyer's wealth of experience has been a true blessing and stood us in great shape and given us the chance to capitalise from their knowledge as a newcomer group.

Another highlight was attending the Remembrance Day parade with 17<sup>th</sup> Purley. It was a privilege to have been invited by Simon Jackson to join the Scout Colours parade behind the Army and the Air Cadets to Coulsdon Memorial for the Remembrance Day Service. Circus skills was another group-wide activity which was a great fun session for all to end 2019.

The new year brought a chance for the Bukhari Troop and Zaytoun Troop to showcase their Master Chef skills participating in the District Cooking competition for the first time. This was a great experience for the Scouts and it was a proud moment for the group when a group from Zaytoun Troop won and brought home the glory and the winning plaque.

We were also given the opportunity to reach out to two new local communities who were looking to initiate Scout groups. The Muslim Scouting Fellowship (MSF) introduced us to a Al-Emaan Masjid and the community of Keston, Bromley. They were keen to hear about our journey and wanted to follow in our footsteps and start a Scout group with the support of local volunteers. It was a pleasure to be able to visit them and provide some mentorship as they embarked on the road to Scouting. Crawley were also looking to start a new group but a little earlier in the journey and so it was more focus on the training and helping to clarify the expectations on a strong volunteer base. Little did any of us know the series of events that were about to unfold that would put an immediate halt to their progress.

As we approached the latter part of the Spring 2020 term we planned some group-wide Jambowlree sessions, some of which took place and some of which were cancelled following the unprecedented but necessary announcement by the Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March to enter a period of lockdown to 'Stay at Home, Protect the NHS, Save Lives'. The Scout Association announced an immediate suspension of all face-to-face activities. We immediately shared this communication with all parents and assured them that the safety of Young People was our number one priority. We were already anticipating the announcement and had considered the option of 'Scouting at Home' which was also shared in the email.

What followed was a period of deep reflection for all as well as a desire to provide a level of remote scouting in the form of activities that could be done from home. This quickly matured into what we now call Virtual Meetings via Zoom which were done using the trial version. TSA were able to strike a deal and a full version of Zoom which was made available to all sections. Leaders jumped onto the chance to learn new digital 'Skills For Life' which were now a necessity in what has been labelled as the 'Coronavirus Term'.

I'm proud to say that every section took to the new challenge. Many of our sections shared regular weekly Zoom sessions throughout this ill-fated term and in fact many continued through the Easter and summer periods which would normally be holidays. The thought behind this was to provide a positive escape for the Young People and to continue to give them exposure to Scouting.

Despite the challenge of fluctuating Young People numbers attending, due to an expected shift in priorities to focus on health and wellbeing, partly due to an overdose of Virtual Meetings on top of Virtual Schooling, Virtual Tutorials, Virtual Family huddles the leaders did not let that affect their desire and commitment to offer their energy and time to provide those who did attend with an amazing mix of quizzes, games and badge related challenges. Akela who is also the Assistant GSL was a constant source of ideas and resources which were shared across the group with closer collaboration than ever before across sections.

I'm proud to say that despite all of the challenges that were put in front of the group we managed to achieve 2 Chief Scout Bronze awards in Beavers and 5 Chief Scout Silver awards in Raksha Cubs ahead of their moves to the next sections. This achievement was a reflection of the well balanced and considered programme over our fledgling two years and even more impressive given the restrictions on Scouting over the term. We appreciate that these Chief Scout Awards and the associated skills that lead to them are the raison d'être for a Scout group.



We also have so many great memories from last term, with the April Camp@Home, Hike to the Moon where we raised £767, The Great Indoors Weekender where Amanda Giles (Croydon District ADC for Cubs) joined us for the virtual presentation of the Chief Scouts awards, to the MSF Virtual Camp to name but a few of the many highlights. I'd like to praise and celebrate the way in which everyone came together in what has been a most challenging period of history.

I sit here now in early September as we look towards an Autumn term planned for Virtual Scouting, hoping and praying that we can move safely back towards face-to-face Scouting as the Readiness Level moves to 'Green'. We are closely following all of the guidance from TSA, Country and District and will ensure that we take a considered and careful approach to returning to hands-on Scouting.

We are now no longer seen as the new rookie group within the District and despite the success of year one, I'm cognisant that we have to be able to demonstrate that the foundations are strong to take us to another level of maturity. So the year ahead is very much focused on training towards the Wood Badge for the leadership team which has been planned using the many Virtual and eLearning courses available. We will also continue to look to grow our Leaders to fulfil their personal ambitions and to grow the strength and depth of leadership within the Scouting team and also the Executive Committee which will develop further with the support of the community.

The altruistic nature of volunteering means that we are blessed with the opportunity to give a little back inspiring the youth of today to become the leaders of tomorrow. I'm immensely proud and in fact would extend that to come from all leaders involved, to have the opportunity to serve 30<sup>th</sup> Purley. The sense of self purpose from being part of a unified vision that was laid down by Sheikh Suliman Gani nearly 3 years ago provides us all with the energy and passion to take this group from strength to strength.

I truly believe that when you give without expectations, it benefits the soul in so many ways and especially in difficult times and so I would encourage anyone who is looking for a greater sense of purpose to please come forward and join the 30<sup>th</sup> Purley family.

I would just like to say Jazak'Allah Khairun and a huge thank you for all the support from parents together with the participation of children. Finally, I am immeasurably grateful to support and stewardship from the Executive Committee, Shahid Shaikh (Chair), Asad Lone (Treasurer), Zahir Khan (Secretary), the commitment from the Leaders / Assistant Leaders / Section Assistants / Occasional Helpers, all of whom dedicate their time and energy for the benefit of the group.

Thank you / Jazak'Allah

*Assim Khokhar, Group Scout Leader*

## Beaver Leader's Report

We have had a unique year with the Beavers this year, with COVID lockdown resulting in a change to the face of Scouting. But this did not waiver the colony and we are proud of our achievements, having 2 of our Beavers going on to achieve the Chief Bronze Award. We also had a new leader join us just before lockdown, Shabana (aka Bubbles), who has been a great asset to the leadership team and shown excellent support managing OSM, approving and updating all the badgework and programmes.

The highlights of the new Autumn term 2019 included a visit to the local Purley Fire Station, where the Beavers had the opportunity to dress up as fire-fighters and they even saw a real life fire drill! The Beavers learnt about Parliament Week, and they even took part in an election where they got to vote for an activity for the following term. We invited Shooting Star Circle Skills to come in and show the Beavers their circus skills. The term ended with a fun filled end-of-term party.

The Spring term started with a cooking session, which was what the Beavers voted for during Parliament Week. They attended Jambowree which they thoroughly enjoyed. As part of the Builder badge, the Beavers used recycled material to design and construct a machine with a purpose. We were impressed by their creative skills and very imaginative ideas.

The COVID lockdown occurred in March 2020; this was a tough transition from face-to-face Scouting to Virtual Scouting for both Beavers and Leaders alike. However, we were committed to providing our Beavers with "Scouting at Home", which would enable them to continue learning skills albeit from their home and indoors. They were set an outdoor challenge to collect twigs and leaves to make a collage which enabled them to get out into their gardens.

The highlight for the "Coronavirus Term" Scouting at Home included, taking part in the first ever virtual camp! This was very well attended by most of the Beavers joining. We also decided to provide weekly Scouting challenges and parents could upload the evidence via OSM using the new Badges at Home functionality. These included taking part in "Hike to the Moon", where the Beavers "hiked" at least 1 mile in their gardens for sponsorship helping to raise nearly £800 as a group for Children in Need / Comic Relief. They worked towards and earned their Gardner, Book Reader and Global Issues badges.

We started weekly Zoom sessions in the beginning of June, which was a completely different way of Scouting to what we were used to doing back at The Hut. This was well received and we had good attendance with an average of around 12 out of 20 Beavers attending regularly. The Beavers created Kindness Rainbows, teaching them about good behaviour and caring for others during the lockdown, as we anticipated it was a challenging time for families at home. We had a guest speaker, Jess from Makaton, teaching the Beavers how to sign. This was a great interactive session and raised understanding about disabilities and guide dogs.



All the sections in 30th Purley took part in the Great Indoor Weekender Virtual camp in July. As Beavers we offered live sessions in addition to the online programme and to make it even more fun we chose to give it a Gruffalo theme! We had another guest speaker from Blue Cross for Pets to talk to us about looking after animals. The Beavers had a chance to show and tell us about their own pets.

During the month of July we decided to have fortnightly sessions. Eid Celebrations was one and was a creative card making session which we ran jointly with the Raksha Cubs. Beavers were offered to take part in the MSF Virtual Camp, which was a mix of pre-recorded and live sessions. Our Beavers loved the cooking. For our final session of the summer we ran a pizza-made-from-scratch session! The Beavers and their parents did well to participate online and upload evidence towards badges into OSM.

We took a break for Summer when lockdown eased after running throughout lockdown to keep our Young People excited about Scouting with something to look forward to every Sunday. We had a lot of older Beavers move on and 8 of them transitioned up to Cubs. Many are very close to achieving the Bronze Chief Scout Award and will continue to complete challenges towards their badges.

We look forward to planning an exciting new term for the Beavers even in the face of much uncertainty. Many leaders and Beavers are keen to return back to The Scout Hut when it is deemed safe to do so. We have come on leaps and bounds with Virtual Scouting and anticipate that we need to shift our vision in making online Scouting just as enjoyable and skilful. The leaders are engaged in participating in further Scout training to equip them to do this.

Finally, we'd like to offer our greatest thanks to Akela (Sadef Khokhar, Raksha Cub leader and Assistant GSL) who has provided us with so much support and guidance. We also thank the 30th Purley Executive Committee to guide and support us within the last year. Last but not least many thanks to all the parents who have been brilliant in supporting their Beavers at home.

*Samha Faisal (Sunshine) and Syma Haque (Tic Tac), Beaver Leaders*

## Hathi (Boy Cubs) Leader's Report

Following on from the resounding success of our first year, the second year proved to be a somewhat challenging affair with the onset of COVID19 during the spring term.

We did however maintain a strong pack, with 24 Cubs including a number of new members that either joined afresh or graduated from Beavers, and had committed leadership from brothers Aamir, Javeid, Kazim and Omar, ably supported by Raess, Sahil and Musa. Later in the year we were also joined by brothers Hussein and Shahid, giving us strength in numbers.

We started off the autumn term of 2019 with a visit to the Kenley Aerodrome with our bicycles where the pack learnt how to ride safely and how to fix a flat tyre! We were fortunate enough to run into a member of the Kenley Airfield Friends Project Society who kindly let us into the WW2 bunkers to give the boys both a fascinating lesson in history and a taste of what it was like to watch the planes taking off and landing at the Battle of Britain airfield.

The remainder of the term consisted of a science session led by a Science Teacher, Sister Katiba Choudhary who conducted some fun experiments with the boys including erupting makeshift volcanoes. We also had a joint hike with Bukhari Boy Scouts to the Woldingham countryside, a keep fit session with our very own GSL Assim Khokhar, a "sleepless" sleepover which gave the boys a chance to pitch tents and do some backwoods cooking. We also covered some core Scouting skills with pioneering and emergency aid.

We brought in the New Year with a couple of excellent sessions on map reading with Scouting veteran Darzee (Zaytoun leader Sonya Dyer) as the Cubs worked towards their Navigator badge. After half term the boys started on their DIY badge as they designed and cut the wood required to make their book/toy stands. Unfortunately, they never had the chance to finish them off as the pandemic struck and we were forced to close the hut and subsequently all face-to-face sessions.

Despite the challenges due to COVID 19, Hathi Cubs carried on Scouting activities via online Zoom meetings. Planning online activities to keep the Cubs involved and motivated proved to be challenging. Fortunately, 30th Purley leaders, namely Akela (Raksha Cubs Leader, Sadeef Khokhar) and Assim designed good quality sessions which covered areas ranging from natural science to computer learning with the aim to fulfil badge requirements.

Our first ever virtual camp took place during April 2020 with the "Camp@Home" District initiative as well as two additional camps – "The Great Indoor Weekender" and the "MSF Virtual Heroes Camp". Core Scouts skills were enhanced further by "Earth Day" and a session on the Makaton sign language, enabling our young Cubs to communicate by giving an extra visual cue to communication. We also held an Animal Carer "Blue Cross" joint session with the Beavers, helping Cubs to understand and appreciate the treatment and care of animals.



As we start our third year of Scouting, we continue online for the foreseeable future, with some exciting sessions coming up this term including Digital Citizen badge work, Photography and a Virtual visit by a Dentist!

Special mention goes to brother Aamir who has decided to take a step back from Scouting this year. We wish him every success in the future and hope to welcome him back to the Group sooner rather than later.

*Omar Yassin (Baloo), Hathi Cubs Leader*

## Raksha (Girl Cubs) Leader's Report

The Raksha Cub Pack have had a very busy and successful 2nd year. As well as a full programme of Cubs activities they have taken part in an event organised by the MSF.

The pack has sustained its numbers as we still have 17 girls in our pack. We have also been joined by a new leader which is a blessing – Alhamdulillah.

We have used Online Scout Manager (OSM) to make record keeping quick and easy and ensure easy transition between sections. It has been invaluable to our group.

### Reflections

In the Autumn term last year, we continued with core Scouting activities such as knots and cooking on fires outside, a visit to the local fire station and a special guest visit by the ex-mayor of Croydon for Parliament Week, Bernadette Khan.

Face-to-face activity in Spring term was dramatically cut short and many planned activities cancelled due to Covid-19. None of us were prepared for this global pandemic. Just before lockdown, we still managed to get our World Faith badge by visiting Croydon Minster which was an amazing day out to see a historical site in Croydon. We also took part in the annual Scouting World Jambowlree competition and worked on the DIY badge where the Cubs almost finished making wooden bookstands.

The Summer term was a new experience for Scouts all over the world where we started Scouting at Home sessions. We then went virtual and started by using "Badges at Home" in OSM and put weekly badgework for the Cubs to do themselves but quickly realised the uptake for this was very low and so moved to interactive Zoom sessions.

I'm proud to say that Raksha Cubs have provided sessions throughout lockdown, continuing during the Easter and Summer holidays when we usually have a break from Scouting. I hope and pray that this has been of benefit to those that participated as a little respite from the challenge of being stuck at home. We've played many new games, covered lots of badges, had visits from lots of interesting people teaching us including Makaton signing skills, Blue Cross Animals and Coding using Scratch just to name but a few...

### **Camps and Sleepovers**

We had our winter sleepover in December at the end of last year with a Circus theme where the 11 Cubs played lots of circus themed games, went for a walk to a local funfair, had face painting, sang at the campfire, saw fireworks, watched Dumbo, got to know each other & finished off with a visit from 'Shooting Stars Circus Skills', which was great fun.

Unfortunately, our MSF Camp this year to Gilwell Park was cancelled due to Covid-19 but we still managed 3 virtual camps: April Camp@Home, The Great Indoor Weekender and the MSF Virtual Heroes Camp.

### **Toilet Twinning**

The charity chosen for the group to raise money for last year was Toilet Twinning, where the money we raised helped to build a toilet in a third world village where there are no toilets and we are then sent a framed photo of the toilet to put up in our own hut toilet. The Cubs were very creative and came up with a number of great ideas e.g. selling homemade cakes, sweet cones and other yummy food and lots of different games for the whole group to come and pay for. The Raksha Cubs raised a phenomenal £600 altogether and a big Well Done to all who took part and donated!!!

In total this year we have awarded in excess of 219 badges to the Cubs in Raksha Pack, including our first 5 Chief Scout badges which is the highest award a Cub Scout can achieve.

### **Forward View of Events Coming Up in Autumn 2020**

We are hoping to join the MSF Virtual Olympics & Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI) in the half term holidays, have a virtual group camp planned for the Christmas holidays and lots more #SkillsForLife learning despite the challenges that lay ahead of not having Face-to-face Scouting.

Our leaders are all progressing well, learning the routines of the section as well as keeping up with her training modules.

Thank you to Sazeda (my new Assistant Leader), Sonya and Zeba! You are valued very highly and I really can't thank you all enough for your help and support to keep Scouting going!

Finally, my thanks go to all the Cubs, leaders and parents who have become honorary leaders in the virtual sessions and camps because without their support and input we wouldn't be able to accomplish all the activities that we do. So a very big THANK YOU from me!

*Sadeef Khokhar (Akela), Raksha Cubs Leader and Assistant Group Scout Leader*

## Bukhari (Boy Scouts) Leader's Report **SCOUTS**

The Bukhari Scout Troop is just over a year and a half old. So much has changed in the last year and a half. In this time, we have had to go from weekly meeting in the Scout hut to on-line meetings on Zoom. In spite of these changes one constant remains the same; the Scouting aim – learning 'Skills for Life'. By developing a programme based around activity badges and challenges, we have tried to cover a wide range of skills. Even our 'on-line' sessions, although unable to do many traditional Scouting activities, have still focused on gaining badges and learning valuable life skills, such as cooking, knots, sign language, computer programming and keeping ourselves safe both mentally and physically. We have come a long way since our very first session.

Although it seems a long time ago now, in February 2019, we held our first meeting as Bukhari Scouts. It was exciting as most of the boys were new to Scouting. Our sessions, both at the Scout hut and 'on-line' were only made possible by the constant support and input from the adult Scout Assistants as well as 2 young volunteers, Hishaam and Musa who very kindly gave up their time on Thursday evenings. Our troop became an official group three weeks after starting, when the Scouts and new Scout leaders were all invested and became part of the worldwide Scout movement.

As well as learning new skills, Scouting also aims to encourage leadership and responsibilities. The Scout troop has been divided into patrols, with each patrol having a leader and an assistant leader. They are responsible for organising their patrol. I would also like to thank Dr Deen Mirza for also giving up some of his valuable time supporting with the staged Emergency Aider badge.

As part of Croydon district Scout group, 30<sup>th</sup> Masjid Purley Scout group has benefitted from their wealth of knowledge and experience through local district events. Some of the events we have attended have been:

### **The District Scout Link Day**

This is where new Scouts get to see and experience the sort of outdoor skills we would like to cover in Scouts. The skills included 'backwoods cooking', 'using a knife safely', 'sawing and chopping', 'first aid', 'pioneering' and 'fire lighting'. Many of these skills we have gone on to do during our sessions over the year.

### **District Pioneering Day**

We learnt different types of knots and how to use them to make structures from tables to ladders. We have used these skills to make chariots indoors but are waiting for better weather to put these skills into practice making a raft – a good way to test that their knots are secure - and tripods for when cooking over a fire.

### **The District Cooking Competition**

We entered two teams at short notice. We rehearsed the main course in the hut but the starter and dessert was up to them. The competition needed 3 courses each from a different continent, two courses had to be hot and one cold. They were also judged on budgeting, complexity of cooking, presentation and working together as a team (including washing up etc.). It went smoother for some teams than others! Although we didn't win, a big congratulations to the girl Scout's yellow team who did win – well done.

In the Summer of 2019, we have also attended an event held by the Muslim Scout Fellowship (MSF). This is an umbrella group within the UK Scout Association for all Muslim Scout groups in the UK.

### **2 Day Summer Camp**

For many this was their first experience of camping away from our Scout hut. It gave a taster of what a camp can be like and a gentle reminder of making sure tents are zipped up before it rains or the insects fly in.

Unfortunately, due to restrictions we were unable to do a Summer camp this year. Instead, we attended two 'on-line' camps organised by the National Scouting Organisation and the Muslim Scout Fellowship. Both were full-on, action packed 'hands on' events which were a lot of fun, even sleeping out in the garden and the high intensity fitness training.

Visits we organised outside of district events were:

- A visit to Croydon Council Chambers in Parliament Week, where they were told about the history of the Borough and shown some of the regalia used by the Council.
- Just before Christmas, as part of the world faith badge, the Scouts attended Coulsdon Congregational Church. The Vicar gave a fascinating talk and was equally impressive at answering questions as diverse as 'why do you have so many candles' to 'what is the Trinity'.
- As part of the fire-safety badge and knowing your local area, we visited Purley Fire Station. It was both interesting and fun and luckily they weren't called out during the talk. Using the hose was a lot of fun and timing how quickly they can put on their protective clothing was impressive.
- The Warhammer session in Croydon was a great success. They were able to paint their models back at the Scout hut and they looked great. Those that took part were able to earn their "Model Maker" badge.
- The visit to "i-Fly" in Basingstoke for 12 Scouts. It was an unforgettable experience, which was much harder to do than it looked. It was a lot of fun and a much safer way to fly, rather than jumping out of a plane. Also, a big thank you should go to Russel from 7<sup>th</sup> Purley who drove the Zaytoun Scouts to the event.



For those interested, the OSM program will give a break-down of the badges earned, and those that are partially earned. Please make sure that badges are sewn on Scout shirts before they are lost, this is a good life skill in itself.

As a troop, we look forward Insha'Allah to eventually being able to meet face-to-face. In the meantime, we will Insha'Allah continue with our weekly Zoom sessions linked to activity badges and challenges, including a sponsored fundraising challenge to support building the new Purley Masjid.

*Abdullah Kenny, Bukhari Scout Leader*

# Zaytoun (Girl Scouts) Leader's Report **SCOUTS**

**Report as of 2nd March 2020**

At time of writing this, the Zaytoun Scout Troop is exactly one year and one week old. Time to celebrate! Inevitably there have been many changes along the way. We have come a long way since starting and are now a well-integrated group.

In January we had our first organised influx of new Scouts; four from Raksha Cubs and three new entrants. This brought the Troop total to twenty-six and leaves room for two more expected from Cubs and possibly two from the waiting list after Easter. The Cubs who joined us all completed their "Moving On" badge and all seven, plus new Leader, Reem, were Invested on 23<sup>rd</sup> February (the day after Founder's Day and almost the Troop's 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday) in our first properly conducted Ceremony. As if that wasn't special enough, it was lovely to see Reem's daughters, Mozn and Yosa, who had elected to hold the flag for their Mother's Investiture.

After many minor adjustments along the way, finally, we now have five Patrols, named after mountains, Safa, Uhud, Sinai, Marwa and Hira. There is also a sixth Patrol, Everest, which is reserved for any Senior Patrol Leaders we may have.

There have also been additions to the Leadership Team. We are so grateful that Nighat Khan and Reem Ali Naser have decided to join us, and welcome Rehana Khokhar as an Occasional Helper. Thank you, everyone. All Leaders have elected to be called by their "Cub names" from Kipling's Jungle Book, as all but Reem had been in the Raksha Pack previously. So, we have .....

Sadeef as "Akela" (the leader of the wolf pack) | Nighat as "Bagheera" (the black panther) | Reem as "Rikki" (as in Rikki-Tikki-Tavy, the mongoose) | Rehana as "Mao" (the peacock) and myself / Sonya as "Darzee" (the tailor bird).

Many of our year's activities have already been written in the report for the September '19 "AGM" so will not be repeated here. The highlights since then include:

- District Pioneering Day which 15 girls attended and came back enthused. Sadly, there hasn't been the weather since to go outside and put their knowledge into practice.
- A very few attended the Croydon Council Chambers where they were told about the history of the Borough and shown some of the regalia used by the Council. There were some good questions asked by our members.
- The Purley Fire Station visit, along with the Raksha Cubs was interesting and fun especially if you got the chance to use the hose at full blast! We all learnt a lot and 17 girls gained the "Fire Safety" badge.
- All who had not been able to attend the Warhammer session in Croydon earlier in the year gained their "Model Maker" badge.
- The visit to "i-Fly" in Basingstoke was a highlight for 12 lucky girls. We must thank Sam/Abdullah and the Bukhari Scouts for allowing us to join in this prestigious event, Sam having been given the Jack Petchey Award with a grant to spend on the Scouts. It was an unforgettable experience for those who, quite literally, floated on air. Many thanks Sam.

And now to the latest highlight:

- The District Cooking Competition. We entered two teams and, despite having only two weeks to prepare, they put together menus and had a practice run at our hut. The theme for 2020 was “International” and each of the 3 courses had to reflect a different continent. Two of the courses had to be hot and one could be cold. All this was to be achieved in 1hr 45mins. They were also judged on budgeting within a given limit, complexity of cooking, presentation and good working practices (including washing up etc.). Having been involved in this competition since it started, about 10 years ago, I have to say that the standard achieved by all 13 teams was the highest I’ve seen. So, imagine our delight when our “Yellow Team” came first! Very well deserved. As well, our “Blue Team” were only 6 points behind. CONGRATULATIONS to both teams who really did themselves, and the 30<sup>th</sup> proud.

For those who like statistics, the OSM program tells me we have gained 196 badges since we started. A good total, but badges are not everything. Learning to work together, developing old and new skills, learning where our talents lie, making new friends and many other small steps are far more important. Certainly, the Zaytoun Troop has these qualities in abundance.

### **Report as of 3rd September 2020**

The last six months has robbed Zaytoun Troop of a summer planned to be filled with outdoor experiences, hikes, camps and lots of other typical Scout activities. The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the recent face of Scouting and was something for which we could never have “Been-Prepared”. It was doubly unfortunate for us that the virus struck when it did, just as we were really “taking off” as a Troop and things were going so well.

My grateful thanks go to Nighat Khan (“Bagheera”) and Reem Ali Naser (“Rikki”) who have held the Troop together with activities on Zoom, something which few people had encountered before February, but which is now more than well known.

The Scouts were invited to complete badges using OSM “Badges-at-Home” which proved popular for a time but, truthfully, there is a limit to the number of things you can do from a list of activities designed to get Scouts out-and-about and working together. The one challenge that proved most popular was the Camp@Home badge. Fourteen Scouts participated, building their own indoor tents and sleeping in them. Only one night was required to earn the badge – one Scout did the whole 25 in April.

Getting back together Face-to-Face is our first priority. There is a lot of work going on in the background to try to ensure we can do that safely as soon as restrictions are lifted. Currently at Amber in the Scout Association’s assessments, we are eagerly awaiting the change to Yellow which should bring us back together. So here’s hoping that will be very soon.

Meanwhile, please keep safe.

*Sonya Dyer (Darzee), Zaytoun Scouts Leader*



## Treasurer's Report

I have the pleasure of attaching the Income and Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet, together with the Independent Assessors report for submission at the AGM.

We were very generously supported as we embarked on this journey:

- District Scouts Start up grant £2,000
- Scouts Association £3,000

Additionally, we would like to say a special thank you the following donors:

- *Anonymous* (Charity) £1,000
- Purley Masjid £500
- 24th Purley Scouts old funds £500
- Abdullah Kenny's old Scouts Group £400

We were also extremely fortunate to receive a significant gift of Scouting equipment from 24th Purley Scouts Group (we are very grateful to Sonya Dyer). It has a current market value of just over £4,000 – in real terms this is worth so much more.

We raised £1,568 from Fundraising and look forward to increasing this in future years.

Finally, we would like to thank Mr Shahbaz Hussain for volunteering his services to conduct an Independent assessment of our Accounts.

*Asad Lone, Treasurer*

## Accounts

### 30th Purley Masjid Scouts Group

#### Income and Expenditure for 18 months ending 31 December 2019

	31/12/2019	
	£	£
<b>FUNDS IN</b>		
Subscriptions and Activities	21,236	
Donations	10,386	
Gifts (Transfer of Scouting Equipment)	4,125	
Total Funds In		35,747
<b>DIRECT SCOUTING RELATED COSTS</b>		
Croydon District Scouts	2,492	
Scouts Association	1,000	
Activity Cost (Venue, Food, Materials)	5,605	
Materials (neckerchiefs / badges etc)	3,234	
Equipment	155	
		12,486
<b>NET FUNDS BEFORE EXPENSES</b>		<b>23,261</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Utilities (Water, Electricity)	790	
Council Rates	282	
Council Rent	150	
Travel	-	
Telephone / Mobile	92	
Insurances etc.	1,137	
Staff Cost	-	
Miscellaneous	88	
Other - Wix.com Website Charges	178	
OSM - Online Youth Manager	399	
Depreciation	825	
GoCardless Charges (Trans, App Fee)	529	
Training	120	
Maintenance / Repairs	576	
Corporation tax liability	-	
Suspense	-	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>5,166</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS IN YEAR</b>		<b>18,095</b>



**30th Purley Masjid Scouts Group  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019**

<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Equipment		
Scouting Equipment (transferred in)	4,125	
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(825)</u>	
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>		<b>3,300</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
<u>Bank</u>		<u>14,795</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>18,095</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>18,095</b>
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>		
Accumulated Surplus		
Surplus in period		<u>18,095</u>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>		<b>18,095</b>

**NOTES**

**1 Restricted / Unrestricted funds**

All funds raised through Donations and Subscriptions are unrestricted. There are currently no restricted funds held by the Group.

**2 Volunteers**

The Group team us run by volunteers, who are not paid for their activities. We re-imburse scouting related costs for courses, travel and activities where they are supported by valid invoices. There are governed by a documented submission and approval process.

**3 Equipment**

The Scouts Group has recognised £4,125 in Equipment from another Scouts Group. The equipment has been valued on fair value basis. Depreciation is being applied to this equipment on a straight line 20% per annum basis.

**Approved by 30th Purley Masjid Scouts Group, Executive Committee - 11 September 2020.**

Treasurer:

Asad Lone

Chair:

Shahid Shaikh

# Independent Examiners Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the Executive (Trustees) of the  
**30<sup>th</sup> Purley Masjid Scouts Group (the "Group")**  
 based at Scout Hut, Off Hillars Heath Road, Coulsdon, CR5 2JP.

I report on the accounts of the Group/District/County/Area for the **18 month period ended 31 December 2019**, which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Group and a comparison of the:

- Accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters.
- The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ;and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name	Shahbaz Husain
Address	42 Theobalds Road, Holborn, London WC1X 8NW
Qualification	Chartered Management Accountant
Date	03/09/2020
Signed	