

1ST BRAMHALL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1019814

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1993-04-08

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

Contact

Address The Bramley Centre
Bramley Close
Bramhall
Stockport
SK7 2DT

Phone 01614399054

Email info@1stbramhallscouts.org.uk

Website www.1stbramhallscouts.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN ACHIEVING THEIR FULL PHYSICAL, INTELLECTUAL, SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL POTENTIALS AS INDIVIDUALS, AS RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS AND AS MEMBERS OF THEIR LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES.

Activities: As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more. Each week, the 1st Bramhall Scout Group give young people of Bramhall the opportunity to enjoy fun and adventure while developing the skills they need to succeed

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Stockport

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£87,209	£88,371	-	-
2024-12-31	£79,189	£79,258	-	-
2023-12-31	£81,969	£87,335	-	-
2022-12-31	£84,499	£83,690	-	-
2021-12-31	£63,857	£73,267	-	-
2020-12-31	£52,675	£39,643	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Richard Allen Buckley	Chair	2020-03-14
ANDREW CORRIE		2015-05-11
Barry Aitken		2015-05-11
Doreen Wyld		2021-03-30
JULIE BOTTOMLEY		
RICHARD BAKER		
Timothy John Taylor		2018-10-17

1ST BRAMHALL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1019814

Accounts

Registered charity number 1019814



1st Bramhall Scout Group
Annual Report and Accounts
for the Year ended 31 December 2025

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Reference and Administration Details

For the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Charity Name 1st Bramhall Scout Group
Principal Address The Bramley Centre, Bramley Close
Bramhall, Stockport SK7 2DT
Registered Charity Number 1019814
HQ Registration Number 4861
Scout District for the period of these accounts Ladybrook Valley
Scout County Greater Manchester East

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:

<u>Trustee Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Member of sub-committee</u>	<u>Dates acted if not for whole year</u>
Julie Bottomley	President	Facilities	
Doreen Wyld	Vice President		
Richard Buckley	Group Chair	Facilities	
Richard Baker	Group Treasurer	Chair of Facilities	
Andrew Corrie	Joint Group Lead Volunteer	Chair of Group Leadership Team	
Barry Aitken	Joint Group Lead Volunteer	Group Leadership Team	
Tim Taylor	Appointed Trustee	Facilities	

Sir Peter Fahy retired as a Trustee in 2024, but remains as a Vice-President to offer advice and assistance as required.

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Ave West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ	Royal Bank of Scotland 1 Redheughs Ave Edinburgh EH12 9JN	The Co-operative Bank plc 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP
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External Examiner:

GJ Wood and Co Ltd.
Hub 11Pepper House
Pepper Road
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP

1st Bramhall Scout Group – Trustees Annual Report

Structure, Governance and Management

Introduction

Tracing our origins back to 1909, only two years after the founding of the Scout Movement, we are one of the oldest Scout Groups in the country. For the period of these accounts, the Group is part of the Ladybrook Valley Scout District, which itself is part of Greater Manchester East Scout County. The Group is registered with The Scout Association under Registration Number 4861

The Group is a Trust established under its rules which are common to all Scout Groups. The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (POR). The Group has adopted the model constitution that is shown in POR.

The Group Management

The Group's structure complies with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association. The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, the members of which are the "Charity Trustees" of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 5 Trustees and meets 5 times a year.

Members of the Trustee Board complete "Being a Scouts Trustee" learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

This Group Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

In order to meet their responsibilities, the Group Trustee Board is supported by the Group Leadership Team and the Facilities sub-team which manages the non-Section related activities of the Group.

The Group Leadership Team helps volunteers across all sections work well together and feel motivated. They make sure the Group is respected and supported in their local community. Team members of the Group Leadership Team include the Group Lead Volunteers, all Section Team Leaders including the Explorer Team Leader and the Group's Communications & Website Manager. The Team's tasks are grouped under the following headings:

- Support the Group's sections
- Develop our volunteers
- Engage with the Community
- Open new provision
- Manage incidents
- Support effective processes

The Facilities sub-team is a sub-team of the Group Leadership Team. It is responsible for the Group's physical assets in accordance with formal Terms of Reference. It manages the Buildings, Equipment, Transport and Trailers, Hirings, Fire Safety, Finance and Insurance.

Members of the Facilities sub-team during 2025, with their responsibilities, were:

Richard Baker	Chair of Facilities sub-team plus Finance, Insurance, Buildings and Transport Manager
Julie Bottomley	Health & Safety, Buildings, Hirings
Neil Marshman	Buildings and Fire Safety
Lynne Ormiston	Hirings
Richard Buckley	Group Chair
Tim Taylor	Secretary

The Group thanks all of the above for their hard work during the year. Special thanks go to Graeme Weatherall for his valuable contribution whilst Fire Safety Manager.

Risks and Internal Control

The Trustee Board has identified the following major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed. These are reviewed regularly and systems established to mitigate against them.

Damage to buildings, property and equipment. In the event of such damage, the Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from other Scout Groups and/or other neighbouring organisations like churches or community centres. The Group has sufficient insurance cover in place with Unity Insurance for the buildings, contents, public liability, vehicles, trailers, canoes, boats and equipment to mitigate against permanent loss. Appropriate training is given to all users. Certain items of equipment have been identified for regular checking, testing or maintenance.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. Through payment of the Capitation Fee to the District and County, the Group contributes to The Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Through a separate policy with Unity Insurance, any helpers who are not members of the Scout Association are also covered for injury. Risk assessments are prepared for all activities, communicated to all adults taking part and reviewed regularly. Training and the correct qualifications are integral to our safety management process. All adult members are required to undertake First Response training every three years. All activities have a nominated trained First Aider. The Group has a Fire Safety Officer who undertakes Fire Safety Assessments, provides Fire Training to Adult Volunteers and Hirers and conducts practice evacuations. The Facilities sub-team reviews and updates the Buildings Risk Assessment. All adult leaders and volunteers in the Group are required to complete the appropriate safety and activity training courses and are expected to be familiar with the Purple Card 'Safe Scouting and Emergency Procedures' and to understand that Safety is a joint responsibility of all adults in the Group, irrespective of their role.

Reduced income. The Group is reliant upon income from subscriptions, the hiring of the Bramley Centre to third party organisations and on fund raising. Hiring income could fall due to reduced demand or due to reduced availability as a result of more section activities. The amounts charged for subscriptions and hiring the premises are reviewed by the Trustee Board annually. Fund-raising

is undertaken for specific activities or projects. The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income.

Reduction or loss of leaders or members. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section, or the Group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group. A similar risk exists from a reduction or loss of young people.

Risk and Internal Control The Group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include two signatories for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Safeguarding. Keeping young people safe is the paramount responsibility for all adults in Scouting. There is a formal process to ensure that adults are checked through the DBS and the Scout Association's systems before appointment, and that renewal takes place prior to expiry. All adults in the Group are required to complete the Scout Association Safety and Safeguarding Courses every three years. The Yellow Card which contains essential information on safeguarding is given to all adults. Young people are encouraged to raise any concerns affecting them or another member of the Group with a trusted adult and/or with their own parents.

Leader Competence In order to underpin safe quality Scouting for young people, it is very important that all adults holding Scout appointments receive training that is appropriate to their roles. Undergoing training within a stated period is a requirement of all appointments. The Scout Association's module-based training scheme for adult volunteers is managed by Greater Manchester East Scout County, with assistance at District level. All appointments are for a limited period so systems are in place for reviewing appointments and identifying any further training needs.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). The Group is fully aware of its responsibilities and obligations under GDPR and uses the system for electronic storage and communication managed by Greater Manchester East Scout County. Procedures for the secure storage of information in paper form are also in place. GDPR training has been undertaken by persons with data handling responsibilities. The Joint Lead Volunteers and Communications Manager advise the Trustee Board and the Group Leadership team on GDPR issues with responsibility resting with the Trustee Board.

Objectives and Activities

The Purpose of Scouting

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

The Values of Scouting

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.

Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

The Scout Method

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

The aim of The Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership. The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

The Scouting Programme at 1st Bramhall is provided to young people between the ages of 4 and 18. Squirrels are aged between 4 and 6, Beavers 6 to 8, Cubs 8 to 10½ and Scouts 10½ to 14. 14 to 18 year olds are in the XBU Explorer Unit which is administered by the District but fully supported by 1st Bramhall.

As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more. Each week, we give young people in our local area the opportunity to enjoy fun and adventure while developing the skills they need to succeed. Further detail on these details can be read in the Section Reports and Group Scout Leader's Report, which follow.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

CHAIR'S REPORT 2025

Another fantastic year, with many more experiences gained and life skills learned. I was lucky enough to attend a number of camps myself this year, including a few days down in Cornwall with the Scouts. I'm sure all those who attended the Kernow Jamboree will have made memories they'll keep for a lifetime.

There's been a lot in the news recently about teenagers and social media. What can I say? Get them down to their section night and spend time outdoors—Scouting really is the antidote to phones and doom-scrolling.

Children today have expectations set for them by their peers and by what they see on media. Within the scouting movement, we have expectations too—expectations that we can help them grow, develop, and mature into great adults.

This year sees the group's young people heading off on two international trips: one to our long-standing "twin" group in Denmark, and another as part of what is fast becoming a tradition—our Explorers attending a Jamboree in Japan.

Here's my annual plea: parents, we really do need your support. Not necessarily as uniformed leaders—there are many ways a few of your hours could make a real difference to our team, such as helping with administrative tasks that can be done from home. If you can spare even an hour from time to time, please speak to one of the leaders. Any support you can offer our volunteers would be greatly appreciated.

Finally, a personal thank you to Richard Edmondson ("Akela"), who has given years of service to Scouting, both with us and before that further north, and has undoubtedly helped shape the lives of hundreds, if not thousands, of young people for the better. I'll miss our trailer-packing competitions!

With everything going on in the world, take care.

Richard Buckley

Group Chair

GROUP LEAD VOLUNTEER'S REPORT 2025

The AGM, and preparing the annual report, naturally invites reflection and renewal as we review our achievements over the past year and look forward to our planned developments for the coming months. Nobody reading the fantastic reports this year from all of our Sections- Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers can fail to be impressed by the incredible range of activities, events, challenges, and opportunities that are delivered week-by-week to all of our young members by a totally dedicated, enthusiastic and committed team of volunteers who regularly give selflessly of their time, energies, and talents to deliver great programmes.

We are extremely lucky at 1st Bramhall to have such incredible volunteers – not only those who deliver the programme but also those often behind the scenes who help to support the delivery of the programmes. A heartfelt thank you goes to all our volunteers, and to the many parents who often step up to help out from time to time in so many ways.

During the year, we have said a number of goodbyes and hellos: to those who have left us, a big thankyou for all that you have given to the Group , and to those who have joined us - a huge welcome to the family of 1st Bramhall. We said *au-revoir* to our Pine Pack Akela, Richard Edmondson, who after 10 years of outstanding leadership and commitment to the Group (including introducing us to the annual Jamboree-on-the-Trail/Trailjam) is taking a break; I hope he will be back with us in some capacity before too long, but in the meantime a massive thanks from all the youngsters and adults who have gained so much from you.

A special thankyou this year to all of our Young Leaders who help out in all of our Sections; they are all Explorer Scouts undergoing additional leadership training and what they give to the Sections in enthusiasm, Scouting skills, and energy is invaluable.

Underpinning all of our programmes is Scouting's vision "*to empower more young people through adventure, teamwork and shared values to take the lead on making a positive difference in the world*". Translated into our regular programme that means, challenge, adventure, new opportunities, and fun – that's why our young people join, and why they stay. In today's troubled and deeply divided world, Scouting's values of *Integrity, Respect, Care, Belief, and Co-operation* have never been more needed. I recall hearing an Explorer Scout, who had just become a Queen's Scout, saying "Thank you for the opportunity to belong to the greatest peace movement in the world". I truly believe that Scouting makes a better world.

So we reflect on another very successful year for the Group and we look forward to some renewal – a priority is to increase the leadership team to enable us to return to having two Beaver colonies after the summer. And looking forward to the coming months all Sections have a range of exciting camps and Nights away events. Highlights for our older Sections are the Scout Summer Camp in Denmark with our long-standing friends from Toftlund Frie Rovfugle, and our Explorer Scouts' three-week expedition to Japan. And for everyone in the Group, there is our Family Camp in September when we return to Kibblestone Scout Activity Centre. I look forward to seeing you there.

Andrew Corrie ("Skip")

GROUP LEAD VOLUNTEER

ANNUAL CENSUS

The annual census, taken in January 2026, showed 148 (prior year:164) young people in Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with a further 31 (prior year:29) in the Explorer Unit, which is a District Section.

Young people	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Squirrels	20	21	20	20									
Beavers:													
Colts	30	21	19	22	19	21	24	23	23	24	22	42	24
Kits	-	19	19	21	21	21	25	23	25	24	25		
Cubs:													
Pine	27	22	34	27	28	32	33	34	24	33	24	54	36
Fir	25	24	22	20	25	27	28	27	24	27	29		
Scouts	46	57	40	65	56	56	65	41	59	41	44	50	50
Total	148	164	154	175	149	157	175	148	155	149	144	146	110
Explorers	31	29	41	22	32	29	22	23	27	39	47	41	35

Adult volunteers	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Squirrels	6	8	7	8									
Beavers:													
Colts	9	9	5	5	4	2	4	3	4	3	8	6	2
Kits	-	6	5	6	4	2	4	3	3	3	6		
Cubs:													
Pine	4	4	6	7	5	3	6	5	3	4	4	8	5
Fir	5	7	7	4	6	3	3	9	7	5	10		
Scouts	18	14	12	17	16	13	15	11	14	10	9	11	9
Total	42	48	42	47	35	23	32	31	31	27	37	25	16

These numbers don't include all the Occasional Helpers and Young Explorer Leaders who are so valuable in assisting on section nights and other activities.

SECTION REPORTS

Squirrels Drey- 2025

2025 was another busy year for Squirrels. The group continues to have a growing waiting list and places are quickly filled when older Squirrels complete their nut run and move up to Beavers. It's lovely to hear that more Squirrel dreys are starting to open within the District, which is giving more young people the chance to start their scouting life earlier. This year we welcomed visitors from 2nd Bramhall and 5th Cheadle Hulme to see how we run the Drey in Bramhall. We are delighted that 9 Squirrels were awarded their Chief Acorn badge – the highest award for Squirrels. Congratulations to ...

Awarded Badges

Chief Scout's Acorn

Samuel Piper
George Stringer
Rory Hough
Louis Jones
Jake Lee
Hugo Parry
Aidan Gaskell
Albert (Albie) Copner
Evie Smith

Squirrels is all about having fun, making friends and trying new things. There are lots of badges just for Squirrels and new badges are being created all the time. In 2025 we worked towards our Space Explorer Badge and loved finding out all about the Planets, why the moon changes shape and how craters are made.





During Springtime we got creative and made daffodils as part of our Get Creative Badge. We also paraded on St George's day.



In Summer we headed out on a litter picking walk along Happy Valley and had a game of Pooh Sticks. Little Beaver was awarded her long service award by Skip!



We also enjoyed a bare foot walk and some splashing around during the hot weather!



The lovely summer weather meant we could go to the park and enjoy a picnic together as we finished the summer term. Sadly, we said Goodbye to Little Beaver as she moved to the USA with her family.



Our Autumn term began with den building and making bird boxes as part of our Brilliant Builder badge.





As the year came to a close, we celebrated Christmas by thinking of others. We made 7 beautiful shoeboxes filled with gifts and treats for elderly people. We also enjoyed a trip to Trunk Restaurant to meet Santa for Breakfast!





A big thank you to all our 2025 volunteers...

“Nutkin” (Liz) “Little Beaver” (Mikaela) “Nutella” (Jo) “Hawkeye” (Keith) “Acorn” (Chelsea) “Buttercup” (Laura), “Tiger” (Naomi), “Juniper” (June), “Rose” (Hannah), “Willow” (Amy) and “Falcon” (Jake) and our Explorer Young Leaders (Charlotte and Sophie) and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Volunteer (Lauren)

Liz Taylor - “Nutkin” - Squirrel Scout Leader

Colts and Kits Beaver Colonies - 2025

The start of the new year saw Kits and Colt Beavers following a similar programme and working towards the same set of badges. As part of the Space Badge, we made rockets out of different materials (wood, paper and fruit.), we gazed at the stars, we learned about constellations, the solar system and we pretended to be from different planets.



We planned Beaver sleepover for March, so spent February planning for the big event by working towards the Camp Craft Badge. We learned about knots, how to pack and unpack a sleeping bag on our own, what to put in our backpacks ahead of a hike and how to use a compass.



The big event saw both colonies come together and set up camp in the Bramley Centre Hall for a mass sleepover!

The Beavers had a great time prepping and eating their supper, setting up camp, and the evening was completed with Kwasin's famous 'cheery blaze' and campfire songs, followed by a movie, popcorn and bed.

The next morning, we took a pre-breakfast hike to Bramhall Park and back, before tucking into sausage butties.

The Spring term was concluded with lots of 'flipping fun' to celebrate pancake day and a trip to Brooklyn Pottery where the Young Leaders had equally as much fun as the Beavers painting pots!



After Easter we waved bon voyage to Kits Beaver Leader, Kwasim who headed state-side to start a new career. We were very grateful to the other Kits leaders, Bear and Rikki and the parental support of Simon and Sarah who ran the meeting for Kits over the summer term.

And what a great summer term we had! The lighter nights meant we could get out of the hut and into the great outdoors to complete key aspects of our Challenge Badges.

We played wide games in Bramhall Park and learned about teamwork (with an ice lolly reward at the end!



We learned about Bees, and other mini beasts...



We conducted pioneering experiments, making rafts and dens and towers.



We kept Bramhall tidy with a litter picking evening in Lumb Lane.



And collected pooh sticks to throw in the stream at Happy Valley.



In September, due to a lack of Lead Volunteer support, we took the difficult decision to merge Kits and Colts Beavers and temporarily close our Wednesday night colony. This meant a big Monday night group of 30 Beavers! Fortunately, we were able to accommodate all existing Beavers and provide spaces for Squirrels moving up. It involved lots of extra planning and support, but the brilliant team of leaders rose to the challenge to ensure everyone continued to have a wonderful scouting experience with lots of opportunities to make new friends and learn valuable new skills.

Like how to behave around dogs, thanks to the Blue Cross Charity.



A visit to Outside the Box, the boardgame café, (with a bit of leaf throwing en-route!)



Winter term meant colder, darker nights so we were back in the hut learning about Diwali, and Remembrance Day. Rikki brought in her trumpet so the children could have a go at playing the Last Post, although making a sound at all was the real challenge, and we wandered over to the Cenotaph to look at the newly laid poppies.



As part of the Global issues badge, we learned about recycling, Fairtrade, endangered animals and Digger ran a water filter making masterclass! Which the Beavers loved.



Our meetings year ended with our annual trip to sing carols for the residents of Hillbrook Grange, a special occasion which is loved by residents and children alike.



However, it wasn't quite over as for the first time, we ran a Christmas sleepover with a "Santa breakfast" experience at Trunk Restaurant. This started with pre-dinner tree decorating, a nighttime hike through Benja Fold, and a Christmas movie with popcorn and cocoa before bed.



The next morning, we all packed up and walked to Trunk restaurant in the village, where we met the Squirrels for a pancake breakfast followed by an audience with Santa!



Despite the challenges of the Beaver merger, and diminished volunteer support, it's been another packed year of adventures and fun. Where the Beavers have earned a whopping 242 badges including 12 Chief Scout Bronze awards.

We waved goodbye to several leaders in 2025, Kwasin, Digger, Sandy and Beefy and welcomed some new leaders, Chispa and Juniper. We remain hopeful for the recruitment of other new leaders so we can continue to run our Monday night group safely and reopen our Wednesday night colony.

As always huge thanks to the other leaders, Keego, Rikki and Bear for their continued support and our Young Leaders, Sticks, Blaze, Khan, Scooby and Argo.

Kate Vincent (Teddy) – 1st Bramhall Beavers.

Fir Cub Pack - 2025

It has been a fun packed year in 2025; we have filled the terms with plenty of games and activities to keep the cubs occupied.



At present our team consists of Akela (Caroline), David (Badger), Baloo (Angela), Des (Jacala), Phil (Rikki) and Jacob (Chill). In 2025 we said goodbye to Kae (Little Beaver) for life in the USA.



April was the start of camping for Fir Pack, and we did "Monkey Forest trip" where Fir Pack went on a weekend trip to stay at Consall camp site. We went to visit the Monkey forest where we had a lovely day walking around, talking about the different monkeys and sets. In addition, we got to do some investing into the pack in the monkey enclosure. Then returning to the campsite for games and activities, hot chocolate and marshmallows.



June was our next night away where we went to Ashworth Valley and enjoyed a lovely couple of days. It was an adventure as we did leader-led, as well as cub-led, activities. We had sessions using tie dye as well as archery and crate stacking and the cubs got to try crossbow shooting. The day was rounded off with hot chocolate, marshmallows and campfire songs.



Our last camp for 2025 was our yearly Remembrance camp at the Bramley Centre. We had a lovely evening hike, then made our way back to the hut for a chippy supper. Saturday took us to Linnet Clough for some new adventures where the cubs and leaders enjoyed the zip line as well as crate stacking and the archery range with Akela, then finishing with the cave bus. Finally, we returned to the hut for tea, campfire and cinema night. Sunday was up and joining the rest of the District on parade.



We go to Happy Valley at different seasons to complete the Naturalist Badge. We look at the seasonal changes in many areas of the valley and we get to know our countryside code in the process. These trips have been a lot of fun. Orienteering was challenging - it prepared us for our November camp,

There are so many nights that take place over the year that we cannot mention them all, but the cubs have learnt about Camp Bases and astronomy. We made stars out of marshmallows and glow in the dark stickers; they had a great time.



Our yearly bike ride to Middlewood Way is always good fun, the cubs love it. They get ice cream as a reward at the end of the night thanks to the lovely café.



The plans for 2026 are just as exciting. I would like to say thanks to all the leaders for their help in 2025 and to all the parents and cubs for their support. This year is off to a great start with lots of activities and adventures awaiting us ahead.

Caroline Noone (Akela)
Cub Lead Volunteer - 1st Bramhall Fir Cub Pack

Pine Cub Pack – 2025



2025 was another great year for Pine Pack

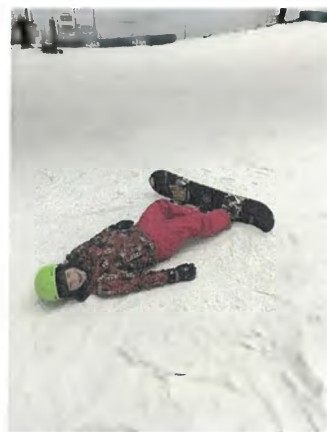
This is my 11th (and final, but more of that later) report and it really has been a great year. The photo above was at the end of our summer camp.

Tuesday night fun and games

We have all tried new things during our Tuesday evening meetings. We started the year with skiing or snowboarding and along the way we had a go at yoga and dancing. We also had visits to the synagogue in Cheadle and a visit from the police



We started the year by learning to ski and snow



...although some were better than others!



We tried yoga



Although behaviour was generally very good this year we did have to resort on occasion to get Greater Manchester

Camps and nights away

Our nights away trips are always highlights. This year we managed two. We started with a weekend expelling the aliens from North Staffordshire and then in the summer we spent a great weekend kayaking, climbing, raft building and even park running



**Giant Jenga
on winter
camp**



**Hunting
aliens
around
Rudyard
Lake**



**Raft
building
and
kayaking
on summer**



Good weather, wetsuits and water – what could be better. Cubs love kayaking, it's a great way to have independence on the water and builds so much confidence in a really

short time. Then onto rafts which seems to involve a lot of falling off! This year we even managed to invest one of our cubs in the middle of the lake

Being part of the community

A really important part of being part of the scouting family is to make an active contribution to our community. As well as taking part in the St Georges and Remembrance parades we also spent an evening clearing Happy Valley of Himalayan Balsam. We also visited Ladybrook Manor for the first time since Covid. This used to be an annual highlight and it was great to go back – both the Cubs and the residents always have a great time and really appreciate each others company.



Balsam bashing in Happy Valley, our pile was twice the size of the one the scouts collected the week before!



Cardmaking with the residents of Ladybrook



Badges and Awards

Earning badges is clearly a large part of what we do. This year it was great to see so many of our Cubs moving up to Scouts with their Silver Chief Scouts Award, the highest that a Cub can achieve. A big thank you to Leela who has been keeping on top of all the requirements that the Cubs need to achieve to get this reward

A fond farewell

After 17 glorious years as a cub leader, 12 of which have been as Akela here at 1st Bramhall I have decided to hang up my woggle and pass the baton on.

It has been an absolute honour and privilege to lead so many great cubs over such a long time and I must say a big thank you to all the parents for their support, it wouldn't have been possible without them. As a leader I have also been massively supported by Andrew (Skip) and the whole 1st Bramhall machine. We are so lucky to have such great facilities in Bramhall and this is mainly down to a lot of hard work that goes on behind the scenes by the trustees and the operational committees.

But there is no way I can leave without also saying the most massive thank you to the other leaders: Paul, Faye and Martin. Paul and I took over the pack in 2014 with Faye and Martin joining over the years since then. We have all had a lot of fun running the pack through thick and thin (the pandemic was interesting!) and it has been an absolute pleasure to share this between us all. They are already doing an excellent job in carrying on and developing the pack with plenty of silly games and great activities. The pack is in great hands.

Finally though I want to save the biggest thanks for the cubs. They are reason that we all do it and watching them grow, gain independence, and develop new skills through cubs, scouts and beyond has been a real pleasure. They are also always great fun, we have all had some real laughs along the way and I will miss their unbridled enthusiasm and maybe even the noise.

I hope that they, and all their families, go on to enjoy scouting for as long as I have and wish you all the best for many happy years being involved with 1st Bramhall

And Finally- Sometimes it just gets a bit much!



Richard Edmondson - Akela

Scout Troop Section Report 2025

Having settled in as Section Leader, this is my second year to report on and it was a fantastic year! We have acquired two new leaders Arman Shahry and Thomas Whitfield who joins us as a former Scout leader.

The team we have in place come together time and again to deliver fantastic opportunities for our young people and as ever, it is a privilege to be Section Leader amongst them, as well as all of the support we receive off our scouting families.

A great programme in Scouting should involve building skills, doing new things, adventurous activities, reflection on values, giving to others and being part of the community and generally having fun. In 2025 we delivered those things in buckets!

In 2025 we awarded 298 badges! 79 of those being the Challenge badges in support of the Chief Scout Gold Award, which we are pleased to say we awarded to 8 Scouts in 2025.

Winter Camp

Our year started with a trip to Ennerdale, a gorgeous, quiet spot in the Lakes where Scouts completed hikes in the fells. A fantastic trip and returning each year always proves popular!



Weekly Meetings

It's always good to look back at all the things we did in a year amongst the usual scouting skills, investitures, Scouts moving to Explorers and the essential skills of navigation and pitching the perfect tent. We did lots of other things too.

We helped bash Balsam at Happy Valley. We held a Talent Night (great opportunity to experience performing in front of a supportive audience) We made Crafts with the WI. We got stuck into Scottish dancing We learned about the homeless from The Wellspring and did two night hikes! We volunteered at the Manchester marathon and raised £400



Bases

Throughout the year we break into Patrols for “Bases” to try new activities, This year involved Snowtubing, MTV (Scouts made a short music video). We experienced the Board Game café, Swimming, Archery, Cooking and Crazy Golf! These activities aim to develop teamworking, personal resilience and a desire to embrace new things and maybe ignite a lifelong passion as well as having lots of fun. We were apparently having so much fun we forgot to take any pictures

Community



Helping the community is important to Scouts. We took part in parades for St. Georges Day and Remembrance Day. We cleared some Himalayan Balsam in Ladybrook valley, raised funds for Macmillan by walking thousands of steps and donated Christmas boxes for Help the Aged.

Scoutcraft Camp

The camp this year was at the same place I had my very first camp, so it was a bit of a pilgrimage, although it felt very different to when I was there 30 years ago. We had a small site but made the most of it by carefully setting up the patrol sites. After a day of learning camping skills including the safe use of axes, knives and saws, as well as crate stacking, the Scouts cooked their evening meal on open fires, using food that they had shopped for themselves and wood that they had collected. Aside from a few burned bits of spaghetti, they enjoyed their meals. We had a special moving up ceremony for several of our Scouts climbing a tower and taking a leap of faith towards their future in Explorers. We also used a Norwegian crane and did an adventure trail around the site.





Norwegian crane: using pulleys and levers and a hook the patrols had to work together and communicate clearly to balance weights on a beam.

Watersports camp

Taking 4 trailers, 20+ scouts and dozens of watercraft to Windermere each year is a logistical feat, but well-coordinated and another fantastic weekend learning Kayaking, Sailing, and stand up paddleboarding, along with a fair amount of jumping off the dock!





Summer Camp – KERNOW!

Kernow was a combination of Scouting at it's best. Cornish sunshine, tremendous activities and over 1000 young people from all over the UK as well as a few from overseas. It was 9 hours on a coach, a week fully packed with adventure, new skills, new friendships, a broken down bus on a whistle stop tour of the sites of Cornwall and every night evening entertainment. It was an absolutely magical camp that exceeded all expectations. The team that put it together put in a huge amount of effort, everything was considered and we enjoyed every second. I can't wait to return!









The camp was 7 days full of adventure, excitement, fun, and enjoyment. Some of the more traditional elements of our summer camp were on hold until 2026 when we venture off to Denmark to visit our friends in Toftlund! Until then, we are left with a million memories from beaches, evening entertainment, and a strong sense of the Scouting family and togetherness and belonging that it brings.

Leader Training and mentions

We conduct all sorts of ongoing training to gain permits to run activities, be leaders and achieve first aid qualifications. All of this takes additional time but the skills we have in the leadership team at 1st Bramhall enable us to run such a fantastic programme for our Scouts.

This year was particularly challenging for me in terms of managing the programme as well as my own commitments, and I absolutely could not have got through the year without the phenomenal help of Richard Baker(Cash) and Pauline Wardrop (Flipper) as well as the enormous help from the other leaders.

A huge thankyou to everyone who helped in one way or another- from parents to members of the community and all those behind the scenes that help us deliver our programme, and to the endless support of my partner Bethan!

Chris Bowen – “Kinder” – Scout Section Team Leader

The XBU Explorer Section - 2025

A year in the life of XBU

We have had another fun and active time at XBU this year – focusing on Scouting Awards through the weekly programme plus a lot of other things slotted into our weekly meetings, including: lots of activities with fire; Pasty Hike through Lyme Park; a climbing session at the Big Depot; a night of Pumpkin Carving; Bowling; our very own Crystal Maze (including a unique take crystal dome – aka shelter and leaf blowers!); and our usual Christmas party.

However, a big part of what we do is based around our weekends away.

Winter camp

This year we held winter camp in North Wales, staying at the Clogwyn Centre. It followed a similar format to our usual winter camp, but with a climbing wall on site, we managed to fit in a few climbing sessions in too. The weather was good to us, and allowed us to get out hiking around Betws-y-Coed on the Saturday, returning back to base for dinner and some silly games! After packing up and cleaning, we headed off to Blaenau Ffestiniog for some trampolining in the caves, taking the opportunity to invest our new Explorers and leader while there.

JOTT (aka Trail Jam)

Although renamed, and we missed the official date, we headed back to do a route which we haven't done for a long time – having had fish and chips at the hut, we were dropped off at Wildboardclough and took a 14km walk through the Peaks as the sun went down, arriving at Whaley Bridge shortly after midnight where we spent the night.

Summer Camp

Summer camp was held in Somerset this year. The programme started slowly but got busier as the week went on – we had our night hike through the Quantock Hills, did some cooking on open fires, made pizzas, had a day hike through Exmoor and went go-karting.

But for me, the highlight of the week had to be our canoe expedition down the River Dart – a logistical nightmare and the 24 hours running up to it were probably the most stressful we have ever had on camp, but a great couple of days. We set off from Totnes (taking everything with us that we would need for the next 36 hours) and travelled downstream in giant canoes – we spotted seals, stopped for some lunch on the shore and then continued to camp – a 'basic' site just back from the river's shore at the end of a farmer's field. Once we set up camp, we cooked dinner and spent some time around the fire, chatting and playing games. Day two was a shorter trip – once we had dropped camp and had breakfast, we paddled over to Stoke Gabriel, playing catch the flag as we went!

Expedition weekend

To undertake an expedition for the Chief Scout / DofE Awards, the Explorers need to have undertaken a practice expedition, so we planned this for October with the aim of running the qualifying expeditions in Spring 2026 – with this in mind, we spent most of September and October making sure the Explorers had all of the training they needed. This included route planning, navigation (including two nights out in the moorland behind Lyme Park in the dark and wet – if you

can navigate in that, you can navigate anywhere!), menu planning, dealing with emergency situations, first aid training and kit checks... a full-on programme.

All of this led up to the expedition weekend before October half term – we headed over to Whaley Bridge on the Friday night, did a final recap on the route / refresher on key points and then got a good night sleep ready for the weekend ahead.

The routes were from Whaley Bridge to Gradbach Scout camp on Saturday (18km) and then from the camp site to Tittesworth Water on Sunday (14km); all carrying their own and group kit as they went.

We had 24 Explorers out for the weekend and they worked in three groups – walking together, cooking together, carrying their own group kit and generally looking out for one another. By the end of the weekend, they were exhausted, wet and cold... but they all did it.

Remembrance Sunday

This year we followed a plan we had been working on for a few years, but not managed to put into action... we decided to run a full weekend up in the Lake District, using Wasdale Head as our base and spending two full days in the mountains. The weekend was sold for what it was – tough, cold and probably wet – and we had a small, but determined, group who stepped up to the challenge.

Day one took us up to Great End (910m) and Scafell Pike (978m) – approximately 18km in total. Although the weather wasn't that great there were snippets of sun and the occasional view to be taken in. It was a long day though, with us getting off the hill in the dark, just in time to make our table booking for fish and chips in Seascale.

The objective for day two was to reach Great Gable (899m) in time for the short remembrance service at 11am – although things started well, and we had a great view of where we were going, the rain and wind came in and battered us... that said, we did get there in time and managed to get on BBC Northwest Tonight... although you have to look closely! Having sheltered at the top to get some lunch, we decided to retreat and cut the planned walk back, but still completing 14km. We returned to a very wet camp site, dropped camp, had a long drive home and then spent the next week drying all of our kit.

For some, this was the first 'proper' mountain experience they had had – big mountains, long days and whatever the weather could throw at us... hopefully they are looking forward to the next one!

And this couldn't have happened without...

As ever, all that we do can only happen with the time, dedication and support of many people – our regular leadership team (Butterfly, Snowflake, Anna and Chris); Jess and Mae, who joined us on summer camp; Sue, who has given up evenings and weekends to help us out when we have been short of permits; parents who have helped with driving minibuses (especially for the expedition weekend)... without this help we wouldn't have been able to deliver the programme that we do.

But to continue this, we are in need of significantly more support. If you like the sound of some of the things we get up to and can spare some time, why not get in touch?



David Reynolds – “Puddles” – Explorer Scout Leader

FINANCIAL REVIEW - 2025

The Group continued to invest in its Bramley Centre headquarters, spending over £8,000 on a new boiler, redecoration and brickwork repairs. However, this was not at the expense of scouting activities, which were fully supported financially, and as can be seen from the Section Reports, grow from strength to strength.

In the year, the overall cash balance rose by £2,492. Excluding the £2,840 expenditure on the new boiler which has been capitalised, the operating surplus (before depreciation) from our Group and Section activities was £7,329 (2024: £9,718) which is considered acceptable by the Trustees.

Subscription income in the year fell by £1,571 to £26,198 (5.7%) due to a decrease in numbers. The loss of the Section Leader in one of the Beaver colonies led to a consolidation and the temporary closure of the Kits colony and a reduction in Beavers being recruited. The Group is actively recruiting a new Beaver Section Leader so that the Kits colony can be reopened. In the Scout Troop, more Scouts went up to Explorers than came up from Cubs, leading to a fall in Troop numbers and a resultant loss of subs income to the Group. The financial impact of the fall in numbers was somewhat mitigated by the Trustees decision to increase the monthly subs amount to £17 for those starting the Group after 1st Jan 2025. Whilst this will take a while to fully work through, it will ensure the long term financial stability of the Group.

Income from hiring the Bramley Centre to commercial organisations, community groups and individuals increased by £2,082 to £21,182 (10.9%) mainly due to the increase in the number of parties. Hiring income is vital to the Group as it fully supports the cost of running the Bramley Centre. The Group thanks Lynne Ormiston for all her hard work in administering this crucial income source.

Gift Aid income received was £6,574, an increase of £122 over the prior year. This continues to be another valuable source of income for the Group.

The Group was successful in applying for a Grant from the Woodford Community Fund and was awarded £1,500 to go towards the cost of watersports equipment. Bramhall & Woodford Rotary again invited us to take part in the Santa float and in 2025 we received £500 for the Christmas 2024 float. We sincerely thank these organisations for their support and generosity.

In Summer 2026, a party of Explorers and Adult volunteers from 1st Bramhall will be attending the 19th Nippon Scout Jamboree in Japan. This will be the fourth time that we have participated in this event, the last time being in 2018. The Expedition is entirely funded by the participants. A new bank account was opened at Lloyds Bank in July 2025 to process all the financial transactions relating to Japan and the funds should all be spent before the end of 2026 whereupon the bank account will be closed. The funds are "ring-fenced" for this expedition and so shown in the Group's Balance Sheet as a Restricted Fund.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIOD

We intend to continue our programme of improving the Bramley Centre, purchasing equipment to support the Scouting programme and investing in the training of our adult volunteers, in safety and first aid as well as in obtaining adventurous activity permits. This is so that we can continue to expand the range of programme activities that we can offer. There is an intention to install a specialist play surface in the courtyard.

Reserves Policy

The group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income fall short or large amounts of expenditure are required on, for example, repairs and maintenance on the Bramley Centre building or on transport. Each year, £3,000 is transferred from Reserves to a Designated Fund for Minibus replacement. The Board of Trustees considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient.

Investment Policy

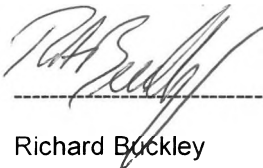
The Group has adopted a risk averse strategy to the management of its liquid funds which are held in cash using a mainstream bank. Cash not required immediately is held in an interest bearing account. The Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the Group obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements.

The Trustee Board regularly considers the cash flow requirements and longer term investments are split between a 60 day notice account and an Invesco Managed Fund, which was chosen to give a diversified range of investments following a discussion with an Independent Financial Adviser.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report above.

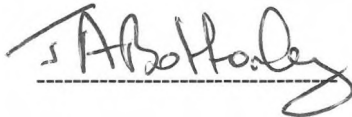
Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:



Richard Buckley

Group Chairman

Date: 10/6/2026



Julie Bottomley

Group President

Date: 10/6/2026



Andrew Corrie

Group Lead Volunteer

Date: 10/6/2026

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 51 to 61.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met, or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gary Wood, FCCA
G.J. Wood & Co. Ltd.
Hub 11 Pepper House
Pepper Road
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP



11 May 2026

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Balance Sheet

31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	2	344,174	349,824
Investments	3	83,485	71,332
		<u>427,659</u>	<u>421,156</u>
Current Assets			
Bank and cash (Group)		25,871	34,370
Bank and cash (Sections)		1,812	821
Bank and Cash (restricted fund)		54,043	-
		<u>81,726</u>	<u>35,191</u>
Current Liabilities			
Other creditors		551	395
		<u>551</u>	<u>395</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>81,175</u>	<u>34,796</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>508,834</u>	<u>455,952</u>
Funds			
General Unrestricted Fund		333,867	338,028
Revaluation reserve		111,458	111,458
Restricted fund		54,043	-
Transport Reserve Fund		9,466	6,466
		<u>508,834</u>	<u>455,952</u>

Approved on behalf of the Trustee Board on 10 JUNE 2026

 Chair

 Treasurer

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2025

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting Receipts and Payments

The accounts for both the current and comparative years have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis as permitted under the Charities Act 2011.

* Land and buildings

Land and buildings have been revalued by the trustees and are included in the accounts at their valuation, in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

b) Capital expenditure

Fixed assets are shown in the accounts at cost less accumulated depreciation, with the exception of land and buildings, which is shown at the Trustees valuation of £340,000.

The cost of equipment is written off in full during the year of acquisition. For insurance purposes, equipment is valued at £62,568.

c) Depreciation

Provision for depreciation is made at the following rates:

Buildings	0.5 % straight line
Garage	5% straight line
Minibus, trailers and boats	25% on a reducing balance basis

2 Tangible fixed assets

	Land & Building	Garage, toilets, gutters & kittchen boiler	Minibus, trailers, boats & frontage	Total
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2025	340,000	46,665	47,820	434,485
Additions	-	2,840	-	2,840
At 31 December 2025	<u>340,000</u>	<u>49,505</u>	<u>47,820</u>	<u>437,325</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2025	39,100	15,000	30,561	84,661
Depreciation for the year	1,700	2,475	4,315	8,490
	<u>40,800</u>	<u>17,475</u>	<u>34,876</u>	<u>93,151</u>
Net Book value 2025	<u>299,200</u>	<u>32,030</u>	<u>12,944</u>	<u>344,174</u>
Net Book value 2024	<u>300,900</u>	<u>31,665</u>	<u>17,259</u>	<u>349,824</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2025

3 Investments	2025	2024
	£	£
Invesco Managed Growth	20,677	20,226
Shawbrook CAF 60 Day Notice Account	62,808	51,106
	<u>83,485</u>	<u>71,332</u>

The market value of the Invesco Managed Growth Fund at 31 December 2025 was £32,102 (2024 £28,510).

4 Funds

The Trustee Board approved a transfer of of £3,000 from the General Unrestricted Fund to a general designated fund, the Transport Reserve Fund. This fund has been set up to provide for future vehicle replacement costs.

5 Donations and Grants	2025	2024
	£	£
Bramhall & Woodford Rotary Club - Santa Float	500	550
Poynton Round Table	-	1,000
Columbus Fellowship	-	2,000
Woodford Community/Redrow	1,500	-
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>3,550</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Squirrel Drey Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Subscriptions from group	364	578
	<u>364</u>	<u>578</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	131	423
Badges/trophies	233	155
	<u>364</u>	<u>578</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	-	-
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2025	-	-
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Beaver Colony Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Subscriptions from group	1,121	376
Pantomime	-	32
Sleepover	150	300
Sleepover and Santa 13 December 2025	378	-
Cinema	-	350
Sundry income	-	25
	<u>1,649</u>	<u>1,083</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	952	475
Badges/trophies	-	105
Camps	-	125
Cinema	-	450
Sleepover	140	234
Sleepover and Santa 13 December 2025	579	-
	<u>1,671</u>	<u>1,389</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	(22)	(306)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2025	22	328
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>22</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Pine Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Camps	765	635
Subscriptions from group	1,555	500
	<u>2,320</u>	<u>1,135</u>
Resources expended		
2024 Trip Sixers and Seconders	-	111
Activities	943	885
Badges and trophies	147	141
Camps	893	594
Uniform	-	-
	<u>1,983</u>	<u>1,731</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	337	(596)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2025	302	898
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2025	<u>639</u>	<u>302</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Fir Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Camps	4,180	1,730
Activities	5	22
Subscriptions from group	1,000	634
	<u>5,185</u>	<u>2,386</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	790	770
Camps	3,940	1,480
Badges and uniforms	117	117
	<u>4,730</u>	<u>2,367</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	455	19
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2025	176	157
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2025	<u>631</u>	<u>176</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Scout Troop Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Activities	920	735
Camps	16,320	8,155
Subscriptions from group	2,000	5,350
Sundry income	3	1
	<u>19,243</u>	<u>14,241</u>
 Resources expended		
Activities	3,708	3,702
Camps	15,193	10,140
Equipment and consumables	60	220
Bank charges	60	60
	<u>19,021</u>	<u>14,122</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	222	119
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2025	318	199
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2025	<u>540</u>	<u>318</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

**19th Nippon Scout Jamboree Statement of Financial Activities
(a restricted fund)**

31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Fees from participators	57,424	-
Fundraising	1,493	-
Interest received	160	-
	<u>59,077</u>	<u>-</u>
Resources expended		
Deposit for airfares	4,950	-
Other expenses	84	-
	<u>5,034</u>	<u>-</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	54,043	-
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2025	-	-
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2025	<u>54,043</u>	<u>-</u>

In Summer 2026, a party of Explorers and Adult volunteers from 1st Bramhall will be attending the 19th Nippon Scout Jamboree in Japan. This will be the third time that we have participated in this event, the last time being in 2018.

The Expedition is entirely funded by the participants. A new bank account was opened at Lloyds Bank in July 2025 to process all the financial transactions relating to Japan and the funds should all be spent before the end of 2026 whereupon the bank account will be closed.

The funds are "ring-fenced" for this expedition and so shown in the Group accounts as a Restricted Fund.

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Group Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Incoming resources		
Gift Aid	6,574	6,452
Letting income	21,182	19,100
Other income	511	1,055
Subscriptions	26,198	27,769
Uniforms	240	235
Bonfire Night	-	1,398
JOTT	-	458
September 2024 Group Camp	-	4,330
Donations and Grants	2,000	3,550
	<u>56,705</u>	<u>64,347</u>
Investment income and interest		
Bank deposit interest	596	1,049
Invesco Managed Growth	451	702
Shawbrook 60 Day Interest	1,702	1,106
	<u>2,749</u>	<u>2,857</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>59,454</u>	<u>67,204</u>
Resources expended		
Property costs		
Building maintenance	8,884	3,064
Cleaning	7,165	6,398
Electricity	2,186	3,375
Gas	502	387
General rates	620	275
Internet and telephone	373	361
Water rates	507	886
	<u>20,237</u>	<u>14,746</u>
Group Scout costs		
Camp	15	15
Capitation fee	8,774	7,469
Group Scout Activities	-	6
OSM costs	133	166
Other expenses	472	198
Payments to sections	6,039	7,438
Training	990	4,655
Uniform and badges	1,309	1,903
JOTT	-	458
September 2024 Group Camp	-	2,899
Trackers	313	302
	<u>18,045</u>	<u>25,509</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Group Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other resources expended		
Examiner's fee	120	120
Bank charges	121	80
Depreciation	8,490	9,786
Equipment	2,082	945
Insurance	5,804	7,000
Marine equipment repairs	924	-
Other expenses	145	47
Printing, stationery and sundry	110	9
Vehicle and transport costs	5,435	6,976
Charitable Donations	-	65
Bonfire Night	-	1,131
Website	94	94
	<u>23,325</u>	<u>26,253</u>
Total resources expended	<u>61,607</u>	<u>66,508</u>
Net Incoming (outgoing) resources	(2,153)	696
Funds at 1 January 2025	343,366	342,670
Funds at 31 December 2025	<u>341,213</u>	<u>343,366</u>

1ST BRAMHALL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1019814

Accounts

Registered charity number 1019814



1st Bramhall Scout Group
Annual Report and Accounts
for the Year ended 31 December 2024

1st Bramhall Scout Group
Reference and Administration Details
For the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Charity Name 1st Bramhall Scout Group
Principal Address The Bramley Centre, Bramley Close
Bramhall, Stockport SK7 2DT
Registered Charity Number 1019814
HQ Registration Number 4861
Scout District Ladybrook Valley
Scout County Greater Manchester East

<u>Trustees</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Dates acted if not for whole year</u>
Julie Bottomley	President	
Sir Peter Fahy*	Vice President	Retired as Trustee 30 Sept 2024
Doreen Wyld	Vice President	
Richard Buckley	Group Chair	
Richard Baker	Group Treasurer	
Andrew Corrie	Joint Group Lead Volunteer	
Barry Aitken	Joint Group Lead Volunteer	
Tim Taylor	Appointed Trustee	

*During the year, Sir Peter Fahy retired as a Trustee, but remains as a Vice-President to offer advice and assistance as required.

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Ave
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Royal Bank of Scotland
1 Redheughs Ave
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

The Co-operative Bank plc
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

External Examiner:

GJ Wood and Co Ltd.
Hub 11 Pepper House
Pepper Road
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP

1st Bramhall Scout Group. – Trustees Annual Report

Structure, Governance and Management

Introduction

Tracing our origins back to 1909, only two years after the founding of the Scout Movement, we are one of the oldest Scout Groups in the country. The Group is part of the Ladybrook Valley Scout District, which itself is part of Greater Manchester East Scout County. The Group is registered with The Scout Association under Registration Number 4861

The Group is an educational charity and constituted as a Trust established under its rules which are common to all Scout Groups. The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (POR). The Group has adopted the model constitution that is shown in POR.

The Group Management

The Group's structure complies with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (POR Autumn 2024 edition). The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board and the Group Leadership Team, assisted by the Facilities sub-team which manages the non-Section related activities of the Group.

The Group Trustee Board is a team of volunteers who work together, as charity Trustees, to make sure that the Group is run safely and legally. They are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association. At the heart of their role is a focus on strategy, performance and assurance, working to ensure that the Group is meeting The Scout Association's overall aims and strategic goals. Effective Trustee support helps other volunteers run the Scout programme that gives young people skills for life.

The members of the Group Trustee Board are required to act collectively as charity Trustees and in the best interests of the charity's members, acting with reasonable care and skill and taking steps to be confident that the charity is well managed, carries out its purposes for the public benefit, complies with the charity's governing document and the law and manages the charity's resources responsibly.

The Group Trustee Board also needs to be confident that the operations of the Group are compliant with POR and the charity regulator, and that there is effective management of each of the seven Scouts Key Policies, being Equal Opportunities Policy, Privacy and Data Protection Policy, Religious Policy, Safeguarding Policy, Safety Policy, Vetting Policy and Youth Member anti-Bullying Policy.

The Group Trustee Board is also required to take steps to be confident that young people are meaningfully involved in decision making at all levels.

The Group Trustee Board is required to ensure that there are sufficient resources (funds, people, property and equipment) available to meet the planned work of the Group, including the delivery of the high-quality programme and the training programme.

The Group Trustee Board members are required to collectively:

- develop and maintain a risk register, including putting in place appropriate mitigations;

- ensure that the Group's finances are properly managed, including development and maintenance of appropriate budgets to support the work of the Group;
- maintain and manage:
 - a reserves policy for the charity (including a plan for use of reserves outside the 'minimum')
 - an investment policy for the charity
 - a public benefit statement for the charity
- ensure that people, property and equipment are appropriately insured, and that any property and equipment owned or used by the Group is properly protected and maintained
- ensure the appointment and management and operation of any sub-teams, including appointing a Chair to lead the sub-teams
- ensure that effective administration is in place to support the work of the Group Trustee Board
- appoint any co-opted members of the Trustee Board
- ensure transparency of operation, including:
 - prepare and approve the Annual Accounts and arrange their examination by an independent examiner as appointed by the Group Scout Council at their Annual General Meeting
 - prepare and approve the Group Trustees' Annual Report (which must include the Annual Accounts and the independent examiner's report)
 - present the approved Group Trustees' Annual Report and Annual Accounts to the Group Scout Council at the Group Annual General Meeting (AGM)
 - following the Group AGM, ensure that a copy of the Group Trustee's Annual Report and Accounts is sent to the District Trustee Board and filed with the Charity Commission,
- take responsibility for the Group's adherence to Data Protection Legislation recognising that, dependent on circumstances, it may at different times act as a Data Controller and as a Data Processor
- individually and collectively maintain confidentiality regarding appropriate Trustee Board business

The Group Leadership Team helps volunteers across all sections work well together and feel motivated. They make sure the Group is respected and supported in their local community. Team members of the Group Leadership Team include the Group Lead Volunteers and all Section Team Leaders including the Explorer Team Leader. The Team's tasks are grouped under the following headings:

- Support the Group's sections
- Develop our volunteers
- Engage with the Community
- Open new provision
- Manage incidents
- Support effective processes

The Facilities sub-team (previously known as the Operations Committee) is a sub-team of the Group Leadership Team. It is responsible for the Group's physical assets in accordance with formal Terms of Reference. It manages the Buildings, Equipment, Transport and Trailers, Hirings, Fire Safety, Finance and Insurance.

Members of the Facilities sub-team during 2024, with their responsibilities, were:

Richard Baker	Chair of Facilities sub-team plus Finance, Insurance, Buildings and Transport Manager from July 2024
Julie Bottomley	Health & Safety, Buildings, Hirings
Lynne Ormiston	Hirings
Graeme Weatherall	Fire Safety
Steve Vinten	Transport Manager – up to July 2024
Paul Rawcliffe	Communications & Website
Richard Buckley	Group Chair
Tim Taylor	Secretary

The Group thanks all of the above for their hard work during the year. Special thanks go to Steve Vinten for his valuable contribution whilst Transport Manager.

Risks and Internal Control

The Trustee Board has identified the following major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed. These are reviewed regularly and systems established to mitigate them.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. Through payment of the Capitation Fee to the District and County, the Group contributes to The Scout Association’s national accident insurance policy. Through a separate policy with Unity Insurance, any helpers who are not members of the Scout Association are also covered for injury. Risk assessments are prepared for all activities, communicated to all adults taking part and reviewed regularly. Training and the correct qualifications are integral to our safety management process. All adult members are required to undertake First Response training every three years. All activities have a nominated trained First Aider. The Group has a Fire Safety Officer who undertakes Fire Safety Assessments, provides Fire Training to Adult Volunteers and Hirers and conducts practice evacuations. The Facilities sub-team reviews and updates the Buildings Risk Assessment. All adult leaders and volunteers in the Group are required to complete the appropriate safety and activity training courses and are expected to be familiar with the Purple Card ‘Safe Scouting and Emergency Procedures’ and to understand that Safety is a joint responsibility of all adults in the Group, irrespective of their role.

Safeguarding. Keeping young people safe is the paramount responsibility for all adults in Scouting. There is a formal process to ensure that adults are checked through the DBS and the Scout Association’s systems before appointment, and that renewal takes place prior to expiry. All adults in the Group are required to complete the Scout Association Safety and Safeguarding Courses every three years. The Yellow Card which contains essential information on safeguarding is given to all adults. Young people are encouraged to raise any concerns affecting them or another member of the Group with a trusted adult and/or with their own parents.

Leader Competence In order to underpin safe quality Scouting for young people, it is very important that all adults holding Scout appointments receive training that is appropriate to their roles. Undergoing training within a stated period is a requirement of all appointments. The Scout Association’s module-based training scheme for adult volunteers is managed by Greater Manchester East Scout County, with assistance at District level. All appointments are for a limited period so systems are in place for reviewing appointments and identifying any further training needs.

Damage to buildings, property and equipment. In the event of such damage, the Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from other Scout Groups and/or other neighbouring organisations like churches or community centres. The Group has sufficient insurance cover in place with Unity Insurance for the buildings, contents, public liability, vehicles, trailers, canoes, boats and equipment. Appropriate training is given to all users. Certain items of equipment have been identified for regular checking, testing or maintenance.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section, or the Group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group. A similar risk exists from a reduction or loss of young people.

Reduced income. The Group is reliant upon income from both subscriptions and the hiring of the Bramley Centre to third party organisations. Hiring income could fall due to reduced demand or due to reduced availability as a result of more section activities. The amounts charged for subscriptions and hiring the premises are reviewed by the Trustee Board annually. Further fund-raising activities could be undertaken for specific purposes.

The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income.

General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR). The Group is fully aware of its responsibilities and obligations under GDPR and uses the system for electronic storage and communication managed by Greater Manchester East Scout County. Procedures for the secure storage of information in paper form are also in place. GDPR training has been undertaken by all persons with data handling responsibilities. The Joint Lead Volunteers and Communications Manager advise the Trustee Board and the Group Leadership team on GDPR issues with responsibility resting with the Trustee Board.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the group are as a unit of The Scout Association. The aim of The Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership. The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more. Each week, we give young people in our local area the opportunity to enjoy fun and adventure while developing the skills they need to succeed.

The Scouting Programme is provided to young people between the ages of 4 and 25. Squirrels are aged between 4 and 6, Beavers 6 to 8, Cubs 8 to 10½ and Scouts 10½ to 14. 14 to 18 year olds are in the Explorer Unit which is administered by the District. At 1st Bramhall, we operate all the sections between Squirrels and Explorers.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

CHAIR'S REPORT 2024

Recently, I've happened to listen to a few radio documentaries and news articles about the effects of daylight on our children—more specifically, the negative impact of the lack of it. I thought to myself, “Yes—*get them off their consoles and phones and out into the fresh air.*” And that's one of the key benefits of Scouting: getting young people outdoors, in the daylight, and into nature.

Now let me ask you a question: if you asked your teenager on a Saturday morning if they fancied an eight-hour walk, what would the answer be....? I can guess... But that's exactly what 30 or so 10–14-year-olds happily did on a cold but sunny Saturday in February during the Scouts Winter Expedition. And I can assure you, they all enjoyed it, and they're all the better for it.

So: let's get our young people outside, in the fresh air, and actively involved socially.

Please also remember that as parents, we really do need your support. We don't necessarily need you to put on a necker and help run a meeting (though you're always welcome to!). But anything you can do to support our volunteers would be hugely appreciated.

For example, we urgently need someone to help look after the minibuses. It's vital they're maintained and available for use. While we have regular maintenance and safety checks carried out by an external company, we'd love someone who could be available at the Scout Hut to liaise with the service technician—perhaps while *'working from home'* for half a day. It would really help and save one of our uniformed leaders a significant chunk of time. So please, ask yourself: could you spare just half a day once a quarter?

Looking ahead, I'm sure our young people will have great experiences and create lasting memories from the various camps and nights away planned for all sections over the summer months.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to formally thank all our amazing leaders, helpers, and Trustees. The time, energy, and commitment you give—week in, week out—makes such a difference in the lives of our young people.

Enjoy the summer.

Best wishes,

Richard Buckley

Group Chair

GROUP SCOUT LEADERS REPORT 2024

“Scouts actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

In partnership with adults, young people take part in fun indoor and outdoor activities. They learn by doing, by sharing in spiritual reflection and by taking responsibility. They make choices, undertake new and challenging activities, and they live their Scout Promise. “

That’s the stated aim and purpose of The Scouts. But that’s not why all our young people in 1st Bramhall join and stay; they do so because of all that is offered to them week in, week out, across every Section of the Group - Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers, and delivered by a brilliant team of dedicated, enthusiastic, energetic, and resourceful volunteers. And if you want evidence of that, just read this year’s annual review of what the Sections have been up to – it’s truly phenomenal.

That’s the tip of the iceberg; there’s a lot that goes on behind the scenes to ensure we can deliver high quality Scouting for everyone. I want to highlight one particular event – in October a cohort of 12 leaders completed at two-day Mental Health First Aid Awareness Course. Barry Aitken (“Harrier”), Dawn Aitken (“Rikkki”), Julie Bottomley, Chris Bowen (“Kinder”), Andrew Corrie (“Skip”), Amy Newport (“Bear”), Dave Reynolds (“Puddles”), Sam Rogers (“Rudder”), Liz Taylor (“Nutkin”), Pauline Wardrop (“Flipper”), and Mikaela Wozencroft (“Little Beaver”) have now been trained on mental health knowledge and skills, so don’t hesitate to talk freely to any of them at any time about any mental health issues/topics/concerns. I highlight this as one example from amongst many, of our volunteers’ commitment to training to help them support young people.

Back to the tip of the iceberg – a couple of “standout” moments for the whole Group in 2024. First was JOTT (Jamboree on the Trail) when families from all sections enjoyed a day’s walk of varying lengths, culminating in a splendid barbecue back at the Bramley Centre. And then in September our Group Camp, a weekend at Ashworth Valley Scout Camp near Rochdale, when every Section of the Group had a full-on weekend of activities, challenges, laughter, and fun. No parents at that camp – but not to worry, we’ll be back with our Family Camp in September 2026!

I would like to take this opportunity to say farewell and a massive thank you to some brilliant leaders who “retired” during 2024. Paul Winterburn (“Pedal”) was the extremely popular and effective Explorer Leader for many years, developing a varied and exciting programme that kept the Young People engaged and enjoying their Scouting. Amanda Hudghton (“Suds”) was an amazing Beaver Leader. The Beavers loved her and she came up with activity ideas that were quite astonishing. Thankfully, she continues to be involved with the Group, managing the Waiting Lists. Simon Breeze moved as a Cub leader to Hazel Grove. The Group is very grateful for all their contributions and achievements.

In addition to the above, Iain Lavelle stepped down as the Scout Active Support Manager and Steven Vinten stepped down as the Transport Manager. These “backroom” roles are vital to the success of the Group, and we thank them for all their dedication and contribution.

But for now, just sit down, and take the time to read all about our past action-packed year in the long history of 1st Bramhall “simply the best”!

Andrew Corrie (“Skip”)

GROUP SCOUT LEADER

ANNUAL CENSUS

The annual census, taken in January 2025, showed 164 (prior year:154) young people in Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with a further 29 (prior year:41) in the Explorer Unit, which is a District Section. All sections operate waiting lists.

Young people	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Squirrels	21	20	20									
Beavers: Colts	21	19	22	19	21	24	23	23	24	22	42	24
Kits	19	19	21	21	21	25	23	25	24	25		
Cubs: Pine	22	34	27	28	32	33	34	24	33	24	54	36
Fir	24	22	20	25	27	28	27	24	27	29		
Scouts	57	40	65	56	56	65	41	59	41	44	50	50
Total	164	154	175	149	157	175	148	155	149	144	146	110
Explorers	29	41	22	32	29	22	23	27	39	47	41	35

Leader/Sectional assistants	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Squirrels	8	7	8									
Beavers: Colts	9	5	5	4	2	4	3	4	3	8	6	2
Kits	6	5	6	4	2	4	3	3	3	6		
Cubs: Pine	4	6	7	5	3	6	5	3	4	4	8	5
Fir	7	7	4	6	3	3	9	7	5	10		
Scouts	14	12	17	16	13	15	11	14	10	9	11	9
Total	48	42	47	35	23	32	31	31	27	37	25	16

These numbers don't include all the Occasional Helpers and Young Explorer Leaders who are so valuable in assisting on section nights and other activities.

SECTION REPORTS

Squirrels Drey- 2024

It doesn't seem like 5 minutes since I was writing the report for 2023 but here we are with a snapshot of some of our Squirrel highlights for 2024. It was another exciting year as we welcomed new families and the younger siblings of some of our Beavers/Cubs/Scouts to 1st Bramhall to start their own Scouting adventure. The waiting list remains busy with some of our newer members being added the week they were born!

Firstly, I would like to thank the leaders for the many hours of their own time they have given up volunteering with the group. Many of them have children within the Drey and understand the importance of the skills we are developing from a young age. It's encouraging to see that parents are keen to remain a leader and most move on to Beavers with their child. This regularly opens opportunities for other parents to volunteer so please do get in touch if you would like to get involved.

It was lovely to see so many of the Squirrels join in with the whole Group activities this year. We had a good number of Squirrels take part in the St. George's Day parade, JOTT, Group Camp and our Group bonfire. We are looking forward to joining in with more Group activities in 2025.

A visit to Bramhall Library



In January 2024 we enjoyed a visit to Bramhall Library as part of our Storytime badge. The Squirrels enjoyed looking at books and listening to stories read to us by staff at the library. They were so good that we even got in invite back for 2025!

Charity fundraising

We continued our Local Superhero badge work by hosting a charity event in April and collected sponsor money. The Squirrels picked a charity of their choice from Chelwood Foodbank, Save the Children or Guide Dogs for the Blind. Many of our Squirrels chose to take part in a sponsored challenge which included bike rides, long walks and swimming. Others chose to collect food or bake cakes to sell. We are very proud that the final total raised for our Charity night was £365 plus 5 bags of food to donate to Chelwood Food bank! This is an amazing achievement - Well done Squirrels. (Guide dogs = £250, Chelwood Foodbank £50 plus bags of food, Save the Children = £65)



Get Creative and Go Wild badges

Our Autumn term began with learning about the life cycle of a butterfly. We read the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar then made our own caterpillars and butterflies using various craft items. We learnt how to colour mix paint and use scissors as part of our Get Creative badge. We also worked towards our Go Wild badge by learning about where animals live and what they like to eat. We made our own bug hotel using natural materials and cardboard tubes.





Christmas dinner – food tasting and cooking

In December our Super Chef badge encouraged the Squirrels to try different types of food and get involved in some cooking. There were lots of clean plates during our Christmas dinner tasting session – there were mixed reviews on the carrots, sprouts, parsnips, cranberry sauce, mince pies and Christmas pudding but the chocolate buttons seemed to be a clear favourite!



Our Reindeer cakes were an even bigger hit! We learnt about why it is important to wash our hands before cooking, how to use scales to weigh ingredients, how to use microwave to melt butter and chocolate and how to mix ingredients together.

Well done to all the Squirrels who achieved their Chief Scout's Acorn Badge in 2024.

1st Bramhall: Squirrels

Awarded Badges

Chief Scout's Acorn

Jacob Santer
Buddy Hardman
Mariia Domanska
Arthur Welsh
Jessie Kelly
Jacob Walker
Edward Armer
Harry Westwell
Georgia Plunkett
Jamie Brown
Etta Davies-Colley
Mila Tellioglu
George Stringer
Samuel Piper



A big thank you again to all our 2024 volunteer leaders...

“Nutkin” (Liz) “Little Beaver” (Mikaela) “Nutella” (Jo) “Hawkeye” (Keith) “Acorn” (Chelsea)

“Nympa”(Aycan) “Wren” (Elaine) “Tiggy” (Michelle) “Buttercup” (Laura) and our Scout helper (Sophie), Explorer Young Leader (Charlotte) and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Volunteer (Lauren)

Liz Taylor - “Nutkin” & Mikaela Wozencroft - “Little Beaver” - Squirrel Scout Leaders

Colts Beaver Colony - 2024

2024 was a year of change for Colts and for me personally as I stepped down from being Colts Section Leader at the end of the Summer term. So this report captures the fun we had together until that date and Teddy's report covers the Autumn term.

The Spring term started in January with the District Panto trip to Stockport Plaza. This year it was Peter Pan and was full of the usual singing, dancing, corny jokes and audience participation. Needless to say the Beavers loved it!



Our term proper started with an evening based around Friendship as we welcomed new starters. We then made bird feeders and learnt about the RSPB Birdwatch and encouraged the Beavers to take part in the annual survey as we worked towards our Outdoor Challenge badge.

Our first activity badge of the year was the Health & Fitness badge which we completed around a Winter Sports theme. The Beavers took part in different Winter Sports: Speed Skating, the Luge and Curling and all without snow and ice! We also measured our heart rates before and after exercise and made a healthy snack. Not quite so healthy were the pancakes we made for Pancake Day, but I think I know which the Beavers enjoyed more!



We continued after half term with a Teamwork night, where the Beavers took part in lots of Team challenges, it is fair to say some were more successful than others!

We worked really hard making Lavender bags for our Mums for Mother's Day, then worked on our second activity badge of the term, the Safety badge. We learnt about the Emergency Services and what they do for us and how to contact them, and we reminded ourselves what to do in an emergency and safely evacuated the Scout hut. We spent an evening learning about the Green Cross code and went out into the village to put it into practise.

The greatest excitement of the Spring term came with the District Fun Day and Spring Sleepover at the hut. We spent the afternoon making friends and taking part in lots of fun activities on a theme of 'Around the World' at 3rd Bramhall's headquarters and then returned to the Bramley Centre to hold our Space camp. We made rockets and constellation cookies, played Alien Nerf wars and had a camp fire; before storytime with Tim Peake and eventually some sleep!



Our Spring term rounded off with traditional Easter activities and lots chocolate!

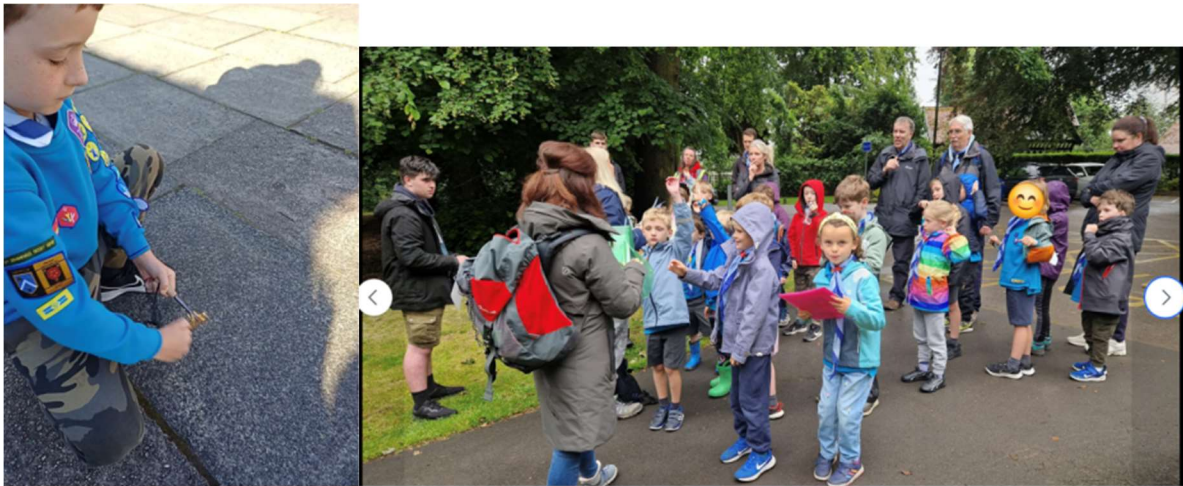
Our Summer term started with our St George's Day parade where we proudly marched through Bramhall and renewed our Promise with the rest of the District at St Michaels Church.



We started the Navigator badge, learning about the points of a compass and how to read a map. We made seed pots and planted seeds which we put in flower trugs that we made from decorated milk cartons.

In May we took part in JOTT with the rest of the Group and walking with our friends from Poynton pool. We then spent an evening with Dr Lowe visiting Bramhall Health Centre where we learnt about being a GP and first aid as we worked towards our Emergency Aid badge.

Our final half term of the summer saw us completing our Cycling Activity badge as we learnt how to correctly wear a helmet, to pump up a tyre and to cycle safely around the car park. We learnt how to use a flint and steel to create sparks and how to build and safely light a fire.



We completed our Navigator badge in Bramhall Park where we split into groups and navigated around a course before spending some time in the play park.



Our final few weeks of term saw us out in the village completing a photo challenge and enjoying the traditional end of term water games. Always a fun night.

Whilst the year didn't end at the end of the Summer term my role as Beaver leader did. After 10 happy years I would like to say a big thank you to all the young people who have passed through Colts and all the leaders and young leaders who helped make such wonderful memories for me. Scouting is a wonderful organisation and I encourage everyone, young and not so young to get involved.

Best wishes to you all, Suds x

Amanda Hudghton ("Suds")

Beaver Lead Volunteer (Retired)

Colts Beaver Colony – Autumn Term 2024

September arrived and my new role as Colts Lead Volunteer started with group camp! An amazing weekend of fun in the sun for all sections in 1st Bramhall. It was also my first 'proper' opportunity to meet the Colt Beavers. A particular highlight was the 'cheery blaze' and campfire songs from all the sections.



The Autumn term started with some 'getting to know each other' games, and as part of the builder badge, we filled the hall with junk and designed and made money boxes.



For our community impact badge, we had a visit from Wellspring and learned about foodbanks. They were very grateful for all the food donations too.



As part of the disability badge, we enjoyed a visit from a hearing support dog, who we all fell in love with...



As well as our annual Christmas party, we had a fab joint visit with Kits to the Rex Cinema to see Moana 2. We ended the year making Christmas cards and singing carols for the residents at Hillbrook Grange.



Whilst I can't take full credit for all the badges earned in my first term, I was very proud to award 4 Chief Scout Bronze awards, together with over 100 other badges, and I'm excited to continue my scouting journey with Colts Beavers.

Many thanks to Keego, Digger, Sapphire, Tiger, Sandy, Pogo and the super helpful young leaders for welcoming and supporting me.

Teddy

Kate Vincent (Teddy)
Beaver Lead Volunteer - 1st Bramhall Colts Beavers

Kits / Colts Beaver Colony - 2024

At the end of the summer term, Kate Vincent (“Teddy”) replaced the retiring Amanda Hudghton (“Suds”) as the Lead Volunteer of the Monday night Colts Beavers colony. Kate was replaced as the Lead Volunteer of the Wednesday night Kits Beavers by Adam Wozencroft (“Kwasim”).

Kits Beaver Colony – to the end of the Summer Term 2024



Jan 2024 started with a District Panto trip to the Plaza to see Peter Pan. The Beavers enjoyed booing Captain Hook and cheering the Goodies.



Back in the Bramley Centre, the Spring term started with a celebration of Winnie the Pooh, then we made fluffy Haggis’ to mark Burns night and constructed bird feeders to ensure our local wildlife didn’t go hungry in the frosty weather.



A particular highlight this term was a 'behind the scenes' tour of Brookdale Theatre, where the Beavers got to see and try on a variety of costumes and props, visit the dressing rooms and view the lighting and sound booths. They were even able to appear on stage to show off their acting skills. All thanks to the amateur dramatics group who gave up their rehearsals time.



I was also particularly proud of the Beavers at the St Georges Day parade this year. They represented 1st Bramhall brilliantly.



The Summer term brought lighter evenings, which meant we could get out and about exploring our local community. We started with a walking tour of the village with iPads and were joined by a professional photographer who showed us how to take interesting shots of our village as part of the photographer badge.





We experienced all kinds of weather in the summer term, from the glorious sunshine of JOTT and an evening learning the basics of golf, to a soggy investiture at the end of our mini beast hunt through Benja Fold.

FORE! Who knew there was a National Golf Day? Well, Kits Beaves do! We reached for our clubs and learned all about the game of golf. Tiger Woods better watch out!





We also celebrated National Red Rose Day by working towards our gardener badge. We planted our very own wildflowers.



Let it never be said that we let a little rain stop us! We took advantage of the wet weather to go out searching for mini beasts in Bramhall. What better spot to also invest our newest Beaver to our colony.





Fortunately, tree climbing in Bruntwood Park as part of an 'adventurous activity' was warm, dry and (as usual) great fun!



I completed my time with Kits in July having awarded over 150 badges, including 3 Chief Scout Bronze Awards, and left for Colts knowing my lovely little Kits Beavers were in safe hands with Kwasim, Rikki, Beefy and Bear (and the super young leaders James and Jack.)

Kate Vincent (Teddy)
Beaver Lead Volunteer

Kits Beaver Colony – Autumn Term 2024

I was very pleased to become the new Lead Volunteer for the Kits Beaver Colony at the end of the Summer Term. Our focus for the Autumn term was achieving our Global Issues badge. We spent 4 weeks learning about various subjects.

Endan

plight of different animals and then quizzed each other.



Fairtrade: We learned all about Fairtrade and how it supports people all over the world. We also used it as an excuse to make some Fairtrade banana sundaes. All in the name of learning, of course!



Saving Energy: we ran an energy efficient session where we asked everyone to get to the session in an environmentally friendly way. Some walked, some cycled and some shared lifts!

Water issues: We found out all about the difficulties some people have in accessing clean and safe drinking water. We did an experiment of cleaning dirty water using water filters that we made.



We were also very excited to get to visit Cheadle fire station – where we learned all about how the firefighters do their job and the equipment that they use. They even let us use their powerful hoses – but sadly they didn't let us use them to wash Kwasins Car.





The following week we put our fire safety skills into practice with a fantastic, very safe campfire evening with songs, hot chocolate and marshmallows. Pure scouting joy!



We welcomed a visit from the Charity Wellspring, who came in to tell us all about the amazing work they do to support people in Stockport who are homeless or at risk from losing their home. The Beavers showed incredible generosity by donating a HUGE amount of food that was donated to Wellspring. Well done Beavers!





What better way to end the term and year than with a Christmas party. Plenty of chocolate, games and music. We even had an indoor snowball fight.



I'm sure you will agree, we have had a year of fun, learning and teamwork. The Beavers have all done incredibly and we hope that they continue to enjoy their time with us. We hope that they are proud of the skills and confidence they have developed along the way and the badges that represent all their achievements. We are proud of them ALL and love seeing them grow.

Before I sign off, can I please give a huge thank you to all our volunteer adults and young leaders who help plan and run our programme. We couldn't do it without the time and effort you so kindly give up for the Beavers. **Thank you!**

We can't wait for the next year of Beaver shenanigans!

Adam Wozencroft (Kwasim)
Kits Beaver Lead Volunteer

Fir Cub Pack - 2024

2024 was a fun packed year! We have filled the terms with plenty of games and activities to keep the Cubs occupied.



At present our team consists of:

- Akela (Caroline)
- David (Badger)
- Little Beaver (Kae)
- Baloo (Angela)
- Des (Jacala)

In 2024 we welcomed new members to the team:

- Phil (Rikki)
- Jacob (Chill)

April saw 1st Bramhall stepping out in force for JOTT and enjoying the day and festivities.



June was the start of the camping for Fir Pack. We did "Our York trip" where Fir pack went on a weekend trip to York. We visited the Railway Museum and had a lovely day walking round and talking about the different engines. We also got to do some investing into the pack on the top of a beautiful bridge in the station, then returned to the campsite for games and activities, plus hot chocolate and marshmallows!



November was our next night away where we went to Linnet Clough and enjoyed a lovely couple of days. It was an adventure - we did leader and cub led activities. We had a 6-mile hike and scavenger walk and had hot choc on a hillside. We had an amazing time on the Cube, we were impressed with the cubs facing new heights, and the shooting in archery was outstanding. We enjoyed hot choc and marshmallows and a movie night in the hut.



Then after the quickest turn around possible from camp we were out with the rest of the district for Parade.



The Happy Valley Over the Seasons Trip to complete the Naturalist Badge was a lot of fun! Orienteering was challenging and got us ready for our November camp. We looked at seasonal changes in many areas of the valley and got to know our countryside code in the process.

There are so many nights that take place over the year that we cannot mention them all, but the Cubs have learnt a lot during Camp Bases - how to set up and take down tents as well as set up the

beds and take everything down. Also, we have completed our passport multiple times showing the cubs how to strip their beds and re make as well as iron and change a fuse.

Our yearly bike ride to Middlewood way is always good fun and the cubs love it. They love the ice cream they get as a reward at the end of the night - thanks to the lovely café.



The cubs had great fun in October building ovens out of cardboard and foil, then making pizzas to cook in them. The following session was so easy and so much fun - some lovely cooked pizzas were eaten.



Then with all the other sections - 15 of our Pack joined the Group camp weekend where they joined in the Olympic Games - scavenger hunt and worked with all age groups, they had a fabulous weekend filled with food fun and making new friends.



The plans for 2025 are just as exciting! I would like to thanks to all the leaders for their help in 2024 and to all the parents and cubs for their support!

2025 is off to a flying start with us already booked for Chinese New Year and loads of other events in the coming months!

Caroline Noone (Akela)
Cub Lead Volunteer - 1st Bramhall Fir Cub Pack

Pine Cub Pack – 2024



2024 was another great year for Pine Pack

Great bunch of cubs – lots of new and old activities, and lots of fun along the way

Tuesday night fun and games

Like all the sections, we have a balanced programme which means we have a variety of activities. We love trying new things as well as doing some of the old favourites.



It doesn't have to be complicated. Something as simple as marshmallows around the fire makes for a great night and an excuse to invest one of our new cubs



Although summer was a great chance to get out on the water on these mega stand up paddle boards



We went cycling again but also spent an evening learning how to look after our bikes



We went to the University of Manchester to learn about nuclear energy

Camps and nights away

Our nights away trips are always highlights. This year we managed two.

For summer camp we went to Linnet Clough which gave us a great chance to try some of the activities on offer there. As well as climbing, we managed to do some kayaking using our kayaks and our newly trained leaders (see below). All the traditional elements were there too with lots of games, hikes, cooking and singing



Is this not the best bit of any camp?



Kayaking on the Roman Lakes in Marple

Then in September we took part in the Group Camp – it was great to be with everyone else from Squirrels to Explorers



Being part of the community

A really important element of being part of the scouting family is to make an active contribution to our community. As well as taking part in the St Georges Parade and the Remembrance Parade, we also spent an evening clearing Happy Valley of Himalayan Balsam



Badges and Awards

Earning badges is clearly a large part of what we do. This year it was great to see so many of our Cubs moving up to Scouts with their Silver Chief Scouts Award, the highest that a Cub can achieve. A big thank you to Leela who has been keeping on top of all the requirements that the Cubs need to achieve to get this reward.

Training

Training for all adults involved in scouting is a major priority to ensure that we provide fun, but safe, activities and events. This year all our leaders undertook extensive repeat safety training to make sure we are all up to date.

Often our training is pretty good fun in its own right. Akela and Ikki spent most of a (pretty chilly!) weekend on, or mostly in, Lake Coniston. The permits we earned let us take the Cubs kayaking and other water sports so that we can make the most of the fabulous equipment we have available at 1st Bramhall. We are now focussing on increasing our safety equipment so that we can extend these activities to our smaller members including Beavers.



Watersport training for leaders on Lake Coniston

And Finally

Just to remind everyone that the leaders have as much fun as the young people



Richard Edmondson
Akela

Scout Troop Section Report 2024

This is my first year as the Section Leader after 5 years being an assistant to Peter Boxall (Whittle). Both he and Richard Baker (Cash) have been a fantastic support this year. We also had two new leaders join us, Peter Roberts (Trail) and Tom Winpenny (Mudkip), a former Scout of 1st Bramhall.

The team we have in place come together, time and again, to deliver fantastic opportunities for our young people and it is a privilege to take on the role of Section Leader amongst them and to receive all the support from families.

A great programme in Scouting should involve building skills, doing new things, undertaking adventurous activities, reflecting on values, giving to others, being part of the community and generally having fun. In 2024 we delivered those things in buckets!

In 2024 we awarded 386 badges! Almost 100 of those being the Challenge badges in support of the Chief Scout Gold Award, which we are pleased to say was awarded to 5 Scouts last year.

Winter Camp

Our Year started with a trip to Ennerdale, a gorgeous and quiet spot in the Lakes where Scouts completed hikes in the fells, a fantastic weekend and going back each year always proves popular!



Scout Panto

Back in Bramhall, the Scouts helped organise and put on the biannual Panto performance. This year it was all about Byte Grylls - an "evil" version of Bear Grylls, who changed and ruined all the Scout Laws for his own selfish purposes. Scouts helped with the sounds, lighting, stage design and props to support the fantastic performances by the actors.

Saturday Walk

We arranged a hike early in the year up to White Nancy to give the opportunity to test navigation skills and families came along for the fun



Spring/Summer Meetings

We celebrated Chinese New Year by cooking various dishes and having a mini food festival to try all the different foods.



We also did two nights working towards the Creative Challenge award, where Scouts chose between Leatherworking, Papier Mache, Pyrography and Whittling.

We had a Murder Mystery night and meetings dedicated to Teamworking and Camp preparation. We celebrated the pagan festival of Beltane and did a night hike around Werneth Low, staying overnight (indoors) at Boarfold Scout Camp. We ended the summer term with our end of year BBQ and Games at Woodford Rec (my ongoing attempts to teach Kubb continue)

Bases

Throughout the year we break into Patrols for “Bases” to try new activities, This year involved Climbing, Fencing, Kayaking, Gymnastics and a good old fashioned water fight! These activities aim to develop teamworking, personal resilience and a desire to embrace new things and maybe ignite a lifelong passion.





The idea here was to pour water into the bucket of the person behind, but generally it just got poured all over the person!

Community



Scouts took part in the St. Georges Day parade and the Remembrance Day parade. We helped with clearing Himalayan Balsam in Ladybrook Valley, did a charity carwash for Macmillan and Scouts donated Christmas boxes for Help the Aged

Scoutcraft-on-the-Water camp

We usually do two camps in the early summer: one to cover Scouting skills aka Scoutcraft and then a Watersports camp. This year, through herculean efforts from Leaders we delivered both camps in one go at Scoutcraft-on-the-Water! The camp included a hard morning of pioneering, putting up dining shelters and learning how to use axe, knife and saw safely. All before lunch.



Scouts then enjoyed Kayaking, Sailing and Paddleboarding on Windermere. They cooked together on open fires and did a fantastic job of Striking camp. All in just 2 days after arriving late on Friday night.

Summer Camp

The 2024 Summer Camp took place on a glorious greenfield site near Thornhill, 16 miles north west of Dumfries. 27 scouts plus leaders camped on a large field beside a stream in a wooded valley for 9 days. The scouts learnt to erect tents, how to live in a tent for a substantial period of time, how to plan meals and shop for the food, how to collect and prepare wood for fires and how to build fires and cook on them. They learnt how to get along with each other and I am sure that new friendships were made. Patrol leaders learnt loads on how to manage their patrol.

Camp in action in all it's glory! Smiles all round





There was a lot of fun too – many activities were inspired by the Paris Olympics, with archery, volleyball, grass sledging, football and a variety of “original” camp games. We had a day out to an activity centre on Loch Ken, where the scouts went sailing and climbing, as well as going on the huge inflatables on the waterpark. The weather was glorious – it was sunny most days and only rained one day – conveniently on the day we visited the Wanlockhead leadmines and gold panning centre.



The scouts were brilliant on camp – keen to get into the spirit of everything, including the exciting incident journey, the cooking competition and helping the farmer move his wood. In summary, this is what scouting is all about!



Leader Training and mentions

Leaders completed a day of safety training early in the year as part of their ongoing commitment to safe scouting. This day covered all the Scout Safety requirements, to ensure that we continue to deliver a Scouting programme that is adventurous and exciting but not dangerous. The use and importance of risk assessments was covered in detail.

Leaders have also completed all sorts of other training individually, including Canoeing, Paddleboarding, Hiking, First Aid and climbing.

As Section Leader I have an ongoing commitment to learn as much as I can about how young people develop and how we can shape activities to give them opportunities to develop their resilience and empathy and to reflect on how they communicate.

Within the Group leaders also joined together to complete a mental health first aid training course



A huge thankyou to everyone who helped in one way or another: from parents and leaders, to members of the community, to all those behind the scenes that help us deliver our programme, to the brilliant and enthusiastic Scouts themselves and to the endless support of my partner Bethan!

Finally a special mention that within all of this, I welcomed my son Lewis to the world, a future member of the Troop



Chris Bowen – “Kinder” – Scout Section Team Leader

The XBU Explorer Section - 2024

A YEAR OF CHANGE FOR XBU

The year started as every other, but by Easter, we had the loss of four leaders, including Pedal who had led the Unit for a number of years. This was a major and unexpected change, but with the agreement and support of the remaining leaders, I agreed to take this forward and get us through to Summer Camp.

This change brought with it an opportunity to 'reset' how we worked, to help us make things work with a reduced number of leaders, but also to refocus XBU on Scouting and the Scouting Awards (which build upon the Duke of Edinburgh Awards where the focus had previously been) and ensure that these are offered to all, through the weekly programme.

In this respect, we have run sessions as an introduction to expeditions, and the additional requirements for the Scout Awards in the areas of international, community and values.

In addition to this work, and the key events below, we also ran a number of other activities through the year: Pasty Hike – a night hike from Bow Stones, through Lyme Park to Poynton, being met at the end with freshly baked Cornish pasties; our annual trip to Alton Towers; a climbing session at Linnet Clough; a night of Pumpkin Carving; Bowling; our usual Christmas party.

Winter camp

This year we held winter camp at Great Tower Scout Camp in the Lake District. It followed the usual format – a fun filled weekend of games in the evenings, a day out in the hills on the Saturday and high ropes on Sunday morning.

JOTT

This year we took a turn from the usual, joining the rest of the Group on the main JOTT rather than running our own JOTT night hike. We started off from Linnet Clough and headed to meet the Scouts at their starting point, at Lyme Park, and hiked back to the Scout hut with them.

Summer Camp

Summer camp was held in the New Forest this year. The highlight of the week was having the opportunity to spend a night hammocking on Brownsea Island, on the site of the first ever Scout camp. It started with a ferry trip over to the island and a hike across the island to the site, carrying everything we would need for the overnight stay. After setting up camp, some games and tea, it was time to settle down for the night under the stars. We completed our stay the following morning with a powerboat ride along the Jurassic coast.

We fitted in lots of other activities over the week too, including a trip to an aqua park, laser quest in the woods, hiking through the New Forest and an opportunity for cooking on open fires and making pizzas.

Group camp

In September, we joined the rest of the Group for the Group Camp – although the Explorers helped throughout the camp, supporting activities and cooking lunch on the Saturday for all on site, they also had the opportunity to camp (and hammock) away from the main group, have some downtime

together and play some usual Explorer games in the evening. The best news from camp – we came home with a new leader!

Remembrance Sunday

XBU have always had a reputation of trying to do things a bit differently, and it was great to continue this, taking a group of Explorers hiking in the Peak District on Remembrance Sunday.

This was not an excuse to avoid the usual remembrance service, rather an opportunity to be involved in a short act of remembrance led by members of the local mountain rescue team around the remains of the military aircraft on Bleaklow. It was a long day, lacking in views, but 19km later, having taken in Kinder Scout, we arrived at the minibus in the Edale valley ready to be driven home!

And this couldn't have happened without...

The continuation of the Unit following the change in the leadership team has only been possible due to those who have remained in place and those who have stepped up to help.

In this respect, Butterfly has offered a significant amount of support throughout this change. In addition, we have had the continued support from Snowflake, Anna who has transferred from Scouts and Chris who joined us on the back of Group Camp.

In addition to our leadership team, we have also had the support from a number of parents, leaders in the wider Group, Group Trustees and also our District Lead Volunteer... driving vans full of kit, dropping us off / picking us up in the minibus, cooking pasties or spending a week on camp with us... without this help we wouldn't have been able to deliver the programme that we do.

But to continue this, we are in need of significantly more support. If you like the sound of some of the things we get up to and can spare some time, why not get in touch?



David Reynolds – “Puddles” – Explorer Scout Leader

FINANCIAL REVIEW - 2024

The major item of expenditure in 2024 was the purchase of a minibus at a cost of £14,800. To get a wider pool of drivers, a 3.5 tonne minibus was chosen, which can be driven by drivers possessing a standard car driving licence. The downside is that the largest Ford minibus available at this weight is a 14 seater.

Unlike recent years, 2024 saw very little expenditure on repairs or improvements to the Bramley Centre. However, £4,655 was spent on training – in particular a Mental Health Training course for Leaders and a Watersports training course in order to get the necessary Adventurous Activity Permits. The growth in Training expenditure reflects an ongoing requirement to keep training up to date and relevant, but the cost of using external training providers is significant.

2024 also saw the start of a more rigorous budgeting process, which has proved helpful in decision-making and priority setting. This process will be expanded and improved upon in 2025.

In the year, the overall cash balance fell by £9,631, mainly as a result of the minibus purchase. The Group had budgeted for this expenditure and possess the cash reserves to finance it. Consequently, our finances still remain sound.

Excluding the minibus expenditure which has been capitalised, the operating surplus (before depreciation) from our Group and Section activities was £9,718 (2023: £1,404) which is considered acceptable by the Trustees.

Subscription income in the year grew by £390 (1.4%) due to a slight increase in numbers. The Trustees decided to increase the monthly subs amount to £17 for those starting the Group after 1st Jan 2025. Whilst regrettable during a period of cost of living anxiety, the Trustees are required to take a long term view. As an increase only applies to new starters, with an individual's rate remaining the same throughout their time at 1st Bramhall, the full benefit of an increase takes quite a while to come through.

Income from hiring the Bramley Centre to community groups fell by £2,934 to £19,100 due to the loss of two major hirers. One wanted longer hours into the evening which would have impacted our Section meetings. The reduction caused by these losses was somewhat mitigated by an increase in parties and holiday clubs. Nevertheless, the hiring income remains at an exceptional level and fully supports the cost of running the Bramley Centre. The Group thanks Lynne Ormiston for administering this crucial income source.

Gift Aid income received was £6,452, an increase of £368 over the prior year. This continues to be another valuable source of income for the Group. The Group was successful in applying for a Grant from Poynton Round Table and was awarded £1,000 to go towards the cost of the new minibus. We also received £2,000 from the Columbus Fellowship who had previously (in 2018) given us £4,000 for the purchase of the RIB safety boat. Bramhall & Woodford Rotary again invited us to take part in the Santa float and we received £550 for this. We sincerely thank all these organisations for their support and generosity.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIOD

We intend to continue our programme of improving the Bramley Centre, purchasing equipment to support the Scouting programme and investing in the training of our adult volunteers, in safety and first aid as well as in obtaining adventurous activity permits. This is so that we can continue to expand the range of programme activities that we can offer. There are plans to redecorate parts of

the building, to address the damage cause to the brickwork by water ingress and to install a specialist play surface in the courtyard

Reserves Policy

The group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income fall short or large amounts of expenditure are required on, for example, repairs and maintenance on the Bramley Centre building or on transport. Each year, £3,000 is transferred from Reserves to a Designated Fund for Minibus replacement. The Board of Trustees considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient.

Investment Policy

The Group has adopted a risk averse strategy to the management of its liquid funds which are held in cash using a mainstream bank. Cash not required immediately is held in an interest bearing account. The Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the Group obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements.

The Trustee Board regularly considers the cash flow requirements and longer term investments are split between a 60 day notice account and an Invesco Managed Fund, which was chosen to give a diversified range of investments following a discussion with an Independent Financial Adviser.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report above.

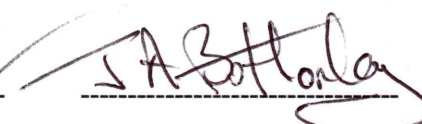
Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:



Richard Buckley

Group Chairman

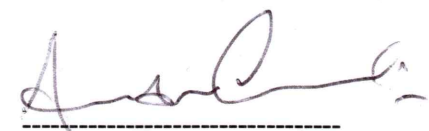
Date: 12/5/25



Julie Bottomley

Group President

Date: 12/5/25



Andrew Corrie

Group Lead Volunteer

Date: 12/5/25

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 60 to 69.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

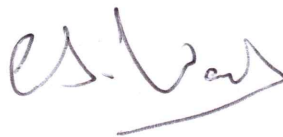
1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gary Wood, FCCA
G.J. Wood & Co. Ltd.
Hub 11 Pepper House
Pepper Road
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP



03 May 2025

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Balance Sheet

31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	2	349,824	344,810
Investments	3	71,332	66,525
		<u>421,156</u>	<u>411,335</u>
Current Assets			
Bank and cash (Group)		34,370	43,236
Bank and cash (Sections)		821	1,583
Debtors		-	1,155
		<u>35,191</u>	<u>45,974</u>
Current Liabilities			
Other creditors		395	1,289
		<u>395</u>	<u>1,289</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>34,796</u>	<u>44,685</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>455,952</u>	<u>456,020</u>
Funds			
General Unrestricted Fund		338,028	326,296
Revaluation reserve		111,458	111,458
Transport Reserve Fund		6,466	18,266
		<u>455,952</u>	<u>456,020</u>

Approved on behalf of the Trustee Board on

12th Nov 25

 Chair

 Treasurer

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting Receipts and Payments

The accounts for both the current and comparative years have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis as permitted under the Charities Act 2011.

Land and buildings

Land and buildings have been revalued by the trustees and are included in the accounts at their valuation, in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

b) Capital expenditure

Fixed assets are shown in the accounts at cost less accumulated depreciation, with the exception of land and buildings, which is shown at the Trustees valuation of £340,000.

The cost of equipment is written off in full during the year of acquisition. For insurance purposes, equipment is valued at £71,628.

c) Depreciation

Provision for depreciation is made at the following rates:

Buildings	0.5 % straight line
Garage	5% straight line
Minibus, trailers and boats	25% on a reducing balance basis

2 Tangible fixed assets

	Land & Building	Garage, toilets & gutters	Minibus, trailers, boats & frontage	Total
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2024	340,000	46,665	33,020	419,685
Additions	-	-	14,800	14,800
At 31 December 2024	<u>340,000</u>	<u>46,665</u>	<u>47,820</u>	<u>434,485</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2024	37,400	12,667	24,808	74,875
Depreciation for the year	1,700	2,333	5,753	9,786
	<u>39,100</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>30,561</u>	<u>84,661</u>
Net Book value 2024	<u>300,900</u>	<u>31,665</u>	<u>17,259</u>	<u>349,824</u>
Net Book value 2023	<u>302,600</u>	<u>33,998</u>	<u>8,212</u>	<u>344,810</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2024

3 Investments	2024	2023
	£	£
Invesco Managed Growth	20,226	19,525
Shawbrook CAF 60 Day Notice Account	51,106	47,000
	<u>71,332</u>	<u>66,525</u>

The market value of the Invesco Managed Growth Fund at 31 December 2024 was £28,510 (2023 £26,001).

4 Funds

The Trustee Board approved a transfer of £11,800 to the General Unrestricted Fund from a general designated fund, the Transport Reserve Fund. This fund has been set up to provide for future vehicle replacement costs.

5 Donations and Grants	2024	2023
	£	£
Bramhall & Woodford Rotary Club - Santa Float	550	500
Poynton Round Table	1,000	-
Columbus Fellowship	2,000	-
University of Manchester Volunteering Award	-	200
	<u>3,550</u>	<u>700</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Squirrel Drey Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Subscriptions from group	578	373
	<u>578</u>	<u>373</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	423	203
Badges/trophies	155	170
	<u>578</u>	<u>373</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	-	-
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2024	-	-
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Beaver Colony Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Incoming resources		
Subscriptions from group	376	1,273
Pantomime	32	632
Camps	-	645
Sleepover	300	512
Cinema	350	-
Sundry income	25	100
	<u>1,083</u>	<u>3,162</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	475	1,111
Badges/trophies	105	-
Camps	125	695
Cinema	450	-
Pantomime	-	562
Sleepover	234	548
	<u>1,389</u>	<u>2,916</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	(306)	246
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2024	328	82
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2024	<u>22</u>	<u>328</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Pine Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Incoming resources		
2023 Winter trip - York	-	1,035
Camps	635	1,500
Subscriptions from group	500	750
	<u>1,135</u>	<u>3,285</u>
Resources expended		
2023 Winter trip - York	-	1,008
2024 Trip Sixers and Seconders	111	-
Activities	885	399
Badges and trophies	141	157
Camps	594	1,132
Uniform	-	24
	<u>1,731</u>	<u>2,720</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	(596)	565
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2024	898	333
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2024	<u>302</u>	<u>898</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Fir Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Camps	1,730	830
Activities	22	-
Subscriptions from group	634	1,565
	<u>2,386</u>	<u>2,395</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	770	1,123
Camps	1,480	1,443
Badges and uniforms	117	74
	<u>2,367</u>	<u>2,640</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	19	(245)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2024	157	402
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2024	<u>176</u>	<u>157</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Scout Troop Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Activities	735	638
Camps	8,155	16,332
Subscriptions from group	5,350	2,100
Sundry income	1	3
	<u>14,241</u>	<u>19,073</u>
 Resources expended		
Activities	3,702	4,391
Camps	10,140	16,833
Equipment and consumables	220	95
Bank charges	60	66
	<u>14,122</u>	<u>21,385</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	119	(2,312)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2024	199	2,511
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2024	<u>318</u>	<u>199</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Group Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Incoming resources		
Gift Aid	6,452	6,084
Letting income	19,100	22,034
Other income	1,055	842
Subscriptions	27,769	27,379
Uniforms	235	164
24hr Marathons	-	7
Bonfire Night	1,398	1,295
JOTT	458	93
September 2024 Group Camp	4,330	-
Donations and Grants	3,550	700
	<u>64,347</u>	<u>58,598</u>
Investment income and interest		
Bank deposit interest	1,049	837
Invesco Managed Growth	702	-
NS&I Interest	-	307
Shawbrook 60 Day Interest	1,106	-
	<u>2,857</u>	<u>1,144</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>67,204</u>	<u>59,742</u>
Resources expended		
Property costs		
Building maintenance	3,064	7,332
Cleaning	6,398	6,361
Electricity	3,375	3,669
Gas	387	598
General rates	275	380
Internet and telephone	361	336
Water rates	886	704
	<u>14,746</u>	<u>19,380</u>
Group Scout costs		
Camp	15	15
Capitation fee	7,469	8,225
Group Scout Activities	6	19
OSM costs	166	163
Other expenses	198	155
Payments to sections	7,438	6,062
Training	4,655	134
Uniform and badges	1,903	745
JOTT	458	310
September 2024 Group Camp	2,899	100
Trackers	302	1,103
	<u>25,509</u>	<u>17,031</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Group Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other resources expended		
Examiner's fee	120	120
Bank charges	80	161
Depreciation	9,786	6,770
Equipment	945	7,217
Insurance	7,000	6,463
Other expenses	47	123
Printing, stationery and sundry	9	42
Vehicle and transport costs	6,976	5,225
Charitable Donations	65	50
Bonfire Night	1,131	996
Website	94	94
	<u>26,253</u>	<u>27,261</u>
Total resources expended	<u>66,508</u>	<u>63,672</u>
Net Incoming (outgoing) resources	696	(3,930)
Funds at 1 January 2024	342,670	346,600
Funds at 31 December 2024	<u>343,366</u>	<u>342,670</u>

1ST BRAMHALL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1019814

Accounts

Registered charity number 1019814



1st Bramhall Scout Group

Report and Accounts

31 December 2023

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Reference and Administration Details

For the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Charity Name 1st Bramhall Scout Group
Principal Address The Bramley Centre, Bramley Close
Bramhall, Stockport SK7 2DT
Registered Charity Number 1019814
HQ Registration Number 4861
Scout District Ladybrook Valley
Scout County Greater Manchester East

<u>Trustees</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Dates acted if not for whole year</u>
Julie Bottomley	President *	
Sir Peter Fahy	Vice President	
Doreen Wyld	Vice President	
Richard Buckley	Group Chair *	
Tim Taylor	Group Secretary *	
Richard Baker	Group Treasurer and Chair of Operations sub-committee	
Andrew Corrie	Group Scout Leader *	
Barry Aitken	Deputy Group Scout Leader	

* also members of the Operations sub-committee

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Ave
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Royal Bank of Scotland
1 Redheughs Ave
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

The Co-operative Bank plc
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

External Examiner:

GJ Wood and Co Ltd.
Hub 11Pepper House
Pepper Road
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP

1st Bramhall Scout Group. – Trustees Annual Report

Structure, Governance and Management

Introduction

Tracing our origins back to 1909, only two years after the founding of the Scout Movement, we are one of the oldest Scout Groups in the country. The Group is part of the Ladybrook Valley Scout District, which itself is part of Greater Manchester East Scout County. The Group is registered with The Scout Association under Registration Number 4861

The Group is constituted as a Trust established under its rules which are common to all Scout Groups. The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (POR).

The Group Management

The Group is managed by a Trustee Board, assisted by an Operations sub-committee which manages the non-Section related activities of the Group. This structure complies with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (2023 edition).

The Scout Group is an educational charity. The Trustee Board is a team of volunteers who work together, as Charity Trustees, to make sure that the Group is well managed and safe. They are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (POR). At the heart of their role is a focus on strategy, performance and assurance. Effective Trustee support helps other volunteers run high quality and safe programmes that give young people skills for life.

The Trustee Board consists of:

- “Ex-Officio” Members, appointed by virtue of their role. These are the Group Chair, Group Secretary, Group Treasurer, Group Scout Leader (GSL) and Deputy Group Scout Leader (DGSL).
- The President and Vice-Presidents are nominated by the Group Scout Leader in consultation with the Group Chair and then approved by the Scout Council at the AGM. The President also takes the lead on Risk.
- The Chair of the Operations sub-committee, who is also the Group Treasurer.

The Operations sub-committee is responsible for the Group's physical assets in accordance with formal Terms of Reference. It manages the Buildings, Equipment, Transport and Trailers, Hirings, Fire Safety, Finance and Insurance.

The sub-committee also works closely with the Scout Active Support Unit. This unit comprises parents of Young People and is responsible for engaging with other parents and external parties as well as organising Group Events, public occasions and Fund raising. The aim is to have more parents involved in the Group, so that the Group can be more successful in achieving its aims.

The members of the Operations sub-committee during 2023 were Richard Baker – Chair of Operations sub-committee, Finance, Insurance and Buildings; Julie Bottomley – Health & Safety, Buildings and Hiring; Tim Taylor – secretary; Graeme Weatherall - Fire Safety; Paul Rawcliffe – Communications and Website; Steven Vinten – Transport and Trailers; Lynne Ormiston – Hirings and Iain Lavelle – Scout Active Support Manager. David Reynolds also served on the Operations

sub-committee during the year and we thank him for his invaluable contribution. Richard Buckley as Group Chair is also a member of the Operations sub-Committee. The Group thanks them all for their hard work during the year.

The Trustee Board acts in the charity's best interests, acting with reasonable care and skill and takes steps to be confident that the charity is well managed, carries out its purposes for the public benefit, complies with the charity's governing document and the law and manages the charity's resources responsibly. The Trustee Board also needs to be confident that the operations of the Group are compliant with the Scout Association's rules and policies as laid down in POR (Policy, Organisation and Rules).

The Trustee Board are required to ensure that there are sufficient resources (funds, people, property and equipment) available to meet the planned work of the Group, including the delivery of a high quality programme and the training programme.

The Trustee Board are also required to take steps to be confident that young people are meaningfully involved in decision making at all levels and that Scouts have a positive image in the local community.

The Trustee Board members must themselves collectively:

- develop and maintain a risk register, including putting in place appropriate mitigations
- ensure that the charity's finances are properly managed, including development and maintenance of appropriate budgets to support the work of the charity, the raising of funds, the setting of subscription rates and the payment of the Capitation Fee;
- maintain and manage:
 - a reserves policy for the charity (including a plan for use of reserves outside the 'minimum')
 - an investment policy for the charity
 - a public benefit statement for the charity
- ensure that people, property and equipment are appropriately insured, and that any property and equipment owned or used by the charity is properly protected and maintained
- promote and support the development of Scouting in the local area
- ensure the appointment and management and operation of any sub-committees, including appointing a Chair to lead the sub-committee
- ensure that effective administration is in place to support the work of the Trustee Board
- appoint any Administrators, Advisers and co-opted members of the Trustee Board
- ensure transparency of operation, including:
 - prepare and approve the Annual Accounts and arrange their examination by an independent examiner as appointed by the Scout Council at their Annual General Meeting
 - prepare and approve the Trustees' Annual Report (which must include the Annual Accounts)
 - present the approved Trustees' Annual Report and Annual Accounts to the Scout Council at the Annual General Meeting (AGM)
 - following the AGM, ensure that a copy of the Trustee Annual Report and Accounts is sent to the District Trustee Board and filed with the Charity Commission,
 - take responsibility for adherence to Data Protection Legislation recognising that, dependent on circumstances, it will at different times act as a Data Controller and as a Data Processor

- individually and collectively maintain confidentiality regarding appropriate Trustee Board business
- Ensure that safety and safeguarding procedures are implemented and operating effectively
- Assist in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support

Risks and Internal Control

The Trustee Board has identified the following major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed. These are reviewed regularly and systems established to mitigate them.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. Through payment of the Capitation Fee to the District and County, the Group contributes to The Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Through a separate policy with Unity Insurance, any helpers who are not members of the Scout Association are also covered for injury. Risk assessments are prepared for all activities, communicated to all adults taking part and reviewed regularly. Training and the correct qualifications are integral to our safety management process. All adult members are required to undertake First Aid training and all activities have a nominated trained First Aider. The Group has a Fire Safety Officer who undertakes Fire Safety Assessments, provides Fire Training to Adult Volunteers and Hirers and conducts practice evacuations. The Operations sub-committee reviews and updates the Buildings Risk Assessment. All adult leaders and volunteers in the Group are required to complete the appropriate safety and activity training courses and are expected to be familiar with the Purple Card 'Safe Scouting and Emergency Procedures' and to understand that Safety is a joint responsibility of all adults in the Group, irrespective of their role.

Safeguarding. Keeping young people safe is the paramount responsibility for all adults in Scouting. The Deputy GSL, together with the District Appointments Advisory Committee, ensures that adults are checked through the DBS and the Scout Association's systems before appointment, and that renewal takes place prior to expiry. All adults in the Group are required to complete the Scout Association Safeguarding Awareness Course. The Yellow Card which contains essential information on safeguarding is given to all adults. Young people are encouraged to raise any concerns affecting them or another member of the Group with a trusted adult and/or with their own parents.

Leader Competence In order to underpin safe quality Scouting for young people, it is very important that all adults holding Scout appointments receive training that is appropriate to their roles. Undergoing training within a stated period is a requirement of all appointments. The Scout Association's module-based training scheme for adult volunteers is managed at County level in Greater Manchester East Scout County. In the District, a nominated Assistant District Commissioner working with line managers and the Appointments Advisory Committee support and assist adults to fulfil their training commitment within the time required. The DGSL works with the District personnel to ensure that all training is up to date. Furthermore, as all appointments are for a limited period, a system is in place for reviewing appointments and identifying any further training needs.

Damage to buildings, property and equipment. In the event of such damage, the Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from other Scout Groups and/or other neighbouring organisations like churches or community centres. The Group has sufficient insurance cover in place with Unity Insurance for the buildings, contents, public liability, vehicles, trailers, canoes, boats and equipment. Appropriate training is given to all users. Certain items of equipment have been identified for regular checking, testing or maintenance.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section, or the Group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction,

consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group. A similar risk exists from a reduction or loss of young people.

Reduced income. The Group is reliant upon income from both subscriptions and the hiring of the Bramley Centre to third party organisations. Hiring income could fall due to reduced demand or due to reduced availability as a result of more section activities. The amounts charged for subscriptions and hiring the premises are reviewed by the Trustee Board annually. Further fund-raising activities could be undertaken for specific purposes.

The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income.

General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR). The Group is fully aware of its responsibilities and obligations under GDPR and uses the system for electronic storage and communication managed by Greater Manchester East Scout County. Procedures for the secure storage of information in paper form are also in place. GDPR training has been undertaken by all persons with data handling responsibilities. The Deputy Group Scout Leader and Communications Manager advise the Trustee Board and the Leadership team on GDPR issues with responsibility resting with the Trustee Board.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the group are as a unit of The Scout Association. The aim of The Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more. Each week, we give young people in our local area the opportunity to enjoy fun and adventure while developing the skills they need to succeed.

The Scouting Programme is provided to young people between the ages of 4 and 25. The Squirrels section covers the ages from 4 to 6. The Beaver Section covers the ages from 6 to 8, Cubs cover 8 to 10½, Scouts cover 10½ to 14. 14 to 18 year olds are in the Explorer Unit which is administered by the District. 18 to 25 year olds are in the Scout Network section which is administered by the County. At 1st Bramhall, we operate all the sections between Squirrels and Explorers.

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

CHAIR'S REPORT 2023

Another year, another report... I don't know about you but the years seem to fly by nowadays – maybe it's just because I'm getting old!

As Andrew and the Section Leaders have covered elsewhere in this report, it's been another fantastic year at 1st Bramhall, lots of activities, including loads of additional activities away from the hut across all sections and lots of making of memories.

In this report I wanted to address what you may have seen in the national press re the tragic death of an Explorer Scout, from another district, during a trip to North Wales in 2018. I won't go into the details here (they are a matter of public record). I do however want to address this and also let you know what we have done, and continue to do, at 1st Bramhall around the safety of our Young People.

Several recommendations came out of the Coroner's report to help prevent future incidents, and I can assure you that of those aimed at Group level, they were either already in place at 1st Bramhall, or have now been implemented.

Indeed, the reason for the temporary pause in overnight trips and adventurous activities earlier this year was to allow the Group to wait for new guidance from Scout Headquarters. This is not only to ensure that all our Young People and Volunteers are safe whilst carrying out activities, but also to ensure that our volunteers are protected from any possible criticism in the running of events by ensuring that all necessary procedures are not only understood but consistently followed. To that end we have now run our own safety training sessions in addition to the standard scout training modules.

I don't apologise for getting into a level of detail in this area, as I believe it's important for everyone connected to our Group to understand that we take the safety of everyone at 1st Bramhall seriously. May I take this opportunity to remind you that if you ever have any concerns over safety to raise it with any of our Leaders or Adult Volunteers, including myself.

Having been associated with the Scout movement from the age of eight, I wholeheartedly believe in the "Skills for Life" slogan embraced by Scouts UK and believe that being in the movement has certainly helped me with important life skills. I therefore continue to believe that Scouting offers a huge amount to all of our young people - and I thank you for your ongoing support to 1st Bramhall.

Richard Buckley

Group Chair

GROUP SCOUT LEADERS REPORT 2023

I am writing this introduction to our annual review just after our annual St George's Day celebration when all members of Ladybrook Valley District came together. St George is not only the patron saint of England but also of Scouting. Scouting is a values-based organisation and St George represented many of our values.

The members and leaders from 1st Bramhall who attended were a real credit to their Section, the Group and themselves and were great ambassadors for us, on what is an important event in the Scouting year. Thank you to everyone who was there. I look forward to next year's parade when I hope that there will be a bigger turnout, reflecting our position as the largest Scout Group in the district.

As you read through the Annual Report, you can't fail to be impressed by the terrific programmes of exciting, challenging, fun and adventurous activities and events that are provided week-in, week-out, by truly phenomenal teams of volunteers who so willingly and selflessly give of their time, talents, energy and enthusiasm. We are indeed very fortunate and are indebted to each and every one of them, as well as to all our other volunteers who support us behind the scenes. This year we are very excited to be able to welcome several new leaders to the Group who will doubtless bring new ideas and talents to their sections.

Congratulations to Brian Gordon (Keego), Kate Vincent (Teddy), Adam Wozencroft (Kwasim), Chris Bowen (Kinder) and Liz Taylor (Nutkin) on completing their Adult Leader Training award and being presented with the coveted Wood Badge beads.

The Group was sorry to learn of the passing of Jane Taylor who was our first ever Beaver Scout leader. Our two fantastic Beaver colonies are a fine and fitting tribute to her legacy.

Amanda Hudghton (Suds), Peter Boxall (Whittle) and Paul Winterburn (Pedal) have stepped down from their roles as Beaver Scout Leader, Scout Leader and Explorer Scout Leader respectively. They have given fantastic service over many years for which we thank them, but I'm glad to say they will not be lost to the Group as they will be continuing in other roles. We are delighted that Kate Vincent, Chris Bowen and David Reynolds have taken over these roles and we wish them well as they lead their teams.

I want to pay particular tribute to all our Young Leaders who help out at Section meetings. They are all Explorer Scouts who, having already got so much out of Scouting, now willingly volunteer to put back into Scouts. They are a fantastic group of young people who are great role models and add so much to the sections where they help. They are deservedly well on their way to become King's Scouts - the highest award in Scouting.

There is so much going on in each section that it is difficult to find time for extra group activities - but we have managed it. Most notably the 26-hour sponsored games marathon which involved every section of the Group and raised £1,340 for the British Heart Foundation. The scout pantomime raised £116 for Cancer Research UK. We have also been involved supporting, amongst others, Guide Dogs, Age Concern and Macmillan. Our annual Scoutpost Christmas card delivery service raised £120 for St Ann's Hospice and the Group's involvement in the Rotary Club Christmas float generated £550 for Group funds. Our annual Christmas card competition was won by Emma Salden (Fir Pack) and the runner up was Oliver Morton (Colts Beavers).



Our newest section, Squirrels, is proving a huge success and several of our Squirrels have now moved up to Beavers. Congratulations to them. They have become the first ever to complete the Chief Scout's Acorn award, which is a great first step on their scouting journey.

We had a good turnout for the Remembrance Day Parade. Our numbers for this have increased year on year recently, including good representation from Explorers, Scouts and Cubs. Meanwhile, our younger sections did a range of Remembrance related activities, including making a poppy collage and visiting the War Memorial.

It has been another action packed year which we can look back on with satisfaction. Great achievements and many happy memories, as the following section reports illustrate. We look forward to our upcoming programme, particularly the Group Camp on 20-22 September when all of our sections will camp together. Sorry parents- it's not a Family camp so you will have to wait until 2026 for your opportunity to join in the fun.

But the final thanks go to our Young People themselves, whose enthusiasm, sense of fun and adventure never cease to amaze us. Long may that be the case.

Andrew Corrie ("Skip")

Group Scout Leader

ANNUAL CENSUS

The annual census, taken in January 2024, showed 154 (prior year:175) young people in Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with a further 41 (prior year:22) in the Explorer Unit, which is a District Section. All sections operate waiting lists.

Young people	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Squirrels	20	20									
Beavers: Colts	19	22	19	21	24	23	23	24	22	42	24
Kits	19	21	21	21	25	23	25	24	25		
Cubs: Pine	34	27	28	32	33	34	24	33	24	54	36
Fir	22	20	25	27	28	27	24	27	29		
Scouts	40	65	56	56	65	41	59	41	44	50	50
Total	154	175	149	157	175	148	155	149	144	146	110
Explorers	41	22	32	29	22	23	27	39	47	41	35

Leader/Sectional assistants	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Squirrels	7	8									
Beavers: Colts	5	5	4	2	4	3	4	3	8	6	2
Kits	5	6	4	2	4	3	3	3	6		
Cubs: Pine	6	7	5	3	6	5	3	4	4	8	5
Fir	7	4	6	3	3	9	7	5	10		
Scouts	12	17	16	13	15	11	14	10	9	11	9
Total	42	47	35	23	32	31	31	27	37	25	16

These numbers don't include all the Occasional Helpers and Young Explorer Leaders who are so valuable in assisting on section nights and other activities.

SECTION REPORTS

Squirrels Drey- 2023

2023 has been a very exciting year for our Squirrel section as it has continued to grow and develop. We are still the only drey in the district and the high number of children on the waiting list reflects how keen parents are to start their child's scouting journey from a young age. Over the last year several Squirrels have moved up into our two Beaver colonies and both Beaver leaders have commented on how quickly they have settled in. In May we celebrated our first birthday and at the end of the summer term we awarded our first Chief Scout's Acorn Awards – the highest badge available to Squirrels



There have been so many highlights this year (almost too many to mention!) We are so proud of the Squirrels who have joined in whole group activities such as the St. George's Day parade, JOTT, 26-hour challenge and our group bonfire. We are looking forward to joining in with more group activities in 2024.

The Squirrels started off the 26-hour challenge with an alphabet scavenger hunt challenge.



As part of the King's coronation celebrations the Squirrels took part in "The Big Help Out". Squirrels and their parents helped to improve our local environment by litter picking and planting fruit and flowers around the entrance to our building. We also planted sunflower seeds as part of our "Let it grow" badge.



In June we were joined by Guz and Lisa Davenport and their Guide Dog Puppy Garth. The Squirrels learned all about the important work of Guide Dogs and how they are trained – this has formed part of their “Local superhero” badge. We all enjoyed a cuddle with Garth and we raised an amazing £127.50 by purchasing items from their pop-up fundraising shop. We are continuing to support The Guide Dogs in 2024 along with two other charities, Chelwood Food Bank and Save the Children. (Picked by the Squirrels)

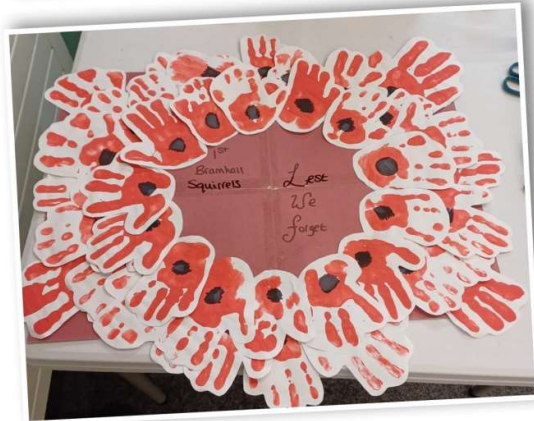


In October we had an amazing visit to The Avro Heritage Centre in Woodford. The squirrels enjoyed a tour around the museum which included looking inside (and touching all the buttons/controls) of the 3 main aircraft on display plus they took part in a radar activity. The following week we made our own paper airplanes and had a competition to see who could fly theirs the furthest. Most Squirrels have been able to complete their "Stage one - Air Activities" badge



A huge THANK YOU and BRAVO to "Haweye" (Keith), all the Avro volunteers and parents who joined us for the trip.

Although the Squirrels did not join in with the Remembrance parade or service, we did visit the Cenotaph in Bramhall and were joined by Revd. Calum Piper who spoke to the Squirrels about the significance of the Cenotaph and why we have Remembrance Day/Remembrance Sunday. Thank you to Calum for answering all the questions the Squirrels had (and there were lots!). We also created our own Remembrance wreath using our handprints. Thanks to "Little Beaver" (Mikaela) for cutting them out and displaying them for us. The Squirrels were able to complete parts of their "All around us" and "All together" challenge badges.



We finished off 2023 with our first real Squirrel campfire. The Squirrels were sensible and listened carefully to our fire safety talk – they all remembered to stay behind the rope. “Kwasin” (Adam) set up the campfire and lead us in song with some classic scouting campfire tunes. At the end we all enjoyed toasting marshmallows and making smores. Joining in with a campfire is part of our “All about Adventure” challenge badge. A big BRAVO to Kwasin for your energy and enthusiasm on a cold December night!



A few words from our Squirrels/Parents...

"He would come to Squirrels every night if it was on"

"He loves everything about squirrels! His favourite activities were the Avro museum, campfire and making cards- he said because he liked seeing all the planes, enjoyed singing songs and eating marshmallows and liked making something nice"

"Monday is his favourite night of the week because of Squirrels"

"We do lots of things like discovering things that I don't already know about."

"I enjoyed going to the cenotaph because I learnt lots of things about the cenotaph and the soldiers. I also enjoyed the campfire because I got to eat lots of marshmallows. I love playing games too like tiggly scarecrow and duck duck goose."

And finally...

A BIG THANK YOU and BRAVO to all our leaders, parents and of course our amazing Squirrels. Without your support none of these activities would have been possible.

"Nutkin" (Liz) "Little Beaver" (Mikaela) "Nutella" (Jo) "Hawkeye" (Keith) "Acorn" (Chelsea)
"Nympa"(Aycan) "Wren" (Elaine) "Tiggy" (Michelle) and our Scout helper (Sophie) and Explorer young leader (Charlotte).

Liz Taylor - "Nutkin" & Mikaela Wozencroft - "Little Beaver" - Squirrel Scout Leaders

Colts Beaver Colony - 2023

I cannot believe it is only 12 months since I last wrote an annual report. Time really seems to fly by as we cram so much into our Beaver year, motivated by the enthusiasm and energy of our Turquoise Ninjas.

January 2023 started with the annual Panto trip organised by the District team. A fun afternoon was had at the beautiful Plaza watching Cinderella meet her Prince. In meetings we made bird feeders as part of our animals theme, and had fun completing our Communicator badge where we learnt about different types of communication and put it all into practise as we turned the Scout hut into a giant escape room. It might have been touch and go but I am pleased to say – we escaped!



In February we had a wonderful night on Chinese New year where Cathy from RE on Demand brought her Chinese Dragon to meet us and we celebrated with traditional dance and music.



In March we celebrated St Davids Day by making and planting daffodils; we attended the District Fun Day in Hazel Grove where we made swords, shields and castles as part of our Knights and Castles theme. We completed the Faith badge and learnt about kindness through George, the Smartest Giant in Town. We laughed as we completed the Digital maker badge when the leaders followed the instructions the Beavers had written on how to make a jam sandwich to the letter.....it was absolutely priceless!



In April we paraded through Bramhall for St Georges Day and renewed our Promise with the other Beavers in the District; and we learnt about Flight as we completed our Air Activities badge and learnt who could make and fly the best paper aeroplane.



May saw us celebrate the Coronation with royal fun and games, before getting out and about in Bramhall, exploring Bramhall village whilst completing a challenge in groups; and in Happy Valley, pond dipping and collecting bugs!

Our bug theme continued into June as we made Bug hotels - yes I am sure all the parents loved us! We had a night themed around bubbles where we made bubble wands and bubble snakes and challenged each other to make the biggest bubble. We ran skills sessions and learnt firelighting with a flint and steel.

July took us to Bramhall Park where we completed an Alphabet Challenge and faced a torrential hail storm. We ended our Summer term with a joint visit to Gauntlet Birds of Prey centre with Kits Beavers, and then had an overnight in the Scout hut where we made our tea as part of the cooks badge, and took part in archery and climbing. Huge thanks to the leaders from the other Sections who helped support us with these activities.



The Autumn term got off to a great start with another Sleepover. This time at Abney Scout & Guide Centre. Abney features on our programme every few years as it provides a great local venue with amazing secure grounds where we can learn and practise traditional scout skills and more adventurous activities than we can do in a regular meeting.



We continued into October with activities for our Creative activity badge, the Beavers were given a piece of cardboard tube and challenged to use their imagination to turn it into something. They did amazingly well and kept Keego and his drill very busy!



In November we celebrated Remembrance Day by making poppies for our poppy display that was draped across the Scout hut fence. The Beavers worked incredibly hard and I was so proud of what they produced. We had some wonderful feedback from other users of the scout hut.



We completed our Money Skills badge and learnt the concept of saving and interest with chocolate bars, and then shopped for the ingredients to make Spaghetti Bolognese at Suds' shop, successfully working out which coins we would need and making sure the wily shopkeeper gave us the correct change!

Keego arranged for two Community Police officers to visit us and we had a great evening learning about their jobs.



In December we went to Hilbrook Grange, taking the residents Christmas cards, and singing carols for them before holding our party on the last night of term.

And just like that, another year was over, a year in which we awarded a massive 339 badges, including 11 Chief Scout Bronze awards, 75 Challenge badges and 17 different types of activity badges. Your children have worked incredibly hard and they deserve to be proud of themselves.

A huge thank you to the incredible leadership team we have for Colts that make it all possible. Thank you to Keego, Silva, and Digger for your continued support. We sadly said goodbye to Skater and Tigger during the year but welcomed Tiger in October. We are fortunate to have such a committed team. We continue to be supported by an amazing group of young Leaders who set such a great example for the Beavers. They really are assets to the Group. Thank you Sprinter, Edge and Argo for the time you gave us in 2023. Thank you also to the parents who have stepped forward and helped out on trips and evenings where we have needed more adult help, I hope you enjoyed yourself too. Thank you to the Trustees that work so tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure we can run our evenings seamlessly and to the other leaders in the Group who support us with their additional skills.

I sign off every year by saying thank you to the Beavers. This age group are wonderful. Their enthusiasm, inquisitiveness, and noisy desire to get stuck in and push their boundaries is why we enjoy being their leaders.

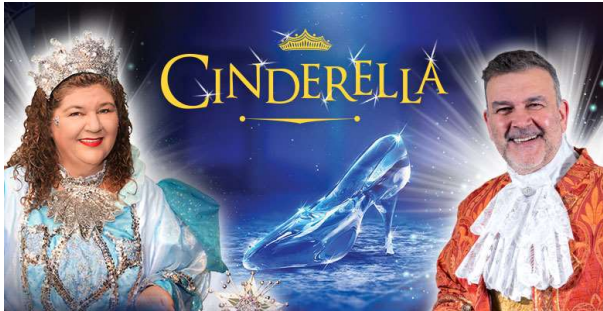
I look forward to 2024 continuing to offer fun and adventure for us all.

Amanda Hudghton – Beaver Scout Leader (BSL): Colts Beavers

Kits Beaver Colony - 2023

2023 marked my 5th year as a Leader with 1st Bramhall Kits Beavers, and what a journey it has been... as I reflect over the last 12 months in scouting and beyond, I'm reminded of the incredible young people who have passed through Beavers on to Cubs and some now starting in Scouts. Gosh that makes me feel old.

Jan '23 started with our annual trip to the Plaza for the District Beavers panto, it is always fab to see a sea of blue jumpers filling the theatre.



Back at the hut we celebrated national LEGO day by building towers as big as us! We promoted safety in the kitchen by designing informative posters and looked around for potential hazards. We made healthy fruit kebabs and decorated not so healthy biscuits as part of the cook badge. We learned all about different forms of communication from letter writing and a trip to the Post Office, to coding.





We joined the wider Beaver community for a Beaver fun day which was a huge success with over 60 Beavers from across the District taking part in a wide range of activities.



As part of our global awareness badge, we learned about recycling, endangered animals and how we can play our part to protect the planet, and we ended the Spring term with a visit from the Easter Bunny, although there was a series of scouting challenges to complete before the Beavers got their eggs...



In the Summer term we welcomed our very first Squirrels into Beavers.

We had lots of fun making aeroplanes and learning about air travel, and the countries we could travel to as part of the Air Activities and International Badges. We celebrated the Coronation of King Charles with a very special Tea party (which obviously involved making crowns for the occasion.)



The better weather meant we could get out and about, so we put on our HI-Vis jackets and headed to Happy Valley for a hike to collect Pooh sticks and invested our newest Beavers while we were there. We learned about bike and scooter safety with a trip to South Park and played wide games in Bramhall Park. We (well mainly me) also got soaking wet outside the hut during a water balloon fight.





We had some super visitors this year too, a dance teacher who taught us how to Zumba and a very cute support dog called Zara and a lady who taught us all about Diwali.



Our Summer term ended with pizza making followed by a sleepover at the Hut and a great day out to Gauntlet, birds of prey centre.



Autumn term started with indoor caving, followed by our joint sleepover event with Colts Beavers to Abney Camp, the Beavers loved all the incredible activities which ranged from making flapjacks, putting up tents, hiking in the woods (day and night) and archery and the end camp was marked with a super campfire hosted by Kwasin.





As Christmas approached, we visited Hillbrook Grange to sing carols for the residents and handed out Christmas cards and decorations that we had made. We also had lots of indoor snowball fights!



Another fab year of Scouting that wouldn't have been possible without the amazing support of the Kits Leadership team and parent helpers (past and present) together with our super young leaders, Jack (Scooby) and James (Blaze) who energise our group with new ideas and lots of fun! Thank you all.

This year we have awarded over 300 badges, including 6 Chief scout bronze awards, and as an added bonus I completed my wood badge!

Teddy

Kate Vincent

Beaver Scout Leader 1st Bramhall Kits Beavers

Fir Cub Pack - 2023

At present our team consists of Akela (Caroline), Kwasim (Adam), Little Beever (Kae), Baloo (Angela), Badger (David), Jacala (Des) and Swift (Andrew)

2023 was a fun year for the pack. We started the year with a fun evening doing team building games and then for Comic Relief we sold cakes in the hut and made tea and coffee for the parents.



May was the start of the camping season for Fir pack. We did "Picnic in the Park" where Fir pack walked from Poynton to Lyme Park followed by a lovely picnic in the sunshine and then back to the hut for a 2 night sleep-over. We also spent time den building and enjoying the park's facilities. We invested our newest members in a stream and had the traditional campfire with marshmallows and songs, led by Kwasim.



July was our next nights away where we went to Hesleywood and enjoyed a lovely couple of days and one extremely wet evening. It was an adventure! We did leader and scout led activities, including archery and kayaking on the lake. Then we joined in a campfire with the other scout groups and learnt some new songs before the campfire was stormed out. But the cubs all huddled in their tents and rode out the storm until the morning saw sunshine and pancakes.



The trip to Happy Valley was to help us complete the Naturalist Badge. It was a lot of fun although the orienteering was challenging. But it got us ready for our November camp. We looked at how the season's changes affected the different areas of the valley. And we got to learn the Countryside Code in the process.

Millies's Trust were invited to come back and aid the Cubs in their Level 1 and 2 badges. It is always a privilege to have them back and the Cubs get so much out of these evenings.



There are so many nights that take place over the year that we cannot mention them all. But the Cubs have learnt about Camp Bases and how to set up and take down their tents and beds. We have completed our passport multiple times showing the cubs how to strip their beds, re-make them as well as iron and change a fuse.

The last camp for 2023 was our Aviator weekend. This was a day spent at RAF Cosford where we completed our Aviator 1 and 2 badge. We looked around this amazing museum and read about all the different aircraft and their history. We then returned to the Bramley Centre for a DVD evening. The following day, we joined the rest of 1st Bramhall on the Remembrance Parade and prepared lovely cakes for the parents and Group to enjoy.



Led by Kwasin and Badger, and with the other leaders helping, the DIY badge was achieved over a few weeks by building bird houses which will be placed near the Bramley Centre, ready for the nesting season. The Cubs had so much fun with sawing and drilling.

The plans for 2024 are just as exciting. I would like to say thanks to Shaw Shaw (Alex) for his support in 2023 and wish him every success after signing off for his Duke of Edinburgh award. Thanks also to Kwasim - 2024 will bring his journey with Fir pack to an end and we wish him all the best when he joins the Beaver colony. And many thanks from myself to all the parents that help us out on the evenings. Without everyone's support, we could not make our evenings so enjoyable.

Akela (Caroline Noone)

Pine Cub Pack – 2023



2023 was another great year for Pine Pack

We managed three trips away, had loads of great Tuesday nights, earned lots of badges and generally had lot of fun. The cubs have been a great bunch this year and have kept us on our toes throughout:

Tuesday night fun and games

Like all the sections, we have a balanced programme which means we have a variety of activities. We love trying new things as well as doing some of the old favourites.



Trying out golf at the driving range



Cycling the Middlewood way – always popular



Visting the fire station and trying out the hoses



Learning life skills - safely



And learning how the railways work

Other events

We visited the University of Manchester to put scientists and engineers through their paces. We learnt lots about the nuclear industry



Like all the other sections we took part in group activities including JOTT and the 26 hour alphabet marathon. One of our sessions was “U”. A great chance to try Ukrainian cooking (and eating)



Camps and nights away

Our nights away trips are always highlights. This year we managed three:

Our winter expedition saw us on the Sandstone Trail (maybe better called the mudstone trail!)



For summer camp we went to Kibblestone Camp, visited the monkey park, built bridges and best of all, slept out under the stars (even though the Group had generously provided us with brand new tents this year!)



Then in the Autumn we had a sneaky trip to York to visit the Railway museum and the Jorvik museum



Being part of the community

A really important part of being part of the Scouting family is to make an active contribution to our community. We took part as always in the St Georges Parade and the Remembrance Parade



Badges and Awards

All of this leads to lots of badges and culminates, for some, in the award of the Silver Chief Scouts Award. 2023 was a great year for us with seven cubs gaining this award, the highest that a Cub can achieve.

And Finally

We aim to raise a smile, cope with adversity and tire out the cubs. I think we succeeded:



**Richard Edmondson
Akela**

Scout Troop Section Report 2023

In January we returned to chilly Ennerdale Water for our regular Winter Expedition. 27 scouts braved the weather and enjoyed a fabulous weekend walking in the Lake District and staying at Ennerdale Scout Centre.



1stBramhall's Got Talent showcased our incredible scouts. Who could forget the amazing musical talents of George, Rohan, Ciaran, Max and Isaac or the showjumping from Aiden. Special mention also goes to Noah who proved he's a great comedian and Sasha, whose Ukrainian dancing was fantastic.



In March we took part in our regular March for Macmillan, walking 10,000 steps a day to raise money for this worthy charity. Also in March our PLs and APLs had a special training weekend, preparing them for leading their patrols on camp. They got to test these skills at one of our most popular camps, the return of "I'm a Scout – Get me Out!" over the early May bank holiday. A weekend of fun, challenges, and key skills learning, based on the TV show. The scouts competed for luxury meals for the winners but for the losers, don't ask!



In May we enjoyed Jamboree on The Trail before our annual Watersports Camp in late June. Once again we waterskied, sailed, kayaked and paddleboarded in the stunning beauty of Lake Windermere. A fantastic weekend.

The highlight of the year is our **Summer Camp**, and this year didn't disappoint. We were joined by our Danish scouting friends from Toftlund and spent a breezy and bright 9 days camping and exploring North Wales. Coasteering proved a huge hit and many of the scouts showed real courage in taking on the challenge. They all really enjoyed themselves.









A night hike around Macclesfield in September tested our PLs navigation skills and was enjoyed by all.

In October our latest 24 hour event was extended into the 26 hour alphabet challenge. It not only raised funds for charity but also showed how creative our scouts and leaders are in dreaming up these amazing events.



In November we took the PLs and APLs to Nantmor, deep in Snowdonia to learn about route planning, leading groups and teamworking. The weekend was spent in stunning scenery away from technology, roads and everyday life.

Friday night activities continued to be full of fun, challenge and learning. We don't have room to list all the amazing nights we had but it is incredible how much we can pack into our program week in, week out.

All of these fantastic activities count towards earning badges. The top award in the scout section is **the Chief Scouts Gold Award** and takes hard work, determination and great leadership skills. We are delighted that the following scouts achieved their Chief Scouts Gold Award in 2023.

Luke Hannah

Ben Hannah

Will Gibbons

Bea Gibbons

Ella Higginbottom

Will O'Neill

Jack Souter

Will Murray

We were so pleased that in 2023 one of our leaders gained the top award in Scouting. Paddle was awarded the Kings's Scout Award. Well done Paddle, a great achievement.

These incredible experiences take a lot of organising and running and we are so grateful for our amazing leadership team. In 2023 we had a strong leadership team and had great regular support from young leaders Ross and Hannah.

In 2023 Chris (Kinder) took over the role of Scout Section Leader. Chris becomes only the 17th Scout Section Leader in 1st Bramhall's 115 year history. All the leaders welcome him into this role and love his enthusiasm, dedication and leadership. 1st Bramhall is in good hands as it starts a new chapter.

It's been my pleasure to be the Scout Section Leader for the last 12 years. I've enjoyed my time immensely and I will continue to support 1st Bramhall Scouts as an Assistant Scout Leader.

Peter Boxall – “Whittle” – Scout Troop Section Leader

The XBU Explorer Section - 2023

Our Explorer programme is always targeting communication, leadership, listening skills, negotiation and practical life skills, all aimed at helping with the Explorer's own development, whilst maintaining the advised scouting Development Zones of **Beliefs** and **Attitudes, Community, Fitness, Creative, Global & Outdoor and Adventure.**

This year we enjoyed a varied and traditional year of activities.

In May 2023 we completed a 16km Peak District JOTT Night hike from Pym Chair to Gradbach, managing to invest 10 Explorers on the top of Shutlingsloe



We also managed to complete a rigorous year of Silver DofE with 8 completing the qualifying expedition and 4 so far completing the award, with another group of 5 silvers coming through in 2024.

Our summer camp was in North Norfolk near Wells-next-the-Sea. It proved to be quite wet but also great fun. Anna managed to run a weeklong game of Traitors, pretty much better than the popular TV show, and we also managed to cook a fairly large piece of pig in a hole in the ground



During camp we invested 4 Explorers at a Go Cart track, spent loads of time on the coastline, completed the most amazing night hike, cycled around Norfolk, played mini golf, went swimming, enjoyed several beach BBQ's and played beach games. We completed the "shopping list" game from the Apprentice. And who can't fail to enjoy fish and chips on the seafront?



We also had a great Winter camp at the unusually warm Nantmor Mountain hut in Snowdonia.



We are proud to be able to provide a significant amount of volunteer help for the other sections, which continues to ensure a positive representation of the Explorer section within all the 1st Bramhall sections, showing Beavers, Cubs and Scouts where their scouting adventure can lead them.

DofE also provides an excellent basis for the program where there is a heavy mix of "Out and about" activities involving navigation, survival, cooking and communication skills. DofE without doubt provides young people with the tools to tackle the challenges of their future lives. Because it is led by the individual, it demonstrates a high level of personal commitment which breathes life into any CV.

We also had some new leaders joining us in 2023 to complement our existing team, **Anna** "Oo" is back from down south and **George** "Tumble", has also joined us. We also have an Explorer who left

3 years ago showing interest in returning as a leader. **Martin** “Butterfly” has been a great leader for over ten years & **Dave** “Puddles” keeps control of finances and is the second nights away permit holder for camps. Plus we have regular help from **Liam** “Snowflake” & **Josh** “munchkin”. We could not deliver our great program without every one of these volunteers.

Here’s to an equally successful 2024!

Paul Winterburn – “Pedal” – Explorer Scout Leader

FINANCIAL REVIEW

2023 saw the implementation of two projects that had been planned for some time. With the increase in the number of younger members as a result of the successful introduction of the Squirrels section, the need for a versatile and secure outdoor space became apparent. Therefore the front grass area was extended and enclosed by metal railings. This project cost £6,085. The second project involved the replacement of the failed original gutter system by a new gutter system. This has proved to be effective and will be easier to maintain in the future. This project cost £17,435.

In the year, the overall cash and investment balances fell by £20,685 as a result of these two projects, but the Group had budgeted for this expenditure and possessed the cash reserves to finance it. Consequently, our finances still remain sound.

Excluding the expenditure on the above two projects, which have been capitalised, the operating surplus (before depreciation) from our Group and Section activities was £1,404 (2022: £5,592), which is considered acceptable by the Trustees.

Subscription income in the year grew by £1,226 (5%) mainly as a result of a full year of Squirrels and an increase in the monthly subs amount for new starters to £16. The subs increase of £1 per month was regrettable during a period of cost of living anxiety, but the Trustees have to take a long term view. As an increase only applies to new starters, with an individual's rate remaining the same throughout their time at 1st Bramhall, the benefit of an increase takes quite a while to come through.

Income from hiring the Bramley Centre to community groups increased by £2,318 to £22,034, which is the highest it has ever been. However, in December 2023 we lost our oldest and biggest hirer because they wanted longer hours into the evening which would have impacted our Section meetings. This will create a shortfall of some £4,850 per annum. We are actively seeking new hirers to make up this shortfall.

Gift Aid income received was £6,084, an increase of £797 over the prior year. This continues to be a valuable source of income for the Group.

Throughout the year, our young people undertook a range of activities to help the community, both local and nationally. The previous section reports and the GSL report illustrate some of those activities, like the 26 Hour Marathon which raised £1,340 for the British Heart Foundation.

In 2023, we continued our programme of investment in Scouting activities by purchasing a variety of equipment. This included replacing the Cub tents with 10 new ones and purchasing an additional 2 Stormhaven tents and 4 toilet tents for the Scout Troop. We also continued to maintain and upgrade our Headquarters building, including replacing the small kitchen fire door at a cost of £1,790 and replacing fluorescent lights and floodlights with LED's at a cost of £2,300.

Despite inflationary rises, we managed to keep the cost of running the Bramley Centre Headquarters building (cleaning, utilities, rates, insurance etc) at last year's level.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIOD

We intend to continue our programme of improving the Bramley Centre and purchasing equipment to support the Scouting programme. We will also be investing in the training of our adult volunteers, in safety and first aid as well as in obtaining activity permits. This is so that we can continue to expand the range of safe programme activities that we can offer. There are plans to install a specialist play surface in the courtyard and now that the gutters are fixed, we can address the damage cause to the brickwork by water ingress. We will also improve our minibus provision.

Reserves Policy

The group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income fall short or large amounts of expenditure are required on, for example, repairs and maintenance on the Bramley Centre building or on transport. Each year, £3,000 is transferred from Reserves to a Designated Fund for Minibus replacement. The Board of Trustees considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient.

Investment Policy


The Group has adopted a risk averse strategy to the management of its liquid funds which are held in cash using a mainstream bank. Cash not required immediately is held in an interest bearing account. The Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the Group obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements.

The Trustee Board regularly considers the cash flow requirements and longer term investments are split between a 60 day notice account and an Invesco Managed Fund. The National Savings Investment Account was closed during the year and funds moved to the Notice Account in order to improve the interest rate. The Invesco Managed Fund was chosen to give a diversified range of investments following a discussion with an Independent Financial Adviser.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:



Richard Buckley

Chairman

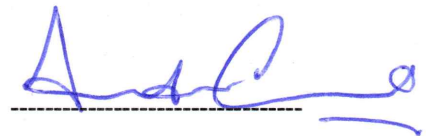
Date: 11/5/24



Timothy Taylor

Secretary

Date: 11/5/24



Andrew Corrie

Group Scout Leader

Date: 11/5/24

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 52 to 61.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gary Wood, FCCA
G.J. Wood & Co. Ltd.
Hub 11 Pepper House
Pepper Road
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP



07 May 2024

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Balance Sheet

31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	2	344,810	328,059
Investments	3	66,525	81,281
		<u>411,335</u>	<u>409,340</u>
Current Assets			
Bank and cash (Group)		43,236	49,166
Bank and cash (Sections)		1,583	3,329
Debtors		1,155	-
		<u>45,974</u>	<u>52,495</u>
Current Liabilities			
Other creditors		1,289	449
		<u>1,289</u>	<u>449</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>44,685</u>	<u>52,046</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>456,020</u>	<u>461,386</u>
Funds			
General Unrestricted Fund		326,296	334,662
Revaluation reserve		111,458	111,458
Transport Reserve Fund		18,266	15,266
		<u>456,020</u>	<u>461,386</u>

Approved on behalf of the Trustee Board on 11/5/24.....

..... Chair

..... Treasurer

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting Receipts and Payments

The accounts for both the current and comparative years have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis as permitted under the Charities Act 2011.

Land and buildings

Land and buildings have been revalued by the trustees and are included in the accounts at their valuation, in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

b) Capital expenditure

Fixed assets are shown in the accounts at cost less accumulated depreciation, with the exception of land and buildings, which is shown at the Trustees valuation of £340,000.

The cost of equipment is written off in full during the year of acquisition. For insurance purposes, equipment is valued at £71,628.

c) Depreciation

Provision for depreciation is made at the following rates:

Buildings	0.5 % straight line
Garage	5% straight line
Minibus, trailers and boats	25% on a reducing balance basis

2 Tangible fixed assets

	Land & Building	Garage, toilets & gutters	Minibus, trailers, boats & frontage	Total
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2023	340,000	29,230	26,934	396,164
Additions	-	17,435	6,086	23,521
At 31 December 2023	<u>340,000</u>	<u>46,665</u>	<u>33,020</u>	<u>419,685</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2023	35,700	10,334	22,071	68,105
Depreciation for the year	1,700	2,333	2,737	6,770
	<u>37,400</u>	<u>12,667</u>	<u>24,808</u>	<u>74,875</u>
Net Book value 2023	<u>302,600</u>	<u>33,998</u>	<u>8,212</u>	<u>344,810</u>
Net Book value 2022	<u>304,300</u>	<u>18,896</u>	<u>4,863</u>	<u>328,059</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2023

3 Investments	2023	2022
	£	£
National Savings Investment Account	-	61,756
Invesco Managed Growth	19,525	19,525
Shawbrook CAF 60 Day Notice Account	47,000	-
	<u>66,525</u>	<u>81,281</u>

The market value of the Invesco Managed Growth Fund at 31 December 2023 was £26,001 (2022 £23,344).

4 Funds

The Trustee Board approved a transfer of of £3,000 from the General Unrestricted Fund to a general designated fund, the Transport Reserve Fund. This fund has been set up to provide for future vehicle replacement costs.

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Squirrel Drey Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Subscriptions from group	373	575
	<u>373</u>	<u>575</u>
 Resources expended		
Activities	203	446
Badges/trophies	170	92
Equipment and consumables	-	26
Uniforms	-	11
	<u>373</u>	<u>575</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	-	-
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2023	-	-
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Beaver Colony Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Subscriptions from group	1,273	1,410
Pantomime	632	201
Camps	645	-
Sleepover	512	1,650
Sundry income	100	16
	<u>3,162</u>	<u>3,277</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	1,111	1,401
Badges/trophies	-	51
Camps	695	-
Equipment and consumables	-	41
Pantomime	562	556
Sleepover	548	1,468
	<u>2,916</u>	<u>3,517</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	246	(240)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2023	82	322
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2023	<u>328</u>	<u>82</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Pine Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Incoming resources		
2023 Winter trip - York	1,035	-
Camps	1,500	650
Activities	-	398
Subscriptions from group	750	-
	<u>3,285</u>	<u>1,048</u>
Resources expended		
2023 Winter trip - York	1,008	-
Activities	399	576
Badges and trophies	157	245
Camps	1,132	458
Uniform	24	-
	<u>2,720</u>	<u>1,279</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	565	(231)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2023	333	564
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2023	<u>898</u>	<u>333</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Fir Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Camps	830	1,767
Activities	-	115
Subscriptions from group	1,565	1,873
	<u>2,395</u>	<u>3,755</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	441	1,045
Camps	1,443	2,362
Badges and uniforms	74	-
Meeting	371	-
Christmas party	278	-
Sundry	33	-
	<u>2,640</u>	<u>3,407</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	(245)	348
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2023	402	54
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2023	<u>157</u>	<u>402</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Scout Troop Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Activities	638	400
Camps	16,332	14,295
Subscriptions from group	2,100	2,000
Sundry income	3	-
	<u>19,073</u>	<u>16,695</u>
 Resources expended		
Activities	4,391	1,717
Camps	16,833	13,184
Equipment and consumables	95	251
Bank charges	66	81
	<u>21,385</u>	<u>15,233</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	(2,312)	1,462
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2023	2,511	1,049
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2023	<u>199</u>	<u>2,511</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group**Group Statement of Financial Activities****31 December 2023**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Gift Aid	6,084	5,287
Letting income	22,034	19,716
Other income	1,542	1,096
Subscriptions	27,379	26,153
Uniforms	164	-
24hr Marathons	7	1,370
Bonfire Night	1,295	1,339
JOTT	93	111
September 2022 Family Camp	-	9,359
	<u>58,598</u>	<u>64,431</u>
Investment income and interest		
Bank deposit interest	837	210
Invesco Perpetual income	-	367
NS&I Interest	307	-
	<u>1,144</u>	<u>577</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>59,742</u>	<u>65,008</u>
Resources expended		
Property costs		
Building maintenance	7,332	3,785
Cleaning	6,361	6,179
Electricity	3,669	2,917
Gas	598	616
General rates	380	607
Internet and telephone	336	305
Water rates	704	482
	<u>19,380</u>	<u>14,891</u>
Group Scout costs		
Camp	115	7,049
Capitation fee	8,225	6,333
Group Scout Activities	19	59
OSM costs	163	157
Other expenses	155	102
Payments to sections	6,062	5,858
Training	134	802
Uniform and badges	745	2,952
XBU Explorer support	-	892
	<u>15,618</u>	<u>24,204</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Group Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other resources expended		
Examiner's fee	120	120
Bank charges	161	164
Depreciation	6,770	4,782
Equipment	7,217	7,416
Insurance	6,463	6,175
Other expenses	123	104
Printing, stationery and sundry	42	112
Vehicle and transport costs	5,225	5,081
Charitable Donations	50	1,141
Ukraine Social costs	-	218
Bonfire Night	996	754
Website	94	375
Trackers	1,103	
	<u>28,364</u>	<u>26,442</u>
Total resources expended	<u>63,362</u>	<u>65,537</u>
Net (outgoing) resources	(3,620)	(529)
Funds at 1 January 2023	346,600	347,129
Funds at 31 December 2023	<u>342,980</u>	<u>346,600</u>

1ST BRAMHALL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1019814

Accounts

Registered charity number 1019814



1st Bramhall Scout Group

Report and Accounts

31 December 2022

1st Bramhall Scout Group**Trust Information and Administration Details****For the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022**

Charity Name 1st Bramhall Scout Group
Principal Address The Bramley Centre, Bramley Close
Bramhall, Stockport SK7 2DT
Charity Number 1019814
Group Registration Number 4861
Scout District Ladybrook Valley
Scout County Greater Manchester East

Trustees Office Dates acted if not for whole year

<u>Trustees</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Dates acted if not for whole year</u>
Julie Bottomley	President	
Sir Peter Fahy	Vice President	
Doreen Wyld	Vicc President	
Richard Buckley	Group Chair	
Tim Taylor	Group Secretary	
Richard Baker	Group Treasurer	
Andrew Corrie	Group Scout Leader	
Barry Aitken	Deputy Group Scout Leader	

Accountants:

GJ Wood and Co Ltd.
Hub 11Pepper House
Pepper Road
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP

Bankers:

Royal Bank of Scotland
1 Redheughs Ave
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Ave
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

1st Bramhall Scout Group. – Trustees Annual Report

Structure, Governance and Management

Introduction

2022 was the first full year of normal scouting after the Coronavirus pandemic and the first year for our newest section – the Squirrels. 1st Bramhall were privileged to be able to welcome the 4 to 6 year olds, one year after this new section was launched nationally.

Tracing its origins back to 1909, only two years after the founding of the Scout Movement, we are one of the oldest Scout Groups in the country. The Group is part of the Ladybrook Valley Scout District, which itself is part of Greater Manchester East Scout County. The Group is registered with The Scout Association under Registration Number 4861 and is established as a Trust under its rules which are common to all Scout Groups. The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (POR).

The Group Management

The Group is managed by a Board of Trustees, assisted by an Operations sub-committee which manages the non-Section related activities of the Group. This structure complies with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Collectively, the members of the Board of Trustees act as "Charity Trustees" of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees, they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Board of Trustees consists of:

- "Ex-Officio" Members, appointed by virtue of their role. These are the Group Chairman, Group Secretary, Group Treasurer, Group Scout Leader (GSL) and Deputy Group Scout Leader (DGSL).
- The President and Vice-Presidents are nominated by the Group Scout Leader. The President also takes the lead on Risk.
- The Chair of the Operations sub-committee, who is also the Group Treasurer.

The Operations sub-committee is responsible for the Group's physical assets and so manages the Building, Equipment, Transport and Trailers, Hirings, Fire Safety, Finance and Insurance.

The sub-committee also works closely with the Scout Active Support Unit. This unit comprises parents of Young People and is responsible for engaging with other parents and external parties as well as organising Group Events and Fund raising. The aim is to have more parents involved in the Group, so that the Group can be more successful in achieving its aims.

The members of the Operations sub-committee during 2022 were Richard Baker – Finance, Buildings and Chair of Operations sub-committee; Julie Bottomley – Health & Safety, Buildings and Hiring; Tim Taylor – secretary; Graeme Weatherall - Fire Safety; Paul Rawcliffe – Communications and Website; David Reynolds– committee member; Steven Vinten – Transport and Trailers; and Lynne Ormiston – Hirings. Naseem Al-Swainy also acted as Hirings Manager during the year. Richard Buckley as Group Chairman is also a member of the Operations sub-Committee. The Group thanks them all for their hard work during the year.

The Trustees and the Operations sub-Committee exist to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting his administrative responsibilities, leaving the Leaders to plan activities and run the Section Programmes. Whilst the sub-committee undertakes the administrative duties in accordance with formal Terms of Reference, the Board of Trustees remains responsible for:

- The protection and maintenance of Group property and equipment;
- Ensuring that safety and safeguarding procedures are implemented and operating effectively;
- The raising of funds, the setting of subscription rates and the administration and management of the Group's finances;
- Approving the Annual Report and Accounts and presenting it to the Scout Council at the Annual General Meeting;
- The payment of Capitation Fee;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Developing local scouting and promoting a positive local image of scouting;
- Organising Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisers other than those who are elected.

Risks and Internal Control

The Board of Trustees has identified the following major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed. These are reviewed regularly and systems established to mitigate them.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. Through payment of the Capitation Fee to the District and County, the Group contributes to The Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Through a separate policy with Unity Insurance, any helpers who are not members of the Scout Association are also covered for injury. Risk assessments are prepared for all activities, communicated to all adults taking part and reviewed regularly. Training and the correct qualifications are integral to our safety management process. There are nominated trained First Aiders on all activities. The Group has a Fire Safety Officer who undertakes Fire Safety Assessments, provides Fire Training to Adult Volunteers and Hirers and conducts practice evacuations. The Operations sub-committee reviews and updates the Buildings Risk Assessment. All adult leaders and volunteers in the Group are required to complete the appropriate safety and activity training courses, including the Scout Association Ongoing Safety Course and are expected to be familiar with the Purple Card 'Safe Scouting: A Code of Conduct' and to understand that Safety is a joint responsibility of all adults in the Group, irrespective of their role.

Safeguarding. Keeping young people safe is the paramount responsibility for all adults in Scouting. The DGSL, together with the District Appointments Advisory Committee, ensures that adults are checked through the DBS and the Scout Association's systems before appointment, and that renewal takes place prior to expiry. All adults in the Group are required to complete the Scout Association Safeguarding Awareness Course. The Yellow Card which contains essential information on safeguarding is given to all adults. The GSL is the appointed officer responsible for safeguarding issues to whom all safeguarding concerns should be addressed. Young people are encouraged to raise any concerns affecting them or another member of the Group with a trusted adult and/or with their own parents.

Leader Competence. In order to underpin safe quality Scouting for young people, it is very important that all adults holding Scout appointments receive training that is appropriate to their roles.

Undergoing training within a stated period is a requirement of all appointments. The Scout Association's module-based training scheme for adult volunteers is managed at County level in Greater Manchester East Scout County. In the District, a nominated Assistant District Commissioner working with line managers and the Appointments Advisory Committee support and assist adults to fulfil their training commitment within the time required. The DGSL works with the District personnel to ensure that all training is up to date. Furthermore, as all appointments are for a limited period, a system is in place for reviewing appointments and identifying any further training needs.

Damage to buildings, property and equipment. The Group has sufficient insurance cover in place with Unity Insurance for the buildings, contents, public liability, vehicles, trailers, canoes, boats and equipment. Appropriate training is given to all users. Certain items of equipment have been identified for regular checking, testing or maintenance.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section, or the Group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group. A similar risk exists from a reduction or loss of young people.

Reduced income. The Group is reliant upon income from both subscriptions and the hiring of the Bramley Centre to third party organisations. Hiring income could fall due to reduced demand or due to reduced availability as a result of more section activities. The amounts charged for subscriptions and hiring the premises are reviewed by the Trustees annually. Further fund-raising activities could be undertaken for specific purposes.

The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income.

General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR). The Group is fully aware of its responsibilities and obligations under GDPR and uses the system for electronic storage and communication managed by Greater Manchester East Scout County. This system ensures that all Personal Data and Scouting Data is held on County servers rather than on personal computers. Procedures for the secure storage of information in paper form are also established. GDPR training has been undertaken by all persons with data handling responsibilities. The Deputy Group Scout Leader and Communications Manager advise the Trustees and Leadership team on GDPR issues with responsibility resting with the Board of Trustees.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the group are as a unit of The Scout Association. The aim of The Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more. Each week, we give young people in our local area the opportunity to enjoy fun and adventure while developing the skills they need to succeed.

The Scouting Programme is provided to young people between the ages of 4 and 25. The new Squirrels section covers the ages from 4 to 6. The Beaver Section covers the ages from 6 to 8, Cubs cover 8 to 10½, Scouts cover 10½ to 14. 14 to 18 year olds are in the Explorer Unit which is administered by the District. 18 to 25 year olds are in the Scout Network section which is administered by the County. At 1st Bramhall, we operate all the sections between Squirrels and Explorers

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under the advancement of education heading.

CHAIR'S REPORT 2022

Before attempting to write some words from "The Chair", I always read the rest of the report, and in reality what more is there to add?

Can there be a better place for young people to learn "Skills for Life"?

I'm no fan of sales slogans, but "Skills for Life" really does sum up Scouting, things our members learn will stay with them for life – I know that from personal experience.

It is becoming slightly traditional, but no less sincere than the first time, for me to thank all our adult volunteers; whether they be front of house delivering programme or behind the scenes fixing toilets! (it all needs doing!); the hours people are happy to give to support the Group is heart-warming.

It was great to see so many of the 1st Bramhall Family on Family Camp – a superb weekend, which provided a fantastic opportunity for families to experience some of our programme and glimpse in to what happens on our Camps.

In his GSL's report, Andrew mentions the Active Support Unit, which is a great way for adults to give a few hours to support the group. Whether it's laying turf, marshalling at an event, or cooking burgers at the JOTT BBQ, all help is appreciated and allows our Leaders to concentrate on delivering an exciting programme for our young people.

One of the duties of the Executive Committee is to ensure that we have a safe and fit-for-purpose environment to deliver activities. We have embarked on a significant programme of work on the building and surrounding land, with emphasis on making the outside space more inviting and secure for our younger sections.

Our dedicated Treasurer has provided a detailed report on the Group's financial position later in this report. Through careful management of funds and investments, we are on a sound financial footing, which enables us to provide exciting and adventurous activities for our young people.

As we approach the summer months, I am looking forward to a great programme of Scouting events across all sections; at 1st Bramhall our leaders put on fantastic activities all year round, but things are that extra bit special in the Summer.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best Regards

Richard Buckley

Group Chair

GROUP SCOUT LEADERS REPORT 2022

Throughout the following pages you'll see the review of an impressive range of activities, events, and experiences for all our members - all with the over-riding aim of developing their skills for life.

The balanced programme we deliver every week is, by any measure, phenomenal and that is due to our wonderful team of volunteer Adult Leaders whose commitment, dedication, energy, skill, enthusiasm, and creativity are beyond measure.

And they are joined by our fabulous Young Leaders - all from XBU, our Explorer Unit - who give so willingly of their time, putting back into their Scouting for the benefit of others much of what they have learnt.

We have had a significant and very welcome increase in the number of Adult Leaders this year; we are nearly running out of wall space in the entrance hall for our "Meet the Team" photos - but that's a great problem to have and I'm not complaining!

The year was special in so many ways:

First was the introduction of Squirrels in May - the first (and only) drey in the District, and one of the first in the County - and indeed the Country. And what a fantastic section they are - 1st Bramhall without Squirrels would now be unthinkable. A warm welcome to them all. And already some of our Squirrels have moved up to the next section, Beavers.

We also gave a huge 1st Bramhall welcome to our Ukrainian friends who had come to stay in the area. We hosted a regular drop-in for Ukrainian guests and their hosts every Sunday afternoon, and organised welcome packs of essential toiletries etc, as well as clothes and games. This was featured on national BBC TV news and locally on the Stockport Council volunteering website. We are delighted that several Ukrainian youngsters have joined us as Cubs and Scouts, with our flagbreaks each week now including the Ukrainian flag.

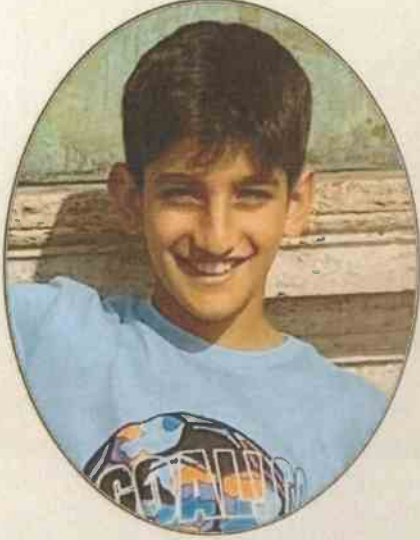


This year also saw the the fruition of our long-anticipated Active Support Unit - launched at Family Camp. Our thanks to Iain Lavelle for taking the lead on this for us. The Unit organised our Scoutpost, the installation of our Christmas Tree, our involvement with the Round Table Santa Christmas float, stewarding at the St Georges Day Parade, and they are currently working on the improvement of our grassed area. The Unit is open to anyone at all who would like to be involved in helping with the myriad of things that need to be done to support the Group, freeing up Leaders to do what they do best - delivering fantastic programmes for our young people.

No review of the year would be complete without mentioning Family Camp in September where over 200 of us spent a fun-packed weekend at Kibblestone Scout Camp in Staffordshire. We are already planning the next one (but not for 2023!)

But this year also saw the terribly sad passing of one of our members Milan Maddineni. Milan joined the Group as a Beaver and went all the way through to Scouts; he was touched by Scouting and he gave so much to everyone in the Colony, the Pack, and the Troop. He was always enthusiastic, helpful, considerate, and was never seen without a huge, infectious smile. He epitomised Scouting's values. It was a very humbling privilege to join literally hundreds of people attending the service celebrating his life, and hear the awe-inspiring tributes to him. In Scouting parlance, Milan had "gone home".

*A Service of Celebration
for the Wonderful Life of*



Milan Maddineni

7th March 2011 – 20th November 2022

Held at
Stockport Crematorium, Rowan Chapel
on Saturday 10th December 2022

And finally we congratulate one of our Leaders, Sam Rogers ("Rudder"), on completing his Queens Scout Award and becoming a Queens Scout (one of the very last). The highest achievement in Scouting, and one we hope many of our Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers will achieve in due course; we will do all we can to make that a reality



Andrew Corrie ("Skip")

Group Scout Leader

ANNUAL CENSUS

The annual census, taken at 31 January 2023, showed 175 (prior year:149) young people in Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with a further 22 (prior year:32) in the Explorer Unit, which is a District Section. All sections operate waiting lists.

Young people	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Squirrels	20									
Beavers: Colts	22	19	21	24	23	23	24	22	42	24
Kits	21	21	21	25	23	25	24	25		
Cubs: Pine	27	28	32	33	34	24	33	24	54	36
Fir	20	25	27	28	27	24	27	29		
Scouts	65	56	56	65	41	59	41	44	50	50
Total	175	149	157	175	148	155	149	144	146	110
Explorers	22	32	29	22	23	27	39	47	41	35

Leader/Sectional assistants	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Squirrels	8									
Beavers: Colts	5	4	2	4	3	4	3	8	6	2
Kits	6	4	2	4	3	3	3	6		
Cubs: Pine	7	5	3	6	5	3	4	4	8	5
Fir	4	6	3	3	9	7	5	10		
Scouts	17	16	13	15	11	14	10	9	11	9
Total	47	35	23	32	31	31	27	37	25	16

These numbers don't include all the Occasional Helpers and Young Explorer Leaders who are so valuable in assisting on section nights and other activities.

SECTION REPORTS

Squirrels Drey- 2022



We opened our Squirrel Drey in May 2022 with 18 children aged 4-5. All of our sessions have a game, a story and a related main activity. We began by working on our Be Active and Feel Good badges. This included learning about feelings, building blanket forts and having a fun yoga session.



Blanket Forts

We held our first investiture on 20th June. This included investing all of our Squirrels and our new leaders. The children were really proud to be the first Squirrel Drey in the area.



Mass Investiture

We finished the term with our first trip outside the hut to Bramhall Park for a Scavenger hunt.



When we returned in September, 6 new Squirrels joined the group. We enjoyed building our own model campfires, toasting marshmallows and learning campfire songs.

This was great preparation for Family Camp. 8 of our Squirrels joined us on camp with their families. They had great fun joining in with the activities and meeting other leaders and sections. They enjoyed standing at the front of the flag break with Skip to be introduced to the Group. Favourite activities included the Blindfold Trail and whizzing downhill on the carts.

In the winter we started to learn about different celebrations for our Let's Celebrate badge. We learned about Diwali, Hanukah and Christmas. We also made use of our free Lego from IET to build some bridges and animal homes. We finished the term with a visit from Reverend Calum Piper from St Michael's church. We also held our first 'nut run' as our first Squirrels moved on to Beavers.

We look forward to many more adventures together!

Thanks to the 2022 team Little Beaver, Nutella, Kit, Jay, Paddle, Hawkeye and Nutkin for all of their invaluable help. Thanks also to our parent helpers.

Louise Eagle "Nala"

Colts Beaver Colony - 2022

The annual report gives a chance to reflect on how much we do in the Beaver Section. It is amazing how much we can cram into a year, and how keen our Turquoise Ninjas are to push themselves outside their comfort zones.

2022 started in January with a trip to the Panto. The annual trip organised by the District had been paused during Covid, so Teddy stepped in and organised a 1st Bramhall Beavers trip to see Dick Whittington at the Plaza. It was loud and funny, and the Beavers loved it.

Our programme in January included a night on Birdwatch, where we made bird feeders and learnt about the different garden birds. In February we completed our Health & Fitness badge with a programme built around Winter Olympics. We took part in speed skating, the luge and curling, and we all won medals!



In March we had a special guest, as Doctor Vinten came and talked about her job as a family doctor and the Beavers got to use some of the equipment in her doctor's bag! We also had a sleepover at the hut, where we cooked our own tea to earn the Cooks badge, had a night hike to Bramhall Park and a terrific indoor camp fire led by Tigger, where we learnt some great new campfire songs. Thank you Tigger!



In April, we paraded smartly through Bramhall for St George's Day and had an evening on friendship and learning and understanding our differences.



May was a fun packed month. It saw us making seed pots and planting seeds. We had a joint meeting in Bruntwood Park with Kits where we climbed trees and enjoyed the playground. We joined the rest of the Group for JOTT, walking on a glorious afternoon, earning a hikes badge and enjoying a great BBQ back at the hut. We completed our Safety badge and had an amazing afternoon at Sale Water Park earning our Time on the Water badge in Katakanoes! We celebrated the Jubilee with a tea party and games.

June saw us making Coasters for Father Day, completing our Cycling badge, and learning how to light fires with flint and steel.

In July we practised navigation in Bramhall Park, learning how to read maps, and we had a terrific outdoor session involving lots of water and rockets! We went to the Cinema to see Lightyear and ate lots of popcorn!

In September we went on Family Camp and had adventures trying new challenging activities and trying to beat Suds at Rock, Paper, Scissors.



October saw us completing our Global Issues badge, making water filters and seeing who could produce the cleanest water. We learnt about endangered animals and fair trade, and Digger ran a session on Saving Energy. We all dressed up for our annual Halloween party and had fun playing spooky games and crafts, and eating quite a few sweets! We also attended the District Chief Scout Bronze Award Ceremony where 9 Colts Beavers were awarded this very special achievement.

November saw us collecting Junk and earning our Builders badge by building a crazy golf course. We had lots of parents come and join in and help and it was a really great night, building our course and then playing on it. We then moved onto our Space badge, where we learnt about the planets and made constellation biscuits. We finished the month with a Sleepover at Catalyst Science Museum in Widnes with our friends from Kits. We had an amazing time playing on all the interactive exhibits, watching a Night at the Museum and sleeping in the glass observatory. We also had a science show and made soap, although I am not sure how clean it would have got us!



December saw us celebrate Christmas with seasonal crafts and games, topped off with a traditional Christmas party.

And so for this years stats! We awarded 285 badges in 2022, including 8 Chief Scout Bronze awards, 47 Challenge badges and 221 activity badges across 16 different badge types. 2022 was definitely a year to celebrate achievement.

I must end as always by thanking all the leadership team whose different skills and interests make it possible to deliver such a fun and varied programme for our young people, it really is a team effort.

Thank you, Keego, Silva, Skater, Tigger & Digger. Thank you also to our Young Leaders who provided such a valuable source of help throughout the year whilst juggling the increasing demand of school and college; thank you, Sprinter, Coffee and Edge.

Thank you to all of our parents who have stepped forward to support us when we needed additional help or to just join in our sessions, I particularly enjoyed seeing how involved and competitive you got during our Junk golf evening, some of the Beavers didn't get a look in! Thank you to the Exec who support us behind the scenes ensuring we have whatever we need to run the Colony and a special thank you to Richard Baker for being our Treasurer and never saying no to our requests!

However, the biggest thank you of all goes to the Beavers. Their enthusiasm, inquisitiveness, desire to try new things and most of all have fun is the reason we as leaders turn up every week. 2023 is already proving to be an exciting, fun packed year and I look forward to us all continuing to have adventures, building skills and making memories together.

Amanda Hudghton – Beaver Scout Leader (BSL): Colts Beavers

Kits Beaver Colony - 2022

We started 2022 with the annual panto trip to Stockport Plaza. Unfortunately, not as part of a district event this time, but still a great joint experience for Kits and Colts Beavers.



During our first term, we made fruit kebabs and sandwiches as part of the Cook Badge. We celebrated Chinese New Year by making tiger masks. We explored space and the night sky using a cool planet app and made constellations out of cocktail sticks and raisins.



For the first time in a while, we were able to celebrate St George's Day, with a parade through Bramhall followed by a group service at St Michaels Church. This was a fabulous, greatly missed and well supported event.



The late spring and early summer term brought warmer weather and lighter nights which meant we could get outdoors!

We had great fun climbing trees in Bruntwood Park, (another joint event with Colts Beavers.) We went bug hunting in Carrwood. We planted flowers and vegetable seeds as part of our Gardener Badge and collected leaves and twigs to make natural works of art.



We also had a fantastic afternoon 'messing about in boats' with Peak Sports at Trafford Water Park, learning about water safety, canoeing, and kayaking followed by an impromptu 'dip' in the lake.



We finished off the summer term with wide games and badge presentation in Bramhall Park and invested Rainbow as an 'Assistant Leader.'



We started the Autumn term with a hike and pond dipping adventure in Happy Valley, which was great fun although a little soggy for some!



At the end of September, we hosted a fabulous Family camp weekend where a record number of families from all sections joined us at Kibblestone Scout Camp in Staffordshire for a fun packed weekend of scouting activities including a traditional campfire!



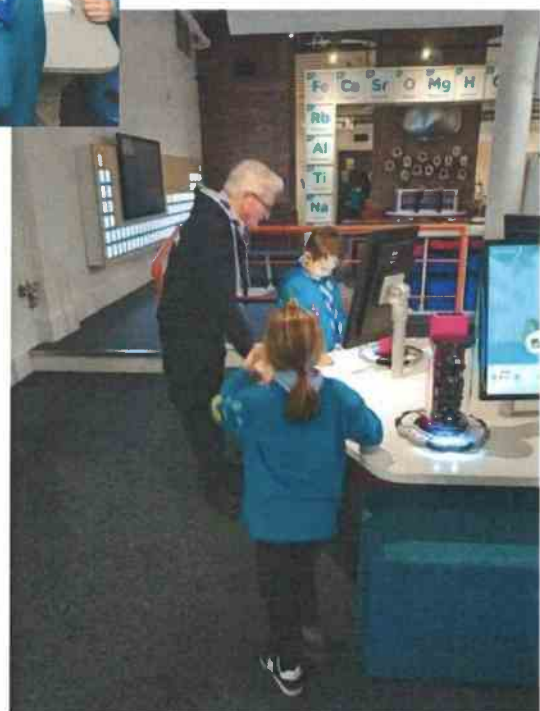
As the dark nights set in, our meetings were back in the Bramley Centre, where we enjoyed den building and junk modelling as part of the Builder Badge. We had a visit from Dr Glen who taught us all about the heart and basic first aid skills and we had our much-loved Halloween fancy dress party.



ur next Beaver sleepover event took place in November, where Kits and Colts came together to experience a 'Night at the Museum' sleeping in the observatory at Catalyst Science Museum in Widnes. The Beavers enjoyed carrying out science experiments, making soap and watching a live science show. This fabulous event was excellent fun for Beavers and Leaders alike.



For the remaining months the Beavers recognised Remembrance Day, made (and ate) bonfire biscuits, celebrated St Andrew's Day, and learned about the patron saints, and made Xmas Crackers! It's certainly been another jam-packed year for Kits Beavers!





We've awarded over 200 badges, including 6 Chief scout Bronze Awards, and have seen our colony grow to 21 regular attendees.

I'd like to thank the amazing leaders who support our activities week in week out, Rikki, Rainbow, Luna, Willow, and Beefy and special thanks for the ad-hoc support to Pogo, Harrier and Keego.

Finally, I'd like to recognise 3 fantastic young people, Alfie, Jack, and James. All of whom joined 1st Bramhall as Beavers and now form part of the Young Leaders Team. You are outstanding role models for our Beavers, and I'd like to thank you for the energy and enthusiasm you bring to each meeting.

Teddy

Kate Vincent
Beaver Scout Leader 1st Bramhall Kits Beavers



Fir Cub Pack - 2022

It has been a packed-full 12 months with the Cubs doing an amazing job as always.

Massive thanks to the leadership team of Kwasim (Adam), Little Beaver (Kae) and Baloo (Angela), together with Kinder (Chris), Bueno (Bethan), and Barry, together with Suds (Amanda) for her support at Camp. We also have two amazing Explorer helpers: Coffee (Jacob) and Shaw Shaw (Alex).

Our Year started with Chinese New Year at the amazing restaurant Rainbow 88 with the wonderful Linda being an amazing host. The Cubs had a great time with great food



Beginning of March, we had our winter camp indoors at the Bramley Centre. After gathering, we took a minibus trip to Linnet Clough where we went on a Hike and Hunt around Marple and Strines and then we returned to the hut for more fun-filled activities.



April took us away again to Ashworth Valley for the weekend - outdoor and indoor camping. We crammed in so many activities from popcorn making to rocket building and raft racing down the river. Then on the Sunday, we joined in with the District for the St George's Day Parade and the weather held out for us all.



July took us away on summer camp with Kwasim taking charge and running an amazing camp. The matching Tie Dye t-shirts were a big hit with the Cubs, as was the massive water fight in the lovely sunny weather. We made rafts going out on the river and sang as loud as we could, even teaching a new song to a cub pack from Stockport that we met.





Fir Pack ended the year with a Christmas party at Chill Factor and we invested Baloo and our new Cubs at the top of the slide. The Cubs had an amazing time as always, doing all the different activities and racing each other down the snow.



2023 has started well with the Cubs working hard to complete their badges and taking the annual walk from Bramhall to Poynton to get our Chippy reward. Well worth the 2 hours in the dark and the question "are we there yet".

Akela (Caroline Noone)

Pine Cub Pack – 2022



2022 was a great year for Pine Pack

One of our most important achievements in 2022 was to welcome Martin (Ikki), Glyn (Baloo), and Adam (Bagheera) as new leaders. This brings our total of leaders up to six which in turn means we have been able to keep the numbers of cubs in the pack as high as 32 all year.

They have been a great bunch this year and have kept us on our toes throughout:



1. Tuesday night fun and games

Like all the sections, we have a balanced programme which means we have a variety of activities, all with different aims, but overall providing the chance for all cubs to push themselves to their limits, learn new skills, and most importantly have some fun in a safe and supportive environment.

As an example, we had a trip to Chill Factor with the simple rule to try a new sport; for those cubs who have skied previously they had to try boarding or vice versa. It was also a great chance to invest some of our new cubs. We love to invest cubs in different places, this was a new one for us.



We also tried other adventures including climbing at Awesome Walls which was another chance to push their own limits and try new things.



However, not all our Tuesday nights are big adventurous activities, this year most of our cubs completed their Scientist badge...



...and did craft activities such as making these Snowmen showing the diversity of the activities that we get up to on Tuesday evenings.



2. *Camp*

Summer Camp is always a highlight and we had a great weekend at Hesley Wood near Sheffield this year.

Camp is a great way to let the cubs develop their independence, enjoy communal living, spend time together developing friendships and of course, just have fun.

This year they had a chance to take part in canoeing, archery, and grass sledding, as well as just chilling round the campfire with marshmallows – nothing better!



3. *Being part of the community*

A really important part of being part of the scouting family is to make an active contribution to our community.

This might be in the form of one of our Group activities such as the 24 hour games marathon where the cubs took part in "The Chase" and "Would I lie to you" displaying a slightly worrying ability to lie very convincingly. Dodgy outfits from the leaders were considered de rigueur.



We also make sure we directly help the community with litter picks...



...and provide a proud representation of the youth of Bramhall on Remembrance Sunday



4. *Badges and Awards*

All of this leads to lots of badges and culminates, for some, in the award of the Silver Chief Scouts Award. 2022 was a record year for us with eight cubs gaining this award, the highest that a cub can achieve.



5. *And Finally*

I just wanted to end this year's report with a personal thank you to the whole family that is 1st Bramhall for their support of all our Ukrainian guests this year. We started 2022 with no idea that we would soon be welcoming refugees into our community and homes. However, when it became clear in March that several families would be arriving, everyone in 1st Bramhall stepped up to help with donations of clothing, toys, bikes and beautiful donations of toiletries which I know were really appreciated.

A special thank you however needs to go to the Group Exec who supported the idea of having get togethers on Sunday afternoons, and most importantly Barry, Dawn, Doreen, Brian, Richard B and Ollie who did the leg work of putting them on week after week. These were a real lifeline for all those who attended and it is a measure of their success that they were only needed for six months, by which time the Ukrainian families had built their own support networks.

As a result of all this work we were able to welcome Ukrainian children into the group, and for at least some of them, this was their first chance to develop friendships with English children. I think we all saw how much they enjoyed family camp and how scouting has provided a solid base for them to start to integrate into the community.

To me, this has shown scouting at it's best and I am extremely proud to be a member of such a wonderful group as 1st Bramhall.



**Richard Edmondson
Akela**

Scout Troop Section Report 2022

2022 in numbers

Started with 56 Scouts - Ended with 65 Scouts

Maximum Overnights available per person: 20

Total overnights earned: 513

Our winter expedition was a great way to start the new year. 26 scouts braved the chilly weather and enjoyed a fabulous weekend walking in the Lake District and staying at Ennerdale Scout Centre.

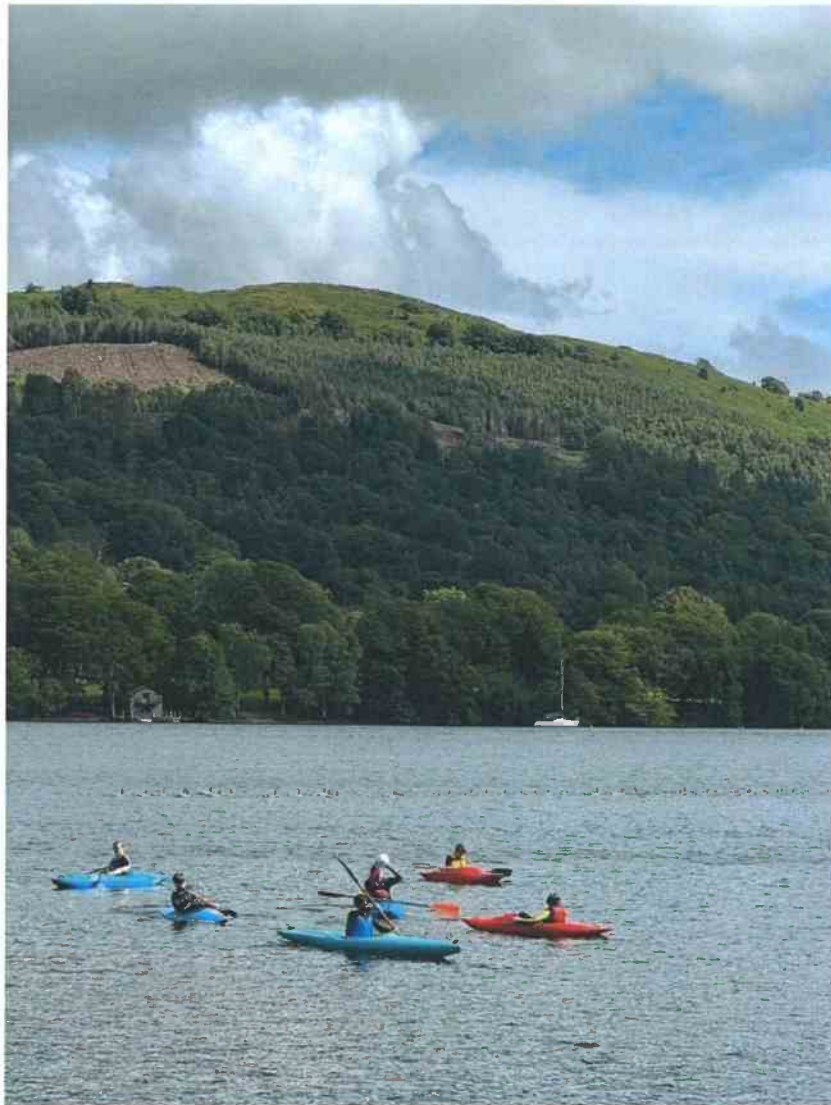
2022 was jam packed with activities. In January the scouts put on a fantastic panto, specially written by Kite. Then we had a 24hr game show raising money for McMillan.

The scouts took on the Million Hands Project in March. The patrols were tasked with creating and delivering a project for positive change. We were blown away by the creativity and enthusiasm of the scouts. Craft sales, cake sales, a charity car wash, even a website that encourages people to turn off their engines at traffic lights. It was a great example of what the scouts can do by themselves when given the opportunity. In March we also took on the 310,000 steps challenge and raised money for the Samaritans.

As the weather started to warm we did a spring night hike, a PLs training day and then a Scoutcraft Camp. The scouts spent a great weekend at Barnswood campsite learning all the skills that they would need on our summer camp.

At the start of July, the Watersports Camp was attended by 41 Scouts who enjoyed sailing, waterskiing, kayaking, paddle boarding and raft building on the beautiful Lake Windermere.





Summer Camp 2022 was at Loch Tummel in Scotland. A fabulous field on the Loch side was home to 28 scouts and 14 leaders for 9 glorious summer days. The scouts camped, cooked, played, and sang. We also waterskied, sailed, paddle boarded and kayaked. This was topped off with a trip to the Edinburgh Tattoo.





Our local bases activities included caving, swimming, candle making and yoga and we had a 1st Bramhall Masterchef with the winning Patrol going through to the District final.

We did even more fundraising with another amazing 24 hour event, this time 24 x one hour events back to back, raising money for the group and for New Mills Community project and at Christmas we made gift boxes for Age UK.

All these fantastic activities count towards earning badges and we awarded an incredible 228 badges in total. The top award in the scout section is the Chief Scouts Gold Award and takes hard work, determination and great leadership skills. We are delighted that the following scouts achieved their Chief Scouts Gold Award in 2022.

Seb Holmes

Charlotte Taylor

Jasper Prince

Martha Shelton

Felix Prince

Ross Hallinan

Austin King

These incredible experiences take a lot of organising and running and we are so grateful for our amazing leadership team. In 2022 we said (a temporary) goodbye to Owen, Jess, Holly, Henry and Mae as they went off to Uni, travelling or starting work. We miss you and hope to see you all soon.

We were very lucky to say hello to Sam Rogers (Rudder) and Jess Watson (Crag) who joined us late 2021 and have both been invaluable in 2022. We were so pleased that in 2022 Sam was presented with his Queen's Scout Award. Well done Sam.

Peter Boxall – "Whittle" – Scout Troop Section Leader

The XBU Explorer Section - 2022

Our Explorer programme is always targeting communication, leadership, listening skills, negotiation, and practical life skills, all aimed at helping with the Explorer's own development, whilst maintaining the advised scouting development Zones of **Beliefs and Attitudes, Community, Fitness, Creative, Global & Outdoor and Adventure.**

This year we enjoyed a varied and much more traditional year of activities.

In August 2022 we completed a 26km long Peak District hike taking in the plane wrecks at Bleaklow



Our summer camp was in North Devon where we found a wealth of things to do at one of the best campsites to date



During camp we managed to invest 8 Explorers on a moving steam train and spent loads of time on the coastline completing the most amazing night hike, cycling the Tarka Trail, sailing in cardboard boats, going to an aqua park, playing frisbee golf, going on a high ropes course, enjoying beach BBQ's, paddle boarding, coasteering and exploring the local coastline as well as Exmoor.



Here is a picture of possibly the best beach in Devon



In November we also managed to do a Remembrance Day hike to take part in the annual service at the top of Great Gable in the Lakes. This is such a poignant way to mark the occasion.



DofE also provides an excellent basis for the programme where there is a heavy mix of “Out and about” activities involving navigation, survival, cooking and communication skills. DofE without doubt provides young people with the tools to tackle the challenges of their future lives and because it’s led by the individual, it demonstrates high levels of personal commitment which breathes life into any CV.

We are proud to be able to provide a significant amount of volunteer help for the other sections, which continues to ensure a positive representation of the Explorer section within all the 1st Bramhall sections. We show Beavers, Cubs and Scouts where their scouting adventure can lead them.

One last thing is to thank all the leaders and support people at 1st Bramhall, because without the help and support of so many people we would not have been able to provide the programme we deliver. For example one leader on summer camp chose to attend rather than let everyone down, despite his business completing a merger halfway through camp which put himself under immense pressure. But this shows the huge and valued commitment of our leadership team.

Here’s to an equally successful 2023

Paul Winterburn – “Pedal” – Explorer Scout Leader

Financial Review

2022 was a much more “normal” year from a financial perspective as well as from a “scouting” perspective. This is reflected in the financial results over the following pages, where comparisons with the previous year reflect the impact of Covid.

Our finances remain sound, with our cash balance growing in the year by £4,037 and our operating surplus from our Group and Section activities being a modest £810.

Subscription income in the year grew by £3,527 (16%) mainly as a result of higher numbers of young people, helped by the launch of the new Squirrel section. We were pleased to see that income from letting the Bramley Centre to community groups nearly doubled to £19,716, which is back to pre-pandemic levels. Gift Aid income was £1,264 lower than the previous year, but this was because in 2021 we undertook an exercise to maximise the number of Gift Aid declarations which brought in Gift Aid from previous years.

Raising funds for other charities was again popular with the Young People, with the 24 hour Marathons, the Scout Pantomime, ScoutPost, the 310,000 Steps challenge and the Million Hands Project raising funds for various charities including the New Mills Youth and Community Project, St Anns Hospice, the Samaritans and Manchester Childrens Hospital.

In the year, we continued our programme of investment in Scouting activities by purchasing a variety of equipment. This included 6 new Kayaks and a new 10 metre “party” tent, which, amongst other uses, acts as the “Central” on camps where cooking, eating and meetings take place (when not done in patrols). We also purchased new water skis, an additional StandUp paddle board, a gas BBQ and an AV Projector.

After taking advantage in 2021 of the closure of our Headquarters building, we didn’t undertake any more major works in 2022, concentrating on various essential repairs and maintenance, including refurbishing the cooker and upgrading the signage above the front door to incorporate the new Scout logo and the Squirrel section.

The cost of running the Bramley Centre Headquarters building (cleaning, utilities, rates, insurance etc) rose to more “normal” levels but we were particularly hit by the increase in Electricity prices where the cost almost doubled to £3,000. Fortunately, our gas price is fixed until 2024 at pre-increase rates.

Future plans

We intend to continue our programme of improving the Bramley Centre and purchasing equipment to support the Scouting programme. 2023 will see the front area remodelled to create a secure grassed play/activity area and the gutters will be replaced to finally solve the water ingress problem which has damaged the brickwork, windows and interior. Further internal improvements will also take place. Expenditure on the Scouting programme will include replacing all the cub tents and it is intended to replace a minibus in 2023 or 2024 if a suitable vehicle can be found.

Reserves Policy

The group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income fall short or large amounts of expenditure are required on, for example, repairs and maintenance on the Bramley Centre building or on transport. The Board of Trustees considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient.


Investment Policy

The Group has adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its liquid funds which are held in cash using a mainstream bank. Longer term investments are split between a low-risk investment – a National Savings Investment Account and an Invesco Managed Fund.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:



Richard Buckley

Chairman

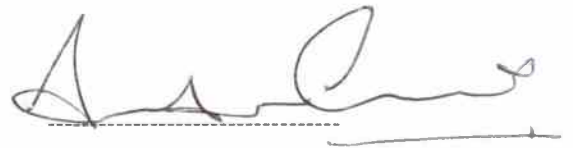
Date: 13/5/23



Timothy Taylor

Secretary

Date: 13/5/23



Andrew Corrie

Group Scout Leader

Date: 13/5/23

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 44 to 53

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gary Wood, FCCA
G.J. Wood & Co. Ltd.
Hub 11 Pepper House
Pepper Road
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP



25 April 2023

1st Bramhall Scout Group


Balance Sheet

31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	2	328,059	332,841
Investments	3	81,281	80,857
		<u>409,340</u>	<u>413,698</u>
Current Assets			
Bank and cash (Group)		49,166	46,469
Bank and cash (Sections)		3,329	1,989
Debtors		-	-
		<u>52,495</u>	<u>48,458</u>
Current Liabilities			
Other creditors		449	1,580
		<u>449</u>	<u>1,580</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>52,046</u>	<u>46,878</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>461,386</u>	<u>460,576</u>
Funds			
General Unrestricted Fund		334,662	336,852
Revaluation reserve		111,458	111,458
Transport Reserve Fund		15,266	12,266
		<u>461,386</u>	<u>460,576</u>

Approved on behalf of the Group Executive Committee on 13/5/23

 Chair

 Treasurer

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2022

1 Accounting policies

a) **Basis of accounting**
Receipts and Payments

The accounts for both the current and comparative years have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis as permitted under the Charities Act 2011.

Land and buildings

Land and buildings have been revalued by the trustees and are included in the accounts at their valuation, in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

b) **Capital expenditure**

Fixed assets are shown in the accounts at cost less accumulated depreciation, with the exception of land and buildings, which is shown at the Trustees valuation of £340,000.

The cost of equipment is written off in full during the year of acquisition. For insurance purposes, equipment is valued at £65,117.

c) **Depreciation**

Provision for depreciation is made at the following rates:

Buildings	0.5 % straight line
Garage	5% straight line
Minibus, trailers and boats	25% on a reducing balance basis

2 Tangible fixed assets

	Land & Building	Garage & toilets	Minibus, trailers & boats	Total
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2022	340,000	29,230	26,934	396,164
At 31 December 2022	<u>340,000</u>	<u>29,230</u>	<u>26,934</u>	<u>396,164</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2022	34,000	8,872	20,451	63,323
Depreciation for the year	1,700	1,462	1,620	4,782
	<u>35,700</u>	<u>10,334</u>	<u>22,071</u>	<u>68,105</u>
Net Book value 2022	<u>304,300</u>	<u>18,896</u>	<u>4,863</u>	<u>328,059</u>
Net Book value 2021	<u>306,000</u>	<u>20,358</u>	<u>6,483</u>	<u>332,841</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2022

3 Investments	2022	2021
	£	£
National Savings Investment Account	61,756	61,699
Invesco Managed Growth	19,525	19,158
	<u>81,281</u>	<u>80,857</u>

The market value of the Invesco Managed Growth Fund at 31 December 2022 was £23,344 (2021 £24,696).

4 Funds

The Group Executive approved a transfer of of £3,000 from the General Unrestricted Fund to a general designated fund, the Transport Reserve Fund. This fund has been set up to provide for future vehicle replacement costs.

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Squirrel Drey Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2022

	2022 £
Incoming resources	
Subscriptions from group	575
	<u>575</u>
Resources expended	
Activities	446
Badges/trophies	92
Camps	
Equipment and consumables	26
Uniforms	11
Sleepover	
	<u>575</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	-
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2022	-
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Beaver Colony Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Subscriptions from group	1,410	1,058
Pantomime	201	332
Camps	-	750
Sleepover	1,650	-
Sundry income	16	25
	<u>3,277</u>	<u>2,165</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	1,401	603
Uniforms	-	11
Badges/trophies	51	163
Camps	-	528
Equipment and consumables	41	25
Pantomime	556	515
Sleepover	1,468	-
	<u>3,517</u>	<u>1,845</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	(240)	320
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2022	322	2
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2022	<u>82</u>	<u>322</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Pine Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Incoming resources		
Camps	650	1,015
Activities	398	-
Subscriptions from group	-	500
	<u>1,048</u>	<u>1,515</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	576	221
Badges and trophies	245	144
Camps	458	1,448
	<u>1,279</u>	<u>1,813</u>
Net (outgoing) resources	(231)	(298)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2022	564	862
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2022	<u>333</u>	<u>564</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Fir Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Camps	1,767	350
Activities	115	120
Subscriptions from group	1,873	1,530
	<u>3,755</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	1,045	1,584
Camps	2,362	456
	<u>3,407</u>	<u>2,040</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	348	(40)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2022	54	94
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2022	<u>402</u>	<u>54</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Scout Troop Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Incoming resources		
Activities	400	-
Camps	14,295	8,548
Subscriptions from group	2,000	(112)
	<u>16,695</u>	<u>8,436</u>
 Resources expended		
Activities	1,717	1,188
Camps	13,184	7,572
Equipment and consumables	251	57
Uniforms	-	39
Bank charges	81	96
	<u>15,233</u>	<u>8,952</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	1,462	(516)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2022	1,049	1,565
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2022	<u>2,511</u>	<u>1,049</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Group Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Gift Aid	5,287	6,551
Letting income	19,716	10,481
Other income	1,096	3,379
Subscriptions	26,153	22,626
Covid-19 grant	-	9,669
24hr Marathons	1,370	-
Bonfire Night	1,339	-
JOTT	111	-
September 2022 Family Camp	9,359	-
	<u>64,431</u>	<u>52,706</u>
Investment income and interest		
Bank deposit interest	210	11
Invesco Perpetual income	367	-
	<u>577</u>	<u>11</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>65,008</u>	<u>52,717</u>
Resources expended		
Property costs		
Building maintenance	3,785	14,342
Cleaning	6,179	5,294
Electricity	2,917	1,526
Gas	616	630
General rates	607	214
Internet and telephone	305	281
Water rates	482	249
	<u>14,891</u>	<u>22,536</u>
Group Scout costs		
Camp	7,049	195
Capitation fee	6,333	6,280
Group Scout Activities	59	133
OSM costs	157	111
Other expenses	102	296
Payments to sections	5,858	2,976
Training	802	540
Uniform and badges	2,952	1,922
XBU Explorer support	892	-
	<u>24,204</u>	<u>12,453</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Group Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Other resources expended		
Examiner's fee	120	120
Bank charges	164	193
Depreciation	4,782	5,322
Equipment	7,416	7,110
Insurance	6,175	6,154
Other expenses	104	292
Printing, stationery and sundry	112	41
Vehicle and transport costs	5,081	7,372
Charitable Donations	1,141	-
Ukraine Social costs	218	-
Bonfire Night	754	-
Website	375	-
	<u>26,442</u>	<u>26,604</u>
Total resources expended	<u>65,537</u>	<u>61,593</u>
Net (outgoing) resources	(529)	(8,876)
Funds at 1 January 2022	347,129	356,005
Funds at 31 December 2022	<u>346,600</u>	<u>347,129</u>

1ST BRAMHALL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1019814

Accounts

Registered charity number 1019814



1st Bramhall Scout Group

Report and Accounts

31 December 2021

1st Bramhall Scout Group
Trust Information and Administration Details
For the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Charity Name 1st Bramhall Scout Group
Principal Address The Bramley Centre, Bramley Close
Bramhall, Stockport SK7 2DT
Charity Number 1019814
Group Registration Number 4861
Scout District Ladybrook Valley
Scout County Greater Manchester East

<u>Trustees</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Dates acted if not for whole year</u>
Julie Bottomley	President	
Sir Peter Fahy	Vice President	
Doreen Wyld	Vice President	From 30 March 2021
Richard Buckley	Group Chair	
Tim Taylor	Group Secretary	
Richard Baker	Group Treasurer	
Andrew Corrie	Group Scout Leader	
Barry Aitken	Assistant Group Scout Leader	

Accountants:

GJ Wood and Co.
Hub 11
Pepper House Business Centre
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP

Bankers:

Royal Bank of Scotland
1 Redheughs Ave
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Ave
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

1st Bramhall Scout Group. – Trustees Annual Report

Structure, Governance and Management

Introduction

2021 was again impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, but at least most of the restrictions were relaxed in the middle of the year, allowing a return to more normal scouting.

Tracing its origins back to 1909, only two years after the founding of the Scout Movement, we are one of the oldest Scout Groups in the country. The Group is part of the Ladybrook Valley Scout District, which itself is part of Greater Manchester East Scout County. The Group is registered with The Scout Association under Registration Number 4861 and is established as a Trust under its rules which are common to all Scout Groups. The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (POR).

The Group Management

The Group is managed by a Board of Trustees, assisted by two sub-committees who manage the non-Section related activities of the Group. This structure complies with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Collectively, the members of the Board of Trustees act as "Charity Trustees" of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees, they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Board of Trustees consists of:

- "Ex-Officio" Members, appointed by virtue of their role. These are the Group Chairman, Group Secretary, Group Treasurer, Group Scout Leader (GSL) and Assistant Group Scout Leader (AGSL).
- The President and Vice-Presidents are nominated by the Group Scout Leader. The President also takes the lead on Risk.
- Chairs of the two sub-committees.

The two sub-committees are:

- Operations. This sub-committee is responsible for the Group's physical assets and so manages the Building, Equipment, Transport and Trailers, together with Hirings, Finance and Insurance.
- Scout Active Support Unit. This sub-committee is responsible for engaging with parents and external parties as well as organising Group Events and Fund raising. The aim is to have more parents involved in the Group, so that the Group can be more successful in achieving its aims.

The members of the Operations sub-committee during 2021 were David Staley – Hirings, Graeme Weatherall - Fire Safety, Paul Rawcliffe – Communications and Website, Julie Bottomley – Health & Safety, Buildings and Hiring, David Reynolds – committee member, Steven Vinten – Transport, Tim Taylor – secretary and Richard Baker – Finance, Buildings and Chair of Operations sub-committee. The Group thanks them all for their hard work during a difficult year. Due to covid, the Scout Active Support Unit did not meet during 2021.

The two committees exist to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting his administrative responsibilities, leaving the Leaders to plan activities and run the Section Programmes. Whilst the sub-committees undertake the administrative duties in accordance with formal Terms of Reference, the Board of Trustees remains responsible for:

- The protection and maintenance of Group property and equipment;
- The raising of funds, the setting of subscription rates and the administration and management of the Group's finances;
- Approving the Annual Report and Accounts and presenting it to the Scout Council at the Annual General Meeting;
- The payment of Capitation Fee to District and County;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Developing local scouting and promoting a positive local image of scouting;
- Ensuring that safety and safeguarding procedures are implemented and operating effectively;
- Organising Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisers other than those who are elected.

Risks and Internal Control

The Board of Trustees has identified the following major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed. These have been reviewed and systems established to mitigate them.

Coronavirus. Scouting is fundamentally a face-to-face activity and by changing to online meetings and other restrictions due to the coronavirus, risked losing Young People as members. The Group recognised this risk and by keeping the vast majority of the Young People engaged and involved, very few left the Group. From a Finance perspective, strict cost control, coupled with applications for grants and other income sources enabled the financial risk to be mitigated.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. Through payment of the Capitation Fee to the District and County, the Group contributes to The Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk assessments are prepared for all activities and communicated to all adults taking part. Training and the correct qualifications are integral to our safety management process. There are nominated trained First Aiders on all activities. The Group has a Safety Adviser and a Fire Safety Officer who undertakes Fire Safety Assessments, provides Fire Training to Adult Volunteers and Hirers and conducts practice evacuations. The Operations sub-committee reviews and updates the Buildings Risk Assessment. All adult leaders and volunteers in the Group are required to complete the appropriate safety and activity training courses, including the Scout Association Ongoing Safety Course and are expected to be familiar with the Purple Card 'Safe Scouting: A Code of Conduct' and to understand that Safety is a joint responsibility of all adults in the Group, irrespective of their role.

Safeguarding. Keeping young people safe is the paramount responsibility for all adults in Scouting. The AGSL, together with the District Appointments Advisory Committee, ensures that adults are checked through the DBS and the Scout Association's systems before appointment, and that renewal takes place prior to expiry. All adults in the Group are required to complete the Scout Association Safeguarding Awareness Course. The Yellow Card which contains essential information on safeguarding is given to all adults. The GSL is the appointed officer responsible for safeguarding issues to whom all safeguarding concerns should be addressed. Young people are encouraged to

raise any concerns affecting them or another member of the Group with a trusted adult and/or with their own parents.

Leader Competence. In order to underpin safe quality Scouting for young people, it is very important that all adults holding Scout appointments receive training that is appropriate to their roles. Undergoing training within a stated period is a requirement of all appointments. The Scout Association's module-based training scheme for adult volunteers is managed at County level in Greater Manchester East Scout County. In the District, a nominated Assistant District Commissioner working with line managers and the Appointments Advisory Committee support and assist adults to fulfil their training commitment within the time allowed. The AGSL works with the District personnel to ensure that all training is up to date. Furthermore, as all appointments are for a limited period, a system is in place for reviewing appointments and identifying any further training needs.

Damage to buildings, property and equipment. The Group has sufficient insurance cover in place with Unity Insurance for the buildings, contents, public liability, vehicles, trailers, canoes, boats and equipment. Appropriate training is given to all users. Certain items of equipment have been identified for regular checking, testing or maintenance.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section, or the Group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group. A similar risk exists from a reduction or loss of young people.

Reduced income. The Group is reliant upon income from both subscriptions and the hiring of the Bramley Centre to third party organisations. Hiring income could fall due to reduced demand or due to reduced availability as a result of more section activities.

The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Board of Trustees has the option to increase subscriptions and/or increase income from fund-raising activities.

General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR). The Group is fully aware of its responsibilities and obligations under GDPR and uses the system for electronic storage and communication managed by Greater Manchester East Scout County. This system ensures that all Personal Data and Scouting Data is held on County servers rather than on personal computers. New procedures on the paper storage of information have also been introduced. GDPR training has been undertaken by all persons with data handling responsibilities. The Assistant Group Scout Leader and Communications Manager advise the Trustees and Leadership team on GDPR issues with responsibility resting with the Board of Trustees.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the group are as a unit of The Scout Association. The aim of The Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more. Each week, we give young people in our local area the opportunity to enjoy fun and adventure while developing the skills they need to succeed.

The Scouting Programme is provided to young people between the ages of 6 and 25. The Beaver Section covers the ages from 6 to 8, Cubs cover 8 to 10½, Scouts cover 10½ to 14. 14 to 18 year olds are in the Explorer Unit which is administered by the District. 18 to 25 year olds are in the Scout Network section which is administered by the County.

In 2021, the Scout Association launched a younger section, called Squirrels, to cover ages 4 to 6. After the 2021 year end, the Trustees approved a proposal from the Group Scout Leader to introduce a Squirrel section, which will start in mid 2022.

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under the advancement of education heading.

CHAIR'S REPORT 2021

As the Group gets back to normal operations, I would like this year to take time to thank all our adult volunteers; and I use that term specifically as it is not just the Leaders you see in their beige uniforms delivering a fantastic programme for our young people, week-on-week; they are supported by a large number of volunteers working hard behind the scenes to keep our fantastic Group running smoothly.

Both the Operations Team and the Trustees, as well as a host of other adult volunteers, dedicate their free time to managing the Bramley Centre and maintaining the equipment within it. For example, it's thanks to the support of our Transport Manager that we have two minibuses available at the turn of a key. Similarly, the work of our Lettings Manager on a weekly (sometimes daily) basis is vital to keeping our tenants happy and income flowing; and these voluntary roles go on covering everything from the upkeep of our accounts and records to adherence with legal obligations. There are many people spending many hours a week facilitating the delivery of our programme and we couldn't do it without them.

If 1st Bramhall was classified as a business, it would be classed as an SME (Small to Medium-Sized Enterprise) and would require a team of paid staff to keep it operational. Instead, we rely on the work of our volunteers and I want to take this opportunity once again to thank them all on behalf of our young people, who I know, get so much from their time with us.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the JOTT BBQ and AGM this year and further, I hope you will join us on Family Camp in September - it was a great weekend last time we ran it, and I'm sure that as we emerge from the pandemic, it's just what we all need.

Best regards

Richard 'Ric' Buckley

Group Chair

GROUP SCOUT LEADERS REPORT 2021

I finished my report for last year's AGM by saying "Certainly a year like no other, but we're back now and raring to go! We've bounced back and the world is our oyster!"

Well what an understatement that turned out to be - as you will see from all the Section's reports, 1st Bramhall has had an incredible year full of a mind-boggling array of activities, camps, trips, challenges, and adventures for everyone from the most timid to the most adventurous.

Scouting For All

We deliver around 10 hours of structured youth work every week, and then on top of that are all the days of camps. We help to develop key skills and attributes including focus, discipline, physical fitness, teamwork, self-confidence and trust in others. The evidence of all of that is the impressive number of badges that are seen on uniforms.

But I want to highlight two things in particular. First is how much every Section has regularly connected with the wider community whether through meeting Megan and her medical assistant dog, collecting crisp packets for a Macclesfield charity that make them into blankets for homeless people, making up Christmas boxes for Age Concern, or fundraising for St Ann's Hospice, the Samaritans, and Manchester Children's Hospital. Thinking of, and helping, other people has been such a core part of our programme.

And by the time you read this 1st Bramhall will be actively welcoming and supporting our Ukrainian friends. Through the initiative of our Cubs and Scouts their fundraising projects have already enabled us to send a \$1000 donation to the Ukrainian Scouts Humanitarian Fund.

Secondly has been our Group's participation at the Remembrance Day Parade where we had over 70 young people and Leaders, plus our Explorers at a similar event at the summit of Great Gable in the Lake District, and the District St George's Day Parade with a terrific turn-out from 1st Bramhall who were an absolute credit to the Group, and to themselves.

For the future we have much to look forward to – including our Family Camp 23rd-25th September.

And the most exciting development will be the opening of our brand new Section – Squirrels – the only one in the District and one of the first in the UK.

None of any of this would be possible without the dedication, commitment, energy, and enthusiasm of a truly outstanding team of leaders, and other volunteers both at the coalface and behind the scenes to all of whom I express my sincere thanks – and a particular welcome to our many additional new leaders.

Andrew Corrie ("Skip")

Group Scout Leader

ANNUAL CENSUS

The annual census, taken at 31 January 2022, showed 149 (prior year:157) young people in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with a further 32 (prior year:29) in the Explorer Unit, which is a District Section. All sections operate waiting lists.

Young people	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Beavers: Colts	19	21	24	23	23	24	22	42	24
Kits	21	21	25	23	25	24	25		
Cubs: Pine	28	32	33	34	24	33	24	54	36
Fir	25	27	28	27	24	27	29		
Scouts	56	56	65	41	59	41	44	50	50
Total	149	157	175	148	155	149	144	146	110
Explorers	32	29	22	23	27	39	47	41	35

Leader/Sectional assistants	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Beavers: Colts	4	2	4	3	4	3	8	6	2
Kits	4	2	4	3	3	3	6		
Cubs: Pine	5	3	6	5	3	4	4	8	5
Fir	6	3	3	9	7	5	10		
Scouts	16	13	15	11	14	10	9	11	9
Total	35	23	32	31	31	27	37	25	16

These numbers don't include all the Occasional Helpers and Young Explorer Leaders who are so valuable in assisting on section nights and other activities.

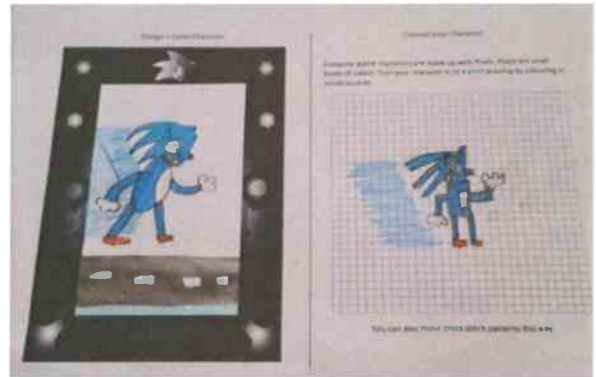
SECTION REPORTS

Colts Beaver Colony - 2021

2021 was definitely a year of three parts as we transitioned back to our new level of normal in Beavers. We had the virtual term, the back together outside term and the 'almost' normal term. Whilst the different rules and guidance delivered creative challenges for leaders, our young people continued to amaze us with their resilience, adaptability and desire to engage in fun activities however they were delivered.

We started off in January, in lockdown and on zoom. We had a joint meeting with Kits where we had fun with magician and entertainer 'Skittleman', as he made us laugh and taught us some tricks; and we completed our Faith badge by going on a virtual visit to a mosque.

February started with a meeting themed around Poo, always a topic that grabs the attention of young minds; and a meeting celebrating Chinese New Year. We had a half term challenge spelling Beavers Fun in photographs for our Photography badge. We made mug cakes together and noted that cooking with Beavers virtually had the distinct advantage of no washing up!



In March we made Welsh Rarebit and daffodil book marks for St David's day, and completed our Digital Maker badge. This was a good example of a badge we'd never worked on in normal meetings and how working virtually stretched us to try new things and learn new skills.



Summer term brought us back face to face. Outside, in masks, socially distanced. We had to establish new rules for being together, and re-establish our Beaver routines.

We planted sunflower seeds with both yellow and red flowers as the start of our sunflower growing challenge. We had a night themed around flight, with a competition to see whose paper aeroplane could fly the furthest.



In May we joined in JOTT earning ourselves a Hikes badge, and spent a meeting learning about 'bugs' and how important they are to the world before building a bug hotel for our gardens (sorry parents! J). We had a fun night playing games with bubbles and seeing how large a bubble we could make together as a team.



We also started our Disability Awareness badge and learnt to sign the Beaver Promise. We played games that made us think about what it would be like to have different disabilities. Then we went back on zoom where we met Megan, a young Cub leader who had a serious accident in her teens, that resulted in severe brain damage that affected her vision, hearing, balance and left her susceptible to fits. Megan introduced us to her dogs, particularly Rowley, her trained guide, assistance and medical alert dog, who had given her the ability to lead an independent life.

June and July saw us in Happy Valley bug collecting, pond dipping and enjoying the great outdoors. We spent some time introducing some key scouting skills, such as fire lighting with flint & steel and pioneering. Akela Fir Pack came and ran sessions on the traversing wall for us which we all really enjoyed. We completed an orienteering challenge around Bramhall Park in our lodges.



The Autumn term brought us back to a version of normal! We started the term with a focus on friendship and teamwork as we welcomed new Beavers. We had a fun night themed on Construction as we built indoor dens and got out our large box of Lego.



October brought the highlight of the year with our sleepover at Abney. Fun activities and games on our one night sleepover, run back to back with Kits, with a chaotic daytime overlap with both colonies! Great fun was had by all as we put up tents, took part in archery, made sail boats and dissected owl pellets. We played wide games in the dark and enjoyed a traditional campfire. Scouting at its absolute best!



We continued in October with our International badge, learning about our Beaver equivalents in France and then having a night on Japan run by some of our younger leaders in the Group who were fortunate to be able to visit Japan with the Explorer unit in 2018.



November started with our Halloween party, fun and sweet filled games, only a day late! We made poppies for Remembrance Day and then spent two meetings completing the new Beaver Money Skills activity badge. It is always fun doing a completely new badge and the Beavers enjoyed the challenge of shopping for ingredients to make a meal for their lodge, even if the shop keeper was a bit grumpy! But the best challenge was the saving challenge where the Beavers learnt the concept of forgoing something now to earn a bigger reward in the future with Maltesers and a Curly Wurly!



December saw the Beaver year brought to a close with the traditional Christmas themed activities and our joint Christmas party with Kits.

I always summarise the year in stats to demonstrate the achievements of our young people. We awarded 260 badges in 2021 including a massive 13 Chief Scout Bronze awards, 70 Challenge badges and 162 Activity badges across 19 different badge types. 2021 was definitely an incredible year.

I must end as always by thanking all the team who make Beavers possible. It really is a team effort. 2021 saw a great deal of change within the Leadership team. We sadly said goodbye to Ariel; and our regular parent helpers Nemo and Jill, as their Beavers moved up to Cubs; but we welcomed Silva as Section Assistant, Skater and Keego as Assistant Beaver Leaders and at the start of 2022, Tigger. Thank you all for your support and all the different skills and interests that you bring.

Thank you to our Young Leaders who continue to provide a valuable source of help, Sprinter has supported us for nearly 3 years now and was joined in 2021 by Coffee and Edge.

Thank you to all of our parents who supported the Beavers so well during our zoom sessions and are on standby for those meetings where we need a bit of additional adult help. Thank you to the Exec who work behind the scenes ensuring the sections have whatever they need to deliver our programmes, and particularly to Richard Baker for being our Treasurer and my go to person for everything! And to the other leaders in the Group who help and support us, but especially to Teddy, BSL for Kits who we work so closely with, and Akela Fir Pack who stepped in frequently though the year to bridge leader gaps, thank you all for your continued support.

But the biggest thank you of all goes to the Beavers, their desire to try new things and have fun is what makes this role so enjoyable. I look forward to 2022 building on the successes of 2021 and furthering their sense of adventure and scouting skills whilst making memories together.

Amanda Hudghton – Beaver Scout Leader (BSL): Colts Beavers

Kits Beaver Colony - 2021

2021 started on Zoom with various online craft and cooking events and a virtual visit from the magician Skittleman! We met the wonderful volunteers from The Macclesfield Crisp Packet Charity, who turn empty crisp packets into sleeping bags for the homeless. Kits Beavers rose to the challenge of collecting their empties as part of the Community Impact badge. We initially set ourselves a target of 200 packets but smashed this by going on to collect over 1000 packets which when cleaned, collected and delivered made over 25 sleeping bags!



By April we were meeting face to face albeit outside, and with the weekly 'Leader Sun-dance' to keep the rain at bay, we enjoyed being back with our friends, playing games as a group and focusing on nature by learning about birds, trees, leaves and bees. We went on a nature trail through Benja Fold matching leaves with trees and observing mini beasts. We made bird masks and planted bee friendly shrubs and flowers as part of our gardening badge.



We said goodbye to some of our older Beavers who moved on to Cubs and welcomed some new Beavers in the September term.

The summer came and went and by Autumn term we saw an ease in covid restrictions which allowed us to not only meet inside, but plan a Beaver camp! At one of our favourite venues, Abney Park in Cheadle, Beavers took part in an overnight event where they learned traditional scouting activities including, orienteering, archery, den building, a campfire and hiking. They received their official camp blanket and overnight badge and played wide games at dusk in their head torches.



Our meetings indoors allowed us to celebrate the writings of Roald Dahl and meet the Community fund raisers from St Ann's Hospice, who shared some songs written specially to celebrate the Hospice's 50th year. The Beavers came up with the idea of turning a forthcoming walk into a sponsored event for the Hospice and raised over £300.

As part of the Navigation badge, we learned about maps and took a tour of Bramhall village centre, which included a stop to invest our newest Beavers.

With Remembrance Day events allowed to go ahead, the Beavers learned about the local heroes whose names are displayed on the Cenotaph and they decorated pebbles which were proudly displayed ahead of Remembrance Sunday parade.



We completed the year with a trip to the Cinema to see a preview of the CBBC panto, and enjoyed a joint Christmas party with our friends in Colts Beavers, with pizza and a virtual visit from Santa.



2021 has been a difficult and unpredictable year both from a planning and organisational perspective. However, the resilience of the Beavers, Leaders and wider 1st Bramhall Community has been evident throughout. Rising to the challenge of turning up week after week and having as much fun as possible.

Despite the restrictions, Kits Beavers remain at 21 and we awarded over 100 badges (including 3 Chief Scout Bronze Awards.) We start 2022 with a renewed vigour, 3 new leaders and an exciting programme.

My thanks to the Kits parents (past and present) Pogo, Rikki and Harrier who remain my constant support, and Suds for being my 'WhatsApp' buddy and sounding board.

Teddy

Kate Vincent

Beaver Scout Leader 1st Bramhall Kits Beavers

Fir Cub Pack - 2021

2021 turned out to be an amazing year for Fir Pack Cubs. After COVID lockdowns it turned around for Fir Pack and we got quickly back into scouting with the cubs adjusting really well.

2021 saw our team change. We started with Akela, Sheer Khan, Rocky and Skip and by the end of 2021 we said goodbye to Dan (Sheer Khan) who is taking a break and Owen (Rocky) who is now one of the Scout team. We have said hello and welcome to our new team. So I would like to welcome Chris (Kinder), Mikaela and Adam (Little Beaver and Kwasim) and Angela (Baloo). We also have two Explorer helpers in the team: Jacob (Coffee) and Alex (Shaw Shaw)

In March we were in the final stretch of lockdown and we did a Sixer challenge. The sixers had to cook with their group over Zoom and create recipes and send photos in for Skip to judge. It was really good fun for the cubs and Banana bread was the winner



2021 started out with a fun packed camp at home, in which Cubs slept in dens in their homes and then we were allowed our first face-to-face meetings. We did archery and rocket building in Benja Fold field. We did photography as a base and the Cubs and families did a hike around Bramhall. We did a Sunday barbecue at the Bramley Centre and a bike ride for both the bubbles. (For Covid, we split the pack into two bubbles). The weather for that weekend was snow, rain, sleet and some sunshine...proper camping weather!



April was a busy month learning about disability and showing the Cubs that you can paint with your mouth and feet - not just hands. It was great fun making a sandwich with one hand, then finally being blindfolded and guiding each other around a course. We then had a visit to Walthew House in Stockport to complete the final badge requirements;. We learned some sign language and heard from a local gentleman, Kenneth, who talked to the Cubs about life being visually impaired.



July saw the return of some normality. We held the annual bike ride down Middlewood Way and of course ice cream from the local ice cream shop.



In September we were back to camping and our first trip to Ashworth Valley was great. Cubs had a good time and did some lovely activities. We covered climbing, crate stacking and did a blindfold trail in the woods and obviously cooked marshmallows! We made boats and raced them in the river. We even found time to fit in a hike to wear them out. You couldn't go on camp without a campfire and songs.



September was a busy time. We managed to go on our water sports trip to Sale Waterpark, that had been postponed due to Covid. All the cubs jumped in the kayaks and spent a lovely evening having a great time.



In November, Fir Pack were back for an indoor camp in the Bramley Centre to mark Remembrance Day weekend. After our hike from Poynton to Lyme Park it was back to Bramhall for baking, cooking and making a poppy wreath. And then it was the parade and the Cubs were a credit to the Scout Group, and themselves.



In February 2022 we got to go and celebrate Chinese New Year with Rainbow 88 and the lovely Linda and her team. In 2021 we had promised Linda we would not be on Zoom but back in person so we took everyone to celebrate and join in the festivities. We ate and learned so much about Chinese New Year and the Cubs had a lovely evening.



Our pack now has 27 cubs. As you are all aware, we will be asking for help on some evenings so if anyone is able to volunteer it would be gratefully appreciated– thank you. We had an amazing 2021 - here's to a fantastic 2022.

Akela (Caroline Noone)

Pine Cub Pack – 2021



The return of Cubs as normal

2021 was the year that started to feel a bit more normal. We spent the first term almost exclusively online but then spent the whole summer term outdoors and then in the autumn term managed our first camp for two years – happy days.

The cubs were brilliant about getting back to normal activities and meeting up again. Our first real night together was an evening hike over to Poynton. It was probably the noisiest night I can remember – the clear joy of being back together with everyone just bubbled over.



It was so great to have everyone back together – the sign says it all

Here yellow six are showing off some of their T shirts they decorated on camp

Watersports weekend

With the various lockdowns we weren't able to organise a camp in the summer but decided to have a watersports weekend instead and took the cubs kayaking and raft building. We all had an absolute blast, got very wet, had pondweed fights, ate burgers but still managed (mostly) to build a working raft



Some of the rafts worked really well...

...some didn't!

Camp

In the autumn we went up to Linnet Clough for our first camp in two years. I think we all were a little nervous after such a long time but we soon remembered why camping is the best bit about cubs



Breakfast chefs



The climbing tower and the cave bus were highlights of camp this year





A huge thank you to all the parents who came and helped on camp – although a surprising number did seem to fall over and need first aid from the Cubs whilst on our incident journey!



Long evenings on camp - it doesn't get better than this

Other things

As usual, Tuesday evenings revolved around a wide variety of activities. Many were outside and an improbable number seemed to end up at the chip shop – funny how all treasure hunts seem to lead to the same place.

We covered loads of badge work including the scientist, first aid and money badges. Seven of our Cubs were awarded with their Silver Chief Scouts Awards, the highest award a Cub can achieve. Not a bad rate given the challenges they had faced for most of their time in Cubs



JOTT in May was a bit damp but that was not going to stop us getting out

Cycling on the Middlewood way is a perennial favourite



The inevitable chips to end a treasure hunt



Remembrance Parade



Mini egg blondies for Easter – our last lockdown activity

And finally

The pack remains full with around 32 Cubs at any one time. We were really sorry to say goodbye to so many great Cubs who moved up to Scouts but we know they will have a fabulous time in the troop.

We also welcomed loads of new Cubs who have moved up from Beavers and who have settled in really quickly.



Investing new Cubs by the camp fire and saying good bye to others as they go over the gateway to Scouts



We were also delighted that at the end of the year we welcomed two new leaders, Martin and Glyn. It's great to have such a great team of leaders and none of the activities we get up to would be possible without them.

This year I did want to say a huge thank you to all the parents however. They have been great at encouraging their youngsters back to Cubs, some of whom were pretty nervous. They have also been crucial, getting involved themselves in the watersports weekend and camp, and helping on Tuesday evenings. We really appreciate this.



Richard Edmondson – Akela

Scout Troop Section Report 2021

The year 2021 will be remembered for how our Scouts bounced back after the pandemic. Throughout 2020 and the start of 2021 the resilience of the Scouts and Leaders to keep scouting going, to not give up, and to actually thrive, is testament to the character of the young people and leaders in 1st Bramhall.

Scouting has traditionally been about getting outside and so, to enthusiastically join in Zoom meetings and create fun challenges week in, week out, showed the adaptability, creativity and commitment of our leaders, young leaders and Scouts.

Over Zoom we had a virtual winter expedition camp. The Scouts did everything they would normally do on our Ennerdale camp: planned hikes, planned the food, cooked, hiked, played games. It wasn't the same as being away together, but the Scouts were incredibly enthusiastic and really enjoyed themselves.

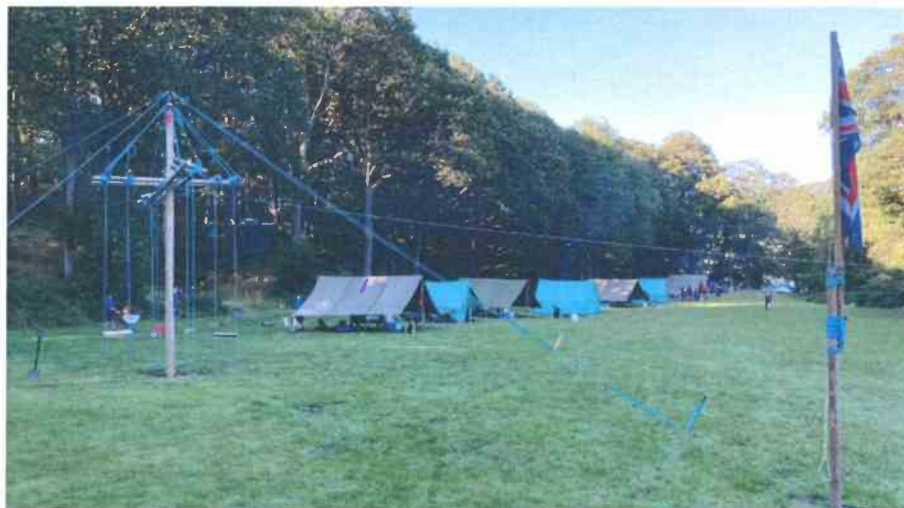
We continued Zooming through February and March and raised £1,485 for The Samaritans by walking 10,000 steps a day, every day in March. Many of our Scouts and leaders completed the challenge.

At the end of March, The Scout Association allowed face-to-face meetings to return, but with some restrictions. Initially we could only have 15 Scouts outside, which created a challenge for us with so many Scouts, but we managed to stagger meetings and soon we were allowed full numbers, indoors and outdoors. We still weren't allowed to camp.

We were not able to have a Summer Camp in 2020. We can take for granted the skills that Scouts pick up on the various camps throughout the year. Our Scouts had missed so much and so we dedicated most of the meetings from April till July to learning camping skills such as fire lighting, cooking on open fires, pitching tents, campsite layout, working as a patrol, axe, knife and saw safety, and much more.

We were planning the 2021 Summer Camp even though the restrictions were still in place, optimistic that they would change in time. The law changed just 3 weeks before camp so we responded by quickly creating a practice overnight camp at Linnet Clough campsite in Mellor. The Scouts were amazing and the Patrol Leaders (PL's) showed incredible leadership, especially as they hadn't done much camping themselves or had experience of leading a patrol.

So after a camping break of around 18 months we finally got to Windermere for our 2021 Summer Camp.



We were so happy to camp again; cook, sail, kayak, pioneer, hike, paddleboard, play games, have camp fires, sing and have fun. We all went Canyoning (like Ghyll Scrambling but downhill):-



The scouts were so hardworking, capable and helpful. Special mention must go to the PL's; Phoebe, Poppy, Aidan, Ollie and Ameen. They took on the Summer Camp with great enthusiasm and maturity. We had many scouts for whom this was their first camp so to lead an inexperienced patrol with little experience of their own was a real challenge. Our Patrol leaders really stepped up and made the camp one of the best Summer Camps ever!







September we were back to full on scouting, albeit with masks, social distancing and hand sanitisers. We enjoyed team building, program planning, skills challenges and loads more.

We had an Autumn Walking Weekend in Dufton, Cumbria where the Scouts took on High Cup Nick, the Grand Canyon of the North West.



While 2021 was a challenging year it showed how resilient and enthusiastic our Scouts are and we look forward with great excitement to 2022 with a full program and loads of camping.

We were delighted that the following Scouts achieved the **Chief Scout's Gold Award** in 2021*, the highest award a Scout can achieve.

James Moore
 Harry Bickerton
 Lucy Vine
 Joshua Staley
 Josh Betts
 James Bradley
 Luke Vincent
 Hollie Vincent
 Jacob McMunn
 Nathan Bowman
 Alfie Weatherall

*some Scouts achieved the award in late 2020

A Scout Troop of our size takes a huge amount of organisation and a massive thank you must go to all the Leaders and Young Leaders who give their time so enthusiastically.

Scout Leader	Peter Boxall	Whittle
Assistant Scout Leaders	Pauline Wardrop Geoff Twiss Fleur Boxall Matthew Danby Holly Boxall Chris Bowen Molly Henshaw Nigel Prydderch Anna Gill Sam Rogers Jessica Watson	Flipper Coxswain Kite Danby Paddle Kinder Sprinter Mowgli Tigger Rudder
GSL with us most Fridays	Andrew Corrie	Skip
Occasional helper	Bethan Tandy	
Young Leaders	Mae Boxall Jess Lightowler Henry Carolan Josh Garvey Hollie Vincent Josh Betts	
Special Projects Team	Ric Buckley Richard Baker Paul Rawcliffe	Rohan Cash Rama
Treasurer	Ian Castledine	

Peter Boxall – “Whittle” – Scout Troop Section Leader

The XBU Explorer Section - 2021

Our Explorer section had such a different year like everyone else. We tried to have Face to Face meetings whenever we could, whatever the weather, as we felt it was 100% important our Explorer section got together, even if it was under socially distant guidelines. And when we couldn't, we did what we could on Zoom. To be honest, it took a while to get our MOJO on Zoom, especially with 14 to 18 year olds, but we managed to complete a wide range of digital activities, some daft, some creative, some online games, Quizzes, escape rooms, and even online Bingo. Our programme is always targeting communication, leadership, listening skills, negotiation, and practical life skills: all aimed at helping with the Explorers' own development, while maintaining the advised scouting Development Zones of **Beliefs and Attitudes, Community, Fitness, Creative, Global & Outdoor and Adventure**. Since May 2021, we did 100% outdoor activities and made the most of the fresh, but often wet and cool, air. Our Explorers need to be commended on continuing to attend despite some really cold and miserable conditions.

As we progressed through 2021 we started to do some much more traditional stuff. We completed a 29Km challenge hike in 8 hours from Crowden to Hayfield on a glorious June day,



Part of our challenge hike in June

We did an absolutely needed summer camp in Cornwall albeit with some pretty difficult COVID challenges and the most amazing help from 1st Bramhall leaders in helping ensure the camp could go ahead.



Beach BBQ at Chapel Porth, Cornwall

We invested 15 new Explorers in a cave on Chapel Porth beach, Our Cliff top night hike under a full moon was amazing, despite stumbling into a creepy midnight druid ceremony at a disused mine shaft. We managed to do loads of activities including water sports at Newquay and go-carting in blistering heat, as well as sampling as many pasties that we could get away with.



Paddle Boarding on a lovely warm day at Newquay

.My over arching memory was how, when we came into view of our first beach, the bus went quiet and you could hear the gasps from the Explorers at the most amazing views we were seeing.



Our first day on the beach at Porthtowan, Cornwall

We also did an “over 18’s” Summer camp in Anglesey for those that missed their last summer camp due to COVID. We did the same type of stuff we always do but with the sensibly managed facility of having the odd pint in a pub.



Evening BBQ & Beach games on the Anglesey summer camp

In October we managed to run a weekend Camp in Sandiway with the overall theme of Campcraft, Games and a navigation-based challenge hike, where we drop the Explorers in the middle of nowhere and make them find our campsite.

In November we also climbed to the summit of Great Gable in the Lakes to be part of the annual Remembrance Day Service. This is such a poignant way to mark the occasion.



Lunch at the top of great Gable

We are proud to be able to provide a significant amount of volunteer help for the other sections, which continues to ensure a positive representation of the Explorer section within all the 1st Bramhall sections, showing Beavers, Cubs and Scouts where their scouting adventure can lead them.

DofE also provides an excellent basis for the programme where there is a heavy mix of "Out and about" activities involving navigation, survival, cooking and communication skills. DofE, without doubt, provides young people with the tools to tackle the challenges of their future lives and because it is led by the individual, it shows high levels of personal commitment which breathes life into any CV. This year, 5 Explorers attained Bronze, and 12 have signed up for Silver going forward.

One last thing is to thank all the leaders and support people at 1st Bramhall, because without their help and support, we would not have been able to run every camp last year. This is because at each camp at least one leader was incapacitated due to COVID. Albeit with a last minute panic, we always managed to ensure the camp could run with the help of someone.

Paul Winterburn – "Pedal" – Explorer Scout Leader

Financial Review

Despite the continuing impact of Coronavirus, the finances of the Group remain sound. We received a £9,669 grant from the local authority to mitigate the impact of the restrictions. The major financial impact was on Hirings income as the Bramley Centre had to close for part of the year. Consequently, Hirings income was £7,500 lower than in 2019, but £2,400 higher than in 2020, as our hirers returned with the lifting of restrictions.

Subscription income in the year fell by £2,300 (9%) as a result of lower numbers of young people. Although the Group numbers in the year fell by an average of 16, 7 of those moved to the Explorer unit, whose subs are not included in the Group figures. This fall in income was partially offset by an increase in Gift Aid income (£1,700) following an exercise to maximise the number of Gift Aid declarations.

The closure of our Headquarters building gave us the opportunity to undertake further refurbishment. Following the previous year's work on the Main Hall Floor, and the redecoration of the Entrance Hall and Accessible Toilet, it was the turn of the Main Hall and Small Hall to be redecorated. Also, the lighting was improved in the Small Hall and Garage. In addition, heavy duty vinyl floor tiles were installed in the Garage to create an additional activity area and a new staircase installed in the Stores. These latter two items were installed by our adult volunteers, on whom we depend so much. Finally, we replaced the Garage Fire Door and undertook various repairs and maintenance activities in the building.

In the year, we continued our programme of investment in Scouting activities by purchasing a variety of equipment. This included 6 stand-up paddle boards, 4 Stormhaven tents, 3 second hand Topper sailing dinghies with trailer, new archery equipment, plus a new canoe trailer for our new canoes which are expected in 2022. New equipment for camping included a gas powered fridge, a replacement gas Burco, a cool box and portable gas stoves. 4 new Altar Fires were designed and built by our Scout Leader.

As we moved out of the Covid restrictions, property expenditure increased to more "normal" levels – cleaning, utilities, rates, etc, and the demands on our minibuses also increased, leading to higher maintenance costs and insurance.

The annual operating deficit was £8,876, mainly as a result of the exceptional expenditure on the Bramley Centre and equipment, without which we would have achieved an operating surplus. Our cash reserves declined in the year by £2,104, but we still maintain a healthy cash position.

Future plans

Although we intend to continue our programme of improving our Bramley Centre headquarters and purchasing equipment to support the Scouting programme, the level of expenditure will not be as high as in recent years. However, we do intend to replace our canoes in 2022 and purchase a replacement minibus. Our finances will also be affected by the substantial increase in utility prices, with our Electricity fixed price agreement ending in 2022. Fortunately, our gas price is fixed until 2024.

2022 will see the Group expanding further with the introduction of a new Squirrels section for 4 to 6 year olds. This will increase our subscription income but will require some establishment expenditure.

The Development sub-committee is likely to reconvene in 2022 to continue the review of our activities and how we propose to deliver our scouting programmes in the future. This review, which

is ongoing, will consider the implications for volunteer numbers, financial resources and how we use the building.

Reserves Policy

The group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income fall short or large amounts of expenditure are required on, for example, repairs and maintenance on the Bramley Centre building or on transport. The Group transfers £3,000 annually from the General Unrestricted Fund into a Transport Reserve Fund in order to finance replacement minibuses. It is intended to replace a minibus every 3-5 years and the plan is to replace one in 2022. The Board of Trustees considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient.

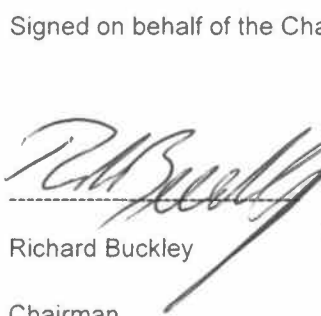
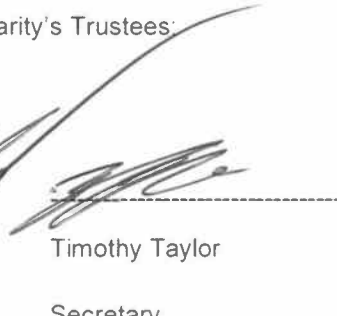
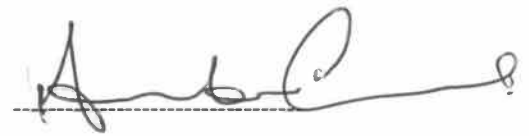
Investment Policy

The Group has adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its liquid funds which are held in cash using a mainstream bank. Longer term investments are split between a low-risk investment – a National Savings Investment Account and an Invesco Managed Fund.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:

 -----	 -----	 -----
Richard Buckley	Timothy Taylor	Andrew Corrie
Chairman	Secretary	Group Scout Leader
Date: 14/5/22	Date: 14/5/22	Date: 14/5/22

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 42 to 50

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gary Wood, FCCA
G.J. Wood & Co. Ltd.
Hub 11 Pepper House
Pepper Road
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP



14 May 2022

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Balance Sheet

31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	2	332,841	335,964
Investments	3	80,857	80,850
		<u>413,698</u>	<u>416,814</u>
Current Assets			
Bank and cash (Group)		46,469	48,039
Bank and cash (Sections)		1,989	2,524
Debtors		-	2,807
		<u>48,458</u>	<u>53,370</u>
Current Liabilities			
Other creditors		1,580	198
		<u>1,580</u>	<u>198</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>46,878</u>	<u>53,172</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>460,576</u>	<u>469,986</u>
Funds			
General Unrestricted Fund		336,852	349,262
Revaluation reserve		111,458	111,458
Transport Reserve Fund		12,266	9,266
		<u>460,576</u>	<u>469,986</u>

Approved on behalf of the Group Executive Committee on 14 MAY 2022

 Chair

 Treasurer

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2021

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting Receipts and Payments

The accounts for both the current and comparative years have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis as permitted under the Charities Act 2011.

Land and buildings

Land and buildings have been revalued by the trustees and are included in the accounts at their valuation, in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

b) Capital expenditure

Fixed assets are shown in the accounts at cost less accumulated depreciation, with the exception of land and buildings, which is shown at the Trustees valuation of £340,000.

The cost of equipment is written off in full during the year of acquisition. For insurance purposes, equipment is valued at £61,321.

c) Depreciation

Provision for depreciation is made at the following rates:

Buildings	0.5 % straight line
Garage	5% straight line
Minibus, trailers and boats	25% on a reducing balance basis

2 Tangible fixed assets

	Land & Building	Garage & toilets	Minibus, trailers & boats	Total
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2021	340,000	29,230	24,734	393,964
Additions	-	-	2,200	2,200
At 31 December 2021	<u>340,000</u>	<u>29,230</u>	<u>26,934</u>	<u>396,164</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2021	32,300	7,410	18,290	58,000
Depreciation for the year	1,700	1,462	2,161	5,323
	<u>34,000</u>	<u>8,872</u>	<u>20,451</u>	<u>63,323</u>
Net Book value 2021	<u>306,000</u>	<u>20,358</u>	<u>6,483</u>	<u>332,841</u>
Net Book value 2020	<u>307,700</u>	<u>21,820</u>	<u>6,444</u>	<u>335,964</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2021

3 Investments	2021	2020
	£	£
National Savings Investment Account	61,699	61,692
Invesco Managed Growth	19,158	19,158
	<u>80,857</u>	<u>80,850</u>

The market value of the Invesco Managed Growth Fund at 31 December 2021 was £24,696 (2020 £21,583).

4 Funds

The Group Executive approved a transfer of of £3,000 from the General Unrestricted Fund to a general designated fund, the Transport Reserve Fund. This fund has been set up to provide for future vehicle replacement costs.

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Beaver Colony Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Subscriptions from group	1,058	569
Pantomime	332	-
Camps	750	-
Sundry income	25	-
	<u>2,165</u>	<u>569</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	603	529
Uniforms	11	-
Badges/trophies	163	-
Camps	528	40
Equipment and consumables	25	-
Pantomime	515	405
	<u>1,845</u>	<u>974</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	320	(405)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2021	2	407
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2021	<u>322</u>	<u>2</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Pine Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Camps	1,015	570
Subscriptions from group	500	500
	<u>1,515</u>	<u>1,070</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	221	189
Badges and trophies	144	35
Camps	1,448	224
Equipment and consumables	-	59
	<u>1,813</u>	<u>507</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	(298)	563
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2021	862	299
	<u>564</u>	<u>862</u>
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2021		

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Fir Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Camps	350	271
Activities	120	-
Subscriptions from group	1,530	727
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>998</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	1,584	556
Camps	456	554
	<u>2,040</u>	<u>1,110</u>
Net outgoing resources	(40)	(112)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2021	94	206
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2021	<u>54</u>	<u>94</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Scout Troop Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Camps	8,548	2,165
Subscriptions from group	(112)	-
	<u>8,436</u>	<u>2,165</u>
 Resources expended		
Activities	1,188	-
Camps	7,572	1,799
Equipment and consumables	57	31
Uniforms	39	-
Bank charges	96	60
	<u>8,952</u>	<u>1,890</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	(516)	275
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2021	1,565	1,290
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2021	<u>1,049</u>	<u>1,565</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group**Group Statement of Financial Activities**

31 December 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Incoming resources		
Gift Aid	6,551	4,843
Letting income	10,481	8,023
Other income	3,379	1,854
Subscriptions	22,626	24,949
Covid-19 grant	9,669	10,000
	<u>52,706</u>	<u>49,669</u>
Investment income and interest		
Bank deposit interest	11	44
Invesco Perpetual income	-	905
Interest receivable	-	393
Surplus on Sale of Invesco	-	13,198
	<u>11</u>	<u>14,540</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>52,717</u>	<u>64,209</u>
Resources expended		
Property costs		
Building maintenance	14,342	7,384
Cleaning	5,294	3,578
Electricity	1,526	1,378
Gas	630	550
General rates	214	123
Internet and telephone	281	325
Water rates	249	246
	<u>22,536</u>	<u>13,584</u>
Group Scout costs		
Camp	195	70
Capitation fee	6,280	7,263
Group Scout Activities	133	-
OSM costs	111	111
Other expenses	296	33
Payments to sections	2,976	1,795
Training	540	50
Uniform and badges	1,922	215
	<u>12,453</u>	<u>9,537</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Group Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other resources expended		
Examiner's fee	120	120
Bank charges	193	120
Depreciation	5,322	5,309
Equipment	7,110	323
Insurance	6,154	4,827
Other expenses	292	253
Postage	-	8
Printing, stationery and sundry	41	1
Vehicle and transport costs	7,372	2,876
	<u>26,604</u>	<u>13,837</u>
Total resources expended	<u>61,593</u>	<u>36,958</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	(8,876)	27,251
Funds at 1 January 2021	356,005	328,754
Funds at 31 December 2021	<u>347,129</u>	<u>356,005</u>

1ST BRAMHALL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1019814

Accounts

Registered charity number 1019814



1st Bramhall Scout Group

Report and Accounts

31 December 2020

1st Bramhall Scout Group
Trust Information and Administration Details
For the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

Charity Name 1st Bramhall Scout Group
Principal Address The Bramley Centre, Bramley Close
Bramhall, Stockport SK7 2DT
Charity Number 1019814
Group Registration Number 4861
Scout District Ladybrook Valley
Scout County Greater Manchester East

<u>Trustees</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Dates acted if not for whole year</u>
Julie Bottomley	President	From 2 March 2020
Doreen Wyld	President	Until 2 March 2020
Sir Peter Fahy	Vice President	
Sarah Heath	Group Chair	Until 28 February 2020
Richard Buckley	Group Chair	From 14 March 2020
Tim Taylor	Group Secretary	
Richard Baker	Group Treasurer	
Andrew Corrie	Group Scout Leader	
Barry Aitken	Assistant Group Scout Leader	
Vanessa Gahagan	Communications Manager	Until 18 September 2020

Accountants:

GJ Wood and Co.
Hub 11
Pepper House Business Centre
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP

Bankers:

Royal Bank of Scotland
1 Redheughs Ave
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Ave
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

1st Bramhall Scout Group. – Trustees Annual Report

Structure, Governance and Management

Introduction

2020 was one of the most difficult years in the history of 1st Bramhall Scout Group, due to the restrictions imposed by the coronavirus pandemic. The Group responded by changing the methods of delivering scouting. The detail of how the Young People were kept engaged is described in the Group Scout Leaders Report and the Section Reports.

Tracing its origins back to 1909, only two years after the founding of the Scout Movement, we are one of the oldest Scout Groups in the country. The Group is part of the Ladybrook Valley Scout District, which itself is part of Greater Manchester East Scout County. The Group is registered with The Scout Association under Registration Number 4861 and is established as a Trust under its rules which are common to all Scout Groups. The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association (POR).

The Group Management

The restructuring of the management of the Group in 2019 created a Board of Trustees and two sub-committees to manage the non-Section related activities of the Group. The structure complies with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Collectively, the members of the Board of Trustees act as "Charity Trustees" of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Board of Trustees consists of:

- "Ex-Officio" Members, appointed by virtue of their role. These are the Group Chairman, Group Secretary, Group Treasurer, Group Scout Leader (GSL) and Assistant Group Scout Leader (AGSL).
- The President and Vice-President who are nominated by the Group Scout Leader and have specific roles (Head of Risk and Development)
- Chairs of the two sub-committees.

The two sub-committees are:

- Operations. This sub-committee is responsible for the Group's physical assets and so manages the Building, Equipment, Transport and Trailers, together with Hirings, Finance and Insurance.
- Scout Active Support Unit. This sub-committee is responsible for engaging with parents and external parties as well as organising Group Events and Fund raising. The aim is to have more parents involved in the Group, so that the Group can be more successful in achieving its aims.

The members of the Operations sub-committee are David Staley – Hirings, Graeme Weatherall - Fire Safety, Paul Rawcliffe – Communications and Website, Julie Bottomley – Health & Safety, Buildings and Hiring, David Reynolds – committee member, Martin Jennings – Transport, Tim Taylor – secretary and Richard Baker – Finance, Buildings and Chair of Operations sub-committee.

The Group thanks them all for their hard work during a difficult year. Due to covid, the Scout Active Support Unit did not meet during 2020.

The two committees exist to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting his administrative responsibilities, leaving the Leaders to plan activities and run the Section Programmes. Whilst the sub-committees undertake the administrative duties in accordance with formal Terms of Reference, the Board of Trustees remains responsible for:

- The protection and maintenance of Group property and equipment;
- The raising of funds, the setting of subscription rates and the administration and management of the Group's finances;
- Approving the Annual Report and Accounts and presenting it to the Scout Council at the Annual General Meeting;
- The payment of Capitation Fee to District and County;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Developing local scouting and promoting a positive local image of scouting;
- Ensuring that safety and safeguarding procedures are implemented and operating effectively;
- Organising Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisers other than those who are elected.

Risks and Internal Control

The Board of Trustees has identified the following major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed. These have been reviewed and systems established to mitigate them.

Coronavirus. Scouting is fundamentally a face-to-face activity and by changing to online meetings due to the coronavirus restrictions risks losing Young People as members. This would affect the achievement of the group's aims in bringing scouting to as many young people as possible and also the Group's finances. The Group's response during 2020 was to continue to have weekly meetings in line with restrictions imposed by the Government and Scout Association. This mainly involved online meetings. This succeeded in keeping the vast majority of the Young People engaged and minimised the numbers leaving. From a Finance perspective, strict cost control, coupled with applications for grants and other income sources has enabled the financial risk to be mitigated.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. Through payment of the Capitation Fee to the District and County, the Group contributes to The Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk assessments are prepared for all activities and communicated to all adults taking part. Training and the correct qualifications are integral to our safety management process. There are nominated trained First Aiders on all activities. The Group has a Safety Adviser and a Fire Safety Officer who undertakes Fire Safety Assessments, provides Fire Training to Adult Volunteers and Hirers and conducts practice evacuations. The Operations sub-committee reviews and updates the Buildings Risk Assessment. All adult leaders and volunteers in the Group are required to complete the appropriate safety and activity training courses, including the Scout Association Ongoing Safety Course and are expected to be familiar with the Purple Card 'Safe Scouting: A Code of Conduct' and to understand that Safety is a joint responsibility of all adults in the group, irrespective of their role.

Safeguarding. Keeping young people safe is the paramount responsibility for all adults in Scouting. The AGSL, together with the District Appointments Advisory Committee, ensures that adults are checked through the DBS and the Scout Association's systems before appointment, and that renewal takes place prior to expiry. All adults in the Group are required to complete the Scout Association Safeguarding Awareness Course. The Yellow Card which contains essential information on safeguarding is given to all adults. The GSL is the appointed officer responsible for safeguarding issues to whom all safeguarding concerns should be addressed. Young people are encouraged to raise any concerns affecting them or another member of the Group with a trusted adult and/or with their own parents.

Leader Competence. In order to underpin safe quality Scouting for young people, it is very important that all adults holding Scout appointments receive training that is appropriate to their roles. Undergoing training within a stated period is a requirement of all appointments. The Scout Association's module-based training scheme for adult volunteers is managed at County level in Greater Manchester East Scout County. In the District a nominated Assistant District Commissioner working with line managers and the Appointments Advisory Committee support and assist adults to fulfil their training commitment within the time allowed. The AGSL works with the District personnel to ensure that all training is up to date. Furthermore, as all appointments are for a limited period, a system is in place for reviewing appointments and identifying any further training needs.

Damage to buildings, property and equipment. The Group has sufficient insurance cover in place with Unity Insurance for the buildings, contents, public liability, vehicles, trailers, canoes, boats and equipment. Appropriate training is given to all users. Certain items of equipment have been identified for regular checking, testing or maintenance.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section, or the group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group. A similar risk exists from a reduction or loss of young people.

Reduced income. The Group is reliant upon income from both subscriptions and the hiring of the Bramley Centre to third party organisations. Hiring income could fall due to reduced demand or due to reduced availability as a result of more section activities.

The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Board of Trustees has the option to increase subscriptions and/or increase income from fund-raising activities.

General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR). The Group is fully aware of its responsibilities and obligations under GDPR and uses the system for electronic storage and communication managed by Greater Manchester East Scout County. This system ensures that all Personal Data and Scouting Data is held on County servers rather than on personal computers. New procedures on the paper storage of information have also been introduced. GDPR training has been undertaken by all persons with data handling responsibilities. The Assistant Group Scout Leader and Communications Manager advise the Trustees and Leadership team on GDPR issues with responsibility resting with the Board of Trustees.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the group are as a unit of The Scout Association. The aim of The Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more. Each week, we give young people in our local area the opportunity to enjoy fun and adventure while developing the skills they need to succeed.

The Scouting Programme is provided to young people between the ages of 6 and 25. The Beaver Section covers the ages from 6 to 8, Cubs cover 8 to 10½, Scouts cover 10½ to 14. 14 to 18 year olds are in the Explorer Unit which is administered by the District. 18 to 25 year olds are in the Scout Network section which is administered by the County.

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under the advancement of education heading.

CHAIR'S REPORT

A few well-crafted lines from the Group Chair would ordinarily talk about Governance, Safeguarding, and the Group's strategic outlook, and whilst I'm pleased to report that the Group's governance continues to be actively overseen by the Executive Committee, that we've had no safeguarding issues, and that the Group's long-term strategic outlook remains sound—it is clear that this has been no usual year for 1st Bramhall.

The Group, as with the rest of the country and indeed the world, has had to adapt and respond to the pandemic—and I'm proud that 1st Bramhall did just that, with meetings switching to online almost without missing a beat.

I must pay tribute to all the Leaders and Adult Volunteers who have kept the Scouting programme alive for our young people whilst also coping with their own personal circumstances during those long weeks of lockdown. Thanks go as well to the Parents and Carers for getting our Young People onto the calls / links after spending endless hours online themselves.

Hopefully, we really are at the beginning of the end now. I was in our Equipment Stores recently as we start to get equipment ready for section meetings and (hopefully) camps, and the smell of canvas and camping reminded me of the great experiences our Young People get during their time with us.

With the building empty for long periods of time during lockdown (possibly for the first time in its history), we were able to invest in the space, ready to return to face-to-face meetings. The opportunity has allowed us to redecorate both halls and the entrance area, and to prepare the garage for dual use as a well-ventilated indoor-activity area as well as somewhere to park the minibuses!

Finally, a personal thank you from me, on behalf of all our Young People to our Leaders, without whose time and energy there would simply be no Scouting at 1st Bramhall.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Family Camp in September.

Stay Safe

Best Regards

Richard 'Ric' Buckley

Group Chair

GROUP SCOUT LEADERS REPORT

Little did any of us think that at the start of lockdown last March, twelve months later we would still be delivering Scouting very differently from what we were all used to. We know that the last year has been tough. It hasn't been Scouting in the way we wanted it to be, but we've done such a lot in Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers since March 2020 as you'll see as you read the Section reports. Badges and awards have continued to be earned, and as always, Beavers have moved up to Cubs, Cubs to Scouts, and Scouts to Explorers. We are really proud of everyone in 1st Bramhall: our young people who have kept smiling and done their best, and our Leaders who have just been second to none in their dedication, ingenuity, and determination to keep Scouting. There have been some amazing activities and events in every Section as we brought Scouting to the kitchen table week in, week out. We have appreciated all the additional help and support from parents, and we will build on this as it will continue to be essential as we move back to face-to-face Scouting. Lockdown wasn't enough to dampen the spirits of some of our intrepid Cubs, who challenged themselves to climb the height of Mount Everest over a 48-hour period. All together they climbed a whopping 8907 metres, (59 metres higher than Everest). They got into the spirit of things by dressing up like mountaineers and they also camped in the garden to replicate base camp – just like mountaineers preparing for their climb. CBBC Newsround and Radio 5 covered the story.

Scouts appeared on TV on two separate BBC news stories - Austin for camping out in his back garden for over 100 nights, and Ross was interviewed about mental wellbeing for BBC Newsround. Kits Beavers and their friends saved 1,500 used crisp bags for recycling and took them to Macclesfield Crisp blankets where they were made into emergency blankets (gaining their Community Impact badge along the way).

Before Christmas the Scouts prepared 29 food hampers in support of Age UK's appeal, and in March they raised £1520 in sponsorship for the Samaritans by walking 10,000 steps each day for the whole month.

Some of the Beavers were **great ambassadors** for 1st Bramhall when they held a Zoom call with Santa: they impressed him so much that he awarded them and the whole of 1st Bramhall Scout Group, the **Official North Pole Certificate**: "*Awarded for outstanding kindness and behaviour*". As if that wasn't enough, this award secured their place on Santa's **Christmas Nice List 2020**.

This year, in the lead up to Remembrance Sunday, the sections remembered in various ways. Across the sections there were posters being coloured in, pebbles painted and homemade poppy crafting. On the Sunday the Scouts were encouraged to join in with the national 2-minute silence at 11am, at their home doorsteps in uniform. The Cubs had their posters up in their windows, and the pebbles had been laid at the cenotaph at different times leading up to Sunday. A Cub (Archie), a Scout (Poppy) and a Leader (Leela) laid the wreath on behalf of 1st Bramhall. The planters from HQ made by the Cubs had been refreshed and the homemade poppies planted and moved over to the War Memorial for the week.

Throughout the year much work was done on the Bramley Centre – not only to make it Covid-secure but also to improve its condition and appearance. A substantial investment was made to replace key equipment, and our new Communications Manager (Paul Rawcliffe aka "Rama") started much-needed work to improving, updating, and re-energizing our website as it becomes more of our shop window. Steve Vinten has taken on the role of Transport Manager, ensuring our minibuses and trailers are always "fit for purpose". My thanks to our Trustees and Operations Committee who work so tirelessly usually "behind the scenes" supporting all that we do.

Over the next few months our priorities will be to make up for lost time in programme opportunities across all Sections and to develop our Active Support Unit which will be needed if we are to continue to be at the forefront of Scouting

A truly extraordinary year none of which would have been possible without the incredible energy, commitment, dedication, and brilliance of our fantastic volunteer Leaders and Young Leaders – ably supported throughout the year in so many ways by willing (most of the time!) parents. Several of our Leaders and Supporters received thoroughly well-deserved awards from the Scout Association – Julie Bottomley (Trustee and Group President), Richard Baker (Trustee, Group Treasurer and Chair Operations Committee), Richard Edmondson (Akela Pine Pack), Amanda Hudghton (Suds, Colts Colony) and Peter Boxall (“Whittle”) were presented with the Award for Merit “in recognition of outstanding service to Scouting”. Peter (“Whittle”) & Fleur (“Kite”) also received a Commissioner’s Commendation from our District Commissioner (as did Austin – one of only a very few young people to receive this award in the District). Special congratulations to Dawn Aitken (“Rikki”) on the award of the Silver Acorn “for specially distinguished service to Scouting” over a period of more than thirty years. Long Service awards were presented to Caroline Noone (Akela Fir Pack) and Geoff Twiss (Coxswain, Scout Troop) for 5 years and 30 years respectively.

Certainly a year like no other, but we’re back now and raring to go! We’ve bounced back and the world is our oyster!

Andrew Corrie (“Skip”)

Group Scout Leader

ANNUAL CENSUS

The annual census, taken at 31 January 2021, showed 157 (prior year:175) young people in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with a further 29 (prior year:22) in the Explorer Unit, which is a District Section. The Beaver and Cub sections operate waiting lists.

Young people	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Beavers: Colts	21	24	23	23	24	22	42	24
Kits	21	25	23	25	24	25		
Cubs: Pine	32	33	34	24	33	24	54	36
Fir	27	28	27	24	27	29		
Scouts	56	65	41	59	41	44	50	50
Total	157	175	148	155	149	144	146	110
Explorers	29	22	23	27	39	47	41	35

Leader/Sectional assistants	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Beavers: Colts	2	4	3	4	3	8	6	2
Kits	2	4	3	3	3	6		
Cubs: Pine	3	6	5	3	4	4	8	5
Fir	3	3	9	7	5	10		
Scouts	13	15	11	14	10	9	11	9
Total	23	32	31	31	27	37	25	16

These numbers don't include all the Occasional Helpers and Young Explorer Leaders who are so valuable in assisting on section nights and other activities.

SECTION REPORTS

Colts Beaver Colony - 2020

2020 was a unique year in Scouting and a period where our young people demonstrated incredible adaptability and resilience, and maintained a passion for Beavers that was wonderful to see.

We started the year back in January with our usual visit to the Panto to see Jack & the Beanstalk with our Beaver friends from colonies across the district. We earned our Cooks Badge by making omelettes in bags in a water bath, making fruit salads and learning how to make proper pizzas with the chefs during a visit to Piccolinos.



We had a boot camp and earned our Health & Fitness Badge and learnt how to call the emergency services and how to spot dangers and keep safe as part of our Safety badge. We had a wonderful visit from a local retired SOCO who taught us how to take fingerprints, showed us all his incredible kit and told us lots of stories about how they catch burglars.

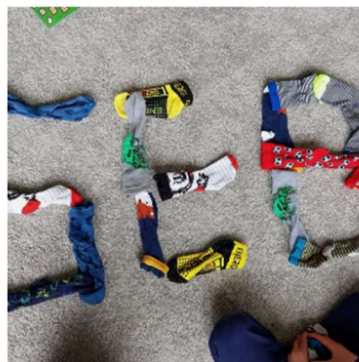
At the beginning of March we joined up with our friends in Kits and accompanied by huge parental support had a sleepover at Gulliver's World. We had terrific fun indoor camping in the blast arena, following the dino trail in the dark and braving the rides in the park.





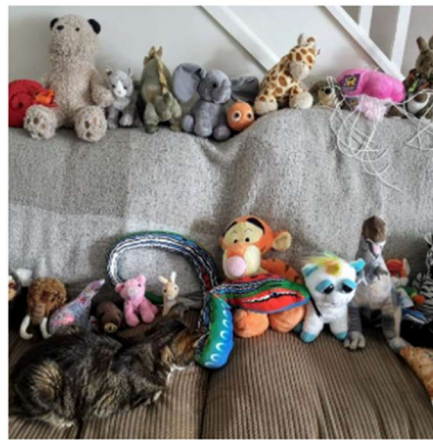
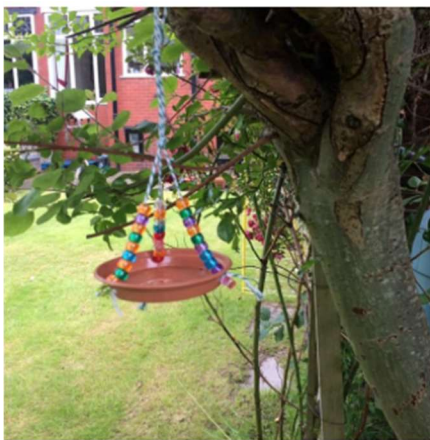
Then our normal Beavers came to a halt as Covid changed our world. But did we let a little thing like Covid stop us? No, of course not!

So in our Summer term we moved to weekly meetings on Zoom and built a completely different type of programme. We completed lots of challenges at home, making our beds, writing our names with socks, and being helpful. We camped at home, sometimes in the garden, sometimes in an indoor den, but always with a spirit of adventure! We learnt our address and phone numbers and decoded messages as part of our Communicators Badge and we had the greatest of fun completing our Experiment Badge. We set out to complete an experiment a week for 3 weeks but ended up doing one a week for a term because we loved doing them so much. The favourite had to be the skittles experiment, I bet you can't guess why?



We made nature windows and used them to frame the perfect pictures that we see in the outside world, made butterfly feeders and had an evening themed on boats where we made 2 different types of craft and had fun seeing which sailed the best. We made an alphabet zoo and went on a

virtual visit to Yorkshire Wildlife park to learn about some of the endangered animals that they look after there, including Sud's favourite: Polar bears.



We had expected that life might have started to return to normal during the autumn term but unfortunately that was not to be. So we got creative and had an amazing visit from Liz Millions, a crazy lady who writes and illustrates children's books and taught us all how to draw brilliant monsters. We completed our Builders Badge, where we designed and built a machine that we invented, ticking off some activity badge challenges along the way. We had a visit by the reptile man, who introduced us to many of the animals that he had and together with Thomas, one of our incredibly knowledgeable Beavers, taught us lots of facts about them.



Before and after half term we managed to meet face to face. Short meetings with the colony split in two we toasted marshmallows, learnt a campfire song and celebrated being back together and had a very wet Halloween party!

We had another creative visit by poet and master story teller Conrad Burdekin who involved us all in his creative fun and then we completed our Global issues badge and made a water filter at home.



We managed to run some remote Christmas themed activities including having a visit by the big man himself and a hilarious 5 minute challenge to make a snowman. We ended the year with a Christmas themed scavenger hunt, helped by parents.



So was 2020 different? Yes it was. But was it successful? Yes definitely. We learnt to adapt games we would play face to face and play them remotely, we learnt new games and tried new ideas. Not everything worked, but I think it was the leaders who felt it when it didn't, the Beavers seemed to join in and enjoy whatever we tried!

I always summarise the year in stats and judging by the stats, 2020 can only be viewed as successful. 237 badges were awarded, including 4 Chief Scout Bronze awards, 39 Challenge Badges and 178 Activity Badges across 17 different badge types. Terrific achievement Beavers!

I must end as always by thanking all the team who make Beavers possible. Leaders; Ariel and previously Ringo, and our regular parent helpers; Nemo and Jill. To all of our parents who have supported the Beavers so well during our zoom sessions, To the Exec who work quietly behind the scenes ensuring the sections have whatever they need to deliver our programmes and to the other leaders in the Group, especially to Teddy, BSL for Kits who we work so closely with, thank you all for your continued support.

But most of all **thank you Beavers**. 2020 was tough, but whether face to face or on zoom, the enthusiasm and fun, determination and resilience shown by your children has made it worthwhile. We are hopeful that 2021 will bring us increasing normality, but whatever happens we will continue to have fun!

Amanda Hudghton – Beaver Scout Leader (BSL): Colts Beavers

Kits Beaver Colony - 2020

2020 started with so much hope and excitement for Kits Beavers, we kicked off the year with a fabulous trip to Piccolino's Bramhall who kindly cleared the restaurant to allow upwards of 40 Beavers across two evenings to learn the art of Pizza making (whilst raising money for Manchester Children's Hospital.)



One of our fabulous Beaver mums ran a Rhythm fit class where the Beavers learned about the importance of exercise and the impact dancing has on your heart and lungs (whilst having loads of fun!)



Suds and I had the amazing foresight to booking a Beaver sleepover pre-pandemic, and with hindsight we were so lucky this event went ahead! Our overnight trip was to Gulliver's World, Warrington at the end of February. This event saw Beavers from both colonies enjoy a late-night Dinosaur trail where they met a 'real' T-Rex, a mass sleep over in a Nerf Gun Dome and a full day exploring the rides and park.

This couldn't have happened without the amazing support of the Suds, the Beaver parents and young leaders.



By mid-March we were in full lockdown, but that didn't stop Kits Beavers! A weekly task was set, and the Beavers continued to earn badges and enjoy scouting, albeit remotely. We took advantage of the exercise opportunities and good weather to achieve the cycling badge and navigator badge.

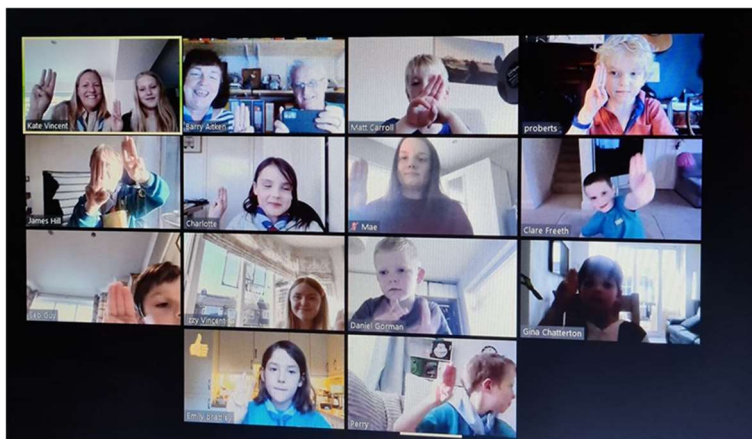


We coloured and displayed our rainbows and clapped for the NHS.



We camped in our gardens and had loads of fun den building.





Virtual Beavers continued right through the Summer, but that didn't stop Kit Beavers earning lots of badges and even awarding a Chief Scout Bronze!

September saw some of our older Beavers move up to Cubs and others leave for pastures new. So with an uncertain future, I took the decision to continue virtual Kits Beavers with reduced numbers, and this paid off when restrictions were briefly lifted as it allowed me to run outdoor face to face meetings adhering to smaller group requirements. I managed to run two outdoor events for small groups, one toasting marshmallows round a campfire and the other to celebrate Halloween - continuing the tradition of hosting our crazy Halloween party. (There is still evidence of our chalk spiders on the wall of the Bramley Centre – Sorry Skip! 😊)

By November we were back on Zoom but the fun didn't stop! We were visited by authors, illustrators, exotic animals, magicians and even Santa! Who confirmed we were all officially on the 'Good List!'

We also took part in virtual cooking activities, made bonfire pictures out of natural items and even brought our pets to a virtual meeting. We celebrated World Frog Day, learned about technology and collected 1000's of crisp packets for a local charity who turned them into sleeping bags for the homeless.

2020 has been a challenging year but the adaptability shown by the 1st Bramhall community has highlighted just how valuable the skills learned through scouting can impact individuals.

Whilst 2021 has started virtually there appears to be hope on the horizon which has given me the confidence to introduce and invest 10 new Beavers to Kits and build a programme of face to face meetings for the foreseeable future.

I would also like to recognise and thank Barry, Dawn and Mae without whom virtual Kits Beavers simply could not have happened.

Finally, (and as always) thanks to Amanda 'Suds' Hudghton who continues to support me as a fellow Beaver Leader within the 1st Bramhall community. It's hard to believe this is my third annual report as Kits Beaver Leader.

Teddy

Kate Vincent
Beaver Scout Leader 1st Bramhall Kits Beavers

Fir Cub Pack - 2020

It has been a crazy period for Fir Pack but the Cubs have done an amazing job over the last 16 months.

At present, our team consists of our Akela(Caroline), Shere Khan(Dan), Skip(Andrew) and we have had two new people join the team: Nia and Mao (Corrie) and we still have our Explorer helpers Rocky(Owen) and Bubbles(Eleanor).

Our year started out great, 2020 was going to be packed full of fun and activities, and we did loads in the first few months: We took a trip to the Cheadle fire station and got to tour and see all the tools and vehicles they use and ask loads of questions.



We spent evenings around the campfire singing songs ready for our camp in March and toasted marshmallows and drank hot choc.

The next adventure for Fir pack was Ashworth Valley where we built rockets as catapults, had BBQ tea in the great outdoors, cooked popcorn on the fires, built dens in the woods and made our own fire to toast marshmallows. We also did archery with the help of Mowgli and sang camp fire songs with Skip. In the evenings we watched movies in our sleeping bags and played quizzes for prizes.



After our amazing weekend away we got straight back into bases nights for those that couldn't make camp. We only managed one night due to the lockdown hitting but we all had fun either climbing or bouldering, rocket building and e-safety.

Our journey through lockdown has actually been really good. The Cubs got on zoom and we did so many activities over the lockdowns, including:

Sleeping in dens and tents in our homes with family members....



...to Akela challenges that kept us going to support the community. We visit Sunrise residents every term and so we did a card for them because they were all in lockdown and away from family. Akela set the challenge for one letter per Cub. They had to draw in colour and send in photos and we made it into a card to send to residents.



Also over lockdown we have become very good chefs. We started easy with mug cake, s'mores in mug and pizza in a mug and more....



Then came the challenge for our sixers: Each six was set a challenge to work in their six and decide on a recipe and make that recipe. The Sixer had to explain and instruct their members step by step and it turned out amazing! We had a curry being made, cookies, one group did banana bread, and another pancakes... they all had a great time.

We took pictures of the food and it was sent to a judge and the winner was banana bread here are some pictures



Over the course of the lockdown we have utilised other companies to help entertain and teach the Cubs. We have had a reptile man and watched a Xmas panto from our own homes.

The Cubs also had an Online lesson from Sahi about VE day and they all decorated bunting to put outside their house for their street parties



We did manage some Face-to-Face (F2F) meetings between lockdowns. We said goodbye to six super-sixers who moved up to Scouts and we welcomed 10 Beavers into Cubs. We managed to invest some of them in the dark on a night hike which was fun and a great way to join the Cub family. We also had a great time doing some social distance backwoods cooking:



For Chinese New Year we had the opportunity to join Rainbow 88 where we participated in a zoom chat and all Cubs collected Takeaways from the restaurant and enjoyed the experience from home. Next year we will be attending the restaurant.

And finally we managed a camp at home where the Cubs and their families took part in a weekend of activities. We made bird feeders over zoom, followed a map for a hike and got a reward treat at Rodes café in the precinct as part of the hike. We also set a challenge to decorate a flan. All Cubs got the same ingredients and then had to do a design. They all submitted photos and we sent photos to a judge to determine winner. Although not the same as a normal camp, we tried to incorporate similar activities and we all had a great time, so much so that more recently we



managed to organise a similar weekend but include some F2F activities which was great.





We are now enjoying being back to F2F and getting to know our new pack properly; our pack has increased in size from 26 Cubs to 31. We will be asking for help on some evenings so if anyone is able to help it would be gratefully appreciated– thank you. We had an interesting 2020 - here's to a fantastic 2021.

Akela (Caroline Noone)

Pine Cub Pack - 2020

2020 was like no other year – that is stating the obvious. What is not so obvious is what resilience our Cubs were going to show in being able to adapt to a remarkable change in lifestyle. Writing this in May 2021, the concepts of lockdown and social distancing now seem so normal, but these are terms we didn't even know existed back at the start of 2020.

Clearly much of 2020's Cub activities were carried out on Zoom in a virtual environment but at least we got to start the year with a trip to York in what might be described as "Cubs as normal"



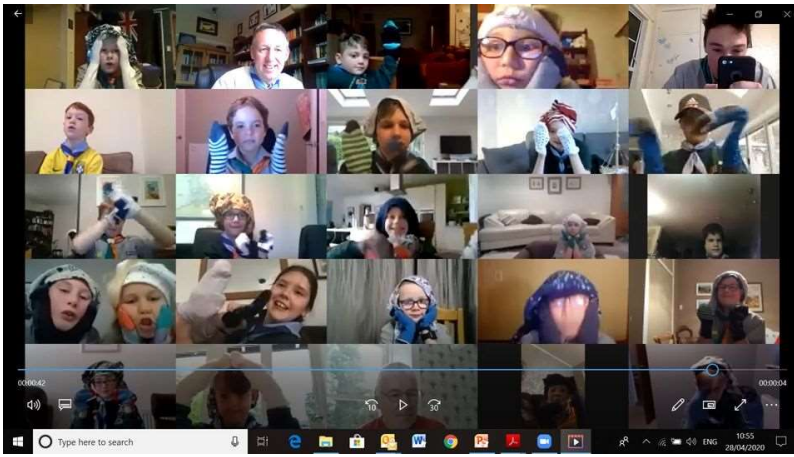
**We loved the National
Railway Museum and the
Jorvik Centre...**

**...but look how close we
were standing to have**



Then it all changed

After March 23rd we had a bit of a rethink and decided to see what we could do in terms of virtual scouting. It's fair to say we didn't really have a plan but just figured out that if we could keep meeting, then ideas would emerge and we would go with the flow. This is exactly what happened.



**One of our first zoom meetings
- at 8 o'clock in the morning
talking to our friends in New
Zealand.
Just don't ask why we have our
pants on our heads**

Zoom became our workhorse for delivering meetings, but in fact the real work was often done by parents in the background, prepping and helping as we tried out all sorts of things. From our first tentative meetings where we tried scavenger hunts and bingo, we ended up meeting with cubs from New Zealand, we cooked and baked, we learnt first aid on our teddies, we had quizzes, learnt about Russia... the list just goes on and on. Tuesday nights were great, although they weren't for everyone they worked well in keeping us together as a group over the year.



**We still managed to do loads
of activities at home including
crafts, gardening and of
course cooking**





We didn't forget about Remembrance either

Ideas popped up on Facebook and we went with them – one of my favourites was this one:



Over the year the flag went from house to house and each week another Cub got to do flagbreak. From the day that it left my house we had no idea where it was going to pop up next but it provided a little thread of continuity passing through the pack over the whole year

But we couldn't ignore the idea of camping altogether:

The Pine pack flag waiting to be unfurled in a back garden



Our first, and second, virtual camps

During the year we had two virtual camps. For the first, we were blessed with superb weather and even some of our more timid parents joined their Cubs in sleeping outside. Over the weekend we made camp gadgets, paracord bracelets, escaped from escape rooms and cooked our own teas over fires in our gardens



**It takes more than a lockdown
to stop cubs from camping**



For our second sleepover we made dens from all over the world and, although we camped inside, we took part in a “what 3 words” challenge all over the village to work out which country Akela was visiting. Then we cooked food from all over the world – true international scouting, all from our own houses.

But, to me the real highlights of the year were...

The waterfight challenge

Leela couldn't cope with the idea of the Scouts getting one over the Cubs, so was keen we joined in the 1st Bramhall Waterfight – head over to the website if you haven't seen the video yet

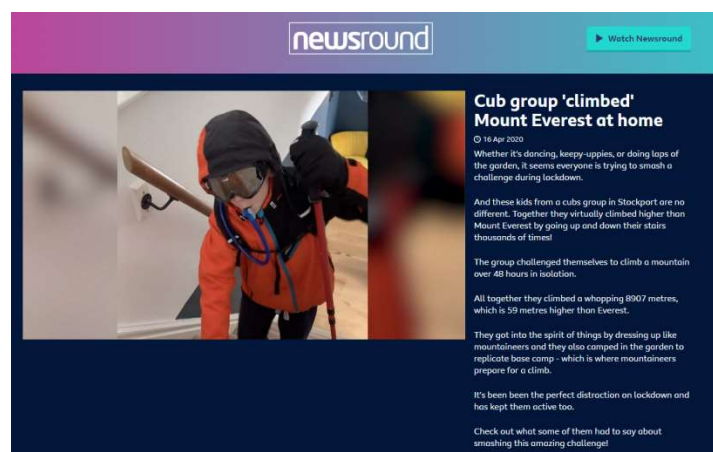


Leela getting soaked in our pack waterfight – well she started it!



The Everest Challenge

What can I say? A very simple challenge thought up one Friday evening turned into something quite extraordinary. The basic idea was just to do some physical exercise by climbing stairs over a bank holiday weekend. We added the challenge of adding up how many stairs we climbed and converting that into an equivalent mountain. The next thing I know my cubs are on radio 5 live and then Newsround telling the world that they've climbed the equivalent of Everest. If you haven't seen it – head over to the 1st Bramhall website and have a look



Cubs climbing stairs, and later sheets, washing lines and anything else they could lay their hands on in their successful attempt to climb (the height of) Everest

Cubs in transition

During the year we still managed to move Cubs up to Scouts and welcome new Cubs from Beavers. We even repeated our moving up ceremonies at home with scout gates built from garden furniture and beaver rivers from blankets. It has been great to get to know our new Cubs for real, now that lockdown is over but they deserve a medal for joining a group without being able to meet in person. And of course we wish those that have moved up to Scouts all the best and know that they will have a great time in the Troop.



**Two of our great Cubs heading over
the "Gateway to Scouting" to
continue their adventure**

2021 update

Thanks to all the help we have received from the Group Executive and parents, we have returned in good shape with 32 of our 33 Cubs returning to face to face scouting which is fantastic. We hope to put 2020 behind us and get back to the things that matter but at the same time we have learnt how to be a bit more flexible and realised that online events can have their place in allowing us to connect with others, all over the world.

I just want to end by saying a massive thank you to Faye and Paul (Leela and Rama respectively). We have started most Tuesday evenings with a quick shrug of the shoulders and a "Not sure if this going to work but let's give it a try", ended with a "Well that seemed to work in the end" and had a lot of fun in between, but I'm so grateful for everything they do coming up with ideas, planning meetings, trying new things and on more than one occasion, peddling around the village dropping essential supplies off to all the Cubs. Thank you both on behalf of all the Cubs.

Here is to 2021 and beyond.

Richard Edmondson – Akela

Scout Troop Section Report 2020

In January the Scout section made our regular trip to Ennerdale for our Winter Expedition, this was an indoor camp at the Ennerdale Scout Activity Centre. A weekend hiking in the hills and beautiful countryside of the Lake District. The Scouts learned route planning, navigation and map reading and negating varied weather conditions! Scouts worked as patrols taking turns to prep and cook food for the group. It was a brilliant weekend.



Later in January we had our bi-annual Scout Panto, this years was titled 'The Last of the Last!' and was written by Amelie Jennings and Kite, with Kite and Mae directing. 'The Last of the Last' was a tale of hero meets villain, when a gang of baddies planned to take over every Scout troop in the world by stealing their neckers! Luckily, the day was saved by 1st Bramhall Scouts and 'Char Grills!' In addition to acting, other Scouts took on important roles such as lighting, costume, set building and sound. The panto was, as always, well attended by parents and carers with many of our Scouts earning their Entertainers badge by taking part. Bravo!

In February the Patrol Leaders and Assistant Patrol Leaders spent a fabulous weekend in Snowdonia National Park in Nantmor Mountain Centre. The aims of the weekend were to develop their leadership skills and included:

- Leadership: (how to lead a patrol, on a troop night, at camp)
- Tips and tricks of effective leaders, how to deal with challenging behaviour
- Teamwork
- Communication

- Navigation - lead a patrol on a hike
- Planning a weekend camp (planning equipment, activities, site layout)
- Menu planning for your own Patrol

Meanwhile, Friday nights were going strong with a troop of 70 Scouts. Then in March, along with everyone else, we shutdown due to the global Covid Pandemic. The effect of the Pandemic on the Scout section was significant. We couldn't meet or go on any camps but that didn't deter us!

In April Whittle and Kite, with some special guest appearances from other leaders created 30 days of challenges through Facebook. We called this 'I'm a Scout, Get Me back Out!' and there was a video and challenge every day. The enthusiasm, commitment and creativity of the Scouts (and their families) was incredible. Whether it was cooking, inventing, painting, creating an advert, competing, tik-tokking, time capsules, camping out in gardens or any of the amazing challenges we set. We were always astounded by how much effort our Scouts put into all of the challenges.





PIC•COLLAGE



We also had several family Quiz nights, with our Scouting families competing for the coveted prize of a box of Celebrations! Many Scouts also used the time during lockdown to earn activity badges, submitting their evidence to show what they had achieved. Several Scouts camped out in April and beyond earning 'nights away' points. Harvey and Austin completed over 100 nights in their gardens, earning them a Commissioner's Commendation Award presented by the Craig Jones, our District Commissioner. Austin went on to camp out for an incredible 150 nights and was featured on the local news channel!



Ross also got himself on TV in his Scout uniform appearing on 'Newsround' talking about mental health. The month of challenges culminated in 'The Brammies', a live online awards show, showcasing the best in 1st Bramhall with Scouts earning their very own Oscars.

As the lockdown continued we sadly realised that we were not going to be able to going on summer camp. This was the first time in living memory that 1st Bramhall Scouts haven't had a summer camp and we all really missed it. But it didn't stop us Scouting! Harnessing the Scouting qualities of adaptability, resilience and resourcefulness our Scout meetings restarted on Zoom and for the rest of the year it became the new normal. It's a real credit to the leaders and our Scouts that the meetings were well planned, well attended and kept 1st Bramhall Scout Troop together throughout the lockdown. So much so that as we start to slowly exit the lockdown and restart face to face, we have a thriving Troop of over 60 enthusiastic Scouts.

In conclusion 2020 was not a normal Scouting year, but we are sure that our Scouts will take many lessons from lockdown. Those who chose to put themselves forward and take part really excelled. We saw the most incredible enthusiasm, creativity and adaptability from our Scouts and their families. We found a real sense of appreciation for the camping we missed and the freedom we had and when we are allowed back we will go back with such spirit that 1st Bramhall will be even stronger.

Peter Boxall – "Whittle" – Scout Troop Section Leader

The XBU Explorer Section - 2020

Like everyone else, our Explorer section had such a different year. We had Face to Face (F2F) meetings whenever we could, whatever the weather, as we felt it was 100% important that our Explorer family got together, even if it was under socially distanced guidelines. And when we couldn't, we did what we could on Zoom. To be honest, it took a while to get our MOJO on Zoom, especially with 14-18 year old's, but we have managed to complete a wide range of digital activities: some daft, some creative, including online Games, Quizzes, Escape Rooms, and even online Bingo.

Our programme is always targeting communication, leadership, listening skills, negotiation, and practical life skills, all aimed at helping with the Explorer's own development, while maintaining the advised scouting Development Zones of **Beliefs and Attitudes, Community, Fitness, Creative, Global & Outdoor and Adventure**. When we were lucky enough to meet, we did 100% outdoor activities and made the most of the fresh, often wet and cool, air.

We are proud to be able to provide a significant amount of volunteer help for the other sections, even during Covid (when there are F2F meetings). This continues to ensure a positive representation of the Explorer section within all the 1st Bramhall sections, showing Beavers, Cubs and Scouts where their scouting adventure can lead them. We also have three participants in the Young Leader scheme. This develops individuals, giving them a massive head start in gaining leadership skills for their futures.

DofE provides an excellent basis for the programme, where there is a heavy mix of "Out and About" activities involving navigation, survival, cooking and communication skills. DofE, without doubt, provides young people with the tools to tackle the challenges of their future lives and because it is led by the individual, requires high levels of personal commitment, which breathes life into any CV. This year 3 people attained Bronze.

Before the craziness, we did manage to get on Winter camp, where we had an amazing weekend in the lakes, climbing as high up a mountain as we could, before the impending Storm Dennis stopped play by starting to lift leaders off their feet. We did have a great day though, and managed to dodge the flooding to do High Wire and Trampolines on the Sunday.



In 2021 we will continue to do as much as we can together, and mostly outside. We are still planning to do a summer camp, and some events when the weather is better like a 26km challenge hike along the Pennine way in June. We need as full a summer as possible, as we have some catching up to do.

All this is only possible with the help of our brilliant XBU leader team and the enthusiasm and dedication from a fine bunch of Explorers. This year we have Liam Bailey and Katie Winterburn as new, regular leaders which is great, as they are so much closer to the Explorers age range, but we always need more volunteers. If you are interested in working with 14-18 year olds, please contact us.

Paul Winterburn – “Pedal” – Explorer Scout Leader

Financial Review

Despite the impact of Coronavirus, the finances of the Group remain sound. Along with other rate-paying organisations in Stockport, we received a £10,000 grant from the local authority to mitigate the impact of the restrictions. The major financial impact was on Hirings income as the Bramley Centre had to close for much of the year. Consequently, Hirings income was £10,000 lower than in 2019. Covid restrictions also meant that the Annual Bonfire and the Backpack could not go ahead, which further reduced our income.

However, parents continued to support the Group during the year, with the majority continuing to pay full subs in recognition of the great work being done by the Section Leaders and Assistants in running engaging online meetings. The Group thanks all parents for paying their subs. In total, the income from subs in 2020 was the same as in the prior year. Reduced income from those parents taking advantage of the reduced subs on offer, was offset by higher numbers of Young People.

The closure of our Headquarters building gave us the opportunity to undertake further refurbishment. This included the Main Hall Floor, which was sanded, re-sealed and re-lined with a scheme designed by the Scout Troop. The Entrance Hall and Accessible Toilet were redecorated. In addition, the Climbing Wall in the Garage was professionally inspected by an external firm of safety assessors.

Significant savings during the year were achieved on Rates, Insurance, Cleaning and Utilities and the lack of Scouting Activities meant that very little equipment was purchased and that insurance savings could be achieved on the minibuses.

Invesco: The Trustees reviewed the Invesco investment holding and, after taking advice from an Independent Financial Adviser, decided to switch the unit trust investment from one mainly invested in UK Equities with an income bias, to a Managed fund with a global outlook and which accumulates income in order to achieve capital growth. This is still with Invesco. The switch generated a “paper” surplus on sale of £13,198.

The annual operating surplus before the Invesco surplus was £14,374, which was £ 11,871 higher than the previous year, meaning that we were able to build up our cash reserves again in the year.

Future plans

With the Coronavirus restrictions extending into 2021, the Group took advantage of the empty HQ building to undertake further improvements, including the redecoration of both the large and small halls and the Garage has been converted into an additional activity space.

There are also plans to improve our activity provision by replacing our canoes and purchasing stand-up paddle boards. We will start a rolling programme of replacing tents and purchase new camping equipment, including a fridge.

The Development sub-committee is likely to reconvene in 2021 to continue the review of our activities and how we propose to deliver our scouting programmes in the future. This review, which is ongoing, will consider the implications for volunteer numbers, financial resources and how we use the building.

Reserves Policy

The group’s policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income fall short or large amounts of expenditure are required on, for example,

repairs and maintenance on the Bramley Centre building or on transport. The Group transfers £3,000 annually from the General Unrestricted Fund into a Transport Reserve Fund in order to finance replacement minibuses. It is intended to replace a minibus every 3-5 years. The Board of Trustees considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient.

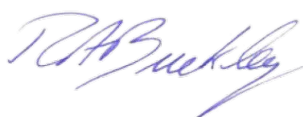
Investment Policy

The Group has adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its liquid funds which are held in cash using a mainstream bank. Longer term investments are split between a low-risk investment – a National Savings Investment Account and an Invesco Managed Fund.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:



Richard Buckley

Chairman

Date:



Timothy Taylor

Secretary

Date:



Andrew Corrie

Group Scout Leader

Date: 30 June 2021

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 41 to 49.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gary Wood, FCCA
G.J. Wood & Co. Ltd.
Hub 11 Pepper House
Pepper Road
Hazel Grove
Stockport
SK7 5DP



30th June 2021

1st Bramhall Scout Group


Balance Sheet

31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	2	335,964	341,274
Investments	3	80,850	52,259
		<u>416,814</u>	<u>393,533</u>
Current Assets			
Bank and cash (Group)		48,039	44,288
Bank and cash (Sections)		2,524	2,202
Debtors		2,807	2,967
		<u>53,370</u>	<u>49,457</u>
Current Liabilities			
Other creditors		198	576
		<u>198</u>	<u>576</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>53,172</u>	<u>48,881</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>469,986</u>	<u>442,414</u>
Funds			
General Unrestricted Fund		349,262	324,690
Revaluation reserve		111,458	111,458
Transport Reserve Fund		9,266	6,266
		<u>469,986</u>	<u>442,414</u>

Approved on behalf of the Group Executive Committee on... 30 June 2021.....


..... Chair


..... Treasurer

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2020

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting Receipts and Payments

The accounts for both the current and comparative years have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis as permitted under the Charities Act 2011.

Land and buildings

Land and buildings have been revalued by the trustees and are included in the accounts at their valuation, in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

b) Capital expenditure

Fixed assets are shown in the accounts at cost less accumulated depreciation, with the exception of land and buildings, which is shown at the Trustees valuation of £340,000.

The cost of equipment is written off in full during the year of acquisition. For insurance purposes, equipment is valued at £59,488.

c) Depreciation

Provision for depreciation is made at the following rates:

Buildings	0.5 % straight line
Garage	5% straight line
Minibus, trailers and boats	25% on a reducing balance basis

2 Tangible fixed assets

	Land & Building	Garage & toilets	Minibus, trailers & boats	Total
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2020	340,000	29,230	24,734	393,964
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	<u>340,000</u>	<u>29,230</u>	<u>24,734</u>	<u>393,964</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2020	30,600	5,948	16,142	52,690
Depreciation for the year	1,700	1,462	2,148	5,310
	<u>32,300</u>	<u>7,410</u>	<u>18,290</u>	<u>58,000</u>
Net Book value 2020	<u>307,700</u>	<u>21,820</u>	<u>6,444</u>	<u>335,964</u>
Net Book value 2019	<u>309,400</u>	<u>23,282</u>	<u>8,592</u>	<u>341,274</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2020

3 Investments	2020	2019
	£	£
National Savings Investment Account	61,692	46,299
Invesco Managed Growth	19,158	0
Perpetual High Income Fund	-	5,960
	<u>80,850</u>	<u>52,259</u>

The market value of the Invesco Managed Growth Fund at 31 December 2020 was £21,583 (2019 (Perpetual High Income Fund): £28,121).

4 Funds

The Group Executive approved a transfer of of £3,000 from the General Unrestricted Fund to a general designated fund, the Transport Reserve Fund. This fund has been set up to provide for future vehicle replacement costs.

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Beaver Colony Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Subscriptions from group	569	1,520
Pantomime	-	371
Activities	-	7
	<u>569</u>	<u>1,898</u>
 Resources expended		
Activities	529	1,307
Sleepover	-	200
Camps	40	-
Equipment and consumables	-	8
Pantomime	405	355
	<u>974</u>	<u>1,870</u>
Net (outgoing) incoming resources	(405)	28
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2020	407	379
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2020	<u>2</u>	<u>407</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Pine Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Camps	570	330
Subscriptions from group	500	-
	<u>1,070</u>	<u>330</u>
 Resources expended		
Activities	189	503
Badges and trophies	35	-
Camps	224	215
Equipment and consumables	59	-
	<u>507</u>	<u>718</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	563	(388)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2020	299	687
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2020	<u>862</u>	<u>299</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Fir Cub Pack Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Activities	-	126
Camps	271	610
BBQ	-	150
Subscriptions from group	727	701
	<u>998</u>	<u>1,587</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	556	779
Camps	554	805
BBQ	-	106
	<u>1,110</u>	<u>1,690</u>
Net outgoing resources	(112)	(103)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2020	206	309
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2020	<u>94</u>	<u>206</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Scout Troop Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Activities	-	752
Camps	2,165	21,147
Subscriptions from group	-	1,232
Loan from group	-	2,807
	<u>2,165</u>	<u>25,938</u>
Resources expended		
Activities	-	3,162
Camps	1,799	25,815
Equipment and consumables	31	38
Uniforms	-	65
Badges and trophies	-	64
Bank charges	60	60
	<u>1,890</u>	<u>29,204</u>
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	275	(3,266)
Bank and cash balance at 1 January 2020	1,290	4,556
Bank and cash balance at 31 December 2020	<u>1,565</u>	<u>1,290</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Group Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Incoming resources		
Bagpack income	-	2,182
Bonfire Night	-	3,233
Camp	-	10,581
Gift Aid	4,843	4,618
Letting income	8,023	18,054
Other income	1,854	1,071
Subscriptions	24,949	24,800
Covid-19 grant	10,000	-
	<u>49,669</u>	<u>64,539</u>
Investment income and interest		
Bank deposit interest	44	122
Invesco Perpetual income	905	1,002
Interest receivable	393	287
Surplus on Sale of Invesco	13,198	-
	<u>14,540</u>	<u>1,411</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>64,209</u>	<u>65,950</u>
Resources expended		
Property costs		
Building maintenance	7,384	5,810
Cleaning	3,578	6,829
Electricity	1,378	1,958
Gas	550	903
General rates	123	1,233
Internet and telephone	325	403
Water rates	246	423
	<u>13,584</u>	<u>17,559</u>
Group Scout costs		
Camp	70	10,206
Capitation fee	7,263	6,231
Group Scout Activities	-	650
OSM costs	111	118
Other expenses	33	384
Payments to sections	1,795	3,453
Training	50	1,342
Uniform and badges	215	538
	<u>9,537</u>	<u>22,922</u>

1st Bramhall Scout Group

Group Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Other resources expended		
Examiner's fee	120	120
Bank charges	120	120
Charitable Donations	-	100
Depreciation	5,309	6,025
Equipment	323	1,438
Fundraising Bonfire	-	2,104
Insurance	4,827	6,015
Other expenses	253	353
Postage	8	3
Printing, stationery and sundry	1	50
Vehicle and transport costs	2,876	2,909
	<u>13,837</u>	<u>19,237</u>
Total resources expended	<u>36,958</u>	<u>59,718</u>
Net incoming resources	27,251	6,232
Funds at 1 January 2020	328,754	322,522
Funds at 31 December 2020	<u>356,005</u>	<u>328,754</u>