

DRINGHOUSES (P.C.) SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1064151

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1997-08-28

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

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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: This charity is a scout group in the city of York.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- City Of York

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£99,765	£73,552	-	-
2024-03-31	£83,228	£63,847	-	-
2023-03-31	£79,776	£53,815	-	-
2022-03-31	£42,153	£33,566	-	-
2021-03-31	£23,823	£16,379	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANN BENNETT	Chair	
Catherine Bell		2022-05-11
David Stewart Thorne		2018-05-01
Gareth Mines		2024-07-13
James Etherington		2024-07-13
Janet Moor		2020-06-10
Justin Moss		2020-06-30
Kate Clough		2025-10-15
Lucy Janet Leinster		2024-09-17
Susan Rundle		2021-05-15
WENDY HEWITT		2012-09-19

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Accounts

Dringhouses Scouts

Annual Review

2024/2025




Scouts
Dringhouses
York



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A Report from the Chair

(including statement of Public Benefit)

Dringhouses Scout Group exists to fulfil the purpose of actively engaging and supporting young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. This review of the year gives a flavour of the activities, finances and infrastructure which enables us to carry out that purpose and to celebrate the achievements of our members.

Having had a period of extensive change driven by The Scout Association, the group has continued to build on our robust procedures and programmes, to consolidate trustee and leadership roles to support the delivery of high-quality Scouting. The trustee board continues to use tools provided by the Charity Commission and Scout Association to this end.

Recruitment within the group remains a huge undertaking and has been given the proper priority in the last 12 months. Our doors are always open to anyone who feels they could contribute in uniformed roles or support teams.

Funds have been used to improve our equipment and better suit the requirements of sections. The need to maintain equipment to extend its life and cut down on our environmental impact is vital. To this end we continue to look for a Quartermaster who could oversee this.

Fundraising continues to supplement our income from subscriptions. Activities have been made possible by a small but dedicated team of adults and young people who come out to station and supermarket collections. This year a special mention should go out to the Christmas tree collection operated by Explorer sections. We have also benefitted from the generous support of the Ward Committee and St Edwards' Church to continue the work of our Member Support fund. We also recently received a very kind bequest in honour of one of our long-standing leaders.

This year our numbers included some 289 young people, 84 adult volunteers of whom 11 are trustees. The number of adults from the group gaining recognition for their hard work reflects the quality of their leadership. While the level of progress young people make through badge work is a yardstick for the group's effectiveness, but is a less tangible measure. It is also worth reflecting on how individuals change and grow during their time within the group and the impact which can be felt more widely through those young people's interactions with the wider community.

My thanks go to all our volunteers, parents and carers who support us but especially to our young people.

Annie Bennett, Group Chair

Annie

Lead Volunteer's Report

David Thorne, Group Lead Volunteer

This year has seen several significant changes for our volunteers, both in the way we volunteer and in the systems we use to record our data and processes. For some of us this has been a seamless transition, for others a lot of work has been going on invisibly behind the scenes. The renewed focus on training has seen improvements in the way the learning content is delivered but has meant many of the team have had to re-do training more frequently than they were expecting to. Add to that the teething troubles we faced (and to an extent are still facing) with the introduction of the new system and I would like to thank all the volunteers in the group for their perseverance and patience, and for putting up with (what must have felt like) lots of emails from me through the year.

The Group is currently hovering around 300 children and young people and has been for about two years. We're always on the lookout for new adult volunteers (both as leaders and behind the scenes) and this year saw 12 new leaders join the group, but we still have vacancies for 15.

It was great to be able to celebrate the achievements of many of our team at the recent North Yorkshire Scouting celebration event, in particular it was brilliant to recognise all the hard work put in by our Group Chair Annie Bennett, who not only looks after our legal compliance and liaison on premises with the church, but also drives fundraising efforts and even finds time to run the catering at Group Camp, after twenty years it was great for her to be given the award for Merit. Same too goes for one of our younger leaders, Frankie Delamere, who received the commendation for good service. Frankie, an Explorer leader, has supported the World Scout Jamboree in Korea (which was particularly challenging) and the more local Larkin Jamboree where she was on the catering team. Obviously, I'd like to celebrate all our volunteers, but these two stood out for me this year

We continue to provide fun and adventure for children and young people from age four to age seventeen. Events this year included ten pin bowling, athletics, football, a wizard walk around the city, a Monopoly run around London, Ice skating, Climbing, a farm visit and more. And this does not include the many camps that have been run in all weathers throughout the year as well. In particular, our Group Camp at Raywell Park saw more than 230 people on site over the weekend, which is amazing! And our second local St George's Day celebration was well attended with the treasure hunt and picnic in Knavesmire Woods being the venue for our Group to get together to celebrate the life of our patron saint.

On a more sombre note, it was sad to lose one of our long serving leaders, Rob Dobson, who passed away in February. Rob was a stalwart of the Beavers section and a kind and generous man who we all will miss.

I'm personally looking forward to the coming year, Group Camp, at Bramhope, will, be brilliant as usual, and the Explorers must be very excited to think about their trip to Switzerland in the Summer. All the events that the group provides provide opportunities for our children and young people, that they are unlikely to find anywhere other than in Scouting, giving them the confidence to try new things and succeed, setting them up well for their future lives. And, like a broken record, I'm ending this note with a suggestion that, if ever you've been interested in helping and making a difference in your community, now's the time to reach out and volunteer with us. Just contact me to speak about it!

All the best

Dave

In Memoriam: Rob Dobson 1961-2025



One of our long serving volunteers, Rob Dobson, passed away in February 2025.

Rob joined the group as a Tuesday Beaver leader in January 2003, continuing in that role for just over fifteen years, eventually stepping down in 2019 and joining the Support Team. Rob returned in 2022 joining the Squirrels Team until 2024 when ill health forced him to step back again.

Rob would often quietly work in the background to make things better for the group and brought a calming and level-headed approach to all he did, as a leader, on the Executive Committee, as part of the Active Support Team, on a section night or at an activity or event.

Katie Harvey, formerly Assistant Group Scout Leader (Beavers), remembers that when she first started being a Beaver Leader some 14 years ago Rob was “one of the gang” and was an integral part of the Beavers Team. His enthusiasm and passion were immense. He was always keen to get things done, lending a hand with planning, events, camps, often stepping in at the last minute when asked.

And he loved running games with the children, so much so, it was hard to stop him joining in himself!

Outside of Scouting Rob was a busy person, running his dental practice and latterly travelling the world during his retirement, but he always managed to find time to help other people and support the Group.

Rob was a great Beaver and Squirrel leader who had a positive impact on many adults, children and young people, he made the world a better place. His interactions with young people and adults alike were supportive and kind and he will be sorely missed by us all.

He had the unwavering support of his family in his volunteering and our thoughts are with Helen and his children.



Meet the Team

The Trustee Board (core members)

Members of the Trustee Board make decisions and carry out administrative tasks to ensure that the best quality Scouting can be delivered to all young people in the Group and that the Group is compliant with the relevant legislation and managed in line with Charity Commission regulations and the Policy Organisation and Rules of The Scouts.

Annie Bennett

Group Chair



Annie became involved with the Group as a parent. She began helping at Group Camp and when asked if she would Chair the executive committee (now the Board of Trustees), decided it was a post she could bring her organisational skills to and help the Group without being a uniformed member. Now retired and with grandchildren in Scouting, she can give more time to support the great team of volunteers we have.

Jan Moor

Group Treasurer



Jan was a Brownie and Guide when she was growing up and absolutely loved it. Jan was very keen her two children should have the same rewarding experiences and so both her children are in Scouting/Guiding and enjoying every moment. Jan has a child in the Group, who is now in Explorers, having started 10 years ago as a Beaver.

Jan joined the group as a Parent Rep on the Executive Committee (particularly helping with fundraising) and Active support in Summer 2017, as she wanted to contribute to the Group. She agreed to take on the Group Secretary role early in 2019, which gives her the ability to support the working of the Group a bit more, using her business skills, in between significant travelling for her job.

Lucy Leinster

Group Secretary



Lucy has two sons who attend Beavers and Cubs, and both very much enjoy the activities each group has to offer. In 2024, Lucy was appointed as Secretary and can use her company secretarial experience to support the group in this role. Lucy was also co-opted as a trustee.

Wendy Hewitt

Group Co-Treasurer



Wendy started volunteering with the group at the 40th anniversary camp -with Debbie in the tea van. However, she has been involved since her eldest son was a Beaver Scout over 20 years ago. Wendy was the Group Secretary until 2019 when she agreed to start to take over the treasurer role. Wendy, who works in the church office, is also unofficial (and much valued) caretaker of the HQ.

Wendy enjoys the camaraderie of being part of a team and the ever-expanding Group. She also enjoys the challenge of the treasurer role and getting to grips with spreadsheets!

The Senior Leadership Team

The Management Team coordinates all Scouting activities within the Group. The Group Chair and Treasurer are also a part of the Senior Leadership Team. The full team is listed below in alphabetical order.

Andy Elliott

Group Team Leader (Explorers)



Andy was a youth member of the Yorvik Explorer Unit and after returning from university decided to become part of the volunteer team at Dringhouses Scouts. You probably will not see many photographs of Andy at events as he is usually the one taking them all!

Having been an Explorer leader for about six years, Andy agreed to take on the Group Team Leader role for Explorers in 2021 when the vacancy arose.

Andy's daughter is in Cubs and son is in Squirrels.

Chris Rundle

Group Team Leader (Squirrels)



Chris first became involved with Dringhouses Scouts when his eldest son joined Beavers in 2020 (he's now in Cubs). He joined the working group on Squirrels in 2021 to consider the options for starting this new section and then decided he should be part of launching Squirrels for real as a Section Leader. In November 2022 he also took on the role of Group Team Leader for Squirrels.

'I enjoyed helping as a parent on the occasional evening at Beavers, so becoming a volunteer was on the horizon. The support from group leaders, parents and squirrels has been great and I look forward to settling into the regular rhythm of activities and challenges for our young people.

David Thorne

Group Lead Volunteer



Dave started his Scouting career as a Cub Scout with the 1st Epping Ash and later 1st Holtspur Scout Groups. 'A few' years later he returned as Assistant Beaver Scout Leader with Dringhouses, transferring to be Cub Section Leader a year later.

From January 2021 Dave was Acting Group Scout Leader responsible for leading the team managing the Group, finally accepting the inevitable and becoming the Lead Volunteer for the group in late 2022.

Dave helps with District admin and IT and sits on the District Awards Panel.

Dave has had two children go through the Group, one of whom returned as an adult volunteer.

Georgina Warwick Group Team Leader (Cubs)



following in her father's footsteps, Georgina joined Scouting in September 2014 as an assistant Beaver leader for 14th Harrogate and she's still helping there today. After moving to York in the early part of 2019, Georgina soon started volunteering as an assistant Cub Leader at Dringhouses Scouts and progressed to Team Leader for Tuesday Cubs in September 2024 and the Group Team Leader for Cubs at the same time.

Nicola Silke Group Team Leader (Beavers)



Nicola joined Dringhouses Scouts in September 2018 as a Section Assistant, after being "accosted" on a "sunny" group camp to join Beavers. She quickly progressed to Assistant Leader in December 2018 and became Team Leader in September 2019.

Nicola has been involved with the group since 2012 when her eldest daughter joined Cubs.

"I joined on a trial basis and was surprised how much I enjoyed it. It's a great feeling seeing the Beavers take part in and enjoy the activities and challenges set out for them. For me it's an amazing way to be able to give something back to the local community."

Justin Moss Group Support Team Leader



Moving to York about ten years ago and having been an Air Scout in his youth, Justin eagerly signed up his son for Beavers (Squirrels weren't available at the time). After attending the first group camp as a parent, he was inspired to support the group and became the Cub parent representative around 2019. When his son advanced to Scouts, he joined the Active Support Team in 2021 and took over its leadership from Martin in 2022.

Since his involvement, the Active Support Team has continued to flourish, continually expanding its volunteer base. "We are always seeking more volunteers who want to contribute but can't commit to regular meetings. Opportunities include assisting at events like the fair, helping leaders at the beginning and end of camps, and supporting our pinnacle event, the group camp, which requires a couple of days to set up. Volunteers can also participate in county events, such as Ignite, a weekend event for around 800 Scouts and Explorers, and Larkin in 2024, a week-long event with international Scouts in Yorkshire, attended by about 3,000 participants."

Vacancy Group Team Leader (Scouts)



Interested in coordinating all the Scout nights and helping them to work together to provide joint activities and co-ordinate the programme, helping all the Scout Leaders to share the workload? This could be the role for you, let us know if you're interested, no Scouting or outdoor activities experience needed, just enthusiasm!!

The Leadership Team

Team Leaders are responsible for coordinating the programme for their night and liaising with the sections before and after as appropriate.

Squirrel Scouts

Squirrels is for children aged four and five years old. We have three Squirrel Scout dreys in the Group.

Chris Rundle	Team Leader- Monday Squirrels
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See the Senior Leadership section above

Lisa Auckland	Team Leader- Tuesday Squirrels
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Lisa has been involved in Dringhouses Scouts as a parent since 2014 and in 2024 was able to commit to regular help with Squirrels. Since joining she has become the Team Leader of the latest Squirrel Drey to be added to the Group on a Tuesday evening.

Ash Elliott	Team Leader- Friday Squirrels
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After attending her first group camp in 2023 as a parent, Ash joined Dringhouses Scouts as a Team Member at Friday Beavers and in 2024 started helping at Squirrels too, becoming the Team Leader for Friday Squirrels.

Beaver Scouts

Beavers is for children aged six to eight years old. We have three Beaver Scout colonies in the Group.

Nicola Silke

Team Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Tuesday Beavers



See the Senior Leadership Team section above

Olga Iwaszkiewicz-Bogdańska

Team Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Wednesday Beavers



Olga started with the Group in February 2019, initially to help her daughter's confidence when she joined. She became an Assistant Leader with Wednesday Beavers but, when the opportunity came, it took her about a minute to decide to move to the Section Leader role.

"The idea of teaching Beavers new skills during weekly meetings and camps and seeing how proud they are when they succeed or when they receive a badge puts the biggest smile on my face and pride in my heart. Week to week I can see how the Beavers grow in confidence".

"Inspiration from other Scout Leaders motivates me every day and confirms to me that I want to stay in The Scouts for a long time."

Vacancy

Team Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Friday Beavers



Vacancy, temporarily being covered by Nicola Silke

Cub Scouts

The Cubs section is for children aged eight to ten and a half. We have three Cub Scout Packs in the Group.

Georgina Warwick

Team Leader (Cub Scouts)- Tuesday “Romans” Cubs



See the Senior Leadership Team section above

Natasha Bayston

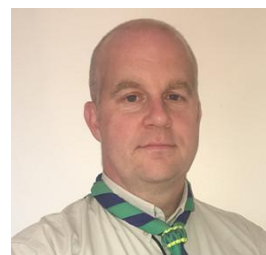
Team Leader (Cub Scouts)- Thursday “Saxons” Cubs



Natasha has been with the group since she joined as a scout in 2011. She stayed as a young leader for Cubs when she finished scouts in 2014. In 2018 she was given an application for assistant section leader and became the assistant section leader of Thursday Cubs. In 2019 she took over from Tina as the section leader for Thursday Cubs.

David Thorne

Team Leader (Cub Scouts)- Friday “Vikings” Cubs



See the Senior Leadership Team section above

Scouts

The Scout Section is for young people aged ten and a half to fourteen years old. We have three Scout Troops in the Group.

Matt Nicholas

Team Leader (Scouts)- Tuesday “Dringhouses PC” Scouts



Matt started as a leader with Dringhouses in September 2024. He has been within Scouts since he was a Cub going through Scouts and Explorers where he earned his Gold Duke of Edinburgh award and Queens Scouts Award. He has been a young leader in his hometown of Saffron Walden until he left for university in 2011. After University he returned to Scouting as an assistant leader in Doncaster. He has attended the World Scout Jamboree in Japan in 2015 as part of the International Support Team and as a participant attended The World Scout Moot in Iceland in 2018. Now the Team Leader of Tuesday Scouts he has interests in hiking and orienteering and has recently volunteered to assist in running Duke of Edinburgh training and expeditions.

Jonny Fry

Team Leader (Scouts)- Thursday “St Edward’s” Scouts



Jonny started at Dringhouses as a Beaver and, despite being away from York at different points in time has always maintained a connection with the group. As a Dringhouses member, he cycled from Lands' End to John O'Groats, attended the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden in 2011, completed his Queen's Scout Award, and earned his Explorer Belt in Morocco. In 2017 Jonny was a member of the Colour Party at the National Scout Day of Celebration and Achievement at Windsor Castle and has since returned to help as a Team Leader to celebrate the achievements of Queen's and King's Scouts and others who have received Scouting awards. Jonny was awarded his Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service in 2021 and is Team Leader at Thursday Scouts.

Charlotte McCarthy

Team Leader (Scouts)- Friday “St Helen’s” Scouts



Charlotte began Scouting in 1997 as an Assistant Beaver Scout Leader at St Chad's Greys Scouts where she had been a Young Leader, Venture Scout and Band Member. She moved to Holgate Scouts as an Assistant Beaver Leader in 2001 but a year later moved to the Scouts Section as an Assistant Leader to support Andy, the Section Leader, who unbeknownst to her at the time, would become her husband. Charlotte is part of a large Scouting family who then married into another large scouting family!

“I love working with the older age ranges so applied and was honoured to represent North Yorkshire in the UK at the 21st World Scout Jamboree in 2007 as an Assistant Unit Leader working with Explorers. I had a short stint as the Ebor District Explorer Scout Commissioner but felt this was too much with a young family, so took a break.

When my eldest, Georgia, joined Beavers in 2015 (Now an Explorer) and Katie was looking for leaders and running a parent helper rota, I did my rostered nights and found I had really missed Scouting, so I was lured back and Joined Friday Beavers “I am really lucky to have a very supportive family who are all involved in the group in one way or another!”

Explorer Scouts

The Explorer Scout section is for young people aged fourteen to seventeen. We are partnered with two District Explorer Scout Units (ESU). Young Leaders are also Explorer Scouts; they assist other sections within the Group. Young Leaders need not be a member of an Explorer Scout Unit, and they may also be volunteering with the Group as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Vacancy	District Team Leader (Explorer Scouts)- Monday "Nordic" ESU
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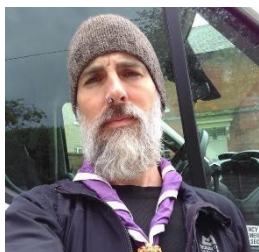


Andy Elliott	District Team Leader (Explorer Scouts)- Wednesday "Yorvik" ESU
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See the Senior Leadership Team section above

Iain McIntyre	Group Team Leader (Explorer Scout Young Leaders)
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Iain's Scouting journey began in Cumbria where he was a Cub, a Scout and then a Venture Scout circa the mid-90's. He only returned to Scouting in 2016 as a Section Assistant with St Edwards Troop at Dringhouses, moving in 2019 to be a Team Member at Monday Explorers. In December 2018 Iain was asked to help with the running of the Young Leaders part of Dringhouses Explorer Scout section and coordinate their volunteering with the other sections (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts) and to manage their training needs.

Iain also holds the York Ebor District role of Duke of Edinburgh's Award Coordinator. His eldest child is at present in Beavers with Dringhouses.

Iain has a daughter at Cubs and Scouts

Vacancies

Vacancies	We are currently recruiting for the following uniformed positions:
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- Team Members, all Squirrels nights
- Team Members, Wednesday Beavers
- Team Leader, Friday Beavers
- Team Members, all Cubs nights
- Team Leader, Tuesday Scouts
- Team Members, Tuesday Scouts
- Team Member, Friday Scouts
- Team Leader, Monday Explorers
- Team Members, both Explorer nights

Roll of Honour

Congratulations to all the adult volunteers that have been recognised for their service to Scouting this year:

	Award for Merit The Award for Merit is given for outstanding service of not less than 12 years and 10 years exceptionally. It implies keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service over a sustained period. Annie Bennett, Chair of the Group Trustee Board
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Length of service awards are available to Members and Associate Members of the Association with eligible roles that accrue service, uniformed or not, the following awards were issued this year:

	Chief Scout's 5 Years Service Award - Dagmara Blachut - Dan Swan - Emma Fletcher - Justin Moss - Meg Holgate
	Chief Scout's 10 Years Service Award Georgina Warwick

Group Awards

Congratulations to all our young people receiving awards this year, all recipients will also receive a £10 voucher to spend in Go Outdoors:

 Monday Tuesday Friday	Squirrel of the year: Martha Jennings Thomas Jackson Harriet Lees
 Tuesday Wednesday Friday	Beaver of the year: Mia Clough Hali and Ida Cham Harry Squire
 Romans (Tuesday) Saxons (Thursday) Vikings (Friday)	Cub of the year: Oscar Morris Klara Szymczakowska Marie Franklin
 Dringhouses PC Troop (Tuesday) St Edward's Troop (Thursday) St Helen's Troop (Friday)	Scout of the year: Isabelle Hogan Karla Diget Amelia Auckland
 Nordic Explorers (Monday) Jorvik Explorers (Wednesday) Young Leaders	Explorer Scout of the year: Amalie Gaudekova Harry Clark Toby Robinson

The Chairman's Cup

The Chairman's Cups are awarded every year to an adult and a youth member of the Group who have made significant effort over and above what is normally expected. They also receive a £20 voucher to spend at Go Outdoors.

Chairman's Cup – Youth Members: Jake Auckland

Chairman's Cup – Adult Volunteers: Phil Bennett

Section Reports

First, a few pictures:



Squirrels

Squirrels at Dringhouses have continued to grow and develop across the three dreys with our young people engaging in a wide range of activities, experiences and fun. Our regular programme has covered a range of activity and challenge badges to help Squirrels develop and work towards the Chief Scouts Acorn award. It was great to see many of our Squirrels receive their award at the District Award Ceremony in October.



We were actively involved in a range of Group and District events this year, which not only supported a wider understanding of the Scouting family but also gave a taster of the opportunities available to the older sections. All three dreys had a joint visit to Beetlebank Farm, where the chance to get close to some furry friends was (mostly) welcomed, as was the freedom of a

whole play park to themselves. A Dringhouses team won the first ever District Sports Day, which managed to complete a range of favourite games before the rain arrived. We joined the Beavers at the Group Christmas bounce and the District Christmas party.

Squirrels joined Group Camp again this year for a longer afternoon of activities, finishing with a campfire and songs, with some great support by some of our Explorers and Young Leaders. We also joined the final day of the Junior Larkin International Jamboree for a warm day of games, activities and the experience of a Jamboree only a few miles from home.

Our regular meetings had a mixed programme of activities with Squirrels engaging in exciting experiments, storytelling, seasonal crafts and games. We had an excellent visit from a local music teacher who had each night moving, drumming and shaking to various rhythms. All three nights had memorable visits to BBC Radio York to learn about local radio and the role it plays in our community. They also recorded their thoughts on superheroes they know.

A packed year when Squirrels once again expanded their boundaries!



BEAVERS

So, this year Beavers have been having fun making new friends, meeting people learning new things, challenging themselves to have new experiences and growing in confidence (and height of course) as they go! We've seen a small change in leadership with Katie Harvey leaving Friday Beavers and stepping down from her role co-ordinating all things Beaver related for the Group. We're all really grateful to Nicola Silke for stepping up to the role of Group Team Leader for Beavers from September. If anyone wants to join our successful Beavers team on a Friday, please let us know as we really do need

new helpers- we've been too successful and have more Beavers than ever!

This year we've been very busy too. We had a camp at Elvington, attended the Larkin International Jamboree and of course, we took parents on Group Camp to show them what it's all about!

Camping is fun and a great way to learn independence and that we can do it if we have a go!



We also spent some time out and about in our local community; learning road safety, cycling, discovering nature on our doorstep. It turns out the leaders are just big kids too... who knew!

The Wizard Walk in the City was also great fun! There was loads more that we did during the year, but there's just not enough space to fit it all in on one page.

We're all looking forward to the fun stuff we've got planned for next year though, can't wait!!



cubs



Cubs have had a fantastic, jam-packed year covering a range of activities and events working towards their badges and developing skills for life!

The Cubs leadership team has changed a bit, after Jane and Sarah stepped down in the summer. And Georgina moved to be Tuesday Cubs Team Leader and took on coordinating all the Cubs nights, we also said goodbye to lola who has moved down south after completing her degree and welcomed Kelly who has joined the Friday Cubs team.

Elvington Air Museum, Beetle Bank Farm, Acomb Fire station, Kayaking, Ten Pin bowling and Energise are some of the places Cubs have been this year, learning, playing and having fun.



Cubs have also been on several camps this year including Larkin, Elvington, and not forgetting Group Camp, all of which gave them amazing opportunities to meet new people from other groups all over the UK and further afield and from different sections in Scouting and Girl Guiding and try new activities, building confidence and resilience as they went.



Throughout the year Cubs have met up with several other Cub packs as they participated in District events including athletics, football, rounders, chess, rugby, The Hergarth Challenge District activity days.

SCOUTS



Scouts has been amazing this year, so much to do, see, experience, and it's great to see the older Scouts supporting the younger ones as well. Whether it's helping them to settle in when moving up to Scouts, teaching new skills or supporting on a camp, watching young adults helping members of their team is just amazing!

Cooking is always popular, be it a ready steady cook event or learning how to use a Trangia by cooking popcorn, Scouts always want to do more cooking, do they cook as much at home?

Camps are a great opportunity to cook as well, but they are also great for getting out doors, whether that's in the snow around Roseberry Topping or the Mud next to Leeds Bradford Airport, learning to navigate, work as a team, what to wear, what to take, what not to take, it's all part of the great outdoors experience that our Scouts embrace.

Any excuse to dress up, we were on the Romans Sub-Camp at the Larkin Jamboree and of course that involved dressing up, leaders too. We think Scout leaders do it just to have the excuse to have fun and join in as well!

It's been great to welcome Matt to the Scouts Team as he took over from Janey (who has gone to university) at Tuesday Scouts. And what's been amazing is the number of young leaders that have been with the group since joining as Beavers who have now joined the team as adult volunteers as well. It's with mixed emotions that we see them continue their education at various universities from September, happy for them embarking on the next step in their life, sad to see them leave the group, but maybe they'll come back, who knows?

This does leave some space for new volunteers, if you're interested, please let us know as we'd love to have you in our successful team!



EXPLORERS

Last summer saw Explorers join the other sections from Dringhouses as well as Scouts & Guides from all over the UK and world at the Larkin Jamboree, there were plenty of activities going on and some Explorers used their charm as the sombrero gang to trade some neckers from a group in Scotland!

September saw us take part in Group Camp, which is always a fun event, Explorers normally provide the campfire entertainment and get the fire roaring!

Escape is always a highlight of the year, and this year was no different with some of our members attending the 24-hour event and experiencing some type 2 fun!



Some of the Explorers helped with the Christmas tree recycling which raised a great amount of money for 2025's summer camp in Switzerland.

January saw the return of Janumas camp, we did a park run, cooked a Christmas meal and enjoyed some games over a weekend camp.

And this year was the first time we have taken part in the London Monopoly run, a fantastic event run for over 8000 Scouts & Guides all navigating their way across London's Monopoly venues.

We were lucky enough to win some tickets to the Explorer takeover day at the national space centre where we learnt about space and even saw a partial solar eclipse.

Section nights have seen us cooking, hiking, kayaking, and many other activities, all in all, a busy and fun year!





Statutory Reports

For year ending March 2025

Trustees' Annual Report

From 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Reference and administration details

Registered charity name:	Dringhouses (Parish Church) Scout Group
Registered charity number:	1064151
Registered number with Scout Association:	37243
Charity's contact address:	Scout HQ, St Edward the Confessor Church, Tadcaster Road, Dringhouses, YORK, YO24 1QG

Trustees

Group Trustee Board for the above period:

Group Lead Volunteer	Dave Thorne
Chairperson	Annie Bennett
Treasurer	Jan Moor
Treasury Team Member/Church Rep	Wendy Hewitt
Group Secretary	Lucy Leinster
Safety Officer	Mike Hewitt
Trustee	Justin Moss
Trustee	Catherine Bell
Trustee	Susan Rundle
Trustee	Gareth Mines
Trustee	James Etherington

Structure, governance and management

The Group is registered with The Scout Association's under their Royal Charter which gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association. The Group is run according to Policy Organisation and Rules (POR) which contains guidance from The Scout Association and closely observes Charity Commission guidelines. We have a constitution which is based on the model outlined in POR but adapted to our specific needs. Management of the Scouting provision is outlined in the Group Development Plan.

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the POR. The Group is managed by the Group Lead Volunteer, supported by the Group Senior Leadership team and the Group Trustee Board.

The Group Trustee Board:

- Maintains Group Property
- Administers the Group's finances, including fundraising
- Is responsible for risk management and Insurance
- Runs Group public occasions
- Assists with recruitment of leaders and other adult support

- Appoints any sub-groups that may be required.

The attendance record of the trustee board has risen in line with the target of 80% set in the previous annual report and was in fact 86%.

Risk and internal control

The risks associated with running a scout group are given priority by The Trustee Board and the teams associated with the day to day running of the group. A Risk Register is in place and regularly reviewed and updated.

We have a Safety Officer in place who is a Trustee. The Risk Register outlines the Governance risks to the group, the most serious of which have been identified as:

Injury to members, leaders, helpers, supporters, and the public. Risk assessments are undertaken, in line with POR, before all activities and are approved as outlined therein. The Group takes risk to the person very seriously and regularly reviews all continuing risk assessments. The Group is Insured through The Scout Association's national accident insurance policy (paid annually through capitation fees) and additionally takes out insurance to cover occasional helpers.

Safeguarding of members, leaders, supporters and the public. Every volunteer is vetted; DBS checked and must undertake safe-guarding training shortly after appointment and review at regular intervals. The Scout Association policy (Yellow Card) is strictly adhered to.

Damage to the building, property, and equipment. Should the building be uninhabitable the Group would seek accommodation in the Church, with neighbouring organisations, and other scout groups. Equipment could be borrowed from other groups until insurance claims are made. Adequate insurance is in place and regularly reviewed. We would undertake immediate action to rectify any damage.

Reduced income from fundraising. The Group is reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. In the absence of fund-raising income, the Committee would raise the level of subscriptions and institute cost-cutting measures.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant on volunteers. We are constantly seeking and recruiting new leaders. However, if there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level and recruitment was unsuccessful, we would appeal to the District Lead Volunteer for assistance but ultimately the number of sections may need to be reduced.

The full Risk Register and disaster planning documents can be seen on request.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document.

As stated in POR:

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

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

In planning our activities to meet The Scout Association's objectives, we also keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and performance.

The Group is maintained at 14 sections, each meeting during term time. There is a small waiting list which is operated in line with the published formal policy.

The annual census return submitted to The Scout Association in February 2025 puts the group in the category of one of the largest in the District and County, however trustees and leadership are mindful of maintaining the quality of the programme the group provides.

Community activities have continued and are comprehensively covered in the Lead Volunteers Report as are camps, events, and award (Badge) achievement.

Our active Explorer and Young Leaders section provide the group with a great pool of young people who remain in the group as adult volunteers when they turn 18.

The Group continues to lead the way in training compliance with all members being up to date with The Scout Association's mandatory ongoing training. The newly released versions of much training have meant all members have to comply in a set period and our leaders are making good progress.

The group youth membership on the 31st March 2025 was 295 young people.

Financial review

Due to costs remaining on the high side and the substantial rise in Capitation (per member sum paid to the Scout Association) the decision was taken to raise our own subscription level to £15.50 a month for the last 6 months of the financial year, enabling us to adequately meet the needs of the Group. We offset this difficult decision with renewing our resolve to ensure we catch as many young people as possible who may need financial support with our member support fund.

Gift aid claims are now regularly taking place to benefit the group from a steady predictable income. The remainder of our income came from continued strong fundraising (just under £6,000), together with hiring of the minibuses. A grant funding the Member Support Fund was received from the Ward and a generous pledge of ongoing donations to go to this fund from St Edward's Church enables ensure no one is excluded due to lack of funds.

We are also very grateful to have received a significant donation in memory of Rob Dobson, who volunteered as a leader in Beavers for over 15 years and latterly with Squirrels.

Our largest expenditure was on Camps and Activities, with an even greater number taking place, which continue to be very well received.

The majority of our running costs e.g. premises and minibus have continued to be on the high side. Due to the continued unreliability of the two minibuses and the difficulty of towing the trailer with either, the difficult decision was made to look at alternatives. The purchase of two second-hand minibuses and a second-hand van, partly using part exchange/sale of the current buses will shortly be completed and the outlay has been contained within the small surplus from 2024-2025 and a small amount of the current sinking fund. This means that there will be a reasonable pot in the sinking fund to replace these second-hand minibuses when required. Minor repairs and maintenance have been carried out on the building. We anticipate the need to undertake roof repairs, consider a new heating system and additional storage in the coming year.

Reserves policy

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Board of Trustees considers that the Group should hold a sum of £15,000 in reserve as well as the two sinking funds described below.

At the end of March 2025, the minibus fund (before purchase of the replacement minibuses and van) was £29,130 (2024: £24,130) and the premises fund was £17,815 (2024: £15,600). Each year, we will set aside: £2,000 for premises expenses, and £5,000 for the minibus fund so that we have sufficient cash balances to replace the buses when they are deemed too old to be used. The Reserves Policy is reviewed annually.

We have fully utilised grant funding received in the previous financial year which has been used towards membership hardship cases and the purchase of bell tents, a second-hand oven and new Squirrels flags. Our year-end cash balance is £92,226 (2024: £63,847) which is greater than the sinking funds and current camp/activities income yet to spend, meaning that the Group is operating within its reserves. The extra surplus this year will be used up by the purchase of a van, which is much needed for the Group's continued activities.

A savings account continues to hold monies not needed for the day to day running of the Group, particularly the sinking funds, to earn interest in the meantime, however no other investments have been made or are planned.

In line with the advice received from our Independent Examiner, we are continuing to show the value of our other assets, which currently consist of our two minibuses and one trailer.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees by

Annie Bennett, Group Chair

Janet Moor, Group Treasurer

Financial Summary

For the Period from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Receipts and Payments

Receipts

All amounts shown in GBP	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2023/24
Receipts	£	£	£	£
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions	44,116		44,116	37,271
less: membership subscriptions paid to National/County/Area and District	-18,810		-18,810	-16,020
Net membership subscriptions retained	25,306	0	25,306	21,251
Gift aid	13,311		13,311	8,271
Sub total	38,617	0	38,617	29,522
Grants and donations				
Grants received	1,000	2,166	3,166	-412
Sub total	1,000	2,166	3,166	-412
Fundraising (gross)				
Fundraising activities	10,029		10,029	5,012
Sub total	10,029		10,029	5,012
Activities				
Camps and activities	47,978		47,978	46,232
Minibus hirings	618		618	1,087
Badges and neckers	97		97	
Sub total	48,693	0	48,693	47,320
Interest	991		991	575
Property rent income	435		435	1,204
Sub total	1,426	0	1,426	1,778
Miscellaneous	0		0	8
Total receipts	99,765	2,166	101,931	83,228

Payments	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last Year
	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2023/24
Subscriptions Go Cardless fees	-1,356		-1,356	-31,605
Camps inc. Go Cardless fees	-45,479		-45,479	-3,238
Section activities	-3,602		-3,602	-5,848
Ground rent, fuel, insurance, repairs and renewals	-8,174		-8,174	-1,292
Equipment	-2,019		-2,019	
Minibus expenses	-8,595		-8,595	
Badges, neckers and uniform	-2,799		-2,799	-4,600
Administration	-976		-976	-3,236
Subscriptions Go Cardless fees	-1,356		-1,356	-2,340
Sub total	-73,552	0	-73,552	-77,991
Fundraising expenses	-464		-464	-6
Sub total	-464	0	-464	-6
Miscellaneous	-87		-87	-15
Total payments	-73,552	0	-73,552	-78,012
Net of receipts/(payments)	26,213	2,166	28,379	5,216
Transfers between funds				
Cash funds last year end	63,847	0	63,847	58,631
Cash funds this year end	90,059	2,166.29	92,226	63,847

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	31/03/2025	31/03/2025	31/03/2025	31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Current account	65,059.32	2,166	67,226	38,847
United Trust Bank	25,000		25,000	25,000
Total	90,059	2,166	92,226	63,847
Other assets	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	31/03/2025	31/03/2025	31/03/2025	31/03/2024
	£	£		£
Motor vehicles	29,000	-	29,000	39,500
Equipment etc	-	-	-	-

The above receipts and payments accounts and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

Annie Bennett, **Group Chair**

Janet Moor, **Group Treasurer**

THE TRUSTEES OF DRINGHOUSES (PC) SCOUT GROUP

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE

TRUSTEES OF DRINGHOUSES (PC) SCOUT GROUP

.1 report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Dringhouses (PC) Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

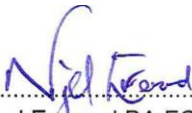
I report in respect of my examination of the Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the 201 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirements that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


.....
Nigel Everard BA FCA

Hunter Gee Holroyd Chartered
Accountants
Club Chambers
Museum Street
York
YO1 7DN

Date...18/06/2025



Scouts

Dringhouses York



© 2025 Dringhouses (Parish Church) Scout Group

The Scout Hut, St. Edward The Confessor Church, Tadcaster Road, York YO24 1QG

Tel: 07719 079567

Email: enquire@dringhousescouts.org.uk

Web: dringhousescouts.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1064151 (England & Wales)

DRINGHOUSES (P.C.) SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1064151

Accounts

Dringhouses Scouts Annual Review 2023/2024



Scouts

Dringhouses
York



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A Report from the Chair

(including statement of Public Benefit)

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

This review outlines the major activities undertaken by the group in the past 12 months to fulfil that purpose. The Group Trustee Board works hard to ensure the group has the finances and infrastructure to enable leaders to deliver the highest standard of scouting possible.

The Scout Association is making far reaching changes to volunteering and the way we deliver Scouting and Dringhouses Scouts have risen to the challenges which change inevitably creates. Always with the aim of a better experience for our young people but also our volunteers this work will continue this year.

Great effort has been made to ensure we have robust policies in place and a constitution which remains relevant.

There is a strong emphasis on using Charity Commission guidance and tools to ensure a standard of Good Governance is constantly being improved. The board itself has looked to its effectiveness including attendance levels and action completion. Our attendance averages mostly over 60% throughout the year and while this compares favourably with national averages in the UK charity sector, and while we would aspire to 100%, we look to raise this from the current level to 80% in the coming year. Our completion of action points of 43%, (not all points are personally completed by the trustees). We intend to keep this list under 40 actions and seek to improve the completion rate significantly with the change in how the board operates.

Fundraising has been undertaken to ensure subscription levels have remained sensible and did not rise during what has been a challenging year for many. Our member support fund helps ensure cost is not a cause for exclusion. We have also funded two leaders through their minibus and trailer training to successful passes and continued our programme of upgrading equipment.

As always there is room for improvement to how the Board supports provision of Scouting in Dringhouses, and we will not be complacent. This year the group has had a total of 89 Volunteers and 17 Trustees working to support delivery of programmes to our nearly 300 young people. It is evident to any observer of the group's activities that our young people grow in confidence, well-being, and skills for life quite apart from simply enjoying themselves.

The teams of volunteers on the front line and behind the scenes are incredibly hard-working and dedicated and cannot be praised highly enough. I offer them my personal thanks for their contribution.

Annie Bennett, Group Chair

Annie

Lead Volunteer's Report

The 2023/4 year has seen a lot of changes both at the Group and with The Scouts nationally as well. The Scouts are undergoing a series of changes to modernise, this is starting with the approach to volunteering. The transformation, which has started this year and continues for the next couple of years, will see the way volunteers are appointed and the structure of learning changing to be more accessible and flexible. The change will impact processes, systems and even what we call ourselves, (you'll note my role is now Group lead Volunteer, not Group Scout Leader. Change is often intimidating and scary, but I see this as a great opportunity to make a difference, encourage new ideas, and make Scouting better for everyone. In the coming year we hope to adopt a new system and team structure as part of these changes.

Dringhouses Scouts is booming, the quality of the Scouting we provide is truly amazing and we are so lucky to have such a dedicated team of volunteers, this includes the front-line leaders, members of the trustee board, members of the programme and event support team (formerly active support) and even parents who occasionally volunteer support the activities we're running. Thanks to all of you for providing fun and adventure to the children and young people of our community.

The group is the largest it has ever been, and we are now the largest group in the District and probably the County and this is testament to the quality of the service we provide. Size is not everything and we focus on delivering quality programmes in a safety driven culture with a focus on compliance with Scout Association and Charity Commission rules.

As well as all the adventures we have, it is also important that we serve our local community and it has been brilliant to be able to clear litter at Acomb Wood, improve paths and amenities at Chapman's Pond and to visit Abbeyfields to help out with gardening and Christmas carols and other activities to support the residents there.

I was also proud of our Scouts and Leaders at the District Awards evening this year when we won the prize for the most Chief Scouts Awards in the City, and already this year it looks like we are going to exceed that number. The Chief Scout's awards are the top awards for each age group and demonstrate that we are delivering Scouting in line with best practices defined by The Scouts nationally.

Group Camp continues to be a great success and last year was no exception. I am always amazed by the dedication of the volunteers who run this event, building kitchens, dining and sleeping areas for all of us is no mean feat and I cannot wait for it to come around again this year.

Looking back on last year I feel it is the first full year since the lockdowns of the COVID-19 pandemic and I'm optimistic that, with each year we're just getting stronger and stronger. Well done everyone!

David Thorne, Group Lead Volunteer

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave". The script is casual and cursive, with a large 'D' and a trailing flourish.

Meet the Team

The Trustee Board (core members)

Members of the Trustee Board make decisions and carry out administrative tasks to ensure that the best quality Scouting can be delivered to all young people in the Group and that the Group is compliant with the relevant legislation and managed in line with Charity Commission regulations and the Policy Organisation and Rules of The Scouts.

Annie Bennett

Group Chair



Annie became involved with the Group as a parent. She began helping at Group Camp and when asked if she would Chair the executive committee (now the Board of Trustees), decided it was a post she could bring her organisational skills to and help the Group without being a uniformed member. Now retired and with grandchildren in scouting, she is able to give more time to support the great team of volunteers we have.

Jan Moor

Group Secretary



Jan was a Brownie and Guide when she was growing up and absolutely loved it. Jan was very keen her two children should have the same rewarding experiences and so both her children are in Scouting/Guiding and enjoying every moment. Jan has a child in the Group, who is now in Explorers, having started 10 years ago as a Beaver.

Jan joined the group as a Parent Rep on the Executive Committee (particularly helping with fundraising) and Active support in Summer 2017, as she wanted to contribute to the Group. She agreed to take on the Group Secretary role early in 2019, which gives her the ability to support the working of the Group a bit more, using her business skills, in between significant travelling for her job.

John Lucas

Group Treasurer



Having seen the pleasure and benefits in being involved with Scouting from a friend, I was very pleased to find an opening with Dringhouses Group on my return to York.

Having previously been a treasurer for a Coventry based charity whilst living and working in the Midlands until a few years ago, together with undertaking a range of finance related roles professionally, I joined to support the Group in 2021 to maintain robust financial records and to ensure the continued good work of Sections can continue to enrich and enhance the skills and experiences of our Members.

Wendy Hewitt

Group Co-Treasurer



Wendy started volunteering with the group at the 40th anniversary camp -with Debbie in the tea van. However, she has been involved since her eldest son was a Beaver Scout over 20 years ago. Wendy was the Group Secretary until 2019 when she agreed to start to take over the treasurer role. Wendy, who works in the church office, is also unofficial (and much valued) caretaker of the HQ .

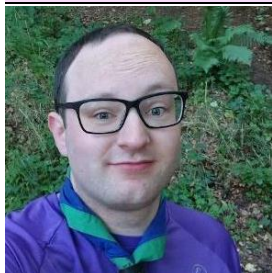
Wendy enjoys the camaraderie of being part of a team and the ever-expanding Group. She also enjoys the challenge of the treasurer role and getting to grips with spreadsheets!

The Management Team

The Management Team coordinates all Scouting activities within the Group. The Group Chair is also a part of the Management Team. The full team is listed below in alphabetical order.

Andrew White

Group Team Leader (Scouts)



Andrew has been in Scouting since being a Beaver Scout with 1st Herrington Scout Group in Sunderland where he grew-up. Soon after moving to York in 2015 to study Electronics at the University of York, he reached out to Dringhouses Scout Group to carry on his Scouting journey.

He has been with the Tuesday Scout section throughout where he has climbed the ranks to be Team Leader (Section Leader). He enjoys being in the great outdoors and passing on his knowledge and skills to his Scouts. Andrew became the Lead Volunteer for Scouts in May 2022.

Andy Elliott

Group Team Leader (Explorers)



Andy was a youth member of the Yorvik Explorer Unit and after returning from University decided to become part of the volunteer team at Dringhouses Scouts. You probably will not see many photographs of Andy at events as he is usually the one taking them all!

Having been an Explorer leader for about six years, Andy agreed to take on the Group Team Leader role for Explorers in 2021 when the vacancy arose.

Andy's daughter is in Beavers and son is in Squirrels.

Chris Rundle

Group Team Leader (Squirrels)



Chris first became involved with Dringhouses Scouts when his eldest son joined Beavers in 2020 (he's now in Cubs). He joined the working group on Squirrels in 2021 to consider the options for starting this new section and then decided he should be part of launching Squirrels for real as a Section Leader. In November 2022 he also took on the role of Group Team Leader for Squirrels.

'I enjoyed helping out as a parent on the occasional evening at Beavers, so becoming a volunteer was on the horizon. The support from group leaders, parents and squirrels has been great and I look forward to settling into the regular rhythm of activities and challenges for our young people.

David Thorne

Group Lead Volunteer



Dave started his Scouting career as a Cub Scout with the 1st Epping Ash and later 1st Holtspur Scout Groups. 'A few' years later he returned as Assistant Beaver Scout Leader with Dringhouses, transferring to be Cub Leader a year later.

From January 2021 Dave was Acting Group Scout Leader responsible for leading the team managing the Group, finally accepting the inevitable and becoming the Lead Volunteer for the group in late 2022.

Dave is also District Appointments Secretary, administering the appointment of all leaders in the District and sits on the District Awards Panel.

Dave has had two children go through the Group, one of whom has returned as an adult volunteer.

Justin Moss**Group Active Support Team Leader**

Moving to York about ten years ago and having been an Air Scout in my youth, I eagerly signed up my son for Beavers (Squirrels weren't available at the time). After attending the first group camp as a parent, I was inspired to support the group and became the Cub parent representative around 2019. When my son advanced to Scouts, I joined the active support team in 2021 and took over leadership from Martin in 2022.

Since my involvement, the active support group has flourished, continually expanding its volunteer base. We are always seeking more volunteers who want to contribute but can't commit to regular meetings. Opportunities include assisting at events like the fair, helping leaders at the beginning and end of camps, and supporting our pinnacle event, the group camp, which requires a couple of days to set up. Volunteers can also participate in county events, such as Ignite last year, a weekend event for around 800 Scouts and Explorers, and Larkin this year, a week-long event with international Scouts in Yorkshire, attended by about 3,000 participants.

Katie Harvey**Group Team Leader (Beavers)**

Katie joined Dringhouses Scout Group in 2011 when her son joined Beavers. He is now an Explorer Scout. Katie started volunteering as an Assistant Beaver Leader and after a couple of years took up the role of Team Leader. Shortly after that Katie also became Group Team Leader for Beavers.

Sarah Selby**Group Team Leader (Cubs)**

Sarah joined Dringhouses Scout Group in 2016 after seeing how much fun her children were having and wanting part of the action. She started as an Assistant Cub Leader and took on the role of Group Team Leader for Cubs in 2022.

Sarah is also self-appointed Badge Coordinator (not a real title) and can often be found hanging out with Friday Cubs' mascot, Loki. Both her children are now Explorer Scouts.

The Team Leaders

Team Leaders are responsible for coordinating the programme for their night and liaising with the sections before and after as appropriate.

Squirrel Scouts

Squirrels is for children aged four and five years old. We have three Squirrel Scout dreds in the Group.

Chris Rundle

Team Leader (Squirrel Scouts)- Monday Squirrels



See the Management Team section above

Vacancy

Team Leader (Squirrel Scouts)- Tuesday Squirrels



We look forward to welcoming Lisa Auckland to this role for the 2024/25 year and hopefully many future years

Vacancy

Team Leader (Squirrel Scouts)- Friday Squirrels



We look forward to welcoming Ash Elliott to this role for the 2024/25 year and hopefully many future years

Beaver Scouts

Beavers is for children aged six to eight years old. We have three Beaver Scout colonies in the Group.

Nicola Silke

Team Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Tuesday Beavers



Nicola joined Dringhouses Scouts in September 2018 as a Section Assistant, after being accosted on a "sunny" group camp to join Beavers. She quickly progressed to Assistant Leader in December 2018 and became Team Leader in September 2019. Nicola has been involved with the group since 2012 when her eldest daughter joined Cubs.

"I joined on a trial basis and was surprised how much I enjoyed it. It's a great feeling seeing the Beavers take part and enjoy the activities and challenges set out for them. For me it's an amazing way to be able to give something back to the local community."

Olga Iwaszkiewicz-Bogdańska

Team Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Wednesday Beavers



Olga started with the Group in February 2019, initially to help her daughter's confidence when she joined. She became an Assistant Leader with Wednesday Beavers but, when the opportunity came, it took her about a minute to decide to move to the Section Leader role.

"The idea of teaching Beavers new skills during weekly meetings and camps and seeing how proud they are when they succeed or when they receive a badge puts the biggest smile on my face and pride in my heart. Week to week I can see how the Beavers grow in confidence".

"Inspiration from other Scout Leaders motivates me every day and confirms to me that I want to stay in The Scouts for a long time."

Katie Harvey**Team Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Friday Beavers**

See the Management Team section above

Cub Scouts

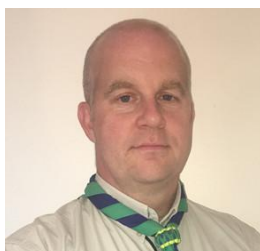
The Cubs section is for children aged eight to ten and a half. We have three Cub Scout Packs in the Group.

Jane Wilson**Team Leader (Cub Scouts)- Tuesday "Romans" Cubs**

Jane has been with the group since joining as a Venture Scout in 1985, and in 1988 she was presented with an application form to be an Assistant Cub Scout Leader. Jane had a few years break from the Group to assist at Bishopthorpe Cub Section and was then asked to help Lidgett Grove Cub Section get back up on their feet.

Natasha Bayston**Team Leader (Cub Scouts)- Thursday "Saxons" Cubs**

Natasha has been with the group since she joined as a scout in 2011. She stayed as a young leader for Cubs when she finished scouts in 2014. In 2018 she was given an application for assistant section leader and became the assistant section leader of Thursday Cubs. In 2019 she took over from Tina as the section leader for Thursday Cubs.

David Thorne**Team Leader (Cub Scouts)- Friday "Vikings" Cubs**

See the Management Team section above

Scouts

The Scout Section is for young people aged ten and a half to fourteen years old. We have three Scout Troops in the Group.

Janey Thorne

Team Leader (Scouts)- Tuesday “Dringhouses PC” Scouts



Janey has been with the group since she joined as a Beaver in 2011. She progressed through all the sections and really enjoyed being a Young Leader, so it seemed natural to become an adult leader too.

When the role of Team Leader for Tuesday Scouts became available last Christmas, she thought she may as well give it a go, and definitely made the right decision. Janey has really enjoyed seeing the Scouts develop throughout the year both in terms of their skills and as people and she looks forward to all the future fun Scouting will bring!

Jonny Fry

Team Leader (Scouts)- Thursday “St Edward’s” Scouts



Jonny started at Dringhouses as a Beaver and, despite being away from York at different points in time has always maintained a connection with the group. As a Dringhouses member, he cycled from lands end to John O’Groats, attended the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden in 2011, completed his Queen’s Scout Award, and earned his Explorer Belt in Morocco. In 2017 Jonny was a member of the Colour Party at the National Scout Day of Celebration and Achievement at Windsor Castle and has since returned to help as a Team Leader to celebrate the achievements of Queen’s and King’s Scouts and others who have received Scouting awards. Jonny was awarded his Chief Scout’s Commendation for Good Service in 2021 and is Team Leader at Thursday Scouts.

Charlotte McCarthy

Team Leader (Scouts)- Friday “St Helen’s” Scouts



Charlotte began Scouting in 1997 as an Assistant Beaver Scout Leader at St Chad’s Greys Scouts where she had been a Young Leader, Venture Scout and Band Member. She moved to Holgate Scouts as an Assistant Beaver Leader in 2001 but a year later moved to the Scouts Section as an Assistant Leader to support Andy, the Section Leader, who unbeknownst to her at the time, would become her husband. Charlotte is part of a large Scouting family who then married into another large scouting family!

“I love working with the older age ranges so applied and was honoured to represent North Yorkshire in the UK at the 21st World Scout Jamboree in 2007 as an Assistant Unit Leader working with Explorers. I had a short stint as the Ebor District Explorer Scout Commissioner but felt this was too much with a young family, so took a break.

When my eldest, Georgia, joined Beavers in 2015 (Now an Explorer) and Katie was looking for leaders and running a parent helper rota, I did my rostered nights and found I had really missed Scouting, so I was lured back and Joined Friday Beavers”

I am really lucky to have a very supportive family who are all involved in the group in one way or another! “

Explorer Scouts

The Explorer Scout section is for young people aged fourteen to seventeen. We are partnered with two District Explorer Scout Units (ESU). Young Leaders are also Explorer Scouts, they assist other sections within the Group. Young Leaders need not be a member of an Explorer Scout Unit and they may also be volunteering with the Group as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Vacancy

District Team Leader (Explorer Scouts)- Monday "Nordic" ESU



Andy Elliott

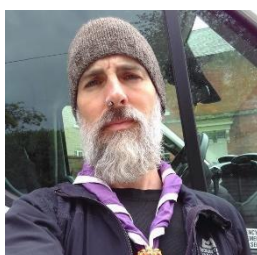
District Team Leader (Explorer Scouts)- Wednesday "Yorvik" ESU



See the management team section above

Iain McIntyre

Group Team Leader (Explorer Scout Young Leaders)



Iain's Scouting journey began in Cumbria where he was a Cub, a Scout and then a Venture Scout circa the mid-90's. He only returned to Scouting in 2016 as a Section Assistant with St Edwards Troop at Dringhouses, moving in 2019 to be a Team Member at Monday Explorers. In December 2018 Iain was asked to help with the running of the Young Leaders part of Dringhouses Explorer Scout section and coordinate their volunteering with the other sections (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts) and to manage their training needs.

Iain also holds the York Ebor District role of Duke of Edinburgh's Award Coordinator. His eldest child is at present in Beavers with Dringhouses.

Iain has a daughter at Beavers and Cubs

Vacancies

Vacancies

We are currently recruiting for the following uniformed positions:



- Team Members, all Squirrels nights
- Team Member, Wednesday Beavers
- Team Members, Tuesday Cubs
- Team Member, Wednesday Beavers
- Team Leader, Monday Explorers
- Team Leader, Tuesday Scouts
- Team Members, Tuesday Scouts
- Team Members, both Explorer sections

Roll of Honour

Congratulations to all the adult volunteers that have been recognised for their service to Scouting this year:

	Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Service The Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service is given in respect of not less than 5 years good service, which stands out. It should be regarded as the Chief Scout's recognition of the very real contribution made to the Association by the individual concerned. • Alex Finch, Team Member, Group Active Support • Andrew White, Group Team Leader (Scouts) • Frances Delamere, Team Member, Nordic ESU • Jan Moor, Group Secretary • James Homan, Team Member, Group Active Support • Mike Laing, Team Member, Nordic ESU
	Ebor Star The Ebor Star is an award that can be gained by all youth members of York Ebor District by demonstrating a commitment or undertaking a task that exceeds normal expectations and as such deserves to be recognised. The award sits below the national awards for merit and is only awarded in York Ebor District • Rae Elliott • Sophia Liebenberg

Length of service awards are available to Members and Associate Members of the Association with eligible roles that accrue service, uniformed or not:

	Chief Scout's 5 Years Service Award • Alex Finch, Team Member, Group Active Support • Freya Sellers, Team Member, Yorvik ESU • James Kitchen, Team Member, Tuesday Beavers • Mike Laing, Team Member, Nordic ESU • Natasha Bayston, Team Leader, Saxons Cubs • Nicola Silke, Team Leader, Tuesday Beavers • Olga Iwaszkiewicz- Bogdańska, Team Leader, Wednesday Beavers • Matt Evans, Team Member, Vikings Cubs, St Helen's Scouts
	Chief Scout's 10 Years Service Award • Jonny Fry, Team Leader, St Edwards Scouts • Rachel Turner, Group Skills Instructor • Rob Atkin, Team Member, Group Active Support
	Chief Scout's 15 Years Service Award • Annie Bennett, Group Chair
	Chief Scout's 20 Years Service Award • Liz Atkin, Team Member, Group Active Support • Phil Bennet, Transport Manager
	Chief Scout's 25 Years Service Award • Mike Hewitt, Group Safety Officer

Training is an important part of the Group's activities which often goes unseen. All adult members of the Group (except occasional helpers) are required to complete the adult training scheme, with Group Managers, Team Leaders and Team Members being awarded a wood badge after successfully completing all the required training modules. Because of its importance we also like to recognise training success in this part of the report. Leaders have three years from when they start to complete their training.



Wood Badge

Since September 1919 adult volunteers in the Scouts have been awarded the Wood Badge on the completion of their leader training. The basic badge is made up of two wooden beads worn at the end of a leather lace.

- Andrew White, Group Team Leader (Scouts)
- Jonny Fry, Team Leader, St Edward's Scouts
- Scott Franklin, Team Member, St Helen's Scouts
- Tara Stephenson, Team Member, St Edward's Scouts

Group Awards

Congratulations to all of our young people receiving awards this year, all recipients will also receive a £10 voucher to spend in Go Outdoors:

 Monday Tuesday Friday	Squirrel of the year:
 Tuesday Wednesday Friday	Beaver of the year:
 Romans (Tuesday) Saxons (Thursday) Vikings (Friday)	Cub of the year:
 Dringhouses PC Troop (Tuesday) St Edward's Troop (Thursday) St Helen's Troop (Friday)	Scout of the year:
 Nordic Explorers (Monday) Jorvik Explorers (Wednesday) Young Leaders	Explorer Scout of the year:

The Chairman's Cup

The Chairman's Cups are awarded every year to an adult and a youth member of the Group who have made significant effort over and above what is normally expected. They also receive a £20 voucher to spend at Go Outdoors.

Chairman's Cup – Adult Volunteers:

Chairman's Cup – Youth Members:

Section Reports

First, a few pictures:



Squirrels

This is the second full year of Squirrels at Dringhouses and we continue to grow in experience and numbers. Our original two dreys have worked together to plan the programme, building the experience of leaders and the activities to support our lively and energetic young people. It is always a great sight when the dreys occasionally meet on the same night for a joint activity or session, which this year included the Coronation, summer sports evening and Christmas.

The year finished with the last of our original Squirrels moving up to Beavers after 23 months with Squirrels. It was a proud dad who watched Joshua Rundle gain his Chief Scouts Acorn badge and then just before he moved he became the first to have earned all the Squirrel activity and challenge awards.



The number of young people on our waiting list increased through the year, and so in February we launched Tuesday Squirrels, our third Drey, and we now have over 40 squirrels in the group across the three nights.



In another first for the group, Squirrels joined Group Camp for the Saturday afternoon at the appropriately named Squirrel Wood. This was the first time all sections across the group were present on camp with Squirrels and parents all learning something about the activities and camp food that they can look forward to in future years – hot dogs and hot chocolate were the main memories!

The weekly programme has continued to build on the framework of badges and calendar of activities covering a range of indoor and outdoor ideas. Local walks around the Railway pond and the woods off Tadcaster Road provide an abundance of local nature to explore, identify and learn about our neighbourhood. The support from parents on the rota is vital in enabling these outdoor activities and greatly appreciated by leaders.

During this year we completed activities across the final set of badges in the Squirrel plan which we had yet to complete. This has supported an increasing number of squirrels gaining their Acorn badge, but also learning something new. The badges cover a range of activities, but also skills like leading or helping others in the drey as they join or learn a new game. Well done and thank you Squirrels for another great year!



BEAVERS



Beavers have had another fun and exciting year with a variety of opportunities to learn new skills, make friends and go on adventures. As well as experiencing a varied programme that primarily focuses on achieving badges, new skills are nurtured and developed. By completing many challenge and interest badges, Beavers have continued to achieve their Bronze Scout Award before moving on to Cubs. Such badges have included taking care of their own planting, celebrating festivals and special days, sharing hobbies, learning knots, working together in teams, trying new outdoor games like archery,

putting up tents, tracking, cycling, learning about their local area, nature walks, exciting experiments, building, singing and toasting marshmallows.

Group camp, sleepovers with and without Cubs have all contributed to the Beavers' experience of Nights Away (badge) from home and a great opportunity for outdoor activities at various sites near and far. Beyond weekly meetings Beavers have enjoyed visiting the animals at Askham Bryan Wildlife Centre, witnessing some amazing magic on York Wizard Walk and learning about Disability from Leeds Rhinos and England's Rugby League World Cup-winning captain, Scott Gobin. A Christmas District party and our own Christmas Group bounce party were enjoyed by all.



Beavers have also been active in their local community helping to litter pick, clear and create new paths in a local public area. They have celebrated St George's Day by participating in a local treasure trail in the Woods and continue to visit a local residential home providing company and sharing activities. They enjoyed preparing things to sell at the Spring Fair and donating clothes for the charity collection.



cubs

Cubs has been great fun this year and we've even learned some skills for life along the way. It's brilliant to be able to celebrate achievements and so many Cubs have gained their Chief Scouts Silver award this year it's amazing. And well done to Sophia on being awarded the Ebor star too!



So, we started (well nearly) the year with a joint camp with Elvington Cubs at Birch Hall, just outside Dalby Forest. It was great to be able to Camp with another group, learn new things together and make new friends!

Th trip to Mission out was very damp, not just because lots of the Cubs jumped in the water, sorry that was not allowed, they all accidentally fell in, but it really didn't stop raining, But the Cubs rose to the challenge (literally) and them jumped!!



No rain for the summer hike around Aysgarth, the falls were great and it was fun to splash about In the river and then have a BBQ. This was in stark contrast to the winter hike around Skipwith Common where the rain returned, but happily stopped over lunch!

Winter camp, litter picking, group camp, a joint camp with Beavers, the district activity day, the Hergarth challenge, the big bounce, the district quiz, Another camp a birch Hall, marred only by a stomach bug and a trip to the Panto. How did we fit it all in?

Finally, Sarah Selby has stood down as Group Team Leader for Cubs, thanks Sarah for all you've done. And we also say goodbye to Jane Wilson who is retiring from Tuesday Cubs after 38 years, a truly amazing length of service, well done and thanks Jane!

SCOUTS



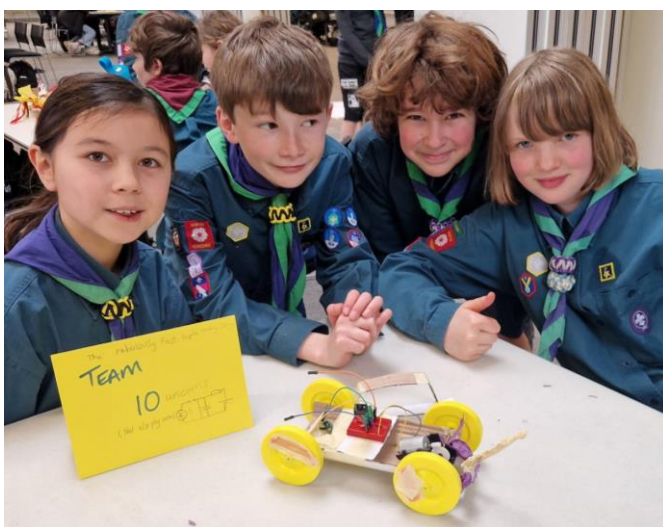
It's been an adventurous year for Scouts. The scouts participated in activities such as Kayaking, raft-building and an air trail at last August's summer camp.

Following this was an action-packed weekend at Ignite in the grounds of Castle Howard along with groups from around North Yorkshire. The Scouts then braved the cold at the Winter camp in January along with the Explorer Scouts.

Scouts this year have worked on a variety of badges, including Expedition, Outdoor and Teamwork challenge badges and the Chef, Athletics and Artist activity badges. Happily, we're going to have a record-breaking year with the most Scouts ever receiving the Chief



Scouts Gold award, which is awarded when a scout completes all of the challenge badges.



We also participated in some of the District events this year. These included a monopoly run where teams of scouts travelled around York visiting a variety of "Monopoly" locations. We also put our engineering hats on at the engineering team challenge event at the University of York, where teams competed to make a battery powered car to travel the furthest distance. One of our teams won the award for the "best aesthetics" for their car. Well done to them. The final District events, the distinct night hike, saw Scouts navigate in the dark around Stape and Levisham.

We're really enjoyed this year and we look forward to more adventures in the next year.

EXPLORERS

This year Dringhouses Explorers have been up to the usual Explorer activities. We've been paddling on the water, climbing great heights and even travelling on a ferry to Northern Ireland.



Once in Northern Ireland, there was lots of culture with a city day in Belfast, we climbed the tallest mountain in Northern Ireland, and the Explorers loved the amazing, purpose built, caving experience, archery and other activities.



September and we attended the North Yorkshire Scouts Ignite camp which included a challenge on the Sunday that saw the Explorers working together to complete a course around Castle Howard.

Escape was a fantastic event (again) with Dringhouses entering 3 teams of Escapers, one catcher team and many volunteers to

help run the event! One of our teams came second, well done!!

We joined up with our Scouts for a winter camp which had some back to basic fire lighting skills, axe and saw skills, backwoods cooking skills, compass and bearing skills and other bases during the day. In the evening we had a night navigation skills exercise building on the what was learnt during the day.

This St George's Day Dringhouses Explorers were roaming the Lake District with a hike climbing 1000m and somewhere between 5 & 8 Wainwrights, depending on whom you ask!

Naturally we did lots of cooking throughout the year, some cultural sessions with guest visitors, a visit to the Nuclear bunker in Acomb and lots more! It has been a pleasure for the Explorer volunteer team to help the Explorers learn skills for life, have fantastic experiences and explore other cultures.





Statutory Reports

For year ending March 2024

Trustees' Annual Report

From 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Reference and administration details

Registered charity name:	Dringhouses (Parish Church) Scout Group
Registered charity number:	1064151
Registered number with Scout Association:	37243
Charity's contact address:	Scout HQ, St Edward The Confessor Church, Tadcaster Road, Dringhouses, YORK, YO24 1QG

Trustees

Group executive committee for the above period

Group Lead Volunteer	David Thorne
Chairperson	Ann Bennett
Treasurer	John Lucas Wendy Hewitt
Group Secretary	Jan Moor
Group Team Leader (Scouts)	Andrew White
Group Team Leader (Cubs)	Sarah Selby
Group Team Leader (Squirrels)	Chris Rundle
Group Team Leader (Beavers)	Katie Harvey
Group Team Leader (Explorers)	Andy Elliott
Active Support Coordinator	Justin Moss
Beaver Section Leader	Nicola Silke
Cub Section Leader	Jane Wilson
Safety Officer	Mike Hewitt
Training Manager	Tina Brill
Section Beavers	Catherine Bell
Section Rep Cubs	Susan Rundle

Structure, governance and management

The Group is registered with The Scout Association's under their Royal Charter which gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association. The Group is run according to Policy Organisation and Rules (POR) which contains guidance from The Scout Association. We have a constitution which is based on the model outlined in POR but adapted to our specific needs. Management of the Scouting provision is outlined in the Group Development Plan.

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the POR. The Group is managed by the Group Lead Volunteer, supported by the Group Management team and the Group Trustee Board.

The Group Trustee Board:

- Maintains Group Property
- Administers the Group's finances, including fundraising
- Is responsible for risk assessments and Insurance
- Runs Group public occasions
- Assists with recruitment of leaders and other adult support
- Appoints any sub-groups that may be required.

Risk and internal control

The risks associated with running a scout group are taken seriously by The Trustee Board and we are currently developing a [Risk Register](#).

We also have a Safety Officer in place who is a Trustee. The most serious risks to the group have been identified as:

Damage to the building, property, and equipment. The Group would seek accommodation and equipment from the Church, neighbouring organisations, and other scout groups. Adequate insurance is in place and regularly reviewed. We would undertake immediate action to rectify any damage.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters, and members. Risk assessments are undertaken, in line with POR, before all activities and are approved as outlined therein. The Group takes risk to the person very seriously and regularly reviews all continuing risk assessments. The Group is Insured through The Scout Association's national accident insurance policy (paid annually through capitation fees and additionally takes out insurance to cover occasional helpers).

Reduced income from fundraising. The Group is reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. In the absence of fund-raising income, the Committee would raise the level of subscriptions and institute cost-cutting measures.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant on volunteers. We are constantly seeking and recruiting new leaders. However, if there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level and recruitment was unsuccessful, we would appeal to the District Lead Volunteer for assistance but ultimately the number of sections would have to be reduced.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document.

As stated in POR:

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

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.

In planning our activities to meet The Scout Association's objectives, we also keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and performance.

The Group has now expanded to 14 sections meeting during term time. There is a small waiting list which is operated in line with the published formal policy.

The annual census return submitted to The Scout Association in February 2024 puts the group in the category of one of the largest in the District and County and while this is an excellent group trustees and leadership are very aware that the quality of the programme we provide is equally important.

Community activities have continued and are comprehensively covered in the Lead Volunteers Report as are camps, events, and award (Badge) achievement.

The number of Explorer Scouts who remain in the group as adult volunteers when they turn 18 is very encouraging and shows a commitment to the ethos of Scouting.

The Group continues to lead the way in training compliance with all members being up to date with The Scout Association's mandatory ongoing training which includes safeguarding, safety, data protection and first aid.

The group youth membership on the 31st March 2024 was 290.

Financial review

The Members' Subscriptions have again held up well and having reviewed our forecast for the year, we took the decision to maintain the rate at £13pm (for 11 months of the year) for a further period.

In addition, as reported last year, we received the benefit of a gift aid claim of £8,271 covering the period of our last financial year, 2022-23. We will continue making annual claims going forward. The remainder of our income came from continued strong fundraising (£4,600), together with hiring of the minibuses to other Groups and hire of the Scout Hall. No grants were received during the year.

Our largest expenditure was on Camps and Activities, with an even greater number taking place, which continue to be very well received.

The majority of our running costs e.g. premises and minibus have continued to rise. However, we have experienced significant additional expenditure as the result of a minibus breakdown and essential repairs, which have also negatively impacted the income we usually generate. Coupled with this, we have invested in safety and training through trailer training to ensure the continued delivery of Camps and Activities. Likewise, premises costs have been impacted by essential electrical checks and the associated remedial work to ensure safety. There were no other large items of expenditure in the year.

Reserves policy

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Board of Trustees considers that the Group should hold a sum of £500 in reserve as well as the two sinking funds described below.

At the end of March 2024, the minibus fund was £24,130 (2023; £19,130) and the premises fund was £15,600 (2023; £4,200). Each year, we will set aside: £2,000 for premises expenses, and £5,000 for the minibus fund so that we have sufficient cash balances to replace the buses when they are deemed too old to be used. This year we additionally increased the premises fund in anticipation of significant work required to the roof during 2024/25. The Reserves Policy is reviewed annually.

We have fully utilised grant funding received in the previous financial year which has been used towards membership hardship cases and refurbishment of the mess tent. At the end of the year, this totalled £0 (2023; £1,068). Our year-end cash balance is £63,847 (2023; £58,631) which is greater than the sinking funds, meaning that the Group is operating within its reserves. A savings account continues to hold monies not needed for the day to day running of the Group, in particular the sinking funds, to earn interest in the meantime, however no other investments have been made or are planned.

In line with the advice received from our Independent Examiner, we are showing the value of our other assets for the first time, which consist of our two minibuses and trailer.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Annie Bennett, **Group Chair**

John Lucas, **Group Treasurer**

Financial Summary

For the Period from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Receipts and Payments

Receipts

All amounts shown in GBP	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2022/23
Receipts	£	£	£	£
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions	37,271		37,271	34,607
less: membership subscriptions paid to National/County/Area and District	-16,020		-16,020	-15,456
Net membership subscriptions retained	21,251	0	21,251	19,151
Gift aid	8,271		8,271	19,504
Sub total	29,522	0	29,522	38,655
Grants and donations				
Grants received		-412	-412	1,068
Sub total	0	-412	-412	1,068
Fundraising (gross)				
Fundraising activities	5,012		5,012	2,882
Sub total	5,012		5,012	2,882
Activities				
Camps and activities	46,232		46,232	35,001
Minibus hirings	1,087		1,087	2,114
Badges and neckers				
Sub total	47,320	0	47,320	37,114
Interest	575		575	0
Property rent income	1,204		1,204	1,125
Sub total	1,778	0	1,778	1,125
Miscellaneous	8		8	0
Total receipts	83,640	-412	83,228	80,844

Payments	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last Year
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2022/23
Camps	-42,232		-42,232	-31,605
Section activities	-4,251		-4,251	-3,238
Ground rent, fuel, insurance, repairs and renewals	-10,457	0	-10,457	-5,848
Equipment	-1,684	-188	-1,872	-1,292
Minibus expenses	-13,020	0	-13,020	-4,600
Badges, neckers and uniform	-2,620		-2,620	-3,236
Administration	-3,540		-3,540	-2,340
Sub total	-77,803	-188	-77,991	-52,440
Fundraising expenses	-6		-6	-175
Sub total	-6	0	-6	-175
Miscellaneous	-15		-15	-1,200
Total payments	-77,824	-188	-78,012	-53,815
Net of receipts/(payments)	5,816	-600	5,216	27,029
Transfers between funds	468	-468		
Cash funds last year end	57,563	1,068	58,631	21,602
Cash funds this year end	63,847	0.00	63,847	58,631

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	31/03/2024	31/03/2024	31/03/2024	31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Current account	38,847		38,847	33,631
Virgin Money	25,000		25,000	25,000
Total	63,847	0	63,847	58,631
Other assets				
	31/03/2024	31/03/2024	31/03/2024	31/03/2023
	£	£		£
Motor vehicles	39,500	-	39,500	-
Equipment etc	-	-	-	-

The above receipts and payments accounts and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

Annie Bennett, **Group Chair**

John Lucas, **Group Treasurer**

THE TRUSTEES OF DRINGHOUSES (PC) SCOUT GROUP

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE

TRUSTEES OF DRINGHOUSES (PC) SCOUT GROUP

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Dringhouses (PC) Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2024

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

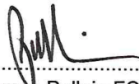
I report in respect of my examination of the Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirements that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



James Pullein FCA

Hunter Gee Holroyd
Chartered Accountants
Club Chambers
Museum Street
York
YO1 7DN

Date. 20th June 2024



Scouts

Dringhouses

York

© 2024 Dringhouses (Parish Church) Scout Group

The Scout Hut, St. Edward The Confessor Church, Tadcaster Road, York YO24 1QG

Tel: 07719 079567

Email: enquire@dringhousesscouts.org.uk

Web: dringhousesscouts.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1064151 (England & Wales)

DRINGHOUSES (P.C.) SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1064151

Accounts

**Dringhouses Scouts
Annual Review
2022/2023**



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A Report from the Chair

(and statement of Public Benefit)

Annie Bennett, Group Chair

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

This review outlines the major activities undertaken by the group in the past 12 months to fulfil that purpose. As a Board of Trustees, we have in mind in all our actions and deliberations ensuring that the group has the wherewithal to deliver the highest standard of scouting possible. Backed up by a strong set of policies and procedures we look to enable our wonderful leaders to go forward with their frontline work with our young people.

This year the board has placed a great deal of emphasis on ensuring that our obligations as a Charity have been met to the best of our ability. We have undertaken an internal financial review using the Charity Commission checklist, applied their Good Governance checklist and completed a review of our Constitution to align with the updated Policy Organisation and Rules as issued by The Scout Association. We have also commissioned a survey to look at how we can improve the energy efficiency of the building. We have embarked on fundraising to carry out needed maintenance and intend to follow this up with improvements to the roof, heating, and insulation.

While we still have areas to address, the results are encouraging and give us a distinct standard to maintain and improve.

We have been able to pick up with face-to-face fundraising while pursuing external funding for our Membership support fund, a scheme to increase the number of drivers of our minibus and trailer, repair of camping equipment and replacing cooking equipment.

What shines through is that many of our young people are gaining in experience, stature and well-being as a result of the programmes being undertaken. As always there is room for improvement and our dedicated team of very hard-working volunteers are always striving to improve the standard of the programme.

In consequence of what happens at section nights and activities we have both a direct and indirect impact on school life, community and environment. I would like to extend my personal thanks to all who help to make it happen.

Annie

Group Scout Leader's Report

David Thorne, Group Lead Volunteer (Group Scout Leader)

They say time flies when you're having fun and this year may just go to prove that point. The Group has a lot to be proud of this year. We've put the pandemic behind us and gone from strength to strength. We're the largest we have ever been and are now the largest group in York. Size is an important indicator of success, but we must remember to keep our focus on the quality of our programme and not let our size diminish that in any way. This is why we cap our sections' sizes.

One of the main things we value at Dringhouses Scouts is our presence in the community. This year, with the support of York City Council, we have picked litter to improve the environment around the Knavesmire and helped to tidy the Tyburn. We also were so pleased to be able to help Dringhouses Primary School with their year four sleep over at the Cricket club, using tents purchased (mostly) with the support of Dringhouses and Woodthorpe Ward.

Our Spring fair was a fun way to raise funds and it was nice to meet so many parents, siblings of members, grandparents and members of the public. Fundraising is a challenge and we appreciate your support, it really does make a difference. Between the fair and collecting at the station and our more recent crowdfunding campaign to support driver training, we are doing our best to raise funds to support all we do. If you have any ideas on how to raise funds or want to volunteer time to help with some of the admin around fundraising, please let Annie know.

St George's Day this year was very different, it was great to see all the age groups having fun in the sun (thankfully the weather was fine as rain may have poured water on the event quite literally). While we enjoy the city centre procession, we will be closely monitoring next year's plans as the success of a more informal activity-based celebration was not lost on us.

We are always looking to recruit new leaders and helpers; our current list of vacancies is shown on page eleven. Please remember that the majority of the adult volunteers in the group are parents who had no experience of Scouts before their children started. You need no specific skills and we provide training around safety, safeguarding and data privacy. You also don't need to help out every week, we have many flexible volunteering opportunities. We really need more volunteers, so please reach out to me and we can discuss how we can help each other maybe? After all, volunteering is good for us adults too!

Finally, it is so great to be part of such a wonderful team who work so well to support each other and give their time freely to benefit our children and our local area and ultimately our futures too. I personally consider it to be a privilege to volunteer with this group. A big well done and thank you to all our volunteer helpers and supporters.

Dave

Meet the Team

The Trustee Board (core members)

This year the Group Executive Committee became the Group Trustee Board. Members of the Trustee Board make decisions and carry out administrative tasks to ensure that the best quality Scouting can be delivered to all young people in the Group and that the Group is compliant with the relevant legislation and managed in line with Charity Commission regulations and the Policy Organisation and Rules of The Scouts.

Annie Bennett

Group Chair



Annie became involved with the Group as a parent. She began helping at Group Camp and when asked if she would Chair the executive committee (now the Board of Trustees), decided it was a post she could bring her organisational skills to and help the Group without being a uniformed member. Now retired and with grandchildren in the group, she is able to give time to support the great team of volunteers we have.

Jan Moor

Group Secretary



Jan was a Brownie and Guide when she was growing up and absolutely loved it. Jan was very keen her two children should have the same rewarding experiences and so both her children are in Scouting/Guiding and enjoying every moment. Jan has a child in the Group, who is now in Explorers, having started 10 years ago as a Beaver. Jan joined the group as a Parent Rep on the Executive Committee (particularly helping with fundraising) and Active support in Summer 2017, as she wanted to contribute to the Group. She agreed to take on the Group Secretary role early in 2019, which gives her the ability to support the working of the Group a bit more, using her business skills, in between significant travelling for her job.

John Lucas

Group Treasurer



Having seen the pleasure and benefits in being involved with Scouting from a friend, I was very pleased to find an opening with Dringhouses Group on my return to York. Having previously been a treasurer for a Coventry based charity whilst living and working in the Midlands until a few years ago, together with undertaking a range of finance related roles professionally, I joined to support the Group in 2021 to maintain robust financial records and to ensure the continued good work of Sections can continue to enrich and enhance the skills and experiences of our Members.

Wendy Hewitt

Group Co-Treasurer



Wendy started volunteering with the group at the 40th anniversary camp -with Debbie in the tea van. However, she has been involved since her eldest son was a Beaver Scout over 20 years ago. Wendy was the Group Secretary until 2019 when she agreed to start to take over the treasurer role. Wendy, who works in the church office, is also unofficial (and much valued) caretaker of the HQ . Wendy enjoys the camaraderie of being part of a team and the ever-expanding Group. She also enjoys the challenge of the treasurer role and getting to grips with spreadsheets!

The Management Team

Members of the Management Team are normally also members of the Executive Committee. The management team coordinates all Scouting activities within the Group. The Group Chair is also a part of the Management Team. This year, in line with a national initiative, we are changing our role names to be more accessible to those outside Scouting. During the transition you will see the new role name and the old role name in brackets after it. The management team members are listed below in alphabetical order.

Andy Elliott

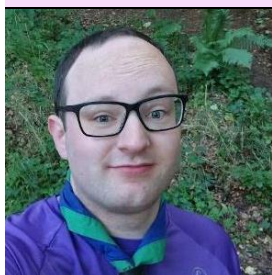
Lead Volunteer- Explorer Scouts (Deputy Group Scout Leader)



Andy was a youth member of the Yorvik Explorer Unit and after returning from University decided to become part of the volunteer team at Dringhouses Scouts. You probably will not see many photographs of Andy at events as he is usually the one taking them all!
Having been an Explorer leader for about six years, Andy agreed to take on the deputy Group Scout Leader role in 2021 when the vacancy arose.
Andy's daughter has just started with Beavers.

Andrew White

Lead Volunteer- Scouts (Deputy Group Scout Leader)



Andrew has been in Scouting since being a Beaver Scout with 1st Herrington Scout Group in Sunderland where he grew-up. Soon after moving to York in 2015 to study Electronics at the University of York, he reached out to Dringhouses Scout Group to carry on his Scouting journey.

He has been with the Tuesday Scout section throughout where he has climbed the ranks to be Team Leader (Section Leader). He enjoys being in the great outdoors and passing on his knowledge and skills to his Scouts. Andrew became the Lead Volunteer for Scouts in May 2022.

Chris Rundle

Lead Volunteer- Squirrel Scouts (Deputy Group Scout Leader)



Chris first became involved with Dringhouses Scouts when his eldest son joined Beavers in 2020. He joined the working group on Squirrels in 2021 to consider the options for starting this new section and then decided he should be part of launching Squirrels for real as a Section Leader. In November 2022 he also took on the role of Lead Volunteer for Squirrels.

'I enjoyed helping out as a parent on the occasional evening at Beavers, so becoming a volunteer was on the horizon. The support from group leaders, parents and squirrels has been great and I look forward to settling into the regular rhythm of activities and challenges for our young people.'

David Thorne

Group Lead Volunteer (Group Scout Leader, GSL)



Dave started his Scouting career as a Cub Scout with the 1st Epping Ash and later 1st Holtspur Scout Groups. 'A few' years later he returned as Assistant Beaver Scout Leader with Dringhouses, transferring to be Cub Leader a year later. Since January 2021 Dave has been Acting Group Scout Leader responsible for leading the team managing the Group, finally accepting the inevitable and becoming the Lead Volunteer for the group in late 2022 (GSL). Dave also holds two roles within York Ebor District (of which Dringhouses is a part): District Appointments Secretary, administering the appointment of all leaders in the District and District Trustee Board member where he makes the meetings last a bit longer than they used to.
Dave has had two children go through the Group, one of whom has returned as an adult volunteer.

Martin Eason	Group Scout Active Support Manager
	Martin has been with the Group since he joined from Bishopthorpe, as a Venture Scout, in 1991. He moved from Venture Scouts to Assistant Scout Leader and then Venture Scout leader (VSL), where he remained for over 10 years. As well as VSL, he also sat on the county activities and events team, organising annual competitions and events. After a short break he became a parent helper with Bardonia Scout Group in Australia. On his return to the UK in 2014 he re-joined the Group as part of the Active Support Team. In June 2019 he agreed to take on the role of Active Support Manager.
Katie Harvey	Lead Volunteer- Beavers (Deputy Group Scout Leader)
	Katie joined Dringhouses Scout Group in 2011 when her son joined Beavers. He is now an Explorer Scout. Katie started volunteering as an Assistant Beaver Leader and after a couple of years took up the role of Section Leader. Shortly after that Katie also became Assistant Group Scout Leader (Beavers).
Sarah Selby	Lead Volunteer- Cubs (Deputy Group Scout Leader)
	Sarah joined Dringhouses Scout Group in 2016 after seeing how much fun her children were having and wanting part of the action. She started as an Assistant Cub Leader and took on the role of Assistant Group Scout Leader (Cubs) last year. Sarah is also self-appointed Badge Coordinator (not a real title) and can often be found hanging out with Friday Cubs' mascot, Loki. Both her children are now Explorer Scouts.

The Team Leaders

Team Leaders (formerly Section Leaders) are responsible for coordinating the programme for their night and liaising with the sections before and after as appropriate. Team Leaders can be part of the Group Trustee Board if they wish to be.

Squirrel Scouts

Squirrels is for children aged four and five years old. We have two Squirrel Scout dreys in the Group.

Chris Rundle	Team Leader (Squirrel Scouts)- Monday Squirrels
	See the Management Team section above

Leigh Bennett

Team Leader (Squirrel Scouts)- Friday Squirrels



I think it was inevitable that I would become involved with Scouts at some stage, as I have a husband who is an active member within The Scouts and a daughter in Beavers.

When the call went out for Squirrel leaders I realised that I was quite interested in getting involved especially as it would mean the quicker we were up and running, the quicker my son could join. I'm really enjoying the Squirrel meetings, they are at a lovely age to really begin to help them discover their independence and watch their curiosity around new activities.

Beaver Scouts

Beavers is for children aged six to eight years old. We have three Beaver Scout colonies in the Group.

Nicola Silke

Team Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Tuesday Beavers



Nicola joined Dringhouses Scouts in September 2018 as a Section Assistant, after being accosted on a "sunny" group camp to join Beavers. She quickly progressed to Assistant Leader in December 2018 and became Section Leader in September 2019. Nicola has been involved with the group since 2012 when her eldest daughter joined Cubs.

"I joined on a trial basis and was surprised how much I enjoyed it. It's a great feeling seeing the Beavers take part and enjoy the activities and challenges set out for them. For me it's an amazing way to be able to give something back to the local community."

Olga Iwaszkiewicz-Bogdańska

Team Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Wednesday Beavers



Olga started with the Group in February 2019, initially to help her daughter's confidence when she joined. She became an Assistant Leader with Wednesday Beavers but, when the opportunity came, it took her about a minute to decide to move to the Section Leader role.

"The idea of teaching Beavers new skills during weekly meetings and camps and seeing how proud they are when they succeed or when they receive a badge puts the biggest smile on my face and pride in my heart. Week to week I can see how the Beavers grow in confidence".

"Inspiration from other Scout Leaders motivates me every day and confirms to me that I want to stay in The Scouts for a long time."

Katie Harvey

Team Leader (Beaver Scouts)- Friday Beavers



See the Management Team section above

Cub Scouts

The Cubs section is for children aged eight to ten and a half. We have three Cub Scout Packs in the Group.

Jane Wilson



Team Leader (Cub Scouts)- Tuesday "Romans" Cubs

Jane has been with the group since joining as a Venture Scout in 1985, and in 1988 she was presented with an application form to be an Assistant Cub Scout Leader. Jane had a few years break from the Group to assist at Bishopthorpe Cub Section and was then asked to help Lidgett Grove Cub Section get back up on their feet.

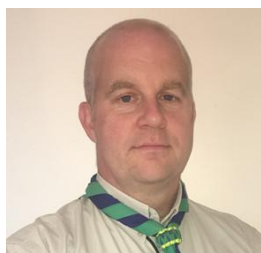
Natasha Bayston



Team Leader (Cub Scouts)- Thursday "Saxons" Cubs

Natasha has been with the group since she joined as a scout in 2011. She stayed as a young leader for Cubs when she finished scouts in 2014. In 2018 she was given an application for assistant section leader and became the assistant section leader of Thursday Cubs. In 2019 she took over from Tina as the section leader for Thursday Cubs.

David Thorne



Team Leader (Cub Scouts)- Friday "Vikings" Cubs

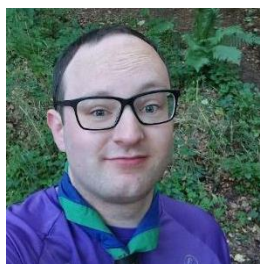
See the Management Team section above

Scouts

The Scout Section is for young people aged ten and a half to fourteen years old. We have three Scout Troops in the Group.

Andrew White

Team Leader (Scouts)- Tuesday "Dringhouses PC" Scouts



See the Management Team section above

Tara Stephenson

Team Leader (Scouts)- Thursday "St Edward's" Scouts



"One Thursday in October 1986 I bumped into an old school friend in the pub, she was there for the quiz and wearing her uniform. We got chatting and the next Thursday I went to my first ever Cub meeting. They were making bird boxes and I didn't have a clue, I still remember the first Cub I ever spoke to and thanks to Johnny L, here I am almost 30 years later!"

After six years of leading Cubs, where she welcomed the first girl into the Pack (possibly the first girl in Cubs in York!) Tara moved to become an assistant Venture Scout Leader, joining in with EuroVenture which took over an airfield in Paris and invaded EuroDisney, toured the Czech Republic and had many other fantastic adventures. But then we needed a female scout leader, because (guess what) the girl Cubs wanted to be Scouts! So, Tara became an Assistant Scout Leader and after a short break, she re-joined the Group.

Tara has been a part of two Cub sections, a Venture Scout Unit, two Scout Troops and a Young Leader Unit and the very first Saturday morning session of Beavers - never again!... *grin*. And in 2019 she went to the 24th World Scout Jamboree in America!.

Scott Franklin

Team Leader (Scouts)- Friday "St Helen's" Scouts



Scott has been at Dringhouses since 2014, having previously been Scout Leader at Heslington whilst completing his studies, and having grown-up in a Group in Swindon. He is a cliché in Scouting - his grandparents met through Scouting, his parents met through Scouting, and he went on his first camp when he was merely weeks old. Having taken up his first young-leader role at 11 with cubs, and then at 16 with Scouts, he's a keen believer in putting young people into positions of responsibility, and teaching Patrol and Assistant Patrol Leaders how to be good leaders themselves. After a week busy teaching at All Saints School, Scott then spends his Friday nights with the 30 young people of St Helen's Troop. He enjoys seeing his wife (Anna) and two children (Marie and Esther) on the other evenings and at weekends and looks forward to taking the girls on camp with him when they are older.

Explorer Scouts

The Explorer Scout section is for young people aged fourteen to seventeen. We are partnered with two District Explorer Scout Units (ESU). Young Leaders are also Explorer Scouts, they assist other sections within the Group. Young Leaders need not be a member of an Explorer Scout Unit and they may also be volunteering with the Group as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Mike Laing

District Team Leader (Explorer Scouts) - Tuesday "Nordic" ESU



Mike Joined Scouting as a Cub in 1989 as a member of 1st Shenfield Scout Group in Essex where he went on to be a Scout and Venture Scout before becoming a member of Essex Scouts water activities team. Mike had a 15 year break from the formalities of Scouting but continued to holiday around the world with friends made through scouting like they were on an "Explorer Belt Expedition" each time, often with a kayak or set of Skis for Luggage!

Mike returned to Scouting at the wonderful "Dringy" as assistant Cub Scout Leader in April 2018 and most recently in February 2020 moved to be Nordic Explorer Unit Leader on Mondays. Mike is looking forward to planning future adventures with the Explorers.

Andy Elliott

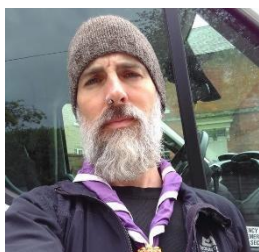
District Team Leader (Explorer Scouts) - Wednesday "Yorvik" ESU



See the management team section above

Iain McIntyre

Group Team Leader (Explorer Scout Young Leaders)



Iain's Scouting journey began in Cumbria where he was a Cub, a Scout and then a Venture Scout circa the mid-90's. He only returned to Scouting 5 years ago as a Section Assistant with St Edwards Troop at Dringhouses. In January 2019 Iain was asked to help with the running of the Young Leaders part of Dringhouses Explorer Scout section and coordinate their volunteering with the other sections (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts) and to manage their training needs.

Iain also holds the York Ebor District role of Duke of Edinburgh's Award Coordinator. His eldest child is at present in Beavers with Dringhouses.

Iain has a daughter at Squirrels

Vacancies

Vacancies

We are currently recruiting for the following uniformed positions:



- Team Member (Asst. Section Leader), both Squirrel sections.
- Team Member (Asst. Section Leader), Thursday Scouts
- Team Member (Asst. Section Leader), both Explorer sections
- Team Leader (Section Leader), Monday Explorers

Roll of Honour

Congratulations to all the adult volunteers that have been recognised for their service to Scouting this year:

 	Award for Merit The Award for Merit is given for outstanding service of not less than 12 years and 10 years exceptionally. It implies keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service over a sustained period. David Thone, Group Lead Volunteer (Group Scout Leader)
	Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Service The Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service is given in respect of not less than 5 years good service, which stands out. It should be regarded as the Chief Scout's recognition of the very real contribution made to the Association by the individual concerned. - Sarah Selby, Lead Volunteer- Cubs (Deputy Group Scout Leader) - Andrew Elliott, Lead Volunteer- Explorers (Deputy Group Scout Leader)
	Ebor Star The Ebor Star is an award that can be gained by all youth members of York Ebor District by demonstrating a commitment or undertaking a task that exceeds normal expectations and as such deserves to be recognised. The award sits below the national awards for merit and is only awarded in York Ebor District Jethro Bray, Friday Cubs

Length of service awards are available to Members and Associate Members of the Association with eligible roles that accrue service, uniformed or not (with the exception of occasional helpers):

	Chief Scout's 5 Years Service Award - James Homan, Team Member, Group Active Support Unit - Jan Moor, Group Secretary, Group Trustee Board
	Chief Scout's 10 Years Service Award - David Thorne, Group Lead Volunteer (Group Scout Leader) - Iain McIntyre, Team Leader, Young Leaders - Wendy Hewitt, Asst. Group Treasurer, Group Trustee Board
	Chief Scout's 20 Years Service Award - Graham Stirk, Team Member, Group Active Support Unit - Rob Dobson, Team Member, Monday Squirrels - Martin Eason, Team Member, Group Active Support Unit
	Chief Scout's 30 Years Service Award Jonathan Vickers, Team Member, Group Active Support Unit

Training is an important part of the Group's activities which often goes unseen. All adult members of the Group (except occasional helpers) are required to complete the adult training scheme, with Group Managers, Team Leaders and Team Members being awarded a wood badge after successfully completing all the required training modules. Because of its importance we also like to recognise training success in this part of the report. Leaders have three years from when they start to complete their training.



Wood Badge

Since September 1919 adult volunteers in the Scouts have been awarded the Wood Badge on the completion of their leader training. The basic badge is made up of two wooden beads worn at the end of a leather lace.

- **Andrew White**, Team Leader- Tuesday Scouts (Section Leader)
- **Dagmara Blachut**, Team Member- Wednesday Beavers (Assistant Section Leader)
- **Georgina Warwick**, Team Member- Thursday Cubs (Assistant Section Leader)
- **Jonny Fry**, Team Member- Thursday Scouts (Assistant Section Leader)
- **Natasha Bayston**, Team Leader- Thursday Cubs (Section Leader)
- **Olga Iwaszkiewicz-Bogdańska**, Team Leader- Wednesday Beavers (Section Leader)
- **Sarah Selby**, Lead Volunteer- Cubs (Deputy Group Scout Leader)
- **Tara Stephenson**, Team Leader- Thursday Scouts (Section Leader)

Group Awards

Congratulations to all of our young people receiving awards this year, all recipients will also receive a £10 voucher to spend in Go Outdoors:

 Monday Friday	Squirrel of the year: TBC
 Tuesday Wednesday Friday	Beaver of the year: TBC
 Romans Saxons Vikings	Cub of the year: TBC
 Dringhouses PC Troop St Edward's Troop St Helen's Troop	Scout of the year: TBC
 Jorvik Explorers Nordic Explorers Young Leaders	Explorer Scout of the year: TBC

The Chairman's Cup

The Chairman's Cups are awarded every year to an adult and a youth member of the Group who have made significant effort over and above what is normally expected. They also receive a £20 voucher to spend at Go Outdoors.

Chairman's Cup – Adult Volunteers: TBC

Chairman's Cup – Youth Members: TBC

Section Reports

The year summarised in a few pictures:



Squirrels

The two Squirrel dreys have not only survived, but also prospered during their first full year, exploring and developing themselves, as have their leaders! It is a significant challenge to not only start a new section, but to also start a new age group and we started two new dreys in the same week! This year has focussed on building our programme, understanding our Squirrels needs/preferences and our volunteers' capacity. Through the year we welcomed and invested



new squirrels and said goodbye to many of our 'originals' as they graduated to Beavers.

Squirrel sessions are 45 minutes long and we have developed a meeting routine that helps our young people know what to expect.

Gathering together to listen to a story is an important part of the session and it's great to see the children listening and sometimes acting out the roles. We are also gifted with some fantastic story tellers among volunteers.

The Squirrel programme includes many opportunities for visits or to welcome visitors to our sessions. This year we visited Acomb Fire Station and the Tesco store. We have also had informative sessions with the police, York Rescue Boat and training on emergency first aid. We have also had outdoor sessions, learning about the natural environment on our doorstep. Through all these sessions our Squirrels have shown great interest and knowledge, we have also seen some shy and timid people grow in confidence and shine.

The year ended with our first Squirrel to achieve their Chief Scouts Acorn badge - a great achievement for Sacha Steele who worked hard to complete the final challenge badges over a school holiday to gain this accolade before he moved up to Beavers.

The Squirrel sessions are supported by our young leaders, who are older Explorer Scouts, and they bring a wealth of Scouting knowledge and experience with them. Along with their commitment, their ideas and enthusiasm is a vital part of the Squirrel team.

Like all parts of Scouting, we rely on the adult volunteers to run and lead the sessions. The adult Squirrel leaders are mostly new to the role and have grown with the young people. As a leadership team we can look back with pride at a successful year in launching and building Squirrels at Dringhouses - our challenge is now sustaining this great opportunity for our young people. If you're interested in helping out, we need you!



BEAVERS

We have enjoyed a busy year of activities and events providing opportunities for our Beavers to achieve a range of badges. We kicked off with Group Camp in Baildon Moor which presented a



great outdoor adventure learning new skills, camping out under the stars and having fun with outdoor games. Beavers loved their annual cycling activity on the Knavesmire and an end of term celebration packed with team games and badge awards was perfect for a warm summer's evening. Autumn welcomed us with outdoor

exploration, showing off our green cross code, tracking in the woods and learning about emergency aid. We loved celebrating Halloween, Bonfire Night and the run up to Christmas is always exciting as we prepared to visit our local Residents home and made gifts and cards. Beavers and Squirrels attended the District Christmas party and enjoyed meeting the man himself.



The New Year welcomed a visit by the Police and a trip to the University Astrocampus. We enjoyed planting seeds to sell at our Group Spring Fair, Tuesday Beavers enjoyed a sleepover and St George's Day was celebrated altogether on the Knavesmire. Finally, we celebrated Eid, the Coronation and enjoyed an I-Spy Trail through our beautiful city centre.

With the creation of the new Squirrels sections, the number of enquiries for new places has declined this year from 60 to 30. This is to be expected and more than 20 Squirrels have moved up up to Beavers roughly making up the difference. We have a constant number of around 70 Beavers across all three groups, with about 10 on the joining list and 5 on the waiting list.



cubs

Looking back at last year's report, there were still mentions of Covid, masks and social distancing; this year has been a proper 'back to normal' year for us, and Cubs you've been louder than ever!

We've had lots of adventures out and about. Our international trip, postponed from 2021, finally happened in August and we jetted off to, umm, Wales. Yes, not the trip to France we'd hoped for, but we had fun, nonetheless. Thank you to the Scouts that came with us too and thank you very much to parents who were very patient putting up with all the changes...

We had our usual indoor winter camp in January, this time visiting a different site, Bramhope, where Cubs were able to enjoy a low ropes course as well as warmer activities like film night.

A few Friday Cubs also joined Elvington Cubs for a camp in April as well. It was great to spend time with others from the Ebor District, where we all made new friends.

We've attended a couple of District events this year. The Hergarth Challenge was as successful as ever, not just because our three Cubs teams had a great time but because none of them won thankfully. If you're not aware, the winner of the Hergarth Challenge has to organise and host the following year; Hergarth really is about the participating and not the winning!

We also entered a team into the District Basketball competition, and although we didn't place in the tournament the Cubs tried their hardest and worked well as a team. We all had fun despite it getting very warm in the sports hall.

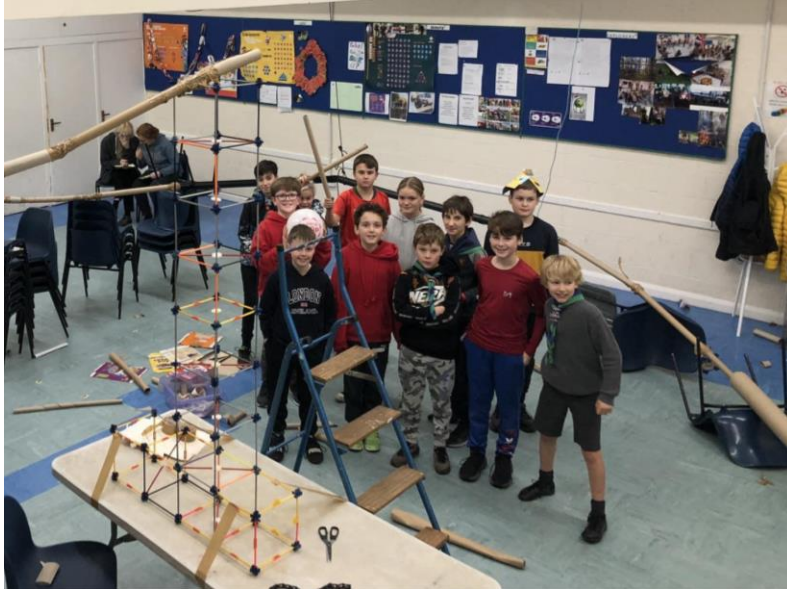


As well as socialising with our fellow Cubs across the District, we've been spending time with friends closer to home. Friday Beavers and Cubs had a joint Christmas party in December, and recently we've joined the Beavers in earning their Athletics badge activities. We hope to have more joint activities next year, including a camp!

Thank you again Cubs and parents for all your support and for always being so fab.

SCOUTS

The Scout section has come on leaps and bound over the past year. It has been an action-packed year both on section evenings and on weekend camps. The Scouts have enjoyed the activity-filled weekend at Ignite, through to the chilly winter camp at Elvington as well as few completing their expedition challenge award.



Events have been popular over the year including the jamboree on the internet where our Scouts could chat to other Scouts from around the world as well as a few scouts participating in the engineering challenge.

It's also good to be able to help out in our community and clearing the paths and removing litter and leaves at the Tyburn was a great opportunity to do just that.

We have some exciting activities planned for the coming year including the first weeklong summer camp for the section in a few years as well as the return of Ignite in September. It will be another year jam packed with exciting adventures.



EXPLORERS



It's been a magnificent year of camps, excitement, fun, adventure and growth for the oldest age group at Dringhouses Scouts. Both Nordic and Yorvik units are pretty much full, with a small waiting list, which is testament to the engaging programme devised largely by the Explorer Scouts themselves, maybe with a little bit of support from the leaders.

The Dragon's Head Summer Camp in Wales has to be a highlight, it was great to be able to visit another country and



combine lots of activities with seeing the sights. Climbing is always popular with the Explorers climbing artificial and real walls. Escape 22 is a fantastic experience the Explorers take part in.

Hill walking in the Dales, go-Karting and Putt Stars, there isn't much we don't do at Explorers!

We can't forget to mention our Young Leaders who help out with the younger age groups, learning new skills and gaining confidence by helping others. Without these young volunteers our Scout Group would not be the same.

Finally, we have six Explorers going to the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea later this year, and we wish them all the best for this adventure of a lifetime!



The Group's active support unit comprises adult volunteers who don't want to or cannot help out regularly but are willing to help out occasionally if they can. There are also many retired leaders in our ranks. Our main role is to organise the annual Group Camp.



The Group Camp setup team did a cracking job getting all the tents and marquees erected in record time making the first day of Group Camp painless. The group is so grateful to these parents and leaders who visit the site early to set up the tents and drive the vehicles and set up the activities. All this work is largely unseen but we are very grateful to the attendees.

This year Martin Eason is standing down from his Active Support Manager role but will be staying on to run group camp 2024 next year.

Justin Moss will be coordinating the active support volunteers in the coming years, so if you want to lend a hand occasionally why not let Justin know.





Statutory Reports

For year ending March 2023

Trustees' Annual Report

From 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Reference and administration details

Registered charity name:	Dringhouses (Parish Church) Scout Group
Registered charity number:	1064151
Registered number with Scout Association:	37243
Charity's contact address:	Scout HQ, St Edward The Confessor Church, Tadcaster Road, Dringhouses, YORK, YO24 1QG

Trustees

Group executive committee for the above period

Acting Group Scout Leader (GSL) (Group Scout Leader from Feb 23)	David Thorne	Chairperson	Ann Bennett
Secretary	Jan Moor	Treasurer	John Lucas Wendy Hewitt
Deputy GSL Squirrels	Chris Rundle part year	Deputy GSL Scouts	Andrew White
Deputy GSL Beavers	Katie Harvey	Deputy GSL Cubs	Sarah Selby
Deputy GSL Explorers	Andy Elliott	Beaver Section Leader	Nicola Silke
Scout Section Leader	Tara Stephenson	Cub Section Leader	Jane Wilson
Active Support Manager	Martin Eason	Scout Section Leader	Andrew White
Parent Rep Squirrels	Catherine Bell	Sponsoring Authority Rep	Debbie Paterson
Parent Rep Beavers	Susan Rundle part year	Parent Rep Cubs	Justin Moss
Training Officer	Tina Brill	Safety Officer	Mike Hewitt

Structure, governance and management

The Group is set up under The Scout Association's Royal Charter which gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association. The Group is run according to Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) which contains guidance from The Scout Association. We have a constitution which is based on the model outlined in POR but adapted to our specific needs. Management of the Scouting provision is outlined in the Group Development Plan.

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the POR. The Group is managed by the Group Scout Leader (Group Lead Volunteer) supported by the Group Executive Committee. The Group

Executive Committee has this year been renamed and will now be known as The Group Board of Trustees and it:

- Maintains Group Property
- Administers the Group's finances, including fundraising
- Is responsible for risk assessments and Insurance
- Runs Group public occasions
- Assists with recruitment of leaders and other adult support
- Appoints any sub-groups that may be required.

Risk and internal control

The risks associated with running a scout group are taken seriously by the Board of Trustees and we have a Safety Officer in place to help with their mitigation. The most serious risks to the group have been identified as:

Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would ask neighbouring organisations such as the church and other scout groups for the use of buildings, property and equipment. The Group also comprehensively insures our buildings and review of the cover is regularly undertaken in consultation with the insurance company to ensure cover is adequate. We would undertake immediate action to rectify any damage.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. Risk assessments are undertaken, in line with POR, before all activities and are approved as outlined therein. The Group takes risk to person very seriously and regularly reviews all continuing risk assessments. The Group is Insured through The Scout Association's national accident insurance policy (paid annually through capitation fees and additionally takes out insurance to cover occasional helpers).

Reduced income from fundraising. The Group is reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. In the absence of fund-raising income, the Committee would raise the level of subscriptions to increase income and would also institute cost-cutting measures.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant on volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. We are constantly seeking and recruiting new leaders. However, if there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level and recruitment was unsuccessful then we would appeal to the District Commissioner for assistance but ultimately the number of sections would have to be reduced.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document.

As stated in POR:

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

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.

In planning our activities to meet The Scout Association's objectives, we also keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and performance.

The Group currently runs 13 full groups each week during term time. There is a small waiting list comprising children and young people who are old enough to join one of the groups, but cannot as the group is at capacity. This year the group published a formal policy on how the waiting list is prioritised as this is the first year where such a list has been required.

The annual census return submitted to The Scout Association in February 2023 indicated that the group has the largest membership it has ever had and now the largest group in York. However, the group is very cognisant that the size of the group must not have a negative impact on the quality of the programme we provide and we cap each group to ensure that this is not the case.

Community activities have continued with a clean-up and litter pick on the Knavesmire and Little Knavesmire and we assisted Dringhouses Primary School with a sleep over session for their children. Our Beaver Scouts also continue their relationship with a local care home with Christmas activities.

There have been 22 camps held this year, 1 Beaver Scouts, 3 Cub Scouts, 9 Scouts, 1 joint Scout/Explorers and 7 Explorer only camps and 1 whole Group Camp.

The majority of our members continue to work towards their bronze, silver, gold, platinum and diamond Chief Scout awards with some older members working towards the King's Scout Award. In particular we are starting to see more Scouts attaining their Chief Scouts Gold Award and Explorer Scout Young Leaders gaining their Young Leader belt. This is the result of hard work on the part of the leaders in creating exciting programmes that generate enthusiasm to gain these awards in these age groups, something the group has struggled with in previous years.

This year we have also had record numbers of Explorer Scouts remain with the group as adult volunteers as they turn 18 and it is wonderful that these young adults wish to continue with us and help younger generations in this way.

The Group continues to lead the way in training compliance with all members being up-to-date with The Scout Associations mandatory ongoing training which includes safeguarding, safety, data protection and first response training which must be renewed every three years and completed within 5 months of starting for new volunteers.

The group youth membership number at 31st March 2023 was 284.

Financial review

This year has seen the return to our more normal levels of activities and as a consequence this is reflected in our financial performance.

The Members' Subscriptions held up well and from November we took the decision to increase the rate to £13pm (for 11 months of the year), the first increase in over two years, in the light of increasing costs in common with many organisations, to ensure the Group's future.

In addition, we received a one-off boost from gift aid (£19,504) following considerable efforts to bring the claims up to date. In future we will aim to recover this on an annual basis. The remainder of our income came from hiring of the mini buses to other Groups, hire of the Scout Hall together with fundraising due to the greater freedom post Covid and we have received two grants from City of York Council (£1,068).

Our largest expenditure was on Camps and Activities which continue to be very well received. The majority of our running costs e.g., premises and minibuses have grown and we were very pleased to support our six contingent(s) members for next year's Jamboree (£200 each). There were no other large items of expenditure in the year.

Reserves policy

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum of £500 in reserve as well as the two sinking funds described below.

At the end of March 2023, the minibus fund was £19,130 (2022; £14,130) and the premises fund was £4,200 (2022; £2,200). Each year, we will set aside: £2,000 for premises expenses, and £5,000 for the minibus fund so that we have sufficient cash balances to replace the buses when they are too old to be used. The Reserves Policy is reviewed annually.

We also have grant funding that we hold in a restricted fund. At the end of the year, this totalled £1,068 (2022; £932) and is to be spent on refurbishment of the mess tent and membership hardship cases. (member support).

Our year-end cash balance is £58,631 (2022; £31,602) which is greater than the sinking funds plus the unspent grants, meaning that the Group is operating within its reserves. A savings account was opened to hold monies not needed for the day to day running of the Group, in particular the sinking funds, to earn interest in the meantime, however no other investments have been made or are planned.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Annie Bennett, **Group Chair**

John Lucas, **Group Treasurer**

Financial Summary

For the Period from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Receipts and Payments

Receipts

All amounts shown in GBP	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2021/22
Receipts	£	£	£	£
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions	34,607		34,607	28,469
less: membership subscriptions paid to National/County/Area and District	-15,456		-15,456	-13,108
Net membership subscriptions retained	19,151	0	19,151	15,362
Gift aid	19,504		19,504	0
Sub total	38,655	0	38,655	15,362
Grants and donations				
Grants received		1,068	1,068	0
Sub total	0	1,068	1,068	0
Fundraising (gross)				
Fundraising activities	2,882		2,882	609
Sub total	2,882		2,882	609
Activities				
Camps and activities	35,001		35,001	25,190
Minibus hirings	2,114		2,114	498
Badges and neckers			0	
Sub total	37,114	0	37,114	25,687
Interest	0		0	
Property rent income	1,125		1,125	495
Sub total	1,125	0	1,125	495
Miscellaneous	0		0	
Total receipts	79,776	1,068	80,844	42,153

Payments	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last Year
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2021/22
Camps	-31,605		-31,605	-19,039
Section activities	-3,238		-3,238	-1,279
Ground rent, fuel, insurance, repairs and renewals	-5,784	-64	-5,848	-3,839
Equipment	-1,292	-282	-1,574	-843
Minibus expenses	-4,600	0	-4,600	-3,998
Badges, neckers and uniform	-3,236		-3,236	-3,104
Administration	-2,340		-2,340	-1,285
Sub total	-52,095	-346	-52,440	-33,386
Fundraising expenses	-175		-175	-162
Sub total	-175	0	-175	-162
Miscellaneous	-1,200		-1,200	-19
Total payments	-53,470	-346	-53,815	-33,566
Net of receipts/(payments)	26,307	722	27,029	8,587
Transfers between funds	586	-586		0
Cash funds last year end	30,670	932	31,602	23,015
Cash funds this year end	57,563	1,068	58,631	31,602

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Current account	32,563	1,068	33,631	31,602
Virgin Money	25,000		25,000	0
Total	57,563	1,068	58,631	31,602
Other assets	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	
	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2022
	£	£		£
Motor vehicles	-	-	-	-
Equipment etc	-	-	-	-

The above receipts and payments accounts and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

Annie Bennett, **Group Chair**

John Lucas, **Group Treasurer**



Scouts

Dringhouses York

© 2023 Dringhouses (Parish Church) Scout Group

The Scout Hut, St. Edward The Confessor Church, Tadcaster Road, York YO24 1QG

Tel: 07719 079567

Email: enquire@dringhousesscouts.org.uk

Web: dringhousesscouts.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1064151 (England & Wales)

Dringhouses (PC) Scout Group (Charity no. 1064151) Receipts and payments
accounts 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Receipts and payments				
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2021/22
Receipts	£	£	£	£
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions	34,607		34,607	28,469
less: membership subscriptions paid to National/County/Area and District	-15,456		-15,456	-13,108
Net membership subscriptions retained	19,151	0	19,151	15,362
Gift aid	19,504		19,504	0
Sub total	38,655	0	38,655	15,362
Grants and donations				
Grants received		1,068	1,068	0
Sub total	0	1,068	1,068	0
Fundraising (gross)				
Paper collection and other activities	2,882		2,882	609
Sub total	2,882		2,882	609
Activities				
Camps and activities	35,001		35,001	25,190
Minibus hirings	2,114		2,114	498
Badges and neckers			0	
Sub total	37,114	0	37,114	25,687
Interest	0		0	
Property rent income	1,125		1,125	495
Sub total	1,125	0	1,125	495
Miscellaneous	0		0	
Total receipts	79,776	1,068	80,844	42,153
Payments				
Camps	-31,605		-31,605	-19,039
Section activities	-3,238		-3,238	-1,279
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Equipment	-1,292	-282	-1,574	-843
Minibus expenses	-4,600	0	-4,600	-3,998
Badges, neckers and uniform	-3,236		-3,236	-3,104
Administration	-2,340		-2,340	-1,285
Sub total	-52,095	-346	-52,440	-33,386
Fundraising expenses	-175		-175	-162
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Cash funds this year end	57,563	1,068	58,631	31,602

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Current account	32,563	1,068	33,631	31,602
United Trust Bank	25,000		25,000	0
Total	57,563	1,068	58,631	31,602
	OK	OK	OK	
Other assets	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	
	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2022
	£	£		£
Motor vehicles		-	-	-
Equipment etc	-	-	-	-

The above receipts and payments accounts and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

				Date of approval
			John Lucas	
			Annie Bennett	

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Dringhouses (PC) Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Dringhouses (PC) Scout Group (the Trust) for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are attached.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Nigel Everard BA FCA

Hunter Gee Holroyd
Chartered Accountants
Club Chambers
Museum Street
York
YO1 7DN

Date: 6.9.23