

RANDWICK SCOUT GROUP

A PARTIAL HISTORY From its founding in 1952



Compiled by Andrew Leach with contributions from Brian Pegler, David Westwood and Keith Stanley



History of Randwick Scout Group – Important Dates

1950's

1952

September Scout Troop Started by Peter Robbins as Scout Master with Mr Lionel Minett as Ass. Scout Master – 2 Patrols Starling and Falcons

October a Wolf Cub Pack meeting in the Old Chapel, Randwick near the School with Mr Clements as Akela.

22nd October Randwick Scout Group Registered with Scout HQ



The First Leader

1953

19th March First Investiture by DC of Gerald Harris

22nd – 25th May first Troop Camp held at Cranham

Bulldog's is added as 3rd Patrol

1954

Senior Patrol for Scouts over 15 called Grenfell under the guidance of Mr Burrows

1955

Mr Colin Dolphin took on appointment of Akela, Pete Robbins became Group Scout Master also in charge of Senior Scouts, and Mr Smith became Scout Master

1956

1957

Cub Camp Smiths Field, Randwick Wood

1958

Group moved HQ to Etheldene Road, Cashes Green into the former undertakers workshop

Cliff Smith appointed Group Scout Master

Senior Patrol name changed to Scott

1959

Dave Nicoll Scout Master, Brian Pegler Ass. Scout Master

Sir Charles Maclean (later Lord) appointed Chief Scout



Early days of Cubs at Randwick sometime in the 1950's

1960's

1960

Brian Pegler awarded Queens Scout Badge – went to an International camp in Sweden.
Brian Pegler Ass. Scout Master and Russ Axford run Scout Troop
Scout Camp at Butchers Coppice, Bournemouth

1961

Summer Camp Frylands Wood – near Abingdon

1962

Brian Pegler appointed Scout Master
Harry Keene appointed Group Scout Master (see picture)
Summer Camp Witybush Farm, Exford, Exmoor



Harry Keene Group Scout Master

1963

Chief Scouts Camp Misarden Park Sir Charles Maclean new Chief Scout
Senior Scouts build a canvas canoe, Senior Scout canoe down the River Wye Phil Miles Senior Scout Leader
District Camp Tiradden Mountain, Dublin.



Photo take in the HQ at Etheldene Road (1963) with flag presented by Randwick, Australia the flag unfortunately was lost. In the background Brian Richards

Scouts from Left to Right, Chris Walker, Mike Parker, Les Twissell, Steve Iles, Andrew Leach, Dave Westwood, Ian Cameron, Dave Jefferies, Chris or Terry Earl

1964

Group moved to the Cashes Green recreation hall (Green Hut) Keith Stanley runs Scouts for 5 months whilst Brian Pegler on work secondment to Germany.

Joint Scout Summer Camp with St. Peters Scout's to Lyndhurst, New Forest. The transport failed to turn up to bring the campers home and they had to spend an extra night under just flysheets as the camp had been dismantled.

1965

Land purchased for present HQ from Mr Robert Martin

Summer Camp Llanfrynac, Brecon with St Peters and Amberley Scout Troops

First Group Gang Show with Guides held at Randwick Village Hall



First entrance into Randwick HQ





HQ under construction.



The official Opening of the HQ by County Commissioner Robin Stayt seen in the gateway.

1966

Group moved to new Village Hall for a few weeks prior to moving into new HQ

Rev & Hon Nial Morrison Vicar of Randwick made Group Chaplain.

Keith Stanley appointed Ass. Scout Leader, on 22nd April.

Queens Scouts Badge presented to Ian Cameron, Andrew Leach, Leslie Twissell, David Westwood & Christopher Walker.

Scout Summer Camp to the Trout, Pontrilas

Second Group Gang Show with Guides held at Randwick Village Hall



Chris Walker & Les Twissell with Brian Pegler Scout Master & Dereck Yardley-Wright District Commissioner outside Randwick Village Hall after being presented with their Queens Scout Badge

Members of the cast of the Gang Shows held at Randwick Village Hall.



1967

Change of Section Names: - Wolf Cubs becomes Cub Scouts - Boy Scouts becomes Scouts - Senior Scouts amalgamated with Rover Scouts and becomes Venture Scouts, also the uniform changes from Short Sleeved Shirts and Shorts to Long Sleeves and Long Trousers for Scout age and above. There is also a change in the programme for all sections. The Group Registers as an Educational Charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

12th World Jamboree, Idaho, USA. Attended by Christopher Walker a member of Randwick Scout Group.

Randwick HQ officially opened in its present location by Robin Stayt County Commissioner, organised by Mr Westwood, Mr Barton Haines, Mr Jack and Mrs Pegler assisted by the ladies of the Group Supporters Association.

Visit to the County Camp held at Misarden Park by the Chief Scout Sir Charles Maclean this was attended by members of the Group, some of whom were presented with their Queens Scout Certificates from the Chief Scout. This camp was abandoned due to very heavy rain and the campsite being flooded.

Andrew Leach & Les Twissell selected by interview with the County Commissioner to be part of nine representatives from Gloucestershire to attend the Queens Scout Parade at Windsor where the Queen took the salute, (last parade in the old Scout Uniform it was televised live).

Queens Scout Badges awarded to Michael Parker & Keith Ricketts.

Third Group Gang Show with Guides held at Archway School Hall

Weekly Bingo and Whist Drives Started

Group attend the official opening of Biblins Log cabin in Forest of Dean near Symonds Yat. Also attended by Youth Groups (Guides, Youth clubs, Cadet Forces etc.) from all over the County taking part in camping, cooking and numerous other competitions.



**Chief Scout Sir (later Lord) Charles Maclean on his visit to the county taken at Miserden Park
1967**

1968

First District Cub Camp held at Lypiatt Park attended by Cubs and Leaders from Randwick. Stroud & Tetbury District Camp to Eigenthal, Luzern, Switzerland attended by members of Randwick Scout Group (Cost £26.00).

Keith Stanley appointed Scout Leader after Brian Pegler retired to run youth club.



Members on District Camp to Luzern, Switzerland, waiting to depart from Minchinhampton Scout HQ July- August 1968



Venture Scouts on the way to Switzerland 1968



Scouts on a visit to Luzern, 2nd from left Michael Leach, 2nd from right Alan Westwood next to Peter Haines these three being Randwick Scouts



The campsite at Eigenthal

1969

Summer Camp Oxwick Bay, Gower

1970's

1970

Summer Camp Withybush Farm, Exford, Exmoor

1971

District Camp to Freiburg in the Black Forest, Germany

World Jamboree Japan

1972

District Scout Trip to Visit the Gloster's in Minden, Germany

Summer Camp Llandovery

Sir William Gladstone appointed Chief Scout

Second Cub Pack Started

1973

Summer Camp Broadclyst, Exeter

The addition of a Garage added to the HQ

July Venture Scout Unit started there previously been a District Unit

1974

District Scout Trip to Visit the Gloster's in Minden, Germany

Summer Camp Wimbourne, Dorset

World Jamboree Lillehammer, Norway

1975

District Scout Trip to Visit the Gloster's in Munster, Germany

Keith Stanley appointed Group Scout Leader.

Dave Westwood Scout Leader

Explorer Belt to Morocco

1976

Explorer Belt awarded to Timothy Young after the Expedition to Corsica.

District Scout Trip to Visit the Gloster's in Blackpool

Summer Camp Malbeck, Derbyshire Peak District.

Randwick Cubs attend the District Famboree a camp for Cubs and their Families

Girls are allowed to join Venture Scouts

1977

Queens Silver Jubilee

Randwick Scout Group Celebrates its 25th Birthday a Silver Birch planted by Don Grisbrook member of HQ team.

4th - 12th June - 1st Stroud and Tetbury District Camp to Avranches, Brittany (Cost £32.00).

Explorer Belt awarded to John Anderton & Peter Jones after the Expedition to Morbihan & Finistere.

Keith Stanley appointed as Ass. District Commissioner Scouts.

Dave Westwood takes over as GSL from Keith Stanley

Andrew Leach (Haggis) appointed Cub Scout Leader having moved back to the Group from Rodborough where he had been Cub Scout Leader since 1968, also appointed as a District Cub Scout Leader

1978

Explore Belt Expedition to Portugal

District Train Trip for Cubs to Exeter

Medal of Merit awarded to Valerie Kuhnell Cub Scout Leader.

Queens Scout Badge awarded to Timothy Young.

1979

Explore Belt Expedition to Greece

District Cub Trips to Portsmouth and the Royal Tournament

County Cub Rally Broadway Tower

Members of the Group Visit Stroud's Twin Town Duderstadt, Germany, as part of a District Trip, October half term.

Queens Scout Badge awarded to Peter Jones.

Summer Camp Beeston, Nottinghamshire

World Jamboree Iran

1980's

1980

District Scout Trip to Visit the Gloster's in Munster, Germany

Explore Belt Expedition to Corsica

District Cub Trip to York

Cotswold Jamboree held at Selsley with Scouts attending from Stroud's twin Town Duderstadt, Germany. Scouts from Germany offered home hospitality by the members of the Group.

Medal of Merit Awarded to Andrew Leach (Haggis) Cub Scout Leader.

1981

Explore Belt Expedition to Norway

District Cub Trip to Poole

Medal of Merit awarded to David Westwood Group Scout Leader & Colin Clatworthy District Cub Scout Leader.

Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Services awarded to Brian Daniels District & Group Treasurer and Leslie Twissell Cub Scout Leader.

Summer Camp Chittlehampton, Devon

1982

Explore Belt Expedition to Portugal

District Camp to Avranches lead by Tony Howarth and Keith Stanley

District Cub Trip to Cardiff

Medal of Merit Awarded to Keith Stanley Ass. District Commissioner Scouts.

Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Services awarded to Michael Parker Ass. Scout Leader.

Major-General Michael Walsh appointed Chief Scout

1983

Explore Belt Expedition to Greece

District Cub Trip to Portsmouth

Queens Scout Badge awarded to Ian Northcott.

Summer Camp Elkesley, Nottinghamshire

Randwick Cubs attend the District Famboree a camp for Cubs and their Families

World Jamboree Alberta, Canada

1984

Explore Belt Expedition to Sweden

District Cub Trip to York

Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Services awarded to Rev & Hon Nial Morrison Group Chaplain.

Summer Camp Killerton Park, Exeter



The vicar of Randwick Rev & Hon Nial Morrison Group Chaplain trying out a rope bridge.

1985

Explore Belt Expedition to Dordogne

District Cub Trip to Exeter

Second Cotswold Jamboree held at Selsley. Attended by Scouts From Luzern in Switzerland and Norwegian Scouts.

Reg Weaver appointed Cub Scout Leader (Thursday Pack)

Queens Scout Badge and Explorer Belt awarded to Rupert Harris after the Expedition to The Dordogne.

1986

District Cub Trip to Portsmouth

Dawn Aldridge starts Beaver Scouts at Randwick with 12 boys.

Group Trip to Luzern in Switzerland, travelling by train and staying in a Scout Chalet above Kriens on lower slopes of Mt. Pilatus and the HQ in Luzern. An advance party of Linda Prince, Ian Worgan & Andrew Leach drove out a VW mini bus with some food and equipment, arrived the day before the main party and depart for England the day after the main party had departed by train from Luzern. The minibus was also used for transporting members on various activities in and around Luzern, which included a two-day hike for the younger members around Lake Luzern, this involved a boat trip across the lake to their starting point with an overnight camp. The Venture Scouts undertook a three-day expedition starting in a very wet Burgdorf, which was some 60 miles from Luzern. On completion of their expedition, they were to meet with other members of the Group at the Phadiheim Musegg HQ in Moosmattstrass, where the District stayed on their winter skiing trips.

70 Years of Cubs Scouts Service in Gloucester Cathedral



Dawn Aldridge (nee Hitchman) investing the first Beavers at Randwick (1986)



Randwick Scouts Arriving at Luzern Railway Station having travelled by Coach to London and then on to Luzern by Train.



The Scout Chalet on the lower slopes of Mt. Pilatus above Kriens where the first part of the Group Expedition to Switzerland was spent.



Outside the Scout Chalet at Kriens



Venture Scouts preparing to start their 3-day expedition at Burgdorf some 60 miles from Luzern, where they were to meet the rest of the Group at the Phadiheim Musegg HQ in Moosmattstrass.



Scouts getting off a trolley Bus in Luzern



Scouts at the Expedition Meal held in the Restaurant Militargarten, Allmend, Luzern.



Members of the Group Expedition to Switzerland, outside the Restaurant Militargarten, Allmend, Luzern. The party being due leave by train after the meal, for Randwick from Luzern Bahnhof.



Scout Party leaving by train for England from Luzern Station

1987

Scout Trip to Visit the Gloster's in Berlin, Germany

Explore Belt Expedition to Portugal

District Cub Trip to Cardiff

Over 800 UK Scouts attend the 16th World Jamboree in Australia. The contingent included Ranger Guides for the first time.

Queens Scout Badges awarded to Timothy & Simon Lodge.

World Jamboree Sydney, Australia

1988

District Cub/Beaver Trips to West Midlands and Royal Tournament

Keith Stanley awarded Silver Acorn retiring ADC Scouts and appointed Ass. Group Scout Leader.

Explorer Belt awarded to Simon Lodge after the Expedition to Austria.

Garth Morrison appointed Chief Scout

1989

District Cub/Beaver Trips to Portsmouth and Royal Tournament

Sean Morgan appointed Ass. Cub Scout Leader.

Second Beaver colony Started

1990's

1990

District Cub/Beavers Trips to Cardiff and Royal Tournament

Fundraising started to replace Randwick HQ as it was starting to become dangerous due to 'concrete cancer'.

Dave Westwood resigns as Group Scout Leader

Andrew Leach (Haggis) appointed Group Scout Leader.

Pat Parkhurst appointed Cub Scout Leader.

Scout Camp "Brecon Venture" attend by Scouts and Guides from all over the country including an international contingency.

Eighth World Moot in Melbourne, Australia attended by Robert Sadgrove a member of Randwick Scout Group.

1991

District Cub Trip Royal Tournament

Launch of new Cub Scout Programme.

Death of the Rev & Hon Nial Morrison Group Chaplain.

World Jamboree South Korea

It became an option for Girls to join all sections as long as there was the option for them to progress through the Group with the sections having female leaders (i.e. for a girl to move from Cubs to Scouts there must be a female leader in the Scout section).



Leaders Terry Foreman and Pat Parkhurst with member of the Cub Pack.

1992

District Cub/Beavers Trips to Portsmouth and Royal Tournament

Bar to the Medal of Merit awarded to Andrew Leach (Haggis) Group Scout Leader.

Medal of Merit awarded to Brian Daniels District & Group Treasurer & Leslie Twissell Cub Scout Leader.

Sean Morgan resigns as Ass. Cub Scout Leader.

Queens Scout Badges awarded to Anna Stanley & Robert Sadgrove.

Group Membership numbers 107- Annual Membership subscription per head £9.50

Dawn Aldridge become ADC Beavers



The rebuilt Randwick HQ re-opened by the youngest member of the Group, Beaver Scout Ross Bingham and Derek Yardley-Wright District Chairman (previously District Commissioner).

1993

District Cub Trip Royal Tournament

Cotswold Jamboree

Reg Weaver appointed Ass. Group Scout Leader.

Group Membership numbers 101 - Annual Membership subscription per head £9.85

1994

District Cub/Beavers Trips to West Midlands and Royal Tournament

Denise Gifford appointed Ass. Beaver Scout Leader.

Group reduced to one Beaver Scout Colony and one Cub Scout Pack due to lack of Leaders.

Venture Unit Closed due to lack of leaders and members.

Graham Shill becomes Group Chairman.

Group Membership numbers 102 - Annual Membership subscription per head £11.00

1995

District Cub/Beavers Trips to Portsmouth and Royal Tournament

Group Membership numbers 78 - Annual Membership subscription per head £11.50

World Jamboree Netherlands

1996

District Cub Trips to LEGOLAND and Royal Tournament

Group Membership numbers 84 - Annual Membership subscription per head £12.00

Dave Westwood becomes Group Chairman

80 Years of Cub Scouting County Camp at Down Ampney

George Purdy appointed Chief Scout

1997

District Cub/Beavers Trips to Black Country and Royal Tournament

Medal of Merit awarded to Pat Parkhurst Cub Scout Leader

Medal of Merit awarded Mrs Twissell & Mrs Westwood members of Group Executive Committee they are also made Hon Vice Presidents of Stroud & Tetbury District.

Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Services awarded to Rupert Harris Ass. Scout Leader & Joyce Simmonds Beaver Scout Leader.

Group Membership numbers 65 - Annual Membership subscription per head £12.50

1998

District Cub/Beavers Trips to LEGOLAND, Portsmouth and Royal Tournament

Pat Parkhurst Cub Scout leader moves to Pembrokeshire.

Anna Hogg (Stanley) appointed Cub Scout Leader

Medal of Merit awarded to Reg Weaver Ass. Group Scout Leader.

Group Membership numbers 75 - Annual Membership subscription per head £13.00

World Jamboree Chile

1999

District Cub/Beavers Trips to Cardiff, Safari Park and Royal Tournament

Silver Acorn Awarded to Andrew Leach (Haggis) Group Scout Leader.

Maureen Keogh appointed Ass. Beaver Scout Leader.

Group Membership numbers 61 - Annual Membership subscription per head £14.50.

2000's

2000

District Cub/Beavers Trips to Black Country and LEGOLAND
Membership Subscription £25.00 for Beavers and £28.00 for Cubs and Scouts per term.
Paul Blanch appointed Ass. Scout Leader.
Louise Little appointed Cub Scout Leader.
Group Membership numbers 65 - Annual Membership subscription per head £18.00
County Cub Camp Almondsbury
Group awarded District Commissioners Shield "For most column in the Press"

2001

District Cub/Beaver Trips to Portsmouth, LEGOLAND and Safari Park
Silver Acorn awarded to Colin Clatworthy, District Cub Scout Leader.
Bar to the Medal of Merit awarded to David Westwood, Group Chairman.
Group Membership numbers 59 - Annual Membership subscription per head £21.00

2002

District Cub/Beaver Trips to Cardiff, LEGOLAND and Longleat
District Cub Camp Cranham on the theme of Harry Potter
Scout Association launches new training programme with revised age ranges.
Sean Morgan re-joins Group as Ass. Cub Scout Leader
Christine Walkley appointed Ass. Beaver Scout Leader
Group Membership numbers 63 - Annual Membership subscription per head £21.50
Peter Robbins founding Leader of the Group plants Randwick Scout Group Celebrates its 50th Birthday a Tree.
World Jamboree Thailand



Andrew Leach (Haggis) Group Scout Leader with Founding Leader Pete Robbins at 50th Birthday Celebrations at HQ.





Joan Goldsmith County Commissioner unveiling the Groups golden Jubilee plaque.



Planting of the 50th Anniversary tree by Andrew Leach (Haggis) GSL and Pete Robbins the first Scout Leader of the Group



The Randwick Leaders 2002



**L- R. Louise Little (Cub Scout Leader), Keith Stanley (Ass. Group Scout Leader),
Maureen Keogh (Ass. Beaver Scout Leader), Joyce Simmonds (Beaver Scout Leader),
Denise Gifford (Ass Beaver Scout Leader), Paul Blanch (Ass. Scout Leader),
Andrew Leach (Group Scout Leader), Christine Walkley (Ass. Beaver Scout Leader),
Reg Weaver (Ass. Group Scout Leader), Sean Morgan (Ass. Cub Scout Leader)**



Cutting the cake by Pete Robbins and a member of the Beavers

2003

District Cub/Beaver Trips to Cotswold Wildlife Park, Ironbridge and Bristol
Randwick Cub Camp to Pembrokeshire with visits to Tenby and Caldey Island postponed from 2001 due to Foot and Mouth disease in the County.
Group Membership subscription rises to £27.00 for Beavers and £30.00 for Cubs and Scouts per term.
Group Membership numbers 66 - Annual Membership subscription per head £23.70

2004

District Cub/Beaver Trip to, LEGOLAND
Reuben Taylor appointed Scout Leader
Group Membership numbers 63 - Annual Membership subscription per head £25.00
Peter Duncan (ex. Blue Peter presenter) appointed Chief Scout

2005

Death of Peter Robbins founding leader of Randwick Scout Group.
Group Membership numbers 70 - Annual Membership subscription per head £30.00
Thanks Badges Awarded to Ray and Kath Blanch, Steve Iles and Maureen Keogh all long serving members of the Group Executive Committee.

2006

Group Membership numbers 71 - Annual Membership subscription per head £32.00
Randwick Beavers celebrate their 20th Birthday.
Group Gift Aid Scheme introduced, this enables us to make a claim from the Tax Man on membership subscription paid to the Group.

2007

Centenary of Scouting.
It is now compulsory for Girls to be allowed to join all section of the Group as part of the Scout Associations Equal Opportunities.
District Centenary Celebration held on Rodborough Common on 1st August at 8.00am.
Members of all sections attended the District Centenary Camp held at Cherington.
Group visit to West Somerset Railway we chartered our own Steam Train.
Leaders from the Group visited Brownsea Island location of 1st Scout Camp.
HQ used as a water distribution point after the floods, as Randwick and Whiteshill Villages were left without running water.
As part of the Centenary of Scouting, in June the Cubs held a Bring a Friend Day at Penn Wood, with Games organised by the District Scout Fellowship.
Group Membership numbers 71 - Annual Membership subscription per head £33.00
World Jamboree Chelmsford, Essex

2008

Medal of Merit Awarded to Joyce Simmonds, Beaver Scout Leader.
Cubs Pack holiday to Dulverton, in Somerset this included a trip to the Fleet Air Museum in
Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Services Awarded to Denise Gifford, Beaver Scout Leader.
Mrs Twissell and Mrs Westwood made Hon Vice Presidents of the Group.
Death of Joyce Simmonds Beaver Scout Leader.
Group Membership numbers 78 - Annual Membership subscription per head £34.00

2009

Denise Gifford appointed Beaver Scout Leader

James Little appointed Ass. Cub Scout Leader

Andrew Leach announces that he will retire as Group Scout Leader in March 2010

Graham Little appointed Group Scout Leader Designate

Group Membership numbers 69 - Annual Membership subscription per head £37.00

Bear Grylls appointed Chief Scout

2010's

2010

Group Membership 63 - Annual Membership subscription per head £39.00

March at Group weekend held at Penn Wood Scouts Camp, Beavers hold a sleep over and an Activity Day held including Climbing Wall and a rope bridge constructed by the Scouts. Presentations to Andrew Leach, Keith Stanley and Reg Weaver as they step down as GSL and AGSL's.

Andrew Leach retires as Group Scout Leader and becomes Ass. Cub Scout Leader

Graham Little takes over as Group Scout Leader

St Georges Day Service held in Randwick Church with Guides

2011

Beavers celebrate 25th Birthday

Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Services Awarded to Maureen Keogh, Beaver Scout Leader.

World Jamboree Sweden

2012

2013

2014

Re-opening of a second Beaver colony as it had been closed in the 1990's due to lack of leaders.

2015

World Jamboree Japan

2016

Cubs visit the houses of Parliament for a special reception to celebrate 100 years of Cub Scouts.

2017

Andrew Leach (Haggis) retires as an active leader after having been a Scout joining from Stonehouse Group in 1961, Senior Scout gaining Queens Scout badge in 1966, Cub Scout Leader and Group Scout Leader, was appointed Group President.

George Lodge who ran the bingo to raise funds for the Group died. Over the years, he ran the weekly Tuesday bingo sessions he raised over £10,000 for the Group.

2018

2019

Denise Gifford awarded Award of Merit at District St Georges Day Event held at St Roses School, Maureen Keogh was also awarded the Award of Merit, which was presented at a later date.
Andrew Leach (Haggis) receives Long Service Decoration for 50 years of service to Scouting.
World Jamboree West Virginia, USA
Scouts undertake a 10k walk to raise funds for Longfield Hospice.



2020's

2020

March-Due to Government Covid 19 Regulations all sections close for Face-to-Face meetings, meetings for the sections go to the internet online using Zoom. July some restriction were relaxed and allowed outdoor meetings, however some restrictions were again reintroduced in September and a National lockdown was again introduced in November.

Cub and Scouts undertake a sponsored walk for SSAFA the Armed Forces charity raising over £200.



2021

March/April Government start to relax Covid regulation to allow small groups to meet Face to Face outdoors.

July All Covid 19 regulations repealed but the advice is still to wear facemasks inside for Adults.

Beavers celebrate 35 years in Randwick, Denise Gifford and Maureen Keogh retire as Beaver Leaders after 27 years of service to the Group.

