

Report for Nonsuch Park Management Committee on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024

from 1<sup>st</sup> Cheam Scout Group

1<sup>st</sup> Cheam Scout Group was established in 1928 and has served the local community since then from our Headquarters in Malden Road, Cheam. We currently have 3 sections, meeting weekly in term times – Beavers aged 6-8 years, Cubs aged 8 – 10 ½ years, Scouts aged 10 ½ - 14 years for boys and girls. We comply with all the regulations of the Scout Association regarding health and safety, safeguarding etc and all our volunteer leaders receive basic training to run their sections.

We have always appreciated having the park only a short walk away from our meeting place. However, our use of this facility has become more limited in recent years with the introduction of various Scouting regulations such as the increased ratio of adult supervision required for activities off-site.

We are fortunate to have a little outside space at our Headquarters which we can use for some activities, plus we have our own camp site at Box Hill. Nevertheless, all the sections enjoy going to the park from time to time, primarily Cheam Park and Cheam Recreation Ground, particularly during the summer months. Groups would usually involve about 20 young people and 4 to 5 adult leaders and parent helpers.

The park is useful for playing team games like rounders and cricket and the younger sections occasionally venture in to the woods for nature walks and den-building sessions. This may be done 2 or 3 times in the spring, summer or early autumn as a change from our headquarters-based activities involving badge work of all sorts, scouting skills and skills for life.

Sometimes, before the summer break, the Cubs and Beavers may hold an “end of term” event in Cheam Recreation Ground near the swings. This may take the form of an evening of sport activities with a family picnic.

Peter Baker  
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29<sup>th</sup> April 2024