

1ST ARLESEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 285064

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1982-08-24

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

Contact

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Activities

Objects: THE INSTRUCTION OF BOYS OF ALL CLASSES IN THE PRINCIPLES OF DISCIPLINE, LOYALTY AND GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

Activities: To support young people in activities to enable them to grow and develop to their full extent.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Bedford
- Central Bedfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£52,237	£52,060	-	-
2024-03-31	£53,412	£62,032	-	-
2023-03-31	£33,874	£27,466	-	-
2022-03-31	£42,605	£51,450	-	-
2021-03-31	£27,737	£9,030	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Sarah Colley	Chair	2017-06-15
Chris Dodds		2014-09-15
Christopher Livermore		2016-06-01
Paulette Reid		2017-06-15
Stuart McGuire		2023-09-01

1ST ARLESEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 285064

Accounts



Annual General Meeting 2024 - 2025

- Reports -

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Board of Trustees Chair Report

Dear Members, Volunteers, and Supporters,

As Chair of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group Board of Trustees, I am once again delighted to share this year's reflections with you. Since our last annual report in September, the Group has continued to thrive, thanks to the unwavering commitment of our volunteer team and the enthusiastic support from our wider community. While it's been a slightly shorter reporting year, it's been no less full of progress, achievements, and energy.

Our Group Lead Volunteer, Stuart, continues to play an exceptional role in guiding our adult volunteers and supporting safe, responsible delivery of our programmes in line with The Scout Association's guidance. His hands-on approach, closely involved across section WhatsApp groups and Group-wide communications, has helped ensure the consistency and quality of the experience we offer to our young people. I'd like to offer my heartfelt thanks to Stuart, who not only leads by example but also keeps a careful watch on the pulse of all we do.

I want to take this opportunity to again thank every single leader, assistant leader, and volunteer across Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers. The effort that goes into planning, organising, and delivering a weekly programme, let alone events, camps, and competitions, is immense. And it's paying off. Our young people benefit every week from new experiences, valuable skills, and, above all, fun. A special congratulations goes to Paulette Reid, our much-loved Akela, for being recognised as Arlesey Volunteer of the Year, an honour that reflects not just her contributions, but the spirit of dedication that runs throughout our Group.

One of the highlights of the year has been the successful launch of *Arlesey Archers*, a brilliant initiative sparked by a handful of adult volunteers who wanted to give our young people more than just a taste of archery. With Trustee Board backing, this vision became a reality, offering full-day monthly sessions and culminating in national competition success, including trophies and awards. It's a shining example of what happens when passionate volunteers are empowered to create something new.

We are also very fortunate to have a thriving District Explorer Scout Unit meeting in Arlesey. Many of these Explorers have chosen to become Young Leaders, volunteering in sections as part of their Duke of Edinburgh or King's Scout awards. Their contributions are deeply appreciated, and it's been heartening to see some of them take the next step by becoming adult volunteers, starting their leader training and working towards their Wood Badge. This natural progression is vital for the future of the Group, and I thank every one of them for their dedication.

Of course, none of this happens in isolation. Behind every programme, every meeting, and every event, there is a dedicated support system. Our Trustees continue to uphold the Group's governance, ensuring our financial and operational responsibilities are met. Special thanks, once again, to Chris for his stewardship of our accounts and to Matt and Jason, who form our

unofficial, but incredibly effective maintenance team. Their quiet, consistent work keeps our Scout Hut and grounds looking their best and ready for action.

This year also marks a major milestone, our Scout Hut turns 25. Since its opening on Millennium night in 2000, it has served as the beating heart of Scouting in Arlesey. While the building has stood the test of time, there are pressing needs to maintain and enhance it for the years ahead. Two key projects remain front and centre: the urgent replacement of our ageing heating system, estimated at £20,000, and the long-desired addition of a 10m x 6m multipurpose building to expand our space, with a current cost projection of £25,000. While funding applications so far have been unsuccessful, we remain committed to securing the financial support needed to bring these plans to life. If you or someone you know may be able to help, we would love to hear from you.

Looking ahead, we continue to need more adult volunteers. Whether it's helping with Beavers on Mondays or Tuesdays or lending a hand with Scouts on Tuesdays and Fridays, every offer of help, no matter how small, makes a difference. We offer full training and support, and volunteering is one of the most rewarding ways to give back to our community.

In closing, I want to thank each and every member of our leadership team, Trustees, volunteers, Young Leaders, and supporters. Scouting in Arlesey remains strong, vibrant, and full of promise because of your continued belief in what we do. Here's to another year of growth, challenge, and opportunity for our young people.

Yours in Scouting,

Sarah Colley
Chair of the Board of Trustees
1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Group Lead Volunteer Report

It has been a shorter year since my last report in September. It gives me time to reflect on everything we have achieved as a group since my last report. I asked all the leaders to send me their reports for inspiration and was not let down.

As the lead volunteer it is my responsibility to make sure all the adult volunteers involved within the group are doing their role in a safe and responsible way and within the guidelines laid out by The Scout association. This sometimes is challenging but also so rewarding. I am on most of the WhatsApp groups so can closely monitor the organisation and delivery of all the activities and programmes delivered by each of the sections. To witness the team spirit they all achieve is truly amazing and I know that all the parents appreciate what goes into organising these great events for young members of each section. Each and every team member in all the sections are awesome and my heart felt thanks goes out to every single one for their hard work and determination to provide a jam-packed programme each and every week. It was nice to see our very own Akela, Paulette Reid, receive Arlesey Volunteer of the year award recently and was well deserved.

We are fortunate in Arlesey to have our own Archery equipment. This always is a great activity, last year some adults came to me asking if they could set up an Archery section. The reasoning was simple. We gave the Cubs, Scouts and Explorers a session maybe once a term on Archery. Each person would get to shoot maybe 12 arrows during the session. More of a taster to the sport than achieving anything. The group of volunteers wanted to set up a monthly meeting lasting all day to further develop the skills of individuals. We took this to our trustee committee who approved the initial costs and Arlesey Archers was set up. They have been to the national Scout Archery competition and came away with Trophies and awards. An outstanding achievement made possible again by our adult volunteers. We have a very successful District explorer scout unit that meets in Arlesey on a Thursday evening. A good proportion of these members have volunteered to become Young Leaders helping within the sections. I know that their help is invaluable to the sections and my thanks go out to all of them. Fortunately, inevitably, some have turned 18 and, due to the great team spirit in all the sections, have transitioned from Young Leaders to Team member volunteers, taking on their leader training and working towards their wood badge, an award earned as a volunteer. This is great to see for future proofing the volunteers required in the group and again I thank every single one of them for their time and dedication to the group.

As a group we have challenges we need to achieve in maintaining our great facility and to keep raising the bar to deliver Scouting within Arlesey. The Scout Hut is 25 years old this year. We opened it on Millennium night 2000. I have been fortunate to be involved since it opened and it has seen some changes over the years. There is always something that needs doing to give us a fit for purpose Scout Hut and grounds. Two major projects have been on the radar for a couple of years, the first is our heating system. It was installed in 2002 and is now becoming very tired and in urgent need of complete replacement. This doesn't come cheap and is in the region of £20k. A second wish list project is to add a 10 metre by 6 metre general use building onto the

back of the Scout Hut. This currently is in the region of £25k. It has been frustrating that I have applied for various grants throughout the year but unfortunately have been unsuccessful in securing the funds to proceed. It would be nice to be able to secure the funding for these projects this year.

As always, as well as our leadership team, there is a small team behind the scenes that keep the cogs oiled and rotating within the group. Our Trustees keep everything in check and my thanks go out to all of them for their commitment behind the scenes. Our unofficial maintenance team are fantastic and my thanks and appreciation go out especially to Matt and Jason for all the hours they have put in keeping the Hut and grounds looking neat and tidy.

Yours In Scouting

Stuart McGuire
Group Lead Volunteer

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Board of Trustees Treasurer Report

Income

Subscriptions

We took the difficult decision to raise membership subscriptions in Feb 2025 due to a general increase in costs. Subs rose from £10/month to £12.50/month. All subscriptions are collected online via OSM.

A total of **£19,625** in subscriptions was collected this financial year. This income to the Group was off-set by the payment of our membership fees of **£9,233** to the Scout Association.

Fundraising

A total of **£11,577** was raised through a variety of fundraising events despite not organising our flagship event, Fireworks night for the second year in a row. Fundraising activities provide valuable funds to run the group and provide activities for our young people and helps us to keep subscriptions and the cost of camps and events as low as possible.

Donations

We received a **£1,000** donation from Miller Homes via their Community Fund programme.

Rental Income

We have a small number of long-term rentals of the Scout Hut that generated **£1,374** of rental income.

Expenditure

Premises

Maintenance costs for the Scout Hut and grounds totalled £3,952 this year, an increase on last year, however, I believe the facilities available have been significantly improved in the last 18 months.

Activities

This year **£34,116** was spent on camps and youth activities.

Neckers/Badges

£2,700 was spent on neckers, woggles, badges and handbooks.

Net receipts for the year

The accounts show an operating profit of **£177** for this financial year.

Chris Livermore

Treasurer - The Board of Trustees

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive

1st Arlesey Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

		Year start date			Year end date				
For the year	From	01/04/2024			To	31/03/2025			
Receipts and payments									
		31/03/2025			31/03/2024				
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds			Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds		
		£	£			£	£		
Receipts									
Donations, legacies and similar income									
Membership subscriptions		19,657			18,810				
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area)		-9,233			-10,357				
Less: Membership Subscriptions Refunded					-				
Net membership subscriptions retained		10,424			8,453				
Donations		1,000			1,601				
Legacies					-				
Youth Programme and Activities		25,845			20,211	2,515			
Group donation to Norway Expedition						1,392			
Gift Aid		2,018			1,896				
Other similar income									
Sub total		39,286			32,161	3,907			
Grants									
Maintenance grant		-			-				
Other grants					3,800				
Sub total		-			3,800				
Fundraising (gross)		11,577			10,939				
Other fundraising activities					-				
Sub total		11,577			10,939				
Investment income									
Bank interest		-			-				
Building Society interest		-			-				
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-			-				
Property Rent income		1,374			3,055				
Less: Deposit Refunds					-450				
Net Property Rent Income		1,374			2,605				
Other investment income		-			-				
Sub total		1,374			2,605				
Total Gross Income		52,237			49,505				
Asset and investment sales, etc.									
Total receipts		52,237			49,505	3,907			

		£	£		£	£
Payments						
Charitable Payments						
Youth programme and activities		34,116			22,739	20,447
Group donation to Norway Expedition		-			1,392	
Group donation to Explorers Section		500				
Activity Refunds		860				
Adult support and training		275			30	
Rent		-			-	
Water and Sewerage		624			589	
Waste Collection		217				
Electricity and Gas		1,673			2,760	
Telephone and Internet		-			-	
Insurance		1,372			1,231	
Bank Charges (GoCardless)		1,812			1,573	
Repairs and Renewals		3,952			1,941	
Materials and equipment		3,131			1,430	
Printing and photocopying		24			10	
Web Hosting and Online Services		241			181	
Contribution to camp costs					-	
Badges, Woggles and Neckers		2,700			2,889	
AGM and trustee expenses		443			1,013	
Charitable Donations		105			105	
Subscriptions Refund					-	
Sundries						
Sub total		52,045	-		37,883	20,447
Fundraising expenses		15				
Other fundraising costs					3,702	
Sub total		15			3,702	
Total Gross Expenditure		52,060	-		41,585	20,447
Asset and investment purchases, etc.		-			-	
Total payments		52,060	-		41,585	16,540
Net of receipts/(payments)		177	-		7,920	16,540
Cash funds last year end		19,760			11,840	16,540
Cash funds this year end		19,937	-		19,760	-



1st Arlesey Beavers

September 2024 - July 2025

Dear Members and Parents,

I am pleased to present the report for the 1st Arlesey Beavers for this year's Annual General Meeting. In December 2024, I had the honour of taking over the leadership of 1st Arlesey Ravens from Noemi Noe, who sadly left our Section to move to Leighton Buzzard with her family. Shortly after that, Claire Danson, leader of 1st Arlesey Falcons, moved up to Scouts and this required merging the two Beavers sections into 1st Arlesey Beavers. Since then, our focus has been on adding to and stabilising our team and ensuring a fun and enriching experience for all our Beavers. Beavers leaders at present are myself and Will Whelpdale (aka Hawkeye), with Jason Hough and Jade Stacey working towards becoming leaders. Recently, we also welcomed Josh Winters from Cubs Leadership.

The amalgamation of the two Sections has resulted in a larger and more vibrant group than we usually have. With a total of 31 Beavers, the energy and enthusiasm our Beavers have shown to getting to know each other and their "new" leadership team have been truly inspiring.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Will, Jason, Jade, Josh, Stuart McGuire and Paulette Reid, Claire Danson and other Scout and Cub leaders, for their assistance and dedication to getting our Beavers group on the best footing and helping to plan sessions, give training on OSM, mentorship and taking phone calls at all hours! We are truly lucky to have such an amazing group of volunteer leaders for Arlesey, who are happy to share their knowledge, give guidance and freely share their time during our transition and settling-in period.

We also have been really lucky to have two Young Leaders join us this year - Emily and Alexandra, who have supported games, planned events and shared their experiences with our Beavers.

Lastly but not least, we are also deeply grateful to all the parents who have supported our sessions and stepped up to help out. Their patience and unwavering support is crucial to making Beavers a success, and we truly appreciate all that you do.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue providing engaging and enriching activities for our Beavers, who can grow and learn lots of amazing skills. We look forward to another fantastic term together.

Thank you once again to everyone involved!

Sian van der Merwe

1st Arlesey Beaver Leader



1st Arlesey Sioux Cubs
September 2024 - July 2025

Another great year for Sioux cubs, we have maintained our cub numbers at 24 members, taking new cubs from both Beavers and the waiting list.

Two of our cubs leaving to move on to Scouts have achieved their Silver awards and another who is finishing his scouting journey also achieved his Silver award.

Our plan is to maintain numbers at 24.

The leadership team has changed a bit, Jamie is still Akela with Jo and Richard by his side, Dibz has committed her time to Halifax scouts as they settle in a new leadership team, she also heads up the archery section but will always be Sioux really.

We have been joined by two new leaders who will be invested by the end of the term. We are also blessed with some great young leaders, Josh who at 18 opted to become a leader and has moved over to Beavers to assist there as they are short of leaders.

Our other 2 young leaders are both regular attendees and a credit to their scout group, always willing to assist, we hope to make the most of them in next year's program. All of which means we are in a great place with leaders, and we also have a handful of great parent helpers when needed.

Our leaders have also picked up some useful training this past year, with Jo now an air rifle instructor, Dibz and Jo both archery instructors, Richard and Jo tomahawks and all of us able to run the climbing wall at Boyd.

Our programme this past year has been full and varied as always, three museum visits, a hike each term (except this term cancelled due to the heat), plenty of shooting/archery/climbing etc.

Our cubs have also camped at Phassels, Boyd Bigg weekender and a camp at the hut. Two of our current cubs are also members of the Archery section, so they have also had an extra weekend camp.

We have also involved parents in our programme twice this past year, on both occasions this was well attended and a great chance to show of the cubs.

Looking forward to our return in September we are planning other local museum visits, practice for the shooting competition in October, hikes and more map reading, a district visit to the space centre and a residential camp early next year.

Sioux cubs have been on hand to support fundraising, assisting with the summer fete, bag packs etc. However, we have not organised a Sioux-led fundraising event this past year, which is something we will look to address before Christmas.

We will endeavour to have the next term's programme on the parent portal by the end of August.

Yours in Scouting,

Jamie Sarll

Akela - 1st Arleseey Sioux Cubs

1st Arlesey Cheyenne Cubs

September 2024 - July 2025

Dear all,

1st Arlesey Cheyenne have had another awesome year, still going from strength to strength.

We kick-started September 24 with our ever enthusiastic leadership team, with myself at the helm, assisted by Assistant Cub Leaders; Badger (Tasha Davis), Ziggy (Jo Eatock-Musk), King Louie (Andrew Hall), Chil (Emily Pang) and our fantastic Section Assistant Siobhan right alongside me.

The adventures begin with a fantastic Water sports day at Luton Hoo where Cubs kayaked, sailed, rafted, paddle boarded and canoed. This was a great experience for all and saw some of our cubs conquer their fears head-on.

Just 12 days later Cubs attended a fun-packed space-themed District Camp at Boyd Field. We joined our fellow Sioux Cubs and other Cubs in our District building camp gadgets, climbing up to the planets on the climbing wall, crawling through space in the cave bus, campfire sing-along and more. 🍌

During November, we were invited to take part in the 2024 Biggleswade and District Rifle Shooting Competition at Boyd Field, where it gives me immense pleasure and pride to announce that Cheyenne Cubs won 1st place. This is a great achievement and one that our cubs totally deserved. 🏆

During this term, we decided to visit lots of different local venues rather than spend our evenings at the hut. Being in the hut every week during Autumn/Winter can sometimes feel a little samey for even us leaders. Any opportunity to have a trip out to complete a badge, we are all over it. Over several weeks, we visited Boyd Field Cavebus and Trim Trail, Shefford Fire Station, Hitchin Gurdwara and St Peter's Church. Huge thank you to all of our parent helpers for accompanying us on these events.

We see 2024 out with our traditional Christmas Party with Sioux Cubs and leaders.

January 2025 and we are ready to Scout...

We start the year with the added help of two Duke of Edinburgh volunteers. Bonnie, who was beginning her Bronze and Emily, who was beginning her Gold. Both have been a great asset to the group. While sadly we say farewell to Bonnie at the end of the term, we do look forward to Emily returning with us in September to complete the rest of the year with us.

With the weather very changeable during January and February, we focus on badge work inside the hut. Pancake Day as always was 'batter' than ever and Mother's Day gave our Cubs an opportunity to express their artistic talents by hand painting a candle for their mums while accompanied by their dads. Great opportunity for parents to get involved and see how our evenings run.

Towards the end of March we took the Cubs on our annual indoor camp. This was held at Phasels Wood Activity Centre. There were 60 young people altogether including Sioux Cubs and Arlesey Scouts. Cubs did abseiling, Cresta run, High ropes and Crate stacking. This was very much a height based activity camp and truly showed how brave our cubs can be when faced with their fears.

We finish up the Spring term with an Easter hunt hike around Arlesey, where we were lucky enough to get some of the Arlesey residents involved, including our Reverend Jenna and Pauline, our Town Mayor.

With the lighter evenings and better weather on the horizon, we began spending more time outside. We began the summer term with a very energetic games night. Our following two weeks involved parent participation, Gardening, tidying the garden at the hut and DIY, making bottle openers for dads for Father's Day. It seems our Cub mums have many hidden skills...

Our first session in June gave our Cubs the opportunity to try something totally new... Skiing. We took 30 cubs/scouts to Gosling Park in Welwyn where they had a skiing lesson for an hour and also got to spend an hour whizzing down the slope in a big rubber ring doughnut. The Cubs absolutely loved this evening and gained the first level in their Snowsports badge.

The Bigg Weekender 2025...

This District camp is only held every other year and can be quite daunting for some of our younger cubs as there are so many young people attending this event (approx 1000 YP). Our cubs really got stuck into the huge variety of activities on offer. They took part in Bubble football, Mad science, Archery, Tomahawks, Go Karts, Rifle shooting, Trim Trail, Laser Tag, Cavebus, Inflatables, Circus skills, Theatre drumming, Fossil hunting and more...

This was also a great chance for all of the Arlesey Scout Group volunteers to spend some time together as all section volunteers were in attendance.

Unfortunately, Bushcraft 'Day' couldn't happen this year, so Cheyenne Assistant Cub Leader King Louie has organised Bushcraft 'Camp' for both Cub packs in order to gain his Nights Away camping permit. The Cubs will be fire lighting, Shelter building, Orienteering and Map reading, pioneering, cooking on coals, and looking at the weather forecast, having a water fight... By the time you read this report, it will have taken place this weekend just gone.

It is with much sadness and gratitude that we say farewell and a massive thank you to our lovely Assistant Cub Leader Emily (Chil) as she leaves us at the end of our Bushcraft Camp. Emily has been a huge valued part of the Cheyenne leadership team since March 2023 and it won't be the same without her. We wish her lots of fun filled fabulous adventures and I'm sure we will cross paths as Emily will no doubt be helping other sections occasionally in the future.

Water games and a bbq will bring us up to the end of term and close us for summer. Wow what another amazing 12 months it's been...

We have kept Cub numbers at a great level this year(30), running at full capacity with a waiting list. We are very fortunate to have such an amazing leadership team who are all here with the same goal in mind, to give our cubs the best experiences and opportunities.

Total number of badges awarded... 551

Total number of investitures... 17

Total number of Chief Scout Silver awards... 8

Thank you...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with Cheyenne Cubs this year, especially our Cheyenne Assistant Cub Leaders, Tasha, Jo, Andrew and Emily and our very own Section Assistant, Siobhan. Our pack wouldn't run half as efficiently and funny without you.

Thank you to all our parents for your support, I know our WhatsApp chat can sometimes be a tad overwhelming but it's all a part of the running of a busy, enthusiastic, amazing group. The programme wouldn't run so smoothly without you there helping the Cubs with whatever we need them to bring in.

Thank you to all of those that have supported our fundraising this year. The Summer fayre, mulled wine, BBQs and Christmas raffle again were a huge success.

Thank you to our parent helpers, whether you've helped at any of our sessions, camps or donated equipment, your help is invaluable and hugely appreciated.

Yours in Scouting,

Paulette Reid

Akela - 1st Arlesey Cheyenne Cubs



1st Arlesey Yellow Devils Scouts

September 2024 - July 2025

This has been another busy year for our Yellow Devils Troop and we have seen continued growth in the independence and confidence of our Scouts in completing a variety of tasks both on their own and with other Scouts. In particular we have put a lot of work into building strong patrols to operate more autonomously. We still have some work to do in this area but strong patrols are a feature of a healthy troop and we have big plans. At the end of this term we now have a fairly large group of our older and more experienced Scouts moving on to their various next steps and they will be missed, but we are confident that we have a good group to choose our new Patrol Leaders from.

Another particularly pleasing development has been how we have been coordinating much more closely as a leadership team across both of our 1st Arlesey Scout Sections. This has led to a better experience for our volunteers and also a better range and quality of events for our Scouts, as we aim to run most of our non-troop night events as joint events. For our Yellow-Devils this has led directly to the Fire and Ice camp in January and our recent indoor skydiving opportunity.

Notable achievements:

- Completed two longer night hikes, building on the experience of our regular independent night hikes - our Scouts are really getting a lot more confident in their independent navigation!;
- Had four Scouts complete the highest award possible in the Scout Section, The Chief Scout's Gold Award; and
- Completed a total of 297 nights away across the troop since our last AGM, including our summer camp in Kinver!

This has all been supported by our great joint Scout Section leadership team and by a great group of Young Leaders.

Programme

We have focused on two main things: (1) having the Scouts spend as much time as possible working together as Patrols, outside; and (2) rebuilding some traditional Scouting skills. Alongside this we've included some great new experiences. For example, over the last year:

- We attended a week-long summer camp near Kinver last summer, including kayaking, air-pistol shooting, archery, cooking, and an overnight hike to a satellite camp next to a zoo (it's an experience to wake up to roaring lions in the night!);
- Entered three teams into the "Green Beret" competition last November, a really tough weekend in the rain and mud competing against about 140 other teams in a range of patrol challenges, and our top team came in the top three on the assault course!;
- Attended the Fire and Ice camp in Hertfordshire this January, as well as almost the whole troop attending the Bigg Weekender camp in June.

Leaders

Our troop couldn't run without our leaders, every one a volunteer, and I am exceedingly grateful for all that they do. Every member of the team brings something new and we work together very well. It is a privilege to be able to work with our Scouts and if you have ever considered volunteering in any capacity, I'd encourage you to go for it!

This year it has been a particular pleasure to see several of our former Scouts come through the Young Leader programme and sign-up as adult volunteers (in various sections). They have been and continue to be a huge asset to our Group.

Finally, I also want to thank our Scout parents, many of whom have given up one or more evenings (sometimes very late evenings!) to support our activities. We couldn't carry out our programme without this.

Looking forward

This year our numbers fell quite a lot as our cubs moving up were mostly directed in to the Halifax Troop, but we are now starting to grow again. We expect to stabilise our numbers this year at a lower level than our previous peak. During this time we will continue to build our patrols and will look to run some more expedition camps to boost confidence and independence, while working on traditional Scouting skills like campfire cooking and navigation.

Once again, my sincere thanks to our Leaders, our Scout parents, and to our Scouts for all doing their parts for a brilliant Scouting year.

Yours in Scouting,

Gareth Rowlands
Yellow Devils Scout Leader

1st Arlesey Halifax Scouts
September 2024 - July 2025

We've had a great second year, we have done so much with the scouts, like concentrating on core scouting skills, along with some fun activities like indoor skydiving. We have done fundraising with our jam jar challenge again and topped what we done the year before, reaching a total of £2400! The scouts achieved this without the help of their leaders. Our numbers have grown since last year. We have had one scout leave as they lost interest, but still maintain at 39 scouts. We have 4 of our older scouts that are moving up to Explorers after the summer break and have all achieved their gold awards.

Our leadership team has grown, we now have myself (Ryan) as Scout Leader, Dibz, Dan, Claire and now Elias as assistant leaders and will have Beth, Shea, Harry and Martha confirming to be leaders when they turn 18 during the summer break. Nothing has been said with the leadership to change otherwise.

One of the leaders has completed so useful training recently, Claire has completed her air rifle shooting permit, which will be super useful for our program in the coming year. Dibz has gained her nights away permit, so we have Claire and Dibz holding this. Me (Ryan) and Dan are planning to sort ours out soon.

Our program this year has been full of great activities, we've concentrated on navigation skills, some pioneering at Boyd, we've done a joint incident hike (organized by Claire) which was just shy of 7 miles and they all completed and enjoyed this, we have done a fair bit of cooking on the fire and done some orienteering too. We participated with Yellow Devils at Green Beret and also joined at fire and ice.

For the returning term after the summer break, we are planning to again work on navigation, orienteering, pioneering, cooking and hopefully some more fun events. We will hopefully have the new terms program on the parental OSM portal by 11th August.

Yours in Scouting,

Ryan Hughes
Halifax Scout Leader

1st Arlesey Scout Group - Arlesey Archers

September 2024 - July 2025

Arlesey Archers' first year has been a raging success from a leader's perspective. We're ending the year with 25 young people, one more than we began with, and aim to hold trials after the summer for a new batch of kids to join the team – Jo is currently sorting possible dates for this.

Of those 25, 21 travelled as a team to the National Scouts Archery Competition this past May, where we had some great shooting, evidenced by the many PBs and 6 medals that came home with us. Not a bad way to introduce ourselves to the competition!

At the hut for our once a month sessions, our archers have progressed from great target scores at 10m to fast improving scores at 20, have had a go on a couple of Jamie's makeshift Field courses, and have shot Clout at Astwick a few times too as we do our best to produce well rounded Archers. We also held an action-packed practice camp in April (and extra sessions) in preparation for the competition, which gained the team another Nights Away Permit holder in me (Dibz).

As a leadership team, we have grown from the initially proposed team of myself, Jamie, Jo. Ian joined our ranks more or less from the first session and we have since welcomed Claire and Richard into the ranks too. From September, young Bethany (currently an Explorer and YL) will also be joining the leader squad. Both Ian and Claire look to gain their instructors' licenses after the summer, allowing for better and better quality coaching (as more instructors = more 1 to 1 coaching) and perhaps greater opportunities for the section leaders to fundraise for the group with Archery sessions for those outside of Scouting.

With luck, our growing momentum, popularity and skills will continue into next year, where we certainly intend to go after more silverware, continue to develop our young athletes, and really build a name and reputation to be respected within the greater archery and Scouting communities.

Yours in Scouting,

Dibz

Leader Arlesey Archers

1st Arlesey Scout Group


Receipts and Payments Account

		Year start date		Year end date	
For the year	From	01/04/2024	To	31/03/2025	
Receipts and payments					
		31/03/2025		31/03/2024	
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations, legacies and similar income					
Membership subscriptions		19,657		18,810	
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area)		-9,233		-10,357	
Less: Membership Subscriptions Refunded				-	
Net membership subscriptions retained		10,424		8,453	
Donations		1,000		1,601	
Legacies				-	
Youth Programme and Activities		25,845		20,211	2,515
Group donation to Norway Expedition					1,392
Gift Aid		2,018		1,896	
Other similar income					
Sub total		39,286		32,161	3,907
Grants					
Maintenance grant		-		-	
Other grants				3,800	
Sub total		-		3,800	
Fundraising (gross)					
Other fundraising activities		11,577		10,939	
Sub total		11,577		10,939	
Investment income					
Bank interest		-		-	
Building Society interest		-		-	
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-		-	
Property Rent income		1,374		3,055	
Less: Deposit Refunds				-450	
Net Property Rent Income		1,374		2,605	
Other investment income		-		-	
Sub total		1,374		2,605	
Total Gross Income		52,237		49,505	
Asset and investment sales, etc.					
Total receipts		52,237		49,505	3,907

	£	£	£	£
Payments				
Charitable Payments				
Youth programme and activities	34,116		22,739	20,447
Group donation to Norway Expedition	-		1,392	
Group donation to Explorers Section	500			
Activity Refunds	860			
Adult support and training	275		30	
Rent	-		-	
Water and Sewerage	624		589	
Waste Collection	217			
Electricity and Gas	1,673		2,760	
Telephone and Internet	-		-	
Insurance	1,372		1,231	
Bank Charges (GoCardless)	1,812		1,573	
Repairs and Renewals	3,952		1,941	
Materials and equipment	3,131		1,430	
Printing and photocopying	24		10	
Web Hosting and Online Services	241		181	
Contribution to camp costs			-	
Badges, Woggles and Neckers	2,700		2,889	
AGM and trustee expenses	443		1,013	
Charitable Donations	105		105	
Subscriptions Refund			-	
Sundries				
Sub total	52,045	-	37,883	20,447
Fundraising expenses	15			
Other fundraising costs			3,702	
Sub total	15		3,702	
Total Gross Expenditure	52,060	-	41,585	20,447
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	-		-	
Total payments	52,060	-	41,585	16,540
Net of receipts/(payments)	177	-	7,920	16,540
Cash funds last year end	19,760		11,840	16,540
Cash funds this year end	19,937	-	19,760	-

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year						
		31/03/2025		31/03/2024		
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	
		£		£		
Cash funds						
Bank current account		16,284		17,730		
Bank deposit account		-		-		
Pre-Paid Cash Cards (for camps)		3,207		1,583		
Building society account		-		-		-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-		-		-
Cash/Floats		447		447		
Total cash funds		19,938		19,760		
Other monetary assets						
Tax claim		-		-		
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group		-		-		
Insurance claim		-		-		
Sub total		-		-		
Investment assets						
Investment property - detail		-		-		
Quoted investments		-		-		
Other investments - detail		-		-		
Sub total		-		-		
Non monetary assets for charity's own use						
Badge stock		-		-		
Shop stock		-		-		
Other stock		-		-		
Land and buildings		-		-		
Motor vehicles		982		1,422		
Scouting equipment, furniture etc		4,754		3,323		
Other		-		-		
Sub total		5,736		4,745		
Liabilities						
Accounts not yet paid		-		-		
Expenses incurred but not invoiced		-		-		
Subscriptions not yet paid		-		-		
Loan - detail		-		-		
Other liabilities		-		-		
Sub total		-		-		

Contingent liabilities and future obligations

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 15th July 2025 and signed on their behalf by						
Signature		Print Name				
		SARAH COLLEY				Chair
		CHRISTOPHER LIVERMORE				Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 1st Arlesey Scout Group.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group, 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 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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: MARK HJERTZEN FCA

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): FCA (ICAEW)

Address: HW Associates Limited
Portmill House
Portmill Lane
Hitchin
Herts
SG5 1DJ

Date: 11th August 2025

1ST ARLESEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 285064

Accounts

Scouts

1st Arlesey Scout Group



Annual General Meeting 2024 - Reports -

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1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Board of Trustees Chair Report

Dear Members, Volunteers, and Supporters,

As Chair of the newly formed Board of Trustees, I am thrilled to reflect on the incredible achievements of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group over the past year. It has been a year of energy, progress, and growth, all made possible by the tireless efforts of our dedicated volunteers, leadership team, and the continued support of our local community. I want to extend my deepest thanks to all the leaders, assistant leaders, and volunteers who work so hard to ensure that our young people experience the joys and challenges of Scouting.

This year saw the transition from our previous Executive Committee to a formal Board of Trustees, in line with the Scout Association's strengthened governance arrangements. This change has provided a more robust structure to ensure our compliance with the Charity Commission's guidance and safeguard the Group's future. I'm grateful for the smooth transition and for the unwavering support of everyone involved in this process.

A special mention goes to Chris, our Treasurer, for his ongoing commitment and diligence in managing our finances. His work ensures that we are financially sound, and I'm delighted that he will continue in this role as part of our Trustee Board. Additionally, I want to thank Matt for his behind-the-scenes efforts in maintaining the Scout Hut and grounds, as well as his crucial role in supporting fundraising events. Volunteers like Matt often go unnoticed, but their contributions are invaluable to the smooth running of the Group.

Fundraising remains a cornerstone of our success, and I would like to thank all the leaders, volunteers, parents, and community members for their continued support. Your dedication to helping organize and participate in fundraising events has been instrumental in allowing the Group to grow and offer even more exciting opportunities for our young people. From bake sales to community events, the funds raised directly support the activities and experiences we provide, ensuring that Scouting remains accessible and enriching for everyone.

We have also made significant strides in our operations with the establishment of a Volunteer Leadership Team, led by Stuart as Group Lead Volunteer. This team-based approach ensures that the Group's day-to-day activities continue to run smoothly, with each section benefiting from strong leadership and collaboration. While there have been some changes in roles and titles, rest assured that the faces you know and trust remain committed to delivering the same high-quality programmes for your children.

Despite our success, we are still in need of more adult volunteers to help keep our sections thriving. Whether it's lending a hand with Beavers on Mondays and Tuesdays or supporting the Scout Troops on Tuesdays and Fridays, we welcome anyone who can offer their time.



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Volunteering is an incredibly rewarding way to give back to the community, and we have excellent training available to help new volunteers develop the skills they need. Even occasional help is appreciated, and every contribution makes a difference. Please do not hesitate to reach out to one of our leaders or contact Stuart or myself directly to learn more about how you can get involved.

Lastly, I would like to extend a special thank you to the members of the Dambusters Explorer Scout unit. Many of these young people have volunteered as part of the Young Leader Scheme, working towards their Duke of Edinburgh or King's Scout awards. Their enthusiasm and dedication have been a true asset to the Group, and we are grateful for their ongoing contributions across all sections.

I am incredibly proud of everything the 1st Arleseey Scout Group has accomplished this year. From the strength of our programmes to the support of our community, it is clear that Scouting in Arleseey is thriving. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our leaders, Trustees, volunteers, and the unwavering support of the community. Together, we are building a brighter future for our young people.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Yours in Scouting,

Sarah

Chair of the Board of Trustees



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1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Group Lead Volunteer Report

All of the sections have had another very busy year, and I would like to thank all the leaders, assistant leaders and their volunteer teams for their hard work in planning and delivering programmes that enable our young people to experience new challenges and have fun. I can recommend reading each sections reports to find out more about the year's activities. 2024 is a year of change within the Scout Association as the governance arrangements are being strengthened to meet the Charity Commission's guidance. As such our Executive Committee is transitioning to a Trustee Board and we are seeking to appoint Trustees to help run the Group.

A separate Volunteer Leadership Team led by myself as Group lead Volunteer is also being established, which will manage the operational activities of the Group including each section. There will be a change in the titles of each of our Leaders and a change to a team approach to tasks that are undertaken by our Leaders. I can reassure you that the people that you deal with in our section teams are still the same and will continue to deliver the day-to-day programmes for our young people. In real terms, you will see no change to your Sons/Daughter's section as we have been implementing the Team approach for a while now.

I would like to thank our management team, including the outgoing Executive Committee members. I would particularly like to thank Sarah and Chris our Chair and Treasurer for an outstanding job that they have both done. They are of course staying on within their roles but now as part of a trustee board and not an executive committee. I would like to personally thank Matt for all his work behind the scenes in maintaining our Scout hut and Grounds and his unwavering support to the group fundraising and section events. These people are a great examples of volunteers who are not necessarily noticed by parents, but who work hard behind the scenes to keep the Group in good order.

We are still also actively looking for more adult volunteers to work with our sections. We need volunteers to support the Monday and Tuesday Beavers, and the Tuesday and Friday Scout Troops. These sections have experienced leaders who are able to support new adult volunteers and there is also a brilliant training programme in place, much of which can be done online in a volunteer's own time to ensure that all leaders have the right skills in place to do the job. Volunteering can be an excellent way to boost your mental wellbeing. It's a great feeling knowing you're helping young people get skills for life, and you might even learn some things about yourself along the way. If you can only help occasionally, that's OK. Whether you'd like to be an activity planner, tea-maker or craft creator, we appreciate any time you can spare. Talk to any of the leaders, or contact me directly if you want to find out



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more.

We are fortunate enough to be linked to a very strong Explorer Scout unit, Dambusters. Some of these young people have, by taking part in the Young Leader Scheme and volunteering at each section across Arlesey scout Group worked towards their community service element of the Duke of Edinburgh award or King's Scout award. I would like to thank each of them for their commitment to the Group.

So my thanks go to all of the Lead volunteers, Trustees, Group supporters and young members that have volunteered throughout the last year with this Group to enable Scouting to continue in Arlesey.

Yours In Scouting,

Stuart McGuire
Group Lead Volunteer



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1st Arlesey Scout Group

Board of Trustees Treasurer Report Income

Income

Subscriptions

Membership subscription fees remained unchanged in 2023/24. All subscriptions are collected online via OSM.

A total of £18,810 in subscriptions was collected this financial year. This income to the Group was off-set by the payment of our membership fees of £10,357 to the Scout Association.

Fundraising

A total of 10,939 was raised through a variety of fundraising events. Despite not organising our flagship events Fireworks night this is a significant increase on last years fundraising and provides valuable funds to run the group and provide activities for our young people..

Donations

We received £1,601 in donations, including a donation from Centrica as part of it's scheme to support local charities and a donation from Arlesey Town Council towards the costs of organising the Summer Fete

Rental Income

The Scout Hut is available to hire for £10/hour. This year rental income of £2,605 was collected

Expenditure

Premises

Maintenance costs for the Scout Hut and grounds totalled £1,941 this year.

Activities

This year £43,186 was spent on camps and youth activities. £20,447 of this outlay was for our camp to Norway, as noted in last years accounts the majority of these funds were collected last year with the final outlay only occurring this financial year

Neckers/Badges

£2,889 was spent on neckers, woggles, badges and handbooks.

Admin

Admin expenses came to £1,013 which includes accountancy fees for auditing our annual



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accounts.

Net receipts for the year

Excluding the Norway payments the accounts show an operating profit of £7,920 for this financial year.

Yours in Scouting,

Chris Livermore
Board of Trustees Treasurer



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1st Arlesey Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

		Year start date			Year end date		
For the year from		01/04/2023	To		31/03/2024		
Receipts and payments							
		31/03/2024			31/03/2023		
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	
		£	£	£		£	
Receipts							
Donations, legacies and similar income							
<i>Membership subscriptions</i>		18,810			14,860		
<i>Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area)</i>		-10,357			-8,299		
<i>Less: Membership Subscriptions Refunded</i>		-			-30		
Net membership subscriptions retained		8,453			6,532		
Donations		1,601			148		
Legacies					-		
Youth Programme and Activities		20,211	2,515		5,771	16,540	
Group donation to Norway Expedition			1,392				
Gift Aid		1,896			1,836		
Other similar income							
Sub total		32,161	3,907		14,286	16,540	
Grants							
Maintenance grant		-			-		
Other grants		3,800					
Sub total		3,800					
Fundraising (gross)		10,939			2,633		
Other fundraising activities					-		
Sub total		10,939			2,633		
Investment income							
Bank interest		-			-		
Building Society interest		-			-		
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-			-		
<i>Property Rent income</i>		3,055			715		
<i>Less: Deposit Refunds</i>		-450			-300		
Net Property Rent Income		2,605			415		
Other investment income		-			-		
Sub total		2,605			415		
Total Gross Income		49,505			17,334	16,540	
Asset and investment sales, etc.							
Total receipts		49,505	3,907		17,334	16,540	

		£	£	£	£
Payments					
Charitable Payments					
Youth programme and activities		22,739	20,447	13,498	
Group donation to Norway Expedition		1,392			
Activity Refunds				232	
Adult support and training		30		47	
Rent		-		-	
Water and Sewerage		589		385	
Electricity and Gas		2,760		1,177	
Telephone and Internet		-		-	
Insurance		1,231		1,150	
Bank Charges (OSM)		1,573		1,404	
Repairs and Renewals		1,941		2,380	
Materials and equipment		1,430		3,034	
Printing and photocopying		10		-	
Web Hosting and Online Services		181		364	
Contribution to camp costs		-		-	
Badges, Woggles and Neckers		2,889		1,517	
AGM and trustee expenses		1,013		913	
Charitable Donations		105		815	
Subscriptions Refund		-		-	
Sundries					
Sub total		37,883	20,447	26,916	
Fundraising expenses					
Other fundraising costs		3,702		550	
Sub total		3,702		550	
Total Gross Expenditure		41,585	20,447	27,466	
Asset and investment purchases, etc.		-		-	
Total payments		41,585	20,447	27,466	16,540
Net of receipts/(payments)		7,920	-16,540	-10,132	16,540
Cash funds last year end		11,840	16,540		
Cash funds this year end		19,760	0	11,840	16,540

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		31/03/2024		31/03/2023	
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds
		£		£	
Cash funds					
Bank current account		17,730		9,609	16,540
Bank deposit account		-		129	
Pre-Paid Cash Cards (for camps)		1,583		1,610	
Building society account		-		-	
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-		-	
Cash/Floats		447		492	
Total cash funds		19,760	-	11,840	16,540
Other monetary assets					
Tax claim		-		-	
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group		-		-	
Insurance claim		-		-	
Sub total		-		-	
Investment assets					
Investment property - detail		-		-	
Quoted investments		-		-	
Other investments - detail		-		-	
Sub total		-		-	
Non monetary assets for charity's own use					
Badge stock		-		-	
Shop stock		-		-	
Other stock		-		-	
Land and buildings		-		-	
Motor vehicles		1,422			1740
Scouting equipment, furniture etc		3,323			1044
Other		-		-	
Sub total		4,745		-	2,784
Liabilities					
Accounts not yet paid		-		-	
Expenses incurred but not invoiced		-		-	
Subscriptions not yet paid		-		-	
Loan - detail		-		-	
Other liabilities		-		-	1096
Sub total		-		-	

Contingent liabilities and future obligations

<p>The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 18th July 2023 and signed on their behalf by</p>					
Signature		Print Name			
					Chair
					Treasurer



1st Arlesey Falcon Beavers Annual Report

Falcon Beavers have had another fun packed year. We have remained at capacity with 24 Beavers. We do have a waiting list as our Beavers have been spreading the word about how much fun they have with us. If you wish to join the waiting list, please get in contact with us.

We have a great leadership team who volunteer their time every week to provide Falcon's with an engaging program whilst installing our core values to be kind and helpful consisting of 2 Leaders Hawkeye (Will) and myself Sunshine (Claire) and 3 amazing section assistants Kostas, James and Lou.

Falcon Beavers are lucky enough to also have 3 young leaders Shea, Bethany and Alexandra who attend our weekly sessions, camps and days out. They also heavily support behind the scenes with setting up and packing away after every session, at camps and by providing their input and ideas in our program planning.

Our parent helpers have been amazing again this year and have provided us with the support to be able to explore our community and hold sessions away from the Scout Hut. They have also helped us massively by attending and sleeping overnight at our camps. We are truly grateful, and I hope they enjoyed spending time with the Beavers.

This year both beaver colonies have camped at Boyd staying on the holiday bus, despite the complete downpour of rain we encountered, the beavers had a great time on the climbing wall and cave bus and I gained my nights away permit. We held a space and a world of wizardry themed sleepover both at the hut, a summer camp at Danemead Scout Centre with a trip to the local zoo and a scouting skills camp that was planned and ran completely by our amazing young leaders. We exceeded our target of providing an overnight experience for our Beavers of once a term and this year our Beavers have had the opportunity to attend 7 nights away.

Falcon's have been very busy this year some of our activities have been: supporting at fundraising events, a visit to Shuttleworth, St Georges day at Boyd Field, a visit from the Police, a water activity day at Luton Hoo, teddy bears picnic at Boyd with other beaver colonies from our district, a bike ride, a Christmas Pantomime and remembrance parade,



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which as a Beaver Scout Leader fills me with pride.

In total Falcon Beavers have been awarded 455 well-earned badges, this is more than double from our previous year. This is due to our colony maintaining full capacity but is also down to the hard work our leaders, section assistants, parents and most importantly our Beavers have put in. This year 12 of our beavers earned the highest award, The Chief Scout Bronze award. This year we have invested 12 new Beavers into our colony.

Will's highlight of the year was our visit to Shuttleworth and the Beavers gaining their air activities stage 1 badge. Will is looking forward to lots more camping this year.

Lou's highlight of the year was our Beaver summer camp. The Beavers had a fantastic time with great activities and woodland to explore, with lots of brilliant parent helpers, we even managed to have a delicious roast dinner cooked by two of our Scout Leaders Matt and Ryan. Lou is looking forward supporting at Cheyenne Cubs and watching the Beavers that she has supported continue to progress and develop at Cubs.

Kostas' highlight of the year has been socialising within the Scouting community and providing plenty of opportunities for the Beavers to be outdoors in a safe and welcoming environment. Kostas is looking forward to providing as much outside time as possible at Beavers.

James' highlight of the year was attending Luton Hoo's water activity day and watching the Beavers try things for the first time such as paddle boarding, kayaking, canoeing, sailing and raft building. James is looking forward to future activities.

My highlight of the year was our Scouting skills camp planned by the young leaders. Our Beavers had the courage to sleep in a shelter rather than an enclosed tent. The Beavers loved this and it was my favorite camp to date. I am looking forward to welcoming our new Beavers and providing them with the basic Scouting skills that they will then add to and improve in their Scouting journey.

We are so proud of our Beaver Scouts and what they accomplish every week. We love watching them grow and develop their skills.

I would like to end as always with a few messages of thanks. Firstly, a massive thank you to our Falcon Beaver Leadership team and young leaders Will, Kostas, James, Lou, Shea, Beth, Alexandra and our Raven Beaver Leaders Noemi and Sian. Thank you to everyone at 1st Arlesey Scout Group, I can honestly say my Scouting family are amazing, they have provided me with support and welcomed me into their lives. Everyone at 1st Arlesey Scout



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Group are unbelievably busy with their own section but every leader in our group has supported and attended at least one of our Beaver camps this year, giving up more of their free time to support the Beavers. Thank you to all Falcon Beavers past and present, you are the reason we do this. Thank you to all our Beaver parents for your support. Thank you to our Group Lead Volunteer Stuart McGuire, who goes above and beyond for our whole Scout Group. Lastly, thank you to Matt Graham (Yellow Devil's Scout Leader) who works tirelessly for our Scout Group and somehow found the time to make 24 knot boards for the Beavers to practice their knots.

Yours in Scouting,

Claire Danson

Sunshine 1st Arlesey Falcon Beavers



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1st Arlesey Raven Beavers Annual Report

As we approach our Annual General Meeting, we reflect on the past year and the tremendous progress we have made at Beaver Ravens. In November, I will have been with the Beaver Ravens for a whole year, and it's incredible to see how fast the year has flown by.

When I joined the group, we had 16 kids, and I am proud to announce that we have now reached our maximum capacity of 24 children. This growth, adding 8 kids in such a short time since becoming a leader in April, showcases the dedication and enthusiasm of our team.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Paulette for stepping up to help the section when we were in need of additional leadership. Her commitment saved this amazing group, and we are grateful for her contribution.

The commitment of our parents in assisting on Monday evenings has been invaluable. Their support allows us to run programs efficiently, and we appreciate their involvement. Beavers have been awarded 3 Chief Scout's Bronze Award, and we eagerly anticipate awarding 3 more Beavers in the near future.

As we look ahead, we will have 3 children moving up to Cubs, with another waiting eagerly for a space to become available. Our waiting list remains long, highlighting the continued growth and popularity of our group.

We are delighted to welcome Sian, our new assistant leader, who joined us in April. Sian's dedication and commitment to creating fun adventures for the kids have been truly commendable, and we are fortunate to have her on board.

Throughout the year, we have had joint camps with Falcon Beavers and enjoyed memorable sleepovers. I am immensely proud of the children's courage and resilience, particularly during our outdoor shelter sleepover. Their bravery and team spirit were truly inspiring.

Our Beavers have earned a total of 325 badges, each step bringing them closer to the coveted Bronze Scout Award. It's wonderful to witness their growing confidence and camaraderie as they progress together.

Looking ahead to the coming year, we are excited to embark on more camping adventures and aim to secure tickets for the water activity day, a highlight from the past year. We are



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eager to impart more life skills and create lasting memories with the children.

I extend a big thank you to all the leaders who have supported me on this journey, especially Claire, whose guidance and patience have been invaluable. Special thanks to Sian for her unwavering assistance and dedication in every meeting.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to Beaver Ravens. Here's to another year of growth, learning, and unforgettable experiences.

Yours in Scouting,

Sian & Noemi

1st Arlesey Raven Beavers



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1st Arlesey Sioux Cubs Annual Report

Following last year's report we have continued along the same lines, membership has remained at full capacity (24) throughout the year.

All but one of our leavers this year has achieved their silver award (9) and all but a couple of these cubs have moved on to Scouts.

During the year we have taken part in a district camp, (6er/2nd) a camp at Tolmers, a beginner's camp and a camp at the hut leading to one of our leaders acquiring their nights away permit.

With regards to fundraising, Sioux cubs completed a 5 peaks hike challenge and raised approx £2000 when gift aid and the donation of 6x decent compasses are taken into account, for this event we received a district award.

On top of this we completed another 3 hikes almost maintaining our run of choosing a different location for each new hike (turbine hike had been done before).

We have also introduced a knot challenge where cubs can progress onto a different coloured rope once they have achieved certain knots with confidence and on request, we are now sure all cubs leaving Sioux can competently tie a reef knot, clove hitch and fig 8 as a minimum.

When camping a large portion of our cubs are comfortable sleeping in a shelter, indeed one of our camps was as wet as I have seen on a cub camp and still over half our cubs slept in shelters, even after 'slug gate'.

Bushcraft day was another success with map reading (bearings and compass work), one pot cooking and preparing and eating pigeon.

Our leader team remains strong, however we did have to say goodbye to Tony who retired just before summer, as leader of the team and a strong believer in our leader team being our most precious resource I believe we gave Tony a good send off, the evening was well attended and from the feedback I have had it was much appreciated, on this front we have continued our strong working relationship with the team at Cheyenne participating in

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of several overlapping, wavy lines in shades of purple, blue, and green that sweep across the width of the page.

be prepared...

several joint events during the year along with our usual social archery night.

Looking forward we are keen to have another leader or two on board and have a couple of parents who we will work our magic on and hopefully increase our leader team numbers, we do have some keen regular parent helpers when required.

The district shooting competition was another success for Sioux with us winning the individual and team competition, our top shots have all moved on to scouts so defending our title may be difficult but watch this space.

Jo and Richard are now both signed off for tomahawks.

Finally with regards to archery we now have another leader instructor (Dibz) with Jo also planning to qualify privately. We were lucky to accompany Halifax on a national archery competition where we saw several ex Sioux cubs excel with one winning a gold in her event, no one can ever take away the fact it started at Sioux.

Yours in Scouting,

Jamie Sarll

Akela 1st Arlesey Sioux Cubs



be prepared...

1st Arleseey Cheyenne Cubs

Annual Report

1st Arleseey Cheyenne have had another amazing 12 months, still going from strength to strength.

We kick-started September 23 with our ever enthusiastic leadership team, with myself steering the Cheyenne Ship with Assistant Cub Leaders, Badger (Tasha Davis), Ziggy (Jo Eatock-Musk), King Louie (Andrew Hall) and Chil (Emily Pang) right along side me.

We start off September 2023 with a fun packed District Camp at Boyd Field. We joined our fellow Sioux Cubs and other Cubs in our District building camp gadgets, rafting, fire lighting, fencing and more.

Three weeks later we held an indoor camp at Tolmers Activity Centre again with our fellow Sioux pack. The majority of our cubs slept on comfy beds while a handful chose to still sleep outside under shelters. Cubs took part in Dash & Grab, rifle shooting, climbing wall, aeroball and cooking. A great experience for all of our Cubs and leaders. Leaders especially loving the central heating, walk-in pantry and hot water on tap.

As the Autumn term gets underway, we have a local photographer visit us to talk us through his different cameras and let us use them to learn how to take an eye-catching photo to cover our photography badge.

As we moved closer to Halloween, we wanted to do something a little different and really test our cub's fear levels by sending them through the cavebus at Boyd Field in the dark. The cubs were split into 2 groups, while one group were in the cavebus the other group were playing wide games with glow sticks. This was a great spooky night, all of our cubs went through the bus very bravely.

Over the following weeks we concentrated on some traditional scouting skills, paid our respects to our fallen soldiers and took part in the District Rifle Competition.

December 2023 and things turn festive... We plan and prep for the St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival. Our Tree 'Corking in a winter wonderland' came in 2nd place. As always, it's great to run events in our village and get out and about. With Chips as our end goal, we set off on a hike around the village to look at the festive Christmas lights. Always a winner with our cubs and something we will aim to do as a yearly event.

We joined Sioux Cubs to finish off the year in true Cub style, party games, food, lots of noise and secret santa.

January 2024 and we are ready to Scout...



be prepared...

Our first term of 2024 was jam packed with earning badges.

Our cubs covered the gardening badge, the chef badge and added to our hike levels badge. We joined Cubs around the district in a ten pin bowling competition, held a murder mystery evening, made pancakes, baked mother's day cookies and had a big Easter treasure hunt at Boyd Field.

St Georges Day and we spent the day at Boyd taking part in various St George themed activities, culminating in a big campfire sing song with other Cubs from within our District. With a lot of new cubs moving up from Beavers, we decided to hold a 1 night Beginner's camp at the hut in June. This was a very relaxed camp despite the deluge of rain we endured. It was a great little camp and a great opportunity to break our new cubs in gently. We invited Safari Stu to come along and visit us with his collection of well behaved reptiles. This was an amazing night watching our cubs and leaders overcome their fears. An evening we will definitely do again.

Father's Day was a great opportunity to get our dads down to the hut and involved. Our cubs and their adults worked together to solve problems, build catapults and more. A great evening where our cubs were allowed to be the one in charge for a change.

Bushcraft Day came late this year but was as successful as ever. The cubs built shelters, cooked their own individual one pot stews on the campfire, learnt fire lighting, safety and different ways to lay a fire, enhanced their map reading and compass skills and de-breasted, cooked and ate pigeon. This was a really busy and fun day and we look forward to running it again next year.

Archery, Tomahawks, Hiking, more camping, water games and a bbq brings us up to date and closes us for summer. Wow what another amazing 12 months it's been...

We have kept Cub numbers at a great level this year(30), running at full capacity with a waiting list. We are very fortunate to have such an amazing leadership team who are all here with the same goal in mind, to give our cubs the best experiences and opportunities.

Total number of badges awarded... 409

Total number of investitures... 15

Total number of Chief Scout Silver awards... 8

Thank you...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with Cheyenne Cubs this year, especially our Cheyenne Assistant Cub Leaders, Tasha, Jo, Andrew and Emily and our



be prepared...

very own Section Assistant, Siobhan. Our pack wouldn't run half as efficiently and funny without you.

Thank you to all our parents for your support, I know our Whatsapp chat can sometimes be a tad overwhelming but it's all a part of the running of a busy, enthusiastic, amazing group. The programme wouldn't run so smoothly without you there helping the Cubs with whatever we need them to bring in.

Thank you to all of those that have supported our fundraising this year. The Summer fayre, Mulled wine, bbqs and Christmas raffle again were a huge success.

Thank you to our parent helpers, whether you've helped at any of our sessions, camps or donated equipment, your help is invaluable and hugely appreciated.

Yours in Scouting,

Paulette Reid

Akela 1st Arlesey Cheyenne Cubs



be prepared...



1st Arleseey Yellow Devils Scouts Annual Report

This has been another busy year for our Yellow Devils Troop and we have seen real growth in the independence and confidence of our Scouts in completing a variety of tasks both on their own and with other Scouts. In particular we have put a lot of work into building strong patrols to operate more autonomously. We still have some work to do in this area but strong patrols are a feature of a healthy troop and we have big plans.

Notable achievements:

- Grew our troop to six patrols for the first time (in many years);
- Started a Patrol Leaders Council to get more direct input from our senior Scouts;
- Facilitated our first Expedition Camp, with five Scouts hiking independently to Wymondley Wood for a two-night camp mostly without adults (we want to do more of these);
- Had four Scouts complete the highest award possible in the Scout Section, The Chief Scout's Gold Award; and
- Completed a total of 487 nights away across the troop since our last AGM, including a particularly ambitious camp in Norway!

This has all been supported by our great leadership team and by a great group of Young Leaders.

Programme

We have focused on two main things: (1) having the Scouts spend as much time as possible working together as Patrols, outside; and (2) rebuilding some traditional Scouting skills. Alongside this we've included some great new experiences. For example, over the last year:

- We held our first overseas camp in at least a decade, taking 23 Scouts (and some of our Dambuster Explorers) for seven nights in Norway. During our time there we hiked, mountain biked, and rock-climbed on the side of the fjord, canoed, paddle-boarded, and white-water rafted in the fjord, and learned about life in Norway from a Norwegian Scout;

be prepared...

- 20 Scouts attended a water activities day in September 2023 including sailing, canoes, kayaks, rafting, and Stand-up Paddle Boards;
- Entered three teams into the “Green Beret” competition last November, a really tough weekend in the rain and mud competing against about 100 other teams in a range of patrol challenges;
- Sent 22 Scouts to a SCUBA experience in January;
- Practiced archery (with many Scouts obtaining their “Master-at-Arms” badge) both indoors and out, air-rifle shooting, and tomahawk throwing;
- Completed several short hikes exploring the local area both as Patrols (with Scout-led navigation) and as a whole Troop. In particular the independent hikes (with Patrols hiking without accompanying adults) have become a firm favourite in our programme;
- Played golf at the Letchworth par-3 course; and
- Really improved our cooking skills including completing two Ready-Steady-Cook style challenge evenings.

Leaders

Our troop couldn't run without our leaders, every one a volunteer, and I am exceedingly grateful for all that they do. Every member of the team brings something new and we work together very well. It is a privilege to be able to work with our Scouts and if you have ever considered volunteering in any capacity, I'd encourage you to go for it!

This year we have been particularly well supported by a brilliant set of Young Leaders and they are making a huge difference to our troop.

Finally, I also want to thank our Scout parents, many of whom have given up one or more evenings (sometimes very late evenings!) to support our activities. We couldn't carry out our programme without this.

Looking forward

This year we expect to stabilise our numbers (at a lower level than our previous peak) as a number of our older Scouts “age-out” but we re-start the feed of new joiners from our Arlesey cub packs. During this time we will continue to build our patrols and will look to run some more expedition camps to boost confidence and independence, while working on traditional Scouting skills like campfire cooking and navigation. On the latter point we are looking forward to an incident night hike in just a few weeks time and big ideas for adventurous activities..



be prepared...

Once again, my sincere thanks to our Leaders, our Scout parents, and to our Scouts for all doing their parts for a brilliant Scouting year.

Yours in Scouting,

Gareth Rowlands

1st Arlesey Yellow Devils Scout Leader



be prepared...

1st Arlesey Halifax Scouts

Annual Report

In September 2023, for the first time, Arlesey did not have one...but TWO Scout Troops! A culmination of 6 months planning, our Friday Troop met for the very first time and camped together at the Arlesey Scout Hut (with a quick visit to Boyd Field on Saturday Evening). A combination of current Scouts, new Cubs and brand-new additions led to a wonderful weekend filled with new Scouting Skills, Adventurous Activities and many new friendships being forged.

Since that first camp, we have been on an incredibly special journey over our first year gaining new Scouts, Young Leaders, Leaders and even our official name! We are the Halifax Troop which we named after BB364, A Halifax Bomber and its crew who tragically lost their lives during the 2nd World War over the skies of Arlesey.

Over the last year, We have completed 30 Nights Away, Hiked 52 Miles, Spent 24 Hours on the Water and have earned a sensational number of badges on the way. We have also had the opportunity to do some amazing things including:

- Competing at Green Beret for the first time.
- Braving the sub-zero temperatures for Fire & Ice in January
- Trying out Scuba diving for the very first time!
- Helping to raise over £1700 for Feed Up Warm Up alongside the Yellow Devils Troop and Dambusters ESU at our Sleep Out for the Homeless.
- Taking part in a Survival Camp organised by one of our fantastic Young Leaders Martha.
- Venturing to sunny Kinver for our Weeklong Summer Camp.
- Celebrating our 1 Year Anniversary with a fantastic weekend at Arlesey Scout Hut and Boyd Field in early September.

None of this comes without the support of our formidable Leader and Young Leader team, We are so lucky in Halifax to have such an impressive bunch who each bring something different to the table. Thank you to Ryan, Dan, Dibz, Martha, Elias, Harry, Louis, and Charlotte for your ever-present support. The troop would be a much bleaker place without you all and I sincerely appreciate all that you do for the Scouts (and me!).

I would also like to put out a special mention to Will "Hawkeye" Whelpdale for his continued support over the last year! Will is one of our Falcon Beaver Leaders but has been an ever-



be prepared...

present help providing his time, skills, and towbar all in support of our little Troop. Thank you Will!

We are so proud of everything we have achieved over the last year, and we are so grateful to everyone who has supported us along the way. Here is hoping that the next year will be even bigger and better (we have LOTS planned!)

Yours in Scouting,

Jayden Constable

1st Arlesey Halifax Scout Leader



be prepared...

EXPLORERS

Dambusters Explorer Unit – Biggleswade District Annual Report

The Dambusters Explorer Unit meet on Thursday Evenings 7pm to 9pm mostly at Arlesey Scout Hut.

A few numbers to highlight what explorers get up to and how they are progressing. In the last year:

- 12 are active young leaders earning their young leader belt
- 3 have completed their young leader belt
- 11 Platinum awards achieved with more in progress
- 7 Diamond awards are very nearly completed

For fun I have added up the nights away across the unit, not including leaders and not including young leaders night away with other sections. We have over 920 nights away. Some members are nearly on 90 and still have 2 years in explorers. I'm looking forward to giving out a 100 nights away later this year.

Earlier in the year some of the more senior explorers ran an expedition camp on a passport. They planned organised and ran the weekend for themselves including camping without adults. It is great to be able to give them this level of independence. Another expedition camp is planned in the near future.

More recently Dambusters have elected an explorer council to help organise and plan activities. This is run entirely by explorers for explorers. They have worked with the rest of the unit to gather ideas and set out a programme for the next few months.

Other highlights include Green Beret, Monopoly Run, Summer camp, Arlesey Summer Fair where they provided food and entertainment.

Our young leaders have progressed rapidly through the year and the feedback from the Beaver and Scout sections is superb. It really is an achievement to take on planning, organising and running a camp and succeed. They have achieved this level of leadership.

If you would like to be involved with the unit and help run explorers please speak to us, we would love to hear from you.



be prepared...

Special thanks to James, Claire, Jayden and all the parents for their help supporting the unit. this year.

Yours in Scouting,

Chris Dodds

Explorer Lead Volunteer (ELV) for Biggleswade District. ELV for Arlesey Dambusters,

Email: chris.dodds@arleseyscouts.org.uk T: 07886558708



Biggleswade District Scout Council

Registered Charity No 300458 Helping Young People Get the Most Out Of Life.

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1st Arlesey Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account


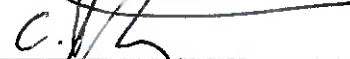
		Year start date		Year end date	
For the year from		01/04/2023		To 31/03/2024	
Receipts and payments					
		31/03/2024		31/03/2023	
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations, legacies and similar income					
Membership subscriptions		18,810		14,860	
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area)		-10,357		-8,299	
Less: Membership Subscriptions Refunded		-		-30	
Net membership subscriptions retained		8,453		6,532	
Donations		1,601		148	
Legacies					
Youth Programme and Activities		20,211	2,515	5,771	16,540
Group donation to Norway Expedition			1,392		
Gift Aid		1,896		1,836	
Other similar income					
Sub total		32,161	3,907	14,286	16,540
Grants					
Maintenance grant		-		-	
Other grants		3,800			
Sub total		3,800			
Fundraising (gross)					
Other fundraising activities		10,939		2,633	
Other fundraising activities				-	
Sub total		10,939		2,633	
Investment income					
Bank interest		-		-	
Building Society interest		-		-	
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-		-	
Property Rent income		3,055		715	
Less: Deposit Refunds		-450		-300	
Net Property Rent Income		2,605		415	
Other investment income		-		-	
Sub total		2,605		415	
Total Gross Income		49,505		17,334	16,540
Asset and investment sales, etc.					
Total receipts		49,505	3,907	17,334	16,540

	£	£	£	£
Payments				
Charitable Payments				
Youth programme and activities	22,739	20,447	13,498	
Group donation to Norway Expedition	1,392			
Activity Refunds			232	
Adult support and training	30		47	
Rent	-		-	
Water and Sewerage	589		385	
Electricity and Gas	2,760		1,177	
Telephone and Internet	-		-	
Insurance	1,231		1,150	
Bank Charges (OSM)	1,573		1,404	
Repairs and Renewals	1,941		2,380	
Materials and equipment	1,430		3,034	
Printing and photocopying	10		-	
Web Hosting and Online Services	181		364	
Contribution to camp costs	-		-	
Badges, Woggles and Neckers	2,889		1,517	
AGM and trustee expenses	1,013		913	
Charitable Donations	105		815	
Subscriptions Refund	-		-	
Sundries				
Sub total	37,883	20,447	26,916	
Fundraising expenses				
Other fundraising costs	3,702		550	
Sub total	3,702		550	
Total Gross Expenditure	41,585	20,447	27,466	
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	-		-	
Total payments	41,585	20,447	27,466	16,540
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,920	-16,540	-10,132	16,540
Cash funds last year end	11,840	16,540		
Cash funds this year end	19,760	0	11,840	16,540

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		31/03/2024		31/03/2023	
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds
		£		£	
Cash funds					
Bank current account		17,730		9,609	16,540
Bank deposit account		-		129	
Pre-Paid Cash Cards (for camps)		1,583		1,610	
Building society account		-		-	
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-		-	
Cash/Floats		447		492	
Total cash funds		19,760		11,840	16,540
Other monetary assets					
Tax claim		-		-	
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group		-		-	
Insurance claim		-		-	
Sub total		-		-	
Investment assets					
Investment property - detail		-		-	
Quoted investments		-		-	
Other investments - detail		-		-	
Sub total		-		-	
Non monetary assets for charity's own use					
Badge stock		-		-	
Shop stock		-		-	
Other stock		-		-	
Land and buildings		-		-	
Motor vehicles		1,422			1740
Scouting equipment, furniture etc		3,323			1044
Other		-		-	
Sub total		4,745		-	2,784
Liabilities					
Accounts not yet paid		-		-	
Expenses incurred but not invoiced		-		-	
Subscriptions not yet paid		-		-	
Loan - detail		-		-	
Other liabilities		-		-	1096
Sub total		-		-	

Contingent liabilities and future obligations

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 18th July 2024 and signed on their behalf by					
Signature		Print Name			
		SARAH COLLEY			Chair
		CHRISTOPHER LIVERMORE			Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 1st Arlesey Scout Group.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group, 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 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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: MARK HJERTZEN FCA

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): FCA (ICAEW)

Address: HW Associates Limited
Portmill House
Portmill Lane
Hitchin
Herts
SG5 1DJ

Date: 18th July 2024

1ST ARLESEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 285064

Accounts



Annual General Meeting 2023

- Reports -

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Board of Trustees Chair Report

This year, my Chair Report, celebrates the exceptional journey of our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and remarkable resilience, dedication, and enthusiasm, making it an exciting and eventful period for all involved.

Under Karen's outstanding leadership as GSL in 2022, our group went from strength to strength. However, unforeseen circumstances led to Karen stepping down from her post. We were immensely fortunate to have Jayden, one of our younger leaders, step up to fill the role temporarily. With his deep understanding of Scouting POR and unyielding enthusiasm, Jayden has admirably kept our group together during a challenging time. I personally extend my heartfelt gratitude, and on behalf of the entire 1st Arlesey Scouts team, we commend Jayden for his dedication, time, and technological expertise over the past 6 months. Thanks to his efforts, we are now proud to announce the upcoming opening of our second Scout Troop, led by Jayden himself, as he takes the next step on his Scouting journey with us. Thank you, Jayden - you are a legend!

Our Cub Packs have continued to flourish, and this success is undoubtedly due to the unwavering dedication of our two Akelas. Sioux and Cheyenne have consistently delivered fun and action-packed programmes, ensuring our Cubs have had an incredible time and made lasting memories.

As we bid farewell to Emily in her role as Beaver Leader (Ravens), we must recognize the significant impact she has had in establishing our second Beaver Colony. Emily's efforts have been invaluable, and we express our deepest gratitude for her contributions.

Furthermore, we extend a warm welcome to Michele and Claire, who have taken up leadership roles in our Beaver Colonies. Michele's nights away permit and Claire's passion, supported by Will, have injected new energy into Ravens and Falcons, respectively. These leaders have shown incredible tenacity in their roles and are actively recruiting new volunteers to enhance our scouting experience. Congratulations, ladies, on your exceptional efforts!

Gareth's leadership of our Scout Troop has been nothing short of outstanding. Alongside Jayden and Matt, his amazing team, they have delivered a scouting-packed programme, complete with thrilling activities such as Tomahawk throwing and wild water adventures. We're all eagerly looking forward to the exciting Norway23 camp, a true testament to their dedication and hard work. Moreover, we are excited about the opening of our new Troop in September, a testament to the growing success of 1st Arlesey Scout Group.

A special shout-out goes to the Dambuster Explorers, who have doubled in size over the past year! Under Chris's guidance, they have become a supportive and proactive unit, welcoming newcomers with open arms. Chris's commitment, not only as an Explorer leader but also in various other roles, has been exemplary. He has also been involved in fundraising for the World Scout Jamboree in Korea, showcasing his incredible dedication and passion.

I cannot stress enough the importance of our leaders and volunteers. Their unwavering dedication and commitment provide the young people of Arlesey with a nurturing environment to learn, grow, and build friendships. Without their selfless contributions, 1st Arlesey Scout Group would not be the vibrant community it is today.

Our community involvement has grown significantly, thanks to the incredible support from the Arlesey community. Events such as the Annual Christmas Raffle have played a crucial role in our fundraising efforts, ensuring we continue to offer an inclusive scouting programme for all ages.

As we look to the future, we are thrilled about our Scouts and Explorers embarking on a camp abroad in Norway in 2023. The possibility of opening a second Scout Troop and exploring ways to improve the energy efficiency of our hut are exciting prospects that align with our commitment to growth and sustainability.

At 1st Arlesey Scout Group, we believe that scouting is not just for young people; it is a community effort that thrives on collective support and involvement. With this in mind, I would like to extend a warm invitation to you, the parents and residents of Arlesey, to join our Board of Trustees. Your valuable input and contributions will help us grow and strengthen our Scout Group, ensuring that we continue to provide an exceptional scouting experience for all our young members. We greatly value your insights and ideas, and by joining the committee, you can actively participate in decision-making, support with fundraising initiatives, and assist in organising events that will benefit our scouts.

Lastly, thank you all for your ongoing support, dedication, and enthusiasm in making 1st Arlesey Scout Group a thriving community for our young people. Your belief in our mission enables us to continue empowering our youth with invaluable skills and experiences.
Yours in Scouting,

Sarah Colley
Board of Trustees Chair, 1st Arlesey Scout Group
Email: sarah.colley@arleseyscouts.org.uk

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Group Scout Leader Report

It has been another action-packed year of Scouting at the 1st Arlesey Scout Group. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Jayden Constable and for the last three months, I have been Acting Group Scout Leader for the 1st Arlesey. Prior to this, I was appointed Deputy Group Scout Leader at last year's AGM.

Sadly, my appointment as Acting Group Scout Leader only happened due to our previous Group Scout Leader Karen Brett stepping down from the role in March due to personal reasons. As an individual who contributed so much to the 1st Arlesey over the last few years, Karen will be sorely missed, and we all truly wish her the best for the future.

My aim is to keep this report as concise as possible to allow you more time to read the brilliant Section Updates. These updates will more than adequately inform you about all the excellent activities that each section has taken part in over the last year.

All of these fantastic opportunities would not be possible if it were not for the continued combined efforts of our entire group leadership team and board of trustees. Everything that happens within Scouting has been planned and facilitated by volunteers giving up their time to make it happen. Anyone can contribute to Scouting, we have all skills that we can teach and time that we can provide.

To all Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers who are attending the AGM. Your final instructions from me are simple, to thank as many of our volunteers as possible for everything that they do as it is all done for you.

Sadly, at the AGM on the 18th July, I will be stepping down from this role to allow for a new individual to take it on and give it the time, energy and enthusiasm which it fully deserves. Currently, nobody has put their name forward and as such our current District Commissioner Tracey Murrell who will be looking after the 1st Arlesey Leadership team until a new GSL can be found (Sorry Tracey! 😊).

We are also incredibly fortunate at the 1st Arlesey to still have two (soon to be three!) ex GSL's serving in different roles within the group. So, we are still in an incredibly strong position to provide constant support to our leadership team and to all sections throughout the group.

Whilst I am sad to be leaving the role, this will not be the end of my Scouting journey with the 1st Arlesey but rather a new beginning. In September, we will be opening a new Friday Scout Troop which I will be running as Section Leader. I cannot describe in words how excited I am for this opportunity, and I simply hope that the planned programme and events over the next few months will speak louder than words. If you know of a young person between 10½ & 14 who would like to join this new Troop. Please feel free to contact me using the contact details listed below.

It has been a genuine pleasure and a privilege to have been both your deputy GSL and Acting GSL over the last year. I look forward to seeing from the sidelines what the future holds for this magnificent group.

Please continue to support each other, live by your promise and in the words of our founder Lord Robert Baden-Powell "Leave this world a little better than your found it".
Please take care and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours in Scouting,

Jayden Constable
Acting Group Scout Leader
Email: Jayden.Constable@arleseyscouts.org.uk
Telephone: 07565 537313

1st Arlesey Scout Group

Board of Trustees Treasurer Report

Income

Subscriptions

Membership subscription fees remained unchanged in 2022/23. All subscriptions are collected online via OSM.

A total of £14,860 in subscriptions was collected this financial year. This income to the Group was off-set by the payment of our membership fees of £8,299 to the Biggleswade District Scout Association.

Fundraising

A total of £2,633 was raised through a variety of fundraising events. This amount is significantly lower than previous years due to the lack of our annual fireworks event.

Donations

We received £117 from Amazon "smile" programme, Amazon have now sadly stopped running

Rental Income

The Scout Hut is available to hire for £10/hour. This year rental income of £415 was collected.

Expenditure

Premises

Maintenance costs of £2,380 for the Scout Hut and grounds are significantly lower than the previous year as no major maintenance of buildings work was undertaken.

Activities

This year £13,498 was spent on camps and youth activities. It should be noted that during the course of the year £16,500 was collected from parents as advance payments for the 2023 Norway Camp. Final payments for this camp will appear in the 2023-24 annual accounts

Neckers/Badges

£1,517 was spent on neckers, woggles, badges and handbooks.

Admin

Admin expenses came to £913 which includes accountancy fee's for auditing our annual accounts.

Net receipts for the year

The accounts for the Group show an operating loss for the year of £10,132 excluding Norway payments which have been ringfenced.

This is in part due to increasing operating costs and ground maintenance and in part due to a decrease in fundraising activities.

Yours in Scouting,

Chris Livermore
Board of Trustees Treasurer, 1st Arlesey Scout Group



be prepared...



1st Arlesey Falcon Beavers Annual Report

Falcon beavers have had an amazing fun packed year.

We are extremely proud to report that Falcon beavers have grown in numbers this year, we are currently at capacity with 24 beavers. In October, our beaver colony had dwindled down to just 13 beavers. This has been a group effort and we hope to be able to provide scouting for 1st Arlesey Scout Group's youngest section for a very long time.

Falcon Beavers are lucky to have a great leadership team that has also increased in numbers this year.

Leaders - Will (hawkeye) and myself, having recently been invested by our acting Group Scout Leader Jayden. (We will ask the beavers to choose a beaver name for me very soon).

Our amazing section assistants - Tamsin, Sarah, James and Lou. Tamsin is moving over to our Raven colony. We all wish Tamsin the best and want to thank her for everything she has done for Falcon Beavers, and she will be missed by us all.

Our Beaver parent helpers have been amazing this year and have provided us with the support to keep running every week. I cannot thank them enough, without their help this year it would have been impossible to keep our section running. Parent helpers are always welcome to stay and help out at our sessions.

This year both Beaver colonies had a winter indoor sleepover and camped in tents at the Scout hut for 1 night where they went on a very long hike, played water games and helped to prepare dinner. Both beaver colonies also camped at Boyd field for The Big Weekender with the Biggleswade district. They all thoroughly enjoyed this experience. While we were there we went on a nature walk, took part in lots of activities and enjoyed singing along at the campfire. I know that the beavers were gutted to have missed out on the climbing wall and the cave bus due to the extreme temperature so this is something we are keen to arrange for next term.

This year Falcon beavers went on a night hike around the fields up towards Fairfield, took part in a litter pick hike around Arlesey rec field collecting 3 bags of rubbish, had a visit to Shefford fire station, attended a water activity day at Luton Hoo, pond dipping and had a go at throwing tomahawks at a target and so much more.

We commemorated The Late Queen Elizabeth II's death with a gift of a coin from Hawkeye and a badge to wear on our jumpers.

We celebrated King Charles II's coronation with royal games, cupcakes and a badge for our jumpers.

In total Falcon Beavers have been awarded 213 badges including nights away, hikes, snow sports, hobbies and first aid to name a few. 3 of our Beavers earned the highest award, The Chief Scout Bronze award, and we have 1 more to award tonight. We have said goodbye to 4

BEAVERS

beavers this year who have moved up to our Cub packs and we are saying goodbye to 1 more today. This year we have invested 14 beavers in the Falcon colony. So you will see many more blue jumpers and yellow neckers around Arlesey.

We introduced lodge points this year and the Beavers are very keen to win points for their lodge. This has had a positive effect on behaviour as well as strengthening their commitment to teamwork. At the end of the term the lodge with the most points receives a small prize.

We have a planning meeting arranged during the summer holidays to book some great and exciting sessions. We will be busy planning a Christmas treat and hope to camp at least once a term going forward. We would also like to get the Beavers involved in planning what we do at our sessions and will be holding a log chew to get their ideas on what badges they would like to cover and how this can be achieved in their Beaver journey.

James' highlight of the year was his first-time true camping, we camped with the Beavers at the Scout hut, he really enjoyed getting to know the Beavers and leaders a little better. His favourite experience was at night when he almost froze to death, the temperature dropped after our heatwave in the day. James obviously has a lot to learn, as a scout is always prepared. He is looking forward to learning new skills with the Beavers in the future and proving himself a Scout at our next camp.

Sarah's highlight of the year was supporting the Beavers skiing on the dry ski slope, she was left amazed at our Beavers resilience and their ability to persevere. Not one of the Beavers had ever done this activity before and although it was hard work everyone gave it their best and managed to walk up the ski slope (not that easy with skis that are $\frac{3}{4}$ the size of our little Beavers) and ski back down the slope. Sarah is looking forward to helping out next term, let's see if we can top this amazing highlight.

Lou's highlight of the year was our pond dipping session, hiking to the pond dipping area where after really good listening on the walk there, Beavers without hesitation bravely waded into the water to see what exciting pond life they could find and learn about. The Beavers had so much fun and didn't want to leave. Lou looks forward to more fantastic adventures with Falcon Beavers.

Tamsin's highlight of the year was attending Pets at Home with the beavers, she really enjoyed seeing the beavers come out of their comfort zones, bravely holding snakes. The beavers really enjoyed this session. They asked lots of questions and enjoyed handling all the animals. Tamsin is looking forward to working with our Raven beaver colony and her knowledge and skills will be so appreciated.

Hawkeye's highlight of the year has been watching our section grow in numbers Beavers, Leaders, Section Assistants and parent helpers. He is looking forward to future activities and supporting everyone to grow their Scouting skills.

BEAVERS

My highlight of the year was The Big Weekender, I was fascinated with just how big Scouting is in Biggleswade and I was proud to be a part of it. Beavers were amazing, they showed me just how kind and helpful each and every one of them are. They buddied up to go to the toilet, they shared and they took turns. I am looking forward to everything, Tuesday has become my favourite night of the week.

We are immensely proud of Falcon Beavers, and enjoy watching the beavers grow in confidence as well as in height. I know that Hawkeye's favourite time in our sessions is when we say "goodbye Beaver", this is not because he is glad that they are leaving but because he asks each Beaver to shout "GOODBYE BEAVER" on their own, as loud as they can. When they first start with us their voices are small but as they grow in confidence we are deafened by their screams. When our ears are ringing, Hawkeye knows that they are growing in confidence 1 shout at a time every week.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank a few people. Thank you to everyone at 1st Arlesey Scout Group, the Scout hut now feels like my second home, I joke about this often. Thank you to all the Falcon beavers you all make my late night admin tasks worthwhile. Thank you to our beaver parents, I am sure you are as proud of them as I am. Thank you to our acting Group Scout leader Jayden your help has been invaluable to me and I appreciate every late night message you send. Thank you to all of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group leaders you have supported me every step of the way on my journey with falcon beavers. You have given me advice, recommendations, praise, shared your knowledge and without you all I would have almost definitely left my role today as my own little beaver continues her scouting journey and moves up to cubs. So thank you all for welcoming me into your Scouting family. I look forward to our group camps and picking your brains for future ideas.

Yours in Scouting

Claire Danson, and Team Falcons



1st Arleseey Beavers – Ravens – Annual Report 2023

We have had an amazing Year here at Ravens Beavers ,we currently have 16 beavers after moving so many beavers up to cubs recently. We will start recruiting for new beavers before we come back to Scouting in September.

This year has seen lot's of changes we said goodbye to our beaver leader sunshine (Emily) she moved over to Cheyene cub pack, we have welcomed a New Beaver leader Michele (HedgeHog) as well as Shelby as a Section Assistant and Vicki has joined us and is looking forward to becoming an assistant beaver leader with a shiny new uniform.

We have invested 9 Beavers over the past year and hope to welcome many more into our colony soon.

To do this we do need to grow our leadership team, from September we will introduce a parent helper rota and we hope this will lead to some new section assistant roles being taken up.

We have awarded 230 well-earned badges to our Beaver colony this year and we are delighted to have awarded 6 chief scout bronze awards.

Beavers have attended a few joint camps this year with Falcon Beaver colony. We held a winter sleepover at the Scout hut, a summer camp at the Scout hut where hedgehog got her nights away permit and the Beavers had a 2 night camp at the Big Weekender with the whole district. Beavers had a fantastic time at all of our camps and this is something we hope to do more of going forward. We want to thank everyone involved in making these camps a possibility. Thank you to both Cheyene and Sioux Arkela's for attending and taking the Beavers on their longest hike to date.

The Beavers went skiing a few months ago and they all really enjoyed themselves and were available to learn a new skill and going forward we will try and make it an annual thing.

We at Ravens are hugely proud of all the Beavers and their achievements. It has been amazing watching them grow in confidence, preparing them for their journey on to cubs.

Over the past year Beavers have learned new skills and earned badges such as, Teamwork, World, (Challenge badges) Animal Friend, builder, Green Cross Code, Gardener, Snowsports and many more. Beavers have also learnt how to put up and take down tents, how to do a good turn in your community. To achieve this, we went on a litter pick hike from Arleseey train station back to the Scout hut, we played lots of games and had lots of fun, we completed a night hike and we had fun with some Science experiments.

We have so much we are looking forward to doing with the beavers over the next year like taking them outdoor camping more and doing a lot more activities in which we know the beavers will enjoy.

I would like to say a BIG thank you to Emily for all the years you have volunteered at Beavers and we wish you well as you have moved up to cubs.

Yours in Scouting

Ravens Beaver Leaders Michele, Vicky & Team



1st Arlesey Cheyenne Cubs

1st Arlesey Cheyenne have had another amazing 12 months, still going from strength to strength.

We kick-started September with our fantastic, ever enthusiastic, ultra eager leadership team, with myself steering the Cheyenne Ship with Assistant Cub Leaders, Badger (Tasha Davis), Ziggy (Jo Eatock-Musk) and King Louie (Andrew Hall) right alongside me.

We started off September 2022 with an awesome water activity day at Luton Hoo. Joined by our fellow Beavers and Cubs we took part in rafting, sailing, kayaking, canoeing and paddle boarding. A great experience for all.

We joined Sioux Cubs at District Cub Camp at Boyd Field in Henlow. This was a great opportunity for us all to meet our fellow Cubs within the District. It was a super busy weekend and the first-time camping for a lot of our cubs. We learnt how to build and light fires, some tried caving for the first time, campfire cooking and of course a good old campfire sing song.

Autumn 2022 and we find ourselves paying our respects to Our Queen and Patron of Scouting, Elizabeth II. We held a lovely evening of reflection which was very well attended and our cubs showed such compassion at a very sad and poignant time.

With a new Monarch, comes a new Cub Scout Promise. I will openly admit to still saying Queen rather than King sometimes...however, the cubs now say the new promise perfectly every time.

As the Autumn term gets underway, we attend a fantastic District Organised event visiting RAF Hendon to cover our Air Activities badge. A fantastic day was had by all that attended.



As we moved closer to Halloween, we wanted to do something a little different and really test our cubs fear levels by trying out the climbing wall at Boyd Field in the dark. This was a great night, even though the weather tried it's best to ruin our fun.

As the weather turned colder, we started to take on our indoor adventurous activities. We signed up for the District Rifle Shooting event and spent a whole Saturday in November with Sioux Cubs practising and choosing our 8 best shooters to go forward for the Competition. The Cubs had a great time and did themselves proud.



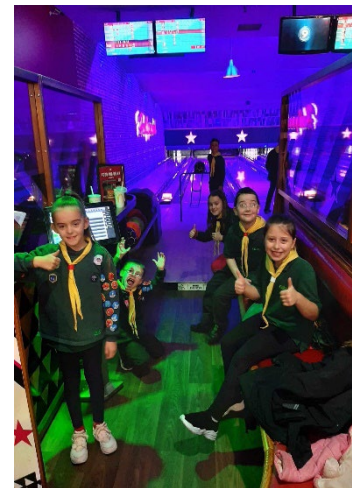
December 2022 and as always, it's great to run events in our village and get out and about. With Chips as our end goal, we set off on a hike around the village to look at the festive Christmas lights. Always a winner with our cubs and something we will do as a yearly event now I think.

It was also great to be taking part in events in our community once again. Our Cubs did us proud at Arlesey's Remembrance Parade and looked impeccably smart as always. We also had lots of fun when we entered the St Peters Church Christmas tree festival again with "Baby it's Cold Inside", highlighting the fact that many couldn't afford to put the heating on this year due to the cost of energy bills.

We joined Sioux Cubs to finish off the year in true Cub style, party games, food, lots of noise and Secret Santa.

We start the new year with another District event. Ten Pin Bowling and we came away with the highest 10yr old scorer and we were only a couple of points away from an overall win. This was a well attended event and all of our cubs had a blast.

When we sat down and planned our sessions for 2023, we knew we wanted to incorporate lots of traditional scouting and Bushcraft. With this in mind we decided to organise a Bushcraft Day with the idea of running this event in March every year. There were limited spaces and those older cubs that were invited, snapped the places up straight away. The cubs built shelters, cooked their own individual one pot stews on the campfire, whittled a woggle, learnt fire lighting, safety and different ways to lay a fire and enhanced their map reading and compass skills. This was a really successful day and we look forward to running it yearly.



This term also saw our Cubs raising over £500 with our 'Grow a Pound' challenge. Raising much needed funds for 2 of our local charities/projects. Thank you to everyone that helped our cubs to grow their pound and reach their targets. I think there were a few clean cars driving round during that time.



Spring 23 and we are lucky enough to welcome a new Assistant Cub Leader, Emily Pang (Chil). Emily has moved up to us from 1st Arlesey Ravens Beavers and she has taken on the role of Cheyenne money sorter and has been an absolute godsend taking in monies and sorting receipts etc during pack nights so we can carry on smoothly with our evenings programme. Welcome Chil!



St George's Day and we invited Potton Leopard Cubs to join us for an evening of role play, team games and making a confusing origami dragon. It was so lovely joining forces with them for the evening.



Easter, and there is only one thing for it...an Easter Hunt! To throw some of our Arlesey Cubs out of their comfort zone, we crossed the border to Stotfold. We have quite a few Cubs that live in Stotfold so it was nice for them to do an activity on their home turf. A few of our Stotfold parents played the Easter Bunny and handed out Easter treats as the cubs worked out their location while following the OS map on the OS map phone App. Not the easiest of tasks when the screen keeps moving.



King Charles's Coronation brings a very special Occasional badge to our uniforms. Also, we have now 'all' perfected our new promise.

With so many bank holidays in May, we wanted to give the Cubs a real heart racing evening a little bit out of the ordinary. "Welwyn Ski Slope...here we come"... We had an absolute blast on the Ski Slope Donuts. It really made up for missing out on a couple of sessions.

Arlesey Cubs were extremely lucky to be able to take part in another Luton Hoo Water Activity Day, it was a great turn out and our cubs got to add more levels to their 'Time on Water' staged badge. For some, it was their first time doing all the great activities.



June sees us attending our first camp of 2023. What a great one to start with...Big Weekender District Group Camp! There were so many young people from all over Biggleswade District, 1st Arlesey had 120 Young people attending, over 40 of those were Cubs. Everyone had a great time and we all left eagerly looking forward to our next camp.

Father's Day gave us the opportunity to get the dads involved. Our Cubs invited their dads to come along and make armpit fudge with them. Not sure how many actually ate the fudge but I am confident our dads and cubs had a great evening, and that's what matters most.

The next few weeks sees us doing Tomahawks, mini round robin challenges, meeting with Arlesey Conservation for Nature, visiting Potton Leopards to join them for an American themed evening on 4th July and a Shackleton themed camp.

Garden City Samba visit, water games and a BBQ brings us up to date and closes us for summer. Wow what another amazing 12 months it's been!



Our Cubs have a District Sixer Secondar camp in September and a fantastic indoor camp at Tolmers in October to look forward to as well as a full exciting programme to see us up to Christmas.

We have kept Cub numbers at a great level this year, running at continual full capacity of 30.



Thank you...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with Cheyenne Cubs this year, especially our Cheyenne Assistant Cub Leaders, Tasha, Jo, Andrew and Emily. Our pack wouldn't run half as efficiently and funny without you.

Thank you to all our parents for your support, I know our Whatsapp chat can sometimes be a tad overwhelming but it's all a part of the running of a busy, enthusiastic, amazing group. The programme wouldn't run as smoothly without you there helping the Cubs with whatever we need them to bring in.

Thank you to all of those that have supported our fundraising this year. The Christmas raffle again was a huge success.

Thank you to our parent helpers, whether you've helped at any of our sessions, camps or donated equipment, your help is invaluable and hugely appreciated.

**Yours in Scouting
Paulette Reid
(Akela. 1st Arlesey Cheyenne Cubs)**



1st Arlesey Scout Group

Sioux Cubs Annual Report 2023

We started 22/23 where we left off from July 22 with a full pack of 24 and a supreme leader team with Akela plus Jo Wood, Richard Guttridge, Elizabeth Stewart and the Scouting Guru Tony Kirchin.

As a leader team we have enhanced our skill set by all completing our first aid qualification. Richard has stepped up to lead a bike ride and a hike.

Jo is still second to none as Sioux badge fairy and admin helper with Dibz taking on any task required, as always Tony is ever available for advice on all things scouting.

As always we have a pool of keen parent helpers, a couple of these have older cubs and it may be worth Scouts looking into “gently massaging” these parent helpers into roles within the new Scout Pack.

With regards to our cubs we have maintained a full pack of 24 + cubs throughout the year. We have passed numerous cubs up to Scouts all of which have achieved their Silver award before leaving cubs with another 4 silvers to award at the AGM.

Our cubs have attended 6er/2nd camp, Bigg weekend, Luton Hoo water activities, district events including RAF Hendon, bowling and air rifle and have just come back from a camp at the hut.

We have filled our year with numerous activities that have been different from the norm in an effort to keep our programme fresh and inspiring, these activities include, Obstacle Race Course, science experiment (fastest cub), proper orienteering. Nature related, making and installing bird boxes in woodland and constructing a large bug hotel on farmland, Hikes away from our normal routes, Ashwell and Baldock.

We have on several occasions worked on sleeping in shelters instead of tents to the point where most of our pack members are now comfortable sleeping in shelters instead of tents.

As always, we have completed an Archery competition alongside concurrent activities including tomahawks, shelters and fires. Over a four-week period each cub gets the opportunity to have a full night of instruction in group of 6 instead of 24 followed by a 6 arrow competition shoot, our winner scored 49 out of 60 with 4 of the cubs scoring over 40 which is awesome and shows the benefit of moving on from purely “have a go archery”

It is worth pointing out that all of our activities have been financed by parents or subs contribution and not requests for funding from the group.

We finished our year with a joint camp with Cheyenne at the hut themed on Ernest Shackleton (a permit camp for Sioux Akela) the camp yet again highlighted the amazing working relationship



between the two cub groups with all available leaders attending and 28 cubs all of which slept outside under shelters they had made themselves.

Our year will finish with a joint party but not before a further 4 Sioux cubs receive their Silver Awards at the AGM.

Yours in Scouting

Jamie Sarll

Akela Sioux Cubs

Jamie.sarll@arleseyscouts.org.uk



Annual Report 2023 - 1st Arlesey Scouts Troop

This has been another year of growth for our Troop, and with 45 young people attending regularly we are 40% bigger than at the previous report date! As you might imagine maintaining a good experience for Scouts and leaders at this size has its challenges but we have been working to address this through:

1. Adding new leaders;
2. Strengthening our patrols to operate more autonomously. We still have some work to do in this area but strong patrols are a feature of a healthy troop and we have big plans.

Programme

We have focused on two main things: (1) having the Scouts spend as much time as possible working together as Patrols, outside; and (2) rebuilding some traditional Scouting skills.

Alongside this we've included some new experiences. For example, over the last year we have:

- Upped our whittling skills;
- Tried SCUBA diving;
- Practiced archery (with many Scouts obtaining their "Master-at-Arms" badge) and air-rifle shooting;
- Completed several short hikes exploring the local area both as Patrols (with Scout-led navigation) and as a whole Troop. A particular highlight was our first independent hikes (i.e. a Patrol hike without accompanying adults) in several years;
- Completed a night hike covering 10 miles from Pegsdon;
- Tackled several Patrol pioneering challenges including building a bridge over a "raging torrent" and making shelters;
- Had an "introduction to fencing session" and - in response to Scout requests - an evening of golf;
- Tried canoeing, kayaking, stand-up-paddle-boarding, sailing, and rafting at Luton Hoo; and
- Practiced fire-lighting and campfire cooking (that many of our Scouts are now getting rather good at).

We completed a camp in Norfolk last September, and more recently an Activity camp at Boyd and of course the Bigg Weekender just a few weeks ago. In November we entered three teams into the Green Beret competition in Hertfordshire and came 29th, 77th, and 99th out of 144 teams.

We were very proud of both Scouts who have moved up to Explorers over the year, all the more so because both have achieved their Chief Scouts Gold award (the highest award available in the Scout Section). And we were super proud when one of these was selected to represent the UK at the World Scout Jamboree in Korea this month.

Over the next few weeks of course we are taking 22 Scouts to an activity holiday on Norway, this being our first international camp in some years.

Leaders

We have had several excellent new leaders join our team this year on a regular or occasional basis, and it's been great to see Carl, Mel, James, and Amy getting to know the Scouts. In



addition we have been particularly pleased that Carly has been able to join us again more regularly in recent weeks - she has been missed!

I am also exceedingly grateful for the consistency and reliability of Jayden and Matt who turn up week after week and have organised some truly memorable events, and without whom our programme would be a lot more difficult to maintain.

We have a great team with each person bringing different skills and we work well together.

Finally, I also want to thank our Scout parents, many of whom have given up one or more evenings (sometimes very late evenings!) to support our activities. We couldn't carry out our programme without this.

Looking forward

Over the next year we hope to keep building on the independence that our Scouts have been developing - both as individuals and as patrols - with a view to running more activities where the Scouts are taking responsibility for parts of the programme, and also running more activities where the Patrols are operating away from direct adult supervision. We have an ambition that this year some of our Scouts will get the chance to go on a "Passport Camp", i.e. sleeping over without adults present, but we have some work to do first.

In September 2023 we have a particularly exciting development with the opening of a second Scout Section under the 1st Arlesey banner that will be led by Jayden on Friday evenings. Unfortunately this does mean that we might see Jayden a little less often on Tuesday nights, but both our existing team and the new team running our new Section intend to work together closely so there will be plenty of joint events going forward.

Help wanted

Finally, a few requests.

- We have several activities planned where we don't quite have enough adults to do all of the supervision needed to keep everyone safe. Please watch out for our requests for help next term and consider carefully if it is something you are able to do. If it is, please do volunteer!
- Secondly, we would be very grateful indeed if you could take a look at the list of Activity badges on the Scout Association website (<https://www.scouts.org.uk/scouts/activity-badges/>) and let us know if you have any skills that could help a small group of our Scouts meet any badge requirements. If you do please let me know and I'd love to speak with you about how we could make that happen (don't worry, we can be pretty flexible!).
- Thirdly, as I mention above we have a great leadership team, but especially with our new troop opening in September we can always use another, whether you can attend every week or only once a month. It's a hugely rewarding role so please consider if it's something that you could do, in the Scout Section or any other. We'd love to have you!

Once again, my sincere thanks to our Leaders, our Scout parents, and to our Scouts for all doing their parts for a brilliant Scouting year.

EXPLORERS

Dambusters Explorer Unit Biggleswade District

The Dambusters Explorer Unit meet on Thursday Evenings 7pm to 9pm mostly at Arlesey Scout Hut.

A note on the name adjustment. Numbers have increased rapidly since December 2022 with a mix of scouts moving up from Arlesey, friends joining, a merge from Stotfold and new members from Fairfield Park. The unit is no longer Arlesey, but a mix and it feels right to make it a district unit. From Thursday 20th July 2023 we will use the district neckerchief, though this does not mean members cannot use the necker from their original group.

We will also retain the partnership agreement with 1st Arlesey Scout Group and continue to meet here.

With the increase in numbers from around 12 to 25 this year and 3 to 4 more in September, we are in need of more volunteers to increase leadership numbers. Currently there are 3 permanent leaders and some helpers from Arlesey and Stotfold. It would be really great if anyone else wants to be involved and help the team grow. Further benefit would be gained as it frees up time for district and county activity planning to support explorers in the wider area.

This year the explorers have taken the lead with planning and are starting to build in confidence and experience. We are working towards a state where they can plan organise and book their own activities, relying on adults where age restrictions mean we have to assist. This means some will be planning and running a passport event where they camp on their own. An achievement, because it requires leaders to be confident in skills, behaviour and the ability to act safely and with responsibility.

In a few days' time, myself and two Dambuster Explorers are heading to South Korea and the World Scout Jamboree. This involves three weeks away with scouts from around the world.

There is also a trip to Norway that has been in the making for two years now. A number of explorers will be attending this having signed up as scouts. The location and activities look great.

Special thanks to James, Thom and Jayden for their help this year and more recently Claire from beavers and Jo from Stotfold with running the section.

Yours in Scouting

Chris Dodds

ESL Arlesey Dambusters, DESC Biggleswade District.

Email: chris.dodds@arleseyscouts.org.uk

T: 07886558708

1st Arlesey Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account



		Year start date			Year end date
For the year from		01/04/2022	To		31/03/2023
Receipts and payments					
		31/03/2023			31/03/2022
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	
		£			£
Receipts					
Donations, legacies and similar income					
<i>Membership subscriptions</i>		14,860			12,130
<i>Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area)</i>		-8,299			-6,407
<i>Less: Membership Subscriptions Refunded</i>		-30			-
Net membership subscriptions retained		6,532			5,723
Donations		148			733
Legacies		-			-
Youth Programme and Activities		5,771	16,540		6,809
Gift Aid		1,836			2,995
Refunds for cancelled events or activities		-			-
Other similar income					129
Sub total		14,286	16,540		16,389
Grants					
Maintenance grant		-			-
Other grants					19,738
Sub total					19,738
Fundraising (gross)		2,633			6,293
Other fundraising activities		-			-
Sub total		2,633			6,293
Investment income					
Bank interest		-			-
Building Society interest		-			-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-			-
<i>Property Rent income</i>		715			185
<i>Less: Deposit Refunds</i>		-300			
Net Property Rent Income		415			
Other investment income		-			-
Sub total		415			185
Total Gross Income		17,334	16,540		42,605
Asset and investment sales, etc.					330
Total receipts		17,334	16,540		42,935

		£		£
Payments				
Charitable Payments				
Youth programme and activities		13,498		22,000
Activity Refunds		232		110
Adult support and training		47		1,633
Rent		-		-
Water and Sewerage		385		309
Electricity and Gas		1,177		1,398
Telephone and Internet		-		351
Insurance		1,150		1,095
Bank Charges (OSM)		1,404		676
Repairs and Renewals		2,380		9,696
Materials and equipment		3,034		7,333
Printing and photocopying		-		-
Web Hosting and Online Services		364		112
Contribution to camp costs		-		-
Badges, Woggles and Neckers		1,517		2,825
AGM and trustee expenses		913		1,391
Charitable Donations		815		60
Subscriptions Refund		-		-
Sundries		-		-
Sub total		26,916		48,989
Fundraising expenses				
Other fundraising costs		550		2,461
				-
Sub total		550		2,461
Total Gross Expenditure		27,466		51,450
Asset and investment purchases, etc.		-		-
Total payments		27,466	16,540	51,450
Net of receipts/(payments)		-10,132	16,540	-8,514
Cash funds last year end		21,972		30,487
Cash funds this year end		11,840	16,540	21,972

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		31/03/2023		31/03/2022
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds
		£		£
Cash funds				
Bank current account		9,609	16,540	20,957
Bank deposit account		129		129
Pre-Paid Cash Cards (for camps)		1,610		800
Building society account		-		-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-		-
Cash/Floats		492		86
Total cash funds		11,840	16,540	21,972
Other monetary assets				
Tax claim		-		-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group		-		-
Insurance claim		-		-
Sub total		-		-
Investment assets				
Investment property - detail		-		-
Quoted investments		-		-
Other investments - detail		-		-
Sub total		-		-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use				
Badge stock		-		-
Shop stock		-		-
Other stock		-		-
Land and buildings		-		-
Motor vehicles		1,740		2,190
Scouting equipment, furniture etc		1,044		1,319
Other		-		-
Sub total		2,784		-
Liabilities				
Accounts not yet paid		-		-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced		-		-
Subscriptions not yet paid		-		-
Loan - detail		-		-
Other liabilities		-	1,096	-
Sub total		-	1,096	-

Contingent liabilities and future obligations

<p>The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 18th July 2023 and signed on their behalf by</p>				
Signature		Print Name		
		SARAH COLLEY		Chair
		CHRISTOPHER LWERMORE		Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 1st Arlesey Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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: MARK HJERTZEN FCA

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): FCA (ICAEW)

Address: HW Associates Limited,
Portmill House
Portmill Lane
Hitchin
Herts
SG5 1DJ

Date: 24th July 2023

1ST ARLESEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 285064

Accounts

Scouts

1st Arlesey Scout Group



Annual General Meeting 2022

- Reports -

be prepared...

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Committee Chair Report

This year has seen 1st Arlesey Scout Group be able to get back to what it does best – Scouting!

Karen has tackled the role of GSL with her usual enthusiasm and positivity, and together we've had a few challenges to face but with such a superb team around us we found our way forward and I look forward to what we can achieve in the future.

Our Cub Packs have gone from strength to strength and Jamie has taken to his role as Akela of Sioux Cubs like a duck to water and has worked to grow his team as well as supporting his pack in their development.

We're sad to say that Julia Dix has decided to step down from her role as Assistant Beaver Leader for Falcons. Julia was instrumental in helping our Beaver colonies grow and expand along with the rest of Beaver Leadership team.

We also say goodbye to our DGSL Carly, who is off to university in September to pursue her career in nursing. While Carly isn't leaving the group for good, with these added commitments she feels having a more occasional role within the group is more suitable.

We're also pleased (and a little sad) to say Emily is moving on from her Beaver (Ravens) Leader role and will be joining cubs! We would not have been able to start our second Beaver Colony if it had not been for Emily. She has given so much to her colony and we know will be sorely missed. We could not be more excited to see her grow as part of the Cub Leadership team alongside Paulette, Jamie and the rest of the team.

And lastly, we say goodbye to Stuart who is standing down from our Executive Committee. Stuart has been a part of 1st Arlesey Scout Group for more years than he'd care to remember I'm sure (ahem over 20). Stuart has put his heart and soul into our group, helping in leadership roles, as GSL and on our Executive Committee. We are so sad to see him go, but we cannot be selfish and all we can say is a HUGE thank you for Stuart's passion, knowledge and enthusiasm – thank you Stuart.

We wish everyone the best on their new challenges and extend the biggest thank you for all they've done and continue to do for 1st Arlesey.



be prepared...

As chair, there is huge reliance on our leaders and volunteers, they give their time and skills to ensure the Young People of Arlesey have somewhere to go to learn new skills, make new friends and grow in confidence – without our leaders this would not be possible and their drive and enthusiasm has meant that we have been lucky enough to welcome so many new faces, 1st Arlesey Scout Group would not be here without them!

Our community involvement increased when compared to the challenges we faced in previous years. As always, we have been overwhelmed with the support from the Arlesey Community, especially at our Annual Christmas Raffle, which saw us achieve a great boost to our fundraising and it was all down to the amazing neighbourhood we live in.

We also reached our target to raise funds for a ride on mower and to update our cooking and dining equipment. We invested in new camping equipment, including some wonderful bell tents, new cooking equipment including a new BBQ so we're ready to get cooking again for Arlesey. We also got our box trailer (with massive thanks to Stuart McGuire and Chris Dodds) up and running.

We are also hugely indebted to our often unsung hero, Matt Graham who has installed water taps and electrical outlets in our grounds as well as working with Tony, Chris, Stuart and others to get our grounds looking amazing, allowing our group to use them for camps and enabling us to offer it out to groups who are not as fortunate.

We were also able to reward our whole group with a Camp Away over the May bank holiday which was funded by the Executive Committee as a thank you our leaders, helpers and young people for their hard work, dedication and perseverance over the last two year dealing with online scouting during the pandemic years – well done everyone!

As to the future, we're looking forward to our camp abroad as our Scouts and Explorers head to Norway in 2023. We are looking at what our growing group needs, and with our grounds finally ready we're looking into the possibilities it offers. We're also exploring ways in which we can make our hut more 'green' by looking at our energy efficiency and how it can be improved. We are also hoping to open a second Scout Troop, but as ever we need the people to be able to do so – if this is of interest, please let us know!

1st Arlesey Scout Group exists due a dedicated team of leaders and volunteers - they shine in their individual sections as well as within the committee and team, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge well done and thank all of them for their support and hard work over the previous year. Without them, the executive committee, our



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supportive parents and the wider Arlesey community 1st Arlesey Scout Group wouldn't be here – Thank-you!

Yours in Scouting

Sarah Colley
Executive Committee Chair



be prepared...

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Committee Treasurer Report

Income

Subscriptions

Membership subscription fees remained unchanged in 2018/19. All subscriptions are collected online via OSM.

A total of £12,130 in subscriptions was collected this financial year. This income to the Group was off-set by the payment of our membership fees of £6,407 to the Biggleswade District Scout Association.

Fundraising

This year we were able to resume some of our in person fundraising events, including the famous Scouts Fireworks Display.

A total of £6293 was raised through a variety of fundraising events.

As always a reminder that if you shop online with amazon.co.uk they will donate 0.5% of the value of your purchases to us via the Amazon Smile programme.

The screenshot shows the Amazon Smile interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the Amazon Smile logo, a search bar, and a notification for Prime Day. Below this, there's a header with the user's account information and a list of navigation links. The main content area is titled 'Choose a charity' and features a large card for the Sea Life Trust, which is currently selected. To the right of this card is a list of other charities. At the bottom, there's a search bar for users to find their own charitable organization, with the text '1st arlesey scout group' entered.

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Donations / Grants

Last year we received £19,738 in various grants, including Covid related grants and one off grants from Cala Homes and Matched funding from Central Bedfordshire for Equipment Purchase.

Rental Income

Easing of lockdown restrictions has meant it is once again possible to hire out the Scout Hut. This year rental income of £185 was collected

Expenditure

Premises

This year we have invested significantly in our Scout Hut. £9,696 was spent on various repairs and maintenance, including having the interior of the hut professional repainted

Activities

Camps and Activities started returning to normal in the latter half of the year, including a weekend camp for all members funded by the Scout Group. In total £22,000 was spent on camps and youth activities. It should be noted that £13,400 of this sum constitutes an advanced payment for our 2023 Norway Camp.

Neckers/Badges

£2,825 was spent on neckers, woggles, badges and handbooks.

Admin

Admin expenses came to £112 covering stationery and web hosting.

Net receipts for the year

The accounts for the Group show an operating loss for the year of £8,515. This is in part due to one off refurbishment costs to the hut, but also due to advance deposit payments for Norway23 which will be recovered in the next financial year as attendee's monthly camp fees are collected.



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1st Arlesey Scout Group Group Scout Leader (GSL) Report

To all our Leaders, Assistants, Volunteers and Parents

Wow what a year it has been. My first year as GSL was a huge learning curve. But we have an amazing group of leaders and an executive team that just pull together every time to make our scout group absolutely amazing. Things have been a great success especially now having relaxed covid rules. So, my first thing to do is to thank all the leaders, executive team, helps, parent and especially our young people.

I had the honour to arrange our first group camp for 2022 and it has been a few years since we were able to do this. It seemed to go well, and everyone had an amazing time. Beavers have done several sleepovers as well as gained new leaders, Cheyenne and Sioux cubs have managed to run several camps this year and I believe have a Sept camp in the pipeline already and again have gained more leaders. And scouts and explorers too have had their fill of activities this year with both sections gaining extra leaders. Scouts are also planning for an international camp to Norway in 2023 which is very exciting for all involved.

Our group was also lucky to have 2 of our young members get a place in the world scout jamboree for 2023. They have been working hard to fund raise for this and we wish them all the success and know they will have an amazing time.

We do however have to say goodbye and thankyou to Emily Pang who is leaving Beavers, but we are lucky as she is moving over to help in our cub group. Emily has put so much time and effort into beavers delivering some amazing activities and programme and I know you will be missed by all the beavers.

Another farewell we have to make is to Julia Dix another beaver leader who is leaving the group end of this term to spend more time with her family. Julia will be hugely missed by beavers and the group. She has been a huge part of our scouting family for several years now and so too has her husband Pete who has helped over several sections over the years. You both have had such a huge impact on our group over the years - a big thank you to you both.

On a positive note, our group continues to grow with new leaders joining us this year and a possible new scout section needed in the near future. 2023 is looking for be an awesome year for 1st Arlesey Scout Group.

Yours in Scouting

Karen Brett
Group Scout Leader



be prepared...

BEAVERS

1st Arlesey Scout Group Beaver Report – Falcons & Ravens

Another amazing year for Beavers we currently have 20 registered beavers to Falcons and 25 registered to Ravens.

We took the Beavers away to Paccar camp where they had the opportunity to try a range of new skills with it being the first time some of our Beavers had stayed away from home and have another camp planned for September we have achieved over the year cyclist, explorer, health and fitness, international, space, navigator, disability awareness and the new money badge!

As well as the more difficult challenge badges being achieved by several of our beavers,

They have learnt new skills from tying knots including their shoe laces, how to light a fire and pitch a tent both key skills in scouting! they have also learnt how to look after their bodies through eating healthy and exercising as well as learning tolerance and understanding of others and how to look after their pennies.

We have also been able to award 11 bronze awards.

All leaders are hugely proud of all the Beavers and their achievements it has been amazing as always watching them grow in confidence ready to continue their journey on to cubs.

Yours in Scouting

Emily, Julia, Will & Team



be prepared...

cubs

1st Arlesey Scout Group Cubs Report – Sioux Pack – Akela Jamie Sarll

In September 21 I officially started my first term as Akela for Sioux cubs having taken over from Dave and Jacky the previous July I had a lot to learn.

The pack was quite small (14 cubs max) and I only really had 1 parent helper who was soon to leave as her son moved on to scouts.

I initially worked on increasing numbers and sourcing adult help which I achieved fairly quickly by firstly taking on cubs from Stotfold as they had no Cub Pack and requiring parents to accompany their Cub for their first night.

The result of this is that we quickly hit our maximum of 24 Cubs and also gained 3 parent helpers who have all gone on to become assistant leaders (more later).

We started the year by winning the District shooting competition and almost immediately presenting my first Silver award. By the end of this term, I will have presented 6 Silver awards with no cub moving onto Scouts having not achieved their Silver.

Our programme throughout the year has been varied and where possible geared to what the cubs have requested, for example the cubs requested better archery sessions (instead of the whole pack doing archery over the course of one night and getting no more than 6 arrows each) we instead incorporated a four week spell where a max of 6 cubs would get to do archery for an entire night having up to 24 arrows each ending in a pack competition – this was a HUGE hit!

My team of adults soon grew and settled in as Elizabeth, Richard and Jo came on board and were invested. Jo has taken on the roll as our badge fairy and as such we have a badge night this Weds 20th July) where we will be presenting over 100 badges!

A stroke of luck/genius has also been the addition of Tony to the team who is a great help and source of ideas having seen it and done it all, all in all Sioux cubs has a leadership team it should feel very proud of and I feel very lucky to have.

To show the strength of our team I tested positive for covid but this mattered not as the team simply ran the evening no issues.



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We have completed 3x Hikes during the year and I'm proud to say not one of them has been the easy option of Arlesey, we have done Langford, Baldock and Henlow.

We have on 2 occasions incorporated our programme to support the Need Project with donations. With regards to camps my first camp as pack leader was a small 6er 2nd camp at Henlow last Sept which it is hard for me to comment on as I had a fairly new leadership team and small group of cubs whom I was just getting to know.

We have sent the bulk of our Cubs to Paccar, I choose high ropes, climbing wall and abseiling as our activities as I felt these were the hardest to do back home, we were blown away as a leadership team by our cubs and the effort they put in during what was for some their first time away and a great camp was had by all.

Our next camp was water activities last month and yet again our cubs were awesome throwing themselves at all challengers.

We have one more camp to go which is a cub camp at the hut and the majority of Sioux cubs are attending.

One of the other big positives of the year has been the working alongside Cheyenne Cubs, they have a long established leadership team to learn from and also have a great team ethos so working with them has been a pleasure and we have been lucky enough to pick up a handful of invites to their activities, hopefully next year we can repay the favour.

So, we finish the year with a full cub pack of 24 and a leadership team of Myself, Tony and 3 assistant leaders plus a couple of reliable parent helpers.

Looking forward we have the shooting to title to defend and we have a team ready to put forward for the District archery competition (Go Sioux!). We have District Camp in Sept with again good attendance and a district trip to RAF Hendon. I plan to make greater use of my team over the next year allowing them to run evenings and organise events as part of our ongoing Programme development.

On a personal, note next summer I plan to go forward and earn my nights away certification, unfortunately work commitments have prevented me achieving that this year, but watch out 2023!

Yours in Scouting

Team Sioux



be prepared...

**1st Arlesey Scout Group
Cubs Report – Sioux Pack – Akela Paulette Reid**

Dear all,

1st Arlesey Cheyenne have had an amazing 12 months, simply going from strength to strength.

With my valued Assistant Cub Leaders, Badger (Tasha Davis) and Ziggy (Jo Eatock-Musk) we start off September 2021 with an awesome group water activity day at Grafham Waters. Here we joined Sioux Cubs, Scouts and an Explorer taking part in rafting and canoeing. A great experience for all of our Cubs.

We also joined Sioux Pack Sixers, Seconders and older cubs at our first District Cub Camp at Boyd Field in Henlow. This was a great opportunity for us all to meet our fellow Cubs within the District and get to know our new District Cub leader team. It was a super busy weekend and the first time camping for a lot of our cubs. We learnt how to build and light fires, cooked foil one pots on the campfire, various problem solving challenges and of course a good old campfire sing song.



Autumn 2021 and Covid was still very much on everyone's radar, so we planned lots of outdoor activities and crossed our fingers for good weather.

We were very lucky. We hiked around Langford wind turbines, finishing off with a delicious chip supper and cooked lots of sugary treats on our campfire and even managed to visit Shefford Firestation for the evening.

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As the weather turned colder, we were able to move indoors and try our hand at Archery. Another first for most of our Cubs. Our Cubs also recognised the need project and donated some much needed toiletries.

It was also great to be taking part in events in our community once again. Our Cubs did us proud at Arleseys Remembrance Parade and looked impeccably smart as always.

We joined Sioux Cubs to finish off the year in true Cub style, party games, food, lots of mess and a visit from our District Commissioner to award our ultimate achievement, The Chief Scouts Silver Award. We awarded 7 in total during the last term of 2021. Doesn't get much better than that.



January 2022 and we are ready to make up for lost time...

We start the year welcoming a new Assistant Cub Leader to the Cheyenne "Dreamteam", King louie (AKA Andrew Hall) joins us and gets our year off to an amazing start. When we sat down and planned our sessions for 2022, we knew there were going to be 3 main elements to include.

1. Lots of camping
2. Lots of badges
3. Lots of laughter

We got straight on with planning camping. We already had a huge Group Camp planned for May, We planned a Water Activity Camp for June, and a more chilled Camp at the scout hut for July to enable Badger to be assessed for her Nights Away Permit. District also invited us to a huge Cub Camp at Boyd Field in September that we were super keen to accept. Element 1 complete!

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Badges, Badges, Badges... We have awarded over 300 badges since January 10th, this is not including event badges. Our Cubs have been very eager to not only cover badge work at sessions but to also continue working on specific badges at home. Their commitment to our Scouting family truly is fantastic even when not at Cubs.

Element 3... Where there is fun there is laughter. Not only do we see the Cubs laughing lots, we also as leaders spend an awful lot of time laughing too, like recently watching Badger fall off the circus stilts straight on to her derriere... Our Cubs are some of the funniest, quirkiest Cubs you'll meet. With their random questions, jokes that don't really make sense, bazaar facts that they will just come out with or just their own infectious laugh, we do spend a lot of time laughing and having fun.

So this term we find ourselves celebrating Burns Night, Learning about taking risks with money (marshmallows) and saving, enjoying a visit from a planetarium Dome, Marking the Anniversary of The Queens Succession to the throne, Flipping pancakes, Climbing walls, Woodworking, Swimming, Hiking, and renewing our promise.



After the Easter break, we were full on camping preparations. Our first camp in May was with the whole of Arlesey Scout Group at Paccar Scout Campsite, although Cubs had their own separate pitch. Our Cubs astounded us with their determination to achieve, their caring ways towards fellow cubs and their ability to overcome their own fears. While at Paccar, Cubs were able to try High Ropes, Crate Stacking, Tunnelling and Go Karting. In hindsight we should of added sleep to their list of activities. I think that was the least sleep I have ever had at a camp before... We did appreciate the fact that for some it was their first time away from mum and dad and they were all soooooo excited just to be there. It seems this was also the case for a parent that joined us for camp. He actually enjoyed himself that much, he agreed to become a Section Assistant with us. We will be coming up with a great Jungle Book name for you Chris Yates... It was a very, very successful Camp.

be prepared...



We then had a couple of sessions completing the Cyclist badge before getting ready for our next camp at Jordans Close Scout Campsite, Great Barford. Again, this was with Sioux Cubs and Cubs were a lot more settled as they knew what to expect and what was expected of them. We had a very full itinerary planned that took a lot of working out but with some great teamwork and fantastic water instructor team, we nailed it. I can honestly say it was one of my best camps ever. The Cubs were so busy Canoeing, Kayaking and Rafting that we pulled in a couple of parent volunteers to do all of the cooking and food prep (Thank you John & Susan, see you at September Camp!)



be prepared...



The next day after camp we were booked in for a 2 hour visit to a Gurdwara in Hitchin which I can only describe as magical. The cubs were amazing too bearing in mind they were still shattered from camp.



be prepared...

A circus skills evening, an evening celebrating American independence, camping weekend, water games and a bbq brings us up to date and closes us for summer. Wow what an amazing 12 months it's been...

We have kept Cub numbers at a great level this year, running at full capacity for the last few months with a waiting list. We are very fortunate to be welcoming Emily Pang from Arlesey Ravens as she will join us ready for September. This means that with an extra adult, we can increase our numbers to 30 allowing spaces for Beavers moving up and clearing the waiting list.

Thank you...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with Cheyenne Cubs this year, especially our Cheyenne Assistant Cub Leaders, Tasha, Jo and Andrew and of course our SA, Chris. Our pack wouldn't run half as efficiently and funny without you.

Thank you to all our parents for your support, I know our Whatsapp chat can sometimes be a tad overwhelming but it's all a part of the running of a busy, enthusiastic, amazing group. The programme wouldn't run so smoothly without you there helping the Cubs with whatever we need them to bring in.

Thank you to all of those that have supported our fundraising this year. The Christmas raffle again was a huge success.

Thank you to our parent helpers, whether you've helped at any of our sessions, packing up camps, donating camp cakes or donated equipment, your help is invaluable and hugely appreciated.

Yours in Scouting
Paulette Reid
(Akela. 1st Arlesey Cheyenne Cubs)



be prepared...

SCOUTS

1st Arlesey Scout Group Scouts Report

This year for the Scout Section has been characterised by the beginning of much more “normal Scouting” after the restrictions of the last few years. I can say on behalf of all of the Leaders that it has been fantastic to see so many of our Scouts working together and experiencing new challenges. Probably the thing I enjoy most as a Leader is seeing a Scout trying a new activity that they didn't think they could do, and learning that they can. We've had a lot of this and it's been great!

This year has also been a year of growth for our Troop. We now have 32 young people attending regularly, including four who have been with us for part of this term who we expect to invest in early September. Of these 32, over 20 joined us since last September! An unexpected highlight was our “Hobbies Night” in February when many of our Scouts prepared a short presentation on something that they do for fun outside of Scouts - it was a real eye-opener seeing some of the talent in the Troop, and great to get to know them a bit more as individuals.

Programme

We have focused on two main things: (1) having the Scouts spend as much time as possible working together as Patrols, outside; and (2) trying to rebuild some of the traditional Scouting skills that we have been hard to do in 2020 and 2021. For example, over the last year we have:

- Upped our whittling skills;
- Practiced archery (with many Scouts obtaining their “Master-at-Arms” badge) and recently air-rifle shooting;
- Completed several short hikes exploring the local area both as Patrols (with Scout-led navigation) and as a whole Troop;
- Completed a night hike covering 10 miles from Pegsdon (or about 14 miles for one group due to an unplanned “detour”)
- Gone fishing;
- Tackled several Patrol pioneering challenges including building a bridge over a “raging torrent” and making a catapult;;
- Had an “introduction to fencing session”;
- Tried canoeing and rafting on Grafham Water;
- Practiced fire-lighting and (especially) campfire cooking; and
- Learned some new games!



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I and the other Leaders have greatly appreciated how our Scouts have taken to this, and (most!) tasks have been tackled with enthusiasm and a great “can-do” spirit. For example watching them learn how to change a car wheel or windscreen wiper in December when Stuart led the Mechanics badge was brilliant.

We haven't camped so much as we'd like this year (hopefully this will change over the next few months) but we had an excellent Patrol Camp in October where the Scouts got to experience kayaking on the Great Ouse near Bedford, climbing, and cooked all of their own meals on campfires. Due to the generosity of our Group Committee we also had a free camp in May where the Scouts did more climbing as well as trying their hands at tomahawk throwing and working their way around a nerve-wracking tree-top high-ropes course.

Leaders

We have had a few changes this year. It was a great pity that Wilson had to leave us at the start of the year due to changing work demands, and more recently Carly has had to step down from regularly attending for the same reason - they are both missed, particularly Carly who has been a stalwart support for several years including during the hard days of lockdown Scouting. More positively we have added Jayden to our team, who brings much experience from his time as a leader in Hertfordshire - as well as bringing the average age of the Leaders down significantly - we are very happy to have him, and I have been reliably informed that “he is much more funner” than Matt and me... which is almost certainly true. I am also exceedingly grateful for the consistency and reliability of Matt who turns up week after week and without whom our programme would be a lot more difficult to maintain. We have a great team with each person bringing different (and very useful!) skills and we work well together.

Finally, I also want to thank our Scout parents, many of whom have given up one or more Tuesday evenings to accompany hikes or to otherwise support us. We couldn't carry out our programme without this (more on this below!).

Looking forward

Over the next year we hope to expand on the skills and experiences we've been developing, particularly cooking (with an inter-Patrol master-chef-style campfire cooking competition), and moving towards Patrol hikes with more remote supervision to boost independence and confidence.

We also intend to schedule more camps and to prepare for the run-up to our camp in Norway in August 2023.

Help wanted

Finally, a few requests.

- We have several activities planned where we don't quite have enough adults to do all of the supervision needed to keep everyone safe. Please watch out for our requests



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for help next term and consider carefully if it is something you are able to do. If it is, please do volunteer!

- Secondly, we would be very grateful indeed if you could take a look at the list of Activity badges on the Scout Association website (<https://www.scouts.org.uk/scouts/activity-badges/>) and let us know if you have any skills that could help a small group of our Scouts meet any badge requirements. If you do please let me know and I'd love to speak with you about how we could make that happen (don't worry, we can be pretty flexible!).
- Thirdly, as I mention above we have a great leadership team, but we can always use another, whether you can attend every week or only once a month. It's a hugely rewarding role so please consider if it's something that you could do, in the Scout Section or any other. We'd love to have you!

Once again, my sincere thanks to our Leaders, our Scout parents, and to our Scouts for all doing their parts for a brilliant Scouting year.

Yours in Scouting

Gareth Rowlands & Team



be prepared...

EXPLORERS

1st Arlesey Scout Group Dambusters Explorers Report

Arlesey "Dambusters" Explorer Unit meet on Thursday Evenings 7pm to 9pm mostly at Arlesey Scout Hut.

We have nine explorers and expect a few more coming up from scouts around Christmas. Over the last year we have worked to keep running face to face while we could and then online during lockdowns. The unit has coped really well all things considered and were very keen to return to face to face as soon as we could.

During the autumn term we have missed out on some activities due to restrictions keeping to hikes largely.

We are slowly getting back to 'normal' with more external activities planned including water activities, camping etc.

We are really proud this year to have a member accepted for the World Scout Jamboree in Korea in 2023. They have really taken to the challenge and put a huge effort into the fundraising required.

Next summer 2023 many of the unit will be attending camp in Norway. This is a group event for Scouts and Explorers. It will also gain all those attending their international badge.

The Dambusters aim is to get involved in their own planning and organising, with supervision from leaders and help where an adult is needed. The #SkillsForLife is all about teaching life skills from the simple ability to look after yourself, cooking, washing cleaning to planning, budgeting and organising events. Working within the Unit's ability and progressing as far as they are willing to go with this.

I would like to thank all the leaders for their help and support over the last year, especially Paulette, James and Tony. Without their continued support, the Dambusters would no longer exist.

Special thanks to James, Thom and Joe for their help this year running the section.

Yours in Scouting

Chris Dodds
ESL Arlesey Dambusters, DESC Biggleswade District.
Email: chris.dodds@arleseyscouts.org.uk
T: 07886558708

Registered Charity No 300458 Helping Young People Get The Most Out Of Life.



be prepared...

Our ref: MH/AD/ASG01

19th July 2022

Private & Confidential

Mr C Livermore
96 Stotfold Road
Arlesey
Beds
SG15 6XR



Dear Chris,

Re:- 1st Arlesey Scout Group

As per my e-mail, I have pleasure in enclosing my signed Independent Examiner's Report in respect of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group for the year ended the 31st March 2022.

I also enclose the original signed receipts and payments account / statement of assets and liabilities, having taken copies of both.

Finally, I advise that a note of my firm's charges in connection with the above will be e-mailed to you via our QuickBooks software.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mark Hjertzen'.

Mark Hjertzen

Encl:

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 1st Arlesey Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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: MARK HJERTZEN FCA

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): FCA (ICAEW)

Address: HW Associates Limited,
Portmill House
Portmill Lane
Hitchin
Herts
SG5 1DJ

Date: 21st July 2022

1st Arlesey Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account


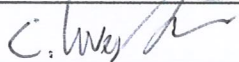
		Year start date	Year end date	
For the year from		01/04/2021	To	31/03/2022
Receipts and payments				
		31/03/2022		31/03/2021
		Unrestricted funds		Unrestricted funds
		£		£
Receipts				
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions		12,130		9,225
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)		-6,407		-5,303
Net membership subscriptions retained		5,723		3,922
Donations		733		862
Legacies		-		-
Camps and activities		6,809		-
Gift Aid		2,995		-
Refunds for cancelled events or activities				705
Other similar income		129		-
Sub total		16,389		5,489
Grants				
Maintenance grant		-		-
Other grants		19,738		19,000
Sub total		19,738		19,000
Fundraising (gross)				
Other fundraising activities		6,293		3,248
Sub total		6,293		3,248
Investment income				
Bank interest		-		-
Building Society interest		-		-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-		-
Property Rent income		185		-
Other investment income		-		-
Sub total		185		-
Total Gross Income		42,605		27,737
Asset and investment sales, etc.				
		330		-
Total receipts		42,935		27,737

	£	£
Payments		
Charitable Payments		
Youth programme and activities	22,000	1,072
Camp Refunds	110	555
Adult support and training	1,633	74
Rent	-	-
Water and Sewerage	309	246
Electricity and Gas	1,398	977
Telephone and Internet	351	
Insurance	1,095	995
Bank Charges (OSM)	676	0
Repairs and Renewals	9,696	1,782
Materials and equipment	7,333	1,005
Printing and photocopying	-	23
Web Hosting and Online Services	112	288
Contribution to camp costs	-	-
Badges, Woggles and Neckers	2,825	1,017
AGM and trustee expenses	1,391	647
Charitable Donations	60	-
Subscriptions Refund	-	213
Sundries		116
		-
Sub total	48,989	9,010
Fundraising expenses		
Other fundraising costs	2,461	20
		-
Sub total	2,461	20
Total Gross Expenditure	51,450	9,030
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	-	-
Total payments	51,450	9,030
Net of receipts/(payments)	-8,515	18,707
Cash funds last year end	30,487	11,780
Cash funds this year end	21,972	30,487

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		31/03/2022		31/03/2021
		Unrestricted funds		Unrestricted funds
		£		£
Cash funds				
Bank current account		20,957		29,667
Bank deposit account		129		-
Pre-Paid Cash Cards (for camps)		800		-
Building society account		-		-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-		-
Cash/Floats		86		820
Total cash funds		21,972		30,487
Other monetary assets				
Tax claim		-		-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group		-		-
Insurance claim		-		-
Sub total		-		-
Investment assets				
Investment property - detail		-		-
Quoted investments		-		-
Other investments - detail		-		-
Sub total		-		-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use				
Badge stock		-		-
Shop stock		-		-
Other stock		-		-
Land and buildings		-		-
Motor vehicles		2,190		-
Scouting equipment, furniture etc		1,319		-
Other		-		-
Sub total		3,509		-
Liabilities				
Accounts not yet paid		-		-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced		-		-
Subscriptions not yet paid		-		-
Loan - detail		-		-
Other liabilities		-		-
Sub total		-		-

Contingent liabilities and future obligations

<p>The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 21st July 2022 and signed on their behalf by</p>			
Signature		Print Name	
		SARAH COLLEY	Chair
		C LIVERMORE	Treasurer

1ST ARLESEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 285064

Accounts



Annual General Meeting 2021

- Reports -

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Committee Chair Report

This year has seen 1st Arlesey Scout Group step up and face the challenge of continuing with Scouting whilst keeping the environment safe and dealing with measures to ensure we avoid the spread of covid-19. Last year saw a major change for our adults as well as our Young People and the continued positivity and adaptability from both has made me prouder than ever of how the group have come together and grown in strength.

This year has seen some changes at 1st Arlesey, our long-standing Group Scout Leader (GSL) Christopher Dodds has taken up a new challenge at District level, though I'm pleased to say he will continue in his roles as Explorer Leader, which means he has handed the GSL reins to Karen Brett, a member of the team who was instrumental in growing our group and setting up our second Beaver colony and second Cub Pack. Karen has stepped into the role with her usual enthusiasm and positivity, and I look forward to what we can achieve in the future.

We're also sad to see our Sioux Cub Leaders moving to pastures new, Jacky and Dave Morton have been with 1st Arlesey for many years, starting with our Beaver Colony and moving onto Cubs as well as always supporting our other sections when needed with their wealth of experience and skills. We're proud to say they have decided to move into a District role and though we are sad to see them go, we know they'll put their own stamp on District Cubs and wish them the best of luck on their journey.

As a result, we're really excited to welcome Jamie Sarll, who many will know from his time as an assistant leader with our Beavers, into his new role as Akela of Sioux Cubs, Jamie comes from a family of Scouters and we couldn't be happier!

We've also said goodbye to Joana Woolfe and James Kapp as assistant leaders in our Beaver Colony and Cub Pack respectively. Joana leaves us to pursue her career in teaching and James has been promoted within the police force; we're so proud of both of them and we're pleased to say that James has agreed to remain on our Exec Committee.

We wish everyone the best on their new challenges and extend the biggest thank you for all they've done and continue to do for 1st Arlesey.



be prepared...

As chair, there is huge reliance on our leaders and volunteers, they give their time and skills to ensure the Young People of Arlesey have somewhere to go to learn new skills, make new friends and grow in confidence – without our leaders this would not be possible and their drive and enthusiasm has meant that we have been lucky enough to welcome so many new faces, 1st Arlesey Scout Group would not be here without them!

Our community involvement during the pandemic has sadly been minimal, but we have been overwhelmed with the support from the Arlesey Community during this time. Our Annual Christmas Raffle, which moved from the raffle ticket book to online saw us achieve our highest ever fundraising for this event and it was all down to the amazing neighbourhood we live in.

Our target for last year was to raise funds for a ride on mower and to update our cooking and dining equipment. We were fortunate enough to claim a number of grants during the last year which has allowed us to update our aging equipment and invest in new camping equipment, including some wonderful bell tents, new cooking equipment including a new BBQ so we're ready to get cooking again for Arlesey Summer Fete and Gothic Mede Academy. We also managed to purchase a new (well second hand) ride on mower and with a continually growing group, the decision was made to also buy a larger box trailer; both of which have been sourced, transported and fixed up by Stuart McGuire and Chris Dodds – a huge thank you to them!

We've also been able to update our storage, install water taps, update our outside lights and fire alarm system and continue with our general maintenance and upkeep. This has been done by a group of hardcore volunteers; Matt Graham, Tony Kirchin, Chris Dodds and Stuart McGuire and we could not be more thankful for their hard work and dedication.

We are hugely thankful to our new GSL, Karen Brett for organising a hugely productive work-party during the summer months that consisted of volunteers from Arlesey so as to ease the burden on our aforementioned group. They did a wonderful job and have allowed us to be ready for the return of our sections in the autumn.

We're pleased to say that with easing restrictions over the last 4 months, our sections have managed to organise camps and sleepovers, we have also taken the decision to fund a full group camp for 2022 as a thank you to our leaders and young people and the resilience and 'can-do' attitudes – we can't wait!



be prepared...

As to the future, we're looking forward to a time where we can get our Young People camping again with a view to raising funds for a camp on foreign shores in 2023. We are looking at what our growing group needs, and with our grounds finally ready we're looking into the possibilities it offers. We're also exploring ways in which we can make our hut more 'green' by looking at our energy efficiency and how it can be improved. We are also hoping to open a second Scout Troop, but as ever we need the people to be able to do so – if this is of interest, please let us know!

1st Arlesey Scout Group exists due a dedicated team of leaders and volunteers - they shine in their individual sections as well as within the committee and team, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge well done and thank all of them for their support and hard work over the previous year. Without them, the executive committee, our supportive parents and the wider Arlesey community 1st Arlesey Scout Group wouldn't be here – Thank-you!

Yours in Scouting

Sarah Colley
Executive Committee Chair



be prepared...

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Committee Treasurer Report

In the last year Covid has affected everyone including the group's finances. Last year due to lockdown our accountants were unable to sign off our accounts in time for the AGM. We have been granted an extension from the Charities Commission and so will therefore be submitting the accounts for both the year ending 2021 and the year ending 2020.

The rest of this report relates to the financial year ending April 2021.

Income

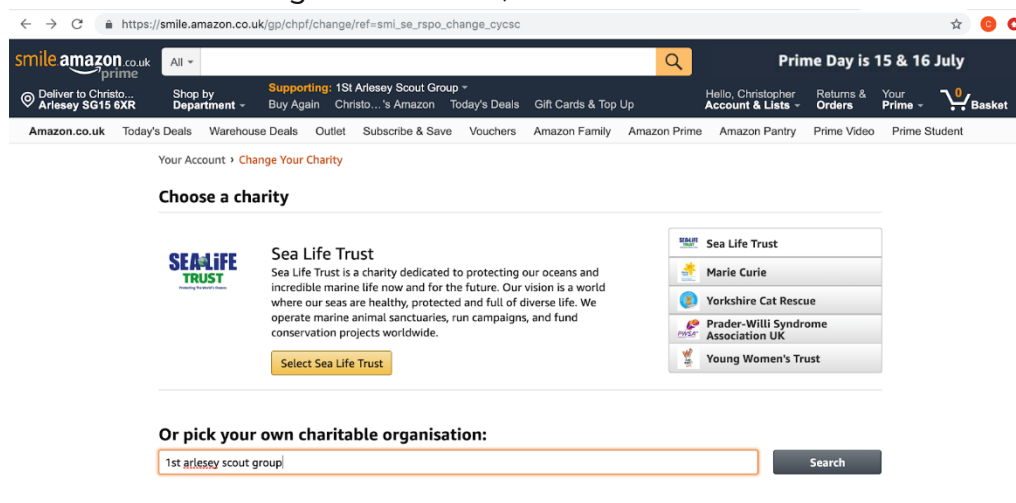
Subscriptions

Membership subscription fees remained unchanged in 2018/19, however we have transitioned completely to using OSM for collecting subscriptions, removing the need for cash handling. A total of £9,225 in subscriptions was collected this financial year. This income to the Group was off-set by the payment of our membership fees of £5,303 to the Biggleswade District Scout Association.

Mandatory subscriptions were suspended during the lockdown period.

Fundraising

Our traditional fundraising activities were almost all impossible in the last year due to lockdowns and social distancing. A total of £3,284 was raised via a number of online fundraising activities.



The screenshot shows the Amazon Smile interface for selecting a charity. The URL is https://smile.amazon.co.uk/gp/chnpf/change/ref=sml_se_rspo_change_cycsc. The page features a search bar and a list of charities. The 'Sea Life Trust' charity is highlighted with a description: 'Sea Life Trust is a charity dedicated to protecting our oceans and incredible marine life now and for the future. Our vision is a world where our seas are healthy, protected and full of diverse life. We operate marine animal sanctuaries, run campaigns, and fund conservation projects worldwide.' Below the list, there is a search bar with the text '1st arlesey scout group' and a 'Search' button.

As always a reminder that if you shop online with amazon.co.uk they will donate 0.5% of the value of your purchases to us via the Amazon Smile programme.

Donations / Grants

Following advice from the Scout Association, Central Beds and other local scout groups we were able to apply for £19,000 via a number of different Government grants over the last 12 months designed to help charities and business impacted by covid restrictions

Rental Income

Due to lockdown restrictions it has not been possible to generate any income from the rental of the Scout Hut this year.

Expenditure

Premises

The cost of maintenance of buildings continues to be the major source of expenditure for the Group. Focus in the last 12 months has been on outdoor scouting, including providing shelters and LED lighting for the winter months to allow scouting to continue despite the British weather wherever possible.

£1,782 was spent on Repairs and Renewals with a further £1,005 spent on material and equipment.

Activities

Camps and Activities were severely limited this year due to Covid, however a number of online activities were delivered.

Total cost of activities was £1,072

Neckers/Badges

£1,017 was spent on neckers, woggles, badges and handbooks.

Admin

Admin expenses came to £288 covering stationery and web hosting.



be prepared...

Net receipts for the year

The accounts for the Group show an operating profit for the year of £18,707. This is primarily a result of Covid grants combined with almost no expenditure on Camps and Activities.

*Full Reports are attached to the end of this report

Chris Livermore
Treasurer



be prepared...

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Committee Group Scout Leader (GSL) Report

To all our Leaders, Assistants, Volunteers and Parents

Where to start.....Last years scouting has been predominantly controlled by the covid pandemic. But despite these restrictions being placed on us our amazing leaders and their teams pulled together to deliver an amazing and diverse programme of activities. The group have done a fabulous job.

Google Classroom was our choice of platform for sections to be able to “meet virtually”. There were online games (the knife, fork, spoon game was still my favourite), we had challenges, we had cooking and these were among some of the inventive ways we kept our weekly sessions running.

We have been fortunate to meet face to face in an outdoor area for the last few months which has been great and a huge thankyou to our leader teams and our exec team who have put in some stringent restrictions and procedures to allow us to get back face to face. And then a huge thankyou to all parents and young people for being to patient and following our procedures to allow the young people to return.

As we emerge from restrictions now, we have started to pencil in camps. Cheyenne have already run a successful camp back in July with our yellow status restrictions as did our Explorers and Beavers had a camp in the green status last week.

We have to say a huge thankyou to Chris Dodds who oversaw the group as GSL for the majority of this and has done an amazing job. But unfortunately, we have to now say goodbye to Chris who took the decision this year to stand down as GSL and take on a new role within District. He will still be staying with the group as Explorer Leader and our Secretary for the Exec Team.

I have agreed to take on the role as GSL and am working with Chris for a handover of this role. Moving forward we have a lot of great things in the pipeline. We have already started planning a group camp for next year and we also have a camp abroad to Norway in the pipeline for 2023 so there are lots of amazing exciting things ahead.



be prepared...

We hope for a more normal scouting year ahead.

Yours in Scouting

Karen Brett
Group Scout Leader

1st Arlesey Scout Group Executive Committee Group Scout Leader (GSL) Report

I have been part of 1st Arlesey Scout group for the last 16 years and GSL for the last seven of those. This time last year I decided it was time to let some-one new take on the challenge while the group is on a high.

No lies, it has been tough at times, I have been way out of my comfort zone and thought about shutting things down on many occasions. Two things kept me going through it. Seeing the young people thrive and enjoy themselves and the support from all the other volunteers.

All of the volunteers are superb and Arlesey should be proud of them. They all deserve a pat on the back. They rose to the challenge of last year and the lockdowns, have kept scouting running in Arlesey all while running their own lives. There are lots of measures for this from badges earned, to grounds being improved, new equipment, great programmes planned and scout camps run as soon as lockdown allowed.

There are a few who put themselves out a bit more when I asked and I'd like to thank them specifically. Stuart McGuire my predecessor as GSL who was happy to listen, provide advice and laugh at me and my predicaments. Sarah Colley for being a great chair lady and listening. Chris Livermore for the work keeping our finances in order. Tony Kirchin and Alan Potkins who educated me in the traditional ways of scouting. Paulette Reid for stepping in so many times to lend a helping hand when it was needed. And finally Karen Brett and Carly New for taking on the GSL and Deputy GSL challenge.

You have a great group in a really good place with an awesome team to lead it. Best of all the team has big plans for the young people in the future.



be prepared...

As Karen has mentioned I have taken on a new role as District Explorer Scout Commissioner and one of the World Scout Jamboree leaders for Bedfordshire. I am also still Explorer leader for Arlesey Dambusters for now and I'm still part of Scouting and Arlesey so see you around. It's been a real pleasure to be a part of this.

Yours in Scouting

Chris Dodds
DESC Biggleswade District



be prepared...

BEAVERS

1st Arlesey Scout Group Raven Beavers Report

About us

We meet on Mondays 5.30pm – 6.45pm. The leaders are Emily (Sunshine), Jo (Rabbit), Jamie (Moose), Angela (Bear) and Bobby (Fox). We also have parent helpers.

What we have been doing this year

The year started with virtual sessions, we managed 2 face to face sessions before Christmas where we did a hike and Christmas party before going back to virtual sessions until March. Between March and July we enjoyed being back face to face.

We have had lots of fun sessions virtually and face to face which have included:

- Cooking where we made things such as pizza in a mug and making butter
- We learnt some basic first aid with Stuart and the Beavers then went home and tried putting their parents into the recovery position.
- We have been joined by some guests including a nurse, author and drummer for a drumming work shop
- Ravens joined forces with our Falcons group and took part in the Arlesey virtual Christmas tree festival making their own robins and joined in with the Arlesey Scarecrow festival where they made their own mini scarecrows, we were voted joint 1st by the guest judges.
- We have learnt about and celebrated special dates from around the world including Halloween, Christmas Burns night, Chinese new year, Mothers day, St Patricks day, Easter, St Georges day.
- Beavers have done two sleepovers at home for Halloween and Easter and also joined in with the district sleepovers BIGG Christmas cracker.
- We have joined in with District events such as St Georges day, Teddy Bears picnic, sunflower competition.

Lots of badges were awarded including:

- Adventure
- Outdoors
- Personal
- Skills
- Teamwork

be prepared...

- World
- Hikes
- Navigator
- Nights away
- Safety
- Emergency aid

We also had four Beavers earn their Bronze award this year so a huge congratulations to them.

At the end of term we said Goodbye to Jamie (Moose) who is moving to Cubs and Jo (Rabbit) who is going to train to be a teacher. They will be missed but hopefully one day they will return.

What next for Ravens

We have lots more fun activities planned and badges to be earned, we are looking forward to 2021/2022 meeting new Beavers and making more memories and having lots more fun.

We also hope we will have many more parent helpers who will support us to run our programme as we cannot do it without you and it's a wonderful experience to share with your child/children.



be prepared...



**1st Arlesey Scout Group
Cheyenne Cubs Report**

Dear all,

1st Arlesey Cheyenne have had a super busy year despite the restrictions Covid has enforced upon us.

We started off September 2020 with a full house of 24 Cubs and understandably these numbers fell when we had to run our programme virtually. Our virtual sessions seemed very successful and we were finding a routine that worked surprisingly well to carry on running our programme and earning badges. We ran a public live campfire cooking evening, scavenger hunts, camps at home, random challenges, cooking, arts and crafts, scouting meaning and history, Diwali, learnt about disabilities and braille, cooking, gardening, fundraising, Shepreth Wildlife visit, District weekend events, orienteering, sports events and even more cooking.

We did get the chance to have a few socially distanced face to face meetings towards the end of 2020. We managed to go for a fantastic night hike, have songs around the campfire, a few great games nights, even a socially distanced Christmas party under a makeshift outdoor shelter.



be prepared...



Even though there was so much uncertainty last year we still managed to take part in events in the village and one of those was showing our respect and making our wreath of Remembrance to be laid at the War Memorial. Each cub made their own poppy and then they were all collected and made into a fantastic wreath as seen below.

Christmas time saw us getting involved in the Virtual St Peters Church Christmas Tree Festival, where we were super proud and pleased to win first place with our Covid tree "It's beginning to look alot like lockdown". Each of our cubs decorated a paper mask to hang from the tree. We finished 2020 with our fingers crossed for a better 2021...



be prepared...

January 2021 and we are in lockdown once more...

We start the year with our Cubs raring to get started with our virtual sessions once again. In true Cheyenne style we knuckled down and got on with the fun, all knowing the routine, only this time there is a change in the leadership team. Our Cheyenne Leader, Karen Brett took the very big step of taking on the role of Group Scout Leader for 1st Arlesley Scout Group, leaving an opening for a new leader to step up and carry on where she had left off. With such a strong leadership team and such amazing, funny, happy Cubs, I happily took this on.

Although we had a great start to the year, we did say goodbye to 2 of our assistant leaders James and Helen who were both such big parts in what had become "The Dreamteam". We were very lucky to have them as part of our original team and missed them greatly.

One of our most successful virtual sessions was on Mothers Day. Our Cubs all prepped and cooked a roast dinner and Eton Mess pudding under leaders instructions for their families while being supervised at home. This completed their Chef badge.

We held an Easter egg hunt, with help from all of our parents hiding the eggs in the places to match the clues that we were going to give them. We even had siblings taking part, who are now on the waiting list to join when they are old enough.

District have also been playing a very active part in our virtual programme. We all came together for St Georges Day celebrations across the district in a Taskmaster style event where 1st Arlesley Scout group came away victorious. At the end of the weekend we were able to all come together and renew our Cub Scout Promise.



be prepared...

12th April, returning to Face to Face scouting...

We began back to f2f scouting full of excitement. We couldn't wait to see our Cubs in the flesh. We had so many badges to award that had been earned during our virtual sessions and a fantastic programme ahead of us to earn lots more.

We welcomed lots of new Cubs to our pack and even talked our original assistant James into coming back and rejoining "The Dreamteam".

Our main aim was to get stuck into some traditional scouting skills as we hadn't been able to do anything like this in such a long time. We brought in some of our more experienced scouting leaders and split into 4 groups. We ran a 4 week scouting skills programme with 4 activities on a rotation basis. Fire laying and lighting, pioneering and shelter building, bell tent erecting and campfire cooking. These sessions seemed to prove very popular with our cubs.



be prepared...



be prepared...

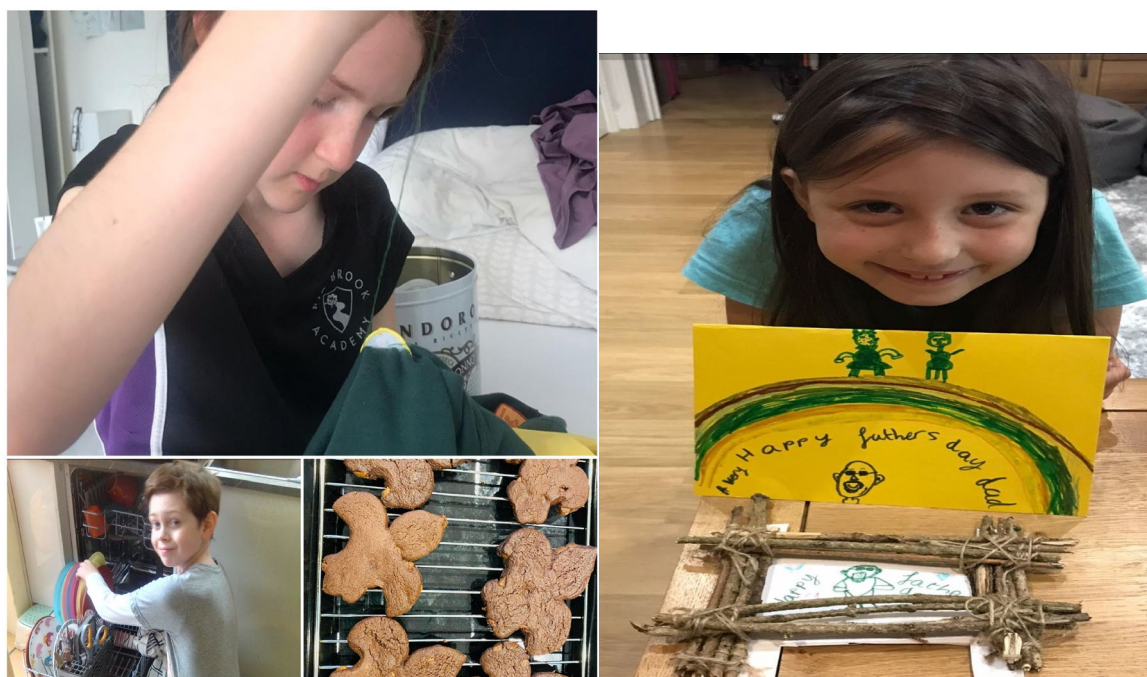
Even though we are now in full swing with our f2f sessions we are still running some activities online for our cubs to complete some badges at home. This is a great way to play catch up and some of our cubs are really flying through the activities.

During this Summer term we are trying to practice our knots more often to keep them fresh in our minds. One activity to help with this was to make a frame out of twigs for Fathers Day so they could use the knots that they had learnt previously.

We arranged for our First Aid trainer to come down for a session to teach our Cubs everything to complete their Emergency Aid level 2. This was all while socially distancing and the cubs did great putting themselves in the recovery position.

As I write this, we still have a few weeks of exciting activities ahead of us, including our Cub camp at the Hut. It's been such a long time since we have been allowed to camp properly as a group, so it's no surprise we have a full house signed up for it.

We look forward to the rest of 2021 where we hope to join Sioux Cub pack for some camping and activities when restrictions allow and hopefully another 1st place in the Christmas Tree Festival.



be prepared...

Thank you...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with Cheyenne Cubs this year, especially our Cheyenne Assistant Cub Leaders, Tasha, Jo and James. Our pack wouldn't run half as efficiently and funny without you.

Thank you to all our parents for your support during our virtual sessions. The programme wouldn't have run so smoothly without you there helping the Cubs with whatever we asked of them.

Thank you to all of those that have supported our fundraising this year. The Christmas raffle and the 24hr fitness fundraiser were a huge success.

Thank you to our parent helpers, whether you've helped at any of our sessions or donated equipment, your help is invaluable and hugely appreciated.

Yours in Scouting

Paulette Reid

(Akela. 1st Arlesey Cheyenne Cubs)

cubs

**1st Arlesey Scout Group
Sioux Cubs Report**

be prepared...



Dear all,

Let me introduce myself, I am Jamie Sarll and I am the new Akela for 1st Arleseey Sioux Cubs.

I began the steady takeover from Jacky and Dave Morton in June this year after they decided to move on to take on District Cubs.

Jacky and Dave had been running Arleseey Sioux pack for many years, so I was very happy to work closely with them leading up to the hand over at the end of July as we broke up for the summer holidays.

Sioux pack were hoping to join Cheyenne cubs for a weekend camp at the hut in July but due to Covid, the two packs were not allowed to mix and numbers had to be kept to 30. So unfortunately, Sioux haven't had chance to camp yet since before Covid, plans for a Sioux pack camp are in the pipelines.

So, this brings us to this new term. Already, Sioux pack has taken on several new Cubs and some invaluable great parent helpers (I'm sure there are some amazing Assistant Cub Leaders in amongst our parents just waiting to be coaxed out).

Our first meeting back with myself at the helm was a fun filled, wet and tiring water activity day at Grafham Waters. This was a whole group event, so a great chance for me to get to know other leaders and join our other Cub pack in the activities. We did Canoeing and rafting. No bragging, but my groups raft was the only one not to fall apart...



be prepared...



We have a District Sixer Seconder Camp at Boyd this weekend, where we will be joining forces with Arlesey Cheyenne Cubs for this, and spending the weekend with 3 other cub groups in our District The theme is 'I'm a Cub get me out of here'. Our sixers, seconders and older Cubs will be doing challenges and activities to gain points to hopefully come away victorious.

I very much look forward to getting stuck into the programme I have planned for the Cubs, leading up to Christmas.

We have a bbq, hiking, environmental activities and lots more planned for the coming months.

be prepared...

We will hopefully be able to take part in the Remembrance parade and service at the War Memorial this year as this wasn't possible last year due to the restrictions.

We have a great group camp planned for the end of May 2022 to look forward to and hopefully we can start to do all the activities and adventures that we've been missing out on.

Thank you...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with Sioux Cubs this year, especially to Josh from Arleseey Dambusters Explorers, for his consistent help, always prompt and keen and ofcourse our parent helpers. Our pack can not run face to face safely and efficiently without your help and support.

Thank you to all of those that have supported our fundraising this year. As disrupted as they were by Covid, our fundraisers were a huge success.

Thank you to our parent helpers, whether you've helped at any of our sessions or donated equipment, or just made sure your Cub has everything they need for sessions, your help is invaluable and hugely appreciated.

Yours in Scouting
Jamie Sarll
Akela. 1st Arleseey Sioux Cubs



be prepared...

SCOUTS

1st Arlesey Scout Group Yellow Devils Scout Report

This year for the Scout Section has been characterised by the step-by-step re-emergence of “normal Scouting” from the enforced restrictions of online-only Scouting in 2020. It has been a necessarily slow re-emergence, frustratingly so at times, but I think I can say on behalf of all of the Leaders that it has been fantastic to see so many of our Scouts come back to working together and experiencing at last parts of a more normal programme.

Programme

As I mentioned above, even since the end of lockdown there have still been limits on what we are able to do. This prevented us from running any camps (until very recently), limited the distance we are allowed to travel and the activities we can do, and still means that many of our favourite games from pre-COVID are not possible. Given these limitations we have focused on two main things: (1) having the Scouts spend as much time outside working together as possible; and (2) trying to rebuild some of the traditional Scouting skills that we have not been able to exercise in lockdown. For example, over the last year we have:

- Reinstated of our annual “chip-shop hike”;
- Gone fishing;
- Complete a local Patrol hike with Scouts navigating back to the Hut from about 5½ miles away (in different directions);
- Practiced first-aid;
- Tackled several Patrol pioneering challenges including building a stile across an “electric fence” and crossing a canyon full of molten lava;
- Conducted a Troop bike ride around the Etonbury Green Wheel;
- Built shelters;
- Practiced fire-lighting and (a little) campfire cooking; and



be prepared...

- Learned some new games!

I and the other leaders have greatly appreciated how our Scouts have taken to this, and how understanding they have been of the necessary restrictions. Behaviour has been generally brilliant and (most!) tasks have been tackled with enthusiasm and a great “can-do” spirit.

Leaders

We have had a few changes this year. My predecessor Jamie has unfortunately not been able to attend Troop nights following a change of working hours in Spring 2020. Jamie is greatly missed but I’m sure we will see him again. More positively we have added Wilson to our team, who brings much knowledge from his Scouting background in South-east Asia - as well as bringing the average age of the Leaders down significantly - and we are very happy to have him. I am also exceedingly grateful for the consistency and commitment of our other two leaders Carly and Matt. We have a great team and we work well together.

Finally, I also want to thank our Scout parents, many of whom have given up one or more Tuesday evenings to accompany hikes or to otherwise support us. We couldn’t carry out our programme without this (more on this below!).

Looking forward

This term we expect to be able to do a lot more of the things we’ve been missing over the last 18 months! We are planning:

- A Water Activity Day on 5 September;
- Archery;
- A return to camping (hooray!);
- Participation in a District “Ticking Clock” Challenge Competition; and
- A night-hike adventure;

Alongside this we hope to progress our Scout’s badge work and, COVID-permitting, get back to some of our favourite games.

Help wanted



be prepared...

Finally, a request. We do have several activities planned where we don't quite have enough adults to do all of the supervision needed to keep everyone safe. Please watch out for our requests for help this term and consider carefully if it is something you are able to do. If it is, please do volunteer! Secondly, we would be very grateful indeed if you could take a look at the list of Activity badges on the Scout Association website (<https://www.scouts.org.uk/scouts/activity-badges/>) and let us know if you have any skills that could help a small group of our Scouts meet any badge requirements. If you do please let me know and I'd love to speak with you about how we could make that happen (don't worry, we can be pretty flexible!).

Once again, my sincere thanks to our Leaders, our Scout parents, and to our Scouts for all doing their parts for a brilliant return to face-to-face Scouting this year.

Yours in Scouting

Gareth Rowlands
Scout Leader



be prepared...

EXPLORERS

1st Arlesey Scout Group Dambusters Explorers Report

Arlesey Explorers meet on Monday Evenings 7pm to 9pm mostly at Arlesey Scout Hut or virtually via google meet and classrooms.

We have nine explorers, with more coming up from scouts around Christmas. Over the last year we have worked to keep running face to face while we could and then online during lockdown.

We have missed out on so many of the normal outdoor events and activities this past year. I'm really proud of the explorers for their efforts and joining in even when it meant more google meet sessions.

The highlight for me was getting back to outdoor activities, first with an afternoon on the water at Jordan's Close kayaking and then summer camp in Somerset. Those who attended were really great, especially as we had two new faces. One who had no experience of scouting and another from Potton Foresters ESU who had never met any of us. Everyone got on and supported each other.

The Dambusters aim is to get involved in their own planning and organising, with supervision from leaders and help where an adult is needed. We are losing nearly half of our experienced explorers this autumn so will be a young section from January.

I would like to thank all the leaders for their help and support over the last year, especially Paulette, James and Tony. Without their continued support, the Dambusters would no longer exist.

Yours in Scouting

Chris Dodds
ESL Arlesey Dambusters
Email: chris.dodds@arleseyscouts.org.uk
Tel : 07886558708



be prepared...

Vacancy Board

Minimum Uniform Roles needed

- Assistant Beaver Leaders – Ravens and Falcons
- Assistant Scout Leaders – Yellow Devils
- Assistant Cub leaders – Sioux pack
- Section assistants (non-uniform) for all the above

These positions involve working alongside experienced leaders to help run fun and engaging activities for our Young People. This can involve planning and organising of activities; supporting small groups, doing a bit of admin such as taking the register or collecting in forms and payments, helping out on camps, cooking outdoors and watching Young People grow in confidence.

1st Arlesey Scout Group offers full training, free of charge so no experience is needed, we as a team will support you. No two Scout meetings are the same. The difference you make, though, is always great.

Committee

People to help with the group support committee with any these tasks

- Planning and organising events – fun days, bonfire night, charity events...
- Help the Group to maintain the scout hut and grounds - organising work parties,
- Admin tasks such as maintaining welcome packs for new membership
- Fund-raising and social events – quiz nights

If you would like to volunteer for any of these roles or have a skill and would like to help in any other way please speak to one of the leaders or contact Karen Brett (GSL) or Sarah Colley (Exec Committee Chair) at 1arleseyscouts@gmail.com or call Karen on 07969 695856 or Sarah on 07847 740935

Volunteering is a great way to learn new skills and use existing ones and is a great addition to your CV. At 1st Arlesey Scout Group we champion flexible volunteering as we know that balance is the key to happiness.

be prepared...



1st Arlesey Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

	Year start date		Year end date
	For the year from	01/04/2020	To
			31/03/2021
Receipts and payments			
		31/03/2021	31/03/2020
	Unrestricted funds		Unrestricted funds
		£	£
Receipts			
Donations, legacies and similar income			
Membership subscriptions		9,225	10,560
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)		-5,303	-5,740
Net membership subscriptions retained		3,922	4,820
Donations		862	44
Legacies		-	-
Camps and activities		-	7,453
Scout Hut Hire		-	1,282
Gift Aid		-	1,937
Refunds for cancelled events or activities		705	
Other similar income		-	-
Sub total		5,489	15,536
Grants			
Maintenence grant		-	-
Other grants		19,000	
Sub total		19,000	-
Fundraising (gross)		3,248	
Other fundraising activities		-	10,822
Sub total		3,248	10,822
Investment income			
Bank interest		-	-
Building Society interest		-	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-	-
Property Rent income		-	-
Other investment income		-	-
Sub total		-	-
Total Gross Income		27,737	26,358
Asset and investment sales, etc.		-	-
Total receipts		27,737	26,358

No camps due to covid
No hire due to Covid
No gift aid this year

camp refunds

covid grants

	£	£
Payments		
Charitable Payments		
Youth programme and activities	1,072	24,305
Camp Refunds (Covid)	555	-
Adult support and training	74	426
Rent	-	-
Water and Sewerage	246	323
Electricity and Gas	977	1,408
Insurance	995	915
Bank Charges	0	-
Repairs and Renewals	1,782	264
Materials and equipment	1,005	123
Printing and photocopying	23	-
Web Hosting and Online Services	288	36
Contribution to camp costs	-	-
Badges, Woggles and Neckers	1,017	1,140
AGM and trustee expenses	647	-
Charitable Donations	-	534
Subscriptions Refund	213	
Sundries	116	-
	-	-
Sub total	9,010	29,474
Fundraising expenses		
Other fundraising costs	20	3,198
		-
Sub total	20	3,198
Total Gross Expenditure	9,030	32,672
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	-	-
Total payments	9,030	32,672
Net of receipts/(payments)	18,707	-6,314
Cash funds last year end	11,780	18,094
Cash funds this year end	30,487	11,780

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		31/03/2021		31/03/2020
	Unrestricted funds		Unrestricted funds	
		£		£
Cash funds				
Bank current account		29,667		11,691
Bank deposit account		-		-
Building society account		-		-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service		-		-
Cash/Floats		820		89
Total cash funds		30,487		11,780
Other monetary assets				
Tax claim		-		-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group		-		-
Insurance claim		-		-
Sub total		-		-
Investment assets				
Investment property - detail		-		-
Quoted investments		-		-
Other investments - detail		-		-
Sub total		-		-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use				
Badge stock		-		-
Shop stock		-		-
Other stock		-		-
Land and buildings		-		-
Motor vehicles		-		-
Scouting equipment, furniture etc		-		-
Other		-		-
Sub total		-		-
Liabilities				
Accounts not yet paid		-		-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced		-		-
Subscriptions not yet paid		-		-
Loan - detail		-		-
Other liabilities		-		-
Sub total		-		-

Contingent liabilities and future obligations

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees			
Signature		Print Name	
			Chair
			Treasurer

mower, trailer
lights

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 1st Arlesey Scout Group.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 1st Arlesey Scout Group, 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 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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.

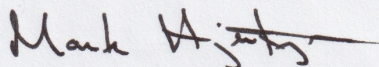
Independent examiner's statement

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 1st Arlesey Scout Group 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:

MARK HJERTZEN FCA

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): FCA (ICAEW)

Address: HW Associates Limited
Portmill House
Portmill Lane
Hitchin
Herts
SG5 1DJ

Date:

14th September 2021