

SSAGO AGM

22nd February 1998, Fish & Ships Rally, Hull

Meeting Opened 10:15

1 Introductions & Apologies:

Simon Pugsley - Chairperson
Si Jerram - Secretary
Claire Thorpe - Treasurer
Matthew Townsend - Publicity Secretary

SSAGO Clubs:

Birmingham	Portsmouth	Bristol	Leeds
Coventry	Hull	Bath	Cardiff
Nottingham	Durham	Surrey	Aberystwyth
Manchester	Cambridge	Sheffield	Loughborough

2 Apologies:

Jane Horwood - Indie Secretary
Chris Wall - Regional Secretary South West and Wales
Oxford

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

No amendments requested. Minutes approved.

4 Matters Arising

- None

5 Reports

Chairperson: Simon Pugsley

- SSAGO has had a successful 1997 / 1998. The number of member clubs is currently 21, with an increased number of clubs reporting successful recruitment with the new intake of students in October. We are delighted to be able to report the re-emergence of several, potentially very strong, clubs in university cities such as Sheffield, Aber, St Martins Lancaster. Many of the other clubs are blooming and are putting on more ambitious programmes. More and more clubs are getting involved in the local programmes of their Divisions and Counties whether through running or helping at events, or just providing a contact between companies seeking leaders and enthusiastic students.

Nationally SSAGO has enjoyed three very successful rallies in Bristol, Bath and Hull, with over one hundred students attending each rally. Some excellent activities have been enjoyed of which the highlights were Visit to 3 Choirs Vineyard, Climbing, Circus Skills, The Bath widegame and of course the Bath mud (again!)

SSAGO has also been working towards raising its profile nationally and within the rest of the Senior Sections of Scouting and Guiding. This has included a visit to the Open Day at CHQ and several articles have appeared in Guiding and Scouting over the year. 6 permanent SSAGO displays were created and sent to the 'Uncensored' weekend run by the Guide Association, therefore promoting SSAGO to Rangers and Young. Positive responses from those displays have come from Northern Ireland and Northampton. New clubs are currently being formed in those 2 areas.

Many of our members have been involved with the Scout Network pilot scheme. The Executive Committee have also been in correspondence with The Scout Network Team and we await the results of the pilot scheme. Contacts with LINK and AJC have been slower than I would have wanted, However, I have been able to make some personal contacts within both movements who serve to promote SSAGO and keeps the correspondence flowing.

SSAGO has been busy reviewing and reorganising the services it provides to those individuals who try to start or re-form clubs. Also to its member clubs. Region Reps have been established over the last year, and in most cases seem to have been passing information and linking clubs and Indies successfully. Even if progress seems to be a little slow. - The mechanism for communications within regions is established. The infamous Information Manual is complete - and is now undergoing an update - due to the Activity Guide-lines meeting and new Scout Association POR being launched soon!!

This week I have been in Contact with both associations to establish who the new contacts will be, as both have left their respective associations. The community development Department of the Scout Association will still be dealing with us, although, the persons involved might change occasionally. However, I am currently in discussions with the Guide Association as to whether the Chief Executives department or the Chief Guide's department should be dealing with us.

We have completed all of the items listed on the Business Plan with the exception of those that are continuous developments. An Indie event was organised earlier this year. - A weekend climbing in the Peak District. Unfortunately, there was a poor response. However, the weekend went ahead, and was a huge success, making a profit of 7p. - Planning is in the pipeline for a 'Specialist Water Weekend' in London, hopefully next term, run as a mini Rally, open to the whole of SSAGO.

Over the last 2 years, SSAGO has gone from strength to strength. The committee is about to undergo a small change: A re-distribution of jobs and creation of 3 new committee positions should enable the executive committee to better serve SSAGO members, and to develop closer relations with organisations who have a similar agenda to our own.

The committee is made up of SSAGO members, elected by you. The success of the committee depends upon the enthusiasm of the individuals of which it is composed. It relies upon all of those members working closely and carrying out the tasks expected of them. If only 60% of the committee functions in this way, then SSAGO will suffer. It is left to you to choose the appropriate persons who will best represent your interests.

Secretary: Si Jerram

Things seem to have been going well so far. This year we have had a higher than normal turnover of clubs, a number have closed or disaffiliated, but these are more than made up for by those which have started this year including: Aberystwyth, Cardiff, Cheltenham, Lancaster St Martins, NENE College, Plymouth Marjons, Sheffield, and Wolverhampton, with people trying to start new clubs at many other colleges and Unis. 22 Clubs have registered with more known to be active: giving SSAGO a net growth in terms of club numbers.

The Scout and Guide Associations have been helpful at local level, Shirley Higginbottom of Northamptonshire Scouts co-ordinated the initiative which led to the NENE college club, and Scout Leaders have shown interest in helping to get SSAGO Clubs started.

At last night's reps meeting I was pleased to note that many clubs are now participating in joint events. Although some of these events were not linked to the regional reps system, I think they will have been encouraged by the philosophy behind it. With no net loss of members, so many clubs in the pipeline, and so much inter-club activity I feel proud to be leaving SSAGO in such a strong state.

Treasurer: Claire Thorpe

The accounts had been circulated. Claire took a few minutes to explain some items:

We've had an increase in income this year from Merchandise and rallies. The income from rally profits has been invested to benefit both rally-goers and SSAGO members in general. To benefit rally-goers we subsidised the Bath Rally to £1.50 per head, and to benefit SSAGO members we invested in the production of the SSAGO information manual.

In total SSAGO's assets are up £950, this includes a greater amount of merchandise stock than last year.

We haven't yet paid insurance, this is due to re-adjusting the figures to include active Guide Association members so that they are covered if involved in an incident where an activity is with Scout Association rules, but outside those of the Guide Association.

We are still owed money by The Scout Association and Guide Association with regards travel expenses to HQ meetings. Peter Swetenham is detailed because he took some merchandise for the Queen's Scout parade but has not returned payment or the merchandise. Ed Wright has received and has been holding a dividend from the Alliance and Leicester on our behalf while we assessed the tax situation. Simon Pugsley is owed £1 after an accounting error.

As well as working on the accounts I've been working on the activity rules, the information manual and lots of other stuff. I've had a lot of support, and a great year.

Publicity Secretary: Matthew Townsend

I've produced a draft for a new publicity poster, which is available for the new exec.

Last year I sent a mail out to Universities and Colleges in towns where there isn't currently a SSAGO club and had some positive response, notably from Kent and Cheltenham.

I've been working in a new approach to the SSAGO homepage, to act as more for publicity, than just serving an administrative purpose. This will be up and running soon.

Although we've made progress with SSAGO's profile, there are still many people in Scouting and Guiding who don't know about us and should know about us. There is only so much the exec can do, the best way SSAGO can publicise itself is by having its members talking to the Scout and Guide districts both at Uni and at home, and informing these people of SSAGO's existence both locally in terms of your club, and nationally.

Indie Secretary: Jane Horwood

We currently have 32 members, of which 5 are still to pay (and have recently received reminders about this). 4 of these are associates, that is they are no longer students, but still wish to be involved with SSAGO.

The climbing weekend in the Peak District last October was enjoyed by all and although only seven people attended we made a vast profit of 4p!! Hopefully a similar weekend to this will be repeated at some time in the not too distant future. Indie Members often moan that they don't get as much out of SSAGO as those who are members of clubs. However the opportunities are there and when 'special' weekends like this are arranged it would be nice to see a few more faces. Thanks to the committee and especially Claire for doing most of the arranging and making it a success for those who did go.

Just a quick note about the new committee positions. I did feel that, in the past there had been a need for an Indie Member's Secretary, but this year I felt my role had been superseded to some extent by the new Regional Representatives. I was therefore glad to see the changed committees positions with a secretary for ALL members rather than just us Indies. Hopefully this will be a step towards enabling Indies and clubs to feel more in touch with each other.

Just to finish then, I'd like to say thanks for my year on the committee, (even though it was shorter than everyone else's year) and thanks for letting me be the one to bring the Indie Member's Secretary era to an end.

6 Constitutional Amendments and Committee re-shaping

The following amendments were approved by the full committee at the meeting on the previous evening.

To change:

- 11.2 The term "Student" shall be held to include: ~~any member of a club as defined in 11.1, or~~ any member of a Institute of Further Education as defined in 11.1, who is, or has been a member of, or is interested in, the Scout and Guide Movements and who is undergoing further education. ~~or is eligible to attend Committee meetings under 7.2.~~ **or any student Officer as defined in 5.3**

Explanation:

'Any member of a club' is referred to by 'Any member of an institution'

Those who attend committee meetings (7.2) cannot all be classes as Students. Original reason for this inclusion was to include those committee members whose 'Student Status' expired mid way through their term of office to be able to vote etc. However the reference should be made to paragraph 5.3, so as not to include all of those listed in 7.2, representatives of SAGGA, our HQ contacts etc.

This was passed on a show of hands. (1 Abstention)

To add:

- 11.3 Membership of SSAGO shall consist of all 'Ordinary' and 'Associate Members'.
- 11.4 The term 'Ordinary Member' shall be held to include all Student members of affiliated clubs and students who have become Individual Members of SSAGO.
- 11.5 The term 'Associate Member' shall be held to include:
- a) non Student members of clubs, who have paid a membership subscription to SSAGO, and are eligible to join under the clubs' constitution or membership conditions imposed upon the club by the Students' Union to which it is attached.
 - b) Non students who have paid a membership fee to SSAGO Treasurer
- 11.6 Associate Members of SSAGO may attend Conference and may speak at the Chairperson's discretion, but may not have a vote or become a Student Officer of SSAGO.

Explanation:

Defines membership of SSAGO and allows 'Non Students' to become members of SSAGO in accordance to Student Union Conditions. By defining them as official members of SSAGO, they are insured in the same way as everybody else. The reason that they cannot vote etc is because SSAGO is a Student run organisation, and although we are happy to accept 'Associates' to our membership, it is felt that they have already had their chance as Students to vote etc. The wording "to speak at Chairpersons discretion" is because as non voting members, Associates may wish to "go on a bit" in order to swing to votes of those who can vote. It was decided that the Chairperson should have control over how long such members

can speak rather than silencing them altogether or by putting bureaucratic restrictions in the constitution.

The new Clauses 11.3-6 were accepted on a show of hands. (4 Abstentions)

To amend:

3.5 Health forms

Everyone attending a SSAGO run event must hand in a health form, sealed in an opaque envelope, to the organisers of the event. This will then be held by a named first aider. It is up to the individual to ~~decline~~ **disclose the information requested** on this form (i.e. you need not write all details on the form and additional details may be held about your person or told to the named first aider at the event). **However the individual must declare their full name and permanent contact address.** If the health form is not filled in before your arrival, the host of the event will provide a place where the form can be completed confidentially. It is suggested that individuals carry an additional health form containing all details on their person throughout the event.

It is the responsibility of the host of the event to provide collection, storage, and redistribution or destruction of the forms once the event is over. **The host club must compile a record of permanent contact addresses for all participants of the event. The addresses should be given to the SSAGO Secretary, who will keep them as a record of attendance for 12 months.**

Justification:

As agreed at previous reps meeting, SSAGO must keep a record of attendance for all large events. This amendment was proposed after a highly publicised case of a meningitis scare at a Scout camp in Avon where it was revealed that there were inadequate records of the adult supporters present.

Assurance was given that this does not give hosts the right to open health forms in order to compile the list of names and addresses. The amendment was passed unanimously on a show of hands. (No abstentions)

To remove:

the word '**Polytechnic**' - as such institutions no longer exist

This amendment was passed on a show of hands (1 abstention).

Changes with reference to Associate Membership:

3.4 Individual members **and Associate Members** are required to re-affiliate at the beginning of the academic year.

4.1 An annual subscription is payable by all affiliated clubs, **Individual Members and Associate Members (not attached to a club)** at the time of re-affiliation.

These changes were needed so that the newly defined associate members are constitutionally required to pay to join SSAGO. These amendments were passed by the meeting unanimously. (No against or abstentions)

Changes with reference to New Committee Positions and responsibilities

The changes to the committee positions had been discussed by the reps at the meeting. The new positions were outlined by Simon Pugsley.

The plans to reorganise the committee were approved on a show of hands. (4 Abstentions)

The following amendments were needed to constitutionally change the names of the committee posts:

To Change:

- 5.3 The student Officers shall be: Chairperson, **Administration** Secretary, Treasurer, **Members Secretary** and **Liaisons Officer** ~~Publicity Secretary and Individual Members' Secretary~~. They shall be elected at the Annual Conference and shall be responsible for the administration of the Organisation's affairs. All members are eligible for election and shall be eligible to serve a second term, providing they are *in statu pupillari* at the time of re-election.
- 7.5 The **executive committee will** ~~Secretary shall~~ compile a list of all known affiliated Clubs and Individual Members at the beginning of each academic year. Notice and agenda shall be sent to these Clubs and members, and only these Clubs and Individual Members may be counted for the purpose of determining quorums.
- 8.2 Notice of the nominations for Officers must be seconded and handed to the **Administration** Secretary at least one hour before the scheduled start.
- 8.4 Each affiliated Club on the **Membership** Secretary's list shall have one vote in committee.
- 8.6 a) The Club representatives, Headquarters representatives, **Administration** Secretary, Treasurer, **Members Secretary** and **Liaisons Officer** ~~Individual Members' representatives, Secretary and Officer~~ **Publicity** shall have one vote in Committee.
- b) Cheques shall be signed by two of the following: Chairperson, Treasurer, **Administration** Secretary, **Members Secretary** and **Liaisons Officer**.

The amendments were passed on a show of hands.

7 Activity Guide-lines Meeting

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We had a meeting at Guide CHQ, the Guide Association were not present and have still not adequately answered the issues raised. But thanks to Tony Andrews, Jim Davidson & Cherry Ward we now know how the Scouting side works. This meeting was to solve many problems SSAGO members have been having with activity authorisations.

Anyone in SSAGO must obey Scouting activity rules to be covered by insurance. This includes having DC Authorisations for walking in wild country. Tony Andrews has written to all Assistant County Commissioners for Activities requesting that they support SSAGO clubs. If you are having difficulties, authorisations are now transferable and Leicestershire have offered to assess SSAGO members if they have space on their sessions.

There is a new Scout Association authorisations called District Commissioner's Authorisations for Adventurous Activities, which the Scout Association are happy to provide for SSAGO members. These authorisations are now transferable between areas. If you gain authorisation in another county you can use your authorisation with groups elsewhere providing that the activity you are doing is with your authorised limits, and that you inform your new authorisation that you are planning to use your authorisation with groups there. The new DC has the right to postpone or cancel events pending further checks on your credentials if they are not satisfied.

Draft copies of minutes from that meeting are available for inspection and the Chairperson now has a copy of the HQ information sheets relating to authorisations. The application forms/factsheets are also available from Gilwell if you send a SAE.

8 Share Fund

SSAGO have received a windfall of shares in Alliance and Leicester. These shares are being held by Ed Wright on our behalf. Now we know of the tax situation, these shares are being sold with the help of SAGGA. As this is a windfall due to previous committees we would wish that this money be spent to have a lasting effect. The executive proposes that these shares are not put into the general pot, but are kept in a separate fund.

The fund will be administered by the executive committee who will draw up guidelines for bids based upon a similar scheme administered by SAGGA. Clubs would be able to apply for small grants from this fund in order to undertake projects whose effect would last for more than 5 years, and benefit student scouts and guides, Scouts and Guides or the community.

The AGM approved this proposal on a show of hands.

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9 Election of Officers

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The candidates were introduced and answered questions individually. A secret ballot was taken, and was administered by independent non-voting members. As Simon

Pugsley was Standing for re-election the hustings were chaired by Claire Thorpe, the Treasurer.

Chairperson

Joanna Beech (Manchester) Proposed by: Matthew Townsend (Manchester)
Seconded by: Rebecca Barford (Aberystwyth)

Charlotte Bond (Bath) Proposed by: Keira Stobie (Bristol)
Seconded by: Paul Baxter (Hull)

Martin Pink (Coventry) Proposed by: Malcom Wailes (Nottingham)
Seconded by: Tom Martin (Brum)

Simon Pugsley (Indie) Proposed by: Steve Ellul (Surrey)
Seconded by: Lizzie Nash (Hull)

Martin Pink was elected Chairperson

Admin Secretary

David Rafferty (Birmingham) Proposed by: Tom Martin (Birmingham)
Seconded by: Michael Pantry (Surrey)

David was successfully elected as Admin Secretary

Treasurer

Karen Llewellyn-Powell (Bristol) Proposed by: Alison Stribling (Bath)
Seconded by: Paul Baxter (Hull)

Karen was successfully elected Treasurer

Members' Secretary

K. Rigg (Birmingham) Proposed by: Martin Pink (Coventry)
Seconded by: David Rafferty (Birmingham)

K. was successfully elected Members' Secretary.

Liaison Officer

As nominations were received the meeting offered the post to the unsuccessful candidates for Chairperson.

Joanna Beech, Charlotte Bond and Simon Pugsley all agreed to stand for this post.

Charlotte Bond was elected Liaison Officer

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10 Forthcoming Events

Mini rally at the Docklands project, Spring 1998

Committee training Weekend 3-5th April SE of Birmingham £10, send 2-3 members.

Summer Rally: Nottingham "Operation Rally"

Autumn Rally: Manchester "Manchester- Nuff Said Rally" 6-8th November
1998

Spring Rally: Guildhall folded, rally slot now up for tender to bids by 1st
April.

- Cardiff are holding a party for Ventures, Rangers and Young Leaders in order to introduce the to student Scouting and Guiding. All other SSAGO members are also invited, if interested contact Cardiff SSAGS.

- Cambridge Wet Week September 1998. £90 for 9 days including food, accommodation and boat hire.

Rally bids:

- Summer 1999: Bids from Aberystwyth/Cardiff, and Portsmouth
Rally won by Aberystwyth/Cardiff on Show of Hands

Autumn 1999: Bids from Birmingham and Loughborough
Rally won by Loughborough on a show of hands.

Summer 2000: Bid from Bristol
Bristol rally bid accepted on show of hands.

Birmingham & Portsmouth were invited to bid for Spring 1999, but declined. The rally slot is open to bids for 1 month.

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11 Any Other Business

- Roy Ward discussed plans for a national organisation for young Scouts and Guides who are graduates/non students and cannot yet commit to Scouting or Guiding in one area. He took names, addresses and comments from those present.

Job offers have been received for the Kent County Scout Council, for a support worker and a development officer. Applications to be received by 31st March.

Walesby Forest Scout Camp require summer staff as last year. Details for Claire Thorpe.

Si Jerram has Details of SAGGA membership.

Meeting closed 11:45

Next AGM to be held at the Spring 1999 Rally.

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Appendix A

ACCOUNTS 1997-1998

Income

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Club registration	660.00
Indie Registration	120.00
Merchandise Sales	720.50
Rally Income	998.98
Interest (current account)	14.17
(A&L)	0.66
Donations	6.00
HQ Travel Contribution	<u>41.70</u>
Total Income	<u>2562.01</u>

Expenditure

Travel	391.55
Administration	247.80
Merchandise Purchases	631.83
Rally Loans and Subsidy	608.50
Publicity	<u>137.67</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>2017.35</u>

Surplus

544.66

Current Account

Balance 14/2/97	1251.00
Surplus (-A&L Interest)	544.00
Balance 19/2/98	1795.00

Alliance and Leicester Account

Balance 14/2/97	124.87
Interest	0.66
Balance 19/2/98	125.23

SSAGO Assets 19/2/97

Balance Current Account	1795.00
Balance A&L Account	125.53
Outstanding loan (Hull)	200.00
Merchandise Stock	383.00
Debtors	
-Guide Association	56.50
-Scout Association	56.50
-Peter Swettenham	12.30
-Ed Wright	16.00
Creditors	
-Simon Pugsley	-1.00
Total Assets 19/2/97	<u>2643.83</u>