

## Welcome From Group Chairman 2017/18

1st Swindon Sea Scouts is thriving with the past year being another exciting and successful year for our Group!

With our healthy numbers we have a very active programme across all sections, whether at the Wick, at Bowmoor Lake or on one of our annual events – Fun Day, Les Barnes, the Regatta, Ten Pin Bowling or delivering Christmas Post - everyone is getting out for some great adventures and fun.

We are in a healthy financial position, being able to maintain and replace Scouting equipment whilst holding sufficient reserves as per our Charity obligations. With special note of thanks for grants received from Nationwide and Haydon Wick Parish Council.

We continue seek further support on fund raising as well as grants through local, regional and nationally recognised associations.

With healthy numbers across all sections, we are able to offer the friendship and adventure of Scouting to more local young people which is fantastic! As you can see from the section reports from Beavers through to Explorers they have achieved a great deal throughout the year with the number of awards (badges, certifications etc.) increasing again over the previous year.

We continue to see our Beavers move into Cubs, Cubs to Scouts and Scouts to Explorers which is a great credit to our Group Scout Leader, Assistant Group Scout Leaders, Leaders, Young Leaders, Volunteers, Parents and everyone that has supported us throughout the year and in the past.

Without all of you this this would not be possible - thank you.

However, with the group growing, we want to maintain that strong position which does mean we need more adults to volunteer their time to make a difference for your Group. We are looking for more adult volunteers to enable us to keep growing the group and provide Scouting in our community.

If we had more adult volunteers this would allow us to continue and expand our exciting and varied programme across all sections. More adult support means we are able offer a higher quality of Scouting not only for our current members but for future members to.

On this front we are looking for active parent volunteers to support with the following key roles / tasks to ensure we are able to free up our leaders so they can concentrate on delivering an increasingly varied and adventurous program:-

**Group Treasurer**

**Parent Representatives: Building  
Committee, Executive**

**Training Adviser**

**Skills Instructors: Kayaking and  
Sailing**

**Fund Raising**

**Badge Secretary**

Finally, I want to say thank you to the executive team for the support they have given to myself, Catharine and the Group over the last year.

With special thanks to Catharine, Carl, Alli and Andi Hayman.

Catharine, Carl and Alli have worked tirelessly together on many aspects behind the scenes as well as leading sections to ensure the group continues to run as effectively as possible, communicate what is going on, be in a financially sound place and ensure we are in control with things like GDPR. Andi Hayman in his role as quartermaster has done a fantastic job ensuring we have our equipment in good order.

I am looking forward to the next 12 months as we move forward with plans to strengthen our future.

Jason Cripps

**Group Chairman**