



Scouts

3rd Portchester Scout Group

2022

AGM Report



Board of Trustees

Chair Lee Mason

Group Scout Leader Peter Leach then transferred to Claire Colley and Richard Curtis Dec 2022

Treasurer David Noyce

Secretary Carolyn Colwell

Kate Colley

Roy Gray

Trish Reid

Caryl Gregory

Andy Dow

Brian Pile

Rob Brown

Lucy Vincent

Louise Mackney

David Rowles

Neil Hoare



3rd Portchester Scout Group

Squirrels Drey

Thursday 16:15-17:15

Bryony Jones
Christopher Maggs
Phil Johnstone

Beaver Scouts

Roman Colony

Tuesday 16:00 – 17:15

Paul Whent
Caryl Gregory
Kacey Whent
Nathan McGillvery

Castle Colony

Wednesday 16:00 – 17:15

Caryl Gregory
Paul Whent
Kacey Whent
Nathan McGillvery
Elizabeth Colley
Kelly Mayo

Cub Scouts

Osprey Pack

Tuesday 18:00 – 19:30

Lucy Vincent
Andi Loving
Kate Colley
Callum James
Nathan McGillvery

Eagle Pack

Thursday 18:00 – 19:30

Kacey Whent
Steve Crowe
Felicity Scott
Sarah Williams

Scout Troops

Ellen MacArthur Troop

Monday 18.30-20.30

David Rowles
Jamie Cooper
Scott England
Darren Taylor
Roy Gray (Summer support)
David Crook (Summer support)
Hilary Foley (Summer support)
Glenn Brace (Summer support)

Livingstone Troop

Wednesday 19:00 – 21:00

Stuart Goddard
Andy Barron
Caryl Gregory
John Dixon
Lewis Bailey

James Cook Troop

Friday 18:00-20:00 (Winter)
Friday 18.00-20.30 (Summer)

Richard Curtis
Brian Pile
Claire Colley
Steve Lawrence
Jason Rankin
Jack Boxall
Tyler Pattison

Explorer Unit

Watkins Unit

Tuesday 19:45 – 21:30

Andrew Dow
Ryan Harris
Dave Humphreys (Occasional Support)
Ruth Humphreys (Occasional Support)

to be held Saturday 20th May 2023 at 2pm

1. Welcome by the Chair – Lee Mason
2. Apologies for absence – Chair
3. Minutes of the 2022 AGM - Chair
4. Annual report - GSL
5. Approval of the Annual Report - GSL
6. Presentation of the Annual Accounts - Treasurer
7. Appointment of the Accounts Scrutineers for the coming year – Treasurer
8. For 3rd Portchester Scout Group Trustee Board to use The Scout Association revised Purpose Statement as the focus of its work (April POR, chapter 5.4.4) - Chair
9. For 3rd Portchester Scout Group Trustee Board to adopt the April 2023 Scout Association constitution in PORs Chapter 5.4 - Chair
10. To note the dates of the Charity's financial year - Chair
11. To agree the number of Members that may be elected to the Trustee Board - Chair
12. To agree the quorum for meetings of the Group Scout Council - Chair
13. To agree the quorum for the meetings of the Group Trustee Board - Chair
14. To agree the quorum for the meetings of any sub-committee - Chair

15. DC's nomination of GSL
16. GSL nomination of Chair
17. Handover to the Chair
18. Ex-officio members (Trustees) – Chair
19. Approval of nominated members (Trustees) – Chair
20. Approval of elected members (Trustees) – Chair
21. Nomination of non-Trustee members – Chair
22. Co-opted members – Chair
23. Appointment of committee representative/s– GSL
24. Awards (Young People and adult volunteers) – DC/GSL
25. District Representative response.
26. GSL closing remarks.

o/c - Refreshments

Date of next Group Trustee Meeting: 20:00 20 Jul 2023. Location Portchester Sailing Club - TBC



3rd Portchester Scout Group AGM 2022

Date: 25th June 2022

Venue: 3rd Portchester Scout HQ – Cobham Hall

Attendees: Cll Mike Ford and Anne Ford (Mayor and Mayoress of Fareham), Paul Squire (District Chair), Mike McHugh (District Commissioner) Lee Mason (Chair), Peter Leach (GSL), Claire Colley, Kate Colley, Caryl Gregory, Carolyn Colwell (minutes), Andy Dow, David Noyce, Kacey Whent and Paul Whent, Trish Reid, Andy Barron, Neil Hoare, John Dixon, Richard Curtis, Brian Pile, Philippa Taylor and 24 Families comprising of Young People across the Group

Minutes

1: Welcome, Introduction of visitors given by Chair Lee Mason.

2: Apologies for Absence:

Roy Gray, Roger Price, Robert Brown and Lucy Vincent

3: Further Welcome and Thanks given by Mayor of Fareham:

4: Minutes of Previous AGM Meeting 13th June 2021: Accuracy: No issues raised.

Proposer: Neil Hoare and Seconded by Caryl Gregory, Carried

5: Treasurer's Report:

Copy of report and annual account available at: <https://www.3rdportchester.uk/about-us/agm/june-2022>

Thanks given to the ongoing support from parents and families.

Question from Neil Hoare re: Reserve Fund dropping from 18 Months to 12 Months.

Response: Projections were based on 104 children, now have 130, so appropriate as coming out of covid now to reduce reserve from 18 Months to 12 Months

Proposed by Richard Curtis: Seconded by Brian Pile

Carried

6: Nomination of Group Chair:

Mike McHugh delighted to Present Lee Mason as Group Chair as nominated by GSL Peter Leach.

7: Nominations by Group Chair:

Group Secretary:

Carolyn Colwell – Proposed by LM and Agreed by all

Group Treasurer:

David Noyce – Proposed by LM, Agreed by all

Parent Representatives:

Richard Dewhirst, Louise Mackney and Neil Hoare – Proposed by GSL and Chair, Agreed by all
PMN: Mr Dewhirst declined as not agreed to the role pre AGM

Group Scout Council Exec Members:

Robert Brown, Claire Colley, Kate Colley, Trish Reid, Brian Pile, Andy Dow, Roy Gray,

No objections raised – Approved by ascent

Auditor 2022:

Martyn Butcher – Proposed by DN, No objections raised – Approved by ascent

8: GSL's Nominations:

Ex-Officio (SL if requested):

Caryl Gregory – Castle Colony

Lucy Vincent – Osprey Pack

Richard Curtis – James Cook Troop

David Rowles – Ellen MacArthur Troop

9: Thanks Given by Chair:

Brief History of 3rd Portchester given – celebrating 75th year this year.

Thanks given to current owners of Noel Cottage for flying the Cub Scout Flag today.

Thanks given for many hands that keep the group going and also the many hands at the Gala the week before.

Answers given to the Treasure Hunt.

10: Thanks given by DC Mike McHugh:

- New Name for District – Denewulf
- 3rd Portchester continues its focus on Scouting – fantastic facilities and links with Portchester Sailing Club and well-founded under care of the team and trustees.
- Volunteers – If you have a role outside of scouting you would like to talk to the young people about, please share and chat with the sections.
- Reflection on how scouting had maintained over the difficult 2 yrs.
- Introduced the new section of Squirrels
- Review of how important scouting is for the young people, community and individuals.
- Thanks given to the parents for facilitating their young people to attend

Awards:

Phillipa Taylor – 10yrs in Scouting

Andy Barron: Chief Scout Commission for Good Service

11: Thanks given by GSL:

Thanks given to all for their time

Number of the group 110-120 young people, overall total 170 including volunteers. Big growth due to opportunities given by all the volunteers.

12: Closing Ceremony:

Mayor and Lady Mayoress presented with Jubilee Badge

Closing words by Mayor – Reflection of the group given and scouting is a skill for life.

Congratulations on 75th Year and thanks given for the kind invitation.

Meeting closed at 15.36. Afternoon 75th Celebration declared to start.

Group Scout Leader Report 2022

In 1952, Princess Elizabeth became Queen Elizabeth II. That same year she reviewed the national parade of Queen's Scouts at Windsor Castle and took the salute for the first time. 70 years later the Scout Association, along with the nation, mourned her passing.

Her Majesty was the best example of someone doing their best, something that Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts must pledge while making their promise during investiture. We thank Queen Elizabeth for being a shining example of how to live life with dedication, devotion and grace.



2022 saw the return to normal meetings and the removal of the final Covid restrictions. What a relief! Although, the pandemic did facilitate a new set of skills for leaders; meetings were held online with much creativity required for running activities virtually not to mention navigating Zoom. We thank the leaders and other volunteers in the group who persevered and kept the sections and group as a whole running.

During 2022 we saw numbers rise again. Most sections are full and we have a waiting list of those wishing to join. In addition to the existing sections we welcomed a new section for Squirrels, the Scout Association's youngest section for 4–6-year-olds. This section has already grown to a healthy size, thank you to those who have stepped up to run and support it.

Thank you to our Social Committee for the events they have organised. Gatherings for volunteers to get together and catch up in a relaxed way and events involving families from across the group which have been well attended. It is always good to have 'whole group' events and several of these have been good fundraisers for us too.

2022 saw the formation of the buildings committee which has successfully worked through a long list of 'to do' jobs and improved the safety of the Headquarters. It also saw the return of working days where volunteers and parents donated time to complete tasks including painting, weeding and tiling. Thank you to Dave Rowles for taking the lead on this and to everyone who has supported the projects.

Many members were able to get afloat last year. The group is fortunate to have a good fleet of kayaks, canoes, paddle boards and sailing craft and volunteers qualified to run sessions safely. Of course, to continue being able to use the equipment it must be maintained and the boating committee ensures that equipment is safe and available.

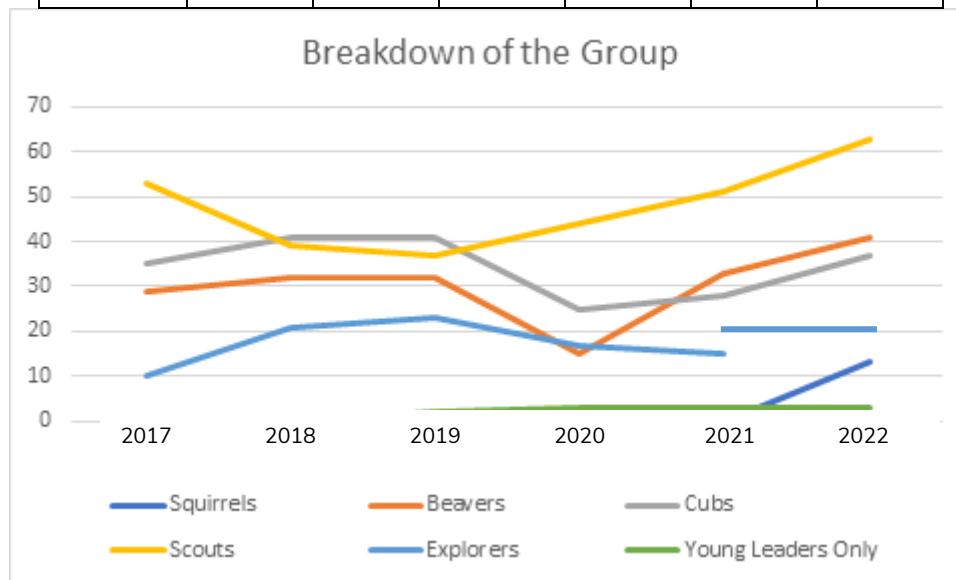
The group still needs additional volunteers. Some sections rely on a very few people and this leads to the risk of cancelled meetings. There are many volunteers within the group who hold multiple roles and there are a number of ways that people can lend support. The commitment doesn't have to be any more than a couple of hours a week, perhaps less if that is all that you can provide. Volunteers are DBS checked to ensure they are suitable to work with children and depending on the role there may be a small amount of online learning. If you are interested in volunteering and would like to know a bit more about the roles available, please let us know.

We took on the role of Acting GSLs at the end of 2022 and it has been a pleasure spending more time with the volunteers across the group. The role brings its challenges but we are enjoying it and are very grateful for the support we've had from everyone. Robert Baden-Powell said "If you make listening and observation your occupation you will gain much more than you can by talk" and we hope that we are following this advice.

Thank you to all of you who support the group in any role, Leaders, Executive Committee, Occasional Helpers, Skills Instructors and Parents, the group is successful because of you.

Richard Curtis and Claire Colley

End of Census Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Squirrels	0	0	0	0	0	13
Beavers	29	32	32	15	33	41
Cubs	35	41	41	25	28	37
Scouts	53	39	37	44	51	63
Explorers	10	21	23	17	15	15
YL only	0	0	2	3	3	3
Total	127	133	135	104	130	172



Chair's Report 2022

As we go into our 76th year you can, like me, enjoy looking through this report at the highs of last year and the incredible activities we run for youngsters and thank the incredible people that run them.

As you will see all sections have grown, showing the popularity of Scouting prevailing and the desire of children (and their parents!) to be involved in something bigger and to work together to play, learn and partake in a formalised fun way of life.

We have seen ourselves go through reorganisation at District level into the new Denewulf district which covers a large geographic area but with the same aims of service and support.

We are also now post covid, however the scars will last long-term following the hiatus from socialising and mixing which has had a major impact on our children. We are needed now more than ever to facilitate important social skills and self-challenging activities. It is thought that the legacy of the lock down will stay with us for at least a decade.

When I think back to when I first started as a cub, we now have far more activities and opportunities, but at its heart is the same aim and beliefs that drove Baden-Powell to begin our organisation and we have the foundations to move forward to whatever challenges we face in the future.

I thank you for both your efforts to help us succeed as an organisation and for trusting us in shaping the next generation.

Yours in Scouting Lee Mason



Squirrel Drey Report 2022

Leaders- Bryony Jones.

Assistant leader- Phil Johnson and Chris Maggs.

The Squirrel scout group has made some great advances since starting in January 2022. We spent the first few months finding our feet, with some shuffles around in leadership and putting in place some "squirrel values" before really getting started with sessions we feel are fun and that the children enjoy. We still feel that some more leaders would be helpful, but overall, the sessions run smoothly and are now being planned terms in advance.

We have had a really varied 18 months, and squirrels have really started making some great progress with badges. We have had several squirrels invested and we now have 17 squirrels, with a waiting list.

Squirrel sessions run with a "starting story" to bring the children into the session in a calm and organized way, the squirrels always interact with the story and this is usually themed to whatever the session is that week.

The squirrels have had visits this term from both a nurse, working on their first aid badge, and a police officer, where squirrels tried on police uniforms.

This is alongside sensory sessions, tent building, hikes, cooking, and dancing to name a few of our sessions. After some support in ordering badges and filling this out on OSM, after a change in leadership (thank you), the squirrels now look forward to a varied term and we are hoping for some very exciting sessions moving forward.

A big thank you to everyone who has helped us establish ourselves, and to those who have volunteered to run the squirrel pack. We would also like to recognize the excellent support and ideas that we get from our three young leaders, who the squirrels think are wonderful!

Many thanks, Bryony.



Castle and Roman Beaver Colonies Report 2022

Our numbers have increased gradually throughout the year. Despite Covid disrupting the normal flow of things. We started the year with the first meeting being held on Zoom but very adept at socially distanced games whilst still having fun.

We made lucky red envelopes and picked up skittles (sweets) with chopsticks as well as creating a dragon by cutting out paper hands. We completed the Emergency Aid 1 staged badge. Thank you to Elly Andrew.

We had fun making pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. We worked towards our international and health and fitness badges. For Mother's Day we made weetiballs and bags to put them in. We also attended the Palm Sunday Service at St Mary's Church.

To finish the term, we had an Easter egg hunt inside Headquarters and did an egg drop challenge.

We invested seven new Beavers during the term, having sent two on to Cubs, we are recovering well from Covid.

We started the Summer term by attending the District St Georges Day parade.

We had great fun doing our builder badge. We made hovercraft, large painted models in our lodges, and constructions with Spaghetti and marshmallows.

We saw lots of Animals and fantastic Lego Dinosaurs on our trip to Marwell.

Just before half term we invested four more Beavers as well as sending three up to Cubs.

During the summer term we managed to get some of the beavers afloat with their parents

We spent a day at Lyons Copse for District camp where the Beavers loved the zip wire and climbing wall to name but two activities, they could take part in.

We as a group ran the refreshment tent at Portchester Gala and had two wonderful washer ups. They will go far.

We seem to be doing something every weekend as on the 25th June we held a family treasure hunt, followed by our A.G.M. and afternoon tea to celebrate our 75th Anniversary

We decided to go Winchester to see the Ceramic Hares. We didn't have a good start to the day as our coach failed to arrive!! Quick change of plan, Pax made for the train station on her buggy! There was an attendant in the office so he sorted out the deals and we made it onto the train arriving in Winchester much later than we thought. We had a great guard who sorted out a loo being put at our disposal on the station and making sure the buggy was got off safely. He was surprised to see we had got it on!! He also left a message for our return journey. We eventually saw a ceramic Hare, before making our way to MacDonalds, (yes you did read that right). No packed lunches that day and the Beavers loved it. The staff were wonderful.

After lunch we set off to find more Hares of Winchester, no not real ones very big ceramic ones.

They were magnificent. Mid-afternoon we found the play park near The Guildhall which gave them a chance to let off steam, whilst a deal was struck with the ice cream vender.

After being fortified we struck off for the Great Hall where not only did we see the Round Table but the Leverett painted as a Beaver.

Then up the hill to the station where we caught the train to Portchester and HQ, for Sausage or Fish cake and Chips for tea!! These very tired Beavers slept very well that night. It was a great weekend.

We finished the term learning all sorts of codes and how to crack them, plus the phonetic Alphabet, their own phone number and address. On the 3rd week we had an inter lodge code cracking competition. They all had great fun.

For our final night each colony spent an evening at Portchester library at the launch of the summer reading scheme.

When we returned at the beginning of September, a high percentage of Beavers had completed the Libraries reading challenge and thus completed their reader's badge. Also, lots of discussion about holidays both at home and away.

Several Beavers needed to complete the knotting part of the challenge award so we had knot bases but we also learnt how to light a candle safely and toasted Marsh mallows to make Smores. Yum, yum delicious.

We were invited to St Mary's Church in the grounds of Portchester Castle for Harvest Festival, instead of fresh produce we took contributions for the local food bank.

We had a lovely walk one evening, the only thing that marred it was a child being stung but fortunately, with no ill effects. Just a learning curve to take care and you are alright.

We had two fantastic mini pioneering evenings. Lots of patience required. Not something the beavers usually have but we were very pleasantly surprised.

We invested several new members to fill the places of those who moved on to Cubs.

They had fun at Paulton's,

Thanks to Ibrahim, his mum and everyone at the Peace centre in Havant we all had wonderful evenings, experiencing the Islamic faith, as part of finding out about different faiths. We were told about the traditions. We were permitted to witness their worship. We shared food with them, and we were presented with copies of the Quran. This community do so much for the local community and were so welcoming Thank you.

We attended Portchester Remembers with the whole Group.

We completed our faith badge with the Beavers and reading their prayers in the meeting. Many did their Hobbies, Collectors or Sports badges. Some did all of them.

We participated in the district Christingle service where we collected food for the food banks and this year, we took our colonies to Portchester. This trolley was completely full, solid with tins in the bottom!

We also attended St Marys Portchester, so all our Beavers had the opportunity to attend a service if they wanted to.

We ended the year with a film and nibbles evening,



Finally we would like to congratulate the 13 Beavers who achieved their Bronze Chief Scout award. Well done Morgan Pearce, Noah Farley, Jacob Ryan, Stanley Parrett, Lincoln Bloomfield, Freddie O' Halloran, George O'Halloran, Gracie Gates, Fin Jackson, Jasper Isherwood, Molly Prior, Arthur Cook and Max Payne. Well Done.

We would like to thank all those who have made things possible for us, Ryan, Lewis, Trish, Lee, John and the many parents who have stepped in often at the last minute because of illness etc. Without the help we couldn't run the program we do.

Felix , Luna, Lita and Pax



Eagle and Osprey Cub Packs Report 2022

It's been a good year for 3rd Portchester Cubs. Both the Cub packs usually run the same programme, which means that we are able to deliver a wide and varied programme throughout the year for our youngsters.

We have achieved a lot already this year so I have just added a selection.

- Hikes
- Anti-bullying
- Remembrance parade
- Film night
- Astronomer
- Photographer
- Chip survey
- Rock climbing at Fareham leisure centre
- Local knowledge

Some Cubs have been lucky enough to participate in some District activities such as District Chess and Draughts Competition.

Some of the badges we have completed this year are; Astronomer, Photographer, Teamwork Challenge, Skills Challenge, Local knowledge, Communicator and Scientist.

Lots of the Cubs are gaining individual badges, which relate to their hobbies and interests away from cubs, some examples of these are Musician, Swimming, Book reading, Sports enthusiast and Martial arts. We are keen to promote this in the packs.



At the beginning of the year we started looking at survival skills. One of the first activities was to make survival pouches - small draw string bags with essential items. The survival skills activities are always popular with the scouts and the leaders too!

As we started nearing the summer, afloat season, we looked at brushing up on basic nautical skills, the equipment required and behaviour expected to make the sessions enjoyable and safe. A trip to the swimming pool enabled swimming tests.

As many of the summer meetings as possible, between the end of April and the beginning of September each year, are afloat. We are fortunate to have access to a wide range of craft – kayaks, canoes, paddle boards and sailing dinghies. Usually our sessions are within the harbour but we managed a session at Alverstoke Lake with the paddleboards which was a really fun evening.

In early June, some members of the troop attended the Jubilee District Camp at Lyons Copse which was a great weekend. The scouts were able to take part in many activities including tomahawk throwing, climbing, rafting and others. During the weekend a beacon was lit for the Queen's Jubilee and this was a special event to be part of.

In August we travelled back to the Burnbake Estate in Poole Harbour for our summer camp. We had a lovely time on the water, good weather generally and saw some interesting wildlife including a starfish! For the last two nights of camp the scouts (and a few leaders!) slept in hammocks.

The scouts learn so much when they are at camp. In addition to the expected outdoor skills, they have to cook for themselves and be independent within their patrol sites. Although at times it is tiring, they really enjoy camp and many happy memories are made.

Towards the end of the summer we were pleased to see Aaron achieve his Chief Scout's Gold Award which was presented by the District Commissioner, Mike McHugh.

During the autumn, the troop returned to meetings ashore. At the start of each term, the troop holds a meeting planning evening at which the scouts are able to suggest ideas of activities that they would like to do. From this a programme is created and the leaders work out how badge requirements can be included. To gain the top award, the Chief Scout's Gold Award, scouts need to complete 9 Challenge Awards. Usually good badge progress evolves from a well-planned programme without too much additional work and this year 49 Challenge Awards were presented to scouts which were amongst 234 badges in total.

The scouts have been involved with boat maintenance, giving them a sense of achievement and understanding of what is needed behind the scenes to enable access to water activities.

The troop held a winter camp in October. Although it wasn't too cold it rained – a lot! Some of the survival skills learnt in the Spring were put to use and a roast dinner cooked on the fire was delicious.

Other activities enjoyed by the troop were woggle making, karaoke and chips evening, an escape room style activity evening, movie night, fireworks, Christmas cracker making, Christmas bake off and the annual troop Christmas meal trip – this year to Cosmo in Southampton.

The leader team were delighted when Tyler, who was a scout in the troop and then Young Leader, decided to become an Assistant Leader. We are really pleased that he has decided to stay on and we thank him for his continued support.

Livingstone Scout Troop Report

The number of scouts in the troop has grown over the year, with us finishing the year with 20 Scouts. The troop continues to meet weekly, taking part in variety of activities, working towards their Chief Scouts Gold award.

During Spring term we did

- Woggle making
- Chinese New Year cooking
- Winter Olympics
- Emergency Aid staged badge
- Scientist badge
- Navigator badge
- Climbing at Top Rock

In April eight older Scouts went on a Narrowboat trip from North Holt to Limehouse basin in London aboard Ben Gorton. During the trip the Scouts went through London Zoo, visited Paddington Bear, walked to Canary Wharf and worked a total of 24 locks. They worked towards their Expedition challenge, creative, naturalist, photography, power coxswain, nautical skills, adventure challenge and many more.

During Summer term we did

- Photography badge
- Knife, axe and saw
- 5km Hike
- Kayaking
- Nautical skills
- Paddling boarding
- Went to Marwell
- Helped at Newtown fete

In June we camped with the group at District camp at Lyons Copse during the Queen's Jubilee. The scouts took part in a variety of activities including, cave bus, rifle shooting, archery, climbing, axe throwing, zorbing, rafting and laser tag.

During the Autumn we did

- Donutting
- Local knowledge badge
- Chef badge
- Nerf wars
- Pioneering badge

- Mexican cooking
- Problem solving
- Christmas activities

At Autumn half term we had our first camp in three years at a very wet Lyon's Copse. The scouts did knife axe and saw work, fire lighting, backwood cooking, night hike and traditional camping.

Throughout the year we presented a total of 330 badges. We also have been joined a new assistant leader Lewis, who has been a welcomed addition to the team.

I would like to thank our young leaders Ian, Emmy and Alannah for the help they have given to the troop. Finally, I would like to thank Caryl, Andy, Lewis, and John for their support over the year.

Stuart Goddard
Scout Leader

Ellen MacArthur Scout Troop Report

My first year as Section Leader is complete and I offer my sincere thanks to all who have advised and supported me on my journey of learning 😊. We have enjoyed a hugely memorable year completing a range of activities including some amazing achievements:

- 5x Chief Scout Gold Awards
- 2x Chief Scout's Silver Award
- 31x Challenge Awards
- 76x Activity Badges
- 51x Stages Activity Badges
- 14x British Canoeing Paddle Awards

The following is a taste of the activities we have enjoyed during the past year:

- Kayaking
- Canoeing
- Pulling
- Sailing
- SUP
- Angling
- District Camp
- Portchester Gala
- Fareham Creek Regatta
- Summer Camp @ Streamside
- Archaeology
- Narrow boating
- Castle Siege
- Bowling
- Climbing
- Microplastics
- Nerf Wars
- Maritime Centre Eastney
- Pro-Badge
- Remembrance Parade
- Halloween
- Dungeons and Dragons

Future planning is well underway and available on Online Scout Manger (OSM) including Exped Camp, Sea Scout Camp, Summer Camp – Paxmead and an EOI Activity weekend. Please take a look and let us know which events your Scout is interested in.

In addition, we hope to be able to undertake another Narrowboat weekend and offer further sailing courses.

Huge thanks to our Scouts for their fantastic contribution to our troop; our young leaders for their continued unfailing support; our amazing inspirational Leaders and wonderful adult volunteers who give up their time to make our troop as successful as it is.

Best wishes for a wonderful summer.

Yours in Scouting,

Dave and Ellen MacArthur Leaders



Watkins Explorers

At the end of 2022 Watkins has 14 members which reflects the challenges that COVID caused this section during the last two years. During this year 12 explorers have left, partially normal due to age and partially due to the COVID restrictions applied. 6 new explorers have joined with several external to the movement, however this is less than expected as some older Scouts left the movement during COVID.

Leader support is a concern, as Ruth and Dave became parents in 2021, making me an uncle, which understandably has reduced their availability for Scouting. I was extremely happy to welcome Ryan Harris in July as an AESL, who was a member of Watkins, and has integrated very well.

Ryan joining was essential as the leader challenges are affecting the programme and activities that can be planned and run.

During our weekly meetings the Explorers have planned activities and events, completed several pioneering projects including bridges and catapults, extreme ironing, DIY maintenance, kayaking, pulling, taken part in Wide Games, Blindfold Hikes, and cooked various meals.

Several evenings concentrated on the training programme for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition and included Navigation & Route Planning, Map & Compass Skills, Camping & Personal Equipment, Food & Cooking, Team Building and Emergency Aid Skills.

Activity / Event		Activity / Event
Bronze DofE Practice and Skills Hikes		Halloween Sleepover
Denewulf District Camp		London Monopoly Run
Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition		Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
Bonfire Party		Young Leaders Training Course
Remembrance Parade		St George's Day Parade

Congratulations to those Explorers who are **Young Leaders** (Elizabeth, Jamie, Jess, Beth, Ryan, Lewis, Kara & Alannah) and help with other Sections, both in 3rd Portchester & other groups, I continue to receive glowing reports from the Leaders about your help and commitment.

Awards

The badges within the Explorer require considerably more personal commitment and often have a minimum period of three months, due to COVID restrictions it has been very difficult for members to achieve these awards.

- 3 Young Leaders Buckles – Holly, Jess, Jamie
- 1 Duke of Edinburgh Silver – Ryan

International Events

Aidan attended Suisse Adventure in August where he went to Kandersteg International Scout Centre and took part in many adventurous activities during the 16-day trip. The below link is to the Daily Newsletter which provide more details.

[Suisse Adventure: Keep up to date with all the highlights. - Hampshire Scouts | Members](#)

Watkins have 4 explorers who will be participating in International Events next year, Kara and Max attending the 25th World Scout Jamboree in South Korea and Alannah and Henry attending Project 23 around Europe.

<https://www.2023wsjkorea.org/eng/index.jamboree>

<https://international.hampshirescouts.org.uk/2023/01/05/project-23-information>

It is excellent that Explorers are able to take part in international events and have experiences they will remember for the rest of their lives. The two events above are only available to the Explorer age range.

The 27th WSJ is in Poland in 2027, <https://www.jamboree2027.org/> and details are likely to be promoted during 2024.

The Future

Look forward to 2023 and beyond the unit is scheduled to potentially grow to 27 members by January 2024 and 35 members by September 2024. This is a very exciting prospect; however, Watkins **WILL** require additional adult support to continue to provide quality programmes and run the Duke of Edinburgh Award. So, this is a plea, are there any adults within the group who would like to help, especially if you have water activity skills or interest. Explorers is an amazing section to be involved with, and open to any flexibility that could encourage people to help.

I would like to thank all those who have helped during the last year especially Dave, Ruth and Ryan without whom it would not be possible to run the programme and events.



Tona Loving – In Memory

In August, we lost one of the most amazing young persons that I had the privilege to know through explorers.

Tona had been fighting stage 4 Hodgkin's lymphoma since late 2019 and spent a huge amount of time in hospital undergoing many, many rounds of chemotherapy and other treatments. Tona was in remission, but the treatment and other infections caused massive damage to her digestive system.

Her attitude, strength, and humour throughout all the, frankly brutal treatment, was incredible, she was taking part in Explorer events whenever possible prior to lockdown and even sneaked over when we ran some socially distanced events in my garden, especially if fire was involved.

Tona was kind, generous, inquisitive, and adventurous, with a wicked sense of humour and a huge appetite for life. She achieved more in her 17 years than many do in 80. Tona is an inspiration and deeply missed. – Live life to the full every day.

Yours in Scouting

Andy Dow

Watkins Explorer Scout Leader

07941353169

Treasurer's Report for Year Ended 31st December 2022

Welcome back to normality – post COVID. 2022 has been the first real full year of Scouting since the pandemic.

I am delighted to present our audited 2022 accounts on the next page.

The Group is in great shape financially with a greater focus on managing the receipt of both monthly subscription payments and also joining fees – we have nearly a 100% receipt rate for membership fees compared with less than 70% only a couple of years ago and thanks mainly to our Membership Secretary.

The growth of the group in the last 18 months to around 160+ young people has also provided us with the benefits of economies of scale which has helped our budgeting.

We have had the same headwinds to deal with as the majority of organisations in the UK, that of price inflation throughout 2022. We have seen increases of the fees we pay The Scout Association, insurance but mainly in energy prices which have increased by some 300%.

We have retained the majority of the grants received during COVID and therefore have a very considerable level of reserves. Some of these have been earmarked for a renovation of the toilets and we are considering other capital projects including installing a solar system.

Recognising the impacts of inflation on our parents, I have wanted to keep scouting as affordable as possible to as many as possible and whilst there has been some pressure to increase our subscriptions from £14 per month, I have been able to resist these through careful budgeting and also the enhanced membership subscription collection. This is obviously excellent value for money – essentially £3.25 per week for between 60 and 90 minutes of activities.

Given the current economic climate, in order to ensure as many scouts could participate in camps in 2022, we were able to subsidise these to keep the prices very low. We are looking to keep pricing as low as possible for both camps and activities in 2023 asking for additional money by exception.

I cannot promise a continuation of this level of membership prices into 2024 – much depends on our costs specifically energy costs. However, any increase will be as modest as possible. Whatever the amount, I still believe the subscription costs represent unbelievable value for money which is it almost impossible to replicate elsewhere.

The reason for this is our outstanding leaders who give up their free time for other people's children.

David Noyce
Group Treasurer
3rd Portchester Scouts

21st March 2023

Accounts for Year Ended 31st December 2022CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

3rd Portchester Scouts

271605

Receipts and payments accounts**CC16a****For the period
from**

1st Jan 2022

To

31st Dec 2022

**Section A Receipts and
payments**

Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
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A1 Receipts

Subscriptions	7	26,20	-	-	26,207	19,481
Payments for Camps	0	7,81	-	-	7,810	3,413
Payments for Activities	0	4,42	-	-	4,420	2,352
Gift Aid	8	4,94	-	-	4,948	4,911
Donations, Grants and Fundraising	8	7,72	-	-	7,728	37,961
Sale of Equipment/Uniform	0	6,46	-	-	6,460	-
Subtotal (Gross income for AR)	3	57,57	-	-	57,573	68,118

**A2 Asset and
investment sales,
(see table).**

	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total receipts

57,573	-	-	57,573	68,118
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A3 Payments

Camping Expenses	3	8,90	-	-	8,903	3,617
Capitation	3	6,53	-	-	6,533	5,002
Activity Expenses	4	7,74	-	-	7,744	3,342
Insurance	8	2,55	-	-	2,558	3,070
Maintenance and Repairs to Scout HQ	3	2,17	-	-	2,173	8,457
Boat and Camping Equipment Repair	4	16,23	-	-	16,234	35,909
Rent and subscriptions	8	1,02	-	-	1,028	1,407
Utilities and other	0	8,86	-	-	8,860	3,210
Badges	5	2,71	-	-	2,715	1,968

Sub total	8	56,74	-	-	56,748	65,982
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)						
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	56,748	-	-	56,748	65,982	
Net of receipts/(payments)	825	-	-	825	2,136	
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	57	-	
A6 Cash funds last year end		-	-	58,320	56,184	
Cash funds this year end	825	-	-	59,088	58,320	

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Groups	51,5	-	-
	Sections	7,4	-	-
	Total cash funds	59,088	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Boats and Marine Equipment	Unrestricted	-	150,000
	Camping Equipment	Unrestricted	-	100,000
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

<i>David Noyce</i>	David Noyce	20 th May 2023
<i>Lee Mason</i>	Lee Mason	20 th May 2023



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	3 rd Portchester Scouts Group		
On accounts for the year ended	31 st December 2022	Charity no (if any)	
Set out on pages	1 & 2		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 Trust'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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: *[Signature]* Date: 3rd May 2023

Name: Martyn Butcher

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): n/a

Address: 23 West Street, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 1EU

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.