



**Do more.
Share more.
Be more.**

**Harrow District Scouts
Annual Report 2023**



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Charity Details

Aim of the organisation

The education, training and development of young people using the Scout Association principles and programme. Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Charity Details

Scout HQ Ref: 13807

Charity Number: 1195556

Charity Name: Harrow District Scout Council

Charity Contact: Mr Ian McLuckie

1A Walton Road, HARROW, Middlesex, HA1 4UX

Tel: 02084273733

President: Councillor Janet Mote

Vice Presidents: Brian R. Jones, Alastair A. King, David C. Payne, Tom Johnson

Trustees

Ex Officio	Tyler Skerton	District Lead Volunteer/Trustee
	Jennifer Grogan	District Chair/Trustee
	Ian McLuckie	District Secretary/Trustee
	Alkesh Shah	District Treasurer/Trustee
	David Archer	Appointments Chair/Trustee
Elected	Jonathan Jones	Trustee
	Alison Jacobs	Trustee
	Christopher Read	Trustee
	Robert Jenkins	Buildings Officer/Trustee
Nominated	Peter Harrison	Appointments Secretary/Trustee
	Charlotte Clark	District Administrator/Trustee

District Auditor: Roy McKerracher

Statement of Purpose

The Harrow District Scout Council exists to assist with the running of Scouting within the London Borough of Harrow in Greater London. The Council governance is to ensure the correct and safe running of Scouting activities within this area as per the rules and regulations set out by the Scout Association of the United Kingdom. We endeavour to promote Scouting and to grow the movement reaching out to all young people between the ages of 4 and 25 in the area.

Future Plans

We would like to see all our existing Groups operating to their full potential within the area they are based and would like to see new Groups created where there is a gap in the Scouting provision.



Foreword from our District President

I was delighted to accept the invitation to become District President of Harrow District Scouts back in June 2022 during my term as Mayor of Harrow. Scouting means so much to my family and I, my children having been heavily involved in Pinner for many years and my late husband, Chris Mote, was president of Pinner & Headstone District. I look forward to many years in post, representing Scouts locally for all the wonderful and amazing work you all do. Honestly, you volunteers are amazing! It is my pleasure to welcome you to this wonderful Annual Report for 2023 and I wish you well for another fabulous year of Scouting.

Janet Mote, District President

Welcome from the District Chair

Welcome to the second AGM of the Harrow Scout Council. Our annual report will share the great activity across the District in the last year. Many thanks to all who have contributed to the report demonstrating the ongoing Scouting activity in Harrow District.

The District Trustee Board has met 4 times in the past year, with various other sub committees to progress work we have engaged in. We have reviewed what is required of the new Trustee Boards looking at the Constitution and Risk Assessment for the District. Income generation from the District Activity Centre has been high on the agenda. Sadly, two nurseries have expressed interest in renting the Centre but for different reasons this has not progressed. Currently we are focusing on upgrading the halls. We agreed subscription levels, having taken on board concerns raised by Groups last year, in particular to give more notice of the District levy. The District minibuses have been well used by Groups and we have put in place a robust invoicing process. Each Trustee is responsible for supporting a Deputy Lead Volunteer and their cluster of Groups for supporting compliance including AGMs and accounts. We would welcome invitations to your AGMs to hear about the fantastic Scouting that your Group is doing.

As you may well recall, we financially supported young people attending the World Scout Jamboree in the summer. The well documented issues they faced provided challenges but were faced in true Scouting spirit. We look forward to hearing about the Jamboree experience after the AGM.

Working closely with the District Commissioner and his team, it is great to see the events and activities that they have facilitated. There continues to be a high demand for Scouting in Harrow, although often thwarted by the challenge of recruiting leaders or premises to open new Groups.

Lastly, I wish to extend my thanks to the Trustee Board for the ongoing support and commitment to Scouts and to all those involved in Scouts in Harrow.

Very best wishes,

Jennifer Grogan
District Chair



District Lead Volunteers Report

A very warm welcome to our annual report from your District Leadership Team! 2023 has been a monumental year, once again! We have seen positive growth in young people throughout our Scout Groups and Explorer Units especially as we still deal with the remnants of the pandemic and the impact this had on us all. We have welcomed 150 new young people which is a 9.3% increase in the January Census. Despite closing two sections (in one Group) we have had a net gain of three new sections which has included our first Squirrel Drey at 4th Headstone, a new cub pack and Group at Alexandra school called 1st Alexandra and a new Scout Active Support Unit – the Harrow Scout Activity Club which was officially set up following running many successful trips (mainly Skiing) in previous years.

Our mission still is to have sustainable, inclusive growth that has a real community impact on our young people throughout Harrow. We do this through the hard work, effort, and dedication of our amazing volunteers.

I have been engaged in various tasks throughout the year; most notably the Transformation programme which was born out of our national strategy; Summit17 and BaseCamp22 (both of which I attended). This paves the way for our new and exciting journey which you may have heard about - more to come in the not-too-distant future! Central to our success is development. Development of our existing Groups but more importantly, opening new provision and engaging communities and areas that we serve. We employ a development team of three individuals who are tasked with growth and development, led by Karen Tempest. We have focused this year on developing existing Groups (where our level of intervention has been varied). Namely: 9th Kenton, 1st Rayners Lane, 1st Harrow Weald, 9th Roxeth, 23rd Harrow, Index ESU, and 2nd Headstone. I anticipate, looking at the latest figures supplied by Online Scout Manager, that we are most definitely on the growth path, and we continue to do

everything we can to support Groups in their success. We have exciting plans afoot with helping more Groups develop, but also opening new provision in places such as Harrow Mosque, where we hope to open multiple sections from Squirrels to Explorers.



I have been excited this year to focus myself on Network Scouts, an element of our programme that is difficult to get right. Ever changing priorities for when our Explorers turn

18 and go off to University and/or work, mean that having a stable Network is difficult. I am pleased to report that following several activities, the Harrow Network is on its journey into forming and has a very promising outlook. The programme for 14 to 25 years is evolving to meet the needs of our current generation and is part of many reviews and 'think tanks' with volunteers across the country. When I think about these two areas, and with 2023 being the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea, I wish to dedicate this year of Scouting to our programme, specifically in the Scouts and Explorer sections. I know that we will have prepared them with #SkillsForLife through whatever they have been involved with over this tremendous year.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your fantastic, dedicated, and selfless service to all our young people and wish you a fabulous 2024.



Programme

From our Programme lead, Reshma Patel

Our programme has been a huge part of our District provision which has been led by Reshma Patel who has contributed to writing this report. We have achieved so much – and we have exciting plans.

This year has again seen lots of Groups and units engage in various District events and as always, we wanted to recognize the hard work and dedication of all our volunteers who help bring the different events to life. Since the last AGM, we celebrated Diwali at the District Activity Centre (DAC) where we had around 250 members participate to understand more about the Hindu culture and take part in an array of activities. From trying out different types of arts and crafts from various parts of India to music and learning to play the Dhol, and with the help of leaders at 1st Stanmore, we all enjoyed a traditional Gujarati meal! We would like to thank the internationally renowned SSGC for making a special trip to the UK and facilitating a workshop in Garba for everyone on the day. This whole event would not have been successful without the help of leaders from 3rd Kenton, 8th/19th Harrow, 1st Stanmore and 9th Kenton – Thank you.

Through the winter season, we celebrated Christmas and had over 400 members attending one of two events in the District. Thanks to the teams at 4th Headstone and 3rd Kenton for helping put on both events. Lots of our young sections contributed to the event too by singing some funny carols.

We also ran a District Beaver sleepover at the Hillingdon RAF Bunker where we had 102 Beavers and Cubs in addition to their leaders spend the night working on various parts of their badges. There were several highlights of the evening, ranging from getting down to the bunker, seeing the planets and moon at night via the different telescopes set up outside through to sleeping under the two hanging planes over the mezzanine floor! Everyone had an excellent time at this wonderful venue, and I am sure we will be back again soon!

Purim started the events off with a bang in February thanks to both the 9th Pinner and 16th Edgware teams for organising a fabulous event for the District. It was brilliant to see so many young people turn out in their costumes. We all got another immersive experience into the Jewish culture and way of life including trying different arts/crafts, foods and the photo booth was a real hit! The young people also took part in making up packages to be taken to a shelter later that day (thanks to the organizers again for a fab event!!).

Harrow District ran its first Shooting competition for the upper sections over two weekends and witnessed over 150 Scouts and explorers turn up to try out for the competitions. The talent displayed by the finalists meant the last three shooters had to keep competing to separate them out and scored in the high 95-98 range! Thank you to 9th Kenton, 6th Harrow, 1st Harrow Weald and Paul Turner for facilitating the event as well as Kate Barry for helping put it all together.



Following a request from the Scout section leaders, Gillan Barnard and Alan Sims ran an amazing Patrol Camp Competition in July which again saw lots of young people from many Groups across the District. The Scouts were judged on their skills in setting up their campsite, meal preparation and cooking, teamwork and more!



Whilst much of summer was taken up with Groups and units running their own events, we came back from summer holidays to the Scouts & Explorers Cooking and Sedan Chair Rally competition, themed around the Coronation, which saw over 110 young people engage in one of the two activities. The Scouts cooking teams pushed the barriers this time and the judges were absolutely spoilt with some amazing dishes to sample, from gourmet burgers to Thai, Italian and French dishes. For those that haven't had a chance to try this activity over the last 2 years, it's a real highlight of what our young people do well. A real well done to all the participants in the Sedan Chair

Rally – Thank you to the Rayners Lane ESU leaders and District Team members for your help in making this happen with a special thanks to Derek Paterson and Sammy Holliday.



Recently we had the opportunity to compete at a 'You London' event, where we were fortunate to have two Groups from Harrow qualify to

represent London Scouts and attend the finals in Fulham in May. Well done to 17th Harrow and 3rd Kenton Scout Group's for being nominated for this prestigious London Award!

Our Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) provision has expanded this year and we have had more of our young people sign up to complete their DofE with Harrow Scouts. I would like to give a big shout out to Linda, Derek, Stuart, Roberta, Kate, Jonny, Jon, Russ, and Rob, all of whom run their own units and support other Groups but take the extra time out to run training sessions, expeditions and make sure this Nationally recognised, life changing



scheme runs smoothly and effectively for us here in Harrow. Thank you all so much for everything you do!

The highlight this year of course was celebrating all 16 of our young people who went to the Jamboree in South Korea this summer. The young people have had the opportunity to meet with and form new friendships with their peers in the county from the



contingents they were in, including some new friends from across the world. From the outset, our young people showed real entrepreneurial skills. We have seen some run their own business, of making and selling candy floss; all the way to organising sleepovers in their Groups, organising disco's, dog sitting, selling hand-made wares to organising community events at Easter and Halloween. They have all represented Harrow Scouts in the best possible light in all the community events that they held and are a true credit to our movement. We hope you enjoyed your experience despite the obvious and hope you continue your Scouting journeys into the future.



Even though the outcomes from the Jamboree may not have been what the young people expected, all of them want to go back as service crew at the next one in Poland. So, they must have had an excellent time, immersed in all the cultural activities that were laid on for them!

Outside of District events, the programme team has been working closely with our leaders at termly leaders' meetings, which has been a success. Not only has this given us

the opportunity to bond and share ideas across the District, but we have all come away having learnt something new to try out in our sections.

The Programme team is continuing to look for more volunteers to help with events, and therefore we want to reach out to our leaders to join the team. Even if it's just helping with running an event that you have an interest in, it can be as big or small of a commitment as you wish it to be. So, if you have an idea that you would like others across Harrow to experience, reach out to us at the earliest opportunity!

Finally, a huge thank you to all our Leaders, young leaders and Trustees who have continued to support the team at all these events. A special thank you to Sue and Rob Jenkins, Helen Wharton, and Sanjay Chandarana for all your help in making our events a success!

Nights Away

From our Operations lead, Alan Sims

To be able to take Young People on overnight stays, whether camping or staying in indoor accommodation a leader needs to gain a Nights Away Permit. There are now 95 Leaders across the District with a Nights Away Permit. We are gradually increasing the number of Leaders with Permits, and several Leaders have also renewed their permits this year. Well done to all those Leaders who gained or renewed their Permits this year, this helps us run more Nights Away activities for our Young People, which is what Scouting should be all about! These activities are a key part of Scouting, and all Groups and Units should be looking to take their Young People away. A Nights Away activity only needs one Permit holder to run it, but ideally should have two permit holders present.



The Nights Away Notification (NAN) process is also running well, and most NAN forms are being submitted with all the required information, with only a few having to be returned for more details to be added. There are still a few NAN forms being submitted only one or two days before the overnight stay takes place, in most cases we can approve these before the activity takes place, but it is better to get them in early. The new system that will be replacing Compass will automate the Nights Away Notification processes, and from what we have seen of the new systems it should make it easier to submit and approve NAN forms, so hopefully this will reduce everyone's workload slightly.

As a District, generally, we have a good Nights Away approach to our programmes, with over 90 camps and indoor overnight stays so far this year, run by Groups and Units across the District. This is a great achievement, as getting away to camp or staying overnight is what Scouting is all about.

Activity Permits

From our Operations lead,
Alan Sims

Activity Permits allow
leaders to run

Adventurous Activities for
our Young People, without
having to buy in specialist
skills from external
companies. These Activity
Permits cover a range of

Adventurous Activities, such as Water Sports, Shooting and Archery, Climbing and Hillwalking, etc. We have many leaders in Harrow with Activity Permits, and the number is growing. We have 87 Adventurous Activity Permits held by leaders across the District. Well done to all those Leaders who gained or renewed their Activity Permits this year, this helps us run a more exciting programme for our Young People.



Minibuses

From our Operations lead, Alan Sims

The District have two Ford transit 17-seater Trend minibuses and two equipment Trailers for Harrow Scout Groups and Explorer Units to use for Scout activities and camps. The District would like as many Groups as possible to make use of these minibuses, and thereby offer a wide range of activities to their young people. They have been used rather well this year however there is always room for improvement! The District asks Groups to donate for the use of the Minibuses and Trailers, and these are detailed on the SharePoint site. These are calculated from the costs of running and maintaining the minibuses and are very competitive compared to other organisations such as Harrow Community Transport, and significantly cheaper than commercial hire companies. Groups additionally must pay for the fuel they use in the minibuses.



Communications

From our People lead Gillan Barnard

Over the year we have continued with our communications programme: newsletters are issued when there is news to share or updates to provide and our socials are maintained. Engagement of a dedicated Communication Manager would help us to achieve more in this space and this will be a focus into the new year to secure this role and to push to have a central communications function.

Inclusion

From our People lead Gillan Barnard

Following feedback from the Adult Volunteers, we have set up sessions on autism and ADHD with support from the local centre in Eastcote. Whilst having only limited attendance, these sessions have been very beneficial and insightful, with great feedback. They have helped our Adult Volunteers understand these conditions and provided them with strategies to help with behaviour that can be disruptive or challenging. We plan to continue with similar sessions to support other aspects of inclusion as and when required.

Young Leaders

From our People lead Gillan Barnard

The number of Young Leaders (YLs) across the District has stayed consistent over the year – currently at 150, however I am pleased to report that these YLs are now spread across a wider range of Groups – up from 13 in 2022 to 21 in 2023. A new area for YLs to support is at the Swimming Club where their assistance is greatly appreciated.

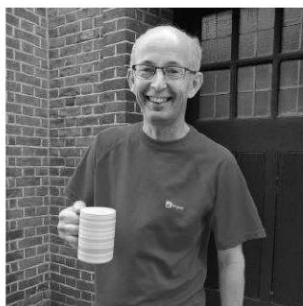
To accommodate this, we have trained 75 Young People in the 'essential' Module A over the year and run other training courses – First Response was very popular as well as training in Modules B to E. Ten of our YLs joined the County training sessions in Northwood too. Through our Section Leader meetings, we have assisted Adult Leaders in learning how to make the most of their YLs and at the same time help them achieve all their awards. The next area of focus needs to be on delivering more YL Belt Awards as numbers remain low.

Wishing all a positive and successful year ahead for Scouting in Harrow.

Tyler Skerton

District Lead Volunteer, Harrow

And the Senior Leadership Team: Reshma Patel, Paul Turner, Gillan Barnard, and Alan Sims.



Remembrance Day Service



Roll of Honour

Compiled by our Volunteering lead, Paul Turner and Chair of the Awards Advisory Committee, Ashley Martin

Congratulations to the following members who have received Awards for good service during the last period.



BAR TO THE SILVER ACORN

In recognition of further specially distinguished services

David Poole BEM, GSL 1st Hatch End



SILVER ACORN

In recognition of specially distinguished services

Derek Paterson

Rayners Lane ESU

Maggie Dowd

2nd Headstone

Susan Brown

1st Rayners Lane



BAR TO THE AWARD FOR MERIT

In recognition of further outstanding services

Debbie Tipton

5th Pinner

Timothy James

2nd Headstone

June Elliott-Harris

8th/19th Harrow



AWARD FOR MERIT

In recognition of outstanding services

David Lloyd-Jones

5th Pinner

Ann-Marie Holder

Raptor ESU

Ian McCreeth

1st/6th Edgware

Richard Gross

16th Edgware

Simon Jacobs

16th Edgware

Brandon Surridge

13th Roxeth

Jon Tydda

13th Roxeth

Will Bartholomew

3rd Pinner

Matthew Crossland

23rd Harrow

John Salter

District Badge

Anne Fernando

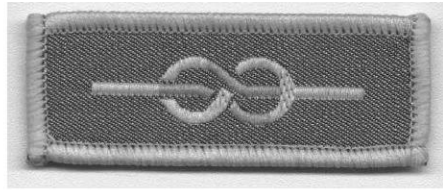
9th Roxeth

Karen Lloyd-Jones

5th Pinner

Dominic Rowe

17th Harrow



CHIEF SCOUT'S COMMENDATION FOR GOOD SERVICE

In recognition of good service

Luke Guerin	Pegasus ESU	Janet Batram	2 nd Rayners Lane
Jigna Patel	1 st Stanmore	Arifa Davdani	1 st Harrow
Marcus Ardeman	16 th Edgware	Prashant Patel	1 st Stanmore
John Allen	5 th Pinner	Bhuva Patel	1 st Stanmore
Scott Young	4 th Headstone	Hazel Patterson	1 st Rayners Lane
Gillian Shacklady	5 th Pinner	Siddika Dhalla	1 st Harrow
Amanda Sumar	1 st Roxeth		



Jack Petchey Award

From our Volunteering lead, Paul Turner



As most will know we run the Jack Petchey award scheme in our District. The Jack Petchey Foundation was set up to inspire and motivate young people across London and Essex by providing exciting projects and programmes for them to get involved in. We also recognise the outstanding achievements of today's young people by rewarding them for their hard work and positive impact in their community. Jack Petchey believes each and every young person should be given the chance to achieve. As he always says; "If you think you can, you can!"



This is an opportunity to nominate a young person in Scouts or Explorers for an achievement award. This may not be the best Scout or Explorer in your Group but a young person who has tried their best. We are fortunate that our District each year has been given 60 young person awards and 7 Adult awards which are shared around every Scout Troop and Explorer unit. We encourage every Group to put forward a young person for an award.

With the award comes £300 for the Troop or Unit and the young person decides what they would like to spend the money on – for example an outing, an item of equipment or an experience etc. There is also a certificate and medal given usually at an award ceremony that is held annually. With the adult award there also comes with the possibility to apply for a grant for up to £1000! If you know of a Leader which you feel deserves an award, please speak to us.

Who was Jack Petchey?

Sir Jack is an incredible inspiration to everyone who works at the Foundation. At 98, not only does he come to the office every day, but he does so with positivity and determination to work hard. He was born into a working-class family in the East End in 1925, left school at 13 and then joined the Navy in 1943. After leaving the Navy, he began working as a clerk for a solicitor's firm. Sir Jack is an incredible inspiration to everyone who works at the Foundation. If you would like any further information, please speak to Paul Turner (DDC Volunteering).

ADULT JACK PETCHEY AWARDS

Rosie Biddle – 5th Pinner
Scott Young – 4th Headstone
Stephen Garrett – 8th/19th Harrow
Anthony Ayton (dec'd) - 6th Harrow

Reshma Patel – DDC
Nikesh Patel – 1st Harrow Weald
Ramesh Dave – 1st Stanmore

Chief Scouts Gold and Bronze Awards

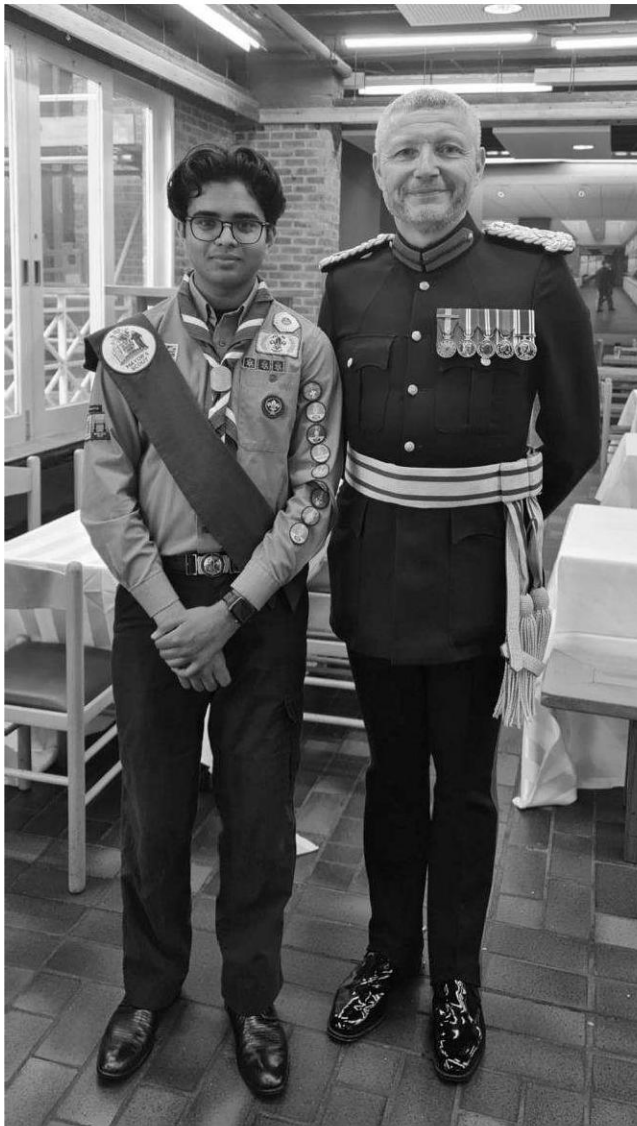
Many awards have been achieved across the District over the last year – here are some pictures of just a few!



Mayor's Scout

The position of Mayor's Scout (and Deputy Mayor's Scout) is a prestigious appointment that is made at the sole discretion of the District Lead Volunteer. Lasting for one year, this role is awarded to an Explorer in the District that has displayed impeccable standards of presentation, dedication and bearing, and can carry themselves in a public setting. Often being good speakers, their role is not only to represent the District, but to promote Scouts locally alongside the Mayor at official functions.

Mayor Scout duties will include attending the Mayor's Ball, Remembrance Day, council meetings, civic services and Mayor Making ceremonies. These happen outside of school hours (usually weekends for main events). The person that the Mayor's Scout is awarded to gives absolute dedication to Scouts and is passionate, kind, and helpful in all that they do, living by their scout promise and implementing the Scout law.



Well done to...

Deep Patel

**Mayor's Scout
2023**

Deep Patel, Mayor's Scout 2023 pictured next to Simon Ovens, Deputy Lieutenant for the London Borough of Harrow.

Badge Secretary Report

Badge Report for year-end 31st March 2023

John Salter (JS) & Helen Guerin (HG)



Things have been relatively straight forward for badge sales. However, changes and stock shortages at Scout Shops Wholesale have meant it has been sometimes frustrating to obtain stock. There is now no 'back ordering' so achieving the minimum order for free delivery has made things a bit more difficult for us. It is sometimes weeks before we can obtain some badges. Susan Jenkins deals with the bank account. Copies of all Group invoices are copied to Susan Jenkins as are stock purchase orders from JS & HG to arrange reimbursement. The activity figures in £ are shown below along with the end of year value of stock.

Trading activity: The trading figures in £ are shown below:

	Purchases	Sales	Subsidy	Invoices	Stock
JS	4746	5993	2866	3130	1951
HG	1966	2431	1215	1215	1100
Totals	6712	8424	4081	4345	3051

The end of year stock value includes the long-term stock of new Harrow District badges.

Finally, let us not forget that behind every badge sold there is a great deal of work that has been done in the District by leaders and Young People — so well done and keep on achieving!



Buildings and Estates

After all the work that has been carried out at the District Activity Centre over the previous couple of years, this past year has been quieter, with the internal of the building taking priority.

- ✓ The stage has been removed from the main hall in the DAC and storage cupboards have been built along the wall where the stage was.
- ✓ The hall has been redecorated and the curtains removed, and blinds fitted.
- ✓ Monts room is also going to be redecorated and the curtains removed, and blinds fitted.
- ✓ The kitchen is going to be updated with a new cooker, new flooring etc, to improve its overall appearance and function.
- ✓ The Cresswell building is having improvements made at the moment. Toilets are being fitted into the building and as we have a kitchen installed in there already, it will be a self-sufficient building. Once the improvements have been made, it will be redecorated and blinds fitted to the window,



I would like to thank Tyler Skerton, Alan Sims, Paul Turner, Anand Tailor, Ash Martin, Graham Franks, Jonny Jones and Helen & James Wharton, and the boys for all the help and support they give me.

Robert Jenkins
Buildings and Project Manager

Harrow Scout Active Support Unit (SASU)

Speaking to members of our District, I have been made aware that not many people know about the Scout Active Support Unit (SASU).

SASU is for anyone over the age of 18 years. It is a way for adults to volunteer time to Scouting in a flexible way that suits them. There is no requirement to have been involved in Scouting before joining. All that is required is a willingness to volunteer some time to support Scouting.

Some of the activities that SASU are involved with are: -

- Catering at the AGM and Founders Day
- Running quiz nights for District, Jamboree participants etc. Beavers Fun Day
- Cubs Game afternoon
- Scouts sports Day
- Football Tournament
- Helping at camps
- Helping at the Swimming Gala
- General tidy up at the DAC
- Day trips out for SASU members

As we are now a bigger District it would be nice if we could get new members to join us - Ex Leaders, Students, Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Guardians, ex members who have left and would like to be involved with Scouting again.

Please spread the word out to your Groups Exec and Parents and feel free to contact me at susan.jenkins@harrowScouts.org.uk if you have any questions.

Sue Jenkins
SASU Manager



Harrow Scouts & Guides Swimming Club

2023 has seen our swimming club take a brand-new direction. The membership increased in January 2023 from 37 in December 2022 to 108! The club now uses OSM for everything which is GDPR compliant: Membership, Payments, Waiting List, Emails, Permission forms, Badges and Attendance is managed by OSM. The waiting list currently sits at 88. Another huge success is the teachers, assistants, poolside helpers, front desk, and the committee! The club was closing due to lack of volunteers. We now have over 30 volunteers. Every adult you come into contact with in regard to the club are volunteers – very dedicated and great people; many hold other volunteer roles within Scouting & Guiding, and of course majority are also parents. So, I need to shout a HUGE THANK YOU to them all!!

We now have more qualified teachers than ever before and a plan in place to keep increasing this as well as continuing development for all. This is all great news for all our young people.

We have also championed Young Leaders which fits nicely with our campaign to deliver #skillsforlife for our young people. We now we have six. These young people have achieved their Gold Swimming challenge and then their time at the club should end. However, they have chosen to come back and learn to become an Assistant Teachers moving up to a Qualified Teacher. With their parents support we will be working with them to move them along the qualified route: I must admit about twenty-five years ago I was one of the Young Leaders, my qualifications and service here at the club helped towards me gaining my Queens Scout Award!

We committed at the end of 2022 to providing four Level 1 (Assistants) and four Level 2 (Teachers), these were all taken and passed by February 2023. Without these, the club would have closed Easter 2023. The financial committee and our training officer have worked together to create a new study support package. This package will help volunteers achieve the qualifications and ensure they stay at the club for a minimum period. The support is offered based on who's next based on length of service. The club is a member of Swim England, and all members are registered with Swim England. There is a yearly check completed by Swim England to ensure that the club is compliant. The club passed the January 2023. All adult volunteers are required at minimum have Scouting: DBS, Safeguarding, Safety and GDPR. These are required to be completed in the 1st month of volunteering. In addition, Teachers, Assistants and Poolside helpers have a Swim England DBS and have attended a Swim England Approved Safeguarding course.

This new direction is a marathon and not a sprint. We know some of the ideas haven't worked and it's still work in progress. I love parents and other adults getting involved and are welcome to join the committee or just have a chat with me when I'm not teaching. The club is a Scouting Active Support Unit for Harrow Scouts, and we are supported by the 3 Guiding Districts that cover the Borough of Harrow. Apparently, the club is unique with Swim England, and it is one of the rare joint activities' clubs for both Guides & Scouts. We hope to continue to be successful into 2024 and look forward to reporting back on our success.

Caroline Latham, Harrow Scout & Guides Swimming Club (SASU) Manager

Harrow Scouts Activity Club

The Harrow Scouts Activity Club is the SASU that focuses on larger, more complex, and adventurous activities that may not be able to be achieved within Groups, but also allows larger events, including audiences from more diverse areas of the District to get involved.

The FAB Tour took place in April 2023 and involved 100 Scouts, Explorers, and Adult Volunteers in an exciting tour by coach across three European countries.



We spent five days skiing in Austria and then travelled to Cologne in Germany and Ypres in Belgium on our return to the UK – a sporting, cultural and historical Scouting expedition for all involved. Feedback from the FAB Tour was excellent – with 92% of participants giving the trip 4 or 5 stars and 60% of participants signed up for the next trip in 2024. Highlights were the skiing itself, in the beautiful Skiwelt area and the Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres. Despite several challenges, the trip broke even on costs.

Our next trip, Pure Ski 2024, sold out within three weeks and we now have a reserve list. Over 50% of the 102 participants are from Harrow District, with other places filled from Scouting members across GLMW. We have 6 days of skiing booked in Les Deux Alpes in France, with travel by air this time, and a full programme of evening activities also included. Within the budget for this trip, we have been able to accommodate training for additional Adult Volunteers to complete their Snowsports Activity Permits so that we can offer an improved opportunity to young people on future trips, as well as reducing the cost of trips by using our own team for part of the time rather than instructors.

Looking ahead we plan to expand the HSAC beyond skiing to include other adventurous or less frequently planned activities that need specific skills or support from a specialist central team – watch this space for more news!

Ian Parkinson
HSAC SASU Manager



Financial Report

The accounts for the year to 31st August 2023 are presented in the format recommended by The Scout Association. This includes a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities. The columns show unrestricted, restricted, and total funds with the previous year's balances for comparison.

Just over £230k of cash was received by the District over the past year. This was mainly made up of just over £100k from HSAC, Rental income of £30k, £25k from net subscriptions, a £25k grant for development, and £25k from a TSA investment facility that was closed.

The District made payments of just over £241k. The main payments included £158k for the Easter 2023 ski trip, £30k DAC costs, £13k for development, £7.5k relating to badge subsidies and £6.6k for grants made.

Here is a breakdown of the net cash movement for the year:

	District	DAC	HSAC	Total 22/23	Previous Year 21/22
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	40,703	33,487	90,300	164,490	158,593
Net change in cash for period	17,700	27,914	(56,476)	(10,862)	5,898
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	58,403	61,401	33,825	153,629	164,490

It should be noted there are £18.5k worth of payments due (creditors) at the year end. On the statement of asset and liabilities, Prepayments and Advance Payments Received relate to the 2024 Ski trip.

On the reserves, both the general and vehicle reserves are showing significant deficits despite the positive cash generated. The District Trustee Board therefore continues to keep the budget and reserves policy under review to make sure that there is a balance between allowing the District to continue operating on a long-term basis alongside providing a wide range of programmes for all sections and supporting Groups where possible.

Alkesh Shah
Treasurer

Receipts and Payments Account

Harrow District Scouts

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Account	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Previous Year
Receipts				
Subscriptions (Net)				
Membership Subscriptions	102,973	0	102,973	83,297
Less Subscriptions Paid On	(77,888)	0	(77,888)	(69,586)
Total Subscriptions (Net)	25,085	0	25,085	13,711
Other Income	25,453	0	25,453	111,951
Activity Club Receipts	101,775	0	101,775	27,256
Bookings and rent	30,110	0	30,110	39,098
Explorer Scout Unit Income	6,248	0	6,248	3,298
Event Income	4,672	0	4,672	10,087
DofE Income	1,375	0	1,375	0
Vehicle Donations	2,960	0	2,960	3,005
Donations	5,008	0	5,008	549
Interest on investments	2,962	0	2,962	440
Network Programme and Events	(121)	0	(121)	0
Total Gross Income	205,527	0	205,527	209,394
Asset and investment sales, etc.				
Investments	25,100	0	25,100	0
Total Asset and investment sales, etc.	25,100	0	25,100	0
Total Receipts	230,627	0	230,627	209,394
Payments				
Charitable Payments				
Activity Club Expenses	(158,251)	0	(158,251)	(68,351)
Event costs	(6,122)	0	(6,122)	(13,324)
Explorer Scout Unit Costs	(4,431)	0	(4,431)	(3,892)
Badge purchases and costs	(7,554)	0	(7,554)	(4,968)
DAC expenses	(29,067)	0	(29,067)	(31,269)
District Costs	(4,734)	0	(4,734)	(5,523)
Professional Fees	(13,767)	0	(13,767)	(24,901)
Licences and Subs	(1,483)	0	(1,483)	(801)
Insurance	(1,243)	0	(1,243)	(112)
Vehicle Costs	(1,337)	0	(1,337)	(7,570)
District Young Leader Programme	(87)	0	(87)	(54)
District formation costs	0	0	0	(8,000)
Administrators Remuneration	(4,575)	0	(4,575)	(4,320)
DofE Expenses	(1,543)	0	(1,543)	(130)
Trophies & Medals	(218)	0	(218)	(295)
Grants Made	(6,667)	0	(6,667)	(2,603)
Training	(200)	0	(200)	(54)
Total Charitable Payments	(241,279)	0	(241,279)	(176,165)
Asset Purchases				
Fixtures & Fittings	0	0	0	(26,423)
Equipment	(210)	0	(210)	(908)
Total Asset Purchases	(210)	0	(210)	(27,332)
Total payments	(241,489)	0	(241,489)	(203,497)
Net Cash Flows	(10,862)	0	(10,862)	5,898
Cash and Cash Equivalents				
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	164,490	0	164,490	158,593
Net change in cash for period	(10,862)	0	(10,862)	5,898
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	153,629	0	153,629	164,490

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Harrow District Scouts

As at 31 August 2023

Account	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Previous Year
Cash Funds				
Barclays Bank Main Account	117,962	0	117,962	67,547
Badge Account	913	0	913	4,951
Equals Fair FX	929	0	929	1,692
Harrow Scouts Activity Club	33,825	0	33,825	90,300
Total Cash Funds	153,629	0	153,629	164,490
Other Monetary Assets				
Badge Stock	0	0	0	1,647
Accounts Receivable	6,612	0	6,612	0
Prepayments	37,200	0	37,200	31,500
Total Other Monetary Assets	43,812	0	43,812	33,147
Investment Assets				
Investments	126,000	0	126,000	151,100
Total Investment Assets	126,000	0	126,000	151,100
Non monetary assets for charity's own use				
Equipment	973	0	973	854
Fixtures & Fittings	20,900	0	20,900	24,675
Vehicles	16,560	0	16,560	22,080
Total Non monetary assets for charity's own use	38,433	0	38,433	47,609
Creditors				
Accounts Payable	18,517	0	18,517	0
Advance Payments Received	66,248	0	66,248	34,400
Other Creditors	0	0	0	80,650
Total Creditors	84,765	0	84,765	115,050
Net Assets	277,109	0	277,109	281,296
Reserves				
Unrestricted Reserve				
General Fund	38,143	0	38,143	41,340
Total Unrestricted Reserve	38,143	0	38,143	41,340
Earmarked Funds				
Vehicle Reserve	18,080	0	18,080	26,730
Raptor ESU	1,930	0	1,930	2,009
Index ESU	3,096	0	3,096	0
DAC Reserve	210,527	0	210,527	209,206
International Fund	0	0	0	2,078
HSAC	4,776	0	4,776	0
DofE	557	0	557	0
Total Earmarked Funds	238,966	0	238,966	240,024
Total Reserves	277,109	0	277,109	281,364

Harrow District Scouts Year ended 31st August 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Harrow District Scouts

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Harrow District Scouts for the year ended 31st August 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Harrow District Scouts 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 Harrow District Scouts 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 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 Harrow District Scouts 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.

Signed: 

Name: Roy McKerracher

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies: Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland

Address: 34 Elmcroft Crescent, Harrow

Date: 8th November 2023

In Memoriam 2023

We remember the passing of the following members of the District, or of the former Districts since June 2022.

Daphne Law	19 th Harrow	09/11/2022
Anthony Ayton	6 th Harrow	17/12/2022
Diane Brundritt	27 th Harrow	06/03/2023
Joan Oxenham	9 th Roxeth	15/09/2023
Sheilah Lowe	21 st Harrow	22/09/2023
Polly Lee-Pohler	17 th Harrow	13/10/2023
Roger Annan	4 th Harrow (Pioneers)	22/10/2023



Thank you

**...to every one of
our volunteers in
Harrow**

