

# 1ST WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 302128

## Details

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**Other names** 1ST WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BOY SCOUTS GROUP

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1963-03-29

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

## Contact

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**Address** Holmleigh Farm  
Bradley Green  
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GL12 7PW

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**Website** [www.wottonscoutgroup.co.uk](http://www.wottonscoutgroup.co.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** FOR THEPURPOSES OF 1ST WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BOY SCOUTS GROUP

**Activities:** Affiliated to the Scout Association, The 1st Wotton under Ege Scout Group provides a programme of badge work, a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities, inter-personal skill and personal development activities from the age of 6 years, through Beavers, Cubs and Scouts aged 14.5 years.

## Classification

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

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE AND DISTRICT
- Gloucestershire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£50,484	£171,727	-	-
2024-03-31	£19,251	£9,912	-	-
2023-03-31	£63,537	£12,465	-	-
2022-03-31	£66,173	£7,722	-	-
2021-03-31	£31,759	£31,169	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>MARK STANLEY BATCHELOR</b>	Chair	2014-01-04
Ian Jess		2020-09-25
Muhammad Ali Iftikhar Qazi		2025-09-21
Phillip Moss		2024-06-28
Sebastian Braun		2021-09-29

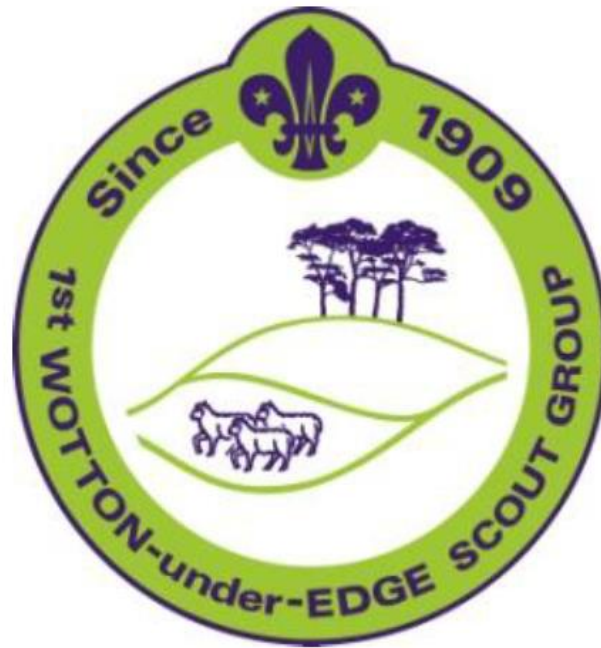
**1ST WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 302128

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# Accounts

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Trustees Annual Report and Accounts  
For the period April 2024 to March 2025  
1<sup>st</sup> Wotton under Edge Scout Group





## Section A - Reference and administration details

Charity Name: 1st Wotton under Edge Scout Group

Head Quarters: Conygres,  
Old London Road  
Wotton under Edge  
Gloucestershire  
GL12 7EA

Charity Number: 302128

Scout Association Number: 17585

Charity Principal Address: Holmleigh Farm  
Bradley  
Wotton under Edge  
Gloucestershire  
GL12 7PW

Trustees and members of the Group Board April 2024/25;

Elected members:	Mark Batchelor Alastair Hoyle	Chair Treasurer
Ex-officio members:	Seb Braun Ian Jess Jenny Emerson Stephanie Alexander Steve Dexter Seb Braun Seb Braun Seb Braun	Group Lead Volunteer Pathfinder Scouts Lead Volunteer Pioneer Scouts Lead Volunteer Heron Cubs Lead Volunteer Kingfisher Cubs Lead Volunteer Beavers from Mars Lead Volunteer Moon Beavers Lead Volunteer Squirrels Lead Volunteer
Co-opted members:	Phil Moss Jazz Sennitt	Quartermaster Fundraising
Administrators:	Sabina Parsons Nick Watt Brie Watson	Group Administrator Waiting List Administrator Board Meeting Administrator
Advisers:	Paul Clarke	Accounts independent examiner



## **Section B - Structure, governance and management**

### **Description of the charity's trusts**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Wotton Under Edge Scout Group's (The Group) governing documents are those of The Scout Association (TSA). They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association.

The Group is a Trust established under the TSA rules which are common to all Scouts. The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the POR and The Group Constitution.

The Group is managed by the Group Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Group which is an educational charity. As Charity Trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Group Board consists of three independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual Section Leaders and Parent's Representation. The Board meets every three months.

The Board exists to support the Group Scout Leader, in meeting his/her responsibilities and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing administrators and advisors other than those who are elected.

### **Risk Management and Internal Control**

The Group Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to the building, property and equipment
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members
- Reduced income from fund raising
- Reduction or loss of leaders.
- Reduction or loss of members.

### **Buildings Property and Equipment**

The Group owns and manages Conygres which is our headquarters. This building and land are 'free hold' and are held in Trust by The Scout Association Trust Corporation (SATC) which is a Custodian Trustee for the Group. Conygres is used to hold regular meetings and used to store equipment and consumables.



The Group owns an extensive inventory of activity equipment including but not limited to;

- Archery Equipment
- Air rifles
- Camping and Cooking Equipment
- Box trailer
- Canoes

The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. We also maintain a policy for the box trailer.

### **Administration and Leadership**

The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group would occur.

The Sections of the group are structured as follows:

- Squirrel Dray
- Beaver Scout Colony (Beavers from Mars)
- Beaver Scout Colony (Moon Beavers)
- Heron Cub Scout Pack
- Kingfisher Cub Scout Pack
- Pioneer Scout Troop
- Pathfinder Scout Troop

The Group through, capitation fees (paying £58.50 per member under 18 this financial year) contributes to TSA's national accident insurance policy. This provides insurance cover for all members of the Group.

In addition, the Group also holds a Third Party insurance policy to cover helpers and volunteers whom are non TSA members. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities and we hold risk assessments for fire, water and general building safety.

### **Group Finances**

The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Board could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

In addition to the operational reserve the Group also hold funds in a savings account which is allocated to the development of the Conygres site. At this time the Group is continuing to raise the necessary level of funds to complete the capital works project.

The Group has in place systems of internal financial controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss. These include two signatories for all cheque payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

### **Membership**



The Group provides activities for young people aged 4 to 14. Currently Group membership is made up of 142 youngsters and 38 adult leaders, 12 helpers and volunteers and 11 young leaders. The Group overall is very healthy both in terms of young members but also volunteers to run section meetings and group administration.

In the unlikely event that there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of section/s. In the worst-case scenario, the complete closure of the Group would occur. The viability of the Group as a whole and each section is completely reliant on the volunteers that run the section meetings.

The Group operates a waiting list system for parents to register children wishing to join the Group. Currently the waiting list includes 86 children of varying ages. Accordingly, there are many children who are unable to join the group as there are no spare places available in the various sections. We recognise this and we are trying to expand our sections but we are limited by the size of our hall.

Position on the waiting list is determined by length of time since the name was added. In exceptional circumstances children of parents/carers whom take up a substantive role within the group such as a leader or member of the Group Board are given priority on the waiting list based on demonstrating an agreed level of commitment.



## Section C - Objectives and Activities

The objectives of The Group are aligned with those of TSA, which are to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities. Thus, empowering our young people to make a positive contribution to society.

As members of the TSA, the Group and all its members are guided by the values of Scouting which are:

- Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.
- Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.
- Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.
- Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.
- Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together on a program of activities based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

Each Section has set and delivered its own diverse program of activities for its members for the financial year of 2024/25. All young persons were given the opportunity to participate in all activities including nights away.

In addition to the program of activities completed during this financial year and meeting the objectives of the TSA, The Leaders and Board set the following specific objectives for the Group. Our success in all our objectives is described in the following sections of this report;

- Provide opportunities for nights away for all members
- Participate in regional scouting based events and completions
- Participate in national events such as St Georges day and Remembrance Day
- Hold local events to raise funds
- Develop and pursue a funding strategy to facilitate the Conygres development
- Increase income from Conygres bookings

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

## Section D - Achievements and Performance

### Chairman's Report

What another amazing year of weekly indoor and outdoor activities based at Conygres, as well as farm excursions, camps, hikes, climbing, cinemas, swimming pools, cycling, air rifle shooting, archery, cooking, competitions and much, much more. We have also made great progress towards our dream of a new scout hut. Our team of volunteer Leaders, Assistants, Young Leaders and Helpers and supporting Volunteers continue to do many great things and the Group is still growing.



At this this time of year when we reflect on the past twelve months it is vital that all those involved in the Group recognise the time and commitment that our Leaders and Helpers make at not only running the section meetings, but also camps, special activities and also the planning and training they undertake to ensure that every section meeting and activity is safe and is a success. On behalf of all our young members,

parents and guardians, the Group Board would like to thank our dedicated Volunteer Leaders, Young Leaders and Helpers of all Sections for providing such a diverse, inclusive and challenging program for our youngsters. Without them, Scouting in Wotton just would not be possible.

Seb Braun our amazing Group Lead Volunteer has continued to recruit new helpers and Leaders, and we welcome them to the Group and look forward to helping them get the best from Scouting. Our success in recruiting not only reflects the hard work by Seb but also the reputation of the Group in the community. Seb is now focusing on building and guiding the leadership team which means others can take on the challenges of running the Beavers and Squirrels section nights. We continue to attract (and benefit greatly from the support of) a significant number of Young Leaders both from the Duke of Edinburgh's volunteering scheme but also from our local District Explorer Scout Units.

Despite our numbers of volunteers we always need parents to get involved at section nights, events, at fund raising activities and also behind the scenes (on the Trustee Board). It is vital that all parents get involved in some shape or form. If parents cannot commit to a regular role, just an hour helping at a fund-raising event will go a long way to help the Group expand, achieve its goals and provide the exciting programs that our children enjoy. As we enter the new scouting year we have some significant roles that are vacant and it is essential that new volunteers with fresh ideas and different experiences get involved and I'm sure there are Parents out there who would be well suited to these roles. If you are interested or know of someone else who is, please get in touch with Seb. We are seeking volunteers for the following roles;

- Board Chair Person
- Quartermaster
- Conygres bookings administrator
- Website administrator
- Building manager

As has been our focus for the past 5 years, growing our sections and welcoming youngsters from the waiting list is a key objective for the Group. The Group has continued to grow this year and has the largest membership it has ever had. The waiting list remains at a steady 80 the

largest waiting list in the district. Our plans to build a new meeting hall are now well under way. Once we have completed this we will be able to increase our section sizes significantly and take more children off of the waiting list.



equipment in the future.

Equipment purchases have been limited this year, which reflects the investment we have made in previous years. The Wotton Round Table purchased a significant number of hike tents and gas bottles for us, which we are extremely grateful for. Following demolition of the old Long Store, we purchased a shipping container to store equipment. This has meant we have needed to rationalise some of our equipment due to limited space. However the new building will revolutionise how we store and access our

Jassbir Sennit our fundraising co-ordinator has masterminded yet another successful year of fund raising events with over £3,000 raised this year, contributing to a four year total of approximately £14,000. Thank you to Jas but also to all those parents and carers who have supported our Conygres Teas, Town Hall Teas, Christmas Fair and Bonfire Night stalls with your time and cakes. It is essential that we continue with these activities and therefore need your support. Our planned Conygres Teas in 2026 are;

- 22<sup>nd</sup> March
- 10<sup>th</sup> April
- 17<sup>th</sup> May
- 14<sup>th</sup> June
- 12<sup>th</sup> July
- 13<sup>th</sup> September



In addition to income from our own efforts, we continue to make funding applications to a number of trusts, grant bodies and charities. I am pleased to report that in the past 12 months we have received £20,000 funding from the National Lottery, £2,000 from Montel (who undertook the road works at Combe), £1,000 from The Falcon Steak House, £2,500 from Gloucestershire Masonic Charity Action, £2,000 from the Wotton based Masonic Lodges and £5,000 from a local individual. We have also received donations from Wotton Lions, Heaven of the South, Lucky Severn Lotto and individual donations totalling more than £2,000.

In November 2024, after emptying the Long Store that has served the group as a makeshift store for more than 50 years, we unceremoniously demolished the 1800s barn. Soon after, concrete footings were poured, walls erected and the roof was installed. I am please to say that after many years of preparation and fund raising we have started construction of our new hut. We hope to have the hut available for use as we approach the end of the year, but we still have a long way to go. The hard work of fundraising has got us to this point but we estimate a further expenditure of £60,000 to get the building kitted out with a kitchen, accessible toilet, heating and electrics. We will continue to provide regular updates as the build progresses.



Hire of Conygres to private groups, local organisations, charities and other Scout Groups continues to be a significant source of income for us. We would like to thank Ken Tucker for his continued administration of bookings. Bookings have grown significantly over the past few



years providing a valuable source of income for the Group, this year of over £5,500. Bookings for 2026 are looking very healthy and we hope to exceed £6,000. This popularity reminds us of what an amazing facility Conygres is.

Annual Subscriptions were raised last year and will be held for 2025/26 at £14.

This year we say goodbye to quite a few leaders and helpers this year including Morgan Batchelor, Lydia Round, Charlotte Darlston, Alex Pegg, Nathan Hinks and Chrois Ward. We thank them all for their time and commitment, in particular our thanks go to Dawn Connor, Alastair Hoyle who will be stepping down as Treasurer and Phil Moss who will be stepping down as Quartermaster. All three have served the Group for more than 10 years each.

In my role as Chairman for the last 13 years I have seen the group grow significantly and the vision of a new hut materialise. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time and made many new friends. It is with a heavy heart that I have decided not to stand at this year's AGM for re-election as Chair of Trustees. I leave knowing the Group is in great shape and has a long bright future ahead of it.

The Leaders and Group Board look forward to an exciting year in Scouting and thank all Parents and Carers for your ongoing support.

Mark Batchelor  
Chair of the Group Board of Trustees



## **Squirrel Drey Report**

### **Overview**

Our Squirrels Drey is thriving with 14 enthusiastic young Squirrels meeting every Wednesday evening at The Kindergarten Rooms, British School, from 5:15-6:15pm. We have team of 5 dedicated volunteers, led by Group Leader Georgie, along with our brilliant Young Leader James.

### **Programme Highlights**

Our programme leading up to Christmas includes:

**Outdoor Adventures:** Starting with our autumn scavenger hunt, the Squirrels have been exploring the great outdoors and discovering the signs of the changing seasons. They've been creating beautiful autumn pictures from their findings!

**Building & Creating:** Squirrels have engaged in bridge-building challenges and will be doing plenty of crafting leading up to Christmas, developing their creativity and problem-solving skills.

**Community Heroes:** We're delighted to welcome some special visitors this term, including local police officers and a planned visit to the fire station. We also have Slimbridge Wetlands coming in October to run an interactive session on wetlands.

**Cultural Celebrations:** Our Diwali cooking session will introduce the Squirrels to new foods and traditions, celebrating and learning about diversity and different cultures.

**Special Events:** We are planning a fireworks celebration at Conygres with campfire stories, singing, and sparklers! This is a brilliant opportunity for our Squirrels to experience the adventure of outdoor Scouting and get familiar with Conygres ahead of their move to Beavers.

### **Achievements & Progress**

Badge requirements are being met consistently, with badges being awarded at each half term. We have focussed on a varied programme ensuring every Squirrel finds something they love while working towards their badges.

### **Looking Forward**

Several of our Squirrels will be moving up to Beavers after Christmas, which is both exciting for them and creates space for new friends from our waiting list to. Georgie will be looking at birthdays and moving up shortly so that arrangements for a smooth transition can be made. 1st

Wotton Scouts – Squirrels Drey Update September 2025 We're also pleased to have two more people interested in volunteering, and Georgie is managing our volunteer numbers to ensure we have just the right team for maximum efficiency.



## Beaver Colony Report (Moon and From Mars)

This year has been a very exciting one for the Beaver Scouts led by 13 leaders and creating a second colony with leadership moving to Jules King and Paul Lewis.

The Beavers have had loads of fun getting stuck into the usual weekly activities mirroring activities for both colonies from team games that got them working together, to nature craft sessions and adventurous activities such as climbing. We also had some special visitors from the local community, giving the Beavers a chance to learn about the people around them, one in particular stays in my mind when the colony went for a walk through the fields to look for butterflies.

A brilliant Japanese night run by our young leaders. The highlight of the year, though, was our Beaver Camp in July. The Beavers had a blast camping at Conygres. This year was space themed and activities were altered to allow for the hottest weekend of the year. We went on space camp with astronaut training in the woods, building a moon base, setting off rockets and plenty of water play. It's been a fantastic year, and we can't wait for more adventures ahead although merging back to one colony in the new year.

Our deepest thanks to Seb, Dawn who retired this year after 14 years of service, Philippe, Lizzie, Nicholas, Charlotte, Paul, Ashley, Jules, Andy, John, Tobias and Claire who all share their time and skills with the Beavers.



## Heron Cub Pack

Another exciting year for Heron Cub Pack involving den building, cooking, meeting the police, a trip to the fire station, skittles. We also enjoyed going on cub camp in Swindon which the cubs had an amazing experience making new achievements and conquering fears along the way. They did crate building, zipline, wide games.



## Kingfisher Cub Pack

We have enjoyed a fantastic year. We are looking full at the moment and we have:

- 28 enthusiastic cubs
- 1 great young leader (Victor)
- 5 volunteer leaders (Steve, Alex, Liz, Pam and Janet)
- 1 invaluable admin assistant (Dave)

As you can see we have lots of cubs and I am ever on the lookout for more leaders to help us so if you feel you would like to get involved please come and speak to me.

We have done a great variety of things in our section meetings and we have had two camps. The first was a re-visit to the PGL site in Swindon in May where we did lots of great activities as a joint venture with the Heron Cub pack. All the cubs did really well at trying new things and taking part in adventurous activities and we had a wonderful time:



The other, held for older cubs as a joint camp with older beavers, was in July at Conygres. We did archery, darts a treasure hunt and camp fire amongst other activities:



Other highlights from our programme this year -

Fireworks night:



Science night:



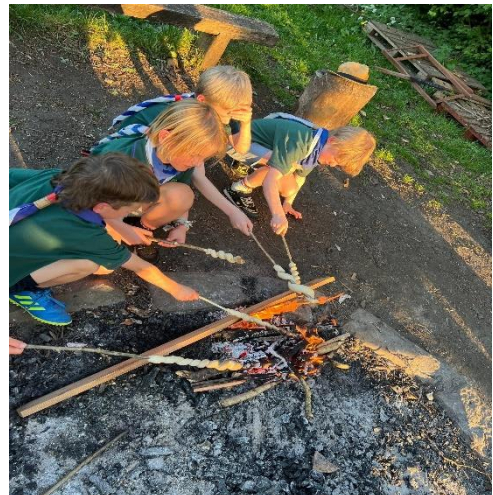
Fire station visit:



Police visit:



Cooking on fires:



Climbing:



Assault course:



Cycling night:



We have an action packed programme coming up with climbing, fireworks, carol singing, cooking and lots of other activities and games planned for this term.

We would like to thank the board of trustees, chairman, treasurer and group lead volunteer for all their hard work this past year to allow us to keep providing for the cubs and I would like to thank all the leaders within the cub section for their continued support.

Bumblebee

## Pathfinder Scout Troop Report

The current leadership team is: Ian (Sparks) (SL), Lyn (Rikki) (ASL), Alice (Squirrel) (ASL), Richard (Merlin) (ASL), Steve (ASL), Emma (Raven) (ASL) we have also been occasionally had help from two of our prior scout/YL and now ASL, Connor & Freddie so massive thanks to all who help keep pathfinders running. And a huge thanks to the parents who support the Scouts in their activities.

We have had a busy year! As well as plenty of exciting Tuesday sessions such as Christmas paracord decoration making, a lot of different types of campfire cooking, Indoor Climbing, outdoor skiing, air rifle shooting & archery, pioneering, Fireworks display, Kayaking & the Scouts planning and running their own sessions, whilst still covering a lot of the fundamental building blocks of traditional scouting. The Scouts have had plenty of other events and opportunities including helping out @ Bournestream play facility, joining in with the district ran St Georges day event @ Breakheart Quarry, helping out the local lions group with the clean up after fireworks display @ KLB, A local survival camp and Strategy Scout camp on the Bathurst estate in Cirencester for a fun weekend with a day of challenges for the scouts to work in teams to compete against over 2000 other scouts from around the country. This May, an expedition for nine of our older Scouts - one of the biggest challenges needed to complete the Chief Scout's Gold Award.

We currently have 33 scouts and over the last 12 months have introduced 13 new young people to scouting (2 from the waiting list and 11 moving up from Cubs) and seen 5 Scouts move on (1 of which have now re-joined us as young leaders), awarded four Chief Scouts Gold awards, 56 challenge badges, 39 staged badges and over 132 activity badges over the last year!



Strategy Scout Camp, Cirencester July 25



Kayaking @ Purton Docks



Climbing @ 270, Gloucester



Skiing @ Gloucester Dry Ski Slope



## Pioneer Scouts Report

We have had a busy year! This year as well as Scouting basics such as campfires, teamwork, first aid, navigation and hikes we've had plenty of exciting Monday sessions such as making Corgi planes, painting poppy fields, Lego challenges, Chinese New Year, astronomy, athletics, circus skills, cooking challenges, and dropping eggs from the top of Nibley Monument!

We have volunteered in the community with maintaining the Bournestream disability playground. We've also had trips to the Warhammer shop and the Apple store to work on Model making and Digital Maker badges; Renishaw; and adventurous activities including Fun Walls at 270 Climbing; dry-slope skiing and a SUP/canoe evening.

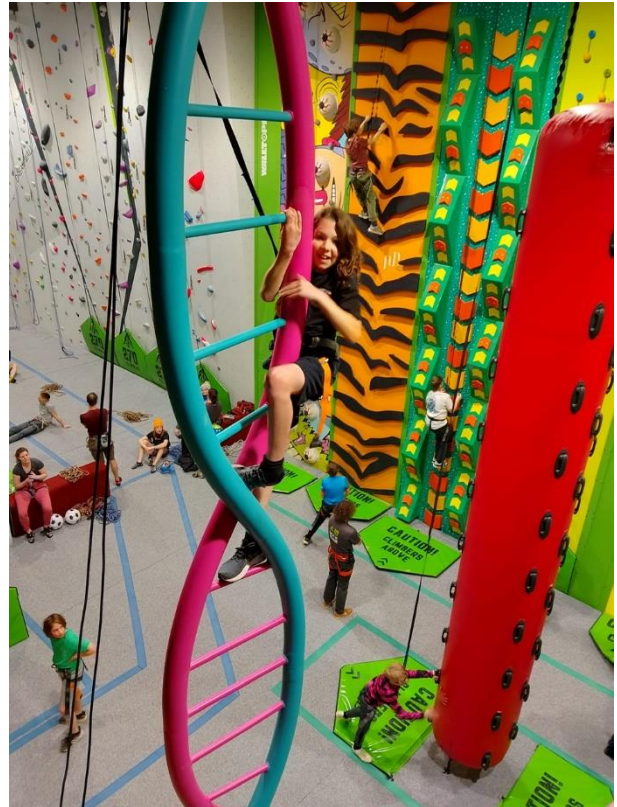
This academic year again started with a successful expedition for 7 of our older Scouts and finished with a joint expedition with Pathfinder for another 7 - the Expedition is one of the biggest challenges needed to complete the Chief Scout's Gold Award. We camped out at the Cotswold Vale Chillout Camp in February (!) and Strategy Camp (a multi-activity challenge hike consisting of 30 bases set around a 3,000 acre site). Some members have also attended County-run badge camps in Canal boating, Electronics and Air Activities and Survival, and day courses in climbing.

We had teams compete at the Cotswold Marathon (10 mile night hike) and the Sodbury Challenge (night orienteering / challenge hike). We also supported a number of members in entering the postal National Scout Championships and the Schools Rifle Competition, where Oliver, John, Daisy, Harry, Rebecca and Will all qualified for National Finals!

All in all, we have awarded five Chief Scouts Gold awards (congratulations to Edward Cox, Zac Jones, Edith Smith, Daisy Hanney & James Richardson), 52 challenge badges, 173 staged badges and 177 activity badges over the last year!

Once again a massive thank you to all the volunteers involved in running Pioneers. The current leadership team is: Jenny, Mark, Evan & George. We have said a sad goodbye to Alex, Jon, Chris and Oliver (YL) this year, and wish them well on their onward journeys. And of course thank you to all the parents who support the Scouts in their activities.

We already have lots of events booked in for the autumn term, so we're looking forward to another fun-packed year next year





## **Section E - Financial review**

### **Reserves Policy**

Our policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Board considers that the Group (excluding unit funds and subscription costs) should hold a sum equivalent to the annual running costs, circa £5500.

The Group held reserves of approximately £19,500 at year end. This is significantly down from last year and represents the expenditure for the new building at Conygres follow the start of construction work in November 2024.

### **Investment Policy**

The Group now has significant funds held in reserve for the Conygres development works and has opted to deposit this in a savings account rather than longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

### **Annual Accounts**

The following pages include the accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 that were presented at the AGM on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025.



## Report and Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

### Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

#### TRUSTEES: Ex-officio

Group Chairman	M Batchelor
Group Treasurer	A Hoyle
Group Secretary	B Watson
Group Lead Volunteer	S Braun
Squirrels Leader	G Riggs
Beaver Leader – Moon	P Lewis
Beaver Leader – Mars	S Braun
Cub Scout Leader - Kingfishers	S Dexter
Cub Scout Leader - Herons	S Merrett
Scout Leader - Pathfinders	I Jess
Scout Leader - Pioneers	J Emerson
Scout Association Number	17585
Charity Registration Number	302128
Charity Principal Address	Conygres Scout Hut Old London Road Wotton-Under-Edge Gloucestershire GL12 7PS

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**Unaudited statement of financial activity for the year ended 31 March 2025**

<b>Scout Group Accounts</b>	Note	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
		£	£
Total receipts for the year	1	50,484.13	19,251.46
Less: Total payments for the year	2	-171,727.28	-9,912.61
Net receipts (payments) for the year		-121,243.15	9,338.85
Reserves brought forward		140,592.79	130,863.94
Transfer from sections		200.00	390.00
Transfer to sections		0.00	0.00
<b>Reserves carried forward (Scout Group)</b>		<b>19,549.64</b>	<b>140,592.79</b>
<b>Beavers, Cubs and Scout Section Accounts</b>			
<b>RECEIPTS PER SECTION</b>			
Squirrels		940.07	1,097.94
Beavers (combined)		2,420.00	1,626.00
Kingfisher Cubs		8,237.89	7,687.85
Heron Cubs		2,896.00	4,430.25
Pathfinder Scouts		2,707.00	5,110.50
Pioneer Scouts		10,578.02	8,835.10
<b>Total receipts for the year</b>		<b>27,778.98</b>	<b>28,787.64</b>
<b>PAYMENTS PER SECTION</b>			
Squirrels		536.98	1,057.68
Beavers (combined)		2,256.50	1,650.63
Kingfisher Cubs		7,241.09	8,069.18
Heron Cubs		2,445.07	3,563.10
Pathfinder Scouts		3,056.70	5,278.05
Pioneer Scouts		11,865.55	7,949.53
<b>Total payments for the year</b>		<b>27,401.89</b>	<b>27,568.17</b>
Total receipts for the year		27,778.98	28,787.64
Less: Total payments for the year		-27,401.89	-27,568.17
Net receipts (payments) for the year		377.09	1,219.47
Reserves brought forward		7,654.09	6,434.62
<b>Reserves carried forward (Section Accounts)</b>		<b>8,031.18</b>	<b>7,654.09</b>
<b>Total reserves carried forward</b>		<b>27,580.82</b>	<b>148,246.88</b>

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Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**1: Receipts for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
<b>MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS</b>		
Subscriptions Received	18,144.00	18,368.00
Less: Payment collection costs	-730.02	-555.94
Less: Payments to sections	-8,175.00	-8,716.00
Less: District capitation	-8,236.00	-8,506.50
	<u><b>1,002.98</b></u>	<u><b>589.56</b></u>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVED</b>		
Interest	2,337.66	3,407.05
	<u><b>2,337.66</b></u>	<u><b>3,407.05</b></u>
<b>DONATIONS / GRANTS</b>		
Donation	1,772.42	1,626.75
Fund raising events	3,540.85	2,241.56
Grants for work on Conygres	0.00	0.00
Government Grants	0.00	0.00
Grants for new hut	30,935.00	1,000.00
	<u><b>36,248.27</b></u>	<u><b>4,868.31</b></u>
<b>RENTAL INCOME RECEIVED</b>		
Rent of Conygres	6,625.50	5,769.50
	<u><b>6,625.50</b></u>	<u><b>5,769.50</b></u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Gift Aid 2022-23	0.00	4,617.04
Gift Aid 2023-24	4,269.72	0.00
	<u><b>4,269.72</b></u>	<u><b>4,617.04</b></u>
<b>Total receipts for the year</b>	<u><b>50,484.13</b></u>	<u><b>19,251.46</b></u>

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**2: Payments for the year ended 31 March 2025**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
<b>PURCHASES</b>		
Equipment	364.20	1,251.18
	<b>364.20</b>	<b>1,251.18</b>
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>		
Insurance	174.40	164.40
Organisational costs (Web site)	196.95	182.21
OSM costs	301.00	258.00
Fund raising event costs	323.37	319.67
Neckers, hoodies, badges	393.60	35.00
Miscellaneous	286.15	309.81
Training	85.00	0.00
	<b>1,760.47</b>	<b>1,269.09</b>
<b>NEW HALL</b>		
Development costs	3,238.55	1,608.00
Architects Fees	4,320.00	0.00
DPS Ground works	68,248.54	0.00
MBC Timber	60,650.55	0.00
Container	2,058.00	0.00
Apex Roofing	21,150.00	0.00
Scaffold	5,000.00	0.00
	<b>164,665.64</b>	<b>1,608.00</b>
<b>CONYGRES</b>		
Insurance	915.23	895.23
Electricity	1,573.06	1,597.54
Water	319.82	656.57
Maintenance	906.95	245.15
Ground maintenance	518.99	462.00
Cleaning	702.92	775.85
Tree clearing	0.00	1,152.00
	<b>4,936.97</b>	<b>5,784.34</b>
<b>Total payments for the year</b>	<b>171,727.28</b>	<b>9,912.61</b>


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Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**Unaudited Statement of Financial Position at 31 March 2025**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
<b><u>Group Accounts</u></b>		
Group account	27,213.05	11,990.30
Subs account	7,568.90	6,866.92
Savings	0.00	3,433.45
Conygres account	5,157.69	3,116.21
New hall account	0.00	<u>115,185.91</u>
	<b>39,939.64</b>	<b>140,592.79</b>
<b><u>Beavers, Cubs and Scout Section Accounts</u></b>		
Squirrels	807.38	404.29
Beavers (combined)	494.02	330.52
Kingfisher cubs	3,129.31	2,132.51
Heron cubs	1,812.38	1,361.45
Pathfinder scouts	1,109.90	1,459.60
Pioneer scouts	678.19	<u>1,965.72</u>
	<b>8,031.18</b>	<b>7,654.09</b>
	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
MBC Timber	2,700.00	0.00
Scaffold	5,000.00	0.00
Roofer	<u>12,690.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<b>20,390.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<u><b>27,580.82</b></u>	<u><b>148,246.88</b></u>
<b>Funds – Unrestricted</b>	<u><b>27,580.82</b></u>	<u><b>148,246.88</b></u>

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 24 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 AHOYLE Treasurer

## Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of the Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group (C1-5) for the Year ended 31 March 2025

### Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

We understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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:

- (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 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave 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.

Name PAUL CLARKE

Address THE RMY HOUSE  
ELLERNCROFT ROAD  
WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE  
GL12 7AY

Date 31.08.25

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## Section F - Plans for future period

Our objective for 2025/26 will be to provide a diverse program of activities for all sections. In addition to the Section programs, the Group plans to undertake the following specific activities;

- Seek and secure funding for the completion of the Conygres development
- Increase income from Conygres bookings
- Complete the construction of the new hall
- Purchase new equipment when required
- Participate in national scouting events
- Provide nights away for all members
- Participate in local events such as Remembrance

We will continue to try to recruit new volunteer Helpers and Leaders. In particular we need to fill roles of Quartermaster, Treasurer and Chair of the Board of Trustees. Our fund-raising activities will continue with Conygres Teas and Town Hall Teas. We would ask that Parents help as much as possible with these events when the time comes.

In line with the objectives of The Scout Association, The Group will continue to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities. We will achieve this by providing an enjoyable and rewarding scheme of activities, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership. This is reflected in the programs set and managed by the Leaders of each Section and the Group as a whole.



## Section G – Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above and present this for agreement by the Group Scout Council at the 2024/25 AGM held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signed:

Full name: Mark Batchelor

Position: Chair of the Board of Trustees

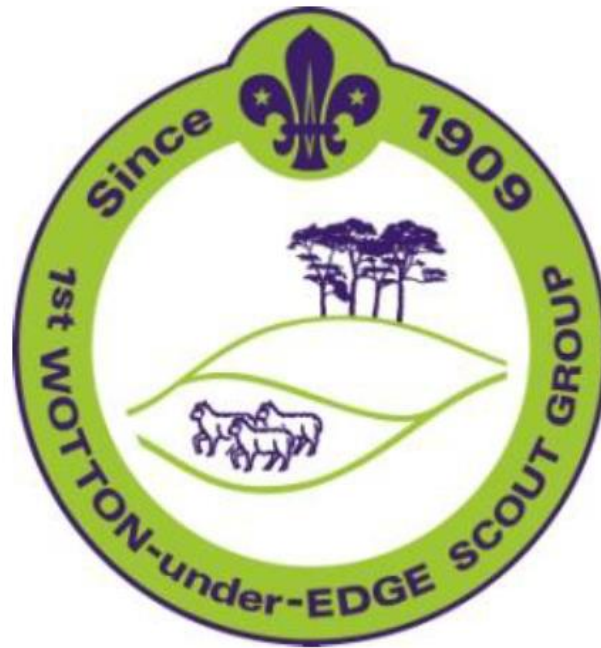
**1ST WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 302128

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# Accounts

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Trustees Annual Report and Accounts  
For the period April 2022 to March 2023  
1<sup>st</sup> Wotton under Edge Scout Group





## Section A - Reference and administration details

Charity Name: 1st Wotton under Edge Scout Group

Head Quarters: Conyngres,  
Old London Road  
Wotton under Edge  
Gloucestershire  
GL12 7EA

Charity Number: 302128

Scout Association Number: 17585

Charity Principal Address: Holmleigh Farm  
Bradley  
Wotton under Edge  
Gloucestershire  
GL12 7PW

Trustees and members of the Group Board April 2022/23;

Elected members:	Mark Batchelor	Chair
	Alastair Hoyle	Treasurer
	Kerry Jobson	Secretary

Ex-officio members:	Seb Braun	Group Scout Leader
	Ian Jess	Pathfinder Scouts
	Jenny Emerson	Pioneer Scouts
	Stephanie Alexander	Heron Cubs
	Steve Dexter	Kingfisher Cubs
	Seb Braun	Beavers
	Seb Braun	Squirrels

Co-opted members:	Phil Moss	Quartermaster
	Natalie Forsythe	Group Administrator
	Jazz Sennitt	Fundraising
	Nick Watt	Waiting List Administrator

Advisers:	Paul Clarke	Accounts independent examiner
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## **Section B - Structure, governance and management**

### **Description of the charity's trusts**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Wotton Under Edge Scout Group's (The Group) governing documents are those of The Scout Association (TSA). They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association.

The Group is a Trust established under the TSA rules which are common to all Scouts. The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the POR and The Group Constitution.

The Group is managed by the Group Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Group which is an educational charity. As Charity Trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Group Board consists of three independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual Section Leaders and Parent's Representation. The Board meets every three months.

The Board exists to support the Group Scout Leader, in meeting his/her responsibilities and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing administrators and advisors other than those who are elected.

### **Risk Management and Internal Control**

The Group Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to the building, property and equipment
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members
- Reduced income from fund raising
- Reduction or loss of leaders.
- Reduction or loss of members.

### **Buildings Property and Equipment**

The Group owns and manages Conygres which is our headquarters. This building and land are 'free hold' and are held in Trust by The Scout Association Trust Corporation (SATC) which is a



Custodian Trustee for the Group. Conygres is used to hold regular meetings and used to store equipment and consumables.

The Group owns an extensive inventory of activity equipment including but not limited to;

- Archery Equipment
- Air rifles
- Camping and Cooking Equipment
- Box trailer
- Canoes

The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. We also maintain a policy for the box trailer.

### **Administration and Leadership**

The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group would occur.

The Sections of the group are structured as follows:

- Squirrel Dray
- Beaver Scout Colony
- Heron Cub Scout Pack
- Kingfisher Cub Scout Pack
- Pioneer Scout Troop
- Pathfinder Scout Troop

The Group through, capitation fees (£52 per member under 18 this financial year) contributes to TSA's national accident insurance policy. This provides insurance cover for all members of the Group.

In addition, the Group also holds a Third Party insurance policy to cover helpers and volunteers whom are non TSA members. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities and we hold risk assessments for fire, water and general building safety.

### **Group Finances**

The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

In addition to the operational reserve the Group also hold funds in a savings account which is allocated to the development of the Conygres site. At this time the Group is continuing to raise the necessary level of funds to complete the capital works project.



The Group has in place systems of internal financial controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss. These include two signatories for all cheque payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

## **Membership**

The Group provides activities for young people aged 4 to 14. Currently Group membership is made up of 157 youngsters and 35 adult leaders, helpers and volunteers and 10 young leaders. This is a significant increase our young members due to the opening of our first Squirrels Dray. The Group overall is very healthy both in terms of young members but also volunteers to run section meetings and group administration.

In the unlikely event that there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of section/s. In the worst-case scenario, the complete closure of the Group would occur. The viability of the Group as a whole and each section is completely reliant on the volunteers that run the section meetings.

The Group operates a waiting list system for parents to register children wishing to join the Group. Currently the waiting list includes over 114 children of varying ages. Accordingly, there are many children who are unable to join the group as there are no spare places available in the various sections. We recognise this and we are trying to expend our sections but we are limited by the size of our hall. We have significantly reduced the number of children under 6 years of age on the waiting list by opening a Squirrels section (age 4 to 6 years).

Position on the waiting list is determined by length of time since. In exceptional circumstances children of parents/carers whom take up a substantive role within the group such as a leader or member of the Group Board are given priority on the waiting list based on demonstrating an agreed level of commitment.



## Section C - Objectives and Activities

The objectives of The Group are aligned with those of TSA, which are to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities. Thus, empowering our young people to make a positive contribution to society.

As members of the TSA, the Group and all its members are guided by the values of Scouting which are:

- Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.
- Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.
- Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.
- Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.
- Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together on a program of activities based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

Each Section has set and delivered its own diverse program of activities for its members for the financial year of 2022/23. All young persons were given the opportunity to participate in all activities including nights away.

In addition to the program of activities completed during this financial year and meeting the objectives of the TSA, The Leaders and Board set the following specific objectives for the Group. Our success in all our objectives is described in the following sections of this report;

- Provide opportunities for nights away for all members
- Participate in regional scouting based events and completions
- Participate in national events such as St Georges day and Remembrance Day
- Hold local events to raise funds
- Develop and pursue a funding strategy to facilitate the Conygres development
- Increase income from Conygres bookings

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

## Section D - Achievements and Performance

### Chairman's Report

The team of volunteer Leaders, Assistants, Young Leaders and Helpers totalling more than 40 have again provided an amazing program of weekly indoor and outdoor activities based at Conygres. In addition all of our older age group sections have provided special activities at climbing centres, farms, cinemas, swimming pools, etc... and participated in cycling, air rifle shooting, archery and cooking to name a few. On behalf of all our young members, parents and guardians, the Group Board would like to thank the **Volunteer** Leaders, Young Leaders and Helpers of all Sections for providing such a diverse, inclusive and challenging program for our youngsters.



As always **recruitment** of Helpers and Leaders continues to be a major focus for the Group. We have said goodbye to only a few volunteers and friends this year. We thank them all for their time and commitment, in particular our thanks go to David Knight who steps down from Kingfisher Akela and Natalie Forsythe who steps down from Group Administrator. Our Group Scout Leader Seb Braun has continued to use his magic recruitment skills recruiting many new helpers and leaders. We now have the biggest leadership team that we have ever had totalling 40. This includes **Young Leaders** both from the **Duke of Edinburgh's** volunteering scheme but also from our local District Explorer Scout Units.

We thank all our leaders and helpers for the time they commit to not only running the section meetings, but also camps, special activities and also the **planning and training** they undertake to ensure that every section meeting and activity is a success. Congratulations Jenny for achieving your wood badge.



Despite the dedication of our Leaders and Volunteers and our successful recruitment, we still **need parents to get involved** at section nights or as representatives on the Group Board. Without a steady stream of new volunteers some sections may only be able to continue with a Parent rota or consolidation. It is vital that all parents get involved in some shape or form. If parents cannot commit to a regular role, just an hour helping at a fund-raising event will go a long way to help the Group expand, achieve its goals and provide the exciting programs our children enjoy.



Growing our sections and welcoming youngsters from the **waiting list** continues to be a key objective for the Group. Following the opening of our Squirrel Drey (ages 4 to 6) we have been able to take a number of children off of the wating list. The Group now has the **largest membership it has ever had**. But we are still limited by the size of our indoor space. We hope that once we have built our new hall at Conygres, the extra space will allow us to increase the numbers of children in our existing sections. However, at this time our waiting lists stands at 114, it is therefore likely that many children on the list will not be able to join us.

This year purchases of equipment has been limited to a new commercial gazebo style tent (to allow outdoor meetings) and a number of tents for summer camp. We have continued to invest in the Conygres site with the installation of **new external doors** allowing us to use the entrance door to the field as the main entrance. This has made a significant improvement to the safe and convenient access to the building. The Conygres site, like so many local areas has sadly become a victim of **Ash die back**. Following the commissioning of a tree survey, local company **Tree Management Wotton**, have removed a large number of diseased trees at a nominal cost, saving the Group several thousand pounds. We would like to thank them for this support.



Our own **fund raising** activities were again been very successful with a number of Conygres Teas, School Fates, Town Halls Teas and Christmas Under the Edge. Raising over £4,500. We will continue to make these events a regular fund raiser in 2023/24. We would like to thank our youngsters, parents and Leaders for volunteering on the day, providing cakes and helping promote these events.

In addition to income from our own efforts, we continue to make funding applications to a number of Trusts, Grant Bodies and Charities. I am pleased to be able to report that in the past 12 months we have received £5,000 from A J Stone and Family Charitable Trust (Ozleworth House), £5,000 from the Denman Charitable Trust, £750 from The Nibley Festival Trust, £3,000 from the Notgrove Trust and £2,500 from the Gloucestershire County Council Build Back Better Scheme.



Along with our existing savings, previous pledges /grants and the proceeds from the sale of the hut we are now well on our way to raising the necessary funds to start building our new hall at Conygres. Total funds received and pledges made now exceed £130,000. Unfortunately, we have become a victim of inflation so although we have raised a significant amount of funds this year we are only just keeping ahead of rising costs. The decision has therefore been made to start the build as soon as possible even though we are not yet fully funded.

The improved website booking system has seen an increase in hire enquiries and the **hire** of Conygres to local organisations, charities and other Scout Groups continues to provide a **source of income** for the Group. This summer the site is almost fully booked. Our updated **website** also includes information pages and a calendar for parents to reference. [www.wottonscoutgroup.co.uk](http://www.wottonscoutgroup.co.uk).

**Annual Subscriptions** have been held at £12 since 2019/20 and we do not plan to raise subs this financial year.

The Leaders and Group Board look forward to an exciting year in Scouting and thank all Parents and Carers for your ongoing support.

Mark Batchelor  
Chair of the Group Board

## Squirrel Drey Report

This is the very first report for the Wotton Scout Group Squirrel Drey.

Thanks to Laura Barnett, Brie Watson, Lydia Round and Philippe Garang for their valuable help to make our new section happen. Thanks also to Samuel Ward and Katryn Ananieva our Young Leaders.

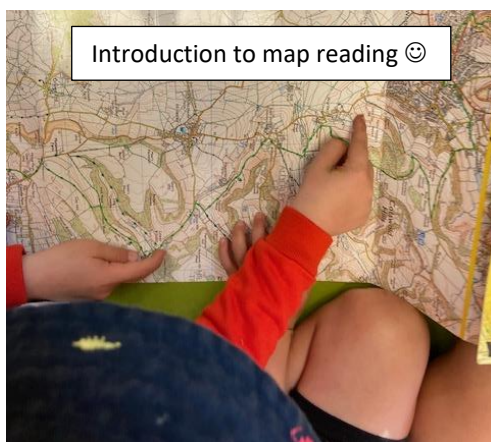
It has been a very rewarding first year.

Squirrels are at the start of the Scouting adventure, and we have managed to introduce our young Squirrels to maps, adventures and wildlife through fun and games. We even attended the Remembrance Sunday event in Wotton and the district St George's day event at Breakheart Quarry.

It's satisfying to see how the Squirrels gain in confidence, form new friendships and always bring fun to our sessions.

I am particularly grateful to Laura for hosting us at The Kindergarten, which provides a safe place, warm in winter, close to the amenities of the school field and well equipped for young children, which provides all the conditions we need for fun and safe activities with the Squirrels.

I am looking forward to the second year of Squirrels at WSG! Seb Braun



## Beaver Colony Report

As another Scouting year ends it's time for me to thank all the Beaver Leaders who have worked hard to deliver exciting, challenging and rewarding activities all year:

Liz Brisley, Ashley Brown, Dawn Connor, Nicholas Cunild, Charlotte Darlaston, Jo Eade, Claire Howe and Lizzy Kingett.

The Beavers' smiles and enthusiasm is testimony to the fantastic team work in our Beaver Colony.

**Here are some moments chosen by some of our leaders.**

### Claire's selection:

I really enjoy seeing the beaver colonies enthusiasm for learning about new things or their excitement at realising how much they already know and wanting to share that with the rest of the lodge. We had a great session learning about the environment – making bug hotels, clay faces and learning about dormice, a species not many beavers knew much about. We hope to put up dormouse boxes up at Conygres soon so we can help monitor and protect this rare species in our patch!



**Nicholas' selection:**

As a recent joiner to the Beaver colony as section assistant, I have been amazed to see the energy, creativity and eagerness to learn of the children.

They clearly love the Monday evening sessions and special events and get so much out of their experiences at Beavers. The activities that seem to go down best with the Beavers are those involving the most mess or the most chaos - making scary faces out of clay, playing capture the flag, creating bug hotels... It's great that these take place in a controlled and safe environment for them and they leave tired but happy, having let off some steam and learnt something in the process.



**Seb's selection:**

There are so many brilliant moments that come to mind, I could fill a few pages...

If there was only one, I'd choose the gardening activity. The Beavers love to clean the planters in the Autumn and plant the bulbs in layers.

After the Winter, which always seems interminable, the first delicate snow drops, the bold daffodils and the stunning tulips help us to remember that growing up takes time and connect us to the power of Nature.

We are looking forward to more fun in 2023-24



Best wishes.

Bear (Seb Braun)

## Heron Cub Pack

This year Heron cub's has had a lot of new children from either the waiting list or from beavers we now have 23 members/children. We have gained a new leader too. We have done many activity's ranging from fire lighting , hiking, raft making, archery ,crafts and an amazing cub camp this year in the Brecon beacons and discovering new activity's that cant be done at Conygres this was at a PGL centre. Here is some photos to follow and show what we have done . We have had a successful heron Conygres tea's.



Thank you

Stephanie Heron cubs

## Kingfisher Cub Pack

We have had another very interesting year. We currently have:

- 26 excitable Cubs
- 1 enthusiastic young leader (Morgan)
- 8 helpful leaders – Steve (Bumblebee), Janet (Racoon), Adam (Falcon), Lucy, Sally, Alex, Hannah, Nicky.
- 1 invaluable admin assistant (Dave)

We have done lots activities this year in the section meetings and we had two camps. One, held for older cubs in April, at Conygres was a Robin Hood theme with lots of archery amongst other activities:



The other, in May, was a joint camp with Heron Cubs and we had a fantastic time at PGL in Tregoyd House in the Brecons:



Sadly, we bid farewell to Akela Dave at Easter although thankfully he has stayed on to be the administration assistant which has proved invaluable. He was replaced by Bumblebee - who has obtained his nights away qualification and wood badge in the last year. Hopefully we can continue live up to Dave's high standards!



Other highlights from the year include:

Ninja Warrior:



Carol singing:



Meeting the birds:



Making pancakes:



Laser fusion:



Litter picking:



And of course, a fair few fires:



We look forward to another year of fun with the Cubs in September.

Steve Dexter

## Pathfinder Scout Troop Report

The current leadership team is: Ian (Sparks) (SL), Lyn (Rikki) (ASL), Nathan (ASL), Richard (Merlin) (ASL), Ellyott (YL) and Freddie (YL) we have also been occasionally had help from two of our prior scout/YL and now ASL, Alice (Squirrel) so massive thanks to all who help keep pathfinders running. And a huge thanks to the parents who support the Scouts in their activities.

We have had a busy year! As well as plenty of exciting Tuesday sessions such as Christmas yule log crafting, a lot of different types of cooking, Ninja Warrior, outdoor skiing, air rifle shooting & archery, pioneering, the Scouts planning and running their own sessions, whilst still covering a lot of the fundamental building blocks of traditional scouting. The Scouts have had plenty of other events and opportunities including helping out @ Bournestream play facility, attending a local drama production and helping out the local lions group with the clean up after fireworks display @ KLB . In May an expedition for eleven of our older Scouts - one of the biggest challenges needed to complete the Chief Scout's Gold Award.

We currently have 31 scouts and over the last 12 months have introduced 14 new young people to scouting (2 from the waiting list and 12 moving up from Cubs) and seen 4 Scouts move on (1 of which have now re-joined us as young leaders), awarded two Chief Scouts Gold awards (congratulations to Aodan & Ellyott), 67 challenge badges, 43 staged badges and over 150 activity badges over the last year!





Sparks (Ian Jess)

## Pioneer Scouts Report

We have had a busy year! This year we've had plenty of exciting Monday sessions such as stencil cutting and spray painting, fireworks, cooking, cycling as well as Scouting basics such as camping skills, first aid and navigation. We've also had very kind guests who have volunteered to help us: Renishaw ran electricity & magnetism STEM activities, and BASC brought air rifle shooting with scopes and showed us how to prepare a (pre-culled) deer! We've also had trips to outdoor laser tag & tubing, bowling, indoor Laser Fusion, Dragon Boating, paddleboarding & sailing, RIAT (the Royal International Air Tattoo at Fairford) and a very interesting visit to a Hindu Temple.

Together with Pathfinder, this academic year again started with a successful expedition for eight of our older Scouts - one of the biggest challenges needed to complete the Chief Scout's Gold Award. We attended the Cotswold Vale Chillout District Camp and had teams compete at the Cotswold Marathon (10 mile night hike) and at Strategy Camp. Some members have also attended County-run badge courses in science, car mechanics, caving, climbing and Scuba diving; and we have volunteered in the community at Bournestream disability playground.

All in all, we have awarded four Chief Scouts Gold awards (congratulations to Amy Bayston, Thomas Carter, Ben Watson and Byron McCombe), 53 challenge badges, 172 staged badges, 93 activity badges and (hopefully) 8 NRSA Youth Proficiency Scheme awards in air rifles over the last year! We are also holding the inaugural Pioneer vs Pathfinder air rifle and archery competition next week.

Once again a massive thank you to all the volunteers involved in running Pioneers. The current leadership team is: Jenny (SL); Chris, Alex, Mark, & Jon (ASL), and Eleanor & Aled (YL). And of course thank you to all the parents who support the Scouts in their activities.

We already have lots of events booked in for the autumn term, so we're looking forward to another fun-packed year next year!





Jenny Emerson



## **Section E - Financial review**

### **Reserves Policy**

Our policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Board considers that the Group (excluding unit funds and subscription costs) should hold a sum equivalent to the annual running costs, circa £5500.

The Group held reserves of approximately £130,000 at year end. This is significantly up from last year and represents the funding raised and grants received for the new building at Conygres.

### **Investment Policy**

The Group now has significant funds held in reserve for the Conygres development works and has opted to deposit this in a savings account rather than longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

### **Annual Accounts**

The following pages include the accounts for the year ending 6<sup>st</sup> March 2023 that are presented at the AGM on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023.



## **Report and Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

### **Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group**

#### **TRUSTEES: Ex-officio**

Group Chairman	M Batchelor
Group Treasurer	A Hoyle
Group Secretary	K Jobson
Group Scout Leader	S Braun
Squirrels Leader	S Braun
Beaver Cub Leader	S Braun
Cub Scout Leader - Kingfishers	D Knight
Cub Scout Leader - Herons	D Knight
Scout Leader - Pathfinders	I Jess
Scout Leader - Pioneers	J Emerson
Scout Association Number	17585
Charity Registration Number	302128
Charity Principal Address	Conygres Scout Hut Old London Road Wotton-Under-Edge Gloucestershire GL12 7PS

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Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**Unaudited statement of financial activity for the year ended 31 March 2023**

<b>Scout Group Accounts</b>	Note	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		£	£
Total receipts for the year	1	63,537.65	66,173.26
Less: Total payments for the year	2	-12,465.49	-7,722.45
Net receipts (payments) for the year		51,072.16	58,450.81
Reserves brought forward		80,465.70	19,505.89
Transfer from sections		0.00	2,719.00
Transfer to sections		-674.00	-210.00
<b>Reserves carried forward (Scout Group)</b>		<b>130,863.86</b>	<b>80,465.70</b>
<b>Beavers, Cubs and Scout Section Accounts</b>			
<b>RECEIPTS PER SECTION</b>			
Squirrels		672.00	0.00
Beavers		2,803.00	1,386.00
Kingfisher Cubs		9,346.00	3,378.83
Heron Cubs		3,734.48	1,647.50
Pathfinder Scouts		6,311.35	5,171.07
Pioneer Scouts		3,661.00	4,421.10
<b>Total receipts for the year</b>		<b>26,527.83</b>	<b>16,004.50</b>
<b>PAYMENTS PER SECTION</b>			
Squirrels		307.97	0.00
Beavers		2,777.79	1,538.00
Kingfisher Cubs		7,478.80	4,855.69
Heron Cubs		4,061.51	2,041.10
Pathfinder Scouts		8,518.01	2,414.32
Pioneer Scouts		3,290.88	4,380.53
<b>Total payments for the year</b>		<b>26,434.96</b>	<b>15,229.64</b>
Total receipts for the year		26,527.83	16,004.50
Less: Total payments for the year		-26,434.96	-15,229.64
Net receipts (payments) for the year		92.87	774.86
Reserves brought forward		6,206.75	5,431.89
<b>Reserves carried forward (Section Accounts)</b>		<b>6,299.62</b>	<b>6,206.75</b>
<b>Total reserves carried forward</b>		<b>137,163.48</b>	<b>86,672.45</b>

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**1: Receipts for the year ended 31 March 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
<b>MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS</b>		
Subscriptions Received	17,962.50	14,900.00
Less: Payment collection costs	-555.11	-653.75
Less: Payments to sections	-7,877.00	-6,270.00
Less: District capitation	-7,158.50	-5,500.00
	<u>2,371.89</u>	<u>2,476.25</u>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVED</b>		
Interest	1,577.47	201.31
	<u>1,577.47</u>	<u>201.31</u>
<b>DONATIONS / GRANTS</b>		
Donation	2,250.00	496.50
Fund raising events	2,675.71	1,323.85
Grants for work on Conygres	2,323.00	1,500.00
Government Grants	2,600.00	12,268.00
Grants for new hut	41,850.00	10,000.00
	<u>51,698.71</u>	<u>25,588.35</u>
<b>RENTAL INCOME RECEIVED</b>		
Rent of Conygres	4,523.00	2,045.00
	<u>4,523.00</u>	<u>2,045.00</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Hut Sale	0.00	33,962.20
Gift Aid 2020-21	0.00	1,900.15
Gift Aid 2021-22	3,366.58	0.00
	<u>3,366.58</u>	<u>35,862.35</u>
<b>Total receipts for the year</b>	<u><u>63,537.65</u></u>	<u><u>66,173.26</u></u>

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**2: Payments for the year ended 31 March 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
<b>PURCHASES</b>		
Equipment	377.58	1,205.17
	<u>377.58</u>	<u>1,205.17</u>
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>		
Insurance	136.40	126.40
Organisational costs (Web site)	116.00	73.21
OSM costs	275.93	206.25
Remembrance day wreath	30.00	20.00
Fund raising event costs	272.10	262.52
Events	154.41	251.98
Neckers, hoodies, badges	515.45	356.20
Miscellaneous	126.71	13.33
Hut sale costs	0.00	600.00
Training	457.00	55.00
	<u>2,084.00</u>	<u>1,964.89</u>
<b>HUT</b>		
Insurance	0.00	-248.97
Electricity	0.00	-407.89
Water	0.00	16.47
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-640.39</u>
<b>NEW HALL</b>		
Building control	2,730.00	0.00
	<u>2,730.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>CONYGRES</b>		
Insurance	880.81	790.05
Electricity	1,782.83	572.96
Water	342.86	135.52
Maintenance	1,987.94	1,631.66
Ground maintenance	432.00	576.00
New car park	0.00	1,268.21
New doors	1,847.47	0.00
Cleaning	0.00	218.38
	<u>7,273.91</u>	<u>5,192.78</u>
<b>Total payments for the year</b>	<u>12,465.49</u>	<u>7,722.45</u>

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Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**Unaudited Statement of Financial Position at 31 March 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
<b><u>Group Accounts</u></b>		
Group account	5,569.22	4,015.58
Subs account	7,410.86	4,439.40
Savings	2,371.05	6,271.45
Conyngres account	5,041.45	1,537.96
New hall account	<u>111,778.78</u>	<u>64,201.31</u>
	<b>132,171.36</b>	<b>80,465.70</b>
<b><u>Beavers, Cubs and Scout Section Accounts</u></b>		
Squirrels	364.03	0.00
Beavers	355.15	329.94
Kingfisher cubs	2,513.84	646.64
Heron cubs	494.30	821.33
Pathfinder scouts	1,492.15	3,698.81
Pioneer scouts	<u>1,080.15</u>	<u>710.03</u>
	<b>6,299.62</b>	<b>6,206.75</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Capitation Fees	875.50	0.00
Ground maintenance	<u>432.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<b>1,307.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<u><b>137,163.48</b></u>	<u><b>86,672.45</b></u>
<b>Funds – Unrestricted</b>	<u><b>137,163.48</b></u>	<u><b>86,672.45</b></u>

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 14 June 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

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## Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of the Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group (C1-5) for the Year ended 31 March 2023

### Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

We understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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:

- (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 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave 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.

Name Paul Clarke  
Address 19 Cherry Orchard  
Wotton-under-Edge  
Gloucestershire GL12 7HT

*Paul Clarke*

Date 12 July 2023

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## Section F - Plans for future period

Our objective for 2023/24 will be to provide a diverse program of activities for all sections. In addition to the Section programs, the Group plans to undertake the following specific activities;

- Seek and secure funding for the Conygres development
- Increase income from Conygres bookings
- Undertake improvements at Conygres
- Start the second stage of development of Conygres which includes the new hall
- Purchase new equipment when required
- Participate in national scouting events
- Provide nights away for all members
- Participate in local events such as Remembrance

We will continue to try to **recruit new volunteer Helpers and Leaders**. In particular we need to fill roles of **Parent Representative** to participate in the decision making of the Board. Our fund-raising activities will continue from last year with Conygres Teas and Town Hall Teas. We would ask that Parents help as much as possible with these events when the time comes.

In line with the objectives of The Scout Association, The Group will continue to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities. We will achieve this by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership. This is reflected in the programs set and managed by the Leaders of each Section and the Group as a whole.



## Section G – Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above and present this for agreement by the Group Scout Council at the 2022/23 AGM held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signed:

Full name: Mark Batchelor

Position: Group Chairman

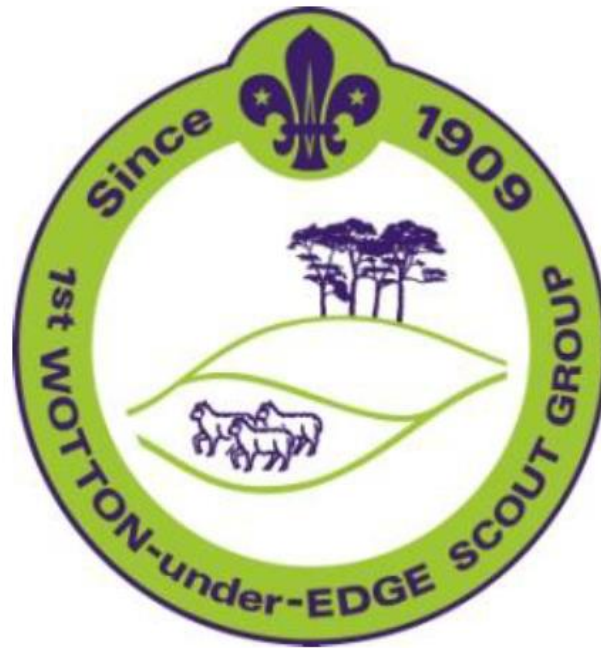
**1ST WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 302128

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# Accounts

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Trustees Annual Report and Accounts  
For the period April 2021 to March 2022  
1<sup>st</sup> Wotton under Edge Scout Group





## Section A - Reference and administration details

Charity Name: 1st Wotton under Edge Scout Group

Head Quarters: Conygres,  
Old London Road  
Wotton under Edge  
Gloucestershire  
GL12 7EA

Charity Number: 302128

Scout Association Number: 17585

Charity Principal Address: Holmleigh Farm  
Bradley  
Wotton under Edge  
Gloucestershire  
GL12 7PW

Trustees and members of the Group Executive as at April 2022;

Elected members:	Mark Batchelor	Chair
	Alastair Hoyle	Treasurer
	Kerry Jobson	Secretary
	Clare Tremlett	Pathfinder Scouts Parent Rep/Admin

Ex-officio members:	Seb Braun	Group Scout Leader
	Ian Jess	Pathfinder Scouts
	Jenny Emerson	Pioneer Scouts
	Stephanie Alexander	Heron Cubs
	David Knight	Kingfisher Cubs
	Seb Braun	Beavers

Co-opted members:	Phil Moss	Quartermaster
	Natalie Forsythe	Group Administrator
	Jazz Sennitt	Fundraising
	Nick Watt	Waiting List Administrator

Advisers:	Paul Clarke	Accounts independent examiner
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## **Section B - Structure, governance and management**

### **Description of the charity's trusts**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Wotton Under Edge Scout Group's (The Group) governing documents are those of The Scout Association (TSA). They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association.

The Group is a Trust established under the TSA rules which are common to all Scouts. The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the POR and The Group Constitution.

The Group is managed by the Group Executive, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Group which is an educational charity. As Charity Trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Executive consists of three independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual Section Leaders and Parent's Representation. The Executive meets every three months.

The Executive exists to support the Group Scout Leader, in meeting his/her responsibilities and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing administrators and advisors other than those who are elected.

### **Risk Management and Internal Control**

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to the building, property and equipment
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members
- Reduced income from fund raising
- Reduction or loss of leaders.
- Reduction or loss of members.

### **Buildings Property and Equipment**

The Group owns and manages Conygres which is our headquarters. This building and land are 'free hold' and are held in Trust by The Scout Association Trust Corporation (SATC) which is a



Custodian Trustee for the Group. Conygres is used to hold regular meetings and used to store equipment and consumables.

The Group owns an extensive inventory of activity equipment including but not limited to;

- Archery Equipment
- Air rifles
- Camping and Cooking Equipment
- Box trailer
- Canoes

The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

### **Group Finances**

The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

In addition to the operational reserve the Group also hold funds in a savings account which is allocated to the development of the Conygres site. At this time the Group is continuing to raise the necessary level of funds to complete the capital works project.

The Group has in place systems of internal financial controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss. These include two signatories for all cheque payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

### **Administration and Leadership**

The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group would occur.

The Sections of the group are structured as follows:

- Beaver Scout Colony
- Heron Cub Scout Pack
- Kingfisher Cub Scout Pack
- Pioneer Scout Troop
- Pathfinder Scout Troop

The Group through, capitation fees (£50 per member under 18 this financial year) contributes to TSA's national accident insurance policy. This provides insurance cover for all members of the Group. In addition, the Group also holds a Third Party insurance policy to cover helpers and volunteers whom are non TSA members. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities and we hold risk assessments for fire, water and general building safety.



## Membership

The Group provides activities for young people aged 6 to 14. Currently Group membership is made up of 125 youngsters and 34 adult leaders, helpers and volunteers and 12 young leaders. This is a significant increase our young members and adult volunteers from previous years. So the Group overall is very healthy both in terms of young members but also volunteers to run section meetings and group administration.

In the unlikely event that there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section/s. In the worst-case scenario, the complete closure of the Group would occur. The viability of the Group as a whole and each section is completely reliant on the volunteers that run the section meetings.

The Group operates a waiting list system for parents to register children wishing to join the Group. Currently the waiting list includes over 130 children of varying ages, 60 of which are aged 6 or more and above the starting age of Beavers. Accordingly, there are approximately 60 children above joining minimum age who are currently unable to do so, as there are no spare places available in the various sections. We recognise this and we are trying to expend our sections but we are limited by the size of our hall. We hope to reduce the number of children under 6 years of age on the waiting list this coming school year (Sep 2022) by opening a Squirrels section (age 4 to 6 years). Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer some children a place in the group.

Position on the waiting list is determined by length of time since registration which can be made following a child's fourth birthday. We plan to change this once we start our new Squirrels section (age 4 to 6 years). In exceptional circumstances children of parents/carers whom take up a substantive role within the group such as a leader or member of the Executive Committee are given priority on the waiting list based on demonstrating an agreed level of commitment.



## Section C - Objectives and Activities

The objectives of The Group are aligned with those of TSA, which are to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities. Thus, empowering our young people to make a positive contribution to society.

As members of the TSA, the Group and all its members are guided by the values of Scouting which are:

- Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.
- Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.
- Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.
- Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.
- Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together on a program of activities based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

Each Section has set and delivered its own diverse program of activities for its members for the financial year of 2021/22. This program continued to be adapted and developed to minimise risks and cater for leader shortages due to the Covid-19 pandemic and changing guidance. All young persons were given the opportunity to participate in all activities including nights away. We continue to preferentially hold section meetings outside whenever we can.

In addition to the program of activities completed during this financial year and meeting the objectives of the TSA, The Leaders and Executive set the following specific objectives for the Group. Our success in all our objectives is described in the following sections of this report;

- Provide opportunities for nights away for all members
- Participate in regional scouting based events and completions
- Participate in national events such as St Georges day and Remembrance Day
- Hold local events to raise funds
- Develop and pursue a funding strategy to facilitate the Conygres development
- Improve our website to provide more information for parents
- Increase income from Conygres bookings

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

## Section D - Achievements and Performance

### Chairman's Report

This year we have been able to get back to the 'new normal' post Covid. The Leadership team, assisted by volunteer helpers and our ever-growing number of young leaders have expertly provided an uninterrupted weekly program of indoor and outdoor activities based at Conygres, as well as special activities at climbing centres, farms, cinemas, swimming pools, etc... We also held Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) at conygres which was supported by Beavers, Cubs and Scouts right across the District.

When Leader numbers have been too low (due to Covid), the Leaders and Helpers from other sections have stepped up and made Section meetings possible. On behalf of all our young members, parents and guardians, the Group Executive would like to thank the **Volunteer** Leaders, Young Leaders and Helpers of all Sections for getting scouting back to normal.



As always **recruitment** of Helpers and Leaders continues to be a focus for the Group. We have said goodbye to only a few volunteers and friends this year. We thank them all, it was only through their time and commitment that the sections could continue to offer the amazing programs of activity. In particular our thanks go to Steve Wyatt (Steve the Pirate) who has been a Leader at Kingfisher Cubs for over 10 years.

Our Group Scout Leader Seb Braun has again been successful this year in recruiting many new helpers and leaders. We now have the biggest adult leadership team that we have had for more than 15 years and our Group continues to attract **Young Leaders** both in support of **Duke of Edinburgh's** volunteering but as interested longer term leaders under the guidance of the local Explorer Scout

Units.

Despite this success in recruiting volunteers we still need parents to get involved as representatives in the executive committee, to provide parent input to the running of the group and also help make key decisions. Equally without a steady stream of new volunteers some sections may only be able to continue with a Parent rota or consolidation. It is vital that all parents get involved in some shape or form. If parents cannot commit to a regular role, just an hour helping at a fund raising event will go a long way to help us achieve our goals and provide the exciting programs our children enjoy.

Growing our sections and welcoming youngsters from the **waiting list** continues to be a key objective for the Group. We hope that once we have built our new hall at Conygres, the extra space will allow us to increase the numbers of children in each section. However, our waiting list continues to grow. The opening of our first Squirrels section planned for September 2022 will reduce numbers of children waiting to join Beavers. However, unless we can grow the size of our sections many children will not be able to join us.



Purchases of equipment has been limited this year, but as we look ahead to camping and other outdoor activities in 2022/23 we anticipate a greater level of investment. Following replacement of the Gazebo (used for many outdoor 'in-Covid times' section meetings) mid last year, it was damaged in a storm meaning we were forced to replace it early in 2022. Other spending has been focused on purchasing a couple more tents for this year's camping activities and general consumables.

Sale of the **John Harding Memorial Hut** in Wotton town is now complete and we have fully vacated the building. The proceeds from the sale (£34,000) are now held in a savings account until such time that we have sufficient funds to start the new hall at Conygres. Completing the development works at Conygres is the main focus for the Executive committee including on-going minor improvements.



Our own **fund raising** activities were again very successful with a number of Conygres Teas continuing throughout 2022 raising over £1,500. This year the teas were run by the sections and thanks to the help and support (through cake donations), they have proven to be very successful. We believe we have a great formula and will continue to make these events a regular fund raiser in 2022/23.

In addition to income from our own efforts, we continue to make funding applications to a number of Trusts, Grant Bodies and Charities. I am pleased to be able to report that in the past 12 months we have received/been pledged, £4,000 from Renishaw, £14,000 from Magnox and £4,000 from Summerfield Charitable Trust. Along with our existing savings and the proceeds from the sale of the hut we are now well on our way to raising the necessary funds to build our new hall at Conygres. Total funds received and pledges made now top £110,000.

Recognising that the new hall, when complete, will greatly increase the indoor space and modernise the facilities, we are looking for partners to help us develop it and potential regular users within the local community who could use the facility. This will allow us to leverage the most potential from the site as whole. The **hire** of Conygres to local organisations, charities and other Scout Groups continues to provide a **source of income** for the Group. This summer the site is almost fully booked.

Our updated **website** now includes information pages and a calendar for parents to reference and is providing a very successful booking facility for Conygres. [www.wottonscoutgroup.co.uk](http://www.wottonscoutgroup.co.uk).



**Annual Subscriptions** were held at £12 during 2021/22 (as per 2019/20 and 2020,/21). We do not plan to raise subs this financial year.

The Leaders and Group Executive look forward to an exciting year in Scouting and thank all Parents and Carers for your ongoing support. We hope that in the next 12 months we will be able to raise the final £20,000 allowing us to commence the building works for the new hall at Conyngres.

Mark Batchelor  
Chair of the Executive Committee and Trustees

### **Beaver Colony Report**

A year of Beavers is made of 39 sessions, countless hours of preparation, 1 weekend camping, marching for Remembrance Sunday and the inevitable St Georges' day renewal of promises.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and hard work of our Leaders! I would like to thank all the Beaver Leader Assistants, Section Assistants and Young Leaders for their precious help:

- Adam Dolling and Nicky McGrath now helping at Cubs
- Dawn Connor and Liz Brisley who carry on helping in our Colony after many years in our group
- Claire Howe, Pam Eastman, Ashley Brown, Charlotte Darlaston and Liz Kingett, new leaders who have done brilliantly in their first year of leadership
- Anya Prouse and Charlie Pattison, our Young Leaders (D of E volunteers) who have been truly excellent and gone beyond expectations of their role, adding fun and being role models for our Beavers. They will both be missed when they leave us at the end of term and we wish them all the best.

I'd also like to thank all the parents and Beavers too for their trust and support. I am always moved when a new Beaver says the promise for the first time, as it is so simple yet setting an ambitious goal that we can try to attain: doing our best, being kind and helpful and loving our world. We try to put this into practice through our varied programme, session after session, of which only a few are selected below.

### **Highlights of our year included:**

**Planting** lots of bulbs and hoping for the best (special thanks for Pam for making the planters!). **Admiring** the result months later.



**Taking part** to the Remembrance Sunday parade



Learning about recycling with our local expert, Stroud District Council Neighbourhood Warden Andy Beamish.



Learning about healthy food options.

Leaving plenty of opportunities for treats  
along the way☺



**Being active** in the Clip'n Climb  
centre in Bristol

**Learning essential  
skills...** sewing a  
button and baking a  
pancake on a tin!



**Celebrating together** St George's day with our own knight!

**Creating with nature**, having a go at archery, with the help of our Young Leaders Anya and Charlie.



go



**Camping** with our friends from Dursley and Nailsworth!

We hiked, climbed and sang around a campfire. All of the Beavers made it through the night, earning their very first Night Away badge.

**Visiting** Corner Farm on Bradley Green, including eating a fresh omelette and stroking a very docile chicken!



What a year we had! We are looking forward to welcoming back Beavers in September for another year of fun adventures.

Best wishes.

Bear (Seb Braun)



## **Heron Cub Pack**

Firstly I would like to say a massive Thank you to all the new leaders in the Heron cub pack. I now have Trish , Sam , Ian , Paul on board . We said Goodbye to leader Mark. Over the last year we have done some great activities ranging from fire lighting around the Conygres fire pit , walking to Nibley monument and throwing down paper aeroplanes from the top .To doing Archery twice with no injury's happy to say. A trip to the local fire station. And the biggest thing of all attending evolution cub camp. All in all a busy year with fun activities for all.

We have awarded three silver awards ( Kit , James R , and Ada who has now left the movement) to achieve our goals. With the aim to award two or three more by September before they move up to scouts.

Thank you

Stephanie Heron cubs

## **Kingfisher Cub Pack**

The cubs and leaders of Kingfisher cub pack have had a very busy, fun packed year. We have had the pleasure of welcoming new leaders, Steve (Bumblebee), Janet (Raccoon), Adam (Falcon), Nicky, Alex, Sally and Lucy. We also have additional help from our Young Leaders, Morgan, Ben, Ellyott and Fran.

The activities we have done during the last 12 months are too numerous to list them all. Den building, Scout Bake-off, Fireworks, Archery, Police night, talent night, bicycle skills and first aid gives you some idea of how busy and varied our programme has been.

We also had enjoyable visits to UK Ninja, Gloucester climbing wall and Wotton fire station.

Our recent adventure to the Evolution cub camp in Cirencester was enjoyed by all and a huge success. Well done to all the cubs who tried and experienced new challenges. We are already looking forward to next year's camp.

Everyone's favourite leader, Steve the Pirate, will soon be sailing away from Kingfisher Cubs to enjoy new swash buckling adventures. We all wish Steve the best of luck and hope that he will occasionally come back and add his individual sense of fun to our weekly activities and camps. From all at Kingfisher Cubs, good luck, and a big thankyou Steve the Pirate.

Overall, an exciting and fun time with lots of learning experiences for both the cubs and leaders of Kingfisher cub pack.

Dave Knight



## Pathfinder Scout Troop Report

The current leadership team is: Ian (Sparks) (SL), Lyn (Rikki) (ASL), Nathan (ASL), Tracey (Fox) (ASL), Fred (YL) and Freddie (YL) we have also been occasionally had help from two of our prior scout/YL and now ASL, Alice (Squirrel) and Will so massive thanks to all who help keep pathfinders running. And a huge thanks to the parents who support the Scouts in their activities.

We have had a busy year! As well as plenty of exciting Tuesday sessions such as Christmas wreath crafting, a lot of different types of cooking, Ninja Warrior, indoor climbing, air rifle shooting & archery, pioneering, a visit from Wotton under Edges Army cadets demonstrating ration cooking, camouflage training and shelter building, the Scouts planning and running their own sessions, whilst still covering a lot of the fundamental building blocks of traditional scouting. The Scouts have had plenty of other events and opportunities including helping out @ Bournstream play facility, attending a local drama production and helping out the local lions group with the clean up after fireworks display @ KLB . This academic year started with an expedition for eight of our older Scouts - one of the biggest challenges needed to complete the



Chief Scout's Gold Award. We have gone paintballing and dragon boating. We have held a Survival Camp with Pioneer scout troop and planting new hedgerows around the new Conyngres car park.

We currently have 30 scouts and over the last 12 months have introduced 12 new young people to scouting (3 from the waiting list and 9 moving up from Cubs) and seen 6 Scouts move on (2 of which have now re-joined us as young leaders), awarded five Chief Scouts Gold awards (congratulations to Fred Hoyle, Freddie Hinks, Catherine Shepherd, Jenna Kitson and Ben Lodge), 72 challenge badges, 38 staged badges and over 150 activity badges over the last year!

Sparks (Ian Jess)

### **Pioneer Scouts Report**

Firstly a massive thank you to all the volunteers involved in running Pioneers. The current leadership team is: Jenny (SL), Chris (ASL), Alex (ASL), Mark (ASL), Jon (ASL), Eleanor (YL) and Aled (YL). And of course thank you to all the parents who support the Scouts in their activities.

We have had a busy year! As well as plenty of exciting Monday sessions such as circus skills, cooking, Ninja Warrior, climbing & caving, air rifle shooting competition, parachuting eggs out of the Nibley monument, and the Scouts planning and running their own sessions (!), we have had plenty of other opportunities. This academic year started with an expedition for eight of our older Scouts - one of the biggest challenges needed to complete the Chief Scout's Gold Award. We have gone paintballing and dragon boating. Some members have attended County-run badge courses in scuba diving, electronics and piloting canal boats. We have held a Survival Camp with Pathfinder and had teams compete at the Cotswold Marathon and at Strategy Camp (achieving both first and second on one of the activity hubs!). We have also volunteered in the community at the Wotton Lions 10k, planting trees and at The Berkeley Show.

All in all, we have awarded two Chief Scouts Gold awards (congratulations to Matthew Pullin and Polly Becher), 50 challenge badges, 76 staged badges and 157 activity badges over the last year!

Jenny Emerson



## **Section E - Financial review**

### **Reserves Policy**

Our policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive considers that the Group (excluding unit funds and subscription costs) should hold a sum equivalent to the annual running costs, circa £5500.

The Group held reserves of approximately £86,700 at year end. This is significantly up from last year and represents the funding received for the new building at Conygres including the funds raised from the sale of the hut.

### **Investment Policy**

The Group now has significant funds held in reserve for the Conygres development works and has opted to deposit this in a savings account rather than longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

### **Annual Accounts**

The following pages include the accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**Unaudited statement of financial activity for the year ended 31 March 2022**

<b><u>Scout Group Accounts</u></b>	Note	<b><u>2022</u></b> £	<b><u>2021</u></b> £
Total receipts for the year	1	66,173.26	31,759.08
Less: Total payments for the year	2	-7,722.45	-31,169.90
Net receipts (payments) for the year		58,450.81	589.18
Reserves brought forward		19,505.89	19,416.73
Transfer from sections		2,719.00	0.00
Transfer to sections		-210.00	-500.00
<b>Reserves carried forward (Scout Group)</b>		<b>80,465.70</b>	<b>19,505.89</b>
 <b><u>Beavers, Cubs and Scout Section Accounts</u></b>			
<b>RECEIPTS PER SECTION</b>			
Beavers		1,386.00	490.00
Kingfisher Cubs		3,378.83	390.00
Heron Cubs		1,647.50	500.00
Pathfinder Scouts		5,171.07	270.00
Pioneer Scouts		4,421.10	665.00
<b>Total receipts for the year</b>		<b>16,004.50</b>	<b>2,315.00</b>
 <b>PAYMENTS PER SECTION</b>			
Beavers		1,538.00	659.18
Kingfisher Cubs		4,855.89	390.34
Heron Cubs		2,041.10	2,196.61
Pathfinder Scouts		2,414.32	693.92
Pioneer Scouts		4,380.53	1,006.05
<b>Total payments for the year</b>		<b>15,229.64</b>	<b>4,946.10</b>
Total receipts for the year		16,004.50	2,315.00
Less: Total payments for the year		-15,229.64	-4,946.10
Net receipts (payments) for the year		774.86	-2,631.10
Reserves brought forward		5,431.89	8,062.99
<b>Reserves carried forward (Section Accounts)</b>		<b>6,206.75</b>	<b>5,431.89</b>
 <b>Total reserves carried forward</b>		 <b>86,672.45</b>	 <b>24,937.78</b>

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**1: Receipts for the year ended 31 March 2022**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
<b>MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS</b>		
Subscriptions Received	14,900.00	8,466.00
Less: Payment collection costs	-653.75	-260.83
Less: Payments to sections	-6,270.00	-1,355.00
Less: District capitation	-5,500.00	-4,410.00
	<u>2,476.25</u>	<u>2,440.17</u>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVED</b>		
Interest	201.31	0.00
	<u>201.31</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>DONATIONS / GRANTS</b>		
Donation	496.50	0.00
Fund raising events	1,323.85	0.00
Grants for work on Conygres	1,500.00	3,250.00
Covid-19 Grants	12,268.00	19,669.21
Grants for new hut	10,000.00	0.00
	<u>25,588.35</u>	<u>22,919.21</u>
<b>RENTAL INCOME RECEIVED</b>		
Rent of Conygres	2,045.00	648.50
	<u>2,045.00</u>	<u>648.50</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Hut Sale	33,962.20	0.00
Gift Aid 2018-19	0.00	2,756.11
Gift Aid 2019-20	0.00	2,995.07
Gift Aid 2020-21	1,900.15	0.00
	<u>35,862.35</u>	<u>5,751.18</u>
<b>Total receipts for the year</b>	<u>66,173.26</u>	<u>31,759.06</u>

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

2: Payments for the year ended 31 March 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
<b>PURCHASES</b>		
Equipment	1,205.17	87.96
	<b>1,205.17</b>	<b>87.96</b>
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>		
Insurance	126.40	126.40
Organisational costs (Web site)	73.21	37.36
OSM costs	206.25	211.50
Remembrance day wreath	20.00	30.00
Fund raising event costs	262.52	0.00
Events	251.98	60.00
Neckers, hoodies, badges	356.20	122.40
Miscellaneous	13.33	64.46
Hut sale costs	600.00	630.00
Training	55.00	0.00
	<b>1,964.89</b>	<b>1,282.12</b>
<b>HUT</b>		
Insurance	-248.97	756.00
Electricity	-407.89	0.00
Water	16.47	111.10
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
	<b>-640.39</b>	<b>867.10</b>
<b>CONYGRES</b>		
Insurance	790.05	755.99
Electricity	572.96	526.25
Water	135.52	240.09
Maintenance	1,631.66	510.09
Ground maintenance	576.00	288.00
New car park	1,268.21	26,481.00
Cleaning	218.38	131.30
	<b>5,192.78</b>	<b>28,932.72</b>
<b>Total payments for the year</b>	<b>7,722.45</b>	<b>31,169.90</b>

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**Unaudited Statement of Financial Position at 31 March 2022**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
<b><u>Group Accounts</u></b>		
Group account	4,015.58	6,791.47
Subs account	4,439.40	4,169.40
Savings	6,271.45	4,915.77
Conygres new hall account	64,201.31	0.00
Conygres account	1,537.96	3,809.25
	<u>80,465.70</u>	<u>19,685.89</u>
<b><u>Beavers, Cubs and Scout Section Accounts</u></b>		
Beavers	329.94	481.94
Kingfisher cubs	646.64	2,123.50
Heron cubs	821.33	1,214.93
Pathfinder scouts	3,698.81	942.06
Pioneer scouts	710.03	669.46
	<u>6,206.75</u>	<u>5,431.89</u>
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2,021.00</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	£	£
Conygres advance bookings	0.00	180.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>180.00</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>86,672.45</u>	<u>24,937.78</u>
<b>Funds – Unrestricted</b>	<u>86,672.45</u>	<u>24,937.78</u>

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 6 May 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

## Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of the Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group (C1-5) for the Year ended 31 March 2022

### Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

We understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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:

- (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 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave 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.

Name *Paul Clarke* Paul Clarke

Address  
19 Cherry Orchard,  
Wotton under Edge  
GL12 7HT

Date 2022-07-12



## Section F - Plans for future period

Our objective for 2022/23 will be to, wherever possible provide a diverse program of activities. In addition to the Section programs, the Group plans to undertake the following specific activities;

- Seek and secure funding for the Conygres development
- Increase income from Conygres bookings
- Undertake improvements at Conygres
- Start the second stage of development of Conygres which includes the new hall
- Purchase new equipment when required
- Participate in national scouting events
- Provide nights away for all members
- Participate in local events such as Remembrance

We will continue to try to **recruit new volunteer Helpers and Leaders**. In particular we need to fill roles of Leaders in all sections and Parent Representative to participate in the decision making of the committee. Our fund-raising activities will increase from previous years, with a number of specific funding sources being considered. We will continue to run regular 'Conygres Teas' and other events such as Bag Packing. We would ask that Parents help as much as possible with these events when the time comes.

In line with the objectives of The Scout Association, The Group will continue to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities. We will achieve this by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership. This is reflected in the programs set and managed by the Leaders of each Section and the Group as a whole.



## Section G – Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above and present this for agreement by the Group Scout Council at the 2020/21 AGM held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Full name: Seb Braun

Position: Group Scout Leader

Full name: Mark Batchelor

Position: Group Chairman

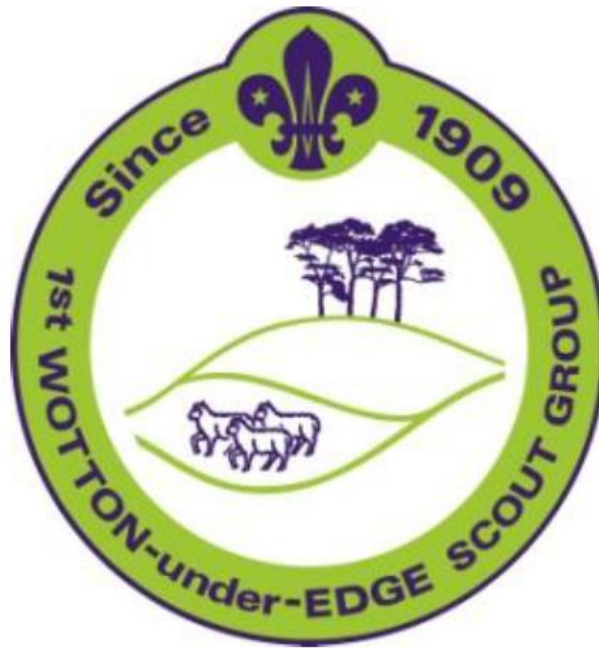
**1ST WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 302128

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# Accounts

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Trustees Annual Report and Accounts  
For the period April 2020 to March 2021  
1<sup>st</sup> Wotton under Edge Scout Group



## Section A - Reference and administration details

Charity Name: 1st Wotton under Edge Scout Group

Head Quarters: Conygres,  
Old London Road  
Wotton under Edge  
Gloucestershire  
GL12 7EA

Charity Number: 302128

Scout Association Number: 17585

Charity Principal Address: Holmleigh Farm  
Bradley  
Wotton under Edge  
Gloucestershire  
GL12 7PW

Trustees and members of the Group Executive as at April 2021;

Elected members:	Mark Batchelor	Chair
	Alastair Hoyle	Treasurer
	Kerry Jobson	Secretary
	Alison Lidbetter	Kingfisher Cubs Parent Rep/Admin
	Clare Tremlett	Pathfinder Scouts Parent Rep/Admin

Ex-officio members:	Seb Braun	Group Scout Leader
	Ian Jess	Pathfinder Scouts
	Gina Moullec	Pioneer Scouts
	David Knight	Heron Cubs
	Will Barnett	Kingfisher Cubs
	Seb Braun	Beavers

Co-opted members:	Phil Moss	Quartermaster
	Natalie Forsythe	Group Administrator
	Jazz Sennitt	Fundraising
	Nick Watt	Waiting List Administrator

Advisers:	Paul Clarke	Accounts independent examiner
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## **Section B - Structure, governance and management**

### **Description of the charity's trusts**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Wotton Under Edge Scout Group's (The Group) governing documents are those of The Scout Association (TSA). They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association.

The Group is a Trust established under the TSA rules which are common to all Scouts. The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the POR and The Group Constitution.

The Group is managed by the Group Executive, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Group which is an educational charity. As Charity Trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Executive consists of three independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual Section Leaders and Parent's Representation. The Executive meets every three months.

The Executive exists to support the Group Scout Leader, in meeting his/her responsibilities and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing administrators and advisors other than those who are elected.

### **Risk Management and Internal Control**

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to the building, property and equipment
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members
- Reduced income from fund raising
- Reduction or loss of leaders.
- Reduction or loss of members.

### **Buildings Property and Equipment**

The Group owns and manages Conygres which is our headquarters. This building and land are 'free hold' and are held in Trust by The Scout Association Trust Corporation (SATC) which is a



Custodian Trustee for the Group. Conygres is used to hold regular meetings and used to store equipment and consumables.

The Group also owns and manages The John Harding Memorial Hut on Gloucester Street in Wotton under Edge. This is currently vacant and will be sold subject to contract. The disposal of the Hut was approved through a motion at the 2020/21 AGM.

The Group owns an extensive inventory of activity equipment including but not limited to;

- Archery Equipment
- Air rifles
- Camping and Cooking Equipment
- Box trailer
- Canoes

The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

### **Group Finances**

The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

In addition to the operational reserve the Group also hold funds in a savings account which is allocated to the development of the Conygres site. At this time the Group is continuing to raise the necessary level of funds to complete the capital works project.

The Group has in place systems of internal financial controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss. These include two signatories for all cheque payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

### **Administration and Leadership**

The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group would occur.

The Sections of the group are structured as follows:

- Beaver Scout Colony
- Heron Cub Scout Pack
- Kingfisher Cub Scout Pack
- Pioneer Scout Troop
- Pathfinder Scout Troop



The Group through, capitation fees (£52.50 per member this year) contributes to TSA's national accident insurance policy. This provides insurance cover for all members of the Group. In addition the Group also holds a Third Party insurance policy to cover helpers and volunteers whom are non TSA members. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

## **Membership**

The Group provides activities for young people aged 6 to 14. Currently group membership is made up of 87 youngsters, 5 young leaders and 24 volunteers which is slightly down on last year in terms of overall numbers.

If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group would occur.

The Group operates a waiting list system for parents to register children wishing to join the Group. Currently the waiting list includes over 120 children of varying ages (60 of which are aged 6 or more). Accordingly, there are approximately 60 children at or above joining age who are currently unable to do so, as there are no spaces available in the various sections.

Position on the waiting list is determined by length of time since registration which can be made following a child's fourth birthday. In exceptional circumstances children of parents/guardians whom take up a substantive role within the group such as a leader or member of the Executive Committee are given priority on the waiting list based on demonstrating an agreed level of commitment.



## Section C - Objectives and Activities

The objectives of The Group are aligned with those of TSA, which are to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities. Thus empowering our young people to make a positive contribution to society.

As members of the TSA, the Group and all its members are guided by the values of Scouting which are:

- Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.
- Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.
- Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.
- Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.
- Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together on a program of activities based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

Each Section set and delivered its own reduced but diverse program of activities for its members for the financial year of 2020/21. This program continued to be adapted and reduced due to the Covid-19 pandemic and changing requirements and guidance defined by central government and TSA. This meant that although face to face scouting activities were able to go ahead these were conducted outside.

In addition to the program of activities completed during this financial year and meeting the objectives of the TSA, The Leaders and Executive set the following specific objectives for the Group. Our success in all our objectives is described in the following sections of this report;

- Provide opportunities for nights away for all members
- Participate in regional scouting based events and completions
- Participate in national events such as St Georges day and Remembrance Day
- Hold local events to raise funds
- Sell the Scout Hut
- Develop and pursue a funding strategy to facilitate the Conygres development
- Improve our website to provide more information for parents
- Increase income from Conygres bookings

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

## Section D - Achievements and Performance

### Chairman's Report

This year has been extremely difficult for all of us in terms of meeting friends, family and colleagues at home, work and in social settings. Despite this, the Leadership team has still managed to provide a weekly program of outdoor activities for all ages at Conygres. On behalf of all the members, parents and guardians, the Group Executive would like to thank the **Volunteer** Leaders, Young Leaders and Helpers of all Sections for doing everything they could to keep scouting active during these difficult times.

**Recruitment** of Helpers and Leaders continues to be the main challenge for the Group. We have said goodbye to a small number of volunteers and friends from Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and we thank them all. It was only through their time and commitment that the sections could continue to offer the amazing programs of activity. In particular our thanks go to Will Barnett (Rocky) who has been a Leader at Kingfisher Cubs for over 8 years.



Just as we lose volunteers, we have gained new support in the form of helpers, leaders and executive members. This success is mainly due to the unfaltering efforts of our new Group Scout Leader Seb Braun. Although Seb has been involved in running our very successful Beaver colony for many years he has now also taken the reins as Group Scout Leader. Although a very important role for the Group, this has been vacant for some years. In the short time he has been GSL, Seb's enthusiasm and passion for scouting has provided the Group with a renewed energy and greater cohesion as a Scout Group. Thus we emerge from Covid with a strong Leadership team and an exciting vision of Scouting in Wotton for the future.

Despite this success in recruiting volunteers we still need parents to get involved as representatives in the executive committee, to provide parent input to the running of the group and also help make key decisions. Equally without a steady stream of new volunteers some sections may only be able to continue with a Parent rota or consolidation. It is vital that all parents get involved in some shape or form. If parents cannot commit to a regular role, just an hour helping at a fund raising event will go a long way to help us achieve our goals and provide the exciting programs our children enjoy.

Growing our sections and welcoming youngsters from the **waiting list** continues to be a key objective for the Group. We hope that once we have built our new hall at Conygres, the extra space will allow us to increase the numbers of children in each section.



Due to the reduced level of activities we have not spent any sizable funds on activity equipment this year. Instead spending has been focused on consumables and equipment to facilitate outdoor meetings, including sanitizing equipment, and outdoor lighting. Our time served Gazebo (party tent) which has remained pitched for over 18 months in the courtyard allowing us to hold outdoor meetings in the worst weather conditions has succumbed to the elements and will now need replacing. As we ramp up camping we also expect to replace a number of worn-out tents.

Sale of the **John Harding Memorial Hut** in Wotton town is still ongoing but we are hopeful the sale will complete during October/November 2021. The proceeds from the sale will be invested in a savings account until such time that we have sufficient funds to start the new hall at Conygres. Completing the development works at Conygres is the main focus for the Executive committee including on-going minor improvements. This year we have completed the car park and lighting which has been well received by all users including campers. I am confident that this significant investment will help us to ensure that Conygres is as safe as it can be for our children and is used as much as possible throughout the year.

Our own **fund raising** activities were again very successful with a number of Conygres Teas raising over £1,000. We hope to make this a regular monthly event in 2022. In addition to this income we have made funding applications to a number of organisations and I am pleased to be able to report that we have received £500 from the Wotton Lions (for new doors), £3,000 from Stroud District Council (for the car park lighting), £1,000 from Arnold Clark, £10,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation and £10,000 from the Bernard Sunley Trust. Along with our existing savings and the proceeds from the sale of the hut we are well on our way to raising the necessary funds to build our new hall at Conygres.



Recognising that the new hall when complete will greatly increase the indoor space and modernise the facilities, we are looking for partners to help us develop it and potential regular users within the local community who could use the facility. This will allow us to leverage the most potential from the site as whole. The **hire** of Conygres to local organisations, charities and other Scout Groups continues to provide a **source of income** for the Group although due to Covid this has significantly reduced this financial year.

Our updated **website** now includes information pages and a calendar for parents to reference and is providing a very successful booking facility for Conygres. [www.wottonscoutgroup.co.uk](http://www.wottonscoutgroup.co.uk).



**Annual Subscriptions** were held at £12 during 2020/21 and as per 2019/20 we also reduced the rate for a period of time after Christmas 2021. This has impacted our income but not significantly as we did receive Covid grants from SDC. Now that normal meetings have returned, we do not plan to change the normal subs rate of £12 per month in this coming financial year.

The Leaders and Group Executive look forward to an exciting and challenging year in Scouting and thank all Parents and Carers for your ongoing support. Now that we have returned to regular face to face meetings and we can again hold indoor activities, we optimistically look ahead to Autumn 2021. We hope that in early 2022 we can commence the building works for the new hall at Conygres as we close the doors at the John Harding Memorial Hut for the last time, the home of Scouting in Wotton for more than 65 years .

Mark Batchelor

## Beaver Scout Colony Report

The year 2020-21 will be of course remembered as a very challenging one indeed, no exception from a Beaver Scout perspective.

Thanks to the Scout association's website and some determination, we delivered a varied programme on Zoom during the second lockdown.

We were relieved to meet again face to face back at our beloved Conygres site during Spring 21.

The Beavers enjoyed many campfires, hikes, den making and bicarbonate fuelled rockets!

We welcomed Nicky McGrath Pam Eastman and Claire Howe in our leadership team.

Chris Ward has moved to the Pioneer Scout troop.

We are looking forward to a new year of Beavers whatever the conditions, we are prepared!

Seb Braun



## Heron and Kingfisher Cub Pack Report

2020 / 2021 has been an unusual year for everyone. However, Heron Cub leaders have continued to offer a varied program for our Cubs. Initially meeting over Zoom during the lock down and then meeting outdoors 'face to face' at Conygres when it was considered safe to do so.



Heron and Kingfisher Cub packs joined together for the weekly Zoom meetings and these were well attended. Whilst very different to our normal meetings, we all enjoyed a variety of games and quiz's including Steve the Pirate's Space quiz and learning about different flags and signalling.



The talent show was particularly good with the Cubs demonstrating everything from magic tricks to Tae-Kwon-Do moves. We even learnt some sign language which helped many cubs achieve their disability badge.

When the restrictions were relaxed, we had a very interesting tour of the SARA lifeboat station and went indoor climbing at Gloucester.

The usual peace and quiet of sleepy Coombe was disturbed for one evening as the cubs participated in their annual duck race. With most Cubs going home with soggy socks!

It has been great to be back at Conygres where we have been able to run a more varied and involved program doing activities such as backwoods cooking and making wild flower bombs. We are already planning lots of new activities and badges that we can work towards which weren't possible during the period of strict restrictions.

Over the past few months, we have welcomed a new leader, Rosie-Mai. It is great to have Rosie as a part of Heron Cub pack and I'm sure she will bring many new ideas. With the continued leadership, planning and help of Steph and Mark the Heron programme for 2021/22 looks very exciting.

David Knight



## Pathfinder Scout Troop Report

Pathfinders ran several successful zoom sessions during the red level (non face to face) Scouting and glad to be back to face to face sessions. Pathfinders awarded Three Chief Scout's Gold Awards (the highest achievement in the Scout section). Congratulations to Freddie Hinks, Aled Archer & Fred Hoyle.

We have been carrying out a lot of teamwork, world and outdoor challenge tasks, including hikes, pioneering and we have covered a lot of the basic scouting skills (Knot work, fire lighting, knife and axe use, tent/camp setup duties) and we also had a 2 night summer camp @ Conygres this July. We have even managed to have a trip to our local climbing centre recently and we are also offering paintballing to those who wish to join during October half term.

We have said goodbye to several older scouts now but have introduced new scouts from the waiting list and movements from Cubs, we currently have 27 scouts and we are going to be happy to welcome back 3 young leaders. We have a new assistant leader, Nathan. He has blended into our troop without any problems and is a valuable member of our team now!

Ian Jess

## Pioneer Scouts Report

Despite another disrupted year in 2020-21, Pioneer awarded ten Chief Scout's Gold Awards (the highest achievement in the Scout section). Congratulations to James Sainsbury, Scott Patterson, Eleanor Moullec, Charlie Pattison, Ewan Sofocleous, Joseph Gani, Jenny Murray, Anya Prouse, Harry Cloutter and Harry Elliott. Thank you to Gina Moullec for all she did to enable this, particularly all the hard work of organising the expedition last September.

In spite of the pandemic we managed a full year of Scouting, reverting back to Zoom meetings during lockdown in spring. Highlights of the year include our Bake Off competition where some truly amazing cakes were created; pioneering catapults & sponge fights; fire lighting & cooking sausages; and a survival camp in July where we finally actually slept out under the stars!

We waved a sad goodbye to Gina as Scout Leader last term, but Eleanor continues as Young Leader, Jenny has stepped up as Leader and we are happy to welcome Chris Ward as Assistant Scout Leader.

Jenny Emerson





## **Section E - Financial review**

### **Reserves Policy**

Our policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive considers that the Group (excluding unit funds and subscription costs) should hold a sum equivalent to the annual running costs, circa £5500.

The Group held reserves of approximately £24,937 at year end (slightly down from last year following completion of the car park) of which £5,400 is held across the Section accounts. The remaining balance (in the Conygres account and Conygres New Hall account) will be held for investment in ongoing improvement activities and the proposed new building at Conygres respectively.

### **Investment Policy**

The Group now has significant funds held in reserve for the Conygres development works and has opted to deposit this in a savings account rather than longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

### **Annual Accounts**

The following pages include the accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.



## **Report and Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2021**

### **Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group**

#### **TRUSTEES: Ex-officio**

Group Scout Leader	S Braun
Group Chairman	M Batchelor
Group Treasurer	A Hoyle
Group Secretary	K Jobson
Beaver Cub Leader	S Braun
Cub Scout Leader - Kingfishers	W Bamett
Cub Scout Leader - Herons	D Knight
Scout Leader - Pathfinders	I Jess
Scout Leader - Pioneers	G Moullec
Scout Association Number	17585
Charity Registration Number	302128
Charity Principal Address	Scout Hut Gloucester Street Wotton-Under-Edge Gloucestershire GL12 7DN

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**1: Receipts for the year ended 31 March 2021**

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
<b>MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS</b>		
Subscriptions Received	8,466.00	14,652.00
Less: Payment collection costs	-260.83	-427.00
Less: Payments to sections	-1,355.00	-6,315.00
Less: District capitation	<u>-4,410.00</u>	<u>-4,320.00</u>
	<b>2,440.17</b>	<b>3,590.00</b>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVED</b>		
National Savings interest	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>DONATIONS / GRANTS</b>		
Donation	0.00	615.78
Grant for work on Conygres	<u>3,250.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<b>3,250.00</b>	<b>615.78</b>
<b>RENTAL INCOME RECEIVED</b>		
Rent of hut (Rainbows / Brownies)	0.00	240.00
Rent of Conygres	<u>648.50</u>	<u>3,038.00</u>
	<b>648.50</b>	<b>3,278.00</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Family camp / AGM	0.00	336.85
Miscellaneous	0.00	10.00
Fund raising	0.00	564.90
Trailer hire	0.00	20.00
Gift Aid 2016-17	0.00	2,821.04
Gift Aid 2017-18	0.00	2,496.14
Gift Aid 2018-19	2,756.11	0.00
Gift Aid 2019-20	2,995.07	0.00
Covid-19 Grants	<u>19,669.21</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<b>25,420.39</b>	<b>6,248.93</b>
<b>Total receipts for the year</b>	<u><b>31,759.06</b></u>	<u><b>13,732.71</b></u>

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**2: Payments for the year ended 31 March 2021**

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
<b>PURCHASES</b>		
Equipment	87.96	585.60
	<b>87.96</b>	<b>585.60</b>
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>		
Insurance	126.40	106.40
Course fees	0.00	0.00
Presentation gifts	5.00	67.78
Organisational costs (Web site)	37.36	689.28
OSM costs	211.50	273.73
Remembrance day wreath	30.00	25.00
Family camp / AGM	0.00	672.51
Events	60.00	57.68
Neckers, hoodies, badges	122.40	582.30
Grant Applications	0.00	1,800.00
Miscellaneous	59.46	88.81
Hut sale costs	630.00	0.00
	<b>1,282.12</b>	<b>4,363.49</b>
<b>HUT</b>		
Insurance	756.00	756.00
Electricity	0.00	653.18
Water	111.10	95.47
Hut maintenance	0.00	83.19
Hut cleaning	0.00	157.50
Miscellaneous	0.00	60.00
	<b>867.10</b>	<b>1,805.34</b>
<b>CONYGRES</b>		
Insurance	755.99	756.00
Electricity	526.25	674.65
Water	240.09	165.05
Maintenance	510.09	567.67
Ground maintenance	288.00	576.00
New car park	26,481.00	0.00
Development & Planning	0.00	106.56
Cleaning	131.30	67.50
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
	<b>28,932.72</b>	<b>2,913.43</b>
<b>Total payments for the year</b>	<b>31,169.90</b>	<b>9,667.86</b>

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**Unaudited statement of financial activity for the year ended 31 March 2021**

<b>Scout Group Accounts</b>	Note	<b>2021</b> £	<b>2020</b> £
Total receipts for the year	1	31,759.06	13,732.71
Less: Total payments for the year	2	-31,169.90	-9,667.86
Net receipts (payments) for the year		589.16	4,064.85
Reserves brought forward		19,416.73	15,351.88
Transfer from sections		0.00	0.00
Transfer to sections		-500.00	0.00
<b>Reserves carried forward (Scout Group)</b>		<b>19,505.89</b>	<b>19,416.73</b>
 <b><u>Beavers, Cubs and Scout Section Accounts</u></b>			
<b>RECEIPTS PER SECTION</b>			
Beavers		£490.00	£1,485.00
Kingfisher Cubs		£390.00	£1,655.22
Heron Cubs		£500.00	£3,139.96
Pathfinder Scouts		£270.00	£5,829.37
Pioneer Scouts		£665.00	£1,667.00
<b>Total receipts for the year</b>		<b>2,315.00</b>	<b>13,776.55</b>
 <b>PAYMENTS PER SECTION</b>			
Beavers		£659.18	£1,182.63
Kingfisher Cubs		£390.34	£1,010.55
Heron Cubs		£2,196.61	£2,172.84
Pathfinder Scouts		£693.92	£6,624.82
Pioneer Scouts		£1,006.05	£1,602.61
<b>Total payments for the year</b>		<b>£4,946.10</b>	<b>£12,593.45</b>
Total receipts for the year		2,315.00	13,776.55
Less: Total payments for the year		-4,946.10	-12,593.45
Net receipts (payments) for the year		-2,631.10	1,183.10
Reserves brought forward		8,062.99	6,879.89
<b>Reserves carried forward (Section Accounts)</b>		<b>5,431.89</b>	<b>8,062.99</b>
 <b>Total reserves carried forward</b>		 <b>24,937.78</b>	 <b>27,479.72</b>

Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

**Unaudited Statement of Financial Position at 31 March 2021**

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
<b>Group Accounts</b>		
Group account	6,791.47	3,930.52
Subs account	4,169.40	4,940.73
Conygres new hall account	4,915.77	8,439.25
Conygres account	<u>3,809.25</u>	<u>2,106.23</u>
	<b>19,685.89</b>	<b>19,416.73</b>
<b>Beavers, Cubs and Scout Section Accounts</b>		
Beavers	481.94	651.12
Kingfisher cubs	2,123.50	2,123.84
Heron cubs	1,214.93	2,911.54
Pathfinder scouts	942.06	1,365.98
Pioneer scouts	<u>669.46</u>	<u>1,010.51</u>
	<b>5,431.89</b>	<b>8,062.99</b>
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Conygres advance bookings	180.00	0.00
	<u>180.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<u><b>24,937.78</b></u>	<u><b>27,479.72</b></u>
<b>Funds – Unrestricted</b>	<u><b>24,937.78</b></u>	<u><b>27,479.72</b></u>

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 10 September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

  
A HOYLE

## Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of the Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the Wotton-Under-Edge Scout Group (C1-5) for the Year ended 31 March 2021

### Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

We understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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:

- (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 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave 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.

Name PAUL CLARKE FCA CMA



Address 1d CHERRY ORCHARD  
WOTTON UNDER EDGE  
GLOSCESTERSHIRE  
GL12 7HT

Date 23-09-21

C6



## Section F - Plans for future period

Looking ahead, each Section has under TSA guidance undertaken risk assessments with the aim to continue face to face scouting. Our objective will be to wherever possible provide a diverse program of activities throughout the forthcoming year (2021/22) to the extent that Covid-19 guidance from central government and TSA permits. In addition to the Section programs, the Group plans to undertake the following specific activities;

- Seek and secure funding for the Conygres development
- Complete the sale of the Hut in Wotton Town
- Increase income from Conygres bookings
- Undertake improvements at Conygres (new doors)
- Start the second stage of development of Conygres which includes the new hall
- Purchase new equipment when required
- Participate in national scouting events such as Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)
- Provide nights away for all members
- Participate in local events such as Remembrance

We will continue to try to **recruit new volunteer Helpers and Leaders**. In particular we need to fill roles of Leaders in all sections. Our fund-raising activities will increase from previous years, with a number of specific funding sources being considered. We will also try to run a regular 'Conygres Teas' and other events such as Bag Packing. We would ask that Parents help as much as possible with these events when the time comes.

In line with the objectives of The Scout Association, The Group will continue to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities. We will achieve this by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership. This is reflected in the programs set and managed by the Leaders of each Section and the Group as a whole.



## Section G – Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above and present this for agreement by the Group Scout Council at the 2020/21 AGM held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Full name: Seb Braun

Position: Group Scout Leader

Full name: Mark Batchelor

Position: Group Chairman