

## Silver Acorn – Example Citation 1

Craig's commitment to Scouting within this District continues to be highly consistent and he has given service of a very high standard. Craig initially became involved as Group Treasurer, overseeing the financial arrangements of this large and complex Group. His background in accounting quickly proved to be invaluable, and his advice and guidance has been second to none.

Craig's first sectional role in Scouting was as a Scout Leader. He then became a Venture Scout Leader within the same Group. For both these sections, he provided highly interesting and exciting programmes, culminating in numerous young people achieving the top awards. He organised creative and adventurous weekly programmes, along with camps, hikes, trips and expeditions. Although it is not possible to measure the impact he has had on countless young people over a prolonged period, the large number of youth members involved during this time speaks for itself.

Craig continues to be the prime motivator within his Scout Group, a Group that has nearly two hundred members and ten sections, making it larger than some Districts. He plays a major role in recruitment, induction and support of his leaders and regularly visits all the sections. As Group Scout Leader he is regularly seen at the Group's sectional meetings and is known to all the young people. The Group continues to be highly successful, and plays an active part in all the events organised by the District.

In addition, Craig has served as District Treasurer and also District Vice Chairman. In these posts, his calm and methodical approach was much valued by the whole District Executive, especially during the transition from Venture Scouts to Explorer Scouts when the necessary additional financial protocols were required.

Craig has given service of a high standard and in recognition of his especially distinguished service, I would like to nominate him for the Silver Acorn.

## Silver Acorn – Example Citation 2

Simon has a long history of involvement with the Group and has supported it throughout this time, which began when he became ASL. His father was one of the founders of the Group in 1974, when it opened with a single Cub Pack. Within a few months, a Scout Troop was formed and Simon became the ASL. He remained an ASL with the Group until the end of 2001. During this time he took the Scouts and Venture Scouts to Kandersteg, the first and only time the Group has been abroad.

Simon was heavily involved in the early growth of Scouting in the District and the success of the Group was driven by his enthusiasm. The waiting list increased and therefore a second Cub Pack was formed. As the Group expanded, it was decided that they needed their own headquarters. Simon helped conduct the initial search for suitable premises along with his father. When it was identified that fundraising would be needed to help fund the move, Simon was responsible for leading the project. Initially, the fundraising focused on securing a suitable site, and thereafter it provided the capital to fund the construction of a new headquarters building.

Simon established a link with a local businessman, which enabled the Scouts to begin a successful newspaper recycling campaign. At first the funds raised from this venture were used to fund the expedition to Kandersteg, but the arrangement still exists and monies raised are now used to fund the running of the Group and maintenance of the headquarters.

On two separate occasions the Group was left without a GSL. In both instances Simon took over as Acting GSL until a new volunteer was identified. He was very efficient in this role and gave up his time freely to ensure the smooth running of the Group.

In 2005, Simon took on the appointment of Assistant Explorer Scout Leader with one of the District's Explorer Units. During this time, he was instrumental in increasing numbers by offering a good quality programme and support to the Explorer Scout Leader.

In 2008, he became a member of the Group Executive, taking on responsibility for maintenance of the headquarters building and identifying opportunities to improve the facilities. His previous Scouting experiences as well as his practical skills have proved a real asset to the Group, as unfortunately virtually nothing had been done to the headquarters for several years. Simon identified the needs of the Scouts using the building, obtained costs for the various jobs and has made good progress towards their completion.

Simon has been involved in Scouting for more than 40 years and his service has been of an especially distinguished nature. He has not yet been recognised for this service and I would therefore like to recommend him for the Silver Acorn.