



1st/16th Scout Group
Annual General Meeting 8.15 pm 28th September 2021

Annual Report 2020 to 2021

Introduction

“A Scout is never taken by surprise; he knows exactly what to do when anything unexpected happens.”

BP

The last 12 months have continued to pile surprise on surprise. As the COVID19 pandemic continued each of the section leaders have had to continue to adapt their programmes. Our leaders have done excellent work in creating engaging activities and maintaining our youngsters' well-being.

Face to face Scouting started on 8th October 2020 only to be suspended again from 4th November as we went into another Lockdown. So much was different during the year. There was no participation by the sections on Remembrance Sunday as all parades were cancelled. I joined our GSL, JP in laying a wreath at Sutton's War Memorial on the 11th of November.

Face to face meetings were restarted from the 8th December only to be stopped again in the new year as we returned to 'Red' status. The 'Red Nose Day' sleepover in March had to be 'virtual' but by April we were back in physical meetings. The end of the month saw a great event as Bagheera was awarded his Queen's Scout Award. The Queen's Scout Award is the top achievement for Explorer Scouts and Scout Network members.

Our website <https://1st16thsuttonscouts.org.uk/> carries news of group activities. These include videos created to publicise the work of the sections.



Long Service Awards

Two of our leaders are due to be awarded Long Service Awards.

These are John Perkins (JP) our Group Scout Leader who has achieved his 50-year award and our Cub's section Akela, Andrew Low, who has gained his 15-year award.

We are pleased that we have such a wealth of experience in Scouting within each of the sections. This experience allows our Leaders to help our members decide how to get the most out of the opportunities presented by Scouting.

Congratulations again to JP and Akela for their dedication and thanks to all our leadership team for the hard work they put in each week.

The troop is a registered Charity (Charity no. 303842). As such we have a board of trustees

John Banbury Perkins
Peter James Randall
Jeff Richards (Chair)
Andrew William John Low
Ann Low
Robert William Low
Sarah McLeod
Sarah Jane King
Chloe King
Hanna Louise Randall

These are the people that make up the Executive Committee (ExCo) and are the people who share ultimate responsibility for governing the 1st/16th Scout Group and directing how it is managed and run.

We have together 3 main duties which are defined in law

- Act in the Scout Group's best interests,
- Manage the Scout Group's resources responsibly
- Act with reasonable care and skill

We have all worked hard in making sure that the group finances are controlled appropriately.

The group executive has met 3 times this year. I am pleased to report that Sarah McLeod joined the trustees and was appointed secretary in October 2020.

Jeff Richards (Chair)

Trustees: John Banbury Perkins, Peter James Randall, Sarah McLeod Jeff Richards (Chair), Andrew William John Low, Ann Low, Robert William Low, Sarah Jane King, Chloe King, Hanna Louise Randall



Group Treasurer's Report (2020)

I am really sorry that I cannot be with you tonight as I am living in the wilds of Dorset at the moment until the completion of my new house in Pevensey.

The Overall accounts show a deficit for the year of £918 however, the rent shown is a prepayment for the first half for the year 2021 and takes advantage of a discount offered.

Income

Cubs and Beaver sections combined to give a subs transfer of £3,384. Gift Aid was claimed to a value of £760, and a returned deposit of £770 for a family camp that was cancelled. This is a contra to the expenditure.

Expenditure

In addition to the rent and family camp deposit as mentioned earlier, the main item of expenditure was £1,830 for District subs. In addition, an investment was made to provide all sections with the necessary precautionary Covid-19 materials. Website cost is the reversal from a cheque that was not cashed and therefore written back.

Our investments continue to show a strong return for the year.

COIF Deposit Account	14.83%
COIF Investment Fund	7.34%

The Group continues to show a strong financial operating base.

The Group is careful monitoring of the rent commitment, as six months were paid in advance based on weekly usage from the beginning of the year. We are mindful that there have been restricted meetings in line with official guidelines.

For the detailed financial statement please see the attached document.

Peter Randall (Treasurer)



Beaver Section Report & Beaver of the Year

We have had a busy year with the colony and have managed to do lots of activities throughout the year via Zoom or in the Community Hall, which have resulted in the Beavers earning various badges.

The Colony has stayed static in number throughout the year.

We have been working on all the Challenge Badges this year. We have learnt various scouting skills like first aid, cooking and looking after ourselves. 3 Beavers have completed the Bronze Award this year and all have received their Emergency Aid stage 1 badge and Global Issues Activity Badge as well as the Blue Peter Green Badge.

We started the year by doing Zoom meetings in September and we managed to get 3 meetings in the Hall before having to return to zoom meetings in November and then finished the year with 2 meetings in the Hall for our Christmas activities.

In January we were back to Zoom meetings and we made bird feeders and shared photographs over WhatsApp of our feeders and birds for the Outdoors Challenge. We had a sock Olympics Zoom meeting in March and we joined the Cubs Zoom meeting about snakes and lizards. There was a Red Nose Sleepover in March with challenges set by the Red Nose team and the Leaders. There were plenty of photographs showing how everyone was doing in their tasks. For Easter there was an Egg Hunt with the 'What 3 Word' App that took the Beavers to the Easter Bunny, with plenty visiting the Easter Bunny.

In April we could meet in the hall again and we learnt about Global Issues and became holders of a Green Blue Peter Badge. We had a Fun Day at Frylands in June with the Cubs and had a go at archery, pond dipping, an assault course, cooking camp doughnuts, grass sledging and enjoying the woods. We also made paper kites in the park one evening.

I would like to thank the parents who have helped me with Beavers, without your help I wouldn't be able to run Beavers, especially with the changes from the hall meetings to the Zoom meetings. I would like to thank Badger, Woodpecker, Squirrel, Raven, Robin and Ratty for all their support and help. I also want to thank my young leader Hedgehog for all her help with Zoom.

This year the Beaver of the Year is a Beaver who has grown in maturity over the last year and became a young person who tried their hardest in all the activities and badges. They are always enthusiastic and fully participate in the evening even with a cast. The Beaver of the Year award goes to Elias Barry.

Otter (AL)



Cub Section Report and Cub of the Year Award

Throughout the year the number in the pack has been static with quite a few Cubs leaving to go into Scouts and there has been a steady flow coming up from Beavers along with a number of new Cubs joining the pack.

The Cubs have done a number of different activities throughout the year which have resulted in the Cubs earning various parts of badges. We have been working towards the Challenge Badges and have set several Cubs their own challenges for the Personal Challenge Badge. We started the Autumn term doing Zoom meetings and the Global Issues Activities badge and parts of the Skill Challenge badge. We managed 4 weeks in the hall in October meeting alternate weeks for the Cubs, as they were divided into 2 Packs due to a limit on numbers, before returning to Zoom meetings in November. We did manage to have 2 weeks in the hall in December with both Packs running on the same night for an hour each.

In January it was back to Zoom meetings and we made bird feeders in January, learnt about snakes and lizards in March and had a quiz on 'Animal Poo'. All the Cubs can tell the difference between Wombat square and the Sloth poo dance. The Cubs took part in the Red Nose sleepover in March and completed tasks set by the Red Nose Team. There were plenty of photographs showing how everyone was doing in their tasks. For Easter there was an Egg Hunt with the 'What 3 Word' App that took the Cubs to the Easter Bunny, with plenty visiting the Easter Bunny.

In April Cubs was able to meet as a whole Pack in the Hall and they completed their Environmental Conservation Activity Badge and 25 also got their Green Blue Peter Badge. We had a Fun Day at Frylands in June with the Beavers and had a go at archery, pond dipping, an assault course, cooking camp doughnuts, grass sledging and enjoying the woods. The Cubs also had a visit from the snake and lizard girl and got to hold the animals and learn all about them.

4 Cubs have completed their Silver Awards this year.



I would like to say a very big thank you to Robert (Bagheera), Ann (Raksha), Sarah (Shere Khan), Chloe (Woodpecker), Paul (Kaa), Jeff (Wontolla) and Ryan (Tabaqui) for all their help during the last year and to all the parents that have helped throughout the year as well. I would also like to thank my Young Leader Kayleigh (Hathi) for her help this year.

This year the Cub of the Year is someone who has always tried their best in everything that we have done. They have attended nearly every camp or activity we have run and taken part in all the games and activities during Pack night. This Cub has shown enthusiasm and grown in confidence in the many activities he has attended. The Cub of the Year award goes to Theo Lennon.

Akela (AL)



Scout Section

Well, what can I say last year has been very challenging with Covid. One minute was starting, the next minute we stopped but we've managed to maintain the numbers throughout the scout section even though we've had no incoming through the Cubs recently. While doing our zoom meeting we had a number of quizzes on different topics relating to different Badges. The scouts went on a scavenger hunt around the house trying to find different items as we were calling them out. We even had one dressed up in their mum's dress with make-up on!

Scouts have been out on a number of outings including going for a hike up Box Hill meeting up with another group and doing archery and fire lighting.

Group Scout Leader's Report

When I wrote my report for last year's AGM we were coming out of the first Covid lockdown and looking forward to a more normal version of Scouting. The Sections managed a few weeks of face to face meetings and then had to stop again. It was not until well into the new year that we were able to get going properly again. Since then the Section meetings have continued with some modifications but all the young members are having fun, taking part in activities and gaining badges.

As was expected some members did not return after the hiatus and our numbers for the Census in January were down on last year, 35 as against 49. I am very glad to report that since then our numbers have shown a healthy increase and I expect our membership to be back to more normal levels at the next Census.

I will not list the activities that the Sections have done - these have been included in the Section Reports. All I can say is 'well done' to the Leader teams for putting on such interesting programmes.

Congratulations to Robert Low in gaining his Queen's Scout Award. It is only a select group of Scouts who achieve this Award and is a result of a lot of hard work and dedication.

Looking to the future I am hopeful that a full camping programme will be back on the Agenda. We had to postpone our Group Camp in 2020 but are planning another in 2022. Look out for details before the New Year.



The Scout Association has announced the formation of a new Section, The Squirrels, for 4 to 5-year-olds. It may be premature to try to open Squirrels in our Group but we must be prepared to move with the times and with the Group Executive and Group Leaders I want to look into the possibility. There will be many problems to solve before we can go ahead, including Leaders (and their training), where and when to meet and approval of our plans by the District, among others.

I would like to end by thanking all the adults for their hard work over the last 12 months and especially our Group Chair, Jeff who has given me so much support, even if we did have to meet outdoors in Manor Park to discuss Group matters!

JP, Group Scout Leader



1st/16th Sutton Scout Group

Income and expenditure statement

1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020

Income	2020		2019
	£	£	£
Subscriptions Beavers	1,647.00		1,089.00
Subscriptions Cubs	1,737.00		1,260.00
Subscriptions Scouts	0.00		50.00
Gift Aid	759.78		822.14
Activities	0.00		0.00
Camp and Activities	0.00		0.00
Family Camp 2020	770.00		0.00
CubJam 2019 (Bursary Income)	0.00		300.00
Badges & Uniform	0.00		0.00
COIF Transfer	0.00		10,000.00
		4,913.78	13,221.14
Expenditure			
Rent	2,572.44		5,144.88
Insurance	396.34		369.58
Training	0.00		80.00
Admin Expenses	0.00		38.50
Equipment	0.00		277.14
Activities	0.00		0.00
Camps	0.00		0.00
Health and Safety	218.25		0.00
Family Camp 2020	770.00		0.00
Scout Shop	0.00		61.50
Website	(7.19)		27.57
Computer Software	52.42		75.83
Annual Subscriptions	1,829.50		1,650.00
		5,831.76	8,125.00
 Operating Surplus/Deficit for year		(917.98)	5,096.14
Financed by:			
	B/fwd	Movement	C/fwd
General Purpose Fund	7,465.53	(917.98)	6,547.55
Bursary Fund	500.00	0.00	500.00
COIF Deposit Account	25,464.44	3,776.74	29,241.18
COIF Investment Fund	120,006.40	8,812.03	128,818.43
	153,436.37	11,670.79	165,107.16
Section Accounts			
Scout Shop	153.46	0.00	153.46
Beaver Section	3,661.31	(1,035.33)	2,625.98
Cub Section	3,220.81	(1,349.11)	1,871.70
Scout Section	870.65	213.94	1,084.59
	7,906.23	(2,170.50)	5,735.73

Trustees: John Banbury Perkins, Peter James Randall, Sarah McLeod Jeff Richards (Chair), Andrew William John Low, Ann Low, Robert William Low, Sarah Jane King, Chloe King, Hanna Louise Randall