

308TH MANCHESTER SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1015851

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1992-12-18

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 112 Wilton Road
Crumpsall
Manchester
M8 4PX

Phone 01617954863

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Activities

Objects: THE INSTRUCTION OF BOYS OF ALL CLASSES IN THE PRINCIPLES OF DISCIPLINE, LOYALTY AND GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

Activities: Nonstatutory youth organisation with youth members aging from 4yrs to 14yrs.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED (IN PRACTICE GREATER MANCHESTER AREA)
- Manchester City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£36,053	£30,620	-	-
2024-03-31	£26,591	£24,071	-	-
2023-03-31	£27,991	£39,952	-	-
2022-03-31	£27,183	£15,093	-	-
2021-03-31	£28,729	£12,897	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adam Johnson		2024-06-01
Christopher Vickers		2024-06-01
Deborah Woodcock		2018-04-01
Jacqueline Ritchie		2025-06-01
James McCormack		2024-06-01
MICHAEL DOLAN		
Michelle Kelly		2024-06-01
STEPHEN FRANCIS DAVIES		

308TH MANCHESTER SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1015851

Accounts

Scouts



308th Manchester

Annual Review 2025



AGM – 6th June



Welcome to our AGM

You will see from the reports on the following pages how much each section has done, and it goes without saying this is all down to our volunteers. The group relies on these volunteers to be able to run each section and some even help on multiple nights. Without these people we wouldn't be able to grow the way we have and since the last AGM.

So big thanks go to everyone who volunteers in any capacity and if you're thinking of helping on either a weekly basis or when you can please come and have a chat to me.

I would like to congratulate all the leaders who will be presented with awards tonight - but would like to focus on one individual - Steve Davis who received 'The Silver Wolf' award late last year - The **Silver Wolf** is the highest award made by The Scout Association "for services of the most exceptional character." Steve has over 45 years' service as a leader and has done several roles including being the 308th Group Scout Leader for many years and he is now our Treasurer and go to guy when we need help – the award was truly deserved.

Also well done to Jack Ritchie who achieved his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award – Jack was invited to Buckingham Palace as a celebration of his achievement.

Finally - Congratulations also to all the Scouts who win awards tonight, I know there were tough decisions made on who the winners would be, as so many were in contention and deserving.

Mike Dolan – Group Lead Volunteer

Agenda

1. Introduction and welcome

2. Apologies for absence

3. Governance topics

- Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17th May 2024
- Note the Group's financial year.

4. Review of the previous year - GLV

- The Group Lead Volunteer's review

5. Making appointments - Chair

- Appoint the Group Chair
- Appoint the Group Treasurer
- Appoint members of the Group Trustee Board

6. Awards

7. Closing remarks

Accounts



308th Manchester Scout Group

Income & Expenditure

	Cr		Dr	
	2024/25	2023/24	2024/25	2023/24
Youth Section				
Subscriptions	£ 13,805.00	£ 12,347.00	Bank Charges	£ 87.10
Youth Section Allowance			Online Youth Manager	£ 152.47
Balances	£ -	£ 699.00	Charges	£ 101.50
Explorer Shack use			Go-Cardless	£ 586.36
donation	£ 462.88	£ 749.55	Gas Usage	£ 969.10
Sunna Scout Group	£ 514.50	£ 153.00	Electricity Usage	£ 888.54
Manchester City Council			Water Usage	£ 427.31
(Polling Station)	£ 360.00	£ 150.00	MCC Ground Rent	£ 85.00
MCC Grant (ParkLife)	£ 3,025.62	£ -	MCC Rates	£ 123.50
Scout Association Start-Up			Insurance- Shack,	
Grant	£ -	£ 3,500.00	Equipment & Helpers	£ 1,356.64
NMDSC (Membership			Membership Fees	£ 6,832.00
Rebate)	£ 58.00	£ 54.00	Shack Maintenance	£ 836.15
Camp Subsidy NMDSC	£ 75.00	£ 75.00	Camping Equipment	£ 1,184.73
Donations	£ 385.00	£ 199.59	Resources, Badges &	
Invest, Group Tee Shirts &			Neckerchiefs	£ 1,515.28
Uniforms	£ 433.05	£ 379.00	AGM Engraving & Trophies	£ 225.00
Activiy, Event & Camp			Fundraising Costs	£ 5,282.70
Fees All Sections	£ 9,035.30	£ 7,032.13	Section Meetings Weekly	
Group Fundraising	£ 7,898.83	£ 1,252.77	Expences	£ 1,726.95
			Events & Camps All	£ 1,530.61
			Sections	£ 8,092.37
			Leader Activity Training	£ 250.00
			Donations	£ 50.00
				£ -
				£ -
Year Total	<u>£ 36,053.18</u>	<u>£ 26,591.04</u>	Year Total	<u>£ 30,620.23</u>
Bank Balance B/F	£ 27,099.87	£ 23,901.57	Bank Balance C/F	£ 33,667.72
Cash Balance B/F	£ 2,132.52	£ 2,810.93	Cash Balance C/F	£ 997.62
	<u>£ 65,285.57</u>	<u>£ 53,303.54</u>		<u>£ 65,285.57</u>
				<u>£ 53,303.54</u>

Squirrels

Squirrel Scouts Annual Report – 2025

What an amazing year the Squirrel Scouts have had!

Our Squirrel evenings always start off with a welcome song, where we can individually say hello to everyone who joins us, this is a great source of routine for the children as well and making them all feel welcome and comfortable from the beginning. Each time a new young person joins us it's wonderful to see how welcoming our Squirrels are to them and how helpful they are at teaching them each of their new friends' names.



This year we have had lots of adventures! We went on our first winter camp with the Beavers where we enjoyed having a campfire, doing Christmas crafts, having a disco & seeing Santa! Our Squirrels were so amazing on our camp we're looking forward to doing it all again next Christmas!

We have also explored the Stars and planets around us in our "Explore Space" badge. We learnt that Spain was a country and not a planet 😊 and how to use a telescope to look at the moon and stars at nighttime. We also looked closer to home, and we learned all about the points of the compass and how to navigate around our local area using a compass. These are all valuable skills that the Squirrels will continue to develop through their scouting journey.

We were also very lucky to have a sign language teacher come and visit us for "International Sign Language Week". We learnt how to sign our welcome song in sign language, how to spell our names in sign and how to sing the rainbow song! The children were wonderful at this and really did us all proud with our guest!



As the summer months have progressed and the weather has improved, we have started to explore our local area more, looking at how we can help the environment in our area. We have made bird feeders and explored our local park to learn about the animals that live around us.

As always, we are incredibly proud of our Squirrels and the wonderful achievements they have made this year. We have seen many of our older Squirrels move up to Beavers and we are sad to see them grow.

As the year has gone on, we have had some changes to the Squirrels team, with Kimbob moving over to run Cubs – Becky has stepped up to co-lead Squirrels with Eve and she has done a fantastic job!

We also have a wonderful team of dedicated volunteers who turn up every week despite all having their own work lives and families, and they provide a great program of activities for the children. We also have several dedicated young leaders from our Youth Explorers section who give up their time once a week to come and help run the nights for the children.

Without the time these volunteers give up, Squirrels would not be possible. So, I personally want to thank, Becky, Kimbob, Leanne, Lee, Sharron, Jolanta, Sarah, Emmy, Rowan & Tyla-Leigh

We cannot wait for another year of Squirrel Scouting!

Eve – Squirrel Scout Leader

BEAVERS

Monday and Thursday

This has been a very exciting year for both beaver groups. We went on a camp to Bradley Wood where we went on cresta run, did archery and lots of Halloween activities.

We had our annual Halloween party with lots of amazing costumes and dancing. For the first time, we ran a Christmas camp which we invited our squirrels to join. This was a huge success, with Santa also making an appearance. We have had Police come join us for an evening, where they brought a police van and let the beaver try out the equipment, again a thoroughly enjoyable evening.



We have also had another camp at Ashworth valley, which the beavers loved, we did cave bus, climbing wall and much more.

We have had 14 Beavers achieve their chief scout bronze award, amongst these were our first squirrels to achieve their golden acorn this was a massive achievement so well done to them all.

We have covered many badges and topics this year, according to the beavers the highlight has been archery, den building, photography and space.

Our beavers of the year are amazing beavers, they encompass all the beaver values, are super helpful and kind. We will miss them when they move up to cubs. We want to say a massive thank you to our beaver leaders Jolanta, Sarah, Megan, Mattie, Kim and Lee who come each week to help.



Also, a massive thank you to our young leaders Noah, Harvey, Magda and Amelia - We couldn't run beavers without you all.

We also want to give a special mention to Jackie who after over 20 years will be stepping back from Beavers. Jackie is a massive inspiration to all the leaders and beavers and will be immensely missed by all.

Leanne and Jackie



cubs

Monday Cubs

Haven taken over as Monday Cub Leader in December I have had so much fun!

I took over from the amazing Lee at Christmas and have around 25 Cubs per week, regularly attending and earning their badges!

From the last AGM we did our summer camp at Bradley wood where the children pitched up their own tents and even cooked their breakfasts, lunch and dinners on this camp.



We had Bradley's girlfriend – soon to be wife Alice come teach our amazing cubs first aid. Alice is a paramedic and was able to give the children the skills they need to administer basic first aid skills and help save a life if needed until help arrives.

We have worked on my world badge and learnt about many different cultures and religions including dvalli lamps the children enjoyed this and had so much fun.

During November we all packed up to go on my very first Camp. Wow! What an experience! Having never ran a camp, I think it was something new for us all. But what a great weekend we had, with assault courses, outdoor cooking, building fires and crossing a river on a rope bridge we packed it all in. Along with a full Cub and Scout Christmas dinner to get us all in the Christmas spirit.



Over the Christmas holidays we all broke up for some well-earned rest and saved some energy to put back into to our Scouting when Christmas was over. Our badges throughout January to may have encouraged the children to develop themselves and their skills further. A combination of the Our Skills badge and the Home help badge should now mean your little Cubs are ironing their own clothes, washing their own dishes, and changing their own lightbulbs.... Anyone.... No? Well, they are on their way to becoming more and more independent as they grow through the Scouting groups.

We covered the Communicator Activity Badge we got Eve a new Monday Leader to introduce herself to children they all took part and introduced themselves and told Eve all about themselves. The children used the leaders' devices to show they could make calls

send emails and send text messages, but most of all we learnt about ways we could communicate especially on apps like snap chat wats app and ticktock and we taught the children how to be safe on these apps.

We have many beavers just moved up and are settling into cubs amazingly. We have set up into new sixes our teams completed a few challenges to not only earn their badges but to build their confidence and create some wonderful new friendships. As we move into summer term, we have so much fun planned even a trip to clip and climb planned.



As we moved into the spring our Cubs learn all about different parts of a meal and what makes a healthy meal, eventually, cooking a two-course meal within their groups. Not only developing their cooking skills but also their teamwork skills. And we had some delicious meals made – we have some budding Chefs amongst us!

As this is our first 6 months completed, I wanted to make a note of how proud I am of all our Cubs. They are an absolute pleasure to work with and their enthusiasm and zest for life is infectious. They have just been a huge pleasure to watch them grow and learn their scouting skills.

Of course, I have completed my first 6 months as an Akela as well, and I have loved every minute of it, but I couldn't have done it without a wonderful team around me. Lee H, Leanne, Debbie and Lee C have put the hours in week in and week out to always be there for the Cubs but also a HUGE thanks to our Young Leader HARVEY who attends every week to help and actively helps with planning and getting the evenings set up, to plan and run amazing exciting and varied activities for all the Cubs. And of course, it being my first 6 month I have relied on the Cub Scout experience of Akela Lee to guide me through it, without whom I wouldn't have made it through the first week!

So, thank you team! And here's to another amazing year.....

Akela Kim – Monday Cubs



cubs

Thursday Cubs

Another AGM report for 308th Manchester Cubs, and another year of Scouting passing quicker and quicker. At the time of writing, our Cub pack has grown to 28 Cubs. With a good mix of direct entries and Beavers moving up to Cubs.

April 2024 saw the Cubs Start the Outdoor Challenge Badge. We thought this would be a good way to build up for our outdoor camp in June. Part of this badge required the Cubs to spot the dangers of fire and staying safe whilst at Camp.



We used the month of May to stay outdoors as much as possible. The Cubs leaders hosted an evening of going over the basics of lighting and cooking over a wood fire. We made lovely bacon sandwiches and smores. The Cubs even washed up! We also had a walk around the local area so the Cubs can get used to Navigating!

June 2024 saw the Cubs prepare for going on our Summer Camp. We practiced putting the tents we would use at Camp up, on a Cub night. Lots of vital experience before the Cubs do it for real as part of the Outdoor Challenge Badge. Bradley Wood was the site chosen for



Summer Camp 2024. The Cubs completed lots of adventurous activities such as Archery, Hammock making, First Aid, Cave Bus and Rock Painting. As a new addition, using the skills they had already acquired, they cooked their own breakfast and tea using gas stoves, cleaned and washed up. The leadership team also awarded special campsite badges to those who we thought really deserved one. Congratulations if you were lucky enough! Thank you to Alice for helping with the First Aid Base.

July saw the end to the Scouting Year. But before the Leaders got a well-deserved break, the Cubs were taken for a walk around Blackley Forrest which included some investitures and awarded all the badges they have worked so hard to achieve. We also had our traditional end of year pick nick in Heaton Park. Cubs have the chance to play in the play area and relax on our final night.

Returning to Scouting in September allowed the Cubs to redo their Code of Conduct so themselves, and the leaders know what is expected of them when they come to Cubs. This resulted in our Uniform standards seeing a big improvement. The Cubs started working towards their World Challenge Badge. This requires lots of work allowing the Cubs to achieve many activity badges along the way. One example is the Environmental Conservation Activity Badge. We learnt what is renewable energy and how we can recycle at home.

October was a busy month. The My Faith Activity Badge took president due to feeding into the Our World Challenge Badge. The Cubs made posters about the Catholic Church, and celebrated Easter by making Chocolate Corn Flake Cakes. We also learnt about what services are in the local area and made our own town in the Shack! We also learnt some sign language as part of the Disability Awareness Badge. Thank you to Rachel for leading this. The Cubs and I learnt a lot!



Our busy month continued with our new tradition of having any Cubs who are moving to Scouts, and needed to complete their Silver Award, teaching a Cub a skill. In October we had Isla, Nadia, Molly all teaching their own skill. Isla taught us some netball skills, Nadia drawing & Laura how to finger knot a bracelet. Well, done to all 3 of these, it is not hard to present yourself in front of a group and talk. October was rounded off by a friend of the group Les, coming to talk about the local area for the night. It was insightful, and the Cubs got to see and touch history by handling old coins. Thank you, Les!

With the dark nights moving in, the Cubs were able to start the Astronomy Badge. The Cubs learnt the differences between planets and stars by learning different actions for each. We also made a map of the solar system to scale using a map of the UK! We also made our own orrery's to show how the Earth and Moon both orbit the Sun. We also celebrated the festival of Diwali to round off the World Challenge Badge. The Cubs made lanterns out of card and glow sticks.

Our biggest activity in November is undoubtedly our annual Winter Camp at Ashworth Valley. This was a really challenging Camp due to the awful wet and cold weather we experienced this weekend. The leadership team had to think on their feet to provide a safe, and fun program for the Cubs. We completed Soft Axe Throwing, Christmas Crafts, S'mores, Cave Bus and Archery. No rope bridge this year though as the river was too high!



December meant an annual trip to the Pantomime & the Cubs Christmas Party. And let's not forget the 3 weeks break for the Leaders!

Heading into January and February meant a new term and new badges for the Cubs to achieve. This term we worked towards my personal favourite, the Our Skills Challenge Badge. The Cubs also completed other activity badges such as the Communicator and Chef Activity Badge. The Cubs completed activities such as talking through walkie talkies and taking messages down in invisible ink, only shown when using a UV torch.

One night also had 4 different teams cooking 4 different meals for 2 people. Examples we had are spaghetti bolognese and oriental salad plus katsu chicken curry and Victoria sponge cake. The Cubs also cleaned and put away all the equipment, plus the food was outstanding too!

March gave us more time to work on the Our Skills Challenge Badge, we learnt what different functions of each organ in the body were and completed lots of exercise to achieve the Athletics Activity Badge. The Cubs also used their creativity to make sculptures out of different bits of recycling. Personally, I was really impressed with what the Cubs came up with!

Our fantastic Cubs have achieved 168 badges in the last year alone with many more on the way. Thank you to all Leaders, Occasional Helpers, Cubs and Parents for their hard work over the last year.

I am already looking forward to the next! Until next time – **Bradley.**

SCOUTS

Wednesday Scouts

Having taken over the section in November these first 6 months as Team Lead for Wednesday Scouts have been a challenge however, they have been exciting, and we have covered a lot during this time.

November – December 2024

This was about getting to know the section as much as they were getting to know me and our new leadership team, fortunately our team knew most of the Scouts there as they had been through our other sections, but we did manage to cover a lot, including some cooking and some badgework covering things like our Astronomers badge!



January to March 2025

This is always a hard term to cover with the Shorter Nights and Weather Conditions largely restricting you to Indoors however it did give us the opportunity to cover the Teamwork Challenge Badge, Fire Safety & Artist Badge and a night out at Puttstars Minigolf. We also had our January Camp and some of our Scouts served as part of a Service crew for Ashworth Valley towards the End of March.





April 2025 onwards

So far now the weather and light are better we have begun practising our practical skills we will be covering a lot including map reading, tent pitching, knife and axe work, fire lighting to name a few.

We also had a team compete in in the District Lightweight Hike, covering a total of 25km over 2 days hiking through Simister, Radcliffe and Bury!



While I am only just getting started, I feel that all our Scouts have done well over the past year and achieved a lot with still lots to do moving forward, they are a credit to you and to our Group.

Of course, none of this would be possible without our leadership team, my appreciation to Jack and Daryl for all their help and advice over the last 6 months and to Noah and Harvey who have been helping recently with our practical skills. My thanks also go to Sophie, Donna, Dan and Matthew for all the hard work they put in getting this Section up and running, it wouldn't be where it is today without their help!

Lee - Wednesday Scouts Team Lead

SCOUTS

Friday Scouts



We started the year with winning the district lightweight hike where the scouts had to walk 22 Km over 2 days from Rowarth to Boarfold Campsite on day one, then from Boarfold to Chadkirk on the second day. They had to find their own way using a map between checkpoints and the campsite. Well done to them for completing the weekend and coming 1st.



Our annual camp was next on our calendar. In May we stayed at Forest camp in Cheshire for 2 nights. The programme for camp included back to basics, this is where we learned how to use knives and Axes safely to chop wood, we also had some fun activities doing Archery, low ropes, orienteering and rafting. We cooked on wood all weekend and did some backwoods cooking. We had a good few weeks of nights in and out of the shack when we started doing map reading and



going out on hikes in preparation for Light Weight Hiking competition, we also did some fire lighting and tent prep getting ready for camp.

As part of a badge rotation, we started the photography, gardener and artist badge. The scouts were split into 3 groups and each group did a different activity to complete the badge. Another badge we completed was the master's at Arms. The scouts were split into 2 groups and half of

the scouts went to the 7th in Failsworth, where their leader Heather ran a shooting activity. The scouts really enjoyed this and got to use hand pistols for the first time. The other half of the group stayed at the shack and did archery. We swapped around a few Fridays later so both groups were able to do each activity.

Our group BBQ was in July; this is where we found out we had won the hiking competition, and we received the trophy. It was also good to see all the parents and catch up for a chat! Summer Camp came around quickly, camping Saturday till Saturday, we went to Great Tower Scout Campsite in the Lake District. It was a busy week, and activities included, natural rock climbing, Ghyll scrambling, Kayaking, Crate stacking and we also got to do 2 lovely hikes exploring The Cathedral Caves and the amazing Lake District scenery. We cooked on wood all week and the scouts had to work hard to keep their fires going. We spent some time in Ambleside and the scouts were able to go off by

themselves and spend a couple of hours looking around the town, spending their money and exploring.

After the summer break Scouts returned in September and we started our preparation for the Blackley Shield. We entered 2 teams to compete in the competition. The Blackley Shield is a scouting competition, and they compete in teams to complete bases. The bases require excellent teamwork, with lots of activities and brain teasers. We are pleased to say our Team A did very well and won the competition. Our B team enjoyed the weekend and gained a lot of experience for next year.

Our programme from September till December included mini golf in the Trafford centre for a night out. We did a ready steady cook night, Assault course and Halloween where everyone made a great effort and came dressed up and we had our usual ghoulish games and a best dressed award. The last night of scouts before Christmas break, we had a casino night where everyone came dressed smart and everyone had a great time.



Also, in December we ventured into Manchester to the ice-skating rink where we nearly didn't get to skate due to a power cut, then we were allowed to get back in line as the power was back on, only for it to go off again, finally the power stayed on, and we were allowed on the ice. We were getting a bit worried about what to do with 28 scouts in the middle of Manchester on a Friday night. When we came back after Christmas, we had our annual January camp at Ashworth valley. Activities included Crossbows, shooting, fire lighting and a river crossing. It was a very cold and wet couple of days luckily; we were inside most of the time.

Friday night's programme was also busy with Shrove Tuesday, a night based on the TV show "The Cube", a Night Hike and a night at Ashworth valley doing wide games. For the first time this year we decided to volunteer at Ashworth Valley Scout Camp Site doing service crew. We had 4 scouts from Friday and 4 from Wednesday to help do some work on the site. It was a very chilled out weekend where we did a variety of jobs that the site had set out for us. We are hopefully going to be doing it again in the future. This weekend helps with the challenge badges the scouts require to complete their Chief Scout Gold Award. It has been a busy year, and I look forward to giving out lots of badges in the next few weeks.

Thank you to all the parents who help with lifts and support. And to all the leaders who give up their time to help with not only troop nights but weekend camps, nights away and organisation of hikes and activities. And to you our scouts, thank you for letting us help you grow.

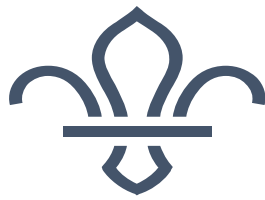
Jack, Andrea, Andy and Adam.

308TH MANCHESTER SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1015851

Accounts

Scouts



308th Manchester

Annual Review 2024



AGM – 17th May



Welcome to our AGM and Race night, we have decided to do it a little differently this year and have a night where we can still celebrate the achievements of the sections whilst at the same time have a little fun.

You will see from the reports on the following pages how much each section has done, and it goes without saying this is all down to our unpaid volunteers. The group relies on these volunteers to be able to run each section and some even help on multiple nights. Without these people we wouldn't be able to grow the way we have and since the last AGM we started a new Scout section on a Wednesday night which has also flourished.

So big thanks go to everyone who volunteers in any capacity and if your thinking of helping on either a weekly basis or when you can please come and have a chat to me.

The Shack our HQ has not had much work done on it this year, but we have plans to put a canopy on the back so that the sections can do more outside activities. We also are now able to store all our kayaks in the old container which is an activity we can provide on camps for the older sections. Lee Hirst and Jack Ritchie have also gained their Archery permits and so the group have bought equipment to be able to run sessions in the Shack and at camps.

Finally, congratulations to all the Scouts who win awards tonight, but also to all the leaders who will be presented with awards – leaders put in a lot of work and time, so please thank them as without them there would be no meetings.

Mike Dolan – Group Lead Volunteer



Agenda

1. Introduction and welcome

2. Apologies for absence

3. Governance topics

- Note the Group's financial year.

4. Review of the previous year

- The Group Lead Volunteer's review

5. Making appointments - Chair

- Appoint the Group Chair
- Appoint the Group Treasurer
- Appoint members of the Group Trustee Board

6. District Remarks

7. Awards

8. Closing remarks



**308th Manchester Scout Group
Income & Expenditure
01-Apr-2023 / 31-Mar-2024**



Income

Bank Balance B/F	£ 23,901.57
Cash Balance B/F	£ 2,810.93
Section Subscriptions	£ 12,347.00
Section Allowance Balances	£ 699.00
Explorer Shack use donation	£ 749.55
Sunna Scout Group Shack Use	£ 153.00
Manchester City Council (Polling Station)	£ 150.00
NMDSC (Membership Rebate)	£ 54.00
Camp Subsidy NMDSC	£ 75.00
The Scout Association Start-Up Grant	£ 3,500.00
Donations	£ 199.59
Investures, Group Tee Shirts & Uniforms	£ 379.00
25th World Scout Jamboree Fees	£ 1,002.50
25th WSJ fundraising	£ 451.58
Group Fundraising Events	£ 1,252.77
Activitiy, Event & Camp Fees All Sections	£ 5,578.05

£ 53,303.54

Expenditure

Bank Charges	£ 91.25
OSM Charges	£ 152.47
Go-Cardless	£ 513.03
Gas Usage	£ 773.26
Electricity Usage	£ 845.37
Water Usage	£ 313.09
MCC Ground Rent	£ 85.00
MCC Rates	£ 126.72
Insurance- Shack, Equipment & Helpers	£ 1,258.82
Membership Fees	£ 5,967.00
AGM Engraving & Trophies	£ 72.00
25th WSJ Final Payment	£ 1,776.00
25th WSJ IST Subsidy	£ 500.00
Shack Maintenance	£ 522.48
First-Aid, Activity & Camping Equipment	£ 2,008.19
Resources, Badges & Neckerchiefs	£ 1,745.75
Group BBQ	£ 218.03
Fundraising Costs	£ 190.27
Section Meetings Weekly Expences	£ 1,530.61
Events & Camps All Sections	£ 5,016.81
2024 Summer Camp Deposit	£ 315.00
Scout May-24 Camp Deposit	£ 50.00
Bank Balance C/F	£ 27,099.87
Cash Balance C/F	£ 2,132.52

£ 53,303.54

Squirrels

Squirrel Scouts Annual Report – 2024

What an amazing second year the Squirrel Scouts have had!



As one of the very first Squirrel drey's to open in the country we are so proud and honoured to have the opportunity to provide Scouting to children aged 4-6 years old. And being one of only two drey's in the whole Greater Manchester East area, we have certainly been very busy!!

Our Squirrel evenings always start of with a welcome song, where we can individually say hello to everyone who joins us, this has been a great source of routine for the children as well and making them all feel welcome and comfortable from the beginning. Each time a new young person joins us it's wonderful to see how welcoming our Squirrels are to them and how helpful they are at teaching them each of their new friends' names.

During the course of each session, we play some games (duck, duck, goose being a firm favourite!) but we also work on badge work with our Squirrels. Using the guiding principal of Scouts, "Skills for life", our badge program runs at an age appropriate level to ensure our youngest members are having fun and developing their skills for when they move on up to the Beaver unit.



We have done lots of exciting activities this year, including our first day camp in December which was a wonderful success. This gave our Squirrels a taste of a day a camp including going around bases, learning some scouting skills, camp lunch and tea - and a wonderful campfire with songs and SNOW!



We have taken part in science night, exploring how skittles make patterns and coke and mentos explode!

Which the children absolutely loved 😊

We have planted seeds in our community and done litter picks to look after our own area to get our Local Superhero badge. As part of this we have also done a sponsored walk and **raised £417 to go to a local care home**. The Squirrels did

fantastic in raising this money, and completing the walk! The money raised will make a significant contribution to the people of the home so they can have a summer trip!



We have a wonderful team of Squirrel leaders, who give up their time week in and week out to give the children such enjoyable experience and I(Eve) would like to thank them personally for this.

Finally, we would just like to say, we feel absolutely privileged to be able to working with these wonderful young children and they make us smile and laugh every week. They show great kindness to each other, and their behaviour is always wonderful. They are a credit to their families and wonderful part of the 308th Manchester.

We cannot wait for another year of Squirrel Scouting!

Eve, Kim, Sharron, Lee, Jolanta, Becky and Harvey!

BEAVERS

Monday and Thursday Beavers



This last year has seen us grow both groups amazingly; we have had 13 beavers who have achieved their Chief Scout Bronze award with many more to achieve by the end of the year.

When we returned after the summer holidays, we had an amazing camp at Ashworth Valley where the beavers did a range of activities including low ropes, river crossing and go karts. We also spent a day at Manley Mere where the beaver's spent the day doing the adventure trail and all came home extremely muddy and tired. We had our Halloween party with lot of games and prizes. They have earned many badges including their outdoor challenge, cooking and international where they learnt all about the jamboree. We finished the term with our Christmas party.



After Christmas beavers got to learn all about the world and different countries with our World challenge badge, they also earned their book reader, disability and experiment badges. We finished this term with our camp at Dunham Park, where they got to enjoy archery, den building, t-shirt decorating and backwoods cooking. Earning their camp craft badge on camp.



This term we have some exciting badges for the beavers to work on including Adventure challenge, money, and communication badge. Our next camp has been booked at Bradley Wood.



Our beavers of the year are very hard working and exemplary examples of the scout values in everything they do each week. They will become amazing cubs and we are sorry to see them go.

Want to say a big thank you to Jolanta, Daryl, Mattie, Kim, Lee, Megan and Maria who help us each week. Also, a big thank you to our young leaders and scout helpers Harvey, Noah, Magdalena and Amelia.

Leanne and Jackie

cubs

Monday Cubs

This is my first full year as Section Leader, we've seen our pack grow to incredible numbers, covered a lot of badge work, had a couple of excellent camps, and achieved a lot over the past 12 months.

April – July 2023

During this term we covered our Adventure Challenge Badge, this included a trip to Ashworth Valley for an Adventure Challenge Evening where Cubs did things like Archery, Low Ropes and a Scavenger Hunt. Some of our Cubs represented our Group at the District St. Georges Day event at Heaton Park, We also had our Summer Camp, held at Dunham Park where we got to try Kayaking, Archery & an Evening deer walk around Dunham Massey!



September to December 2023

During this term we covered our Personal Challenge Badge, Cubs were set tasks to complete over several weeks that ranged from keeping their Bedroom tidy to learning how to sew a badge on their Uniform! As the Personal Challenge Badge is mainly done at home it gave us the opportunity to cover several Activity Badges which included the Home Safety Badge, Personal Safety Badge, International Badge, Air Activities & Emergency Aid Badge. We also had our Winter Camp, held at Ashworth Valley in November and our Halloween and Christmas Parties!



January to March 2024

This is always a hard term to cover with the Shorter Nights and Weather Conditions largely restricting you to Indoors however it did give us the opportunity to cover the Teamwork Challenge Badge, Entertainer Activity Badge & Artists Activity Badge. This meant lots of Team Games and activities to keep our minds off the Cold Weather! We also competed in the North Manchester District Arrow Competition which we came Runners Up!



Looking back over the last year I feel incredibly proud of the effort the Cubs have put in, at the core of our beliefs is the idea to challenge ourselves, doing something different that maybe we haven't done before which isn't always easy, every challenge we have set them they have rose to it and excelled in everything which is a testament to their character.

Of course, none of this would be possible without a strong leadership team behind me, my thanks go to Kim, Lee C, Debbie, Daryl and of course who could forget our young leader, Harvey (Actually I did last year, sorry again Harvey!), the Support, advice and effort they put in every single week makes Cubs a very enjoyable experience for all Involved!

Lee – Cubs Leader

cubs

Thursday Cubs

Another AGM report for 308th Manchester Cubs, and another year of Scouting passing quicker and quicker. Recently, our Cub pack has grown to 28 Cubs, after a recent influx from Beavers. Over the past year we have awarded a total of 9 Chief Scout Silver Awards with more on the way!



April and May 2023 saw the Cubs complete their Navigation Level 2 Staged Activity Badge. This given them an in site to Navigating with maps and map reading before their transition to Scouts, where they will put these skills to use in the Lightweight Hike competition. We also had Cubs teaching a skill on their last night at Cubs. These included Archie teaching Chess & Jess teaching origami. The Chef Badge was also completed with the Cubs cooking Cajun Pasta & making Strawberry Cheesecake! It was unbelievably delicious!

May took us to Ashworth Valley where we hosted an Adventure Night for the Cubs as part of the Adventure Challenge Badge. We completed a scavenger hunt, Archery & Low Ropes. Thank you to Lee for organising this with the site and obtaining your Archery Permit!

Heading into June, we started the Gardeners Badge. Due to the lovely weather, we were aiming to spend time outside. The Cubs completed challenges including planting, using gardening tools and guessing which seeds grown into what veg. The Cubs really loved this!

The last weekend of June saw 32 Cubs in total head to Dunham Park Scout Campsite for our Annual Summer Camp. Activities included Kayaking, Shelter Building, Grass Sledging and Archery. We also had a lovely moonlit walk around the Deer Park and a BBQ for tea on the Saturday night!

July saw the end to the Scouting Year. But before the Leaders got a well-deserved break, the Cubs competed the pioneering badge where they learnt to tie three knots. We also had our traditional end of year pick nick in Heaton Park. Cubs have the chance to play in the play area and relax on our final night.

Returning to Scouting in September resulted in the Cubs aiming for their Personal Challenge Badge. This included the Cubs setting themselves a tough, but achievable challenge. And the leaders setting the young people a challenge. The challenges completed included "Cat Sitting" and "Cleaning the house." Well-done to the 14 Cubs who achieved their Personal Challenge Badge.



October was a busy month. The Home Safety and Personal Safety Activity Badges were next on the program. The Cubs made their own Code of Conduct and we also spoke about how to stay safe online too. There was also the usual activities such as the joint Halloween Party where we had fun and laughter.

The district also ran the annual Cubs Cooking Competition. There were 6 teams completing to cook, clean, serve and tidy up a two-course meal for two. I am incredibly pleased to say that the 308th Manchester Thursday Cubs were the Winners! Congratulations to Molly, Laura, Isla & Rile who made a Kidney Bean Curry and Strawberry Cheesecake.

November and December allowed the Cubs to complete the Air Activities & Emergency Aid Staged Activity Badges. For these badges, the Cubs had to talk about a time they had been on an Aircraft & know what to say during a 999 call. Also, during the last full weekend in November, the Cubs stayed overnight at Ashworth Valley for the yearly Winter Camp. Cubs completed a wide range of Activities including Climbing, Archery, Arts and Craft and Crate Stacking. We also invested the new Cubs and had a delicious Christmas Dinner made by Andrea.



The turn of the year saw the Cubs start their Teamwork Challenge Badge. We had an excellent meeting where we had lots of teamwork & problem-solving activities like Dobble & untying themselves from two ropes.

February saw the Cubs complete the Entertainers Badge. This required the Cubs to tell a story, where we provided story boards for them to write down their story and then perform it the week after. For Shrove Tuesday we bought pancakes and allowed the Cubs to top them with a variety of toppings! It was very messy!

We also completed in the District Arrow Competition where the Cubs faced challenges such as tying knots and learning about other World Faiths. Massive congratulations to Molly, JJ, Tilly, Laura, Nadia and Filip for coming first in the district!



Finally, March saw the Artist Badge completed. Posters advertising Cubs were made and will be displayed in the Shack for all to see and made clay models. We also had Joe, JJ and Laura teaching a skill to their fellow Cubs as part of their Team Leader Challenge Badge. Skills included, learning Polish & French and teaching Rugby. It was a wonderful night topped off with them obtaining their Chief Scout Silver

Awards.

Thank you to all Leaders, Occasional Helpers, Cubs and Parents for their hard work over the last year. I am already looking forward to the next!

Bradley.

SCOUTS

Wednesday Scouts

Following the success of both our beaver and cub sections, the opening of another scout section became a necessity. Wednesday 7th June 2023 was the beginning of our journey. We started with 4 new scouts and the help of some of our older scouts from Friday and threw them straight into the deep end with an evening of fire lighting and backwoods cooking. It is safe to say that our first night was a success and by week two we had gained another 3 new scouts. We continued to work on our scouting skills throughout the rest of the summer ready to come back in September to take on our first full year.



September saw us hit the ground running again by attending our first Blackley Shield competition just three weeks into the new term. The Blackley Shield is a scouting competition in which the group has had great success over the years, and we were delighted with our second-place finish losing out to the experience of our Friday team. This was the first time that our scouts had ever camped under canvas, cooked a meal on a fire and navigated the various skill-based activities, to say we were proud of them would be an understatement.

The rest of the year saw us continue to work on our scouting skills alongside some fun activities. Some highlights being our second night hike, walking up to peel tower, and our upcycling project which took more time and effort than we initially anticipated.

The new year brought the challenge of our first camp. We had 8 scouts attend an indoor winter camp at Bramhope Camp site alongside our Friday Scouts. The weekend was successful with our scouts enjoying a range of activities from gladiators to fire lighting. The pizza wraps for lunch have become our first Wednesday Scouts tradition.



After winter camp our attention turned to preparing for our first Spring camp. We enjoyed endless nights lighting fires and making food in the shack alongside some exciting activities. Our 'I'm a celebrity' night allowed the scouts to 'enjoy' some jungle critters and compete to win stars. We completed the traditional assault course, celebrated Chinese New Year, completed various pioneering projects and enjoyed a bingo hike searching for various wildflowers in the local area.

By the end of an unseasonably cold April, we were finally ready to complete our first outdoor scout camp at Bradley Wood. Despite our extensive training in the shack, our scouts had to work hard and learn fast to complete their first scout camp. Setting up site on the Friday night went smoothly for both patrols. Saturday morning allowed our scouts to try archery for the second time (thank you to Lee) before launching into another day of training. We worked on our knife & axe skills, fire lighting and general camping knowledge to prepare both patrols to cook their own evening meals, which they managed without a hitch (the washing up however needed some work).

The camp was going smoothly, until the weather took a turn overnight: anyone can camp in the sunshine. Sunday brought the rain, which in turn brought bad moods and 9 cold and wet scouts (shoutout to Emme for being our ray of sunshine). The scouts (eventually) showed resilience and were smiling on the high ropes course a few hours later before the sunshine rounded off a brilliant first camp. A huge thank you to Steve Lannigan for volunteering a van and helping to keep our costs down.

We are now looking forward to the summer term and our first summer camp in August. Hopefully all the hard work in April will pay off and we can enjoy some more activities – including a cheese night that the scouts are so desperate for.



The success of our group would not be possible without the dedication of our leadership team. A big thanks to the Friday Scouts that have helped us across the year: Noah & Magda who helped us when the numbers were low, Lily who continues to help every week and our now young leaders Harvey and Charlie who we are very proud of. A huge thank you to all our leaders: Donna, Dan, Dilbs and especially Jack and Bee who are new leaders and have come with great energy and ideas.

Sophie – Scout Leader

SCOUTS

Friday Night

The Scouting year has been busy as always, at last year's AGM we were celebrating winning the Light weight hike, and as I write we are in the throes of preparation for this year's competition, we have 2 teams taking part and I am sure we will do well, part of the program this year has been about hiking and map reading, our plan is to complete the Oldham way and we have put a good few night hikes into this. The lightweight hike is challenging for all involved, a lot of work from the leaders, especially Jack and Andy and Adam preparing them to go out walking on their own and the scouts developing the skills and confidence they need.

After light weight hike, we headed to our Spring camp, we were back to Forest Camp in Cheshire. We were blessed with good weather which could make camp so much easier, and we enjoyed a great time on the water making rafts and racing them on the lake, we made hammocks to sleep in and cooked on wood and developed our scouting skills. It's always a great camp.

The good weather continued for scout nights, and we had a great water fight ballons and water pistols along with a water obstacle course. And we worked towards our 1st aid badges.

July 2023 brought us to the end of scouting term, and we celebrated with everyone at the group BBQ. It is always great seeing all the sections together. Not a time for us to stop as we are working towards summer camp which this year was at Hesley Wood in Sheffield. The weather was not so kind, this was a testament to the Scouts who coped well with the mud. It's difficult to sort wood and keep it dry. So, we had lots of practice sewing and chopping and making shavings. Still the fires were a challenge. There were lots of activities, we enjoyed pioneering, made our own washing up and drying area, enjoyed a great hike and an exciting day on the water, kayaking, giant SUP and canoeing. We had our traditional patrol choice meals and the last day out spent in with a chance for the scouts to have a wander and spend some money and buy lovely gifts for the family.

We restarted Scouts in September and launched into getting ready for the Blackley Shield, At Friday night scouts we continued to improve our skills, practicing our knife and axe and fire lighting. I often say this is my favorite competition, it has scouting skills at heart. We once again had 2 teams in the competition, and I am delighted to say that we won. Well, done everyone.

We also had a new member to the 308th Family, Adam and Rosie had a little boy Edward James Raftery born on the 18th September, won't be long before he's in squirrels.

October creeps up and we have our traditional Halloween party, always a good effort by everyone. Loved the outfits and the enthusiasm. Played some great games, particular favorites are bobbing apples and minstrels in icing sugar and our toilet paper mummies.

In December we went ice skating in Manchester. This is a great outing, always interesting herding 25+ scouts through Manchester city center and it's a favorite for the scouts as well. It's great to see how they improve year after year. Last Scout night of the year was our Christmas party, the last few years we have been doing casino night, lots of fun.

In January we had our first joint camp with Wednesday Scouts, we went to Bramhope Scout campsite in Leeds. It was a cold weekend with lots of ice making the weekend a challenge. Friday after we arrived and settled in, we set off for a night hike. The previous week the weather had been snow, frost, and ice. The conditions made our hikes interesting and great fun, for others the hike was short and sweet. Everyone was glad to get to bed.

Saturday saw us running bases, we baked cookies, did archery, took on gladiators and built a trebuchet. The bases were spread throughout the day. After a lovely tea, games and relays and some wide games we settled down to a film, popcorn all round. I am always amazed at how well scouts can stay awake even though they are very tired.

Sunday, we had a full kit inspection and packed our bags. This was followed by bases, we concentrated on fire lighting, chopping wood, learning how to grade wood stack, and finally learning how to light a fire. We looked at different ways of doing this, using flint and steel and shavings. Once the fires got going, we cooked our lunch, we made pizza wraps which taste amazing. Home time came and exhausted we travelled back over the M62 to our warm beds.

A new program for the new year, a rotation of badges which we have been doing over the last 3 months. These are The Artist Badge, Farmer, and Photography. We have taken over the plant beds at the back of the shack and have started growing a variety of veg, onions, pumpkins, and carrots to name a few. We are looking forward to using them to make some delicious food once they have fully grown.

Photography badge: the scouts are using the cameras on their mobile phones to produce images, once they are happy with the pictures, they have taken we will print and display.

Artist Badge, Scouts have been enjoying learning how to draw, we are aiming to do a self-portrait and have been practicing with shapes and shading, all of us have had a black and white picture taken and will aim to complete a self-portrait.

And so, we have come full circle, back to May. On our hikes we have done some litter picking to help with local conservation. The hikes themselves are all good practice, next stop light weight hike ...

Thank you to everyone who has helped with scouts over the last 12 months, especially Lee Hirst and Leanne Hirst, Bradley Vickers, Michael Dolan, and Steve Davies. They are always on hand to help when we need it, at camps and group nights.

We are also well supported by past scouts who are now explorers, we are lucky to be part of such a supportive team.

We must also thank the Scouts and all the Scout parents. It has been a busy and interesting year, here's to the next one.

Jack, Andrea, Andy, and Adam.

308TH MANCHESTER SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1015851

Accounts

Scouts



308th Manchester

Annual Review 2023



AGM – 9th June



Well, we have had our first full year of Scouting since Covid, and the group has been able to get back to normal Scouting – you will see from the reports on the following pages how much each section has done, and it goes without saying this is all down to our unpaid volunteers. The group relies on these volunteers to be able to run each section and some even help on multiple nights. Without these people we wouldn't be able to grow the way we have, and we welcome over 130 scouts from Squirrels aged 4 up to Explorers aged 17 on a weekly basis. So big thanks go to everyone who volunteers in any capacity and if your thinking of helping on either a weekly basis or when you can please come and have a chat to me. As we do grow, we need to make sure we have room for scouts to move between sections and Scouts on a Friday has reached capacity. Therefore, we opened a second Scout section on Wednesday night, and we hope to grow this section over the next year.

The Shack our HQ has also had some work completed on in the last year, you may not be able to see it, but we have a new meeting room where the old stores used to be. We have also had installed new heating plus a new porta cabin which has become our new main equipment store.

There has also been built some gardening beds (again thanks to donations of wood and soil) at the back of the Shack and these will be used by sections for planting flowers and veg over the next year – I sure we will look forward to seeing the results.

Finally, congratulations to all the Scouts who win awards tonight, but also to all the leaders who will be presented with awards – leaders put in a lot of work and time, so please thank them as without them there would be any meetings.

Mike Dolan – Group Lead Volunteer

scouts.org.uk

[#SkillsForLife](https://www.instagram.com/308thMcrScouts)



308th Manchester Scout Group



@308thMcrScouts

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Governance and election of officials
4. Statement of Accounts (Steve - Treasurer)
5. Group Report – (Mike – Group Lead Volunteer)
6. Awards
7. Thank You & Close of Meeting



308th Manchester Scout Group Income & Expenditure 01-Apr-2022 / 31-Mar-2023



Income	Expenditure
Bank Balance B/F £ 33,838.42	Bank Charges £ 46.05
Cash Balance B/F £ 4,475.36	OSM Charges £ 69.41
Squirrel Subs £ 2,511.00	Online Youth Manager £ 88.21
Beaver Subs £ 2,740.50	Go-Cardless £ 0.01
Cub Subs £ 3,468.75	Gas Usage £ 828.93
Scout Subs £ 2,555.00	Electricity Usage £ 767.46
Explorer Shack Use £ 897.08	Water Usage £ 534.63
Camps and Events through OSM £ 605.00	MCC Ground Rent £ 85.00
Manchester City Council	MCC Rates £ 276.48
(Polling Station) £ 150.00	Insurance
NMDSC (Membership Rebate) £ 50.00	Shack, Equipment & Helpers £ 1,131.46
Donations £ 30.00	Membership Fees £ 5,292.00
Group Tee Shirts & Uniforms £ 574.00	Archery Workshop £ 80.00
25th World Scout Jamboree Fees £ 6,252.00	Shack Maintenance £ 973.46
25th WSJ fundraising £ 5,891.25	Old Stores / Office Refurbishment £ 3,583.54
Group Bonfire £ 95.81	New Fridge Freezer £ 369.99
Scout Camp Beaudesert £ 1,387.73	New Heating Main Hall £ 3,300.00
Beavers Jewish Museum Visit £ 205.00	Resources, Badges & Neckerchiefs £ 106.70
Beaver Camp Deposits	Sheffield Scout Shop £ 1,577.96
Reimbursement Apr-22 £ 145.00	New Group T-Shirts £ 1,955.90
Reimbursement Fed-23 £ 159.50	AGM Engraving & Trophies £ 218.99
Cub Camp Balance (Jun-22) £ 273.50	25th WSJ IST Subsidy £ 761.38
	25th WSJ Payments £ 12,253.00
	25th WSJ Fundraising Costs £ 237.52
	Camping Equipment £ 1,086.55
	Group BBQ/Leaders Meal £ 229.77
	2023 Summer Camp Deposit £ 280.00
	Scout Camp Fees (OSM) £ 605.00
	Beaver Camp Deposit Bradley Wood £ 159.50
	Scout Camp Beaudesert £ 1,387.73
	Section Meeting Nights & Events £ 1,305.77
	Bank Balance C/F £ 23,901.57
	Cash Balance C/F £ 2,810.93

Squirrels

Squirrel Scouts Annual Report – 2023



What an amazing second year the Squirrel Scouts have had!

As one of the very first Squirrel drey's to open in the country we are so proud and honoured to have the opportunity to provide Scouting to children aged 4-6 years old. And being one of only two drey's in the whole Greater Manchester

East area, we have certainly been very busy!!

Our Squirrel evenings always start of with a welcome song, where we can individually say hello to everyone who joins us, this has been a great source of routine for the children as well and making them all feel welcome and comfortable from the beginning. Each time a new young person joins us it's wonderful to see how welcoming our Squirrels are to them and how helpful they are at teaching them each of their new friends' names.

During the course of each session, we play some games (duck, duck, goose being a firm favourite!) but we also work on badge work with our Squirrels. Using the guiding principle of Scouts, "Skills for life", our badge program runs at an age-appropriate level to ensure our youngest members are having fun and developing their skills for when they move on up to the Beaver unit.



We have done lots of exciting activities this year, including earning several of our badges and enjoying lots of celebrations throughout the year!



We were really lucky to enjoy an assault course with high ropes, swings and tunnels! Our mini adventurers loved climbing and running. All practicing the skills they will develop throughout their scouting journeys.

Throughout the year we have enjoyed many celebrations. We have made Chinese New Year masks, Easter eggs and St. Georges Day flags. We also loved making some sweet pancakes on Shrove

Tuesday and used this to work towards our chef badge!



We also joined other Scouts across the district to visit Heaton Park for the St. Georges Day activity trail! The Squirrels were a credit to Squirrel scouts and the 308th with their wonderful behaviour and excellent trail finding skills! – and they definitely deserved the ice cream at the end! 😊





This year our Squirrels have been lucky enough to witness the crowning of a new King. We marked this occasion by creating our own crowns and pretending we were Kings and Queens. We discussed what the Coronation meant and why everyone was so excited about it.

In this most recent term, we have taken the topic of “People who help us” as part of our Superhero badge. We have been talking about the people in our communities and families who are Superhero’s to us. We had so much fun having a “dress as a job” night where there were some fantastic costumes of teachers, firemen, police, vets and even a ninja! We enjoyed our very own

Lina bringing in some police kit for us to have a try on and we are all looking forward to the firemen visiting in the fire truck in a few weeks!



A Vet



A fireman



A police man



A dog walker and a Ninja

We have been extremely lucky to be joined by 3 more leaders this year, Lee, Jolanta and Becky. Our team of seven now runs like a wonderfully oiled machine. As a Squirrel group leader, I couldn’t wish for six better people to show up and volunteer with every week. They put so much effort in both in and out of sessions to make sure all the children have a wonderful fulfilling experience with us and every leader takes such time and dedication to get to know the children. So I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the Squirrels team who make it what it is.



L-R: Jolanta, Sharron, Kim, Eve, Becky, Lina, Lee

Finally, we would just like to say, we feel absolutely privileged to be able to work with these wonderful young children and they make us smile and laugh every week. They show great kindness to each other, and their behaviour is always wonderful. They are a credit to their families and wonderful part of the 308th Manchester.

We cannot wait for another year of Squirrel Scouting!

Eve, Kim, Lina, Sharron, Lee, Jolanta and Becky!

BEAVERS

Monday and Thursday Beavers

This year has been such a great year for our beavers. As soon as we returned from summer we went straight on camp, our first one at Bradley Woods. Beavers had such an amazing time and did lots of new activities including crate stacking, cresta run and cave bus. I also passed my nights away assessment, making it much more special for me!



We then had an amazing Halloween party run by the jamboree fundraising team, beavers then had a joint Christmas party with lots of fun games and food.

We have done some amazing badges this year including our space badge where we went to co-op high school for an evening run by them, which was so much fun and the beavers learnt a lot, we have done our photography badge, hikes and explore badge, we did an assault course night at the shack, which ended with the beavers not wanting to go home and asking over and over to redo.



We have had walks in Alkington woods and then did another camp at Bradley woods, where the beavers got to tackle the climbing wall. We finished this year with our St Georges day event at Heaton Park which was so much fun letting the beavers navigate using the clues given.



Me and Jackie are both so incredibly proud of all our beavers and how they have worked hard all year to achieve all their badges. We have invested so many new beavers into our group and they have been made to feel very welcome.

This year we have had 8 beavers achieve the chief scout bronze award. With many more due to achieve it in the next few months.

Our beavers of the year this year are two amazing beavers who have worked so hard and helped their leaders so much over the year, we are so proud of both of you.

We would like to thank all the leaders and young leaders who have helped us all year. Michelle, Daryl, Jolanta, Mattie, Amelia, Magdalena and Noah. We couldn't have done this without you all.

Leanne and Jackie

cubs

Monday Cubs – Annual Report 2023

I took over from Gemma as Section Leader of Monday Cubs in January, I have been involved with the section for some time now, having been an Assistant Section Leader in cubs since first joining the group in 2019.

We started our year working towards our Teamwork and World Challenge badges, some of the highlights were the assault course night, a visit to our local fire station and of course our Winter camp held at Ashworth Valley:



From January we covered lots of badges including our Skills Challenge Badge, Chef Activity Badge, Scientist Badge and Fire Safety Badge, highlights included cubs learning how to make hot air balloons and cook a meal!



This term we have already begun work on our Navigator Activity Badge and Adventure Challenge Badge and by the end of term we will have completed the Gardner and Pioneer Activity Badges as well. We recently held a joint night at Ashworth Valley for the Adventure Challenge Badge. Cubs had the chance to have a go at Archery, Low Ropes and a Scavenger Hunt which was enjoyed by everyone!



Looking back over the last year I feel incredibly proud of the effort the Cubs have put in, at the core of our beliefs is the idea to challenge ourselves, doing something different that maybe we haven't done before which isn't always easy, every challenge we have set them they have rose to it and excelled in everything which is a testament to their character.

Of course, none of this would be possible without a strong leadership team behind me, my thanks go to Gemma, Kim, Lee, Debbie, Daryl and our young leaders Amelia and Rosalia, the support I have had since becoming Section Leader has been Incredible so thank you very much!

Lee – Cubs Leader



cubs

Thursday Cubs – Annual Report 2023

Another AGM report for 308th Manchester Cubs, and another year of Scouting completed. Recently, we have seen a consistent number of 23 Cubs attending each weekly session. Over the past year we have awarded 7 Chief Scout Silver Awards between April 22 and March 23 with more on the way!



April and May last year saw us start our Navigation Level 2 Staged Activity Badge. We complete this badge once a year to allowing Cubs to gain navigational experience before moving to Scouts and completing in the yearly Lightweight Hiking competition. May 2022 also saw the return of the Cubs District Arrow Competition. This year's theme was the late HRH the Queens Platinum Jubilee. 308th Manchester came second place! Well done to Stefan, Lily, Vicky, Emilia, Jess, and Martha.

Moving into the Summer months, we started The Communicator Activity Badge, this badge required the Cubs to introduce themselves to an adult who helps with your Pack and making a newsletter report of a local event. We also completed the Road Safety Activity Badge which required the Cubs to understand road signs and show how to use the Green Cross Code. We also saw 2 Chief Scout Silver Awards given out to William and Emilia at this time, they finished this award off teaching two skills including Polish phrases and Paper Origami!



We also held our first Summer Camp since returning from the COVID pandemic. The Cubs leadership team decided to try out the standing camp at Bradley Wood Scout Activity Centre. Friday 17th – 19th June saw 32 Cubs take on Adventurous Activities such as Archery, Crate Stacking, Cresta Run, Woggle making and Fire Lighting. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time, the Cubs and leaders had a blast!

July brings the end of our Cub year. We enjoyed water games to keep cool and our yearly Picnic in Heaton Park. Fortunately, it was dryer than last year!



After a lovely break over Summer, September sees the return of Scouting to the 308th Manchester. We kicked off with the Teamwork Challenge Badge and the World Challenge Badge. As a leadership team, we always ask the Cubs to reflect on what their Summer was like. We asked the Cubs to think how they “Did their best” over the Summer – A very important Scouting value. Many thanks for Grand Akela helping us do this!



Carrying on into October, we were lucky to visit St Andrews Church, in Higher Blackley as part of the World Challenge Badge. We used this to complete the Cubs World Faiths Activity Badge. Thank you to Gem for helping organise this visit! Another requirement for the World Challenge Badge was completed by a running game ran by our amazing young leader Emma! We also 4 more Chief Scout Silver Awards given to Stefan, Olly, Alex, and Martha, with more skills being taught.



In November, we completed the Local Knowledge Activity Badge by making a poster advertising Manchester. We also finished our Environmental Conservation Badge with taking a pack forum to come up with ideas to reduce rubbish and how different materials are recycled. Grand Akela Sharon also made another appearance to help the Cubs complete the “Talk to someone who has lived in the local area a

long time” requirement. The Cubs also celebrated Remembrance Day 2022 by making multi-coloured wreaths.

The last full weekend of November saw 308th Manchester Cubs attend Ashworth Valley for our traditional Winder Camp. There were no storms in sight, allowing the Cubs to complete loads of adventurous activities including, Archery, Tomahawk throwing, Low Ropes, First Aid, Tent



Pitching, Trebuchet Building and River Crossing! This was topped off with an amazing Christmas dinner, made by Andrea and Tracy.



In December we finished the Local Knowledge Badge with a trip to Blackley Fire station. The Cubs thoroughly enjoyed this! We had a tour of the whole station, a look at the equipment used and we even had a go of using the hose!

With 2022 turning into 2023, we moved onto the Skills Challenge Badge. This is made up of lots of other badges such as, the Fire Safety Activity Badge. Our Cubs designed their own Escape plans of their homes and practiced a fire drill in The Shack. Hopefully they won't need to use it! They also go to use a fire alarm to understand how often they need to test them.



February saw us try and test our way through the Scientist Activity Badge. I will be the first to say, some experiments didn't work as well as we would like, but the Cubs still had fun! The badge finished with me, Lee and Rach getting covered in white vinegar and baking powder trying to launch rockets! Alex D also saw his Chief Scout Silver Badge Awarded with teaching some First Aid on his last night!

Recently, the Cubs have completed the Chef Activity Badge. Some excellent teamwork, listening and cooking was shown by the Cubs to make Cajun Chicken pasta and Strawberry Cheesecake. There was absolutely none left – Well done Cubs! They even did their own washing up!

We completed the Skills Challenge Badge off with the Cubs completing some skills they can use at home. We made cups of tea, ironed neckerchiefs, laid tablets and peeled veg!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank every single person who has helped 308th Thursday Cubs over the last year! A total of 244 badges have been awarded with more from April 22 onwards!



SCOUTS

We have had another good full year of Scouting and started last May which is always a busy month in the scouts with two big events, the lightweight hiking competition which we entered a patrol who completed two days hiking successfully. We also have spring camp at Forest Campsite, Cheshire where the group completed 2 nights camping and various activities including rafting and practice their camping skill ready for summer camp.

In June we visited Heaton Park and played football and rounders, held a cooking competition, and practiced backwoods cooking.



In July we had a massive water fight in the shack grounds everybody got soaked. We at the end of the month we had the group BBQ.

Summer Camp this year was Beaudesert Outdoor Activity Centre and was joint camp with 1st North Manchester Explorers. The highlights included a day hiking, wide games, volleyball and

swinging from the trees at Go Ape.

We started back after the summer break we focused on traditional scout skills, fire lighting, knots etc in preparation for the Blackley shield. We entered 2 patrols this year and the scouts enjoyed competing against other groups in the district, but we were unable to retain the trophy.

In October we made pizzas in cardboard ovens and played wide games in Blackley Forest. We also all got fancy dressed for Halloween, there were some spectacular costumes. We did the usual Halloween games ending the night with a classic bobbing for apples.



In November we ran the legendary assault course where all the scouts improved for their second runs. we went ice skating in Manchester next to the football museum. It was a successful trip with most scouts managing to spend more time on their feet than their bottoms.

There was only a couple of meetings in December, the highlight was the Christmas party, which was a black-tie casino themed night, some were very lucky, but most ended up with less than what they started with, but everyone had fun.

We brought in the New Year in with scouts Winter camp the weather was very cold, but we didn't let it stop us as we did hiking and bowling and of course we had a Christmas dinner.

In February we had pancake night which included the return of the pancake relays and freestyle pancake flipping and finally some very tasty pancakes. We also worked on our skills challenge badge, helping the scouts get closer to their chief scout golds.

March was a busy month with the scouts visiting mini golf in Rochdale and we ran a "I'm a scout get me out of here" night where scouts did several bush tucker trials which included eating bugs.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank leaders and helpers which make running this scout group possible and all the parents who have helped us over the past year with transport etc - Looking forward to the rest of this summer's program especially the summer camp.

Adam, Andrea, Andy, and Jack

308TH MANCHESTER SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1015851

Accounts

AGM – 13th May



Group Scout Leader Report

Welcome to our AGM for 2022, a celebration of Scouting at the 308th. This is our first full AGM since 2019 due to Covid and as you can imagine a lot has happened in the last three years.

One of the main changes is that we have started a new section – Squirrels which is for 4- and 5-year-olds. – Eve and Kim and a team of parent helpers and young leaders have done a great job, and already we have seen the first squirrels move up to Beavers.

However, before Squirrels we did have Covid and I want to thank every leader, helper, young leader for all their efforts in maintaining section meetings by zoom- I watched and attended many of them myself and the programme planning, entertainment and commitment made was amazing – but to do that for over 18 months before we could meet face to face again was outstanding and ensured that when we were able to meet that there was a group of scouts still around – so thankyou again to everyone who made that happen.

Please read through all the reports from the sections, all have been very active in the last year and since we have come back all sections are showing growth – long may that continue

Finally, congratulations to all the Scouts who win awards tonight, but also to all the leaders who will be presented with awards – leaders put in a lot of work and time, so please thank them as without them there would be any meetings.

Mike Dolan GSL

THE SHACK

The Shack is the Groups home and we have continued to maintain the building over the last few years. We were successful in getting a grant for a new floor – as the old one was badly needed of replacing. We have had several days at weekends where volunteers have come down to help clean and tidy the shack and we have a number of days coming up as well.

There are many projects on the horizon, such as replace the heating, paint the fences and toilets, and maintain the grounds. Jackie was also successful in getting a grant for large planters which have now been put up at the back of the building, they are now ready for the soil to be added and then for the sections to start growing flowers and veg

Agenda

1. Welcome (Deborah – Chair)
2. Apologies
3. Statement of Accounts (Steve - Treasurer)
4. Group Report – (Mike - GSL)
5. Awards
6. Thank You & Close of Meeting



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Total CR	£ 53,406.39	Total DR	£ 53,406.39

Squirrels

Squirrel Scouts Annual Report – 2022



Wow! What an amazing first year the Squirrel Scouts have had! As one of the very first Squirrel drey's to open in the country we are so proud and honoured to have the opportunity to provide Scouting to children aged 4-6 years old. And being one of only two drey's in the whole Greater Manchester East area, we have certainly been very busy!!

When our drey opened in September 2021 we welcomed in 20 bright faced young Scouts into the Shack. The excitement and engagement by our young children have

been fantastic from the get-go! Our Squirrel evenings always start off with a welcome song, where we can individually say hello to everyone who joins us, this has been a great source of routine for the children as well and making them all feel welcome and comfortable from the beginning. Each time a new young person joins us it's wonderful to see how welcoming our Squirrels are to them and how helpful they are at teaching them each of their new friends' names. During each session, we play some games (duck, duck, goose being a firm favourite!) but we also work on badge work with our Squirrels. Using the guiding principle of Scouts, "Skills for life", our badge program runs at an age-appropriate level to ensure our youngest members are having fun and developing their skills for when they move on up to the Beaver unit.



In our first term we wanted to settle into our drey and make our new Squirrels as comfortable as possible, so we took on the About me challenge badge and the feeling good badge! These badges involved us making friends, exploring how to talk about our feelings with each other and our adults and working together in teams. We had lots of fun doing these badges and it led to our Squirrels making lots of new friends! As the term went on there was lots to celebrate! We enjoyed a spooktacular Halloween party where we were wrapped up as mummy's! We also learnt all about bonfire safety for Bonfire night and well as drawing some amazing firework pictures! Soon after was

Remembrance, where we discussed the importance of remembering the people who have been brave in all the wars, for this the children made some amazing Remembrance Poppy's to go up on the wall. Then on the 24th November when our new Squirrels were settled in and comfortable, we invested everyone into the 308th Manchester Scout group. What a proud night we had, with parents all coming to watch and all our Squirrels looking beautifully smart in their new Uniforms! All our Squirrels made their promises to do their best, to be kind and to love their world.





As we moved into the new term in January and were more settled as a unit our badge work has continued. This term we focused on the Around Us challenge badge and the Altogether Challenge badge. The Around Us badge was a wonderful way of teaching the Squirrels about the different levels of Scouting, and we even had an exciting trip up to visit the Monday Beavers for a week! We have learnt all about the Jamboree next year and we made some wonderful

campsite designs that we think the Explorers should use when they go to South Korea! We also learnt about looking after our surroundings and making them nice, for this we have planted some plants, which are growing big now!! To end the term, we visited Plant Hill Park to explore our local area and learn about the things we have in our local community. Throughout the term we also worked on the All Together

badge, this continued to solidify our friendships and helped us welcome new Squirrels in a positive and friendly way.



We even made a giant poster to welcome new friend and show them all the fun things we do here at Squirrels! As we move towards the summer term, we are looking forward to exploring the outdoors more. This started at the end of April where 13 of our Squirrels joined us in Heaton Park to celebrate St. George's

Day with all of the Greater Manchester East Scouts.



This was an amazing day for the Squirrels who took part in the treasure hunt, and their wonderful behaviour and attitudes were a credit to the 308th and to the new Squirrels sections.

Since we opened in September last year, we have gained two more helpers, Lina and Sharron and we have had the wonderful support from our older Scouts and Explorers week-on-week, Josh, Charlotte and Niall.

These older Scouts take the time out of their own weeks to volunteer to help the younger children and we would like to thank them for all the work they put into the section. Finally, we would just like to say, we feel absolutely privileged to be able to work with these wonderful young children and they make us smile and laugh every week. They show great kindness to each other, and their behaviour is always wonderful. They are a credit to their families and wonderful part of the 308th Manchester.

We cannot wait for another year of Squirrel Scouting!

Eve, Kim, Lina & Sharron

BEAVERS

Monday Beavers



Since taking over Monday Beavers in November. Our beavers have done lots of fun activities, lots of different badges including my builder, cycling, my world, faith, book reader and many more. I also attended my first ever beaver camp.

We currently have 16 beavers in our group with many ready to move up to Cubs soon. We have 1 beaver who has achieved his bronze Scout award, which is the highest award in Beavers and many

who will get them in the next couple of months.

We have had Halloween and Christmas parties. We have been on many fantastic days out to the Manchester Jewish Museum, Bogart hole clough doing our cycling badge, pond dipping and den building in Alkrington woods and had a fantastic day in Heaton Park celebrating St Georges Day.



St Georges Day.



Our beaver of the year this year has fantastic attendance, they try their hardest with everything and even though they don't like running games they are getting better and better at joining in. They are a fantastic friend and always help our new beavers. It has been a pleasure to see their confidence grow every week.

I would like to thank Michelle and Daryl for all their hard work helping me each week. Also, Jackie who has helped we with everything regarding becoming a leader.

Leanne - Beaver Leader



BEAVERS

Thursday Beavers



And so, we are back after 2019/2021 being Covid Time – but 2021/2022 we have achieved many badges including Adventure challenge badge and My World challenge badge. We also did several activity badges like – Gardener, Experiments, Disability, Cyclist, Faith, Cooking, Safety and Animal Friend

We don't just meet in the Shack and when we venture out, we make sure there is plenty of adventure and we went to –

- Blackley Forest (den building)
- Heaton Park - Summer party in the park
- Boggart Hole Clough - cycling on the track
- Manchester Jewish Museum
- Alkrington Woods -Hike
- Ashworth Valley – October Camp



We have 25 Beavers on a Thursday night – 9 have moved to Cubs with a Bronze Award

We have introduced Lodge Leaders and Assistant Lodge Leaders

We held a 'Celebration Evening' – hoping to make this an annual event during the month of February - A

BIG shout out to Leanne our new Monday Beaver Leader who is doing fantastic

Thanks to all the leaders who support and lead the team on a weekly basis.



We have picked 2 Beavers of the year, these 2 have been inseparable since meeting each other. They have both worked hard, one has achieved their Bronze chief Scout award the other is not far behind.

Jackie – Beaver Leader



cubs

Monday Cubs

Our last year has been a tough one. We all came back in May 2021 after a long break because of Covid and we had lots of brand-new cubs, as lots had moved up from Beavers during lockdown and a couple who had just joined cubs as lockdown hit.



All cubs were new to me though as I only took on the role of Cub leader during lockdown with my first meeting as a cub leader being the first meeting after lockdown.

I am so proud of our Monday cubs, not only had they missed lots, but they also had many new rules to follow on starting back at the shack. They also had to get used to leaders wearing masks and get used to me as many of them had never met me before. The cubs faced any challenges head on, and we all helped each other in getting used to our 'new norm' and achieving as much as we can at cubs.



We all got through it though and this past year we have had lots of fun. We have visited Treetop Nets in Heaton Park, Summit Up in Oldham as well as various walks, hikes, and litter picks.

We have earned so many badges including Gardener, Astronomer, Athletics, Disability Awareness and Navigator badge to name a few. I also earned my Nights Away Permit this year by planning my first ever camp. I am certain there will be many more to come.

I would like to give a massive thank you to everyone who has helped me this year whether it was helping me get to grips with everything entailed in being a Cub leader or helping me with planning my first camp,

Kim, Brad, Lee, Leanne, Jack, and Peter - If I have missed anyone, I am sorry. I appreciate each one of you and couldn't have done this without you all

Gemma - Cub Leader



cubs

Thursday Cubs

Since my last AGM report, 308th Cubs have lasted a pandemic, Cubs on Zoom and an influx and outflow of Beavers moving up to Cubs and Cubs moving up to Scouts. Recently, we have seen a lot of direct entries from a variety of local schools, along with Beavers who started their Scouting journey in our newest section, Squirrels!

April and May last year saw our return to face-to-face Scouting after more than a year. To keep everyone safe and involved, we ran a joint Zoom program and rotated the Cubs between face to face and zoom to manage group sizes and complete more badges! We completed the World Challenge Badge, Gardener's badge in person, and the Digital Citizen Staged Activity Badge over Zoom.



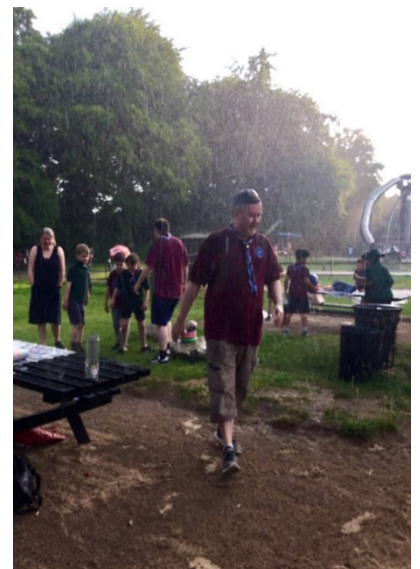
Moving into the Summer Months saw the start of The Gardeners Activity Badge. The Cubs had to understand what minibeasts are and research the best seasons for growing fruit and veg. This was completed over Zoom with the support of Rachael. Whilst Lee and I helped the Cubs learn about Gardening tools, make some plant labels, and help them look after a newly planted sunflower.



June saw the end of a Cub Journey for some of our oldest Cubs. Tom, Wiktorija, Magdalena and Noah all achieved their Chief Scout Silver Awards, finishing the last part by teaching another Cub a skill. Some excellent skills were demonstrated, such as drawing, teaching Polish, and teaching Chess and Origami. We also squeezed in some Navigating Skills accumulating with a hike around the local area.

July brings an end to our Cub year. We hoped we could have a fun evening in the sun with our annual last night of Cubs in Heaton Park. How wrong could I be?! Even though the weather had been scorching for weeks, not long after reaching the playground, the black clouds rolled in, and the heavens opened! We, unfortunately, had to finish the night early and hide in our cars until all the Cubs were picked up! Just look how drenched Lee is!

September brings the start of a new Cub Year. We kicked off with the Cubs Adventure Challenge Badge and some teamwork to Complete the Teamwork Challenge Badge. We aimed to spend as much time outside as possible after the pandemic. Cubs learnt how to light and set up a fire and completed a litter sweep around the local area. The Cubs also set up their obstacle course in three separate teams and then worked their way around together. Well done, Cubs!



October continued with the Teamwork Challenge Badge with the Cubs taking part in a Pack Forum to discuss what activities they would like to do in our upcoming Winter Camp. We completed the Astronomy Activity Badge by making a fruit salad solar system as the nights rolled in and had a guest speaker from our friends at Heaton Park Astronomy Group. We also visited Treetop Nets in Heaton Park, let the Cubs run wild in the nets, and made some great memories.



November was a hectic month, and it allowed us to complete the World Faith Activity Badge. We watched some videos to help us understand the holy places of Hinduism and used some air-dry clay to create a Diwali Lamp. We also enjoyed a Halloween where the Cubs had unbelievable costumes. Remembrance Day also fell on a Thursday this year, so we discussed scouting history during world conflicts and produced some paper poppies to participate in this.



Cub's annual Winter Camp at Ashworth Valley deserves a special mention. We had a fantastic Cub Camp planned with activities including crate stacking, archery, first aid and making a catapult. Unfortunately, the campsite suffered a power cut early on the first night morning! No power, no lights, and no heating! That meant we had to head home early Saturday morning, but we promise to make up for it in 2022!

December ends the calendar year with the Cubs enjoying a Christmas Party and another two Cubs time in Scouts. After completing their Chief Scout Silver Awards, we said goodbye to Emme and Celestyn. Their skills involved teaching martial arts and origami butterflies.



January saw the start of a new year. Cubs started completing the Skills Challenge Badge. We started with learning about the body's organs, where they are in the body and what jobs they do. The Cubs loved drawing around themselves and labelling them up. We also completed activities to be healthy with lots of exercises, including a HIIT session from a Monday Cub parent helper!



We were continuing with the skills badge into February. We completed some home skills such as sewing, making a cup of tea and cleaning windows. This also contributed to the Home Help badge, which the Cubs completed at home. We also completed the brand-new Money Skills Activity Badge, including budgeting and understanding foreign currency.



Well done to the 20 Cubs who completed this! Halina and Demarhlea also gained their Chief Scout Silver Awards, with more skills being taught. Moving into March, we visited Summit Up Climbing Centre in Oldham. This involved the Cubs climbing up various walls with very little leader input. Great bravery and

teamwork were displayed here, and we are sure to go back! Also, William gained his Chief Scout Silver Award and moved to Scouts by teaching paper origami Whales.

April allows us to take a break over Easter, and we look forward to planning the rest of the year's program. We have a fantastic Summer Camp planned for June 2022 at Bradley Wood Scout Campsite.



I want to take a minute to thank my other Cub Scout Leaders, Lee and Rachel, who have been supportive as always. Our Young Leaders, Matt and Chrissy, for attending Cubs and helping us run our program each Thursday and our Parent Helpers, Sian, Anna and Dave.

Bradley - Cub Leader

SCOUTS

Annual Report

It has been a difficult couple of years for everyone and it's nice to be getting back to normal. May saw the return of face-to-face scouting which was very welcome



In June we practiced our pioneering skills by building and racing Sudan chairs

In July we had a massive water fight in the shack grounds everybody got soaked.

Summer Camp this year was Morecambe and was joint camp with 1st North Manchester Explorers. The highlights included a day a water play area in a lake, hiking, wide games,

volleyball and visiting Morecambe and its fun fair.

We started back after the summer break we focused on traditional scout skills, fire lighting, knots etc in preparation for the Blackley shield. The patrol that entered did really well and were able to bring back the trophy.



In October we visited Summit up which is a new climbing centre in Oldham where scouts had good fun climbing, racing each other to the top.

We also all got fancy dressed for Halloween, there were some spectacular costumes. We did the usual Halloween games ending the night with a classic bobbing for apples.



In November we ran the legendary assault course where all the scouts improved for their second runs. we went ice skating in Manchester next to the football museum and spend some time at the Christmas markets. It was a successful trip with most scouts managing to spend more time on their feet than their bottoms. There was only a couple of meeting in December, the highlight was the Christmas party which was a black tie casino themed night, some were very lucky but most ended up with less than what they started with but everyone had fun.



We brought in the New Year in with scouts Winter camp at Ashworth Valley, we did air rifle shooting and the traditional rope bridge crossing of the river to earn our Christmas dinner. We also focused on outdoor skills and cooking on fires.

In February we had pancake night which included the return of the pancake relays and freestyle pancake flipping and finally some very tasty pancakes. We also did a board games evening playing each other at our favourite games.



March was a busy month with the scouts visiting Kick Air and a ready steady cook night where patrols competed against each other by cooking 3 course meals, katsu curry, steak with sauce and chicken burgers were the highlights. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank leaders and helpers which make running this scout group possible.

Looking forward to the rest of this summer's program especially the spring and summer camps.

Thanks to all the Scout leaders, Sophie, Andrea, Jack, Andy and Lea and everyone who has helped out this year

Adam – Scout Leader



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Audited by Anthony Davies 2nd July 2022 and confirmed as a true record

308TH MANCHESTER SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1015851

Accounts

Group Scout Leader Report – for the year 2021



Despite Covid, the group was able to maintain sectional meetings during the early part of 2021 via a Zoom offering. This did have a large impact on attendance where we saw as much as a 50% drop in numbers. However, the sections continued to meet this way until the end of May where face to face meetings with restrictions could start to take place.

We Group Committee decided that we would not be able to charge subscriptions as we felt there were hardships within families within the area as it was without putting unnecessary burden on them – plus we felt it would be difficult to collect especially in the first part of the year. We recommenced subscriptions in September 2021.

On full face to face return in September 2021, we were pleasantly surprised by the numbers that came back, but due to age etc we had seen a drop of around 25% of youth and we also lost two volunteers.

However, we are now back in the swing of a full scouting programme and have held several camps throughout the sections as well weekly meetings. The 2 Beaver, 2 Cub and 1 Scout section have now been joined by our new section called Squirrels which started in October – this caters for youth between the ages of 4 to 6 and has been very popular. We capped the number of kids allowed to begin with to 18 – and we have a waiting list – this section has been a success and we hope to increase capacity if we can get more volunteers.

Turning to our own HQ 'The Shack' – we had to moth ball all activities and events during lock down, but we have now started to fully utilise the building again and we have a number of plans and maintenance work that needs to be done to ensure the building is fit for use. We are tied somewhat in the fact we rely on volunteers to help us here, but several days over weekends has allowed us to clear out a lot of old stuff and prepare us for future developments.

All being well the group has come out of covid healthy, but with still a lot of work to be done.

Mike Dolan
Group Scout Leader



