



1st Rustington Scout Group

Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2024



Chairman's Report

It's that time again to reflect on the past year of Scouting at 1st Rustington and the achievements of the Group.

Fundraising is an integral part of the 'behind the scenes' work and support for the Trustee Board. This year we held two very successful Street Collections which raised over £2000 for group funds. November saw another well supported Comedy Night at The Woodlands Centre, which again brought in vital funds. A big thank you to Martin Richardson and the GSL team for, once again, organising and running this event.

St Georges Day Parade in Arundel saw, as always, an amazing turnout from all sections of the Group, which was repeated in November for Rustington's Remembrance Sunday Parade. I have the privilege of being part of this event and I am always so proud to see all the sections on parade in our local community.

1st Rustington has always been about being part of the community and following on from the success of the previous year we once again joined with the Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul for our Carol Service. Natalie, Laura and Gill always make us so welcome and it's a lovely way to all come together to start the build up to Christmas. Once again my thanks to Gill for working with the sections to produce an amazing piece of artwork that was displayed in the Church.

As part of the Carol Service we decided that, rather than having a traditional collection, we would encourage everyone attending to bring along a donation to 'The Pantry', our local food bank supported and run by the Church community. The response was incredible and we ended up with five full crates of donations; a very proactive way of 'thinking of others before ourselves'.

Scouting is about being part of a 'family' and everyone in the Group has a part to play in this. Nikki Cooke, has, for the past few years been administering our successful 100 Club, however she has now decided to step down from this role and I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to her for everything she has done. Jon Harris has kindly agreed to 'pick up the baton' and I am very grateful.

I started by reflecting on the success of the past year and I would like to end by looking forward. We, as a Trustee Board will continue to learn and adapt. I am just one of a dedicated team of Trustees and as always my thanks goes to Caroline, Sally, Mary, Sandy & Nicky for their continued dedication, hardwork and support.

To the GSL team, leaders and volunteers I want to say thank you for your continued commitment to providing the best of Scouting at 1st Rustington. Here's to the next twelve months.....

Sarah Greig

Chairman- 1st Rustington Board Of Trustees

GSL Report

Another busy 12 months has flown by and after two and a half years of laying the foundations for the long term stability of the group whilst embracing the change of the Scout Association, I am pleased to say that we are still riding high with membership hitting capacity earlier in the year with all sections full.

Rustington continue to offer an enjoyable, satisfying and fulfilling programme to all our young people and as we continue to modernise and develop our Leadership team, we can all be proud that once again we have written a further fantastic chapter in the Group's history book.

Our numbers and reputation for offering fantastic Scouting opportunities are testament to the tireless efforts of all our leaders. Their dedication is second to none and always goes that extra mile. We sadly said goodbye to Gary Cooke from Pioneer Scouts this year who has moved on to new challenges at District. A big thank you for all you have done and don't be a stranger. Accordingly, Pioneers has been left in the very capable hands of Andy and Amy who are picking up the reigns brilliantly.

The weekly programme provided to all sections continues to amaze and showcase the creativity of the team. This year we are particularly proud that all our sections have offered nights away opportunities as well as some exciting activity days. The strong praise and appreciation from parents on the WhatsApp group echo our thanks and the great job you are all doing.

HQ continues to be a hub of the community with growing number of Hall Hirers. There are plans afoot to refurbish the toilets and in time the kitchen. We continue to build an increased social media presence and have replaced and renewed many items of equipment that enable the group to run the programmes that we do so well. The website remains very interactive allowing uniform sales, hall hire, new joiners, enquiries and even donations to be managed at the touch of a button or two.

There has been a greater focus on our sections and camps this year alongside the usual District & County Events we once again held a wonderful Christmas Carol Concert in St Peter & St Pauls Church with just shy of 200 group members and their family attending. Fundraising events have included two very successful Comedy nights, Street Collections as well as securing the Top Tesco Community Award voted by the local community.

Our Trustee board steered by Sarah have continued to support us in all we ask for and they are incredibly committed to helping us give our young people the best scouting experience we can. We have some 'big ticket items' on the wish list coming up and their consideration and acceptance for what we request is always gratefully received; We look forward to another prosperous year.

At this point I would like to highlight a few individuals whose contribution has been key to the success of the group this year. Firstly Peter Bunce for all his help in the upkeep of the hall, Chelsea for her dedication in growing our hall hirers. And Jon Harris for his continue support to the GSL Team and taking on the 100 club. Thank you one and all.

The individual section reports this year are available on the website, and will tell you what the sections have been up to throughout the past 12 months.

Thank you to the District team for their support under Ian's guidance and finally a huge thank you to all our own leaders, explorers helpers, friends and supporters. Your generosity and commitment make 1st Rustington is what it is. Let's make this coming year equally successful and enjoyable offering the best Scouting we can with lots of fun along the way.

Thank you,

Dan, Martin, James, Matt

Rustington Explorer Unit Report

Rustington Explorers has continued to operate a dynamic programme throughout the last year. Leaders and Explorers alike have showed great resilience and commitment throughout this period.

Activities in the summer term included campsite wide games, beach nights, challenges at the rec, sports day, mini golf and foot golf, tent pitching, volley ball, and orienteering .

Once again we returned to the Peak District. Despite the weather it was a thoroughly enjoyable week. Explorers undertook their Duke of Edinburgh Awards as well as Rock Climbing, Archery, Battle Field Live and the obligatory trip to Alton Towers. Leaders and Explorers showed great spirit to make the trip happen but demonstrated how camping is such an important part of our programme.

Winter months again provided a twist on many of our usual winter programme activities but once again a full programme operated during this time.

We welcomed February with Green status and allowing Scouting to operate without restrictions. One of our best nights this year was called Splash & Chat where a former Explorer of some 20 years, provided each Explorer with an easel, a canvas, various paints and brushes and showed them all how to paint a mountain scene. The results were fantastic!

Other nights this year have included Taskmaster, a night hike, first aid training, a visit to Flying Fortress, backwards cooking at the campsite and much more.

As well as the Tuesday night programme a number of Explorers help out at the various sections of Rustington Scout Group as part of their awards providing a valuable resource and support to these units.

The Explorer Unit continues to be a success and a fundamental part of Scouting in Rustington. This is down to the excellent leadership team of Daniel, Cobby, James, Jon and Chelsea who make the unit so popular and appealing. Never more so has their spirit and commitment shone through. Our sustained numbers are testament to all their hard work. Thanks, must also go to the continual support received from the Group and Committee, the Unit would not be what it is without you.

Frontier Scouts Report

Another year of progress.

The Frontier Scout section has 32 Scouts.

We are projected to receive more Scouts over the next 6 months from both Kingfisher and Pathfinders and thank the leaderships team in both groups for their support in helping us grow.

With the influx of Scouts, we needed more leadership help. Tom Weedon decided that he would return to Scouts after a two year absence. He has settled in really well and has been a massive help with the wealth of experience he brings to the role.

Summer Camp 2023 was held in Bristol and was a joint camp with Pioneer Scouts. This year Frontiers took 12 Scouts, which is double the amount we have taken the previous two years. This is a positive step in the right direction. The Scouts enjoyed taking part in Canyoning, Surfing, Hiking and Shooting along with many other activities.

This year has seen the Frontier Scouts complete the following activities, archery, swimming, Scalextric racing, building and racing chariots and cooking pancakes. We have completed the code breaking badge, a night hike across Angmering park and built fires and cooked campfire donuts.

Sadly Tom Wilkins left the Frontier Scout in March 2024. This was due to having other commitments. His leadership and skill set will be greatly missed by the group. Tom joined Frontiers just after Covid at an extremely difficult time for the group and helped us grow quickly into the group we have today. We thank Tom for all his hard work and help over the past 3 years.

However, in Tom's place we have recruited Ben Gittus, who was formally a Scout with Frontiers. He brings fresh ideas and a younger perspective, which we hope will help the group grow further in the future. Welcome Ben!

As we move forward, we acknowledge that we do need to recruit another leader to support the team moving forward over the coming years. We will be discussing this as a leadership team and will hopefully find someone soon.

As a leadership team we would like to thank the Committee and GLV for their continued help and support in making Rustington the Group that it is.

I would like to personally thank Tom C, Tom W, Tom W and Ben for their support and help in running Frontiers. We have had a difficult few years, but our efforts are now paying off. That is clearly evident in how far the group has come in such a short space of time. I look forward to growing the group further with you in the coming year. Thank you.

Pioneer Scouts Report

A year in the life of Pioneers!

April saw a very successful expedition challenge for 2 groups. They set off across the north downs for a 2 day expedition that the groups planned and navigated themselves. They also had to cook for themselves and pitch their own tents.

We had the most fantastic evening put together by our young leaders seeing the scouts racing around Rustington and Littlehampton in their patrols.

We also had our homeless sleepover. The scouts constructed shelters and slept out in the church hall carpark after visiting a local soup kitchen.

In May we visited Woodhouse Park in Bristol with Frontiers for our summer camp. We had an action-packed week including surfing, canyoning, hiking and of course the scout Olympics!

The summer term saw the Pioneers making sandcastles, bike riding and hiking and finishing it all off with a summer party on the beach.

The autumn term included a visit to Littlehampton fire station followed by further work at the hall towards their fire safety badge. We had a troop forum allowing the scouts to feedback ideas for what they would like to see in their programme for the next term.

In October we set off on another camp! We visited Broadstone Warren where the scouts undertook crate stacking and archery followed by hiking and orienteering and a how well do you know your leaders quiz.

We created our own version of cluedo that was played live in the hall. As well as a firework hike and more badge based evenings.

The Pioneers also entered 2 teams into the district cooking competition and won first place bringing home the Battered Billy Trophy!

Christmas saw us preparing for our Christmas party making Christmas crackers, snowflakes and paper chains. We said a sad goodbye to 2 of our leaders Ade and Rebecca at our fancy dress Christmas party. We also had a few visitors from county to join the celebrations.

Pioneers welcomed 2024 and started work on our you shaped badges. We had a 4 week rotation where each group enjoyed an evening of cooking, air rifle shooting, navigation and planning their own nights. Each patrol hosted their own night over the next 4 weeks where they got to be leaders for an evening. They were so imaginative and a lot of fun!

Congratulations Pioneers, we have had a fantastic year handing out 8 gold awards and a whopping 265 badges!

Kingfisher Cub Scout Report

Our Summer terms are always filled-to-the-brim with us being outside as much as possible! During this term, we went on a night hike, earned many different badges, visited the Scout campsite twice, and the highlight of the term was our Monopoly themed 'incident walk'. The Cubs walked between lots of different Monopoly locations, where additional volunteers were manning themed bases, and completed a range of activities based on each Monopoly destination! They had to plug the burst water pipes at the Water Works, complete a 'Don't Buzz the Wire' at the Electric Company, 'Read all about it' at Fleet Street, and even escape from Jail! Along the way, they received Chance and Community Chest Cards, where they completed additional tasks on route to their next base, to earn even more money! We had our annual joint camp with Pathfinder Cubs at the beginning of the Summer holidays, which was our first camp where we were able to fully return to camping, with the children staying overnight for the full duration.

In Autumn term, we had lots more evenings of earning badges, to include completing the chef's badge, where the Cubs put their culinary skills to the test and made a Cottage Pie and a fruit crumble for pudding! We had a blast at our Ghostbusters themed evening, as we made the marshmallow We completed our First Aid badge, pioneering, athletics badge, and had a Christmas party at Flying Fortress, as well as having one at the Scout Hall, and completing some Christmas crafts.

Our Spring term saw us do some crazy science experiments, visit the local fire station, celebrate Shrove Tuesday (on Ash Wednesday!), and complete our Astronomer's badge at the Chichester Planetarium. We did a three-way rotation of activities across three weeks, whereby we did some climbing at Out of Bounds, made a bird feeder platform for our DIY badge, and had the District in to supervise us with some rifle shooting!

All in all, as always, Kingfishers have invested numerous new Cubs, said goodbye to our eldest Cubs as they've gained their Silver Awards and moved on up to Scouts, and gained oodles of badges! However, it must be noted that none of this exciting programme could be achieved without the leadership team, so a huge thanks must go to Jo, Andy, Rohan and Will, and to our Scout and Explorer helpers Eamonn, Charlie, Michael, Jacob and Gracie! We also extend our thanks to the Group Lead Volunteers for their support and guidance.

Jemma Lecuyer
Kingfisher Cubs Akela

Pathfinder Cub Scout Report

It's been another great year at Pathfinder's!

In the spring and summer, we held a lot of our meetings outdoors. We went on a hike up to Highdown Hill, we played sports at Woodland's recreation ground and spent an evening on Littlehampton beach. We also spent several of our meetings up at the district campsite in Angmering. During our time there, we played lots of wide games and practised some outdoor skills, including pitching tents, fire lighting and backwoods cooking.

In June, the Cubs enjoyed a session of Clip and Climb at Out of Bounds.

At the start of the summer holidays, we went on our annual camp with Kingfisher's to Lodge Hill near Pulborough. Our theme this year was Disney and there were lots of activities and games organised over the 4 days. We also took the Cubs on a hike and went swimming with them. Luckily the weather was good enough for us to have some campfires in the evenings too. A big thank you to all the leaders and volunteers who help us each year. We would not be able to run our summer camps without you.

During the Autumn and Winter months, we were back at the hall, learning new skills, playing games, and having lots of fun. We have completed lots of different badges during the year, including Disability Awareness, Emergency Aid, Scientist, Chef, Pioneer, Digital Maker and International, as well as working towards the Challenge badges. Five of our Cubs achieved their Chief Scout Silver awards, and in total we gave out 194 badges.

As an early Christmas treat, we joined Kingfisher's for an evening at the 'Flying Fortress' in November.

In December, The Cubs used their artistic skills to help design the decoration for the annual Christmas Carol Service at St Peter and St Paul's.

Nigel and I continue to run the pack and we hope that we will be able to recruit some more volunteers very soon. In the meantime, we rely on our Explorer young leaders, who give up their time each week to help us provide a fun and varied Programme for the Cubs. We would also like to thank all the parents who have helped during the year.

Finally, thanks to all those who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support our Scout Group and make it the success it is.

We look forward to another great year at Cubs!

Many thanks

Akela Steve

Forest Beaver Scout Report

This year has continued to be full of exciting experiences and programmes for our beaver. We have continued to support our Beavers with a great team of leaders and Young Leaders without whom this wouldn't be possible, and I would like to thank them all for their support and engagement within the section. Our Young Leaders continued to grow and develop their leadership skills alongside our other leaders, and it has been great to see their confidence grow across the year. We thank them for their time with us as they have both since moved on to other sections.

We are currently full at 28 Beavers with a strong attendance each session. This year the Beavers have been working really hard at home as well as at our sessions and they have earned a total of 498 badges at home and during our sessions well done to you and thank you to our parents/carer's engagement with this.

The Beavers have worked really hard during our sessions working on a variety of badges including; international, money skills (which is a new badge for us all), disability awareness and health and fitness.

Our year has been filled with a variety of experiences for our young people.

In the summer of last year, we held our own Jamboree on the Trail (JOTT) walk which is an international event with groups from across the world joining in with walks or hikes.

We also went for a visit to Broadstone Warren, a scout adventure centre, where the Beavers enjoyed activities including low ropes, tunnelling and pedal karts. Much fun was had by all who attended.

We held our sleepover in Selsey last year with a magical theme to entice the Beavers as well as visit to the local RSPB site to explore the area and learn about the different animals and creatures that call it home.

In February of this year, the Beavers went to clip and climb which they did amazingly well whilst Magpie watched from below admiring their confidence and climbing ability whilst keeping my feet firmly on the ground.

The Beavers have also enjoyed joining in with district events including a sandcastle competition, flying fortress and St George's Day in Arundel. Last year, some of our Beavers joined in with the celebrations for St George's Day during our time as duty group.

A total of 10 Beavers achieved their Chief Scout Bronze award which is a fantastic achievement for those Beavers. Lots of Beavers are continuing to attend sessions and are getting close to achieving theirs as well. We currently have a lot of younger children who are also on their way to achieving their bronze awards, so we are looking forward to seeing what the upcoming year has to bring.

I would like to end by thanking the young people and their families that make Forest Beavers what it is and the amazing team of volunteers without whom we couldn't run and provide the amazing experiences for our wonderful Beavers.

Daniel McCann
Beaver Scout Leader

Woodland Beaver Scout Report

Another full-on year of Fun and badges has gone by at Woodland Beavers. The year started with 20 beavers on parade for St Georges Day looking smart as always. It is always hard to get a space at the campsite, but we were lucky to have several dates this year to enjoy fun and marshmallows over the campfire.

We looked at telling stories and book reading which helped us launch the community book library outside the hall for everyone to exchange books in. Every week we saw beavers exchange a book or 2. Good old biscuit decorating was on the agenda with lots of crazy designs with lots of icing and too many sweets for some. This evening was followed by some bike maintenance ready for our sponsored event a few weeks later.

21 Beavers soon attended Go Beavers 23 event at Blacklands Farm, we covered bouldering, low ropes, tunnels, a night line, archery and much more. The journey home saw 24 McFlurrys being ordered and demolished in the buses on the last part of our journey home.

Beavers undertook their Navigators stage 1 badge looking at routes and using arrows and symbols to show directions. Endangered animals were loose in the hall one evening and finding out about other animals were loose in the campsite the following week.

Our sponsored event, a Roller Darby was held on the Littlehampton Sea front, beavers scooted or rode their bikes up and down the prom to raise money for their sleepover. In September 17 beavers join us for an animal themed sleepover with a day trip to see live Beavers at Drusilla's Park. A great day out followed by a sleepover at the Scout Hall, they finally were asleep at midnight. Beavers made crocodiles the following Tuesday as part of the animal friends badge to look after and tell tales of what they got up to. St Peter and St Paul's church invited us to visit and learn about faith and join in with their harvest festival.

A very special four-legged visitor joined the gang for her very 1st visit in a group. Milly the guide dog puppy taught us how she will be trained and what she will do for those in the future. This helped us look at our disability awareness badge. We paid a visit to Littlehampton Lifeboats and had a competition to see who could be dressed up the quickest. We soon looked at computer safety and invented machines that could help those who can't do things easily. Some great minds these Beavers have.

For Mother's Day we decided to make peppermint cream, what a mess! We flew airplanes and done some experiments; this was also followed by presenting our hobbies to each other. Beavers learnt about looking after their teeth and had a visit for a Dental nurse and a hygienist to explain the role of a dentist. World thinking day we looked at ways we could do our best and help others, we decided to go on a night hike to the park and ended the term at the hall as the weather let us down. Beavers hunted for eggs and made a sentence to receive their Easter Eggs.

A total of 573 badges had been handed out over the year and 10 of these were their highest award the Bronze award. Many beavers have swum up to cubs and new beavers have started. I'm sure you can see all beavers and leaders have worked hard to achieve so much. Thank you for the support of Kat, Farley, Ben, Isaac, Finn and Emilia who have come up with great ideas to support the Beavers. I also want to Thank the parents for their support to run evenings when I have had to stay late at work and need extra pairs of hands. We are now looking forward to another amazing year ahead.

TREASURER'S REPORT - 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

CLOSING BALANCE AT 31-MAR-24		£ 75,003.52
Current Accounts	£ 5,636.81	
Reserve Account	£ 28,461.15	
35-Day Notice Account	£ 14,347.15	
Reserve Account - HSBC	£ 0.37	
Petty Cash	£ 55.63	
Individual Sections	£ 26,502.41	
Closing Balance of Trustee Accounts:		£ 48,501.11

The end of year closing balance for the entire Group is £75,003.542, of which £48,501.11 is for the Trustee Account.

Trustee Accounts:-

Total Income for the year was £35,079.67 - Expenditure £37,609.96. This left a deficit of £2,530.29, meaning that money was required from the previous year's reserves to support the Group. The previous financial year (2022-2023) showed an increase in funds of £517.86.

£14,347.15 is set aside in a 35-Day Notice Account in anticipation of purchasing a much needed minibus. This is being added to when possible, when fundraising allows.

£34,153.96 is in the general fund, towards:

- Everyday expenditure in maintaining the Scout Hall (£12,808.04)
- Minibuses (3,828.98)
- Programme Support (incl Membership Fees) (£16,611.15)
- Leader Support and Training (£517.97)

Main Income:

Regular:

- Hall Hire - £3,621.50
- 100 Club - £483.50

Fund Raising:

- Comedy Night - £2,440.23
- Street Collections - £1,973.09

The Group, also, received £4,357.21 in Donations and Grants the majority of which was from:-

- Tendercare Ltd - £1,500.00
- Sussex Masonic Charitable Foundation (Minibus Donation) - £500.00
- Howard Lodge of Brotherly Love (FM) (Minibus Donation) - £500.00

Membership Fees paid by each Section, once District had been paid, provided the Group with £3,248.00 towards its running costs of £20,818.34

There has been fundraising efforts made during the last financial year, towards a new minibus and hall renovations but, sadly these were turned down.

To help maintain our funds, and save towards a new minibus, fundraising is essential. If participation is not forthcoming, may be the Group will have to look at increased Membership Fees as the way forward. This is not what we want but, we cannot run at a loss.

Also, is the need to be able to reclaim Gift Aid on our Membership Fees. Please can you help by ensuring that you have authorisation from parents to enable this to be claimed.

Caroline Harris

5 September 2024

FIRST RUSTINGTON SCOUT GROUP - STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

OPENING BALANCE AT 31 APRIL 2023	£ 72,280.52	CLOSING BALANCE AT 31-MAR-24	£ 75,003.52
Current Accounts	£ 10,924.91	Current Accounts	£ 5,636.81
Reserve Account	£ 30,026.69	Reserve Account	£ 28,461.15
35-Day Notice Account	£ 10,023.80	35-Day Notice Account	£ 14,347.15
Reserve Account - HSBC	£ 0.37	Reserve Account - HSBC	£ 0.37
Petty Cash	£ 55.63	Petty Cash	£ 55.63
Individual Sections	£ 21,259.12	Individual Sections	£ 26,502.41
Opening Balance of Trustee Accounts:	£ 51,031.40	Closing Balance of Trustee Accounts:	£ 48,501.11

Income		Expenditure	
Membership Fees	£ 15,014.50	Scout Hall	£ 12,808.04
2022/23	£ 3,363.00	Utilities & Services	£ 4,331.01
2023/24	£ 11,651.50	Maintenance	£ 4,844.48
General	£ 6,815.02	Insurance	£ 2,286.55
Gift Aid	£ 900.00	Cleaner	£ 1,346.00
Donations & Grants	£ 4,357.21	Minibuses	£ 3,828.96
Interest I/A	£ 757.81	FV12KZD	£ 2,086.07
Fundraising	£ 11,883.35	WV63 VHZ	£ 1,742.91
Hall Hire	£ 3,621.50	Programme Support	£ 16,811.15
100 Club	£ 483.50	Equipment	£ 217.67
Street Collection	£ 1,973.09	M'ships	£ 13,435.00
Comedy Night	£ 5,796.85	Uniform	£ 1,577.11
	£ 18.41	Misc	£ 1,381.37
	£ -	Leader Support	£ 517.97
Uniform Sales	£ 1,718.25	Uniform	£ 517.97
Misc Income	£ 438.55	Insurance	£ -
		Training	£ -
		Minibus Driving	£ -
		Fundraising	£ 3,356.62
		General	£ -
		Comedy Night	£ 3,356.62
		Adhoc 1	£ -
		Committee & Volunteers	£ 77.20
		Insurance	£ 77.20
		Stationery	£ -
		Sundries	£ -
		Misc Expenditure	£ 410.00
Total Income - Trustee Accounts	£ 35,079.67	Total Expenditure - Trustee Accounts	£ 37,609.96
Individual Sections Combined	£ 61,015.85	Individual Sections Combined	£ 55,772.56
Total Group Income	£ 96,095.52	Total Group Expenditure	£ 93,382.52

Group Treasurer:
Caroline Harris
08-Aug-24

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 Charity Commission Act 2011; 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 respect in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached, subject to the contents of my Audit Report.

Signed:

Robert Phelps

Name: Robert Phelps

Date: 09 September 2024