

Scouts

Richmond upon Thames

8th Annual District Conference

September 2025

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- District by Numbers
- Working in Teams
- International Scouting
- Annual General Meeting – District Scout Council
- Roll of Honour 2025
- Any other questions?

Phil Hunt

Lead Volunteer

Richmond upon Thames



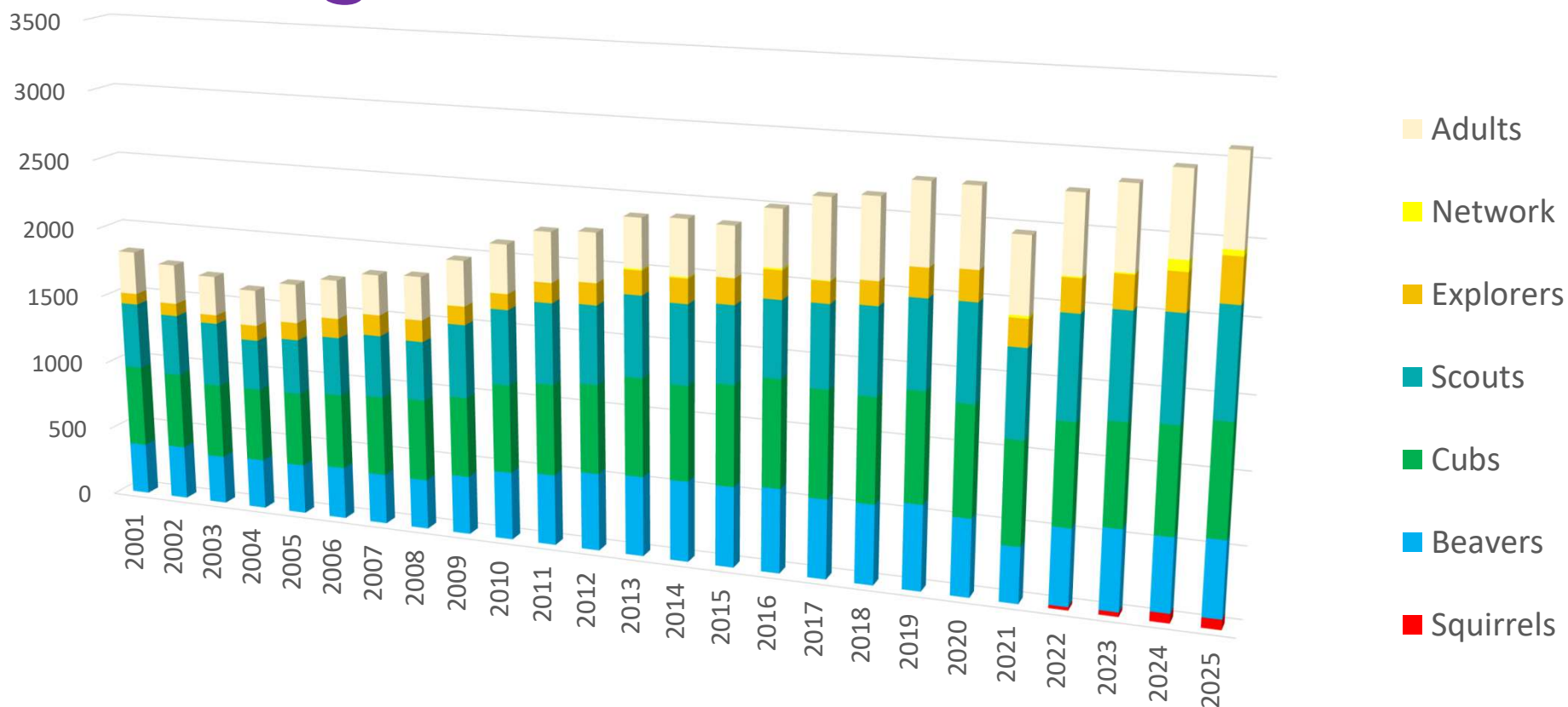
Scouts 

What a year that was!

- Introduction of the new adult Membership system – **SWAN**
- Transformational structure changes at every (adult) level including new job titles
- Fundamental cultural changes towards mandatory training and compliance
- Procedural changes – Permits, permissions, training ...

Growth & Development

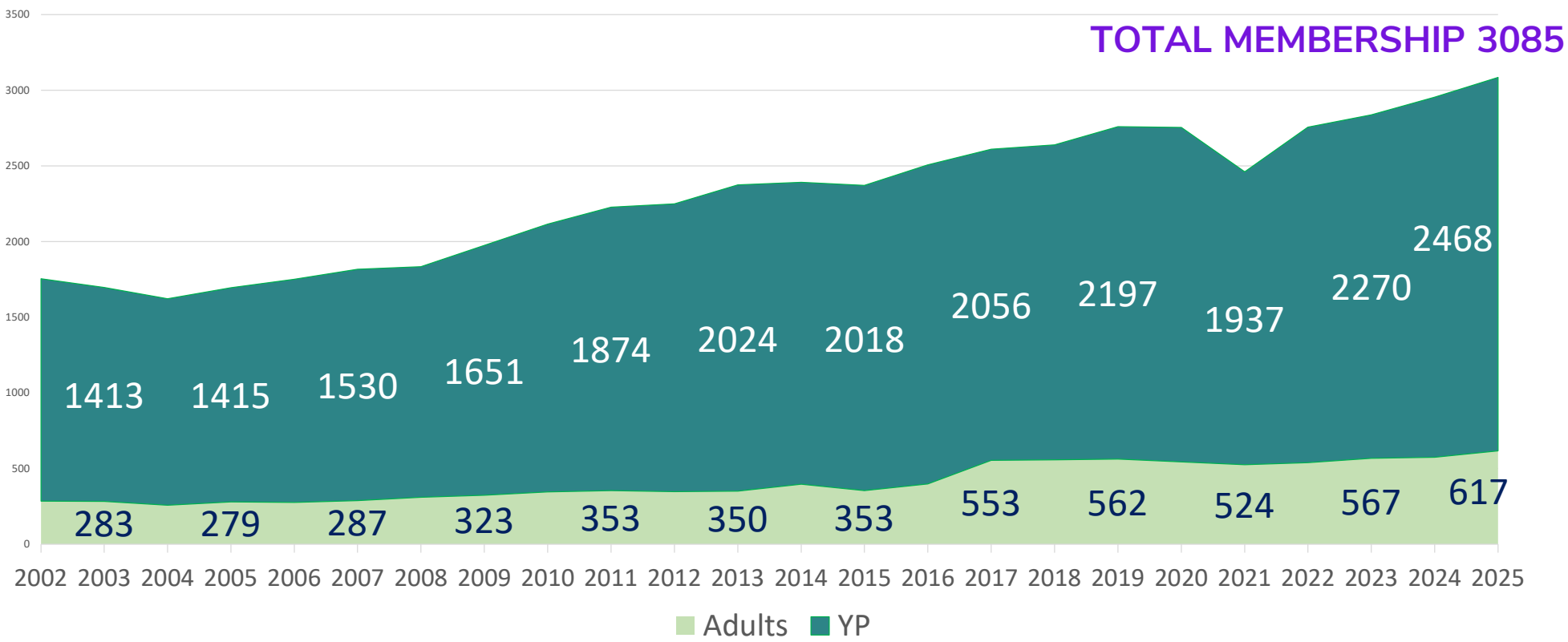
Growing our numbers



Sources: Scout Census and public stats

Growth & Development

Growing our numbers (since 2002)



Sources: Scout Census and public stats

Where are we in the UK?

Number of adult disclosures

England	Gt. London	South	Bromley	1,604
England	Gt. London	Middx West	Harrow	1,322
England	Gt. London	South West	Richmond upon Thames	1,240
England	South West	Avon	Cabot	1,145
England	South East	Hampshire	Winchester	1,054
England	South West	Somerset	Blackdown	1,045
England	East	Hertfordshire	St Albans	1,033
England	South East	Royal Berkshire	Loddon	1,011
England	South East	Surrey	Esher	991



Where are we in GLSW ?

Richmond upon Thames	1,240
Croydon	938
Royal Kingston	921
Sutton	564
Wimbledon and Wandle	516

Sources: Scout Census and public stats

Are we doing it right?

Duke of Edinburgh Award



27-May-25				
	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	TOTAL
Croydon District	14	2	6	22
Richmond Upon Thames Dist	19	10	6	35
Royal Kingston District	12	9	0	21
Sutton District	15	9	3	27
Wimbledon & Wandle District	7	2	0	9
Outside GLSW / Not Scouts	0	0	0	0
Total	67	32	15	114
Bronze & Silver Total:		99		

Source: GLSW DofE Team



Badge Sales 12 months

Membership Badge	976
District / County	944
Nights Away	1289



% Scouts in population of LB Richmond upon Thames




Beavers & Cubs	1379	11%
Scouts	776	5%
Explorers	746	9.6%

Source: Office National Statistics + Scout Census

Do more. Share more. Be more.

Scouts 



The purpose of
Scouting is to actively
engage and support
young people in their
personal development,
empowering them to
make a positive
contribution to society.

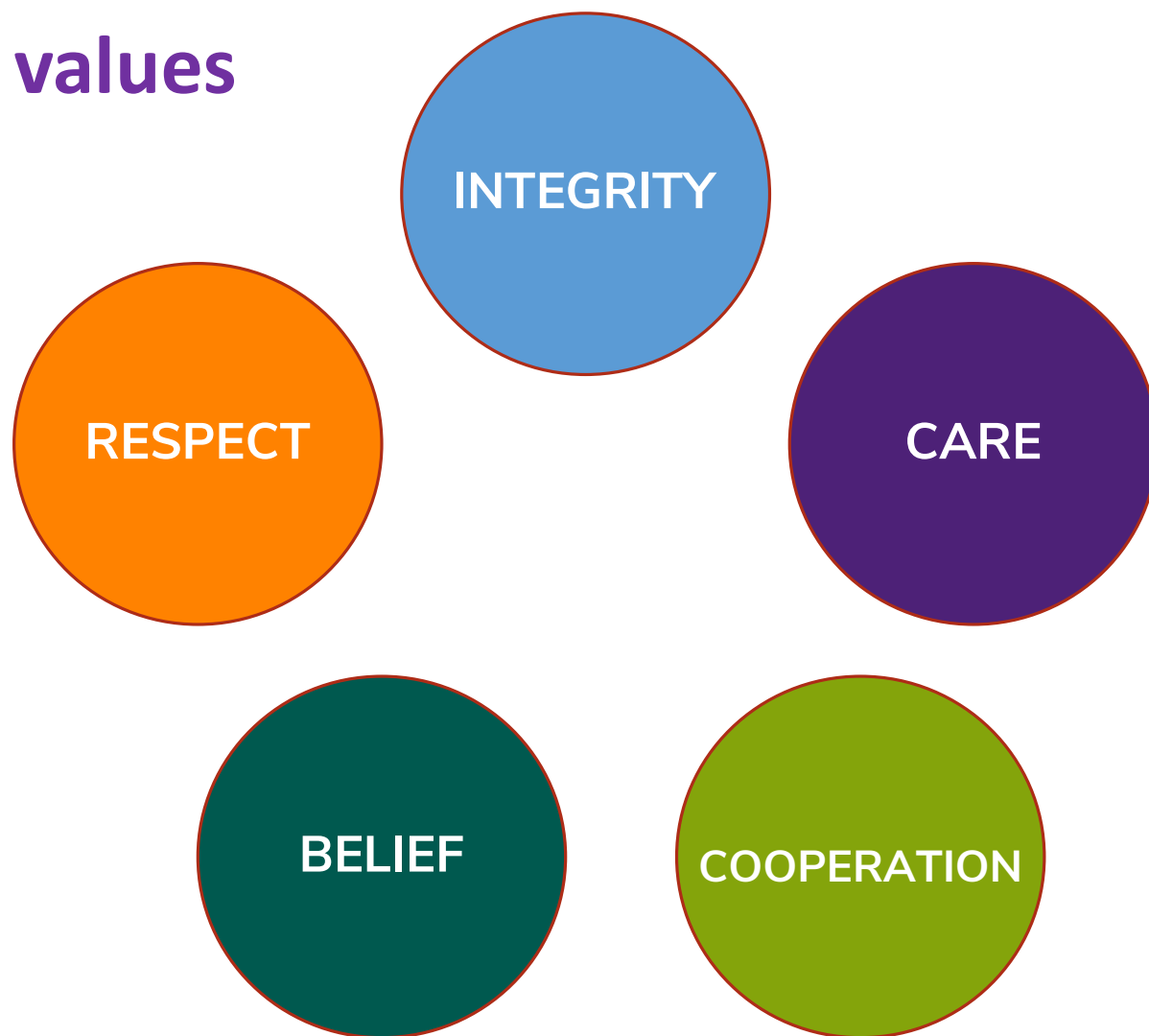
Skills For Life

Scouting gives young people the skills to succeed.

- Character skills like resilience, initiative, independence and tenacity
- Employability skills like leadership, teamwork and problem solving
- Practical skills like coding, cooking and First Aid.



Our core values



Did you know?

Scouting really is good for you

Taking part in the Scouts or Guides is associated with better general health in middle age.

“Children who participated in these organisations were found to have **53 per cent** higher odds of excellent general health in adulthood – or about a **35 per cent** higher probability – compared to those who had attended other types of clubs including youth clubs, choirs or sports clubs.”

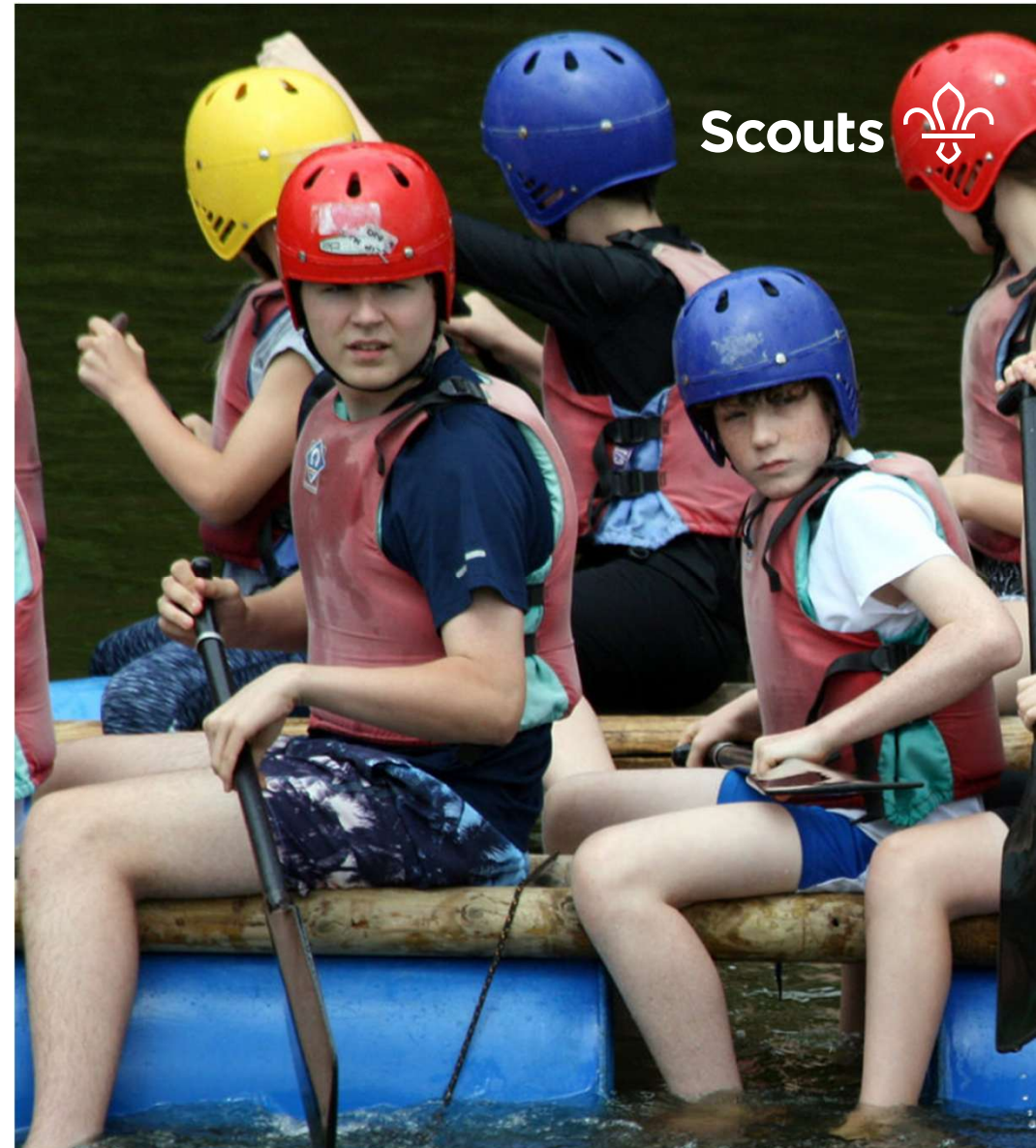


SOURCE: https://www.ed.ac.uk/news/2022/scouts-and-guides-boosts-later-life-health?utm_campaign=2515359_August%202024%20All%20members%20email&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Scouts&dm_i=31ME,1HWV3,6IFDYV,5Z80R,1

Great outcomes

Scouts are:

- **18% more likely** to be better problem solvers
- Score **12% higher** for leadership
- **6% more likely** to be team players
- **5% more likely** to give their time to their communities
- **10% more likely** to get on with people of different faiths and cultures



118 years on ...

Getting it right is a moving target

Scouts is so much more than a fun activities club for kids

- Balanced Programme of activities and games all designed to develop young people and teach them practical life skills
- Residential experiences and camping are key to developing social interaction, leadership skills, problem solving, resilience, self reliance, mental stamina ...
- The Scout Promise and our core values are more important than ever



We need to keep up with a changing perception

- Busy parents in busy careers
- 'Helicopter' parenting
- Competition with other evening and weekend activity clubs
- Scouts and camping is just for fun and has no intrinsic value
- Badges and awards can be bought instead of earned





‘Customer’ Expectations

- Parents expect all of our volunteers to be fully trained in all aspects – Safety, Safeguarding, First Aid, Scouting Skills, Badges administration ...
- That we can take on young people with specific and special needs without the need to disclose them
- That the fees they pay cover everything so they shouldn’t need to volunteer time themselves

We do get a lot things right!

But there are things we should consider

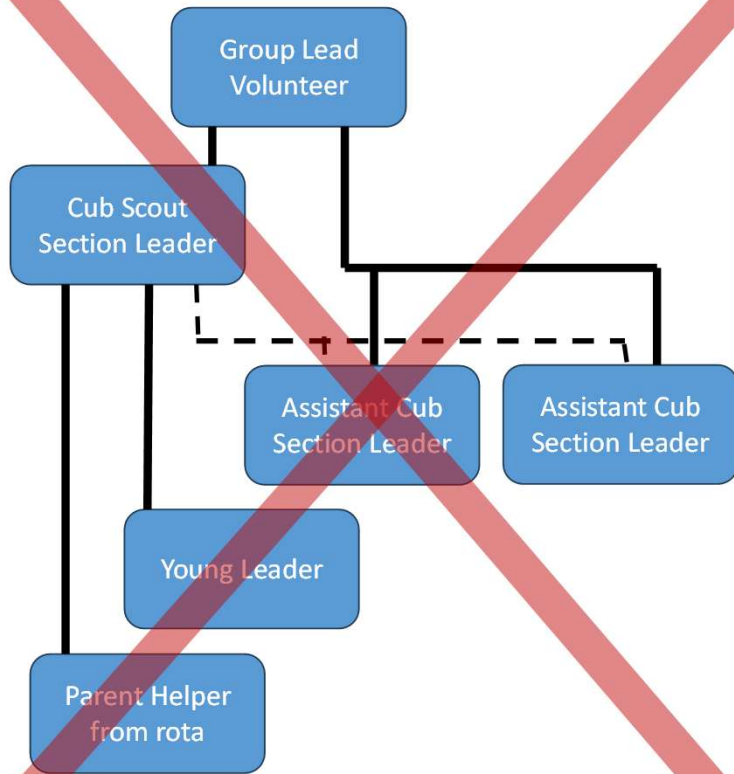
- **Doing things too cheaply**
 - Compare cost of a camp to a school trip
 - Compare our subs to a sports club membership
 - Compare cost of our DofE Programmes to those of an external provider

Why? Concept that low cost = low quality

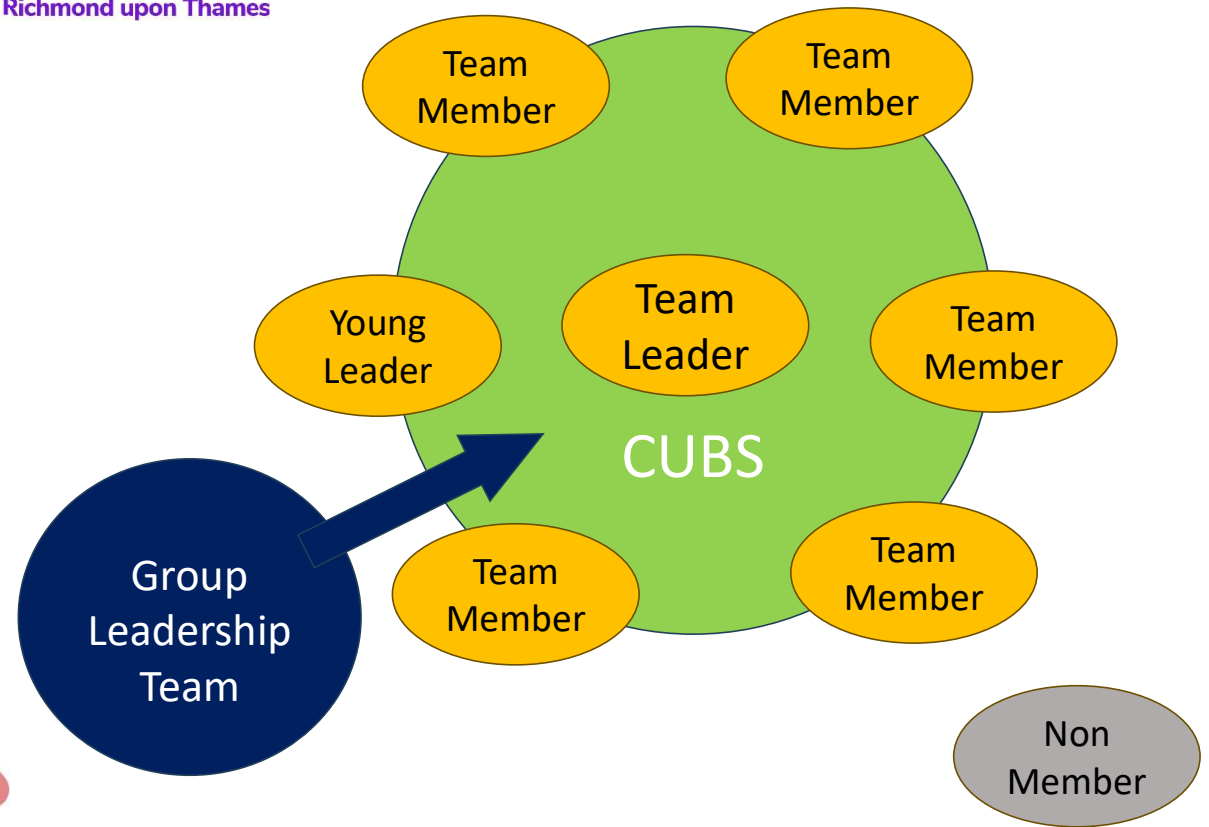
- **Make better use of the new Teams structure**
 - Easier for new volunteers to join the fun
 - Allows Leaders to spread the load
 - Greater opportunities to engage adults

Why? More adults = better experience for all





The old model



The way forward



Can it be done?

YES!

We have real live examples in our District

Each Section has 6 – 10 Leaders (Team Members)

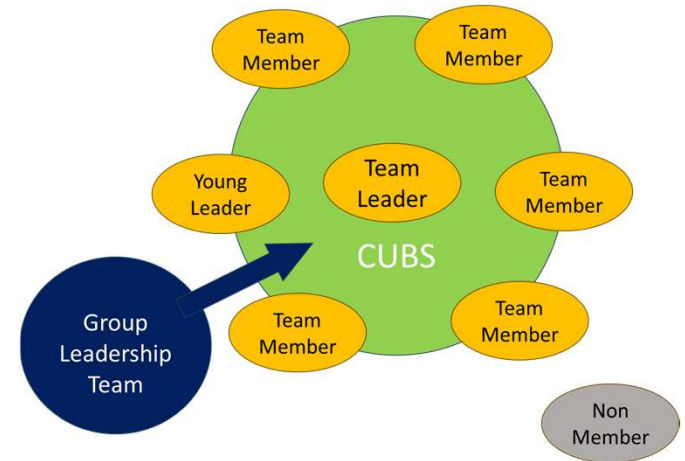
A Leader is an adult in uniform who has undertaken basic training (Growing Roots)

Team Leader coordinates Programme and operations

Team Leader is supported by the Group Leadership Team

The Section can be supplemented by activities provided by non-members

Spreading the workload and time commitment relieves the pressure on everyone





How?

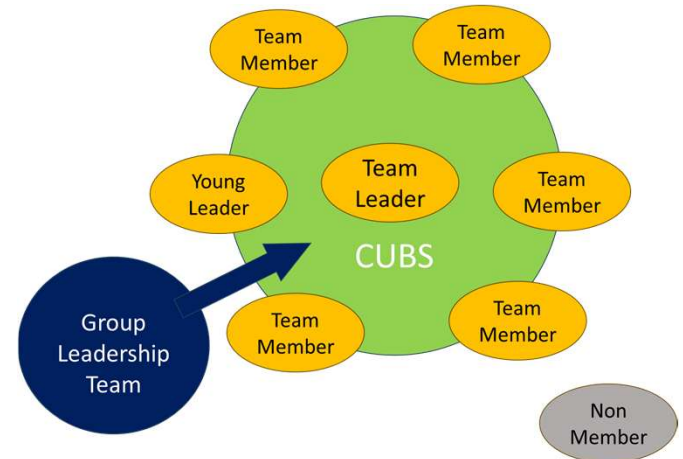
Recognise 2 volunteer Leader types:

1. The 'Career Leader'
2. The Mayfly Parent

Honesty when recruiting:
It is **not** only 2 hours a week
At least, not to start with...
But it could be...

Joining the Team
GUARANTEES a
place for your
child

New helpers need to do something fun and useful
right from the start – not at the back on the phone



The right people
Doing the right thing
At the right time

Coach and Mentor:
Provide consistent
Support and advice

MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL: Break the clique; People need to BELONG



Working in teams

Richmond upon Thames

September 2025



Scouts 

Scout Programme

Residential experiences and camping are key to developing social interaction, leadership skills, problem solving, resilience, self reliance, mental stamina ...

International Scouting experiences offer all of those things PLUS unique opportunities to explore different cultures, see alternative approaches, widen horizons, the world differently and make new global friends.

July 2026

The Americans are coming!

A contingent of Boy and Girl Scouts from **Troop 285** from St. Petersburg, Florida will be staying with us at 14th Richmond.

In addition to all the usual tourist venues in London, they have asked us for some other British experiences – a picnic in the park & afternoon tea with fellow Scouts.

They will be with us for **4th July** at Borough Camp so let's all throw tea overboard together !





POLAND 2027

World Scout
26th Jamboree
Scout Mondial



World Scout Jamboree in Gdansk Poland August 2027

As usual **Richmond upon Thames District** will be sending selected Members as part of the Greater London South West contingent. Spaces will be VERY limited.

Eligible Scouts and Explorers will be invited to apply soon and the selection process will begin shortly after that.

The timetable has yet to be published.

District Expedition Poland 2027

A unique week long District Camp offering unique life experiences, cultural exchanges, visits and a variety of adventures and activities in Poland.

Discover Scouting with a Polish flair – very different from Scouts in the UK

EXCLUSIVELY

The expedition includes visiting the **26th World Scout Jamboree in Gdansk** between 30 July and 8 August



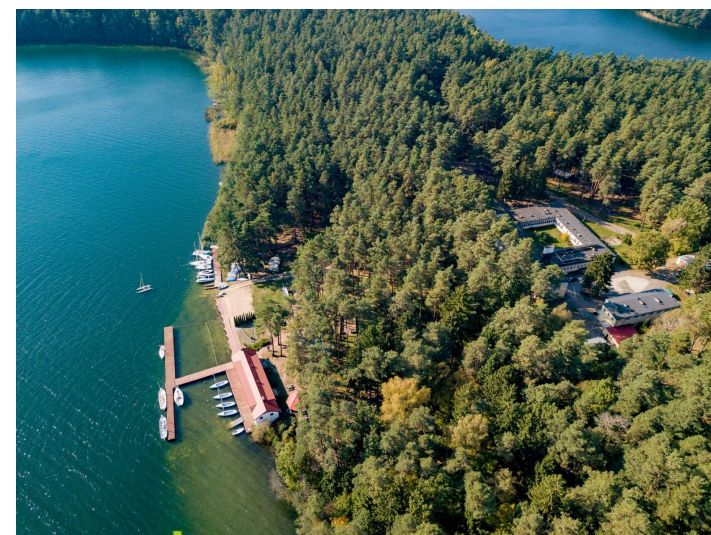
**This once in a lifetime expedition
is open to Scouts, Explorers,
Network Scouts and all adult
Volunteers**

District Expedition

Poland 2027

Included in the week-long expedition:

- Return flights to Poland
- Airport transfers in Poland
- All accommodation
- All meals
- Unique merchandise and uniform badges
 - UK scarf, polo tops, Expedition woggles etc.
- **Unique visit to 26th World Scout Jamboree**
- Onsite activities including boating and games
- Town visit(s)
- Forest hike(s) or trek(s)
- Polish culture (food, customs, folklore)
- Travel and personal insurance
- Transport of necessary bulky items (sleeping bag)



Perkoz
Ośrodek wypoczynkowy

District Expedition Poland 2027



District Expedition Poland 2027



District Expedition Poland 2027



2025	
Sept	Launch
Oct	Publicity campaign begins
Nov	Initial Registration begins
2026	
Jan	Confirm initial interest. Selection of Contingent Leaders
May	Enable bookings by external Districts
Jun	Payment plan in place
Jul	Risk assessment, permits
Aug	Flight timetables and coach timetables finalised
Oct	Finalise costing
Nov	Cut off for bookings and payments. Bookings include medical etc
2027	
Jan	Flight bookings. Jamboree and other activities booked.
Feb	Timetable for each subcamp. Notify coach company.
Mar	Passport checking
Apr	Final joining arrangements notified to attendees
May	Scarves etc distributed, leaders notes finalised
Jul	Jamboree camp
Aug	Jamboree camp

Outline Project Plan

Notes:

- Cost per head will become more accurate the closer we get to the event
- The more participants the lower the overall cost
- District will be managing all individual participants centrally



District Expedition Poland 2027

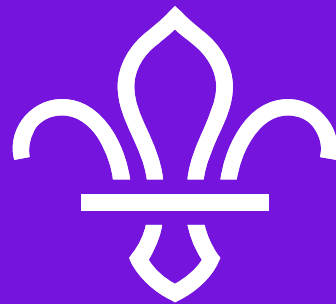


POLAND 2027

26th World Scout Jamboree
26e Jamboree Scout Mondial™

HERE WE COME !!!

Phil Hunt
District Lead Volunteer



Scouts

Richmond upon Thames

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Scouts

Richmond upon Thames

ROLL OF HONOUR



Scouts

Richmond upon Thames