

1ST ROYAL FOREST OF DEAN SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 302126

Details

Other names ROYAL FOREST OF DEAN SCOUT GROUP

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1967-06-19

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

Contact

Address 9 Station Road
Lydney
GL15 5EW

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Email gsl@1stroyalforest.org.uk

Website <https://1stroyalforest.org.uk>

Activities

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

Activities: Youth Charity

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** PARKEND AND LYDNEY
- Gloucestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-09-01	£36,251	£31,193	-	-
2023-09-01	£28,006	£31,372	-	-
2022-09-01	£30,137	£30,709	-	-
2021-09-01	£42,958	£26,635	-	-
2020-09-01	£41,958	£25,634	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Diane Maureen Ruck		2016-09-30
GARETH OVENS		
Stephen McAuliffe		2017-03-01

1ST ROYAL FOREST OF DEAN SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 302126

Accounts



1st ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP



Beaver Lodge

Annual Report

1 Sept 2023 – 31 August 2024

Charity Number: 302126

Chairman's Report

Another busy year, three Scout Troops, two Cub Packs, two Beaver Colonies and two Squirrel Dreys means we are busy at the lodge every evening!

Bookings at the lodge for weekend activities and other groups camps have also increased, meaning the lodge is busy most weekends and weeks during the holidays. This makes maximum use of the facility and provides us with additional income we can use for improvements and projects.

I'd like to thank all the members of the Trustee Board for their work and support for the group, work that happens in the background to keep the group financially stable and able to operate. The Trustee structure is changing within Scouting, however at the Group level those changes are really cosmetic, we still need people to step forward and volunteer. The Trustee Board will now focus more on governance than general operations of the group.

However, there is always more to do, and we could always do with more funding so we can continue with improvements and replacement of damaged equipment. Volunteers are always needed, if you can help either as a Trustee or just for an occasional few hours at odd times, please let us know. Lots of smaller jobs or bits of decorating that could be done at times that suit you 😊 I'd like to express my thanks to all our leaders and volunteers that work with the young people, without these wonderful people we could not provide the learning and opportunities that the young people have access to.

Our volunteers give up their time in the evenings and at weekends to help others. Additional time spent on courses to run their sections and to gain activity training and permits. Hopefully they feel they also benefit from all their effort, gaining new skills and seeing the young people they work with develop and grow over time.

Many thanks to you all for your support and help this year and we look forward to the next year.

Steve McAuliffe

Chair 1st Royal Forest Scout Group

Email – chair@1stroyalforest.org.uk

Find us at: [Website](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#)

Group Lead Volunteer (GSL)

Well, another year has past us by and looking back at the one we have just had fills me with pride for all the work that has gone into Scouting at 1st Royal Forest. I would like to take the opportunity of thanking all of the adult leaders and teams for all they do for the young people. I would also like to thank the parents and young people for giving your trust to us to help develop your young people.

There have been many changes in Scouting over the last year, we have changed our Group Executive into a Trustee board, This is to make us more in line with other organisations and more recognisable in the activities we undertake. I would like to take the opportunity of thanking our Trustees for all the work they do behind the scenes for the Group especially our Chair Steve and Treasurer Diane both make my job so easy at least on the governance side.

During this year and into our next year there has been the introduction of a new membership system for adults, introduced by Scouts nationally which has been taking up a lot of our time as we have had to make sure that all of our adult's details are correct and up-to date. This is alongside the changes to our titles and how we look to run the Group.

During the later part of 2024 we will move from "sections" and into "teams" with all adults becoming team members under a team leader, the role our new Trustee board will have, will also change and that body now becomes our Governance side with operational aspects moving to a Group Leadership team.

So what does this mean for our young people?

Well to be honest it means nothing to them and they will still know their leaders by the names they currently have, to the world outside we will move to a model that people may understand along with the role names, so for myself I will now be known as a Group Lead Volunteer (GLV) rather than the Group Scout Leader (GSL) to the outside world our leaders will now be known as a Beaver Team Leader or Cub Team Leader rather than "Akela" It will also hopefully allow new adults to look at what we do in a new light and as a "Team" approach think that they can offer at least some time to help a section team even if this is not a weekly commitment.

Our Group continues to Grow and we now have 2 Squirrel Dreys (4 to 6 year olds) with many of that age on our waiting list and many that may not get a chance to attend before they become too old for that section, We also have started back up our 2nd Beaver Colony to take those who are 6 to 8 years old, it does mean we need to start looking at progression over the ages as we always need to make sure that we have space for our young people coming up, rather than just taking new starters on.

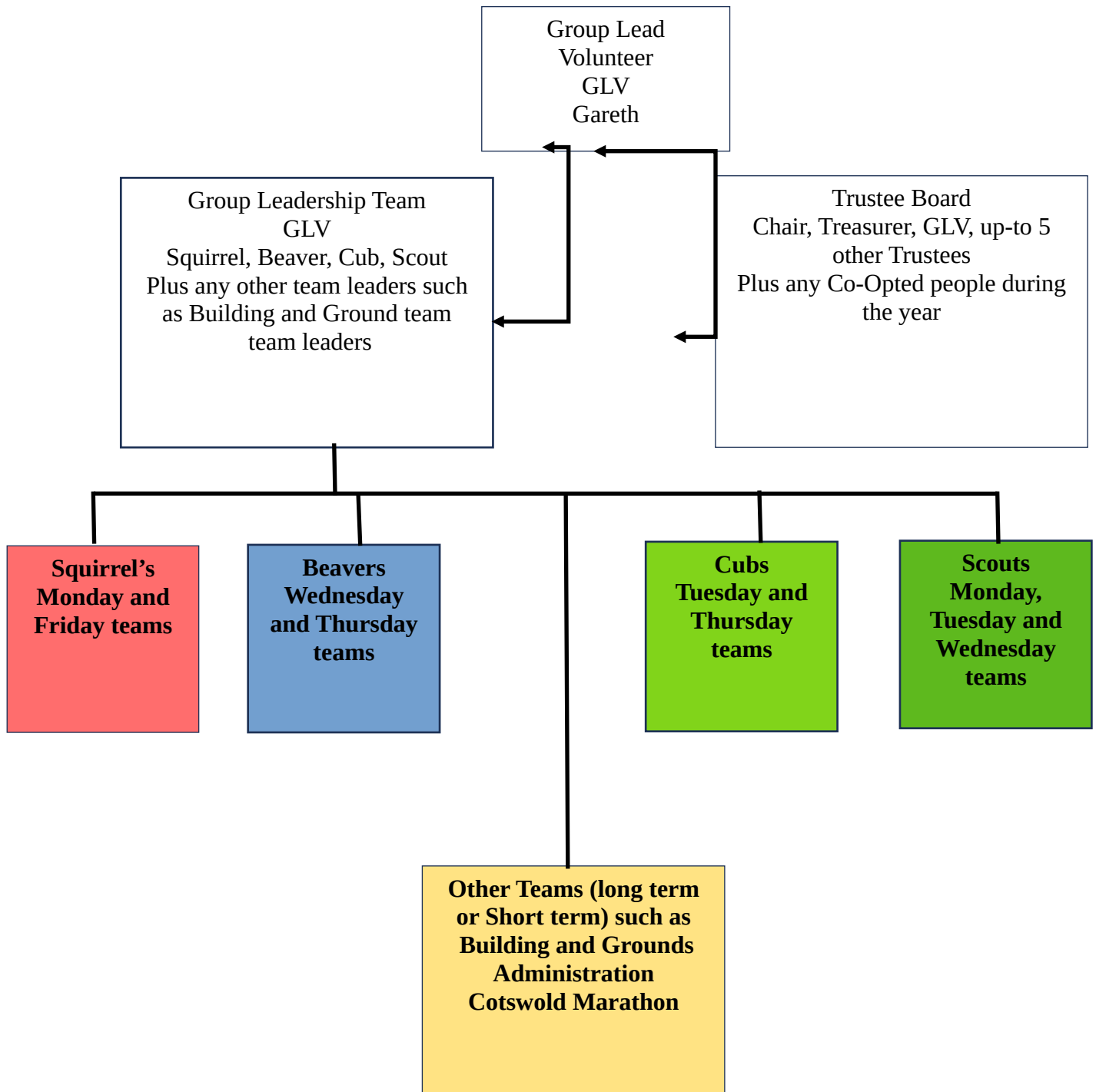
We now have youth sections taking place every night of the week and on all nights apart from Friday we have 2 sections meeting, It seems we are now out of the Covid hiccup at least for the younger sections. At the Scout Census in Jan 2024 we had 120 young people and over 50 adults helping on a regular basis and with a large number on our waiting list for the younger sections. As we arrive at the end of our year in July we have sadly had to say goodbye to a number of adults within our Tuesday Cub team, some have been with us for a short while whilst others have been with us for a good period, I would like to say a very big thank you to you all for giving up your time for Scouting, and especially to Akela Ang who is stepping down from Cubs and our Trustee board to take on some other Scouting roles within our District and County Scouts,

Ang, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, for all you have done and hope that we see you around. On a last note our Adults give up their time not just on the section night but during the week to plan great programmes and offer weekend activities, if you think that you could help lighten the load for them, by offering admin support, support with the program, helping keep our great venue spic and span, then do please come along and either speak to your young persons leader or one of our leadership team and see what you can offer, It may be you have a skill that we can use frequently or maybe just once a year.

As our strap line for young people is "Skills for Life" it also works for Adults as well. Thank you to all Trustees, section teams, parents and most of all young people as without you I could not take part in this great organisation and have loads of FUN!!

Gareth Group Lead Volunteer

New structure from 25th November



Squirrels - (Monday and Friday Drays)

Early in 2023 discussions were held about opening a Squirrel Drey at 1st Royal Forest. This is a section for 4 – 6-year-olds. Stephanie stepped forward and offered to take the lead and an open event was held which was really well attended and a number of adults stepped forward to help.

The Squirrel Drey opened in September 2023 with 8 adults signed up to help and 20 young people at the first meeting. Two of the leaders were returners to the group, Lisa had helped with Beavers some years ago and Fiona had been the Monday Scout leader for many years. We were joined by

Paul, Lianne, Elspeth and Nelly, as well as a couple more parents who helped on a semi regular basis.

The first meeting was, to put it mildly, great fun but chaotic. Due to the weather, we held the meeting inside at Beaver Lodge and there just wasn't enough space for everyone as most of the parents stayed. We made name badges for everyone, chose leader names, coloured in the wooden Squirrels each child puts on the tree every week to register they are there and played some games. In October the first Squirrels were invested in a fun filled session with parents invited to witness them all take their Promises. During that term we worked towards the All about Me badge, joined in the extremely wet remembrance parade at Bream, where we were so proud of the Squirrels who stuck it out right to the end despite the dreadful weather, and thanks to the Mum that helped shelter many of them under a large umbrella.

Other sessions the police came to visit and let the Squirrels turn on the lights and sirens in the police car as well as talking about keeping safe and explaining all the tasks that the police do to keep us safe. We visited the fire station in Coleford which was amazing. The Squirrels again loved climbing in the cab and learning all about the role of a fire fighter. They were served squash and biscuits, and all given a colouring book and pencils to take home. The winter term – January onwards we made bird feeders, cooked pizzas went on an evening walk through the arboretum with a lot of parents in support Squirrels walk slower than we thought so the session over ran a bit! We did Morris Dancing and ended the term with an Easter egg hunt of course.



There was some turnover of children, some found the Friday evening difficult, especially those that had only started school in the September but with a constant 30 on the waiting list we knew something had to be done. One of the parents who had signed up to help was willing to head up a second Squirrel Drey as her daughter couldn't make a Friday. So, in January we started planning the second Drey. Again, we held an open event inviting those on the waiting list and had a great turn out. Helen stepped forward to explain she would happily lead if others would join to help. Lisa and Fiona had indicated that a Monday would work better for them so with a couple of new parents there were enough adults to start the second Drey. We decided to keep the numbers lower to start with to enable the new team to find their feet, but they have sat around 12 very nicely since then.

Adult numbers have varied along with the young people numbers. But however much time an adult has given us we have been really grateful for their input and time.

The summer term saw both Dreys outside as much as possible, many badges were earned and the first Squirrels started to move up to the Beaver Colonies where they were made really welcome.

We were not brave enough yet to do an overnight camp with the Squirrels, so we held a day camp in July. We had 14 Squirrels from the Drey along with 5 of the leadership Team. The Squirrels did soft archery, and soft tomahawk

throwing, painted stones, made boats and many other activities. At lunch time they made their own sandwiches and sat outside in the lovely sunshine for a picnic. After lunch we had our story – this is a key part of every Squirrel session, all about Bonting the stone. Then we donned our wellies and took our boats to sail in the river. Nelly bravely became the catcher under the bridge, so the boats were not lost. For many Squirrels this was the first time they had paddled in a brook like ours, they all got their feet wet to some degree and some got even wetter! – a change of



clothes was needed! The Squirrels all helped tidy up and we all went home, tired but having had a really fun day.

During the term we had baby goats come to visit along with a tortoise and some chickens. Again, for some of the squirrels this was a new experience. We planned pond dipping at Nags head but due to the amazing weather there was not enough water, so we had a wonderful hour in the woods bug hunting. We ended the term with a daylight campfire and songs, and the Squirrels all went home with a book to record their summer adventures.

September 2024 sees us with 18 Squirrels on a Friday – we have reduced the numbers slightly as going forward we only have 4 adults, and 12 Squirrels on a Monday as a slightly higher ratio is needed for this group of young people. We currently have 16 children of squirrel age on the waiting list with a secondary list of underage children ready to fill the gaps.

Stephanie

Scouts Tuesday

Firstly, I would like to thank the team: Sam Clayton, Steve McAuliffe and Tracy Scott (with occasional help from young leaders Alex and Scott) for all their help over the past year. This was my first year as team lead and I could not run such a packed programme without such help.

We started the year with the chefs' badge: making use of the last few light evenings, with the scouts cooking up such delights as paella, stir-fry and stews outside on Trangia's, and practising their knife skills on fruit salad. We finished with cooking on a campfire accompanied with a good old sing song.



Moving on to emergency aid badge and DIY badge, always good to teach first aid before letting scouts loose with drills and saws! Emergency aid saw the scouts walking around the local area, putting their newly taught knowledge to the test with realistic situations. Whilst the DIY badge had the scouts making bird boxes and the pallet wood planters for the front of Beaver Lodge. Planting them up with wildflowers to bring a splash of colour to the lodge during the summer months.

With a trip to the panto at the Everyman Theatre in November – oh no we didn't, oh yes we did -selling glow sticks at the Lions' firework display at Speech House and handing out lanterns at the Parkend Christmas lights switch on to close the year.



The new year a new badge, air activities badge: paper aeroplanes, phonetic alphabet and a bit of plane spotting just to start. We continued the badge with a trip to the JET Age Museum.

Sandwiched between the various badges was navigation for our scouts competing in the Cotswold marathon a gruelling hike of 10-mile bronze route or 20-mile silver route, up some of Gloucester's biggest hills and if that's not enough it's at night.

Congratulations to all our scouts that took part:

With William Lyons, Cameron Breeze, Sahana Waller, Sophie Harland taking part for the first time and all finishing the bronze route in amazing times.

Emily Cummings and Poppy Hannam both attempting silver for the first time. Emily finishing the silver route in 5 hours 58 mins and winning a trophy for being in the quickest mixed group with two district explorers.



With the evenings drawing out it was time to get back outside, getting the scouts to make their own sculpture trail, playing wide games and team challenges.

June saw us team up with Wednesday scouts and several thousand scouts from all over the country as we attended Strategy camp at Cirencester Park. A weekend with an activity hike challenge on the Saturday.



Finishing the year on an activity extravaganza a cycle ride through the forest, Archery at the lodge (with thanks to Carole and Martin), climbing on real rock at Plump Hill (thanks to the County Climbing Team), canoeing and kayaking on Mallards Pike (with thanks for additional support from Phil Smart, Toni Ward, Rob Green).

This year we have said farewell to 3 scouts who have moved on to Explorers.

We start the autumn term with 24 scouts and another fun packed program, including our first troop camp at Botany Bay camp site.

Lloyd, Tuesday Team Lead.

Beaver's Wednesday

We hit the ground running in September 2023 or should I say hopping. After using sacks for jumping and find all our jigsaw pieces to learn our Beaver Code of Conduct we made our promise to be kind, helpful and do our best in all our meetings in the future, we were ready for another fun packed term!

In September and October, we concentrated on working as a team and problem solving. Lodge Leaders and Assistant Lodge Leaders were chosen to support the younger Beavers and welcome them into our colony. Beavers worked together to create lodge spoons and join in activities for example the floor is lava, code breaking and follow the string blindfolded with only your lodge leader for support.



By the end of October we achieved our Experiment Badge, by putting boiled eggs in coke, vinegar, and water to see what happened to the shell. Beavers also had an explosive rocket challenge!

The colony achieved the Faith badge by visiting Parkend church, where we experienced a christening, and two Beavers got married! We welcomed Five new Beavers into our colony by saying their Beaver Promise at the church. Lodge Leaders presented them with their certificates and neckerchiefs.

Looking at the My Adventure and Skills badges, the Beavers learnt how to safely light a match and light a candle, we then moved onto lighting our own fires and toasting marshmallows and eating s'mores, delicious!

November, we came together with Thursday Beavers and Friday squirrels to make a Remembrance Day display. All the young people remembered the fallen soldiers and made their own recycled plastic poppies. We played World War 2 music and talked about stories from the war. This was followed by a Remembrance Parade with 1st Royal Forest Scout groups. We came together to pay our respect by laying a wreath at the cenotaph and joining in with the service. Leaders were extremely proud of all the young people involved.

Christmas is a magical and exciting time of year for our Beaver Scouts. Especially when you participate in a Christmas camp! We Santas lost reindeer and hunting down muddy fun had by all. Beavers hot chocolate, played Christmas decorations, and learnt Christmas yoga (our cooking elf) for helping make a Beaver and leader/helper went home successful camp!



had a brilliant time searching for candy sticks in the woods. Lots of decorated the tree and lodge, we had games, sang Christmas carols, made to relax. A big thank you to Alison delicious Christmas Lunch. Every tired with a big grin on their faces, a

The Beavers have covered lot of badge work by talking about space, planets and blasting astronauts into space. We have been on walks, where we learnt our green cross code, den building, Climbing at Forest Climb, trying Chinese food and making a dragon dance. Finding out that Beavers in Hong Kong are called Grasshoppers. Thinking about our world we went to the recycling centre and found out which recyclables went in which bin. Captain Blacksheep helped us with our navigation skills, he lost his treasure, so he instructed the beavers how to read a compass and look for clues in the woods. Thankfully, we found his treasure and he rewarded us with a navigation badge. We held a 'thank you' party with sports fun and games to thank parent helpers who provide extra support to us. We had hotdogs, ice cream and a sports quiz.



1st Royal Forest Beavers is still going strong with a steady number of eighteen throughout the year. We have invested Beavers during a den building meeting, and visiting a church, 13 Beavers has gained their Chief Scouts Bronze award during this time. Two more Beavers are working hard to complete challenges to gain theirs. Within the year, 10 Beavers have moved onto 1st Royal Forest Cubs, two more have moved to another cub pack and one has used his newfound confidence to join a Theatre Group.



I would like to thank all the support within and out of Scouting. Beaver Scouts could not run without all the support of all the team members, young team members, parents, and local volunteers to help us achieve our badges, past and present. Beaver Scout has provided a challenging, and rewarding year, but, most of all, we have allowed young people to have fun, make new friends and gain amazing memories in Scouting.

Kerry Billingham and Team

[What else has Beavers been up to?](#)



Scouts Wednesday

We started September 2023 with 3 Leaders and 14 scouts. This year we have not had any scouts move up to Explorers due to the age gaps within the scouts.

In the Autumn term worked towards a number of badges and towards Christmas visited Birds Pottery in Littledean which was a new experience for us as a troop but worked really well, with scouts painting items for presents or themselves, at the end of term scouts put on our version of Cinderella to parents which included a number of solo performances from scouts.

In the Spring Term we gained Nick Stiddard as a Leader, who was one of our parents, who continues work well and be part of our Leadership Team, Thank you Nick.

We again completed many activity badges at the lodge and also visited Gloucester Warehouse, where scouts climbed and bouldered with members from our team and the Gloucestershire scouts climbing team. We also made use of the sponsorship by Warhammer to complete the model makers badge over a number of weeks which scouts enjoyed. Also, thank you to Steve, for organising and planning teams for the Cotswold marathon in February, only one of our scouts took part in the event. This was attended by leaders and scouts from all 3 nights and enjoyed by those who took part. Thank you Steve for organising.



In the summer term we made the most of the light evening, lots of outside activities including the expedition challenge where we walked from Redbrook to Botany Bay then back to St Briavels, which I think after the event the scouts who took part really enjoyed but found a challenge on the weekend, as carrying rucksacks, map reading and walking for 4 hours each day is not part of their normal routine and I think a first for most of them. Well done all that took part and completed their presentation to achieve their Expedition Challenge Award.

We also, swam at Lydney with scouts completing Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the swimming badge, climbed at Plump Hill and canoed at Mallards Pike, thanks to Lloyd for organising the session. Again this year we joined with Monday and Tuesday Scouts for Strategy which was enjoyed by all who attended.

Throughout the year we have lost and gained scouts, some finding starting Seniors school too tiring, others deciding not to go on to Explorers and leave early to start new adventures.

We also have said goodbye to Sam as a Leader as due to work commitments and personal reasons he has decided to cut his scouting down to Tuesday evenings. We would all like to thank Sam for his hard work through the year and hope he can join us for events in the future.

We will be starting September with 11 scouts and 3 permanent Leaders, with Alina and Issy still joining us when they can, which is greatly appreciated by ourselves and liked by the scouts. As a Leadership team we would like to thank everyone who has helped make the year a success including parents and members of the wider scouting teams.

Tracy, Wednesday Lead Team.

Beaver's Thursday

In early 2023 First Royal Forest decided to open their first Squirrel Drey, this alongside interest for Beavers drummed up by an open day, sparked discussion about a second Beaver colony to take some of the pressure away from the existing colony run on a Wednesday by Kerry and the team. Ellie was asked if she would help open up and start this new group, and whilst initially being supported by Kerry and Stephanie, the team ran a further open day for those on the waiting list to confirm how many young people were still interested, and to recruit some of the parents into becoming regular volunteers.

Due to this, Royal Forest Thursday Beavers opened and ran their first session on the 14th September 2023. We started with 13 Beavers, 6 parent helpers and Ellie as the Leader in charge. This first session was based around the Beavers getting to know each other and the leaders and most importantly learning what it means to be a Beaver.



Within our first term we visited Parked church as part of our faith badge, did lots of teamwork challenges, and even started to teach the Beavers about firefighting.

The Week before October half term, all of the Beavers were invested. We had the 1st Royal Forest GLV there to help celebrate with us, and all of the Beaver's family came and watched as well. We also invested our team of leaders the first week back after half term!

Over the course of the year our colony grew, and our team of parent volunteers grew into a strong team of leaders. Over the last year our team has been Ellie (Fox), Aimee (Mouse), Huw (Otter), Vicki (Boar), Alun (Stoat), Nicki (Beetle) from the parents who have stepped up from the very beginning, as well as Dan (Slow worm) and Edd (Toad). All of our Leader's names are based on animals and are always picked at random out of a hat! We also cannot forget our two young leaders who have come through the entire process with us, Tegan and Scott (Bumblebee and Bear respectively). They have been a massive help every week, even coming to help during their exams! Not only has our leadership team grown, but the number of young people has as well, and although we started with 13, were a colony of 17 over the summer, and are now sitting at 16 Beavers.

We moved some of our original Beavers up to Cubs just before the summer holidays and have taken in a few squirrels as well! We have also had a few Beavers join through word-of-mouth, who have got very stuck in! Although our current colony is at 16 Beavers, we have a few moving up to cubs after Christmas, however we know there are a few squirrels waiting to come up soon, so our numbers won't stay low for very long.

In early June our colony did its first sleepover! Not only was this the first camp for many of our Beavers, but it was the first overnight camp for us as a leadership team. We started our camp of with making our lunches then taking a walk up to Nags head, where we had a little picnic. We then played some team-working games in the forest before heading back to Beaver Lodge. After a little bit of free time, we split into groups to do some Archery, some Soft Tomahawk throwing and to collect firewood for our bonfire. All the Beavers (and the leaders) had lots of fun doing the archery, and we plan to do it again with them soon! After our activities we had some dinner, and then put up our tents inside Beaver Lodge, before going out to the fires to roast some marshmallows. The Beavers all coped really well overnight, with everyone being asleep by Midnight (Ish). Overall, our first camp was a great success, and we are planning on another one in the new year!



Over the course of the last year, the Beavers have done lots of fun activities, including going to Coleford fire station and learning about fire prevention, to learning about Dog Safety and meeting lots of Puppies. We have also made witches broomsticks, bird houses and models of the solar system.

Both the Beavers and the leadership team have grown and learned a lot over the past 12 months, and we are looking forward to what the next year will bring.

Ellie (Fox)

THURSDAY CUBS

This year has overall been extremely exciting with more activities outside, more variance in approach from the growing leadership team, and even the opportunity for everyone to experience our first cub camp as a group at Beaver Lodge as well as our sixers & seconders to attend an exciting District Cub camp with other sections from across the county!

Although we closed the summer term saying farewell to the last of our cubs who came up through the pandemic, we're proud to say each moved on to Scouts with their Chief Scout Silver awarded accordingly!

Nevertheless, throughout the year we've managed to pivot quickly when needed due to the continuation of the "change in a minute" weather patterns. Thankfully, we have been able to get outside to enjoy the sporadic sunshine for educational walks, building dens, and learning things like Bushcraft, Stargazing, and more orienteering for their Navigator badge!

One highlight this Autumn was to see a gigantic Hunters moon, and even the Starlink satellite train fly overhead as we were inducting our new cubs, at the Cyril Hart Arboretum!

To close, I'm very happy to say the new contingent of cubs, each one, are learning to work together as a group and they have made it all worthwhile for the Thursday Team, especially as the primary leader!

Jon and Team

Treasurer's Report – 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024

Charity Number: 302126

The Accounts included in this report have been prepared by myself, Diane Ruck as Group Treasurer. The accounts cover the period from 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023 – attached. These accounts have been independently examined by Sharon Stratford

The Group operates 3 bank accounts:

- HSBC Current account – all standing orders for membership subscriptions are paid into this account. This is also the Group's main account for the payment of all running costs and Lodge hire income, Lodge hire.
- HSBC – Deposit account – a contingency account that does earn a very small amount of interest.
- Lloyds Bank Plc – this account gives the Group the ability to manage online payments. This account is increasingly being used for camps and activities as well as purchases for premises and activities.
- In addition each section leader is issued with an Equals Payment debit card which enables them to make section related purchases. The Equals account is funded by deposits from the Lloyds Bank account and is run as a cashless petty cash system. Leaders have a limit on spending and have a quarterly spending limit determined by the number of members in their section.

Standing Order payments - The majority of parents are now paying by Standing Order – thank you – this is very much appreciated. There is a small saving by paying by standing order – if you would like to start paying in this way please ask your Leader for the necessary form.

Subscriptions – Membership fees - The average income for subscriptions per month has increased to £1,600.00 following the opening of the two new Squirrel dreys and the re-opening of Thursday Beavers and the start-up of Squirrels on a Friday. A clear indication of an increase in membership and the continued popularity of the Group.

Payments for Activities and Camps – increasingly bank payments are now being used to pay for trips and activities. When using this facility please ensure that any payments contain a reference to the activity and your child's section. It will assist with allocating income to the correct expenditure.

Gift Aid – following a continued effort of leaders to get parents to sign up for the Gift Aid Scheme, we have continued to claim Gift Aid from the HMRC in respect of Gift Aid on the subscriptions that you all pay for your children. A total of £4,216.00 has been claimed in the period 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023. There are still quite a few members who haven't signed up to the scheme – if you are one of them please see your child's leader to request a form or contact me at treasurer@1stroyalforest.org.uk to sign up. For every £1.00 you pay in subscriptions we can claim 25p back from the HMRC – eg. You pay £16.00 the group can claim an extra £4.00!

The income raised through the Gift Aid Scheme is used to give financial assistance to members wishing to attend an International Camps, Activities and local camps. Although these funds have been little used this year they will remain available to fund camps and activities in the future

Lodge Hire

With the continued improvements to the Lodge, demand for rentals is an increasingly important source of income from the Group. Thank you to the Executive and all the Leaders who continue to make an impressive effort to improving and maintaining the Lodge.

Summary

Significant savings have been made this year through the re-negotiation of electricity, telephone and insurance costs. A small profit over the year will mean that the Group will continue to be able to offer high quality scouting in the Forest of Dean.

Diane Ruck - Group Treasurer

1st Royal Forest Scout Group
Income and Expenditure
Account
Year Ended 31st August 2024
All bank accounts

INCOME

Dep A/C interest	85.34
Subscriptions	19,092.50
Lodge Hire	3,358.00
Events/Camps	4,681.78
HMRC Gift Aid	4,216.66
Grant	3,400.00
Fund Raising	20.05
Donations	123.05
Uniform	20.00
Misc	354.25
Training	900.00

EXPENDITURE

Repairs and Maintenance	2,681.02
Gas	702.10
Electricity	1,552.65
Water	295.62
Phone	492.45
Waste	1,738.65
Capitation	7,259.00
Badges	1,273.61
Insurance	4,476.91
Cleaning	
Camps and Activities including Transfers to Equals Section Cards	3,713.03
Section Resources	1,681.54
Misc	1,646.60
Uniforms	807.29
Refunds	32.00
Training	840.00
Equipment	524.30
Licences	527.41
Traversing wall	948.87

Total Income 36,251.63

31,193.05

Bank Accounts

Balance brought forward	
HSBC Current Account	11,122.25
Lloyds Current Account	4,720.99
HSBC Deposit Account	4,465.44

Balance Carried Forward

HSBC Current Account	13,235.66
Lloyds Current Account	7,580.82
HSBC Deposit Account	4,550.78

Role of Honour September 2023 to August 2024

Long Service Awards

5 Years

Francesca Barnett



10 Years

Lucy Crick

Kerryanne Billingham



15 Years

Stephen Crick



20 Years

Alison Buttery



Wood Badge

Lily Hough

Angela Healy

Fiona Morrissy

Henretta Smith



Award for Merit

Fiona Morrissy

The Award for Merit is awarded for outstanding service. It implies keen, conscientious, imaginative and dedicated service over a sustained period, of at least 12 years duration



Camp Fire Circle

1st Royal Forest Scout Group
Income and Expenditure Account
Year Ended 31st August 2024
All bank accounts

INCOME

Dep A/C interest	85.34
Subscriptions	19,092.50
Lodge Hire	3,358.00
Events/Camps	4,681.78
HMRC Gift Aid	4,216.66
Grant	3,400.00
Fund Raising	20.05
Donations	123.05
Uniform	20.00
Misc	354.25
Training	900.00

Total Income 36,251.63

Bank Accounts
Balance brought forward
HSBC Current Account
Lloyds Current Account
HSBC Deposit Account

11,122.25
4,720.99
4,465.44

20,308.68

Surplus 23/24 **5,058.58**

25,367.26

EXPENDITURE

Repairs and Maintenance	2,681.02
Gas	702.10
Electricity	1,552.65
Water	295.62
Phone	492.45
Waste	1,738.65
Capitation	7,259.00
Badges	1,273.61
Insurance	4,476.91
Cleaning	
Camps and Activities including T	3,713.03
Section Resources	1,681.54
Misc	1,646.60
Uniforms	807.29
Refunds	32.00
Training	840.00
Equipment	524.30
Licences	527.41
Traversing wall	948.87

31,193.05

Balance Carried Forward
HSBC Current Account
Lloyds Current Account
HSBC Deposit Account

13,235.66
7,580.82
4,550.78

25,367.26



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name

1ST ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st August 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

302126

Set out on pages

1 / 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

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

Signed:

S. Sutherland

Date:

15/11/24

Name:

SIMON SUTHERLAND

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

Widdermore, Canal Road, Belper,
Derby, DE9 4JA

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

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

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

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

Treasurers Report for Executive Meeting - 17th November 2024

Bank balances as at 17.11.2024

HSBC – Deposit Account	£4,572.79
HSBC – Current Account	£16,528.75

Lloyds Bank Plc – Current Account

£5,509.29

Fairfax – Equals cards – available to spend
Already allocated to accounts -

£66.53
£998.80

Monday Scouts	£156.07
Tuesday Cubs	£5.25
Tuesday Scouts	£132.14
Wednesday Scouts	£170.60
Wednesday Beavers	£136.68
Thursday Beavers	£163.38
Thursday Cubs	£4.01
Friday Squirrels	£80.67
Monday Squirrels	£150.00

Total Monies Held

£27,676.16

Expected Income

Average monthly income for subscriptions has decreased slightly to £1,600.00 (£1,900.00 previously).

Non payers identified and notified to Leaders to chase.

Treasurer to issue invoices for £61.00 per child to Leaders/Assistants not paying by monthly standing order.

Gift Aid

£516.00	September and October
---------	-----------------------

Electricity Contract - new one year contract started with EON electricity starting on the 1st October 2024. Reduced monthly direct debit from £169.00 to £112.00

Telephone contract - new two year contract started with TALK TALK - reduction from £43.19 to £38.34 per month

Insurance - A big thank you to Brian for helping with collating quotes and to Gareth for liaising with our previous insurers. Our insurance is now with Unity which gave us a saving of £890.00 on the quote from our previous insurer.
Waste management - awaiting confirmation from Executive on proposed transfer to Smiths Waste removal.

Year End Accounts

Please see attached year end accounts (combined HSBC current/deposit account and Lloyds Bank

Accounts have now been independently examined by Sharon Stratford and will be available for acceptance at the AGM planned for the 24th November

1ST ROYAL FOREST OF DEAN SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 302126

Accounts

1st ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP



Annual Report And Accounts

1st Sept 2022 – 31st August 2023

Charity Number: 30212

Chair's Report

Another exciting year for the group, we have been growing again with the addition of an all-new Squirrel section and the restart of Thursday Beaver section. This takes us to 3 Scout troops, 2 Cub packs, 2 Beaver colonies and a Squirrel dray!

As you can imagine the lodge is now busy every evening in the week, with an increase in volunteers to support our young people in their Scouting adventure. We are looking as an Exec to support all these sections with improvements to facilities and opportunities for activities.

To this end, the rear area of the garage has now finished being boarded out and shelving erected, which means some of the equipment that was cluttering up the hall has now been moved out making a cleaner space for section meetings. We have applications in for grants to add to our activity equipment, including a sports and activity pack primarily for the Beaver and Squirrel sections and funding for climbing holds for the traversing wall we are erecting across the bridge. All new benches have been provided for the outside area, some made by the scouts themselves and funded by their fund raising.

Future plans need to include looking at the lodge roof and undertaking some repairs.. any roofers out there willing to help please contact me. Hopefully over the winter spring the hall itself will get a freshen up with new paint and we are still looking to build fire and cooking shelters in the grounds.

I'd like to thanks all the members of the exec for their work and support for the group, work that happens in the background to keep the group financially stable and able to operate. However, there is always more to do, and we could always do with more funding so we can continue with improvements and replacement of damaged equipment. Volunteers are always needed, if you can help either on the exec or just for an occasional few hours at odd times, please let us know. Lots of smaller jobs or bits of decorating that could be done at times that suit you 😊 Lastly, I'd like to express my thanks to all our leaders and volunteers that work with the young people, without these wonderful people we could not provide the learning and opportunities that the young people have access to. Our volunteers give up their time in the evenings and at weekends to help others. Additional time spent on courses to run their sections and to gain activity training and permits. Hopefully they feel they also benefit from all their effort, gaining new skills and seeing the young people they work with develop and grow over time. Many thanks to you all for your support and help this year and we look forward to the next year

Steve McAuliffe
Chair 1st Royal Forest Scout Group

Email – chair@1stroyalforest.org.uk Find us at: [Website](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#)

GSL report

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the leaders and the Executive for their hard work in the last year, and for the time they give up to allow the Group to operate.

As we came out of the Pandemic it was still hard for the leaders to build up the skills that we lost over the previous years when we could not meet face to face, we also have had a number of leaders that have had issues with their health or have had to look after other family members, and I would like to thank and wish them all the very best and to get well as soon as they can. This has

caused us some issues with the skills that are in place and I would like to thank all the leaders for rallying around to help each other overcome planning and how to run sections.

This was the end of a 4 year cycle for the world Scout Jamboree which runs every 4 years and I am really pleased that 2 of our old Scouts were successful in getting chosen to represent their County and us at the World Scout Jamboree in S Korea, to coincide with this we also had Scouts join others at the Haarlem Jamborette in Holland and a big thank you to all of the leaders that went and took a District party across. This is a great first international camp for Scouts and hopefully there will be many more attending in the future.

Our Cubs attended a large gathering held in Cirencester Park this year called Evolution and my thanks go out to Ang Healy and all the leaders and helpers who took the Cubs along.

Looking forward we are planning to open a new Beaver Colony to reduce the waiting list we have and the Executive have also agreed that we can open a Squirrel Drey which is a new section for 4 to 6 year old's within Scouting.

Lastly I would like to acknowledge the time that our Chairman puts into the running and maintenance of Beaver Lodge, with out his skills and time commitment we would not have the facility that we have, so Thanks Steve and also thanks to your family for allowing you to help out. Here's to a new Scouting year and hopefully lots of young people and adults taking part with lots of great Scouting activities

Gareth
Group Scout Leader

1st Royal Forest Wednesday Beaver Scouts Annual Report

The numbers for Beaver Scouts kept a healthy number of 18 throughout the year. We invested 9 new Beavers into our colony and saw 4 swim up to cubs, with 2 moving onto other adventures and 3 still with us. The Beaver section has been operating well since September and managed all our usual indoor and outdoor meetings.

1st Royal Forest Beavers paid respects to the queen after hearing the sad news that she had passed away. We read a poem and thanked the Queen for her service to Scouting. However, in May we made nature crowns for King Charles II and Queen Camilla's coronation as we know they love nature.



We have covered a lot of Beaver badge work over the year by visiting the Arboretum and having a leaf hunt and naming the trees. Also, Pirate training, AKA, navigation skills; a pirate called Captain Black sheep wanted us to learn compass skills, locate ourselves on a map then using our skills we

found his treasure! 1st Royal Forest Beavers has been grass sledging, building fires, climbing at Forest climbing Centre, walks, first aid training, pond dipping, learning about each other's hobbies or interests and raising £70.15 for the local hedgehog rescue centre. Billy and Kandy, two guide dogs for the deaf and blind came to visit us it was amazing how they had changed their owner's lives.



A purrrrrr-fect time had by all at the Pantomime at Everyman theatre to watch Dick Whittington and his Cat. At our last meeting before Christmas we were interrupted by two elves, they wanted us to follow them through the snowy woods, it was magical as we found Santa who came back to the lodge and had party food and even played the hokey cokey with beavers and parents. In the New Year Beavers turned into Palaeontologists; we went fossil hunting and studied dinosaur bones. The most exciting time for me was the 'We're going on a bear hunt' camp. We hiked through the woods up to Nagshead, made seed bombs, went fishing, made bird boxes, constructed bubble wands to see if we could make huge bubbles but we could not find the bear. It was only after we hiked back to Beaver Lodge did we find them all over the grounds. I think we were tired from our hike as Beavers never woke until 7.30/8am in the morning!

Beavers have learnt to make sandwiches, decorate cakes, with help make tea or coffee and serve it to a very important person that they invited to our Very Important Person Cafe. 1st Royal Forest leaders came together in April for a Spring Fete, St. George's Day Parade and Be a Scout for day in May. In July we were involved in the Squirrel and Beaver open day, which saw a great number of young people interested in joining Scouts. Wednesday Beavers are looking forward to joining with the new Thursday Beaver colony and Squirrel drey over the next year for some fun activities.



All this could not be done without the amazing 1st Royal Forest Beaver Team. We welcomed Steve Doe and Tom Billingham into our colony, they have been a big help alongside Fran Barnett. Our amazing 4 young leaders, whom two have reached 18 years old and are now leaders! Not only they attend every week but are with us planning, providing material and even risk assessing. Without these amazing leaders, the 1st Royal Forest Beaver Scouts would not be able to do all the amazing, fun activities that we provide. We make a fantastic team together, here to more fun and games!

Kerry Billingham 1st Royal Forest Beaver Scout Leader

First Royal Forest Wednesday Scouts

We started September 2022 with 2 Leaders, 1 Young Leader and 12 Scouts. This year we have had 3 scouts move up to Explorers with 2 gaining their Gold award. In the Autumn term we camped at The Climbing Warehouse in Gloucester where Scouts took part in climbing and caving sessions, this was opened up to the other troops in order to fill the places.

At the beginning of term we volunteered with the Forestry maintaining the grounds around one of the bat houses near the college and learning about the bats that lived there, which all scouts enjoyed. Close to the beginning of term we also gained Sam as a Leader.

In the Spring Term scouts completed bike maintenance and took part in a forest cycle ride in order to complete their cycling badge. We also swam at Freedom Leisure Lydney where all scouts who attended completed at least their Level 1 Swimming badge. We also took part in the International Embers Campfire as well as bouldering at Forest Climbing in Cinderford.

In the Summer Term we worked with Pillowell Recreation Grounds learning about the history of the Rec and helping to maintain it, a number of scouts live local so this gave an added interest to the visits. We also climbed at Plump Hill and kayaked at Symonds Yat which was enjoyed by all scouts who took part. At the end of the term scouts were able to try both rifle shooting and archery at Beaver Lodge.

As a group we combined together to attend Strategy which was enjoyed by all those who attended. Throughout the year we had 4 scouts leave and gained scouts from cubs and new to scouting to end the summer term with 13 scouts and 3 Leaders having said Goodbye to Issy who is now at University. As a Leadership team we would like to thank everyone who has helped make the year a success including parents and members of the wider scouting teams. We are still seeking a Young Leader and active leaders willing to help with planning and attend regularly in order to continue the varied and active program through 2024.

Tracy Lashford

Thursday Cubs Report

This year has been a lot of ups and down with new cubs joining, cubs going on to Scouts, and of course the tried and steady core group.

Due to the lovely "change in a minute" weather patterns over the year we've learned to pivot quickly and have spent a lot of time indoors working on badges like Entertainer and Artist; nevertheless, we have occasionally been able to get outside to enjoy the sporadic sunshine and learn things like bike maintenance for Cycling and orienteering for their Navigator badge!

This Autumn term has probably been the hardest as we've had less numbers than expected both in returning after summer break as well as people have emailed to join but then not actually shown, or decided that the Thursday evening wasn't as expected due to the later meeting times; however, having a growing leadership team, and some brilliant young leaders, has made it easier to have a lot of fun working our way to the Chiefs Silver badge for the 3 cubs who are leaving next so I'm very happy to say they've only one or two last things to tidy up to then award before they move on! Even with these "hiccups"

I have to say It's all of the cubs, each one, who've made it all worthwhile for the Thursday Team, especially as the primary leader!

Jon Humphrey

Tuesday Cubs Report 2023

September 2022 saw us start the year with a great programme of both indoor and outdoor Activities.

Cubs enjoyed Firelighting Cooking on fires and also campfire singing.

We attended the Remembrance Parade in Bream and had a good turn out as usual.

Tuesday cubs have attended several camps including an Easter Camp where Cubs designed and filled their own Easter eggs - the eggs were kindly donated by Forest Food Bank.

Later in the Summer, Sixers and Seconders attended Evolution Camp and had a great time.!

During Spring term we held a joint activity afternoon with Wednesday Beavers. The theme was

Hedgehogs. We raised £75 for a local Hedgehog rescue called Samantha's Little Prickles.

Over the year 3 x Tuesday cubs have been awarded their Chief Scout Silver Award and also 2 Cubs have recently been awarded the final stage for the Youshape badge.
Currently 16 cubs on role with 4 adults and 2 Young Leaders.



Ang Healy

The following section was started in September 2023 and it was agreed that the Council members would like to be made aware of the progress made in the last two months.

Squirrel Drey news

During the spring and early summer of 2023 the GSL Gareth asked Ellie if she would be willing to head up a second Beaver Colony as there was a significant waiting list. As part of these discussions and a further look at the list it was identified there were also a significant number of young people of Squirrel age. There are only 2 other Squirrel Dreys in the District – Aylburton and Lydney and Newent. Both were full with waiting lists. It was decided to open a Squirrel Drey and Stephanie volunteered to head the team.

An open event was held on Sunday 16th July, inviting all the appropriate aged young people on the Beaver waiting list (between 4-6 years old and the invitation was also put out to the Aylburton and Lydney Squirrel waiting list through their GSL. The open event was supported by other leaders in the Group, in particular the Beaver colony and the District Network. 22 young people registered to join the Drey and another 8 were added to the waiting list not quite of age. 7 adults offered to help.

During the summer and early September DBS checks and initial training was started and some initial planning with the Drey opening on September the 15th with 21 of the 22 attending.

Over the next few weeks the Squirrels got to know each other and the leaders, they gained their all about me badge, learned about recycling and reusing, made some amazing picture using what they found outside, learned all about being a Squirrel Scout and their Promise and for Halloween did weird experiments and overall we have had great fun. We invested 13 Squirrels just before half term and we have a brilliant leadership team of 9 adults, one experienced leader (Stephanie) and two new leaders who have already started working towards their full leader training to gain their Wood-badge.

There are 6 new Squirrels joining in November leaving 15 of age on the waiting list. One of the new leaders is happy to lead a team to open a second Squirrel Drey and discussion are on going as to where that should be based.

Stephanie



Recycling and reusing



1st Royal Forest Squirrel Scout Dray

1st Royal Forest Scout Group
Treasurer's Report – 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023
Charity Number: 302126

The Accounts included in this report have been prepared by myself, Diane Ruck as Group Treasurer. The accounts cover the period from 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023 - attached

The Group operates 3 bank accounts:

- HSBC Current account – all standing orders for membership subscriptions are paid into this account. This is also the Group's main account for the payment of all running costs and Lodge hire income, Lodge hire.
- HSBC – Deposit account – a contingency account that does earn a very small amount of interest.
- Lloyds Bank Plc – this account gives the Group the ability to manage online payments. This account is increasingly being used for camps and activities as well as purchases for premises and activities.
- In addition each section leader is issued with an Equals Payment debit card which enables them to make section related purchases. The Equals account is funded by deposits from the Lloyds Bank account and is run as a cashless petty cash system. Leaders have a limit on spending and have a quarterly spending limit determined by the number of members in their section.

Standing Order payments

The majority of parents are now paying by Standing Order – thank you – this is very much appreciated. There is a small saving by paying by standing order – if you would like to start paying in this way please ask your Leader for the necessary form.

Subscriptions – Membership fees

The average income for subscriptions per month has been £1,300.00. This is likely to increase due to the re-opening of Thursday Beavers and the start-up of Squirrels on a Friday.

Payments for Activities and Camps – increasingly bank payments are now being used to pay for trips and activities. When using this facility please ensure that any payments contain a reference to the activity and your child's section. It will assist with allocating income to the correct expenditure.

Gift Aid – following a continued effort of leaders to get parents to sign up for the Gift Aid Scheme, we have continued to claim Gift Aid from the HMRC in respect of Gift Aid on the subscriptions that you all pay for your children. A total of £2,196.41 has been claimed in the period 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023. If you haven't signed up already, get a form from your Leader.

The income raised through the Gift Aid Scheme is used to give financial assistance to members wishing to attend an International Camps, Activities and local camps. Although these funds have been little used this year they will remain available to fund camps and activities in the future eg. Next World Jamboree and Haarlam Camp in Holland.

Lodge Hire

With the continued improvements to the Lodge, demand for rentals is an increasingly important source of income from the Group. The Executive and all the Leaders continue to make an impressive effort to improving and maintaining the Lodge.

Summary

Despite a small in year loss in the current account, due in part to increased utility prices and ongoing maintenance, all of the Group's accounts are in a good position and able to ensure the continued provision of quality Scouting at 1st Royal Forest Scout Group

Diane Ruck
Group Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE AGM

18th November 2022 Beaver Lodge @ 7.00 pm

Members Present

Gareth Ovens (Group Scout Leader), Steve McAuliffe (Chair), Diane Ruck (Treasurer), Alison Buttery (Secretary), Brian Wingfield, Steve Crick, Lucy Crick, Sam Clayton, Louise Temblett, Kerry Billingham, Anita Wintle, Jon Humphrey and Martin Williams.

WELCOME:

The chair welcomed everybody to the meeting including Martin Williams the District Training Manager who was representing the District.

APOLOGIES:

These were received from Ang Healy, Fiona Morrissey, Tracy Lashford, Alina Lashford, Tom Billingham and Mark Stapleton (District Commissioner)

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING 26th NOVEMBER 2021

Copies have been available on the Group web site and hard copies were available at the meeting. The Chair asked for approval by a show of hands.

PRESENTATION OF THE ACCOUNTS

The treasurer presented a copy of the accounts which had been posted on line and copies were also available at the meeting.

The executive had discussed and approved the accounts at their meeting on the 23rd October and the treasurer pointed out that we had received numerous grants and payments which stood us in good stead for the next year.

Our income from gift aid is of great benefit and should slightly improve as the subscriptions return to normal level. Although our accounts show a healthy position during the next year there will be more expenditure as we return to full time scouting.

The Chair thanked the treasurer and asked that the accounts are adopted this was proposed by Kerry Billingham and seconded by Alison Buttery and agreed by a show of hands.

ADOPTION OF REPORT

The Executive approved the Annual Report at their meeting held on the 23rd October 2022; they have been available on the Group web site together with copies available at the meeting. The Chair thanked the Secretary for producing the report and asked the meeting to adopt it; this was proposed by Martin Williams and seconded by Sam Clayton and agreed by a show of hands.

TO ELECT THE GROUP TREASURE AND GROUP SECRETARY.

Diane Ruck as Treasurer and Alison Buttery as Secretary were proposed as there were no further names forthcoming, that they be elected was proposed by Gareth and seconded by Anita Wintle and agreed by a show of hands

GROUP SCOUT LEADERS NOMINATION OF CHAIR.

Gareth nominated Steve as Chair and thanked for all the work that he has done during the last 12 months, the meeting approved the nomination by a show of hands.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

The Chair read a list of ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.

The Group Chair	Steve McAuliffe
The Group Secretary	Alison Buttery
The Group Treasurer	Diane Ruck
The Group Scout Leader	Gareth Ovens
The District Chair and District Commissioner	have a right to attend

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section Leader Monday Scouts	Fiona Morrissey
Section Leader Tuesday Cubs	Ang Healy
Section Leader Tuesday Scouts	Steve Crick
Section Leader Wednesday Beavers	Kerry Billingham
Section Leader Thursday Cubs	Jon Humphrey

That they be elected proposed by Diane Ruck and seconded by Steve McAuliffe and approved by the meeting by a show of hands.

THE GROUP SCOUT LEADERS NOMINATION TO THE GROUP EXECUTIVE.

Gareth nominated Sam Clayton (Scout Leader), Anita Wintle (Parent) and Louise Temblett (Parent) That the nominations be accepted was proposed by Diane Ruck and seconded by Steve McAuliffe and by a show of hands approval by the meeting.

THE GROUP SCOUT LEADERS REPORT.

Gareth referred those present to his report which is on the Group Web site, in the Annual report together with a copy on the rear of the agenda.

THE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Gareth introduced Martin Williams the District Training Manager who thanked the Group for the invite and from the report there had been lots going on.

Martin said: *Royal Forest is always at the forefront of the District, it supplies loads of activities within the group and wider in the District.*

My Huge tanks go to all the leaders, helpers and executive members for making the group such a success.

Gareth need a special vote of thanks as he seems to be able to fit 25 hours into everyday and is always there when you need him!

A special thanks must go to Brian and Steve (Chairman) as already mentioned, for his outstanding services to the Group and Scouting in general.

Please remember the District Team is there to support the group and its sections with training, advice and help programming.

Martin also mentioned that Squirrel's would be able to do Nights Away from January 2023

Martin also read out a report from Mark Stapleton (District Commissioner):

Thank you for the invite to your AGM. However I was not able to attend due to another Scout Appointment and I am sure that Martin Williams will be able to reflect my points to be made. Thank you Martin.

While in my first year of my appointment it has been a challenge to bring the district back up to speed after leaving the past two years behind. Royal Forest has been a lead in the District bringing scouting back into the great outdoors and providing opportunities.

The Challenges for us ahead are around recruiting Parents to our Executives and the need to ensure that they are supported and encouraged to be a vital part of how we operate. Although section leaders have a role in the executive, this should be a fair balance between parents or group friends and leaders.

We also have a challenge to bring younger members into the support roles in scouting and we are in need of ensuring we have representation in the 18 to 30 age range on the group executive.

I hope that during this meeting you have been able to achieve this balance, and nominate parents into these roles on the Group Executive or just as members to the executive.

There is an important role for all of us to play, and as a District team we are here to help you all, parents and leaders to achieve the best scouting for your young people.

PRESENTATIONS

Martin presented 20 Year Certificate to Diane Ruck, Chief Scout's Commendation to Steve McAuliffe, 5 Year Certificate to Jon Humphrey.

Michelle Screen & Lloyd Townsend also achieved there 5 Year Certificates

CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair then thanked everybody for coming and declared the meeting closed.
Refreshments were then served.

GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

26th November 2023

AGENDA

1. **Welcome**
2. **Apologies**
3. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th November 2022**
4. **To receive the Accounts**
5. **To receive the Annual report of the Group**
6. **To change the title of the Executive Committee to Board of Trustees.**
7. **To adopt the Constitution to reflect the change of name**
8. **To elect the Secretary and Treasurer to the Board of Trustees**
9. **To approve the Group Scout Leaders nomination of the Chair of the Trustees Board**
10. **To Confirm Ex-officio members of the Trustee Board**
11. **Election of members of the Council to the Group Trustee Board**
12. **Group Scout Leaders nomination to the Group Trustee Board**
13. **The nomination of Co-opted members to the Group Trustee Board**
14. **Appoint an auditor, independent examiner or scrutineer**
15. **The Group Scout Leader**
16. **The District Commissioner**
17. **Awards and Presentations**
18. **Close of meeting**

**FIRST ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST, 2023**

INCOME

Dep A/C Interest	£31.04
Subscriptions	£15,267.00
Lodge Hire	£4,024.00
Events/Camps	£3,474.31
HMRC Gift Aid	£2,196.41
Grant	£1,000.00
Fund Raising	£1,200.66
Donations	£720.00
Uniform	£25.00
Misc	£67.29

£28,005.71

LOSS FOR YEAR £3,366.77

£31,372.48

BANK ACCOUNTS

bal b/fwd

HSBC C/A	£12,607.81
LLOYDS C/A	£6,633.24
DEPOSIT A/C	£4,434.40

£23,675.45

EXPENSES

Repairs & Maint	£4,506.56
Gas/Elec	£1,997.79
Badges	£703.64
Water	£158.20
Phone/Internet	£434.76
Capitation	£5,782.00
Insurance	£3,985.31
Camps/Activities	£7,481.85
Waste Removal	£1,627.89
Section Resources	£397.80
Misc	£733.24
Uniform	£275.00
Equipment	£2,579.78
Adult Training	£75.00
Cleaning	£120.00
Subs Refunded	£192.00
Licences	£252.70
Fundraising Costs	£68.96

£31,372.48

LOSS FOR YEAR £3,366.77

Bal c./fwd:	HSBC	£11,122.25
	LLOYDS	£4,720.99
	DEP A/C	£4,465.44

£23,675.45

furnished to me and I hereby certify them as correct.

S. Stratford

Windermere, Parkend, Lydney

5th February, 2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

1st Royal Forest Scout Group

On accounts for the year
ended

31/08/2023

Charity no
(if any)

302126

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 08 2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

Independent
examiner's statement

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

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

Signed:

S. Stratford

Date:

05/02/2024

Name:

Sarah Stratford

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

WINDERMERE

CARLISLE ROAD

PARVLYN, LINDSEY CO. GLIS 41R

1ST ROYAL FOREST OF DEAN SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 302126

Accounts



1st ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP



Annual Report

And

Accounts

1 Sept 2021 – 31 August 2022

Charity Number: 302126

Chairman's Report

After two years of various restrictions the Group and Scouting are now pretty much back to normal. We are still being vigilant with COVID on the increase, but it is very much business as usual currently.

The leaders throughout this year have again been excellent, and my thanks to all of them for their time and efforts. They have delivered a wide program of activities across all age groups which have benefited our members. We have a number of our group that have taken part in trips overseas, and indeed on the seas as part of the Tall Ships Expedition. Next year current and former members are also overseas at the world and Haarlem jamborees as well as a number of camps in the UK.

The work the executive does in the background to support the group should also be recognised. This year Brian will be stepping back from the exec after a health scare, Alison will hopefully be filling his shoes after the AGM. He has volunteered with Scouting for most of his life, the knowledge he has is near impossible to replace, I'd like to thank Brian for his guidance and efforts and I'm thankful he will still be there in the background offering advice as we need it.

Many thanks also to Diane for her great work as treasurer, it's not an easy task managing the accounts, cards for the group and the various sections. However, Diane seems to make it easy for the rest of us, so many thanks.

Work has continued around the lodge this year, basic maintenance and some improvements. The camp fire area now has some bench seating installed to improve the experience. I'd like to thank one of the parents, Craig, for helping with that work, also for digging out at the rear of the garage to improve drainage. The flaky container is now not so flaky having been given a first coat of paint, this time the work was done by a couple that hired the grounds for an event and volunteered to do some work for us, so thanks to them for their time and effort.

The garage is now fully powered up, and hopefully by the time this is published we'll have invested in new patrol tent-age to store in there. Just need to get rid of some of the old canvas to make room (when is Gareth next away?)

All in all we are in good shape, hiring of the site is on the increase, which the improvements can only help with. We hire to other scout groups and youth groups such as DofE participants, we have also hired out to film crews that have used the lodge as a production base. This all brings in extra funding for the group which helps reduce the costs we would otherwise need to pass on.

However, there is always more to do, and we could always do with more funding so we can continue with improvements and replacement of damaged equipment. Volunteers are always needed, if you can help either on the exec or just for an occasional few hours at odd times, please let us know. Lots of smaller jobs or bits of decorating that could be done at times that suit you 😊

Many thanks to you all for your support and help this year and we look forward to the next year

Steve McAuliffe

Chair 1st Royal Forest Scout Group

Email – chair@1stroyalforest.org.uk

What's going on? - <https://1stroyalforest.org.uk/>

Do you shop at Amazon?

If so then please use Amazon Smile, we are a registered charity with Amazon Smile, just select **"1st Royal Forest of Dean Scout Group"** and then shop as normal using the Amazon Smile link, we get a little bit each time from Amazon when you spend.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

GSL report September 2021 to August 2022

So another year has passed where we have had to still deal with the pandemic, and I would like to take the opportunity of thanking all of the adults involved in the Group whether they are leaders in the sections or as part of our Group Executive for all the work they have done in keeping us going.

As we started our new financial year we started to come away from many of the restrictions that we had had in the previous financial year. We were starting to come back with Face to Face Scouting but in most cases this was still meeting outside as we have some vulnerable adults and they decided that outside was less risk.

During the year our sections have started to become more adventurous and started getting back to the Scouting we have always known, we have young people attending a European trip to Belgium, taking part in a tall ships adventure, preparing for a trip to Haarlem in 2023 and 2 of our ex Scouts have been selected to attend the next World Scout Jamboree in S Korea in 2023, In terms of local Scouting we have attended a camp for Scouts held in Cirencester where they met over 2,000 Scouts and Explorers and for the first time the organisers had opened up the event to Cubs and we had a number of our Cubs attend

My hope for the coming year is that we will continue to get back to Scouting inside, camps will be held in tents and not under beds at home like they have been, We must still be on our guard as Covid has not gone away and keeps rearing its ugly head, however, I cannot say how proud I am of all our adults who volunteer for us either within a section or on our executive, that we have continued to offer Scouting to all of our young people who wanted to take part, thank you to you the parents for keeping with us and as we move out of the pandemic it seems that events in Europe have arrived which are causing major ripples in the financial markets meaning all of us will need to be aware of our financial outgoings. The executive are very mindful of this and are looking at how we can support all of our adults and young people whilst still making sure that we can offer Scouting at its very best for all.

I would like to end with a very big thank you to Steve our Chairman for all the work he has done in the last year to continue to sort out our new store building and all the other building works he has done, we could not have done this without Steve and funding from our District Council which allowed us to make the improvements.

I would also like to say a very big thank you to Brian who has so much knowledge in his head and who offers this to us whenever we need it, we almost lost him this year due to a health scare and as such he is going to step down as secretary at our AGM but he is still going to be in the background helping us and keeping us on the straight and narrow.

If I have missed anyone off with my thanks then I am sorry but you are all too numerous to mention.

Gareth

Group Scout Leader

Treasurer's Report – 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022

Charity Number: 302126

The Accounts included in this report have been prepared by myself, Diane Ruck as Group Treasurer. The accounts cover the period from 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021. These accounts will be examined by an Independent Auditor and a return completed to the Charity Commission.

The Group operates 3 bank accounts:

- HSBC Current account – all standing orders for membership subscriptions are paid into this account. This is also the Group's main account for the payment of all running costs and Lodge hire income, Lodge hire.
- HSBC – Deposit account – a contingency account that does earn a very small amount of interest.

- Lloyds Bank Plc – this account gives the Group the ability to manage online payments. This account is increasingly being used for camps and activities as well as purchases for premises and activities.
- In addition each section leader is issued with an Equals Payment debit card which enables them to make section related purchases. The Equals account is funded by deposits from the Lloyds Bank account and is run as a cashless petty cash system. Leaders have a limit on spending and have a quarterly spending limit determined by the number of members in their section.

Standing Order payments

The majority of parents are now paying by Standing Order – thank you – this is very much appreciated. There is a small saving by paying by standing order – if you would like to start paying in this way please ask your Leader for the necessary form.

Subscriptions

The Executive are aware that the cost of living crisis will be affecting everyone in the coming months. There will be no increases in membership fees for the foreseeable future but we cannot guarantee this long term. Membership fees will be reviewed regularly by the Executive.

Membership fees

Gift Aid – following a continued effort of leaders to get parents to sign up for the Gift Aid Scheme, we have continued to claim Gift Aid from the HMRC in respect of Gift Aid on the subscriptions that you all pay for your children. A total of £2,387.47 has been claimed in the period 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022. If you haven't signed up already, get a form from your Leader.

The income raised through the Gift Aid Scheme is used to give financial assistance to members wishing to attend an International Camps, Activities and local camps. Although these funds have been little used this year they will remain available to fund camps and activities in the future e.g. Next World Jamboree in South Korea and Haarlem Camp in Holland.

Grants

As a business rates payer, the Group have continued to receive Coronavirus grants of £500.00 from the Forest of Dean District Council. This will be the last payment – fingers crossed!

In summary, the Group's finances remain in a secure position. The return to face to face scouting has seen an increase in both income and expenditure. Lodge Hire has increased and the young people are back enjoying exciting activities, experiences and camps that are at the heart of the Scouting experience.

Diane Ruck

Group Treasurer

Beaver Scouts

August 2021 to August 2022.

I am pleased the way the Beaver colony has bounced back after a strange two years. The numbers started growing at a healthy rate. We invested 18 new Beavers into our colony over the past year and saw 13 swim up to cubs, with 3 moving onto other adventures and 2 still with us. The Beaver section has been operating normally since September and managed all our usual indoor and outdoor meetings again.

1st Royal Forest Beavers attended the Remembrance parade at West Dean Centre where we paraded up to the Cenotaph. We were all proud of the Beavers who were all extremely smart, well behaved and impressed how well they lowered the standard and laid our wreath on the cenotaph.

We were invited to a Beavers in Space Virtual Camp in February, where Hertfordshire Scouts live streamed from zoom to YouTube, using the Facebook group to post photos and comments. The

programme consisted of a Lego work shop, space talk, drawing, cooking, camp fire and family challenges. Over 1,000 participants joined in!

We have covered a lot of Beaver badge work by making Elf homes from natural material, making pancakes from scratch and Beavers washing up after themselves! We have been grass sledging, building fires and cooking lovely sticky fruit and chocolate tortilla wraps. At Easter we had our annual Easter Egg Hunt – Who Stole the Easter Eggs? Where Beaver's had to find out which cartoon character had taken the chocolate and if they could find them in time. June was a busy month where we visited the fire station in Coleford. Beavers were able to look over the fire engine, wear the firefighter's uniform and even have a go on their hose, Great fun had by all! With thanks to Akela Ang, Tuesday Cub leader, we were able to join them at Skill zone in Gloucester. We had a fabulous time learning about safety, how to contact the emergency services, stranger danger, railway and road crossing and dangers in the home. Everybody went home with good safety knowledge.

The First Royal Forest clubbed together to hold a family fun day for the Queens Platinum Jubilee. We all enjoyed hunt the corgi's, making nature crowns, raffle, adult vs kids challenge and especially hot dogs and bacon rolls! It was great to see the whole of 1st Royal Forest enjoying time together. Sadly, later on we commemorated the Queens life by reading a poem, saying our promise, playing royal games and all had commemorative badges.

All this could not be done without the amazing 1st Royal Forest Beaver Team. We welcomed Steve Doe into our colony, he has been a big help alongside Fran Barnett. Our amazing 4 young leaders who not only attend every week but are with us planning, providing material and even started risk assessing. Without these amazing leaders, the 1st Royal Forest Beaver Scouts would not be in a fantastic position that it is in and be able to do all the amazing, fun activities that we provide. On a sad note, we had to say goodbye to one of our amazing leaders, Alison Buttery. Alison has 15 years' service with the Scout movement. She is seeking to take the Group Secretary role and is unable to keep her leader role. I personally want to thank her for all the support and advice she has given me over the years. We made a fantastic team together and 1st Royal Forest Beavers is not the same without you.

As our numbers have increased, so quickly, and the waiting list is rising, we would like to encourage more adults to join our team. I am a firm believer in the initiative of Flexible Volunteering. We know that not everyone is able to commit to attending a meeting every week, but if we could increase our team of leaders/volunteers, this makes it easier for everyone and allows us to continue to provide an exciting and challenging programme for our Beavers. There are many ways that you can help or even run your own Beaver Colony. Why not give it some thought and come and have an informal chat with me. You will definitely be made most welcome.

Kerry Billingham

Beaver Scout Leader

Tuesday Cubs

18 Cubs, 4 Leaders and 1x YL

After the pandemic Tuesday Cubs started back in 'normal' sized (full pack) cubs session in September 2021. We made the most of being outside to keep everything safe and as free from COVID as we could be. We had a very successful Skill Challenge Badge evening where cubs learned several life skills including tying their shoelaces, putting a duvet cover on a duvet and ironing their neckers!





Other activities that cubs have enjoyed this year are fire lighting, campfire songs, ice-cream tasting, den building in the forest, a visit to meet the Mayor of Coleford in the Council Chambers as well as a visit to Morrisons in Ross on Wye. We've had a visit to Skill-zone in Gloucester and also played darts at Forest of Dean Youth Darts Academy. DIY Badge - using tools to make key hooks and a mini train. We also spend several sessions learning about The Royal family - this included writing letters and sending pictures to Queen Elizabeth II. We had a lovely reply from her and proudly now wear her commemoration badge on our uniform. We have taken part in the following District events:

We have taken part in the following District events:
 October 2021 - District Cubs cycle ride
 November 2021 - Remembrance Parade
 December 2021 - Cub Incident Hike
 April 2022 - District St George's Day parade
 June 2022 - Evolution Camp for Sixers & Seconders.

I'd like to give a special mention to the parents and Leaders/Young Leaders that help with Tuesday Cubs. They are a tremendous team and it's lovely to have your support. Thank you.



Ang Healy Akela

Thursday Cubs

Well, it's certainly been an interesting first year for me as section leader! It's been a steep learning curve planning and organising the sessions but I've had amazing support from many people. I would like to individually thank Ang Healy for all her patience with me while gaining the insights required for organising the sessions for our cubs! A big shout out goes to Hettie Smith for all of her help being both a young and assistant leader when she turned 18!

We have been able to award a lot of badges, including the completion of a Chief Scout Silver for one of our cubs, especially while coming out of lockdown and interspersed with delays and cancelled sessions due to Covid!

We said our farewells to four cubs moving on to Scouts after the Spring half-term and welcomed a few new cubs both from Beavers and fresh to the movement which has been another eye-opening experience with tailoring the sessions for both!

We have spent a lot of time at the Lodge last year working on our Pioneering and Team building yet we did adventure up to New Fancy view to tackle some stargazing and astronomy which everyone enjoyed; as well as walked around the Whitmead campsite grounds learning about local plants and trees for our Naturalist badges and Countryside code!

We closed our summer term with a Sports day organised by our Young leader turned assistant leader Hettie Smith which was a great success and wished our cubs a fun-filled summer break while giving them the option to work on their Home-Help badge over the break but stressing

“only if they wanted to”!

We have looked forward to the new term in September and wished Hettie all the best with her learning as she left to attend university!

Bagheera (Jon)

Monday Scouts

It is that time of year again to look back over the year and take stock of achievements. Our troop are all young, so no Gold Awards were achieved in this year – but we are all well on the way to getting them.

I really enjoyed looking back over the past year. Such a lot has changed and September 2021 seems a very long time ago. We were still very much working to Covid restrictions and meeting outside in all weathers.

Highlights of the Autumn term include the Backwoods challenge, Remembrance Parade, climbing at Cheltenham Ladies College and a Halloween party outside



Spring term was great fun. There was a lot of food involved this term with a Chinese New Year feast, Valentine's biscuit decorating, exploring healthy eating, and making campfire Doughnuts on tangiers

We had a great time teaming up with Wednesday Scouts at Laser tag.

But the absolute highlight was our first residential trip since before the Pandemic at PGL Tregoyd House. It was so great to be able to do this again.



Summer term was back to the usual crammed event diary. There were a lot of water activities with raft building (not our best skill!), kayaking, sailing and stand up paddle-boarding. We entered the Strategy 2022 competition and camped with Tuesday Scouts. Monday Scouts did very well despite soaring temperatures on the Friday followed by torrential rain on Saturday.



Fiona Morrissey

Tuesday Scouts

After the disruption of Covid it's been good to see Tuesday Scouts gradually returning to a more traditional programme of face-to-face scouting over the last year. Although Covid has had a



significant impact, we have tried to ensure that all our scouts have an opportunity to complete their Chief Scout's Gold Award during their time with us through a wide ranging and varied programme of activities. Over the course of the year we have awarded nearly 150 badges including 9 Challenge Awards, 10 Activity Badges, 2 Activity Plus Badges, 50 Staged Activity Badges and 78 special awards for participation, camps, and special events. It's encouraging, that following Covid, the young people have been so keen to continue in scouting. The emphasis on getting together in person, re-establishing relationships and having fun has worked well - attendance has been excellent across all 20 scouts in the troop.

Our scouts have enjoyed engaging with scouts from other groups through various District, County national and international events. These shared experiences are often highlights of the year and included Belgium 22, Gloucestershire Tall Ships, Strategy (our best result yet!), the Cotswold Marathon (an event which was new to us but in which our scouts excelled), the District Incident Hike and Water Days, Backwoods, and the Biathlon Rifle Shooting Competition. It's good to see the scouts engaging in new experiences and in some cases developing skills to a very high level. They have supported others in the community, volunteering both individually and as a group and have taken part in various community events such as the Remembrance Sunday Parade, Speech House Fireworks, the Wild Boar Chase and Arts-jab.



Our Tuesday night programme focused on the elements of the Chief Scout's Gold Award which many of our older scouts needed to complete their award after the time lost to Covid, as well as welcoming our younger scouts into the troop. Although the number of badges awarded this year has been significantly down on pre-Covid years they have all made excellent progress and have enjoyed a wide range of activities. Many of our older scouts are now well placed to complete their Gold Award in the coming months.

After 13 + years of service it was rewarding to be given a merit award in November. Scouting would not happen without the support of our much appreciated, dedicated leaders and I would particularly like to thank Lloyd for his support this year. With only two leaders in the group, his help has been indispensable. A considerable amount of work in regaining permits which expired during Covid is ongoing so that we can continue to offer a full and engaging programme of activities.

Steve Crick

Wednesday Scouts

In the Autumn Term we started back with Claire, Jessie and Myself as leaders and Alina and Issy as Young Leaders. The start of the term saw the return of the trash converter and a litter picking walk, scouts also tried Rugby with the help of parent coaches and finished the evening with hot-dogs and skittles, which was enjoyed by all. For Christmas scouts requested to do a performance to parents, which was very well received by their families, we also managed to do paint your own pottery at Beaver Lodge courtesy of Reckless Designs.

The Spring Term saw the return of lots of activities we had been unable to do over the last 2 years including fires and camp cooking, we also had a visit to a lambing shed, where all the scouts were very happy cuddling the orphaned lambs. We also camped at Beaver Lodge and visited the Dean Field Study Centre for Climbing Activities, this was enjoyed so much by scouts that they asked to go back again to explore the tunnels. This term we also joined with Monday scouts to do laser-tag at Elton Corner which all of those who participated enjoyed, thank you Fiona for organising.

The Summer Term saw the return of Strategy which started with a very hot Friday evening and a reasonable wet Saturday! Despite the weather the event was enjoyed by all who participated. We had visits from the new PCSO and also the District Commissioner and Youth Commissioners who very kindly judged our international themed scout cooking competition. There was also Jubilee celebrations, exploration of the tunnels, a very popular evening, Youth Shaped Scouting with the older scouts planning and delivery activities to cover the Communications Badge to scouts. The Term ended on a warm sunny evening at Mallards Pike, with raft building and lots of swimming, followed by the award of 4 Gold Awards and goodbyes to 4 scouts and Jessie who has now gone off to University. Thank you Gareth for organising the raft building.

Tracy

Awards

During the year several of our Leaders have received recognition of their service that they have given to Scouting recognised by an award.

5 year

Michelle Screen
John Humphreys
Lloyd Townsend

20 year

Diane Ruck

Chief Scout's Commendation

Steve McAuliffe our Chair has received the Chief Scout's Commendation in recognition of his working in leading the Executive Committee through a very difficult period and for the hours he has given, to give the front of Beaver Lodge a new look, also the Group has instead of a leaky asbestos clad steel structure have a weather proof building to store the equipment in.

Brian Wingfield

District Administrator (Awards)

Secretary Report

These last 12 months have been very different from any that I have experienced during my many years in scouting we were just getting back to some normality when I was taken ill, I was fortunate that my Grandson was with me or the outcome could have been very different. I thank the members of the Executive who rallied round to cover the meetings etc. As a result I have had to step back and Alison will take on the role of Group Secretary at the AGM. During the next few months I will be supporting and guiding her as she takes on this new task.

The Executive meetings were either by electronic correspondence or by video; the main substance of the meetings was the decisions regarding the finances to keep the Lodge and its grounds ready for when the sections restarted.

The Executive at times struggles because there are numerous things that need to be done, the purpose of the Executive as Trustees is to ensure that we are financially sound and that monies we receive is used to the best advantage for the young people and to keep Beaver Lodge, its Grounds safe and tidy together with equipment for the young people and also support for the leaders.

During the next few years some of our young people will have the opportunity to travel to other countries and they will need our support, the Group has encouraged parents to sign up to Gift Aid on subscriptions this enables the Group to help support these young people when it is needed.

The Scouts, Cubs and Beavers are represented on the Executive by Leaders from these sections but what we lack is the expertise of parents, we are not asking them to tie knots or spend the night under canvas but they can if they want, **it is important that we seek parents views.**

The Executive normally meets 4 -5 times a year on a Friday evening and the meeting lasts for about 90 mins. If you would like to find out more about becoming a member there is some online training which helps you understand your role as well as support from the groups training advisor. If you would like to know more please contact Alison.

Brian Wingfield
Group Secretary



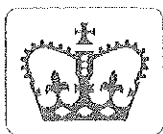
Beaver Lodge, grounds
and stream

First Royal Forest Scout Group

Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022

Receipts	£	Payments	£
Interest Deposit Account		Electricity/Gas	893.60
Fund Raising (Deposit A/c) *	0.89	Badges	808.56
Subscriptions cheque		Water	222.61
Subscriptions cash	114.50	Licences	598.73
Subscriptions - Standing Orders	74.40	Phone/Internet	383.40
Lodge Hire	17,075.80	Capitation	6,267.50
Grants (FODDC & Rotary)	1,433.00	Insurance	3,477.74
Events/Camps/Sleepovers	500.00	Transfer to Deposit A/c	
Fund Raising (Current A/c)	5,112.59	Camps & Activities	4,969.99
Gift Aid - HMRC	951.81	Waste Removal	922.87
Log Books/Uniform	2,387.47	Section Resources	2,095.34
Training		Misc	3,288.06
Insurance rebate		Uniforms	5.00
Donations		Transfers to Lloyds Bank Account	
Unbanked cheques	248.00	Adult Camp Exps	
Cash held by Treasurer		Refunded Camp/sub fees	60.00
Refunds	103.56	Adult Training	-
Uniform	35.00	Equipment	1,129.21
Misc	2,100.00	Repairs/Maintenance	5,586.18
Income 20/21	30,137.02	Expenditure 20/21	30,708.79
In year profit/loss	-571.77		
2021 Balances		2022 Balances	
Balance at HSBC as at 31st August 2021- Current Account	8,997.66	Balance at HSBC Bank as at 31 August Current account	12,607.81
Balance at HSBC as at 31st August 2021 Deposit Account	4,433.51	Balance HSBC Deposit as at Bank 31 August 2022	4,434.40
Balance at Lloyds Bank current account as at 31st August 2021	10,816.05	Balance at Lloyds Current account as at 31.08.21	6,633.24
Balances at 31st August 2021	24,247.22	Balances as at 31st August 2022	23,675.45

Note: These accounts are subject to audit at the time of printing



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

1st Royal Forest Scout Group

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/08/2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

302126

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

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

Signed:

S. Stinton

Date:

18/04/23

Name:

SIMON STINTON

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

WINDERMERE, CONNOR ROAD,
BARNSLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE, LE16 4JR

**FIRST ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST, 2022**

INCOME

Dep A/C Interest	£0.89
Subscriptions	£17,264.70
Lodge Hire	£1,433.00
Events/Camps	£5,112.59
HMRC Gift Aid	£2,387.47
Grant	£500.00
Fund Raising	£951.81
Donations	£248.00
Refund	£103.56
Uniform	£35.00
Misc	£2,100.00

£30,137.02

LOSS FOR YEAR £571.77

£30,708.79

EXPENSES

Repairs & Maint	£5,586.18
Gas/Elec	£893.60
Badges	£808.56
Phone/Internet	£598.73
Capitation	£6,267.50
Insurance	£3,477.74
Camps/Activities	£4,969.99
Waste Removal	£922.87
Section Resources	£2,095.34
Misc	£3,288.06
Licence	£383.40
Water Rates	£222.61
Equipment	£1,129.21
Subs Refunded	£60.00
Uniform	£5.00

£30,708.79

BANK ACCOUNTS

bal b/fwd	
HSBC C/A	£8,997.66
LLOYDS C/A	£10,816.05
HSBC D/A	£4,433.51

£24,247.22

Bal c./fwd:	HSBC	£12,607.81
	LLOYDS	£6,633.24
	DEP A/C	£4,434.40

LOSS FOR YEAR £571.77

£24,247.22

The accounts have been prepared from information and explanations furnished to me and I hereby certify them as correct.

S Stratford

SHARON STRATFORD

Windermere, Parkend, Lydney.

18th April, 2023

1ST ROYAL FOREST OF DEAN SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 302126

Accounts



1st ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP



Annual Report

And

Accounts

1 Sept 2020 – 31 August 2021

GSL report September 2020 to August 2021

So another year has passed where we have had to deal with the pandemic, and I would like to take the opportunity of thanking all of the adults involved in the Group whether they are leaders in the sections or as part of our Group Executive for all the work they have done in keeping us going.

Over the last year we have had to deal with the pandemic and how this impacted all of our lives, with working from home, schooling from home, Scouting from home, this has meant learning many new skills especially around living with each other. This may sound strange but we all went from leaving the house each working day off to our jobs or school and returning back at the end of the day, to a new way of living, which was being together 24/7 in the same small house. This I am sure caused many of us to look at how we managed this, I for one am used to my own space either in my car traveling all over England and Wales or working from my home office a portacabin in my back garden, on top of this many of us may have been furloughed from our work place, luckily for me due to my daily job this did not affect me but made my working days very different. For Scouting nationally there was many issues to face one of the largest was a very big fall in revenue from Activity centres and Scout shops which meant the Association making a lot of staff redundant and having to sell one of our buildings in London and a number of activity centres, for 1st Royal Forest we also had funding concerns as we were not allowed to let out the grounds for camping or in fact any activity. As the country came to almost a halt we looked at how we could make changes and continue with Scouting the national association undertook an agreement with Zoom (a video conferencing company) to offer on line Scouting free of charge to us, but with this came a massive learning curve for all of our leaders in how to use this facility to undertake online Scouting to the leaders thank you for taking up the challenge and offering some terrific online programmes, Parents thank you for supporting our adult leaders in supplying laptops, Ipads or other gizmos to get your young people on line and continuing Scouting and thank you to all the young people that gave online Scouting a go and either stuck at it or dropped off as I know it was very hard to do.

As the year progressed and the number of people infected got higher we started to hear of families losing loved ones to this pandemic, and our thoughts go out to all who have been in this position or are still learning to live with long Covid.

As we approached the end of our year (August) things are starting to look more promising with the introduction of the vaccine, numbers starting to fall for hospitalisations and those catching it and the Country moving into Amber and hopefully Green, we are starting to come back to face to face Scouting we are looking at how we can do this safely and we have to get approval for meeting back from our District Commissioner.

My hope for the coming year is that we will get back to Scouting inside, camps will be held in tents and not under beds at home, I can not say how proud I am of all our adults who volunteer for us either within a section or on our executive, that we have continued to offer Scouting to all of our young people who wanted to take part, thank you to you the parents for keeping with us during this very tough year with all it has meant to you personally.

I would like to end with a very big thankyou to Steve our Chairman for all the work he has done in the last year to sort out our new store building and all the other building works he has done, we could not have done this without Steve and funding from our District Council which allowed us to make the improvements.

If I have missed anyone off with my thanks then I am sorry but you are all too numerous to mention.

Roll on 2021 to 2022 hopefully it will bring us more freedom to do Scouting like we used to!

Gareth

Group Scout Leader

Chair's Report

The group has faced another challenging year with the ongoing Covid pandemic and various restrictions. Thankfully we are hopefully coming out the other side of the pandemic and all sections have resumed face to face section meetings and activities which where possible have taken place outside to minimise risks.

All our volunteer leaders have been outstanding again this year, coping with additional requirements away from scouting whilst still delivering a varied program for their sections and the young people in them. Everything from cooking, archery, pumpkin carving to climbing has been available for the various sections amongst a host of other activities they deliver. The structure and programmes have helped the young people adjust back to a more normal way of life where they can interact with others and develop.

Once again Gareth our Group Scout Leader and Ang, Tuesday Cubs leader who have been busy not only with the Group but also at the District and County level supporting other Groups and leaders throughout the period. Many thanks for your work.

The Executive in 2021 has been supporting the Group Scout Leader to ensure the Group and the lodge is in a position to offer a vibrant and activity rich experience for our young people.

The front porch has now been completed and makes an excellent addition providing a small meeting/activity room as well as cover out of the rain and a place to hang coats and store boots where they don't block the entrance to the hall.

Additional lighting for the front of the lodge means more can now be done safely outside in combination with the shelters we have and the lighting in those. The more we can continue to do activities outside is obviously beneficial in the current circumstances.

The garage has been modified, the roof v1 had issues coping with the drainage between the garage and the lodge, so roof v2 has now been installed which can handle the drainage much better and provides easier access to clear the endless leaves that block the drainage. Thanks to all that assisted taking off the first roof and installing the new one, especially Gareth and Ben Bishop, we can report that a tin roof does indeed get very hot!

We have obtained racking for the garage from an upcycle charity which will be installed in the near future. We are currently gathering quotes for power and lighting in the garage as well as a complete rewire of the lodge itself. During work on the porches and garage it was identified that our furry neighbours, the squirrels, have been helping themselves to the cables running through the lodge roof space, causing bare wires to become exposed which is obviously a fire hazard. These have been remedied where we could but we are now looking to rewire the lodge in such a way that we can prevent the issue in the future.

Finally, I'd like to express my thanks to all the leaders and volunteers that help make the group function, without them there would be no group. If you feel you have something to offer either as a leader, volunteer or on the executive, please speak to myself or any other member of the executive or leadership. We have waiting lists for most sections, so would like new volunteers willing to be active in section roles so we could potentially re-open a second Beaver colony as well as bolster the volunteer support for the other sections.

Do you shop at Amazon? If so then please use Amazon Smile, we are a registered charity with Amazon Smile, just select **"1st Royal Forest of Dean Scout Group"** and then shop as normal using the Amazon Smile link, we get a little bit each time from Amazon when you spend.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

Steve McAuliffe

1st Royal Forest Tuesday Cub Report 2020/2021

September 2021

Cubs 20

Leader 4

YL 1

DofE 1



Needless to say, that the last 12 months have been interesting and challenging!

However, the spirit of scouting has continued albeit in different ways!

August 2020 – April 2020 we continued to do weekly Cub session online. We had many different activities and games to play on Zoom, we also arranged third party hosts to give some variety. We even had a Roman Soldier join us online!

This formula for online sessions worked very well and we regularly had 16+ /20 Cubs present for our sessions.

We held several @home camps – Pumpkin Camp and a Christmas party as well as a joint @home camp with Clearwell & Sling Cubs - this was a Superhero camp and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone – even the Acting DC joined online to take part in some activities.

April 2021 Face 2 Face Cub sessions resumed but due to keeping the Cubs a safe distance away from each other and to enable covid cleaning we ran the sessions at weekends during the day. (We felt that only having 15 minutes between Cubs finishing and scouts starting wasn't long enough to keep everyone separate as per Scout Association guidelines at the time. The Cubs were split into 2 groups (Green & Blue) and we met each group alternate weekends. It was very successful as it meant the smaller groups could achieve more with a higher adult/cub ratio.

September 2021 - Cubs are now meeting as the whole pack – outside the hut. We have had good attendance and all cubs are enjoying it.

October 2021 - we took part in the District Cub cycle ride – 50 Cubs plus adults from all over the forest completed a 5 mile cycle route for the Cyclists Badge. It was a great day.

Activities /Events planned for this term are Remembrance Parade, Incident Hike and an event to celebrate 105 years of Cubs in December.

Ang Healy

Akela Tuesday Cubs

Report by Fiona Morrissey, Scout Leader—Monday Scouts

2020/21 has been a very strange year. It was lovely to be able to meet up in person in September 2020, so we enjoyed a walk around Parkend to learn some map reading skills. We managed another 2 hikes, a night hike and a photo scavenger hunt, before Coronavirus levels became too high and we were unable to meet face to face once again.

By this time, we were quite au fait with Zoom and had some great fun sessions. Cooking (and eating!) food is always a hit with the Scouts so Halloween Night Severed fingers hotdogs and Diwali Coconut Laddoo sweets went down a treat. But the overall favourite session this term was a demonstration by a chocolatier on how to temper chocolate and make Christmas chocolates.



Monday Scouts also showed their caring side by making Christmas Cards for the residents of the nursing home where Adrian, our Section Assistant, worked. The Scouts were upset to hear that not only were the residents not allowed visitors due to the pandemic, but also they were not allowed Christmas decorations, apart from Christmas Cards.

Spring term was great fun as we made model sailing boats, made a cloud in a bottle and did many fun quizzes and silly games (how many layers of clothes could you put on in a minute?) . We had an online visitor from an animal rescue centre and shared some very interesting facts as well as cute videos of rabbits, cats, dogs and horses. We all then introduced our pets in our Zoom meeting! We also had a Camp at Home and achieved our Naturalist Badge during this.

As fun as our Zoom meetings were, we were all longing to get back to face to face Scouting, so in April it was a huge relief that we were all able to meet up again, all be it with strict safety rules. Who knew that playing football where you couldn't move from your chair could be so much fun!? Adding 5 balls helped to add to the craziness!! We were able to get back to basics and learnt how to light fires and also did some out of this world experiments for our astronautics badge. Designing and launching a rocket for an Egg-stronaut was a blast!!!

In June we were finally allowed to go on walks again, so we combined awarding Gold Awards with a walk at New Fancy. Despite all the obstacles that this year threw at us, I am really proud that 4 of our Scouts achieved the Chief Scout Gold Award this year.



Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

Balances at 31st August 2021

Wednesday Scouts

Wednesday Scouts started November 2020 back on zoom with a good turn out each week, we made Christmas origami, where Scouts all made their own interpretations of books marks and for the last session before

Christmas we were joined by Rhythmicity for a Christmas rhythmical session which was enjoyed by all. Over Christmas a couple of older Scouts left deciding not to go on to Explorers, one achieving his Gold award.

In January we returned to Zoom scouting, where we discovered it is far easier to teach map reading and have map reading quizzes online than in person, for some of the older Scouts, their route planning for the expedition hike in May was also online. We continued online until Easter with a variety of activities covering Activity and Challenge badges, we also took part as a Troup in Kahoutek, which last year was held online, normally this is an event for Bristol and Avon Scouts. A number of Scouts took part in the virtual Shirehike and Cotswold Marathon.

Eventually in April we returned to face-to-face scouting with lots of eagers Scouts. Standing like you were 'stuck in the mud' seemed to be the way to visually show 2 meters apart!

With light nights and good weather, we made the most of the outdoors, walking, trangier cooking, fires, raft building and also indoor climbing at the Ladies College in Cheltenham thanks to the Gloucestershire Climbing team. At the end of the summer term, one Scout achieved his Gold Award and moved on to Explorers.

We are now a troop of 16 Scouts due to Scouts swapping groups and Cubs moving up to Scouts. For me ending the summer term with a new leader to start September was a big relief and very, very welcome, and I would like to thank Claire for moving from Cubs to Scouts to be part of the Wednesday Scouts leadership team, Jessie is now a leader and helping as much as possible around her foundation degree course, we also welcomed Issy to join Alina as our two young leaders.

September 2021 saw a more traditional start to the year, the first half term has been spent mainly outside making the most of the lit covered area, although we did find out it does get very muddy in torrential rain, but this did not stop our jacket potatoes and toasted malt loaf around the fire. This term also saw the return of the trash converter to Beaver Lodge, thank you to Kerry for organising, we litter picked around Parkend and were surprised by the amount of cigarette ends we found.

We have been working towards the Geocaching and Meteorology badges, which scouts have enjoyed. Thank you to all scouts and parents for your continued support. A very big thank you to Claire, Jessie, Issy and Alina for helping to organise and run an enjoyable and varied program for our Scouts and not forgetting Kieran for being there virtually on Zoom every Wednesday.

Tracy, on behalf on Wednesday Leadership Team

Awards

During the year Leaders had their length of service recognised. 3 were recognised by the Award for Merit for good service to Scouting over a number of years. The Commissioners Commendations was a thank you from the retiring District Commissioner for their work in the District and The Chief Scout's Commendation was for the leadership shown during the lockdown in keeping the interest of cubs within the group and district with ideas and meetings on line.

5 Years' service

Steve McAuliffe Chair, Executive Committee



15 Years' Service

Alison Buttery Section Leader, Beavers



25 Years' Service

Stephanie Ovens Group Administrator



30 Years' Service

Gareth Ovens Group Scout Leader



Commissioners Commendation

Ang Healy Section Leader, Tuesday Cubs
Lily Hough Assistant Section Leader, Tuesday Cubs
Gareth Ovens Group Scout Leader



Chief Scouts Commendation

Ang Healy Section Leader, Tuesday Cubs



Good Service awards: Award for Merit

Diane Ruck Group Treasurer
Tracy Lashford Section Leader, Wednesday Scouts
Steve Crick Section Leader, Tuesday Scouts



Brian Wingfield
Team Leader District Awards Panel

The last 12 months have been very different from any that I have experienced during my time in scouting even when we had a major outbreak of polio in our District which shut many of our groups for a short time.

The Executive meetings were either by electronic correspondence or by video; the main substance of the meetings was the decisions regarding the finances to keep the Lodge and its grounds ready for when the sections could restart.

We had planned the date and time of the AGM for 2020, the Executive met and approved the accounts and the annual report ready for the AGM but another lockdown was in place and by the time the restrictions were lifted the year was almost over and the members of the Executive agreed in common with many other organisations to carry on to the next AGM.

The Executive at times struggles because there are numerous things that need to be done, the purpose of the Executive as Trustees is to ensure that we are financially sound and that monies we receive is used to the best advantage for the young people and to keep Beaver Lodge and its Grounds safe and tidy for the young people and to support the leaders.

During the next couple of years some of our young people will have the opportunity to travel to other countries and they will need our support, the last jamboree cost each member £4,000 which they needed to raise with support from the group. The Group has encouraged parents to sign up to Gift Aid on subscriptions this enables the Group to support the young people when needed.

The Scouts, Cubs and Beavers are represented on the Executive by Leaders from these sections but what we lack is the expertise of parents, we are not asking them to tie knots or spend the night under canvas but you can if you want, it is important that we seek parents views.

The Executive meets 4 -5 times a year and if you would like to find out more about becoming a member there is some online training which helps you understand your role as well as support from the groups training advisor. If you would like to know more please contact me.

Brian Wingfield
Group Secretary

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE held by E-mail

22nd November 2020

Members Contacted

Gareth Ovens (Group Scout Leader), Brian Wingfield (Secretary), Steve McAuliffe (Chair)
Diane Ruck (Treasurer), Alison Buttery, Ang Healy, Leah Holse and Steve Crick.

1. The Executive Committee members as Trustees are able to approve the Annual Accounts and Report which can then be sent to the Charity Commissioners and District as they are only adopted at the AGM.
2. This means that if we held an Executive meeting during November we could approve the accounts and report and submit them within the normal timescale.
3. We could then delay the AGM till February / March when it may be possible to hold it face to face and then be able to adopt the accounts and report and hold the elections etc.
4. The above arrangement was agreed by members of the Executive by e-mail as the new lockdown measures which the Scout Association reviewed on the 4th November, as a result face to face meeting cannot be held.
5. The Secretary during the preceding month had received reports from the section leaders together with a copy of accounts.
6. A draft copy was sent to members of the Executive for comments; a final copy was sent to members on the 19th November and on the 22nd November the Secretary received approval from the members of the Executive by e-mail.
7. The members of the Group Council were informed through OSM that a copy had been placed on the Group Web site with any comments to the Chair or GSL, copies had also been sent to the District, County and County Commissioner.

With the Government and Scout Association regulations regarding lockdown in place for a number months at the next meeting of the Executive members in keeping with most organisations agreed to continue in post until the AGM in 2021.

1st ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

26th November 2021

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd November 2020**
- 4. To receive the Accounts**
- 5. To receive the Annual report of the Group**
- 6. To elect the Group Treasurer and Group Secretary**
- 7. To approve the Group Scout Leaders nomination of the Group Chair**
- 8. To Confirm Ex-officio members of the Executive**
- 9. Election of members of the Council to the Group Executive Committee**
- 10. Group Scout Leaders nomination to the Group Executive committee**
- 11. The Group Scout Leader**
- 12. The Acting District Commissioner**
- 13. Awards and Presentations**
- 14. Close of meeting**

First Royal Forest Scout Group

Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

Receipts	£	Payments	£
Interest Deposit Account	0.33	Electricity/Gas	1,375.70
Fund Raising (Deposit A/c) *		Badges	997.00
Subscriptions cheque	48.00	Water	136.14
Subscriptions cash		Rent/Hire	-
Subscriptions - Standing Orders	11,118.55	Phone/internet	532.64
Lodge Hire	1,313.70	Capitation	5,644.00
Grants (FODDC & Rotary)	25,973.76	Insurance	1,770.91
Events/Camps/Sleepovers	610.40	Transfer to Deposit A/c	
Fund Raising (Current A/c)	153.64	Camps & Activities	1,890.86
Gift Aid - HMRC	2,415.75	Waste Removal	661.82
Log Books/Uniform	74.40	Section Resources	358.94
Training		Misc	921.00
Insurance rebate		Uniforms	572.54
Donations	250.00	Transfers to Lloyds Bank Account	1,000.00
Unbanked cheques		Adult Camp Exps	
Cash held by Treasurer		Refunded Camp/sub fees	
Transfer from Deposit account	1,000.00	Adult Training	-
	0.00	Equipment	4,021.87
		Repairs/Maintenance	6,751.40
Income 20/21	42,958.53	Expenditure 20/21	26,634.82
Profit for year	16,323.71		
2020 Balances		2021 Balances	
Balance at HSBC as at 31st August 2020 - Current Account	2,986.29	Balance at HSBC Bank as at 31 August Current account	8,997.66
Balance at HSBC as at 31st August 2020 Deposit Account	4,433.18	Balance HSBC Deposit as at Bank 31 August 2021	4,433.51
Balance at Lloyds Bank current account as at 31st August 2020	504.04	Balance at Lloyds Current account as at 31.08.21	10,816.05
Balances at 31st August 2021	7,923.51		24,247.22

Compatibility Report for May reconciliation.xls
Run on 18/04/2020 09:59

The following features in this workbook are not supported by earlier versions of Excel. These features may be lost or degraded when opening this workbook in an earlier version of Excel or if you save this workbook in an earlier file format.

Minor loss of fidelity

Some cells or styles in this workbook contain formatting that is not supported by the selected file format. These formats will be converted to the closest format available.
--

of occurrences

Version

3

Excel 97-2003



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name

1ST ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/08/2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2021.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

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

Signed:

my Teague

Date:

16/12/2021.

Name:

MRS MAREN TEBBAGE

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

DONEDGNE PARKEND
LYDNEY GLOS
GL15 4JR

**FIRST ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021**

INCOME

Dep A/c Interest	£0.45
Subscriptions	£11,166.55
Lodge Hire	£1,313.70
Events/Camps	£610.40
HMRC Gift Aid	£2,415.75
FODDC Grants	£25,973.76
Fund Raising	£153.64
Donations	£250.00
Uniform	£20.00
Badges	£19.00
Log Books	£35.40

£41,958.65

BANK ACCOUNTS

Balances b/fwd	
HSBC C/A	£ 2,986.29
LLOYDS C/A	£ 504.04
LLOYDS DEPOSIT A/C	£ 4,433.06
PROFIT FOR YEAR	£ 16,323.83
	£ 24,247.22

EXPENSES

Repairs & Maint	£ 6,751.40
Electricity/Gas	£1,375.70
Badges	£997.00
Phone/Internet	£532.64
Capitation	£5,644.00
Insurance	£1,770.91
Camps/Activities	£1,890.86
Waste Removal	£661.82
Section Resources	£358.94
Miscellaneous	£921.00
Equipment	£4,021.87
Water Rates	£136.14
Uniforms	£572.54
	£25,634.82
PROFIT FOR YEAR	£16,323.83

£41,958.65

The accounts have been prepared from information and explanations furnished to me and I hereby certify them as correct

M J Teague

MERYL TEAGUE

Doneldene, Parkend Lydney

15th December 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

1ST ROYAL FOREST SCOUT.....SCOUT GROUP/DISTRICT/COUNTY/AREA SCOUT COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the Group/District/County/Area for the year ended 31/8/2021
which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes set out on pages.....

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's/District's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Group/District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *):

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ;and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Name: Mr J Teague MR J TEAGUE

Qualification:

Address: DONNING
PARKWAY LONDON ROAD GLIS 4 5R

Date: 16/12/2021

1ST ROYAL FOREST OF DEAN SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 302126

Accounts



1st ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP



Annual Report

And

Accounts

1 Sept 2020 – 31 August 2021

GSL report September 2020 to August 2021

So another year has passed where we have had to deal with the pandemic, and I would like to take the opportunity of thanking all of the adults involved in the Group whether they are leaders in the sections or as part of our Group Executive for all the work they have done in keeping us going.

Over the last year we have had to deal with the pandemic and how this impacted all of our lives, with working from home, schooling from home, Scouting from home, this has meant learning many new skills especially around living with each other. This may sound strange but we all went from leaving the house each working day off to our jobs or school and returning back at the end of the day, to a new way of living, which was being together 24/7 in the same small house. This I am sure caused many of us to look at how we managed this, I for one am used to my own space either in my car traveling all over England and Wales or working from my home office a portacabin in my back garden, on top of this many of us may have been furloughed from our work place, luckily for me due to my daily job this did not affect me but made my working days very different. For Scouting nationally there was many issues to face one of the largest was a very big fall in revenue from Activity centres and Scout shops which meant the Association making a lot of staff redundant and having to sell one of our buildings in London and a number of activity centres, for 1st Royal Forest we also had funding concerns as we were not allowed to let out the grounds for camping or in fact any activity. As the country came to almost a halt we looked at how we could make changes and continue with Scouting the national association undertook an agreement with Zoom (a video conferencing company) to offer on line Scouting free of charge to us, but with this came a massive learning curve for all of our leaders in how to use this facility to undertake online Scouting to the leaders thank you for taking up the challenge and offering some terrific online programmes, Parents thank you for supporting our adult leaders in supplying laptops, Ipads or other gizmos to get your young people on line and continuing Scouting and thank you to all the young people that gave online Scouting a go and either stuck at it or dropped off as I know it was very hard to do.

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I would like to end with a very big thank you to Steve our Chairman for all the work he has done in the last year to sort out our new store building and all the other building works he has done, we could not have done this without Steve and funding from our District Council which allowed us to make the improvements.

If I have missed anyone off with my thanks then I am sorry but you are all too numerous to mention.

Roll on 2021 to 2022 hopefully it will bring us more freedom to do Scouting like we used to!

Gareth

Group Scout Leader

Chair's Report

The group has faced another challenging year with the ongoing Covid pandemic and various restrictions. Thankfully we are hopefully coming out the other side of the pandemic and all sections have resumed face to face section meetings and activities which where possible have taken place outside to minimise risks.

All our volunteer leaders have been outstanding again this year, coping with additional requirements away from scouting whilst still delivering a varied program for their sections and the young people in them. Everything from cooking, archery, pumpkin carving to climbing has been available for the various sections amongst a host of other activities they deliver. The structure and programmes have helped the young people adjust back to a more normal way of life where they can interact with others and develop.

Once again Gareth our Group Scout Leader and Ang, Tuesday Cubs leader who have been busy not only with the Group but also at the District and County level supporting other Groups and leaders throughout the period. Many thanks for your work.

The Executive in 2021 has been supporting the Group Scout Leader to ensure the Group and the lodge is in a position to offer a vibrant and activity rich experience for our young people.

The front porch has now been completed and makes an excellent addition providing a small meeting/activity room as well as cover out of the rain and a place to hang coats and store boots where they don't block the entrance to the hall.

Additional lighting for the front of the lodge means more can now be done safely outside in combination with the shelters we have and the lighting in those. The more we can continue to do activities outside is obviously beneficial in the current circumstances.

The garage has been modified, the roof v1 had issues coping with the drainage between the garage and the lodge, so roof v2 has now been installed which can handle the drainage much better and provides easier access to clear the endless leaves that block the drainage. Thanks to all that assisted taking off the first roof and installing the new one, especially Gareth and Ben Bishop, we can report that a tin roof does indeed get very hot!

We have obtained racking for the garage from an upcycle charity which will be installed in the near future. We are currently gathering quotes for power and lighting in the garage as well as a complete rewire of the lodge itself. During work on the porches and garage it was identified that our furry neighbours, the squirrels, have been helping themselves to the cables running through the lodge roof space, causing bare wires to become exposed which is obviously a fire hazard. These have been remedied where we could but we are now looking to rewire the lodge in such a way that we can prevent the issue in the future.

Finally, I'd like to express my thanks to all the leaders and volunteers that help make the group function, without them there would be no group. If you feel you have something to offer either as a leader, volunteer or on the executive, please speak to myself or any other member of the executive or leadership. We have waiting lists for most sections, so would like new volunteers willing to be active in section roles so we could potentially re-open a second Beaver colony as well as bolster the volunteer support for the other sections.

Do you shop at Amazon? If so then please use Amazon Smile, we are a registered charity with Amazon Smile, just select **"1st Royal Forest of Dean Scout Group"** and then shop as normal using the Amazon Smile link, we get a little bit each time from Amazon when you spend.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

Steve McAuliffe

1st Royal Forest Tuesday Cub Report 2020/2021

September 2021

Cubs 20

Leader 4

YL 1

DofE 1



Needless to say, that the last 12 months have been interesting and challenging!

However, the spirit of scouting has continued albeit in different ways!

August 2020 – April 2020 we continued to do weekly Cub session online. We had many different activities and games to play on Zoom, we also arranged third party hosts to give some variety. We even had a Roman Soldier join us online!

This formula for online sessions worked very well and we regularly had 16+ /20 Cubs present for our sessions.

We held several @home camps – Pumpkin Camp and a Christmas party as well as a joint @home camp with Clearwell & Sling Cubs - this was a Superhero camp and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone – even the Acting DC joined online to take part in some activities.

April 2021 Face 2 Face Cub sessions resumed but due to keeping the Cubs a safe distance away from each other and to enable covid cleaning we ran the sessions at weekends during the day. (We felt that only having 15 minutes between Cubs finishing and scouts starting wasn't long enough to keep everyone separate as per Scout Association guidelines at the time. The Cubs were split into 2 groups (Green & Blue) and we met each group alternate weekends. It was very successful as it meant the smaller groups could achieve more with a higher adult/cub ratio.

September 2021 - Cubs are now meeting as the whole pack – outside the hut. We have had good attendance and all cubs are enjoying it.

October 2021 - we took part in the District Cub cycle ride – 50 Cubs plus adults from all over the forest completed a 5 mile cycle route for the Cyclists Badge. It was a great day.

Activities /Events planned for this term are Remembrance Parade, Incident Hike and an event to celebrate 105 years of Cubs in December.

Ang Healy

Akela Tuesday Cubs

Report by Fiona Morrissey, Scout Leader—Monday Scouts

2020/21 has been a very strange year. It was lovely to be able to meet up in person in September 2020, so we enjoyed a walk around Parkend to learn some map reading skills. We managed another 2 hikes, a night hike and a photo scavenger hunt, before Coronavirus levels became too high and we were unable to meet face to face once again.

By this time, we were quite au fait with Zoom and had some great fun sessions. Cooking (and eating!) food is always a hit with the Scouts so Halloween Night Severed fingers hotdogs and Diwali Coconut Laddoo sweets went down a treat. But the overall favourite session this term was a demonstration by a chocolatier on how to temper chocolate and make Christmas chocolates.



Monday Scouts also showed their caring side by making Christmas Cards for the residents of the nursing home where Adrian, our Section Assistant, worked. The Scouts were upset to hear that not only were the residents not allowed visitors due to the pandemic, but also they were not allowed Christmas decorations, apart from Christmas Cards.

Spring term was great fun as we made model sailing boats, made a cloud in a bottle and did many fun quizzes and silly games (how many layers of clothes could you put on in a minute?). We had an online visitor from an animal rescue centre and shared some very interesting facts as well as cute videos of rabbits, cats, dogs and horses. We all then introduced our pets in our Zoom meeting! We also had a Camp at Home and achieved our Naturalist Badge during this.

As fun as our Zoom meetings were, we were all longing to get back to face to face Scouting, so in April it was a huge relief that we were all able to meet up again, all be it with strict safety rules. Who knew that playing football where you couldn't move from your chair could be so much fun!? Adding 5 balls helped to add to the craziness!! We were able to get back to basics and learnt how to light fires and also did some out of this world experiments for our astronautics badge. Designing and launching a rocket for an Egg-stronaut was a blast!!!

In June we were finally allowed to go on walks again, so we combined awarding Gold Awards with a walk at New Fancy. Despite all the obstacles that this year threw at us, I am really proud that 4 of our Scouts achieved the Chief Scout Gold Award this year.



Wednesday Scouts

Wednesday Scouts started November 2020 back on zoom with a good turn out each week, we made Christmas origami, where Scouts all made their own interpretations of books marks and for the last session before

Christmas we were joined by Rhythmicity for a Christmas rhythmical session which was enjoyed by all. Over Christmas a couple of older Scouts left deciding not to go on to Explorers, one achieving his Gold award.

In January we returned to Zoom scouting, where we discovered it is far easier to teach map reading and have map reading quizzes online than in person, for some of the older Scouts, their route planning for the expedition hike in May was also online. We continued online until Easter with a variety of activities covering Activity and Challenge badges, we also took part as a Troup in Kahoutek, which last year was held online, normally this is an event for Bristol and Avon Scouts. A number of Scouts took part in the virtual Shirehike and Cotswold Marathon.

Eventually in April we returned to face-to-face scouting with lots of eagers Scouts. Standing like you were 'stuck in the mud' seemed to be the way to visually show 2 meters apart!

With light nights and good weather, we made the most of the outdoors, walking, trangier cooking, fires, raft building and also indoor climbing at the Ladies College in Cheltenham thanks to the Gloucestershire Climbing team. At the end of the summer term, one Scout achieved his Gold Award and moved on to Explorers.

We are now a troop of 16 Scouts due to Scouts swapping groups and Cubs moving up to Scouts. For me ending the summer term with a new leader to start September was a big relief and very, very welcome, and I would like to thank Claire for moving from Cubs to Scouts to be part of the Wednesday Scouts leadership team, Jessie is now a leader and helping as much as possible around her foundation degree course, we also welcomed Issy to join Alina as our two young leaders.

September 2021 saw a more traditional start to the year, the first half term has been spent mainly outside making the most of the lit covered area, although we did find out it does get very muddy in torrential rain, but this did not stop our jacket potatoes and toasted malt loaf around the fire. This term also saw the return of the trash converter to Beaver Lodge, thank you to Kerry for organising, we litter picked around Parkend and were surprised by the amount of cigarette ends we found.

We have been working towards the Geocaching and Meteorology badges, which scouts have enjoyed. Thank you to all scouts and parents for your continued support. A very big thank you to Claire, Jessie, Issy and Alina for helping to organise and run an enjoyable and varied program for our Scouts and not forgetting Kieran for being there virtually on Zoom every Wednesday.

Tracy, on behalf on Wednesday Leadership Team

Awards

During the year Leaders had their length of service recognised. 3 were recognised by the Award for Merit for good service to Scouting over a number of years. The Commissioners Commendations was a thank you from the retiring District Commissioner for their work in the District and The Chief Scout's Commendation was for the leadership shown during the lockdown in in keeping the interest of cubs within the group and district with ideas and meetings on line.

5 Years' service

Steve McAuliffe Chair, Executive Committee



15 Years' Service

Alison Buttery Section Leader, Beavers



25 Years' Service

Stephanie Ovens Group Administrator



30 Years' Service

Gareth Ovens Group Scout Leader



Commissioners Commendation

Ang Healy Section Leader, Tuesday Cubs
Lily Hough Assistant Section Leader, Tuesday Cubs
Gareth Ovens Group Scout Leader



Chief Scouts Commendation

Ang Healy Section Leader, Tuesday Cubs



Good Service awards: Award for Merit

Diane Ruck Group Treasurer
Tracy Lashford Section Leader, Wednesday Scouts
Steve Crick Section Leader, Tuesday Scouts



Brian Wingfield
Team Leader District Awards Panel

The last 12 months have been very different from any that I have experienced during my time in scouting even when we had a major outbreak of polio in our District which shut many of our groups for a short time.

The Executive meetings were either by electronic correspondence or by video; the main substance of the meetings was the decisions regarding the finances to keep the Lodge and its grounds ready for when the sections could restart.

We had planned the date and time of the AGM for 2020, the Executive met and approved the accounts and the annual report ready for the AGM but another lockdown was in place and by the time the restrictions were lifted the year was almost over and the members of the Executive agreed in common with many other organisations to carry on to the next AGM.

The Executive at times struggles because there are numerous things that need to be done, the purpose of the Executive as Trustees is to ensure that we are financially sound and that monies we receive is used to the best advantage for the young people and to keep Beaver Lodge and its Grounds safe and tidy for the young people and to support the leaders.

During the next couple of years some of our young people will have the opportunity to travel to other countries and they will need our support, the last jamboree cost each member £4,000 which they needed to raise with support from the group. The Group has encouraged parents to sign up to Gift Aid on subscriptions this enables the Group to support the young people when needed.

The Scouts, Cubs and Beavers are represented on the Executive by Leaders from these sections but what we lack is the expertise of parents, we are not asking them to tie knots or spend the night under canvas but you can if you want, it is important that we seek parents views.

The Executive meets 4 -5 times a year and if you would like to find out more about becoming a member there is some online training which helps you understand your role as well as support from the groups training advisor. If you would like to know more please contact me.

Brian Wingfield
Group Secretary

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE held by E-mail

22nd November 2020

Members Contacted

Gareth Ovens (Group Scout Leader), Brian Wingfield (Secretary), Steve McAuliffe (Chair)
Diane Ruck (Treasurer), Alison Buttery, Ang Healy, Leah Holse and Steve Crick.

1. The Executive Committee members as Trustees are able to approve the Annual Accounts and Report which can then be sent to the Charity Commissioners and District as they are only adopted at the AGM.
2. This means that if we held an Executive meeting during November we could approve the accounts and report and submit them within the normal timescale.
3. We could then delay the AGM till February / March when it may be possible to hold it face to face and then be able to adopt the accounts and report and hold the elections etc.
4. The above arrangement was agreed by members of the Executive by e-mail as the new lockdown measures which the Scout Association reviewed on the 4th November, as a result face to face meeting cannot be held.
5. The Secretary during the preceding month had received reports from the section leaders together with a copy of accounts.
6. A draft copy was sent to members of the Executive for comments; a final copy was sent to members on the 19th November and on the 22nd November the Secretary received approval from the members of the Executive by e-mail.
7. The members of the Group Council were informed through OSM that a copy had been placed on the Group Web site with any comments to the Chair or GSL, copies had also been sent to the District, County and County Commissioner.

With the Government and Scout Association regulations regarding lockdown in place for a number months at the next meeting of the Executive members in keeping with most organisations agreed to continue in post until the AGM in 2021.

1st ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

26th November 2021

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd November 2020**
- 4. To receive the Accounts**
- 5. To receive the Annual report of the Group**
- 6. To elect the Group Treasurer and Group Secretary**
- 7. To approve the Group Scout Leaders nomination of the Group Chair**
- 8. To Confirm Ex-officio members of the Executive**
- 9. Election of members of the Council to the Group Executive Committee**
- 10. Group Scout Leaders nomination to the Group Executive committee**
- 11. The Group Scout Leader**
- 12. The Acting District Commissioner**
- 13. Awards and Presentations**
- 14. Close of meeting**

First Royal Forest Scout Group

Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

Receipts	£	Payments	£
Interest Deposit Account	0.33	Electricity/Gas	1,375.70
Fund Raising (Deposit A/c) *		Badges	997.00
Subscriptions cheque	48.00	Water	136.14
Subscriptions cash		Rent/Hire	-
Subscriptions - Standing Orders	11,118.55	Phone/internet	532.64
Lodge Hire	1,313.70	Capitation	5,644.00
Grants (FODDC & Rotary)	25,973.76	Insurance	1,770.91
Events/Camps/Sleepovers	610.40	Transfer to Deposit A/c	
Fund Raising (Current A/c)	153.64	Camps & Activities	1,890.86
Gift Aid - HMRC	2,415.75	Waste Removal	661.82
Log Books/Uniform	74.40	Section Resources	358.94
Training		Misc	921.00
Insurance rebate		Uniforms	572.54
Donations	250.00	Adult Camp Exps	
Unbanked cheques		Refunded Camp/sub fees	
Cash held by Treasurer		Adult Training	-
	0.00	Equipment	4,021.87
		Repairs/Maintenance	6,751.40
Income 20/21	41,958.53	Expenditure 20/21	25,634.82
Profit for year	16,323.71		
2020 Balances		2021 Balances	
Balance at HSBC as at 31st August 2020 - Current Account	2,986.29	Balance at HSBC Bank as at 31 August Current account	8,997.66
Balance at HSBC as at 31st August 2020 Deposit Account	4,433.18	Balance HSBC Deposit as at Bank 31 August 2021	4,433.51
Balance at Lloyds Bank current account as at 31st August 2020	504.04	Balance at Lloyds Current account as at 31.08.21	10,816.05
Balances at 31st August 2021	7,923.51		24,247.22
Transfer from Deposit account	1,000.00	Transfers to Lloyds Bank Account	1,000.00

Compatibility Report for May reconciliation.xls
Run on 18/04/2020 09:59

The following features in this workbook are not supported by earlier versions of Excel. These features may be lost or degraded when opening this workbook in an earlier version of Excel or if you save this workbook in an earlier file format.

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of occurrences

Version

3

Excel 97-2003



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

1ST ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP

On accounts for the year
ended

31/08/2021

Charity no
(if any)

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2021.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

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

Signed:

my Teague

Date:

16/12/2021.

Name:

MRS MARGARET TEBBAGE

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

DONEDUNE PARKEND
LYDNEY GLD
GL15 4JR

FIRST ROYAL FOREST SCOUT GROUP
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

INCOME

Dep A/c Interest	£0.45
Subscriptions	£11,166.55
Lodge Hire	£1,313.70
Events/Camps	£610.40
HMRC Gift Aid	£2,415.75
FODDC Grants	£25,973.76
Fund Raising	£153.64
Donations	£250.00
Uniform	£20.00
Badges	£19.00
Log Books	£35.40

£41,958.65

BANK ACCOUNTS

Balances b/fwd	
HSBC C/A	£ 2,986.29
LLOYDS C/A	£ 504.04
LLOYDS DEPOSIT A/C	£ 4,433.06
PROFIT FOR YEAR	£ 16,323.83
	£ 24,247.22

EXPENSES

Repairs & Maint	£ 6,751.40
Electricity/Gas	£1,375.70
Badges	£997.00
Phone/Internet	£532.64
Capitation	£5,644.00
Insurance	£1,770.91
Camps/Activities	£1,890.86
Waste Removal	£661.82
Section Resources	£358.94
Miscellaneous	£921.00
Equipment	£4,021.87
Water Rates	£136.14
Uniforms	£572.54
	£25,634.82
PROFIT FOR YEAR	£16,323.83

£41,958.65

The accounts have been prepared from information and explanations furnished to me and I hereby certify them as correct

M J Teague

MERYL TEAGUE

Doneldene, Parkend Lydney

15th December 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

1ST ROYAL FOREST SCOUT.....SCOUT GROUP/DISTRICT/COUNTY/AREA SCOUT COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the Group/District/County/Area for the year ended 31/8/2021
which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes set out on pages.....

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's/District's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Group/District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *):

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ;and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Name: Mr J Teague MR J TEAGUE

Qualification:

Address: DONNING
PARKWAY LONDON ROAD GLIS 4 5R

Date: 16/12/2021