

**SSAGO Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday 16th February 2003**  
**The Bear Rally, Oaks in Charnwood Campsite**  
**Loughborough, The Midlands.**

Meeting Start: 10.25 am

**1. People Present:**

Martin Whelan – Chair  
 Hannah Watts– Secretary  
 Susie Howells – Members Officer  
 Graham Johnson – Treasurer  
 James Child– Publicity Officer

The following Clubs were represented:

Leeds	Sheffield	Bristol
Lancaster	Warwick	Cardiff
Leicester	Birmingham	Nottingham
Slugs	Bath	Northampton
Manchester	Southampton	Loughborough

The following Indies were present:

Nicholas - Indie  
 Liz – Indie (Sussex)  
 Andrew – Indie (Hull)

There were representatives from:

GirlGuiding UK  
 The Scout Association  
 GASCiT  
 SAGGA

Apologies were received from WITAN  
 Martin welcomed those present.

**2. Minutes**

Last year's minutes were passed as an accurate representation of the meeting.

**3. Publicity Report**

James wished it to be noted that he had use of his voice. The year has been challenging. The website had caused problems.

Representatives from the Exec had attended a National Scout and Guide Orchestra concert in Reading but had found that many were the wrong age. The whole exec attended Gilwell Reunion and made their presence known with foolish behaviour and a good stall.

Two articles have been published in Scouting magazine.

The website has been updated regularly and was now more colourful, increasing the hits on the site. However the whole site needs a complete overhaul.

The posters need to be reworked to incorporate the new logos and perhaps new glossies could be printed.

James thanked the exec for pestering him all year.

**4. Secretary's report**

Hannah reported that the year had been an eye opener. She expressed her appreciation for the clubs' effort in keeping people interested in Scouting and Guiding whilst at University.

The reports received every term have been very enjoyable and the range of activities going on was excellent. Hannah wished to give Phil Coleman from SLUGS a special mention for trying to get mentioned in every set of minutes published this year

One issue of SSAGO news has been produced with help! However it was mentioned that the next secretary might need to think about how to move it forward as its current format had become stale. Hannah thanked the exec and those present and hoped to see them in the future.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Graham reported that his mathematical ability had increased whilst his grasp of the English language had decreased. He made a gratuitous plug of his merchandise and asked that those interested speak to the next treasurer. It was reported that the SSAGO bunny was now returned and as a result he no longer had to make a small bird of himself. He wished to remind those present that it is not a forfeitable mascot.

### **6. Members' Officer's Report**

Susan reported that it had been an eventful year and she found herself on the exec after mumbling something at Birmingham last year. She wished to thank several members and groups for their support. At the time of the report she was still missing registrations from 5 clubs.

Member ship of SSAGO currently stands at 592 club-affiliated members and 20 Indies, of which 14 belong to SLIC, the London Indies whose 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting is at the end of February. Susan hoped we would see them at a rally soon. 5 new clubs have started this year: CLOGS, Sheffield, SLIC, UEA, Derby and Staffordshire, of which the last 2 are not currently active.

### **7. Chair's Report**

Martin expressed that he had taken the post with the best of intentions and a desire to develop SSAGO. He referred to personal events and the time out that he took. He wished to apologise for seeming like a disorganised rabble.

The rallies had been good but problems needed to be addressed to avoid a repeat. He stated that he had reached an endpoint with the constitution, and thanked Pam, Allie Mills and everyone else who had contributed. The new information manual and How to Run a Rally would be out in the next couple of days.

### **8. Finance**

**Accounts:** Many will note that the accounts are £525.82 in arrears. Graham explained that this is because this year many clubs registered late and the money will show in the next financial year. Travel expenses have gone up but overall expenditure has gone down. Balance is really £127.34. The lost holiday money has been written off. The accounts have been audited.

Questions: Helmet (Scogui) – Where can I buy a badge?

Here after the meeting.

Pam (Cambridge) – What about publicity costs?

They are development not expenditure.

The accounts were passed as true and accurate by those present.  
The current subscription charges are to remain the same – universally passed.

**Rally Charges:** There are three options

1. £18, £20, £25
2. £20, £22, £25
3. No control but must propose the charge before hand.

Questions: Mike (B'ham) – At the current charge rate what is the likelihood of being solvent? It depends on the event.

Liz (Indie) – When would the charge have to be confirmed if no control? At the previous reps meeting

Tristan (Oxford) – What would happen if the charge were turned down at the meeting? It would be too late to redesign the event? If it were a lot more than usual the organisers would not have thought it out terribly well.

Vote Results: 1. – No votes, 3. – 8 votes, Abstain – 2 votes.

The charges of £20, £22, and £25 were passed but if then need to change these arose there would be an option to bring it to the reps meeting.

## **9. Constitution**

Martin asked Pam to explain the constitution.

99% of the time the constitution should not affect you as members but in times of need it could be very important. It is a support system for members and their clubs. It has been rewritten many times and the exec would like it to be passed by the members otherwise it will just fade away.

There were no questions and 5 abstentions.

The document will be passed to HQ for objections and brought to the Oxford or the Warwick rally.

## **10. GirlGuiding UK and The Scout Association.**

Adie Wray (SA): Commented that many clubs had contacted their Network Commissioners and were completing CRB through them. He asked clubs to keep up their contacts with the Network and carry on doing what they were doing

Catriona (GGUK): Introduced herself as an ex Lampeter SSAGO member and asked clubs to email her if they had any problems or questions.

Martin asked that clubs contact the exec first before the individual organizations unless exec related.

## **11. GASCI – SAGGA by Mad.**

Mad wanted people to remember that Camp = Good, AGM = Bad.

SAGGA has a large age range but lots of young people and provide skilled service to Scouting and Guiding.

GASCI is 5 days in Beaudesert in July. It is open to Scouts and Guides who cannot camp that year. A lot of learning goes on and there are a lot of 1<sup>st</sup> time campers. SSAGO members act as patrol mentors; need to be an adult who is vaguely experienced. Can get involved directly or as service crew. Young SAGGA members run it and it is great fun.

## **12. Witan 2004**

A European rally. Resurrected next year for two weeks in the lakes at Great Towers. Details would be released as and when.

**13. Moot 2004**

A quick summary was taken from November's minutes. James has the posters. If you are interested email the organisers.

**14. Election of Officers.**

Martin quoted the procedure for election from the constitution and explained who was eligible to vote.

a. **Treasurer:** Helen Llewellyn-Powell (Notts).

Proposed by Simon Parr (Loughborough), seconded by Mark Glendinning (Cardiff)

'I want to put something back into SSAGO'

Q: 'Can you add up?' (Andy, Cardiff) A: Yes

Q: 'What have you taken out of SSAGO?' (Tom, Loughborough) A: Lots of fun

Q: 'Would you hide money in Swiss banks?' (Susie, members) A: No in Oz.

Q: 'Would you need to transfer to the Euro?' (James, Pub) A: Yes

Ron: 2. Abstentions: 1.

Helen Llewellyn Powell was elected as Treasurer for the term 2003 – 2004.

b. **Secretary:** Alison Parker (Oxford)

Proposed by JM Roberson (Oxford), seconded by Kate Sharp (Loughborough).

'I want to put something back into SSAGO and have some impact'

JM: She needs something to do, KS: She is keen and enthusiastic.

Q: 'Are you conversant in email?' (Liz, Indie). A: Yes

Q: 'If you had to conceal two pens where would you put them?' (Tom, Loughborough) A: I have a pocket of course!

Ron: 1. Abstentions: 1.

Alison Parker was elected as Secretary for the term 2003 – 2004.

c. **Members Officer:** Hayley Goldman (Individual Member)

Proposed by Alison B (Warwick), seconded by Helen (Manchester).

'I am an indie. Warwick has adopted me and I am trying to set up a club at Northampton. I have been in SSAGO for 18 months and I can't been on an exec of my own!'

Helen: She is very reliable and gets the job done.

Q: 'Where are your brains?' (Helmet, Loughborough). A: In my feet

Q: 'Can you remember how many members you have interacted with this weekend?' A: You would not like the answer so I am not going to give it.

Ron: 1. Abstentions: 0.

Hayley Goldman was elected as Members Officer for the term 2003 – 2004.

d. **Publicity Officer:**

Mark Paxton (SNOGS): Proposed by Sarah Cooper (Loughborough), seconded by Jemma Jones – Hayes (Indie).

Andy Mitchell (Cardiff): Proposed by Andrew Benn (Manchester), seconded by Phil Coleman (SLUGS).

Mark: 'I would like to concentrate on the website. I am involved in a student business and have the skill to improve on what there is now. It would be fun to other publicity.'

Andy: 'I did my VSU website. I would like to do more to the web. I would like to put articles in Guider magazine. I promote SSAGO wherever I go.'

Sarah: Mark could promote SSAGO in other ways. He has achieved this in Notts.

Jemma: He is happy go lucky

Andrew: Andy is Vocal and could shout about SSAGO in the real world

Phil: He didn't remove the Michael from Wales for losing to Italy.

Q: How would you further develop the image of SSAGO? (Mike, B'Ham)

AM: Greater links to Scouting and Guiding. Get clubs to do more adventurous things

MP: People are fun. Get people more involved in joint activities.

Q: What do you feel is the most important, the website or pressing the flesh? (James, Leeds)

MP: Both are equal. Really need to get people involved using word of mouth.

AM: Pressing the flesh is good. Chatting to people and letting them know we are in SSAGO because we enjoy it.

Q: Where would you get a Jiffy bag tree? (Tom, Loughborough)

AM: I'm sure we could sort something out

MP: The market proved quite good yesterday.

Q: AS you are following James Child could you do OGGIE like him? (Nick, Slugs)

AM/MP: Yeah

Q: If you had to promote at two events on the same weekend one Guides one Scout which would you attend?

AM: One on one day and the other the next

MP: Employ and army of volunteers.

Andy Mitchell: 67 votes, Mark Paxton: 29 votes, Ron: 1, Abstention: 1, Spoilt: 3.

Andy Mitchell was elected as Publicity Officer for the term 2003 – 2004.

#### e. Chair

Helmet (Indie), Proposed by Karen (Notts), seconded by Jane (Southampton)

James (Leeds), Proposed by Liz (Indie), seconded by Alison (Oxford).

James: 'I have plenty of experience in Scouting and working with GGUK. My aims are that due to the re-branding of the two associations we too should re-brand. Our ethics lie in the sixties and we need to update. We need a more corporate image. SSAGO news needs to be made to work. As an exec we should be as transparent as possible and meet as often as possible.

Merchandise needs updating and the Guides need to be involved more.'

Helmet: 'I am doing a night course on Basingstoke. The exec cannot always achieve what they want to whilst they are on their course. It is what we do that matters and only what we do. Image is not necessarily important.'

Karen: I have known Helmet since 1997. He does what he's supposed to and is sensible when he needs to be.

Jane: Waved a dolphin

Liz: James knows what he is getting himself in for. He has a clear vision and can make it happen.

Alison: He knows what goes on. He ran the ULALA rally.

Q: What are your views on each other's opposing views? (James, Cardiff).

JC: Helmet was my mouth last year! I think doing is important.

H: Image is not important the members do not care about it.

Q: How would you involve GGUK more? (Jemma, Indie)

H: Rangers are an unsung force. They represent more than female companionship opportunities. Our main problem is they are unaware of our existence.

JC: I would liase with Catriona and Jo Hobbs.

Q: How would you attract non SA and GGUK members?

JC: We rely on word of mouth from friends. Would like to use press releases.

H: Only Word of mouth seems to work. Need to know about taster events and insurance.

Q: When did you last 'Surpr!se Yourself'? (Tom, Loughborough)

JC: By promoting GGUK and standing on the exec last year.

H: Linda

Helmet: 31 votes, James Child: 74 votes, Ron: 1, Abstentions: 4.

James Child was elected as Chairperson for the term 2003 – 2004.

### **15. Upcoming Rallies**

Oxford Rally: 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> July. Monopoly Rally

Warwick Rally: 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> November. 'Much Ado About Bugga All' – The Shakespeare Rally.

### **16. Future rally Nominations**

a. Spring 2004: LANCASTER (Nick): We are one year old. We want to hold a rally. We are up the M6. We have the lakes, the dales and bars.

MANCHESTER (Stuart): None of our current members were at our last rally. Sports theme with commonwealth tours.

Spring Rally went to Lancaster.

b. Summer 2004: MANCHESTER (as previous bid)

CARDIFF: We want to hold a great Welsh rally. There is a lot on offer and many pubs.

Q: Leeds and Leicester ran a joint rally that was difficult how will you cope with the mountains in between? (Liz, Indie)

A: As an engineer.....! One club would have overall responsibility with parts delegated out.

Summer Rally went to Cardiff.

c. Autumn 2004: SOUTHAMPTON: we've never had a rally. It's warmer down south. There are 2 unis and lots of students around. Lots of activities including the Isle of Wight. James Bond theme and pudding on offer!

Autumn rally went to Southampton.

### **17. Presentations and AOB.**

The present exec presented Martin with a gift and card as a sign of thanks.

Simon Birchill the campsite manager thanked SSAGO for their attendance at Oaks again and promoted the European and World Jamborees in 2005 and 2007.

The AGM closed at 12.18pm (phew!)