



**1st/16th Scout Group
Annual General Meeting 2:30 pm 9th July 2022**

Annual Report 2021 to 2022

Introduction

“The real way to gain happiness is to give it to others.”

BP

This year's AGM is a return to a pattern of AGMs held in the summer. This was the pattern that existed before the COVID pandemic. It is my strongest hope that we are at last putting the distress and disruption caused by the Coronavirus behind us.

If you wish to remind yourself of what it was like to report on Scouting activities during COVID you can find the Annual Reports for the last few years on the website. It is very interesting to think back on how much we as a group managed to achieve during this very trying time. The section leaders, who guide your youngsters through their experience of Scouting, have done excellent work in creating engaging activities and maintaining their enthusiasm.

You will learn more about each section from separate reports that follow but I do want to call out some aspects that have given me immense pleasure.

I am delighted to say that since we last reported in September 2021, we have seen considerable achievements, wonderful moments of celebration and the deep satisfaction of a return to full Scouting activities.

Scouting is all about adventure, whether that is getting your hands dirty changing a tyre, getting soaked on a cub water adventure, climbing a hill you never thought you would or using your imagination to follow a favourite toy who goes on a magic journey at the library.

What you won't have seen is the heartache, the sacrifice and the sheer hard work that each of the leaders put into running their sections. Neither will you quite understand the joy and sense of accomplishment that these same leaders have in seeing each Beaver, Cub and Scout begin to develop new skills and flourish.

I have been especially pleased when our members have a chance to act as ambassadors for Scouting at public events.

I was delighted to see a good turnout of leaders, Beaver and Cubs at the Act of Remembrance in Manor Park on Sunday 14th November 2021.

Cllr David Bartolucci wrote about the young people from the 1st/16th Sutton Scout Group.

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



"Dressed in their uniforms they lit up the park and didn't fail to impress anyone who was anywhere near the war memorial.....nor the lowering and raising of their flags.....a powerful symbol preceding and exiting the 2 minutes silence."

Another cause of pride for the group was when Robert Low, Bagheera, was selected as a Queen's Scout to be part of the National Act of Remembrance at the Cenotaph in Whitehall.

And this year at the Queen's Jubilee Village Fete on 3rd June, two of our Scouts led by Robert Low (QS) provided the escort for Major Christopher Goodwin, Representative Deputy Lieutenant for Sutton, and Cllr Trish Fivey, the Mayor of Sutton.

Major Christopher Goodwin wrote afterwards "Many thanks for inviting me to the above event, which I thoroughly enjoyed. [the youngsters] looked after me so well, taking me round all the stands, please thank them on my behalf." I am so proud of Vatsal and George, you did a wonderful job and flew the flag brilliantly for the Scouting movement and our unit in particular.

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

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

John Banbury Perkins (Group Scout Leader)
Peter James Randall (Treasurer)
Jeff Richards (Chair)
Andrew William John Low (Cub Scout Leader)
Ann Low (Beaver Scout Leader)
Robert William Low
Sarah McLeod - (Secretary)
Sarah Jane King
Chloe King
Hanna Louise Randall (Scout Leader)

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 runs.

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 need more adults to get involved in Scouting and running the group. We especially want to recruit additional trustees who are not uniformed members. This won't mean having to get involved in direct leading but please speak to me or JP about other ways to help. Are

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you good with Social Media, Graphic Design or Filming? Are you good with writing or planning? I am sure that we can put your skills to use!

The financial report for 2021 needs to be read in the context of the disruption the COVID pandemic caused to face-to-face Scouting activities.

JP our Group Scout Leader will thank the leaders but I want to thank Sarah Mcleod, for her role as secretary to the Executive Committee. She has the rather thankless task of chasing each of the sections for the term reports and making sure we are ready for the AGM. This is all about ensuring that as a registered Charity everything is conducted in good order.

The group executive has met 3 times this year.

Jeff Richards (Chair)



Treasurers Report 2021

During this financial year, each section spent considerable effort in maximising membership numbers following the easing of lockdown restrictions. As a result, membership subscriptions for 2021 are included in section accounts ready to transfer to the Group Account (now transferred). The other source of income was a Gift aid claim on a restricted membership activity from 2020.

If you are not signed up for Gift Aid, I would urge you to do so as the group can claim an extra 25p for every £1 of subscriptions received. It will not cost you any extra.

The Group monitored the rent commitment, as six months were paid in advance based on weekly usage from the beginning of the year. We were mindful that there have been restricted meetings in line with official guidelines. As a result, no rent was liable during 2021.

The main item of expenditure was £1,282 for District subs. The Group also purchased a replacement gazebo.

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

- COIF Deposit Account 12.95% (2021 14.83%)
- COIF Investment Fund 14.02% (2021 7.34%)

The Group continues to show a strong financial operating base.

Peter Randall
Treasurer



Income and expenditure statement

1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021

	2021		2020
Income	£	£	£
Subscriptions Beavers	0.00		1,647.00
Subscriptions Cubs	0.00		1,737.00
Subscriptions Scouts	0.00		0.00
Gift Aid	304.31		759.78
Activities	0.00		0.00
Camp and Activities	0.00		0.00
Family Camp 2020	0.00		770.00
CubJam 2019 (Bursary Income)	0.00		0.00
Badges & Uniform	0.00		0.00
COIF Transfer	0.00		0.00
		304.31	4,913.78
Expenditure			
Rent	0.00		2,572.44
Insurance	406.68		396.34
Training	0.00		0.00
Admin Expenses	87.29		0.00
Equipment	547.17		0.00
Activities	0.00		0.00
Camps	0.00		0.00
Health and Safety	0.00		218.25
Family Camp 2020	0.00		770.00
Scout Shop	0.00		0.00
Website	0.00		(7.19)
Computer Software	126.56		52.42
Annual Subscriptions	1,282.00		1,829.50
		2,449.70	5,831.76
 Operating Surplus/Deficit for year		(2,145.39)	(917.98)
Financed by:			
	B/fwd	Movement	C/fwd
General Purpose Fund	6,547.55	(2,145.39)	4,402.16
Bursary Fund	500.00	0.00	500.00
Treasurers Account	0.00	0.00	0.00
COIF Deposit Account	29,241.18	3,785.66	33,026.84
COIF Investment Fund	128,818.43	18,061.79	146,880.22
	165,107.16	19,702.06	184,809.22
Section Accounts			
Scout Shop	153.46	0.00	153.46
Beaver Section	2,625.98	871.72	3,497.70
Cub Section	1,871.70	1,852.36	3,724.06
Scout Section	1,084.59	150.10	1,234.69
	5,735.73	2,874.18	8,609.91

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Beavers - End of Year Report 2021 - 2022

We have had a busy year with the colony and have managed to do more activities this year which have resulted in the Beavers earning various badges. The Colony has grown 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. Five Beavers have completed the Bronze Award this year and all have received their Emergency Aid stage 1 badge.

We started the year by doing the Money Skills Activity Badge, learning about the history of coins, designing our own coins and making a collection of items. They also did parts of the Skills Challenge and Teamwork Challenge badges. We had a fun evening tasting the Beavers' favourite food and talking about the ingredients.

They also learnt about St Nicholas Church, its history, Fox's or the Rector's job and wrote their own prayers. We ended the term with a Christmas party.

In January we celebrated Burns Night with vegetarian Haggis, shortbread biscuits and Scottish Country dancing. We also celebrated Chinese New Year. For the Winter Olympics, we played ice hockey and tried curling. For World book day we visited Sutton Library and had a story, and some songs made fruit kebabs and left our toys for a week's sleepover. The library sent lots of pictures of the toys doing activities in the library. The Beavers continued with the food theme by completing the Cook's Activity Badge with toasties and smoothies.

They also completed the Emergency Aid Stage 1 badge.

April started with a mini beast hunt in the graveyard. We then did some problem-solving puzzles and the Safety Activity badge. At the end of May, the Beavers had a sleepover at Frylands Wood where they did grass sledging, tunnels and toasted marshmallows on a fire. They joined the Cubs to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with party games and food. They have been for a walk along the High Street and finished off the International Activity Badge and learned some knots. They hope to finish with the Experiment Activity badge at the end of term.

I would like to thank the parents who have helped me with Beavers, without your help I wouldn't be able to run Beavers. I would like to thank Badger, Woodpecker, Squirrel, Hedgehog and Robin for all their support and help. I also want to thank my young D of E helper for her help.

This year the Beaver of the Year is a Beaver who has made her own challenges throughout the two years. She joined the section and started to do Activity badges; she has now



completed all 22 Activity badges available for Beavers. There was never a question that she would obtain the Bronze Award, it was just when she would get it. They have grown in maturity over the year, and they have become the person who will look after and encourage any new member into Scouts. They are always enthusiastic and fully participate in the evenings.

The Beaver of the Year award goes to Briony Mckellow.

Ann Low (Otter)
Beaver Section Leader



Cubs – End of Year Report – 2021/2022

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 several 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. During the Autumn term, the Cubs worked towards their Skills Challenge Badge, and some did their Personal Challenges. We did an indoor camp at Frylands Wood where they tried shooting, Fred Flintstone cars and the assault course as well as some campfire cooking. We finished the term with a Christmas party the last night.

In January we started with Emergency Aid Stage 2. We had Paul Green come to teach the Cubs all the basics and there were several quizzes on tablets, and we saw inside Ophelia's body! We had an evening celebrating Chinese New Year and the Winter Olympics. After half term, we had a trading evening to earn enough points to obtain, materials to build a shelter the following week.

We learnt how to make rope for the Pioneering Activity badge and used our rope to tie knots. For Easter, we gave eggs and crafts in a bag instead of a meeting because the hall floor was being revarnished.

May began with a water fun afternoon at Paxmead trying out kayaking, dragon boat and SUPs. Some Cubs completed the Team Leader Challenge Badge this term. The Cubs joined the Beavers at Frylands Wood to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with some party games and food.

They completed parts of the World Challenge looking at international games and faiths. They had an Alien camp at Boilder Hurst for two nights where they walked the Lizard Trail on Headley Heath, made a shelter, cooked pizzas, did wide games and sent messages to each other.

We are finishing the term with the Fire Safety badge.

2 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 (Ferao), Paul (Kaa) 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 and also Kieran for his 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 Vincent Allen.

Andrew Low (Akela)
Cub Scout Section Leader



Scouts – End of Year Report – 2021/2022

In the last year, the troop has completely restarted, when we returned to scouts in September 2021 there were not enough young people for the troop to continue. We had to make the tough decision to shut the troop briefly whilst we recruited new members. We had a fantastic response to our recruitment drive and reopened the troop 3 weeks later with 8 new members. The troop has continued to grow and now has 14 young people and 1 young leader in regular attendance.

The troop has been working on several badges over the past year including

- Chef
- Hikes
- Nights Away
- Time on Water
- Emergency Aid
- Pioneering
- Mechanic
- Fire Safety

From next term we will be starting to work towards our challenge badges, including the expedition challenge, this badge is great for getting the scouts ready for doing the Duke of Edinburgh award when they go up to Explorers.

Some of the highlights of this year have been:

- Burns Night
 - We celebrated the traditional Scottish evening; the Scouts had the opportunity to try haggis, Iron Bru, and traditional Scottish games.
- Arm Pit Fudge
 - It is not as bad as it sounds if you would like to try it, please ask the leaders for the recipe.
- Bird Boxes
 - The Scouts made bird boxes including drilling holes and screwing them together. Each scout made their own bird box and was able to take it home to put up somewhere near their home.
 - The Scouts used power and hand tools to complete the project.
- Ice Skating
 - At the end of the Autumn term, we went ice skating at Hampton Court Palace. It was a great evening even with the added challenge of the minibus breaking down on route to Hampton Court Palace.
- Hike



- We travelled by minibus to Margery Wood National Trust Car Park, from there we went on a 5KM hike taking in the lovely Colley Hill viewpoint near Reigate Hill.
- Sailing Trip
 - Some of our Scouts went on the district sailing trip with Discovery Sailing Project, the Scouts joined the sailing yachts on the River Hamble and sailed to Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight where they spent the night before returning to the river Hamble the following day. Whilst on board the scouts learned about how to hoist sails, steer the boat, tack, and jib, as well as domestic tasks like cooking, washing up, cleaning etc.

We are incredibly lucky to have a fantastic leadership team who give up their time freely to the Scout Troop, thank you to all of you for everything you do for the troop.

We are looking forward to another fun year for the troop and especially our first troop camp which is planned for September.

Hanna Pearcy
Scout Leader



Group Scout Leader's Report for Annual General Meeting 2022

After a couple of very difficult years, I am very glad to report that our Group has pulled through and is back on an even keel.

I am not usually overly concerned with the census figures we submit to Head Quarters each year –there are always small ups and downs. This year we have shown increases in numbers in all three sections and we have 15 Beavers, 25 Cubs and 9 Scouts. All Sections are fully staffed and the Leaders have completed the required training.

The Sections have good and varied programmes which meet the requirements in providing a mixture of games, training for activity badges and perhaps most important of all helping the young members to work together and to take their place in society as they grow up.

The Group has a wide range of camping equipment suitable for all levels of activities we need to carry out.

All of the above statements are true. But do not fully reflect the dedication and hard work that is involved in putting on the weekly meetings, outings and camps. Anyone who thinks that our Leaders just turn up once a week to run the meetings (with a programme that has magically appeared) and then go home with the job done for a well earned rest before the next week's meeting is wrong.

Our Leaders have overall programmes worked out each term as well as detailed programmes for each evening. In addition to the planning meetings there are Group, District meetings and training courses to attend. The planning for camps takes up a great deal of time as well. If parents think of the time they need to spend arranging outings and holidays for their families, just imagine what is needed to put on a camp for 10, 20 or more children.

Then there is the administration to be taken care of. Sections must account for all the money they collect for subs and camps and produce accounts. We are a charity and must comply with the requirements of the Charity Commissioners. Records must be kept of attendances and the progress each member makes towards the Awards and activity badges.

Then there is the Group Scout Leader who appears from time to time asking how things are going!

My role as Group Scout Leader is to try to keep the Leaders content and running their sections in accordance with the aims and rules of Scouting.

I have to say that in general our Group runs well with a light touch I can let the Leaders run their sections– why keep a dog and bark your self!

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At this point, I would like to mention our Leaders by name.

Ann (Otter) and Andrew (Akela) and their teams consistently run their Sections to a high standard. Andrew is our Group Quartermaster as well and with the willing help of all of us keeps the Group supplied with the required working equipment.

Hanna had to restart the Scout Troop in September after numbers fell catastrophically over the summer. Together with Ben and the rest of her team, she put together a very effective recruitment programme and the Troop has reopened. The programme has been adapted to the fact that up to now all the Scouts are new to Scouting. They are looking forward to new members coming up from the Cub Pack.

Finally, I would like to mention the 2 lay (non-uniformed) members of the Executive. Peter Randall, our Treasurer keeps us financially in order (despite decamping to the south coast), and Jeff Richards brings his unbounded enthusiasm to the role of chairman of the Group. I know he is keen to bring in more parents to the Group Executive and also to get a Development Plan in place, both of which will help the Group set targets for the next few years. I fully support both of these aims.

JP - John Perkins
Group Scout Leader