

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales · Charity number 305673

Details

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| Other names | BURY ST EDMUNDS BOY SCOUTS LOCAL ASSOCIATION, BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUTS COUNCIL |
| Status | Registered |
| Legal form | Other |
| Registered | 1963-09-19 |
| Register | View on the Charity Commission register |

Contact

| | |
|---------|--|
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Activities

Objects: BURY ST. EDMUNDS BOY SCOUTS LOCAL ASSOCIATION.

Activities: The provision of Scouting activities for its young members aged 6-25 years old in accordance with the programme of the Scouting Association together with Scouting in the Bury St. Edmunds district.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BURY ST. EDMUNDS
- Suffolk

Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|---------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| 2025-03-31 | £42,699 | £55,085 | - | - |
| 2024-03-31 | £60,745 | £34,958 | - | - |
| 2023-03-31 | £56,809 | £26,816 | - | - |
| 2022-03-31 | £10,069 | £6,102 | - | - |
| 2021-03-31 | £10,492 | £9,307 | - | - |

Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|---------------------------------|-------|------------|
| Keith Raymond Barber | Chair | 2025-02-06 |
| Alan Edward Chilestone | | 2018-06-14 |
| Amanda Karen Wade | | 2020-07-20 |
| Carole Ann Seeley | | 2025-07-10 |
| Harriet Grace Samuel | | 2024-12-07 |
| Leigh Richard Paul Foster-Green | | 2023-01-01 |
| Stephen Ivor Williams | | 2023-01-01 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 305673

Accounts

Squirrels

cubs

BEAVERS

SCOUTS

District AGM

2025

EXPLORERS

network





BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2024 – 2025

FOREWARD

Welcome to everyone joining us this evening for the 2025 District Scout Council's Annual general meeting.

This Annual Report provides a number of snapshots of what happened during the Scouting year which has proven to have been an active one for the Groups and Units District-wide. I will not single out anything in particular but instead simply ask you to read the reports from all the contributors.

Looking ahead for the year 2025/26, which incidentally we are already half-way through, the District Lead Volunteers have set three commendable priorities for the District to aspire to. Mindful of one of those in particular, the District Trustee Board has identified a number of governance areas which are in need of attention. It is picking those off progressively and has set about putting in place measures to meet the desired outcomes.

On behalf the District Trustee Board, I would like to express the Board's appreciation to Leigh and Steve (the joint District Lead Volunteers), their District Leadership Team, all Leaders and the many supporters in the Groups and Units for their time and commitment so freely given to Scouting. You are the people who make the delivery of Scouting a reality; without you Scouting quite simply would not happen.

Concluding this Foreword on a personal note, I wish to place on record and extend thanks to my own team of volunteers - my fellow trustees on the District Trustee Board. To each and every one of you, thank you for your contributions to the Board's work.

Keith Barber

Chair - Board of Trustees - Bury St Edmunds District Scouts

**BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

25 September 2025

at The Riverwalk School Bury St Edmunds commencing at 7.30 pm

AGENDA

- 1. Introduction, welcome and Thought for the meeting**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Governance topics**
 - a. to approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26 September 2024.
 - b. to confirm the adoption of the District model constitution from Policy Organisation and Rules (April 2025 Ed) as amended from time to time.
 - c. to note the District Council's financial year as ending on the 31 March in each year.
 - d. to approve the District Trustee Board's recommendation that the maximum number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board is twelve (12), subject always to the discretion of the Board to resolve that seats may remain vacant.
 - e. to confirm the quorum for meetings of the District Scout Council (including its AGM) is twelve (12) members of the Council excluding Trustees.
- 4. Review of the previous year**
 - a. the District Lead Volunteers' review of Scouts during the year ending on 31 March 2025 in the Bury St Edmunds District.
 - b. to receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts.
- 5. Making appointments**

Council:

 - a. upon the recommendation of the District Trustee Board appoints Keith Barber to the role of District Chair for a term of three (3) years expiring at the Council's 2028 annual general meeting.

- b. upon the recommendation of the District Trustee Board appoints Carole Seeley to the role of District Treasurer for a term of three (3) years expiring at the Council's 2028 annual general meeting.
- c. upon the recommendation of the District Trustee Board confirms the appointment of both Amanda Wade and Alan Chilestone to the Trustee Board each for a term of three (3) years expiring at the Council's 2028 annual general meeting.
- d. approves the District Trustee Board's recommendation to appoint (as announced in the meeting) as the Independent Examiner of the District's annual accounts for year ending 31 March 2026
- e. nominates representatives (as announced in the meeting) as the Council's to represent the District on the County Scout Council.

6. Closing remarks from the Chair

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
Minutes of The District Annual General Meeting
26th September 2024 – Riverwalk School, Bury St Edmunds

1. Welcome – Chair

Steve Williams, acting as Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
He also welcomed Keith Gleen Deputy County Commissioner as County Representative
Steve thanked Andrew for use of building.

Present: 38 members attended, See attached list.

2. Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from 24 members, See attached list

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Review held on 15th June 2023

The minutes were agreed as accurate and approved. Proposed by Steve Williams
Seconded by Anna Parker. Approved by a show of hands.

4. Governance Topics

a. District Trustee Board proposes we adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules

Seconded by Wendy Barnes, Approved by a show of hands.

b. Note the District's financial year

The District Scout Council noted our charity's financial year is 1 April to 31 March.

c. Agree the number of members that may be elected to the Trustee Board

The outgoing District Trustee Board proposes that 8 people be appointed. This includes ex officio and co-opted Trustees. Seconded by Graham Mackie and approved by a show of hands.

d. Agree the quorum for each of the District Scout Council (including this AGM), meetings of the District Trustee Board, meetings of any sub-committees.

The outgoing District Trustee Board recommends the quorum should be set at 12 people. Seconded by Margaret Chilstone. Approved by a show of hands.

5. Review of the previous year

a. The Acting District Commissioner's review of Scouting in the District

The Acting District Commissioner gave their review. The District is in a strong position but we need to work on Adult Recruitment. The County are still carrying

out a search for a permanent District Commissioner, with a decision expected in the next 2-3 weeks.

b. To receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board including the annual Statement of the Accounts

The District Trustee Board has approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts and has received the report on the accounts from the Independent Examiner. The District Treasurer gave their explanation of the Statement of Accounts.

He noted that the District is strong financially, however the balance at 31/03/2023 is higher than it should be as some groups paid their subs early. Unfortunately, some groups are not paying invoices for their district activities, which is not good enough. Please pay in good time as the District often have to pay in advance.

The treasurer concluded that whilst this was supposed to be his last AGM, he is prepared to carry on until 31/03/2025 so that a successor can be found.

Questions were invited from the floor regarding the Trustee Annual Report, and the Annual Accounts. One member sought reassurance that the finances were in good shape.

The Chair thanked the Treasurer, Mike Golston for his long service as District Treasurer.

6. Making Appointments

a. To approve the nominations to the District Trustee Board

The Acting District Commissioner did not have a candidate to put forward as Chair. The Trustee board will look to fill this post urgently.

The recommendation to the District Scout Council is that Mike Golston should be appointed as District Treasurer until 31/03/2025.

Approved by a show of hands.

The recommendation to the District Scout Council is that Leigh Foster-Green, Steve Williams, Tony Millburn, Alan Chilstone and Amanda Wade should be appointed as members of the District Trustee Board.

Approved by a show of hands.

The Chair thanked the Trustees for their work during the year, and particularly Dylan Watkins who is standing down.

At this point the Acting DC asked for further volunteers to join the Trustee board. Four volunteers were forthcoming, however we had set the limit at 8, (item 4c). Concern was raised from the floor that this would take us over this limit. A check, subsequent to the meeting showed that including the Treasurer, we had 6 Trustees. We would need to leave space for a chair to be recruited,

and for the Treasurers replacement, as the current treasurer would work with his replacement to ensure a smooth handover. That would take us to 8.

Whilst we thank Wendy Barnes, Anna Parker, Kate Parnum and Laura Lambell for volunteering, there was no space for them at present.

b. To appoint the Independent Examiner

The Treasurer reported that we need to find a new scrutineer as the prices charged by the current firm were rising. Alan proposed that authority is given for the Trustee Board to appoint a suitable scrutineer in time for the 2024 / 2025 financial year end. This was seconded by Margaret Chilstone and approved by a show of hands.

c. Nominate representative of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council

Graham Mackie volunteered. This was proposed by chair and seconded by Amanda Wade and approved by a show of hands.

7. County Representative- Keith Gleen, Deputy County Commissioner

Keith said he was impressed by all the things that have been done in the District. He particularly mentioned that our growth was outstanding, as we continue to attract young people. He commented that we had more Squirrel Scouts in the District than in the rest of the County and that we have also reduced waiting lists.

He encouraged us to ensure we are fully prepared for Transformation, stating that Bury obviously already runs with teams, so well done and carry on.

8. AGM Close and Awards

The chair closed the AGM, thanked everyone for attending and outlined the arrangements for the rest of the event.

Lesley Biden award: In recognition of the growth in numbers that they have achieved, The Acting District Commissioner was pleased to Award the Lesley Biden Award to Mildenhall Scout Group.

Adult Awards: Wendy Barnes GSL Wood Badge.

Meeting closed at 8:10pm

District Lead Volunteers' Report

It's been quite a year!

Firstly, our sincere thanks to all adults who give their time week-in, week-out to provide fun, excitement and personal development for our youth members aged 4-18. Aside from programmes run at group level, our young people continue to benefit from an enviable programme of District events.

We have just about got to grips with the new digital system (not sure how much longer we can call it 'new'!) Much work went on behind the scenes to ensure that we were ready for the transition to this new system. Thanks to Alan Chilestone and all Group Lead Volunteers, who, with us, have made sure that the District continues to be in a strong position regionally and nationally in terms of learning and appointments compliance.

The District continues to lead in the County with Squirrel Scout provision, with two more groups looking to open Dreys soon. Looking to the other age extreme, it is great to see the Invictus Scout Network has been revived with membership from across the District. The Network meets monthly as well as weekend camps. They are currently planning an Explorer Belt expedition to Italy, so watch this space.

There has been a significant increase in Young Leaders gaining their Young Leader belts for completion of the Young Leader Training Scheme. We have a high retention rate of young leaders transitioning into adult leader roles which is great to see and testament to the nurturing environment that leadership teams across the District provide for our Young Leaders.

Looking to the future, sustainable growth will be a focus, recognising that for more young people to be able to benefit from Scouting, we need to constantly recruit more adults. We know there is no golden bullet for this, but what we do know works is forging closer links with families at group level. Let's make sure that the parents really get to know you as leaders, as parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, big brothers... people just like them who just so happen to volunteer with Scouts too. We will continue to work with District Trustee Board Chairs network and Group Lead Volunteers to share ideas and support each other with our adult recruitment.

Whilst we await the renewed national Scout strategy to be released, we will focus on the following priorities in the next year:

- 1: Ensure effective governance of the District and Groups.
- 2: Improve the proportion of Top Awards gained in Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorer Scouts.
- 3: Reduce waiting lists by growing existing provision and opening new sections.

Looking forward to another successful year.

Leigh Foster-Green & Steve Williams

District Lead Volunteers

Squirrel Section Report

Squirrels continues to go from strength to strength. All four Drey's are running with good numbers on a weekly basis.

This year has been a busy one for our Squirrels. As a District, we have had a visit to Church Farm, our annual Halloween Party, St George's Day Games, District Bowling competition, our County Trip to Easton Farm Park alongside Beavers, our first District sleepover and we finished the year with the much-loved water activities at Lackford Lakes. Quite often these events are firsts for our young people. It is wonderful to see them making new friends among the other Dreys and giving new things a go with unwavering enthusiasm.

Sadly, we have said Goodbye to Jase and Megan from Mildenhall and Red Lodge, huge thanks to both for all of your hard work with both your individual Dreys and your valuable contributions towards District meetings and events. In their place we are happy to welcome Harry and Sarah, who have already hit the ground running in their new roles.



Sally Wooldridge
Squirrel Scout Programme Lead

Scout Section Report

It's been a busy and exciting 12 months for District Scouts, packed with activities, learning, and lots of fun.

Last year's summer camp at Thriftwood in Essex was a fantastic week full of adventure. Scouts enjoyed a wide range of activities — far too many to list — and a highlight was the day trip to Adventure Island in Southend. While Scouts took part in evening sessions, the leaders also had a chance to relax and enjoy their own activities.

As we moved into the colder months, our annual Dodgeball Competition in November was a big hit, with Great Barton taking home the trophy. January saw the return of the 10-pin Bowling Competition, where Lakenheath claimed the win.

Despite the cold, our Winter Camp at Hardwick Heath in February was a great success. Plenty of activities were packed into the one night camp, with scouts learning important survival and outdoor skills.

The Quiz and Chips evening was another well-attended event. With some tricky questions, it made for a fun and competitive night. Congratulations to Honington for taking the win! March brought the Patrol Competition with Horringer coming out on top. All groups that attended showed great teamwork and leadership throughout.

The Zombie-themed night hike at Hardwick Heath in April was a spooky success! A big thanks goes out to the Explorers, who dressed up as zombies, running the bases and being on checkpoints for the evening. Congratulations to Horringer who won for the second year in a row.

In May we held our Archery and Air Rifle Camp and it was fantastic to see Scouts challenging themselves throughout the weekend. A huge well done to Red Lodge, who came out on top in both archery and air rifles.

Finally, the Beginners camp in July saw younger Scouts joined by older Cubs for the first time. It was great to see everyone working together, learning back-to-basics skills and showing the Cubs what we do on scout camps for when they transition up to us.

Thank you to all the Scout leaders for sharing the workload in organising this year's events and camps. Your teamwork and commitment have made everything run smoothly and ensured great experiences for all our Scouts.

Rob Flack
Scout Programme Lead

District 14-24 sections

Explorer unit meetings continue to be well attended with new Explorers moving up from Scouts and new arrivals from out of area too. Our older Explorers are moving up to Invictus Network, which is continuing to grow, and taking on section leadership roles.

Current numbers for Units are:

Endeavour – 28 explorers + 6 Leaders

Columbus – 10 explorers + 4 Leaders

Discovery – 10 explorers + 3 Leaders

Invictus Network – 20 members

Discovery Explorers have had some joint events with their local groups to help with transition from Scouts to Explorers and they have more events planned.

Several district unit events have taken place, and our next event will be an archery/air rifle camp in September. All units are invited to these including the Apollo Young Leader Unit, so please encourage your Young Leaders to take part.

Harriet Samuel (District Youth Lead) has also been visiting Explorer units to talk about Invictus and future Network events. They are currently planning to take on the challenge of an Explorer Belt in 2026.

We held an introduction to DofE meeting in July and plans are in progress to do more structured DofE training and support later in the year.

It will soon be summer holiday time, and I hope that the 20 explorers joining BSE Scouts on their weeklong summer camp will have an amazing time. I thank all the adults who give up their time to plan and run all the activities we offer our young people.

Karen Pettitt

District 14-24 Lead

District Young Leader Unit

At the time of the January 2025 census, we had over fifty Young Leaders providing support for younger sections and thereby developing their own leadership skills and Skills for Life.

All Young Leader modules have been delivered in the past year, with attendance averaging at 18 Young Leaders. This has enabled an increasing number to gain their Young Leader Belt (one of Scouting's Top Awards) through completion of all modules and the 'Missions' to put the learning into practice with the sections that they work with. During the year ending 31 March 2025, three Young Leaders gained their Young Leader Belts, with three more awarded since. All of those who have gained their Young Leader Belts have gone on to adult roles within their Group.

The mandatory Young Leader Module A continues to be delivered regularly throughout the calendar year to ensure that all those undertaking a Young Leader role (including those for the Duke of Edinburgh Award 'Volunteering' element) can completed this within the mandated three months.

A big thank you in particular to Ellen, Kate and Alfie who have supported with Young Leader training this year. Thanks also to those groups who have provided use of their HQ. We are looking to expand the pool of those dipping-in to deliver some of the Young Leader modules. Please speak to me if you are interested.

Leigh Foster-Green

Team Leader, Apollo Young Leader Unit

Water Activities Report

Over the past year, the District Water Team has continued to deliver exciting and engaging water-based experiences to young people across the district, helping them develop skills, confidence, and a love for water activities.

One of the highlights of the year was the kayak sessions, which successfully introduced 30 Scouts to paddling skills and water safety. The course was run over three different weeks, allowing for smaller group sizes, more personalized instruction, and a better learning experience. Scouts made excellent progress, with many achieving their staged paddlesport badges and growing in confidence on the water.

30+ Squirrels attended the Squirrel Water Day and many others attended an afternoon session with their dreys. For many, this was their first time trying out some paddling on the bell boats and having lots of fun.

We also ran multiple Beaver water evenings, spreading these across several nights throughout the summer term to accommodate as many groups as possible. These sessions allowed Beavers to experience time out on the water in bell boats and some got to try rafting too. On other evenings we hosted some Cub and Scout groups, getting them out on the paddleboards and the MegaSUPs which were a big hit with everyone.

Unfortunately, due to adverse weather forecasts, we had to postpone the planned Cub Water Day and the Scout Water Competition. While disappointing, the safety of our young people is always our top priority. We are currently working to reschedule both events in September, and we're hopeful that the weather will be on our side for a successful ending to the season.

We're incredibly grateful to all the permit holders and leaders who give their time and energy to support these events, but we would like more permit holders on the books with an aim to put on more evenings and to get even more young people out on the water. We have already increased our Bell Boat permit holders within the district by putting on two courses during the summer term.

Our plan in the future is to expand our permit holders on other crafts to include kayaks, paddleboards and canoes. An adult taster day is planned for next year and winter kayaking sessions are in the works and will be open to adults and Explorers to practice their skills and to get enough knowledge and confidence on the water to obtain permits in the future. If anyone would like to know more information or has an interest in obtaining water based permits please contact bsewaterteam@gmail.com

Rob Flack

Water Activities Programme Lead

Volunteer Development Team

Following Transformation, my two roles were effectively combined into Volunteer Development Team Lead, covering learning as well as appointments admin.

On the appointments side, we spent time tidying up the records ready for transformation, as well as seeing as many people as possible through the old system, including Appointments Committees as appropriate.

After transformation, most members signed in and completed their various actions. This process has not been easy for some, as the system is taking time to settle down, with some having more difficulties than others. However, it is here to stay so we must get used to it. I have spent a lot of time making sure all the records are correct and in place, and I am starting to see light at the end of the tunnel.

The appointments process is, in the long run simpler, with the new Welcome Conversations going well, and people able to apply for their DBS Disclosures. Technically, the Appointments Secretary role disappeared, but our DLVs have asked me to keep a similar overview of the process. The biggest problem I have is that I do not get notifications of what is happening with appointments, e.g. when a DBS clears, so I have to regularly check the system. That is why I ask that if anything is changed, added, a DBS started etc., that GLVs and team leads drop me an email. I would rather have too many emails than too few.

Another problem I have is references, I cannot see whether they have been added when necessary, or if incomplete, whether it is one or both that are not returned, so we do need the applicant to keep watch.

As far as learning (formerly training) is concerned, the new system of "Growing Roots" learning seems to be working well, and most are completing in the required time frame. Thank you also to all who completed the new Safety Learning by the deadline. I know it may seem like I send a lot of emails, but it is to ensure that the learning is completed. I believe we are one of the best Districts in the County for learning compliance. Again, it is helpful when members let me know they have completed a module.

Well done to all who completed their Wood badges prior to Transformation. The Wood Badge is no longer compulsory, but I would encourage all Team Members to complete this. Learning Modules are provided at County, along with others locally. Thanks to our trainers for laying these on.

With all who were previously Section Assistants, now being required to complete First Response Training, Denise, our First Aid Trainer, has been very busy and led a large number of courses in the District, along with the added pressure that all who

had completed an external qualification needed to complete areas of our syllabus, not covered by theirs. Thank you, Denise, for your work.

So, we are now in this new world of “Digital Tools” which we hope will settle down as HQ bring in fixes and improvements. I will try and help you where I can, but I don’t have any magic fixes.

Thank you to everyone who supports me in the role, especially the DLVs, the GLVs and Team Leaders, and all who have worked to complete their learning.

I would like to particularly thank all the former Training Advisers and members of the Appointments Advisory Committee, for all the support they have given to me pre Transformation.

Alan Chilestone
Volunteer Development Team Lead

1st Brandon

I am pleased to have been a part of Brandon group for the last year. We have a great team of leaders and young leaders across the 4 sections.

I would like to thank the leaders, not only do they volunteer on a weekly basis to run the section meetings, but they also give up their weekends and holiday time to take our young people on camps and trips so a massive thank you to them from me!

As always, we need to build our Trustee Board and help focus on fund-raising, updating our policies and reviewing our Development Plan. Looking ahead, we will unfortunately have to increase our subs from Sept from £30 - £35 a term. Costs are increasing from badges, utilities and general activity costs but I think you will all agree that this is still great value.

I am also pleased to announce that from September, Alan Chapman will be taking on the role of Group Lead Volunteer! My time with Brandon was always temporary until we could find a replacement and having worked closely with Alan over the last year, I can tell that you will be in safe hands. I will continue to work alongside Alan until Dec to ensure a smooth transition but hope you will all join me in congratulating him on his new role and support him.

Wendy Barnes
Group Lead Volunteer

1st Bury St Edmunds

1st Bury have had a successful year with the group working well as a team across all sections, highlights of this has been the whole group sleepover at Gullivers Land, Day trip to Birmingham for scouts the musical and most recently our 3 day camp at Eaton Vale which saw us recruit several parent helpers in the months leading up to the camp to support us also, the camp was a huge success and really strengthened the entire team encouraging us to plan a similar large camp for next year. The young members all worked incredibly well together at all our whole group adventures and it was a real joy to see them encouraging each other and working side by side at many different challenges.

Beavers have had an incredibly busy year with 8 nights away, Christmas camp and sealife were very popular and have been requested by the Beavers to do again in the coming year, they have also attended several day trips and evenings out on their usual group nights and finished the year awarding 11 Bronze awards at the AGM.

Cubs are going from strength to strength with the addition of easier scouting to support their programme planning and have enjoyed trying new things especially a guided Bat detection walk at Lackford, we also have a previous member returning to join us as a leader in September now they've turned 18. Two members earned their silver award this year and many more are on their way to achieving it before moving to scouts.

Scouts has grown in numbers in the past year and as always offer their unique challenges, things have improved with clear rules with consequences that they helped put together with the leadership team to create a nicer environment for everyone, the scouts really did themselves proud at the recent group camp at Eaton vale supporting each other and the younger members especially. The majority of scouts have also enjoyed completing the padi scuba diving course over a number of sessions.

We have had several successful fundraising events, the most successful was our recent summer fete and carwash with bakesale earlier in the year. With the support of two new parent helpers supporting Laura we hope to make these an annual event along with other new ideas.

Andrew Lambell
Group Lead Volunteer

6th Bury St Edmunds

I write this year, having taken on the role of Group Lead Volunteer, with the transformations in the Scout movement, it was the right time to take on the group and help to drive the changes that have happened within the movement.

I would like to thank all the 6th Bury leaders, now team leads and volunteers, for their support and dedication. Without their efforts, it would not have been possible for the Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts to run a full and varied program across all sections. With all sections reaching capacity and now having waiting lists, our challenge is to make more places available. This will require more support and more leaders for the sections.

I would like to extend my thanks to the trustee board for all their support, hard work, and help over the last year. With the many changes to the structure of Scouting and the consequential changes these have required at the Group and section level. We still have vacancies in all areas, but with the roles being split up, this should mean we can spread the jobs around more individuals. Our most pressing need now is a Group Chair.

For the year going forward, it is going to be tough, and we are having to review our finances as the costs of running our buildings and sites are still rising, we are making every effort to keep our fees low to continue doing this and provide the equipment for the sections we are going to have to fundraise and will need to form a fundraising committee volunteers are required.

For the Scout HQ, we need a new development plan to focus on supporting and developing the HQ. We still have more work to do, including upgrading the fire doors and rebuilding the hall's entrance. The work is needed to allow us to continue to deliver safe and inclusive Scouting, now and into the future. We are looking for volunteers to develop a plan and work with local tradespeople who can help us achieve these goals.

Our plans also need to cover Hardwick Heath to continue doing up the buildings and carry out further improvements at the site. We are growing the income from the site, which is being used for camps by various groups.

Currently, we are looking for volunteers to mow and help maintain Hardwick Heath. Over the coming year, we are forming a maintenance committee to manage the site. My thanks go out to everyone who has already helped with the site this year.

I look forward to the next year and continuing to improve the assets that are the Scout HQ and Hardwick Heath, so we can get as much benefit for the Scouts and the local community as we can.

We need to grow the group to deliver a successful scouting program to as many young people as possible. The challenge is to recruit enough Volunteers to open a Squirrels section and possibly expand and open second sections within the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

I would ask everyone to give a few hours to the group to help us grow and strengthen the group for the future.

Giles Lillistone

Group Lead Volunteer

Great Barton

At the start of this year, I took on the role of Group Lead Volunteer, following in the footsteps of Duncan Ayling. I'd like to thank Duncan for his dedication and support during his time in the role. The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have run varied programmes and taken part in many District events and camps. 5 Chief Scout Awards have been awarded across the sections. Congratulations to the Scouts for winning the District Dodgeball competition.

One of our Young Leaders has just recently taken the next step in her Scouting journey to become an adult Team Member. It has been fantastic to see her journey through the group since she joined as a Beaver. She joins 3 other young adults who have also taken the same step in recent years. We've also seen an upsurge in Young Leaders coming up from Scouts, 4 of them taking the next step this year.

We were deeply saddened by the passing of Gordon Biden, a dear friend to many and for many years our Group Scout Leader. Gordon played a huge part in shaping the group into what it is today. We are incredibly grateful for his generous bequest to the group, which will be used to support future generations of young people here in Great Barton.

This year, we've seen some improvements to our facilities. The inside of the Scout Hut has been redecorated, and it's looking brighter and more welcoming. A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the decorating. In addition, the trustees have been hard at work behind the scenes ensuring the hut remains safe and functional – including overseeing rewiring and replacing some of the electrical fittings earlier in the year.

As ever, we are immensely thankful to all of our volunteers. We currently have 11 adults helping across the sections, 7 Trustees, and 6 on our fundraising and maintenance committees. There are several people who overlap on more than one of these. Every adult who helps at the group has a personal connection – either as a parent or as someone who came through the group themselves. Your time, energy, and commitment are what make this group possible. Whether you're a team leader, occasional helper, or one of the many who've quietly helped out this year, thank you. We couldn't do it without you.

Currently, we have 16 Scouts, 12 Cubs and 7 Beavers. This is a little lower than last year, so we're keen to grow our numbers again. If your children are enjoying their time in the group (and we hope they are!), please do spread the word to friends and families. Personal recommendations are one of the best ways to help us grow.

Looking to the future, our trustees have started exploring the idea of launching a Squirrel section for 4–6 year olds, following some interest from local families. We'd love to be able to offer Scouting to even more young people – but we can't do this without more adult volunteers. If you or someone you know might be able to help, even occasionally, please speak to me – we'd love to hear from you.

Jonathan Corwin
Group Lead Volunteer (Acting)

1st Honington (RAF)

We currently have 17 Beavers in our Colony with 4 Young Leaders and 5 Adults. In the past year we have awarded 2 Chief Scout Bronze Awards with more to follow very soon. We have also awarded 335 Challenge and Activity Badges. We have camped, hiked, learned to tie knots, taken part in fundraising activities, learned about our community, cycled, learned about the world, talked about our hobbies, found out about disabilities and the work of the Riding for the Disabled, taken part in Parliament Week and attended the Remembrance Day parade. We have asked our Beavers what they want to do and made it happen for them.

Our Young Leader Team have worked tirelessly supporting the adults and helping the Beavers to achieve. We have made our Programme accessible to everyone and continue to adapt activities to make sure everyone is able to take part in a way that means they succeed and see the reward for their effort.

We currently have 11 Cubs. Our numbers have fluctuated this year as many have moved on to Scouts but having a younger Beaver Colony, a similar number were not ready to move to Cubs. We have 3 Leaders and 4 Young Leaders. This year we have camped, hiked, fundraised, built Airfix models, been bowling, tried our hand at pancake art, been to Planet Laser, learned some basic navigation skills, made Christmas cakes, built tents and put up bivvies, taken part in Parliament Week, done DIY and made our own knot boards, learned to tie knots and attended the Remembrance Day parade. We have awarded 320 badges to Cubs in the past year including 5 Chief Scout Silver Awards.

Again, our Young Leader Team have been amazing, working hard to set up our sessions and help to run them ensuring that everyone can achieve. Our Programme is adaptable and accessible, and we continue to make adjustments to ensure everyone can join in.

We currently have 18 Scouts, having had an influx from Cubs. We have 3 Leaders and 5 Young Leaders. Scouts have been awarded 123 badges including 3 Chief Scout Gold Awards.

We have concentrated on building on their Scouting knowledge and have been working on map reading, knots, camping, hiking, safe use of knives, axes and saws fire lighting and outdoor cooking as well as Planet Laser, fundraising and dodgeball. We came away victorious from the District Quiz. This term several of our Scouts took part in a two-day expedition to the North Norfolk Coast where their map reading, and survival skills were all put to the test by self-navigating using route cards they planned.

Our Young Leaders have joined in tirelessly, helping with setting up, clearing away, and aiding the activities.

Our Young Leaders work incredibly hard, attending training sessions and completing training modules, they help plan and run sessions and are an absolute asset to our team. They help pitch and strike camps, build campfires, unpack and pack kit and tie endless shoelaces. They help with air rifle sessions, axe throwing sessions and climbing wall sessions. Several attend all three Sections every week and we encourage them all to take periods of leave during exam season.

We do remember though that they are still young people and encourage them to have fun too. They are included in camps, hikes, expeditions, quizzes, Planet Laser and given the downtime to just sit by a campfire and be youngsters.

Martin and Judy Brooks
Group Leader Volunteers

1st Ixworth

Over the past year, all 3 sections have been busy in their weekly meetings & attending district events. Some of the highlights have been camps, sleepovers, trips, joining other groups in the district, & gaining badges. As you can see in the section reports, how busy the sections have been.

This past year has been a remarkable journey for all our young members, filled with multitude of activities that contributed to personal growth & learning new skills. Between the 3 sections a total of 81 challenge badges, 126 activity badges, 96 staged badges & 7 Chief Scout Awards. The Chief Scout Award is the highest badge our members can gain. It is with their hard work & great determination, that they achieve their badges.

In September, we officially welcomed Jan, Katie & Kelvin into the group, who joined the Cub leadership team. We said goodbye to Helen from cubs after 15 years of being involved in the group & also to Liz, who was our treasurer, stepping down from the role after 10 years. Thank you to both Helen & Liz.

I wish to thank Andy (my Assistant) for his help & support in running the group, & all the leaders for their commitment to scouting, & to giving up their weekends & evenings to make sure our young members experience scouting in full. I would like to thank our members of the Trustee Board, for their support.

Looking ahead, we are excited to celebrate our group's 50- year anniversary, a significant milestone that promises to be filled with special events & opportunity for our young members to engage & grow within scouting.

As we prepare for another year, we would like to send our best wishes to Hathi (beavers), who has stepped back on maternity leave. Congratulations to Hathi & her husband, Matt, on their forthcoming arrival. We look forward to meeting the new addition.

Lastly, thank you to all the young members for making our activities enjoyable & engaging. Also thank you to the parents for bringing & supporting your child to our meetings & events.

Ruth Nunn

Group Lead Volunteer

1st Lakenheath

I cannot believe another year has passed so quickly, our group has grown in numbers both in youth and adults. Due to the number of Cubs, we opened a second pack which has proved a success, and this will continue from September. We are looking to open another Beaver and Scout section to accommodate the growing numbers on our waiting list.

As always, we are very grateful for all our leaders who give up so much of their spare time to ensure scouting in Lakenheath continues.

Not only do they volunteer on a weekly basis to run the section meetings, they also give up their weekends and holiday time to take our young people on camps and trips so a massive thank you to them from me!

Reading the section reports always makes me proud of the young people and all that they achieve in the year, some of the activities are challenging but I am never surprised to hear that they gave it their best.

We have a growing team of Young Leaders who support all sections with the programme and I would like to thank them for giving up their time to help and continue their journey with us onto their Young Leader training.

As always, we need to build our Trustee Board and are looking for a Chair Person and Trustees to join us and help focus on fund-raising, updating our policies and reviewing our Development Plan.

Wendy Barnes
Group Lead Volunteer

Mildenhall

It has been another busy year at Mildenhall Scout Group. The group continues to grow both in terms of adult volunteers and youth members. A second Cub Pack will open in September, and a second Scout Troop will soon be needed. We are particularly pleased about the growth in Young Leaders working with the group.

The group continues to be active at District level, with all sections being regular features at District events, giving our young members opportunities that the group on its own could not provide. This has contributed to the growth in top awards that we have seen in the Beaver and Cub sections. We continue to host the Endeavour ESU and the Invictus Scout Network at our HQ.

At group level, we are active in our community, having a presence at community events and undertaking visits to the local museum, church and fire station. Sections have also taken part in litter picking and carol singing at our local care home. We continue to run events that get the whole group together, including families. This has included a family activity day, family sponsored walk, family campfire evening and Group Camp where we had 70 Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts in attendance. We also make sure our adult volunteers can get together without our lovely young people, through our leaders and trustees Christmas meal, adult activity day and our termly leaders meetings.

We continue to work on upgrading our HQ. Thanks to grant funding, the old wooden front door has been replaced with a UPVC unit, and the rather heavy old roller door on the garage has been replaced with a motorised roller-shutter. Following a programme of fundraising and thanks to £45,000 in grants from local organisations, work has commenced on an extension to include an accessible toilet and wet room, with an adjoining shower and toilet block from outside. This will not only ensure that we can be more inclusive as a group to those with physical needs- it also means that the HQ can be secured at night if there are young people sleeping both in the HQ and camping outside, as the campers will have a toilet they can access. Building work will conclude in September.

Thanks as always to the fantastic group of volunteers who truly work as a big team to provide for the youth members of the group, whether they be members of leadership teams or Trustees- it couldn't be done without you and it's a pleasure to work with you.

Leigh Foster-Green
Group Lead Volunteer

1st Red Lodge

The Group continues to be successful with all 4 sections being very active and with a good number of young members. The annual census saw the group register around 80 young members. The continuing success of the group is the result of the section adult volunteer teams planning fun programmes each week and giving their time to enable the Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to take part in some weekend activities too. All 4 sections continue to be very active within the district taking part in most of the events including the Nights Away.

Although we have said goodbye and thank you to some of our adult volunteers, we have continued to recruit new ones to replace them. A big welcome to them all. It's rewarding to see the teams developing and sharing skills with everyone taking turns to plan, prepare and deliver activities.

We continue to have some whole group events. Last Autumn, all sections worked together to hold a coffee afternoon to raise funds for Macmillan. In November, we attended the village Remembrance Service and Parade and during the Spring did a village litter pick. Not forgetting the annual Group Camp fire at the end of March. Our annual family camp took place in May 24 and once again was a great success. It's a wonderful opportunity for our volunteers to get to know the parents attending and for parents, a chance to find out a bit more about scouting and try some new activities themselves, including of course camping. It takes a lot of organising, but well worth the effort.

Unfortunately, we are no further forward in our quest to secure a piece of land within the village for Group outdoor use but the Leadership team, Support committee and the Trustee Board will continue to strive for this to happen and we hopefully we have some more contacts to pursue to support us.

In recent months we have been able to recruit a few parents to volunteer for a Support Team to look after the group equipment and to fundraise. They got off to a good start by completely sorting and reorganising the equipment in the group storage container and also checking most of the group tents ready for the summer camping events.

The Group Trustee Board have settled into their responsibility of the governance of the Group, ensuring we operate within the rules of the Association with Safety a big priority. My thanks to the Members of the Group Trustee Board, in particular to the Chairman Emily Bridge who after a tenure of over 10 years has now stood down. Emily has given her undivided support to me as GLV and has definitely contributed to the success of the group.

My thanks to all the present adult volunteers who so readily give up their time throughout year. Thank you also to the team of Young Leaders, many of them former scouts who support the adults in delivering activities. It is very rewarding seeing them developing leadership skills

I consider myself very fortunate to be part of a Group with dedicated adult volunteers and Trustees who all have the best interest of the Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at heart.

I myself will be stepping down from the role of Group Lead Volunteer and scouting in Red Lodge in 2 year's time. By then, I will have reached the age of 80 and feel it is time to hand over to a younger person.

Margaret Chilestone
Group Lead Volunteer

1st Thurston

Reflecting on this past year within the 1st Thurston Scout Group, we have celebrated not only our members' growth but also welcomed new leadership into our teams.

Harrison transitioned from a Young Leader an adult leader in Cubs, having been with us since he was a Beaver! We were also pleased to welcome Pete, who has recently joined our Cub team and Sam and Ash who both joined the Beaver team - we extend our warmest welcome to them. Michelle transferred from Cubs to Scouts. We are grateful for the enthusiasm and energy that they all bring to our group. Their contributions have already made a noticeable impact, and we appreciate their dedication.

Beavers

This year has been quite active and enriching for the Beavers. Throughout the past months, the group successfully engaged in a variety of meetings designed to be both fun and educational. The autumn session started with a focus on community impact, which took place at the local church. Subsequent activities encouraged creativity, such as sessions themed around nature and book reading. The group ventured out for a night hike and took part in skill-building challenges through various games and activities and celebrated Chinese New Year with special investitures. A highlight was Pancake night, which added a festive touch to the winter months. Additionally, the engaging sessions included visits from the police and a visit to the fire station which enabled Beavers to learn about their local services in an interactive manner.

Beavers also created wonderful memories at several outings. A visit to Colchester Zoo allowed the children to explore wildlife, while the Panto brought delightful entertainment. The tobogganing excursion was a thrilling experience, and the Elf training camp instilled a sense of teamwork. The District Beaver sleepover was a chance for fellowship and fun.

Cubs

Throughout the year, we ensured engaging experiences for our Cubs through a range of meetings and events, including activities such as chair football, personal safety discussions, and festive crafts, all aimed at enhancing the Cubs' skills and fostering a strong group dynamic.

The year also included several exciting events. The District Night Hike offered a chance for outdoor adventure, and the delightful Aladdin Pantomime brought laughter and joy. The recent District Cub Hike and Stopover further provided our members with opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors and build lasting memories.

Scouts

This past year has been a busy and engaging one for our Scout Troop. We had a range of meetings and events that focused on nurturing skills, teamwork, and camaraderie. Our past meetings included a variety of activities such as games and several troop meetings where members participated in practical skills like digital making, pumpkin carving, and even had a visit to Rougham Tower. These meetings provided an excellent opportunity for our Scouts to get to know each other, learn new skills, and build friendships.

Among the highlights of our year was the Scout Summer Camp 2024, which filled with various activities. Our Scouts participated enthusiastically in competitions such as the District Dodgeball Competition and the District Bowling Evening. It was also a pleasure to witness our group's achievements during the Family Carol Service and awards presentation where three Chief Scout Awards were presented.

Group-wide

We renewed our Promises on St George's Day and held our Annual Review, combined with a Family BBQ, strengthening our connection with the local community. Our Family Carol Service and awards presentation was a heartwarming event, which brought everyone together to celebrate achievements and was enjoyed by parents and children alike during the festive season. A Family Bingo evening added to the fun and community spirit. One significant highlight was the Woolpit Steam Rally Group Camp, which will serve as a major fundraising event as we sell programmes to the general public. We have plans for a Family Camp in August, which promises to be a delightful experience for both Scout members and their families.

We have recently been able to purchase new tables and benches, a set of new radios and lots of heavy duty pegs through grant money from the District Council Locality Budget.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the leaders, particularly for their support during my illness last year. Their commitment ensured the running of activities and continuity for our members during that challenging time. Moreover, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the leaders for their commitment and hard work throughout the year. Their dedication helps create a supportive environment for our Scouts to grow and thrive.

I look forward to another year filled with fun, learning, and excitement.

Melanie Johnson
Group Lead Volunteer

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025

Executive Committee and Trustees

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| District Lead Volunteer | L Foster-Green |
| District Lead Volunteer | S Williams |
| District Chairman | K Barber |
| District Treasurer | M Golston |
| District Secretary | Vacant |
| Youth Lead | H Samuel |
| Committee | A Chilestone |
| | A Wade |

| | |
|---------|-----------------|
| Bankers | Barclays |
| | Buttermarket |
| | Bury St Edmunds |

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Independent Examiner's | Andy Doogan |
|------------------------|-------------|

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Registered Charity Number | 305673 |
|---------------------------|--------|

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

| BUDGET | 2025 | 2024 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| | £ | £ |
| Membership subscription | 65656 | 64693 |
| Less (Paid out) | 58006 | 37400 |
| 5940 | 7650 | 27293 |
| | | |
| DONATIONS | | |
| Scout shop | 0 | 6000 |
| | | |
| OTHER INCOME | | |
| 600 Capitation refund | 630 | 425 |
| Car Parking income | 0 | 410 |
| 6540 | 8280 | 34128 |
| | | |
| CAMP/ACTIVITY ACCOUNT | | |
| District Camps | 11200 | 11521 |
| District Events/Activities | 11214 | 7567 |
| Scout Summer Camp | 10000 | 7300 |
| Water Activities | 1000 | 220 |
| Mem.Fees & Donation in wrong Acc, | 1005 | 0 |
| | 34419 | 26608 |
| | | |
| INVESTMENT INCOME | | |
| Scout Association Investment | 0 | 9 |
| | 0 | 9 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 42699 | 60745 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

| BUDGET | 2025 | 2024 |
|--|--------|-------|
| | £ | £ |
| 1180 Trustees Expenses | 1815 | 630 |
| 1370 Section Expenses | 1082 | 558 |
| | | |
| OTHER EXPENSES | | |
| 1200 St George's Day | 2039 | 0 |
| 500 Training | 417 | 348 |
| 140 General Insurance & Water Activity Equipment | 1122 | 1091 |
| 300 Hire of Rooms | 0 | 20 |
| 1000 General Expenses | 135 | 0 |
| Independent Examination fee | 690 | 570 |
| District Website | 0 | 1200 |
| Grants for World Jamboree | 0 | 1515 |
| Grant to Mildenhall Scout Group | 5000 | 0 |
| New equipment for use at Bradfield | 1803 | 0 |
| Works to District shed at Bradfield | 3569 | 0 |
| District trailer repairs | 2468 | 0 |
| 6540 | 20140 | 5932 |
| | | |
| CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| District Camps | 9770 | 12230 |
| District Events/Activities | 14262 | 9792 |
| Water Activities | 0 | 604 |
| Summer Camp | 10313 | 6400 |
| Summer Camp deposit | 600 | 0 |
| | 34945 | 29026 |
| | | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 55085 | 34958 |
| 0 Income over Expenses | -12386 | 25787 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

BALANCES AT THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

| | | |
|---|---------------|--------|
| BARCLAY GENERAL ACCOUNT | 2025 | 2024 |
| Receipts | 8280 | 34128 |
| Payments | 20141 | 5932 |
| | -11861 | 28196 |
| BARCLAY CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| Receipts | 34419 | 26608 |
| Payments | 34945 | 29026 |
| | -526 | -2418 |
| SCOUT ASSOCIATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT -Interest | 0 | 9 |
| | -12387 | 25787 |
| TOTAL | | |
| CASH AT BANK & OTHER FUNDS B/F | 127071 | 101284 |
| CASH AT BANK & OTHER FUNDS C/F | 114684 | 127071 |
| MONETARY ASSETS | | |
| Barclay Community Account | 88191 | 100051 |
| Barclay Camp Account | 26493 | 27020 |
| | 114684 | 127071 |

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved on behalf of the Trustees on2025

Signed L Foster-Green & S Williams
District Lead Volunteers

M J Golston
District Treasurer

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------|
| Fixed Assets | 0 | 0 |
| Current Assets - Cash at Bank | 114684 | 127071 |
| Liabilities - Storage Creditor | 1600 | 1600 |
| Accruals | 0 | 0 |
| Deferred Income | 45955 | 39253 |

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Independent Examinators Report

I have conducted an Independent Examination of the Balance Sheet of the Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council together with the Income and Expenditure Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025. My examination was conducted in accordance with approved accounting standards having regard to the matter referred to in the following paragraph.

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council, in common with other organisations of similar size, derived a substantial proportion of its Income from membership fees and voluntary donations which cannot be fully controlled until they are in the accounting records and are not therefore susceptible to independent audit and verification.

Income is treated on a cash receivable basis. Expenditure is treated as an accruals and prepayment basis to give a true and fair view of the expenditure for the period.

Subject to the foregoing the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the Income and Expenditure for the year ended.



A Doogan
Independent Examiner

July 2025

Chartered Accountant ICAEW

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 305673

Accounts

Squirrels

cubs

BEAVERS

SCOUTS

District AGM

2024

EXPLORERS

network

Scouts 
Active Support



Bury St Edmunds and District

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 26th September 2024, 7.30pm

AGENDA

- 1. Introduction and welcome**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15th June 2023**
- 4. Governance topics**
 - a. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules
 - b. Note the District's financial year
 - c. Agree the number of members that may be elected to the Trustee Board
 - d. Agree the quorum for each of the District Scout Council (including this AGM), meetings of the District Trustee Board, meetings of any sub-committees
- 5. Review of the previous year**
 - a. The District Commissioner's review of Scouting in the District
 - b. To receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board including the annual Statement of the Accounts
- 6. Making appointments**
 - a. To approve the nominations to the District Trustee Board
 - b. To appoint the Scrutineer
- 7. County Representative**
- 8. AGM Close**

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
Minutes of The District Annual General Meeting
15th June 2023 – 1st Brandon Scout HQ

1. Welcome – Chair

Alan Chilestone, acting as Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Present: 27 District Scout Council members, including the District Commissioner.

2. Opening Reflection – DC

Some groups have faced challenges over the last year. We are now moving forward with 'proper' Scouting again following Covid, but there remain challenges because of Covid, mainly in support and leadership, particularly Trustee Boards, in some groups. All leaders are making a difference in their work with sections and groups. Thank you and keep doing it.

3. Apologies for absence

68 apologies received from adults in the District.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Review held on 16th June 2022

The minutes were agreed as accurate and approved. Proposed by Cat Williams, seconded by Ruth Nunn.

5. Receive and approve the Annual Reports of the District contained in the 2022/2023 Review Booklet

- a) District Commissioner's Report
- b) Section and Activity Reports. Squirrels also started in 3 groups in the District.
- c) Group Reports

6. District Treasurer – District Accounts for 2022/2023

Approval of the accounts was proposed by Alan Chilestone, seconded by Graham Mackie. All were in favour.

7. Appointment of Auditor

Mike Golston proposed we continue to use Lovewell Blake as auditors. This was seconded by Leigh Foster-Green and approved by the meeting.

8. Elections for the Year 2023/2024

- a) Approval of the District Commissioner's nomination of District Chairman
The DC nominated Lee Holman. This was approved by the meeting.
- b) Election of District Secretary
Becs Banks was elected from the floor
Proposed by Tony Millburn, Seconded by Alan Chilestone.
- c) Election of District Treasurer

Mike Golston was proposed by Andy Webber seconded by Karen Pettitt and elected unanimously.

- d) Noting of the District Commissioner's nominations to the District Trustee Board
– None

- e) Election of Members to the District Trustee Board
– Dylan Watkins
Proposed by Tony Millburn, seconded by Rebecca Silk and duly elected.
– Alan Chilestone, Amanda Wade
Proposed by Ruth Nunn, seconded by Margaret Chilestone and duly elected.

- f) Election of District Representative to the Suffolk County Scout Council
– Graham Mackie
Proposed by Alan Chilestone, seconded by Dylan Watkins and duly elected.

9. Presentation of Awards

The Lesley Biden Award- 1st Red Lodge

Paul gave out a number of other long service awards to individual adults to recognise their contribution to Scouting.

10. County Commissioner: Howard Blackett (or his representative)

No representative attended.

Vote of thanks and close of business

Meeting closed at 8.05pm

Acting District Commissioner's Report

Let me start by saying a thank you to those in the District and the District leadership team for all the hard work that has been put into Scouting this past year. We Thank Paul (DC Retired) and Ashley (former ADC Cubs) for the hard work that they put in to providing a high level of Scouting for both adults and young people before deciding to move on. I would like to thank Mike our District Treasurer for all his hard work and assure him we are in the active process of trying to find a replacement, not an easy job. Thank you to all those other leaders who have moved on.

I would like to thank you all for your support during the transition and my role of Acting DC during the last six months. County have started the search for a new District commissioner which may have been appointed by the time this report goes out at our AGM.

The District, along with every other District nationally, has started on the journey of transformation as set out by HQ. Some changes are easy to put in place, and others not so; we will continue to push through the changes as we understand them and adapt to fit our vision for the future. We know that some changes and new procedures put pressure on our leadership teams, but together we can do it!!! It has been great to see so many young people enjoying adventure and fun within the District and County.

Let's all keep providing our exciting and adventurous programme, inspiring young people to achieve all their potentials. Many young people achieve their Top Awards and other recognised achievements away from Scouting. The brilliant turn out for St George's Day and Squirrel Scouts continuing to grow is a great sign of a healthy District.

The County/District plan has been put in place and the continued expansion of the Squirrel provision high on the County Challenge for the District and Groups. We continue to grow as a District and are keeping up with new adults, training and essential safety/safeguarding modules thanks to the continued dedication of Alan and the Appointments Panel. The development of areas at Bradfield and the Scout & Guide Shop are making the District better able to provide what groups need.

All the young people, adults and other supporters are amazing, and without your dedication, Scouting would not be the success it is in the District.

THANK YOU ALL

Tony (Wontolla)
District Commissioner (Acting)

Squirrel Section Report

We are lucky to have 4 Squirrel Dreys in our District (1st Lakenheath, Mildenhall, 1st Red Lodge and 1st Brandon) who all have great weekly activities.

Without a District programme this year, we tried our best to provide some fun for the Squirrels.

In October, all 4 Dreys held a Halloween Party where they made marshmallow ghosts, Halloween masks and bats. Apple bobbing and dancing proved for a fun party.

Squirrels proudly attended St Georges Day parade and were all a credit to the District, sitting nicely in church and parading with their group flags.

In June, 2 Dreys, 1st Brandon and Mildenhall visited Easton Farm Park as part of a County event, they had a great day and Brandon Squirrels won the County Competition, a very well done to them.

July saw the first Squirrel water activity day, where the 4 dreys all went on Bell Boats and some Squirrels even jumped into the lake which they all enjoyed.

Leaders met in May and we have put together an exciting programme of events for our Squirrels for the coming year, it kicks off in September with all 4 Dreys taking coaches to Church Farm, Stow Bardolph.

I would like to thank all the leaders who give up their time to make sure Bury St Edmunds District Squirrels have a fun and engaging programme.

Wendy Barnes
ADC (Beaver Scouts)

Beaver Section Report

Beavers across the district have had a great (busy) year for events

In September we made a visit to Hunstanton, with 4 coaches taking 178 Beavers and leaders we had a great day visiting the Sealife centre, playing on the beach and for the first time taking a boat ride.

November saw us taking over Theatre Royal for our first ever District Christmas panto, 8 colonies saw a performance of Snow White and it was such a hit that we have booked again this year to see Aladdin with 10 colonies signed up.

Our annual bowling competition held at Bury Bowl in January saw 167 Beavers take part over 4 days. Thurston won again with 1st Bury in close 2nd. Well done to all colonies that took part.

In March we held our sleepover at Hallowtree, over two nights 74 Beavers enjoyed cooking, tracking, obstacle course and a rope bridge provided by 14th Ipswich.

In June the weather was not so kind for our Beaver camp at Bradfield, but as normal we made the most of it and still got to enjoy some wonderful activities. 115 Beavers tried the climbing wall, air rifle and cooking. We made tree faces and learnt all about owl pellets, dissecting them was messy but we found lots of skulls and bones.

The weather was against us again this month, when Beavers took part in the water activities day at Lackford lakes. This gave the Beavers a chance to earn a Time on Water badge and learn about water safety whilst having fun in Bell Boats and rafted canoes.

We have an exciting programme planned for 2024/2025 with lots of event already booked and confirmed, let's hope the weather is nicer to us.

As always, I would like to thank all the leaders and volunteers who give their time, energy and commitment to providing great opportunities for the Beaver in Bury St Edmunds District.

Wendy Barnes
ADC (Beaver Scouts)

Cub Scout Section Report

Another active year for the Cub section in the District. Thank you to the dedicated teams of leaders working in the Cub Packs throughout the District. The number of Cubs in the District is now the highest it has been since the 1990s.

District events in 2023-24 included the District Cub Bowling in May 2023. Congratulations to 1st Lakenheath for taking home the trophy.

The highlight of the year was the District Cub Camp at Two Mile Bottom in July 2023. Despite the rain and wind, the Cubs who attended had a great time, undertaking activities such as abseiling, archery and air rifles. Also important is that the Cubs got to mix with others from around the District.

Unfortunately, the Cub Water Activities day was cancelled due to blue-green algae at the venue. Cubs were however invited to take part in the weekend kayaking sessions organised by the District Water Activities Team.

Thank you to Ashley Thorne for his efforts during his time as ADC (Cubs). As I write this, County Cub Camp has just finished, and planning for the 2024-25 District Cub Programme is in place. More on that next year!

Leigh Foster-Green
Deputy District Commissioner

Scout Section Report



B.S.E. Summer Camp in August was at Belchamps, on their Activity Week 7th till 12th, attended by Scouts and Explores and a good time was had by one and all, the Scouts took part in Abseiling, Areal runway, Low ropes, crafts, Archery and lots of other activity's enough to keep everyone extremely busy from dawn to dusk.

In the evening, there were discos or film nights to keep everyone entertained, which everyone seemed to enjoy

Whilst all this was going on the Water Activities Team and CMAT had been training Scouts and in Kayaks, Hillwalking and climbing and over the year had reached a good standard, ready to take part in various adventures.

In October we held a beginner's camp at Bradfield, this was to enable those Scouts who were new to Scout camping to gain experience without the hustle and bussell of some of the bigger camps again this was well attended with about 25 Scout who seemed to have a great time.

The District Dodge Ball Challenge was held in November at Bury Leisure Centre and saw teams from across the district compete. Admittedly, some were more talented than others, but an afternoon of skill and sportsmanship ensued, and good fun was had by all.



As the year ends and everyone's thoughts turn to Christmas the Scouts have their annual 10 pin bowling competition, which is always very well attended and great fun.

And into 2024

Our first event of the year in February was the Scouts and Explorer Quiz. Our very own Ex DC Paul Hunt supplied the questions, whilst Thurston chippy produced a chip supper to round off the evening. Teams arrived from all over the district. We heard some strange answers to some of the questions and some even stranger team names, but everyone had a great time.

February we had a winter camp again at Bradfield and a hardy bunch braved the cold to do some backwards cooking, using ground ovens and other bushcraft means to cook excellent range of food.

In March we had a Patrol camping competition, not one of our best attended events, but I except this to change of the years as Troops gain experience.

April well as normal was St Georges Day Parade, and again was very well attended May saw the Archery and Air rifle camp take place, a very well attended event with a lot of young people and Leaders having a fantastic weekend.

In June Horringer organised the playground challenge at the activity centre in Barrow and a lot of fun was had by the Scouts for the day, this is again a very popular event in the Scouting Calendar.

As I write this in early August the Scouts are preparing to head off to Thriftwood Scout Activity Centre for their INTENTS week of fun games and activities, the forecast is looking good, we hope that the squirrels at Thriftwood are kind to us, and that's the furry ones not the youngest Scout section, Thriftwood is set in a very large woods near Brentwood and is notorious for its hungry squires, who happily eat an unsuspecting Scouts secret stash of sweeties if left unprotected in their tent.

Several of these regular events now enjoy attendance approaching 100 Scouts and are growing year by year, which can be taken not only as a sign of the strength of Scouting in our District, but also as a testimony to the work and dedication of the leaders. It should be noted that this interesting and enjoyable programme would not be possible without the help of Scout leaders throughout the District, each of whom take responsibility for organising certain events and put in a great deal of time and effort into both their own projects and into bringing their Scouts to the other events.

Steve Williams
Deputy District Commissioner

Explorer Scout Section Reports

The District Sections are still going strong thanks to the commitment of the leaders and with 50 Explorers and 30 Young Leaders numbers have remained stable, and with many scouts are looking to move onto Explorer/Young Leader Sections soon we can look forward to building a stronger Explorer District.

District events have continued with a bowls evening, meetings at Bradfield Camp Site and the District Archery camp.

The CMAT Wales Expedition this summer was a success with over 50 scouts and explorers participating and a trip to the Peak District in April, CMAT continues to provide adventurous activities for the county.

Five Explorers and a Leader attended the 25th World Scout Jamboree in South Korea, it proved to be a memorable event with the original venue being spread out over the country and the people of South Korea helping to ensure its success.

The county wide Duke of Edinburgh expedition option has been continued and a number of Bronze, Silver and Gold awards were completed.

The Covid pause to normal Scouting is becoming a memory and units are getting out and about more but encouraging young people to get back into exploring all Scouting can offer will need the continued involvement and support of everyone.

Bob Butler
District Explorer Scout Commissioner

Endeavour Explorer Unit

Endeavour has a membership of 36 explorers with an average of 20 attending our monthly meetings. Over the past year the explorers have had a chance to design their unit t-shirts, cooked, geocached, hiked, ice-skated and even completed a set of Squirrel activity badges for a bit of fun (and hopefully helped with their Young Leader roles).

We have organized archery and air rifle sessions, a Lazer quest evening and a scavenger hunt. On our last couple of summer nights (and thankfully the weather was kind to us) we rafted and had a rounders match. Many of the Explorers joined in the district water sessions, including the pool sessions, Lackford lakes, and the weekend river sessions.

We have had a Bronze DofE training weekend – where we camped at a very cold and windy Barrow campsite, and our Silver DofE group are currently planning their canoeing practice expedition. Two of our older explorers achieved their Silver DofE and have now moved onto Invictus Network and have started their activities for the Gold Award.

Camps attended during the year were, Mildenhall Group camp, District Archery and Air Rifle camp, District Summer Camp at Belchamps 2023, CMAT weekends in the Peak District, WSJ Korea 2023, CMAT Summer Camp Wales 2024, Roverway 2024 – so the total nights away during last year was 196.

Karen Pettitt
Endeavour Explorer Leader

Scout Network Report

The end of January 2024 saw the first Invictus Network meeting since before Covid. Meeting on the 4th Wednesday of each month the group have been and continue to take part in a range of activities from hikes and escape rooms to air rifles and cooking.

With the group currently having 14 members all aged 18-25, from the district and as far as Stowmarket we would like to continue expanding and will happily welcome anyone who would like to join us. Some of our members have carried on from Scouts and Explorers by taking on leadership roles within their local groups however some have now returned to Scouting since the reboot of the Network group.

Unfortunately, since the group extends out so far, we don't have a regular meeting place due to sharing out the travel distances and as we are all still in education and/or in the beginning of careers we are trying to keep costs to a minimum where possible. Therefore, we would gladly accept the hospitality of any group that would be willing to lend us their hut from time to time.

With this being said, as a group we would like to start organising some of our own camps and bigger activities as well as integrating ourselves into being part of the district again.

We would like to extend our thanks to Leigh and Karen who have fully supported us in restarting the group.

Harriet Samuel
Scout Network

Scout Active Support Report

As we look back over the last twelve months or more, there has been changes that have affected the DSASU directly. We have lost our Unit Manager Barbara Ruthven as she hangs up her Scouting boots after more years than she is happy to admit! Barbara will be missed by many for her cool calm approach to supporting Scouting in our District, not just for the DSASU but other areas that she has been involved with. As a Unit we have celebrated with her whilst playing Croquet at the local club that she is a member at Thurston New Green.

The position of DSASU manager is still vacant.....! however, the forth coming Transition is set to disband the SAS provision in favour of multi-teams under the

banner of Support Team Leaders. It has been discussed that we could fall back to a Fellowship Team for social friendship to continue and explore the new teams, to offer skills and to learn new skills.

As we come to terms with the void that one of our number has left behind, yet another and another has made the decision that the time is right for them to stop Scouting. So, we say thank you to Bill Charnaud for his contribution to District Scouting over many years at Group level in Great Barton, the Scout Shop support and I am sure many other aspects over the District's history. A double whammy with Derek and Penny Poole stepping back from Scouting, Penny with her hands-on support catering and helping wherever she is needed. Penny's support for Derek over his Scouting years has been invaluable. Derek has been more recently our Unit's Flag Bearer for many years after taking over from our dear departed friend Vera. He has maintained that vital support in a quiet unassuming professional way, and it will be hard to find another individual to continue that role. Derek has been active in other Scouting roles in direct support of our youth member over the years. His passion of late is behind a camera catching shots of wildlife, butterflies, birds, insects, the placing of Owl boxes. It has been an overwhelming debt of gratitude for their joint support to Scouting in our District. Thank you!

The Unit over the last twelve months has been called upon by the District leadership team to provide support for St Georges Day parade, the setting-up/dismantle assist in Abbey Gardens, the flag support in St Marys Church and the catering provision for the social gathering at 6th Bury HQ. Some of our members are active in other roles in the District and at our County.

The social diary has been reactivated with the Croquet event on 7th June at Thurston, which proved to be an extraordinary evening of challenges and fun followed with celebration of the outgoing members. Yet to come, at time of writing, will be a DSASU BBQ on the 18th August at Bradfield Campsite and the last event this year a DSASU Bingo Night, hopefully at Great Barton Scout HQ in November.

The DSASU at the moment is being jointly co-ordinated by Ruth Nunn and myself Graham Mackie. With the future unsettled as the transition period evolves and reveals itself we look forward with trepidation and hope that our youth sections will still be as enthusiastic as always! and Scouting lives on for years to come in our vibrant District.

Yours in Scouting

Graham Mackie ADC (SD) and Ruth Nunn GSL Ixworth (DSASU Coordinators)

Water Activities Report

After the pool sessions at the beginning of the year, we had a good turn out for the Kayak courses, river days and the canoe and SUP taster sessions. The SUP sessions filled up fast and we need to think about maybe doing SUP sessions like we do Kayak in the future, as this activity is becoming really popular with the young people.

Beaver Day and Cub day were a great success as usual with over 100 of each section attending, Luckily we had great weather for both events which really helps with the enjoyment and fun we can have in and on the water.

One problem we did have this year was that as we changed to our new system and started to use OSM instead of Eventbrite, as we could not get the payment part to work we had to have parents pay on the day. Unfortunately this meant that a lot of YP were booking on and not turning up, and so the pool sessions at the beginning of the year meant that we spent more on the pool hire than we had coming in from the pool sessions.

Hopefully this will be fixed in the future and we will be able to take payment through OSM in the coming years.

Stuart Bassett
Water Activities Lead

Appointments Advisory Committee Report

I have been kept busy with applications throughout the year to March 2024. There were 371 applications compared to 293 the previous year. This includes those new to our District, but also changes of role, cancellations and DBS renewals. Applications for all types of appointment have been greater than the number cancelled for the first time since the first lockdown.

The number of Occasional Helpers has shown an increase, now more groups are restarting their family camps.

| Net Change in membership | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Year | Leaders & Assistants | Occasional Helpers | Others (eg Trustees/Admin) | Total |
| 2018/19 | 1 | 55 | -7 | 49 |
| 2019/20 | 9 | 42 | 4 | 55 |
| 2020/21 | -18 | -38 | -5 | -61 |

| | | | | |
|---------|----|-----|----|-----|
| 2021/22 | 27 | -27 | -7 | -7 |
| 2022/23 | 12 | -30 | 6 | -12 |
| 2023/24 | 20 | 12 | 9 | 41 |

The Appointments Panel continues to meet every month, with extra meetings being added when required. “Transformation” is getting ever closer, which will mean we lose the Appointments Panel to be replaced by a “Welcome Conversation”. There is also likely to be more work needed at Group level for applications, but I will continue to support where I can.

Can I please remind you that any adult staying overnight, including parents, need to have a DBS clearance, so will need to apply for at least an OH role in good time. Ideally these applications should be with me two months before the event, as it can take that time to process the DBS. Leaving it until the last minute, a week before the camp, risks the disclosure not being issued and you losing the helper needed for camp. The same applies for parents at family camps. Some applications are taking longer to get through at the moment so please allow plenty of time.

I continue to send GSLs and Line Managers monthly updates for those due an Appointment Review or DBS renewal. This system seems to work well, but please keep an eye on the review dates. I also email GSLs annually (on a rolling basis) with a list of OHs in their group. I would also ask that when you receive this, you act on it and return to me as quickly as possible, so that I can cancel those no longer required.

To conclude, may I thank all the members of the Appointments Advisory Committee for the support they give to me, the D.C. (past & current) and Scouting in Bury.

Alan Chilstone
Appointments Secretary

Training Report

My report last year concluded with the statement that I planned to step back from the training role, although I would stay in post while Transformation and the changes to the Training Scheme took place. Well, as you can see, I am still here.

Training, or “Learning” as we will need to call it, has continued with learning events at County and others run by local trainers. The aim has been to try and concentrate on modules required for the new scheme, As soon as modules become available to book, I will circulate leaders who I believe require them, by email. Details will also be published on the DC Bury St Edmunds Facebook page.

Mandatory Learning is becoming more important than ever, with First Response, Safeguarding and Safety needing to be renewed every three years. I regularly email those who have these modules due, to try to ensure they do not expire. This is mostly successful, to the extent that I understand we are one of the best Districts in the County for compliance, in this respect.

Denise King continues to present Module 10A&B (First Response) for the District and I am forever grateful for her work here. We have been holding courses not only at weekends but also over two evenings to provide more flexibility. Denise has worked particularly hard as we deal with the bulge or renewals that are due, following completion after Covid. We also have more people needing to complete the module, as it will be compulsory for all adults with a role where they face young people. Including former Section Assistants.

Congratulations to all who have achieved their Wood Badges this year. Once again, a total of 9 were awarded during the year.

I would like to thank all who give up their time to support the training of adults in the District. Especially the trainers who have organised modules, my team of Training Advisers, without whom none of the validations could take place, wood badge holders who provide witness statements and last, but not least, Margaret, whose constant support enables me to continue enjoying scouting.

Alan Chilestone

(Local Training Manager)

Note: Reports were not received from the following Groups:

1st Bury St Edmunds

Great Barton

1st Horringer

1st SENDAT

1st Brandon

Having recently (November) taken over as Acting GSL, I am thankful for the support of the leaders in helping me to make Brandon Scout group a success for the young people. We made some immediate changes, reducing termly subs and implementing policies all of which we hope has been beneficial for you.

I would like to thank the leaders, not only do they volunteer on a weekly basis to run the section meetings, they also give up their weekends and holiday time to take our young people on camps and trips so a massive thank you to them from me!

This year, our scouts of all ages have attended camps, trips, water activities and inter group events. These always look so much fun, and I personally wish I could attend them all.

Thank you to all our Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who continue to amaze us with their perseverance and effort, we are proud to take you all on these events representing Brandon.

We also have a great team of Young Leaders who support all sections with the programme, and I would like to thank them for giving up their time to help.

As always, we need to build our Exec Committee and are looking for a Treasurer and Secretary to join us and help focus on fund-raising, updating our policies and reviewing our Development Plan.

Wendy Barnes
Group Scout Leader

6th Bury St Edmunds

I would like to thank all, of the 6th Bury leaders for their support, and dedication without their efforts this year, it would not have been possible for the Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts to run a full and varied program across all sections.

With all sections reaching capacity and now having waiting lists, our challenge is to make more places available this will require more support and more leaders for the sections.

I would like to extend my thanks to the trustee committee for all their support, hard work, and help over the last year. With the many changes to the structure of Scouting and the consequential changes these have required at the Group level the last year has been very challenging and will continue to be like this as more changes come through the system. The major change has been within the rules that govern the Scout group. These have led to a separate trustee board that oversees the day-to-day running of the leadership team and the section teams. We still have vacancies in all areas but with the roles being split up this should mean we can spread the jobs around more individuals. Our most pressing need at the moment is a Group chair.

For the year going forward, it is going to be tough, and we are having to review our finances as the costs of running our buildings and sites are still rising, we are making every effort to keep our fees low to continue doing this and provide the equipment for the sections we are going to have to fundraise and will need to form a fundraising committee volunteers are required.

For the Scout HQ, we need a new development plan to focus on supporting and developing the HQ. We still have more work to do including upgrading the fire doors and rebuilding the hall's entrance. The work is needed to allow us to continue to deliver safe and inclusive Scouting, now and into the future. We are looking for recommendations for tradespeople who can help us achieve these goals.

Our plans also need to cover Hardwick Heath to continue doing up the buildings and carry out further improvements at the site. We have plans for the toilet block, clearing more of the undergrowth to give more usable area within the site. We are also looking at doing up the storage container on site which would allow us to have more equipment on site ready for use. Currently, we are looking for volunteers to mow and help maintain Hardwick heath. over the coming year and possibly form a maintenance committee to manage the site. My thanks go out to everyone who has already helped with the site this year. I look forward to the next year and continuing to improve the assets that are the Scout HQ and Hardwick heath so we can get as much benefit for the Scouts and the local community as we can.

Now we need to grow the group to deliver a successful scouting program to as many young people as possible. The challenge is to recruit enough leaders to open a Squirrels section and possibly expand and open second sections within the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. I would ask everyone to give a few hours to the group to help us grow and strengthen the group for the future.

Giles Lillistone
Assistant Group Scout leader

1st Culford

This year we started an ambitious Scouts Pathway at Culford. Operating from Pre Prep up to Prep School, we now run Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts Sections every week. The vision is to build an appreciation of the benefits of Skills for Life in the youth that will eventually filter into the Senior School, where the programme will run in parallel with the CCF and complement the DofE Programme.

The joint Squirrel and Beaver section in Pre-Prep have been very busy this year, completing a number of badges such as their Cooking badge and Emergency Aid Level 1. Next year we are keen to attend District events and engage with the Local Community on a more regular basis.

We wish all the best to our Beavers who will move up to the Cub pack in September. Another massive thank you to our additional staff, Carolyn Packham, who without her support, running such an active program would not be possible.

The Cubs had about 18 members through the year. Most have achieved their Cycling, Naturalist, Pioneer and Navigator badges as well as their Adventure Challenge Award by learning knots, map-reading and outdoor skills. They have also learnt to put up a tent, and cleared a phenomenal amount of rubbish from the woods. The Cubs attended the County Cub Camp in May, as well as completing an assault course, taking part in paddle sport activities and improving their cycle racing skills.

The Scout Troup continues to flourish at the Prep School, we have invested 14 Scouts, most of whom have achieved the fire safety and navigation awards, with several Scouts achieving badges for other activities they have a personal passion for.

1st Culford saw its first Celebration Event on June 28th where members from each section took part in their Moving on Ceremony and were welcomed into their new group. This event was a lovely way to round off our first year of scouting at Culford.

Many thanks to all the staff and volunteers at Culford that helped make this great start possible.

Andrew Shoesmith
Group Scout Leader

1st Honington (RAF)

1st Honington (RAF) Scout Group is growing and developing. We have more Scouts than we have ever had, Cubs are Running 3 full sixes with the possibility of a 4th and Beavers is currently running a rather healthy number.

We are currently going through some exciting times and changes within the group including the transition to wearing the Air Scout Uniform. This, along with exceptionally good relationships with the current RAF staff, have opened up all sorts of opportunities for our Scouts.

We have somehow managed to recruit an effective, and whole, Board of Trustees including a non-trustee Secretary as per the new rulings.

As with most groups, we are always on the hunt for more leadership and will be continuing to recruit from both civilian and RAF to fulfil this need.

Martin Brooks
Group Scout Leader

1st Ixworth

The year started with the group attending St George's Parade. It was well attended & was lovely to see the public out watching the Parade. Throughout the year, the 3 sections have had a busy time doing varied activities, ranging from crafts to more adventurous activities.

Over the past year, overall, all 3 sections have gained 41 challenge badges, 241 activity & staged badges, with 3 Chief Scout Awards being gained. Chief Scout Awards are the highest award that the young people can gain in each section. With several of the members very close in achieving the awards. Well done to everyone who worked hard to achieve these badges.

The beavers had a camp at Hallowtrees Scout Campsite, where we had an excellent view of the Royal Flyover for Trooping of the Colours in London. This was the highlight of the summer camp. Lunch stopped while everyone watched. This year, the beavers attended the panto at Theatre Royal in Bury. We travelled to Hunstanton to the Sealife Centre & a boat trip along the coast. We joined 2 colonies to celebrate the King's Coronation, making crowns, sceptres & orbs out of natural materials & designed a card for the King & everyone signed it & was sent to the Palace.

The cubs have been busy with badgework. In August, a camp was arranged at Bradfield campsite. They were supposed to sleep in tents, but luckily, we booked Lunney lodge, as the heavens opened all day!!!! Plenty of wet cubs doing the activities. The cubs managed to do a hike in between showers. On the hike they were looking for geocaches. On their return they made & cooked pizzas for their evening meal.

Our scouts have also been very active over the year. They joined the district for the summer camp at Belchamps Campsite. They have visited Flixton Airfield for an overnight sleep in the hangers.

All sections have attended District events over the past year, ranging from Sleepovers, Bowling, Camps, water activities, beaverie, & quizzes. We have also joined in with our community in Ixworth. During half term, the cubs cleaned the War Memorial ready for Remembrance Sunday & the beavers cleaned inside the Church. We joined the villagers in the Parade to our Village Church, where we took up half of the Parade. The beavers & cubs made scarecrows for the Village trail. Raksha had pirates & a mermaid on her front lawn this year. Wonder what will be there this year!!!!

As a group we decorated the Church for Easter, had a display outside the Church for Remembrance & a tree decorated for Christmas. Plenty of glitter!!!!!!

Our local running club organised a 24hr sponsor run for Children in Need. Several of our cubs & scouts were sponsored & joined in the last circuit of the field. Well done to all that took part. In December, we held our Group Christingle Service in the Church. Parents & families were invited.

Our numbers have been up & down over the year. We have had a long waiting list for beavers but now that has gone down rapidly. I am sure the list will again grow!!!

I would like to thank the Group Exec members for their support to the group, the leaders who do so much to give an exciting & active programme, our young leaders for helping at each week's meetings & parents for their support. Finally, a huge thank you to the beavers, cubs & scouts for their enthusiasm & enjoyment at our meetings.

We look forward to another exciting year ahead.

Ruth Nunn
Group Scout Leader

1st Lakenheath

Following another successful year for Lakenheath Scout Group, I am once again thanking all our leaders who give up so much of their spare time to ensure scouting in Lakenheath continues. Not only do they volunteer on a weekly basis to run the section meetings, they also give up their weekends and holiday time to take our young people on camps and trips so a massive thank you to them from me!

This year, our scouts of all ages have attended camps, trips, water activities and inter group events. These always look so much fun and I personally wish I could attend them all. Thank you to all our Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who continue to amaze us with their perseverance and effort, we are proud to take you all on these events representing Lakenheath.

We also have a great team of Young Leaders who support all sections with the programme and I would like to thank them for giving up their time to help. We now have a fund-raising team who held their first event 'Bingo' which was very successful and we look forward to more events from them in the future.

Wendy Barnes
Group Scout Leader

Mildenhall

The group has doubled its youth membership during the last year, including opening a Squirrel Drey and a second Beaver Colony. We have welcomed 12 new adult volunteers, mainly to lead these new sections. Our Executive Committee (Trustee Board) has also been bolstered by the recruitment of additional parents as elected members.

All sections continue to be active participants in District events and we enjoy the well-supported family events that we put on in the group through the year, such as the family campfire evening and annual awards evening (with AGM). We were also spoiled with great weather for our annual Group Camp, welcoming Squirrels to sleep over for the first time.

Going forward, all sections are aiming to award more top awards- numbers awarded have been relatively low following the programme disruption through Covid. We also have a fundraising effort ahead of us following the granting of planning permission for the addition of an accessible toilet & wet room and shower block to the HQ.

A massive thank you to all the adults who work tirelessly to provide great programmes for our youth members at Mildenhall.

Leigh Foster-Green
Group Scout Leader

1st Red Lodge

The Group continues to be successful with all 4 sections being very active and with high numbers of young members. The annual census saw the group register 89 young members, the highest it's ever been. This is the result of the section leadership teams planning fun programmes each week and giving their time to enable the Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts to take part in some weekend activities too. Earlier in the year, we saw our first Squirrels moving on to Beavers. By September all the original Squirrels who started in September 2022 will have successfully moved on to the Colony.

The year has seen the group successfully recruiting many new adult volunteers to help in all sections. A big welcome to them all. With some adults choosing to change sections over the next few months, each section will hopefully have a fairly good compliment of adults. However Rachel, who has taken the lead role in Cubs for several years, will be stepping down in July so we do need to look for a replacement. The Scout Troop could also do with more volunteers.

There have been several events where the group as a whole has shown its' presence in the village. In May last year we joined in the village Coronation event providing some activities; fire lighting, toasting marshmallows and small angel (axe) throwing at a target. All to highlight Scouting activities to the public and we successfully recruited 2 new adults. Last autumn, we did more spring bulb planting in 2 location in the village. In November, we attended the village Remembrance Service and Parade. There have been other events where the whole group has participated together too. The group sleepover at Jump In Ipswich, a resounding success, the group camp fire in March and the District St George's Day Parade and Service held in Bury St Edmunds. I'm always proud to lead the Group at this event, with a good attendance of Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

Unfortunately our quest to secure a piece of land within the village for Scouting is still making slow progress. We desperately need this so we can safely meet and do traditional outdoor activities, such as fire lighting, cooking on fires, saw and axe skills etc. Currently we can only do this if we travel to a Scout site elsewhere. Hugo Upton of Upton Farms is still championing our cause and hopefully once approval has been given for the next stage of the development, there may be opportunities for our wish to be granted. The Group Trustee Board have continued to lobby on our behalf.

Finally, I end with extending my sincere thanks to all the present leaders who so readily give up their time throughout year. Also to the Members of the Group Trustee Board who support the Group and have organised fundraising events to ensure there are sufficient funds for the group to fully operate. I am very fortunate to be part of a Group with dedicated leaders and Trustees who all have the best interest of the Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts at heart. Thank you too to the parents who support Scouting and make it possible for their children to join. Most importantly thank you to all the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts themselves, whose enjoyment of the activities provided, give us the incentive to strive to do better.

Margaret Chilstone
Group Scout Leader / Group Lead Volunteer

1st Thurston

We currently have 89 youth members - a few spaces currently remain in Scouts, however our Beavers and Cubs are full and we have waiting lists. As families with children already in Scouting move into the village they will take priority over those brand-new to Scouting. We are unable to manage a Squirrels Drey at present due to lack of Leaders and meeting place. We also currently have 5 Young Leaders (14-18 year olds) working across the Group. It is lovely to know that our young people don't want to leave us when they reach 14.

During the year May 2023 – April 2024 we awarded nearly 1,200 badges across the Group. We have also invested 46 members (some brand new to Scouting, some moving up between sections as they got older). We also 'hosted' 2 American boys from Texas who were staying with their grandparents for 3 months. Each Section provides a full programme of activities and events on a week-by-week basis – from visits to Elmswell Fire Station, Scouts visiting to Mildenhall Air base thanks to one of our Scout Leaders who is a serving USAF Airman, as well taking part in District-wide and County-wide events & camps including quizzes, bowling and archery & air rifles competitions. The Scouts had a very cold winter weekend camp and stayed at Belchamps at Southend for the week.

Group events:

In Summer Term 2023 we again attended Woolpit Steam Rally – which is our largest fundraising event of the year. The Woolpit Steam Rally Committee allow us to camp there in order to sell programmes on the pay gate - we were rewarded with a donation of £1,100. We held our End of Term Family BBQ which was well attended. We again held our Family Archery & Air Rifles sessions during the summer holidays. Without Steve Taylor, Ian Taylor, John Johnson & Keith Hutchens giving their time this would not have been possible.

Autumn Term started the first Family Camp that I have ever organised. 24 families took up the challenge of sleeping in tents with their families and taking part in various activities during the day. Archery, Air Rifles, Tomahawk/Angels throwing, Cresta Run, code-breaking, lighting fires. I couldn't have managed it without the help from our Leaders – some were unable to camp but visited during the day to run activities. We attended the village Remembrance Service. Our Family Christingle Service was well attended at St. Peters Church.

Spring Term – and we held a very well attended 'Beetle' night. We finished the term off at Planet Laser with our End of Term Group Event. All our members had the opportunity of having 2 sessions running around the maze with laser guns, followed by the moving up ceremonies. 80 Members (& some Leaders) entered the maze for a bit of end of term fun during the course of the evening. St George's Day was marked this year as Scouting members within the BSE District paraded from Abbey Gardens to St. Mary's Church for the service where we all renewed the promises that we made when joining Scouting.

A massive **THANK YOU** to all of Thurston's current Leaders and our Trustee Board for all of your support throughout the year. I couldn't have done it without you all.

Melanie Johnson
Group Scout Leader

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024

Executive Committee and Trustees

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Acting District Commissioner | A Millburn |
| District Chairman | Vacant |
| District Treasurer | M Golston |
| District Secretary | Vacant |
| DDC Scouts | L Foster - Green |
| DDC Scouts | S Williams |
| DESC | R Butler |
| Committee | A Chilestone |
| | P Hunt |
| | A Wade |

| | |
|---------|---|
| Bankers | Barclays Buttermarket Bury St Edmunds |
|---------|---|

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Independent Examiner's | Lovewell Blake LLP Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds |
|------------------------|---|

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Registered Charity Number | 305673 |
|---------------------------|--------|

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

| BUDGET | | 2024 | 2023 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| | | £ | £ |
| | Membership subscription | 64693 | 40131 |
| | Less (Paid out) | 37400 | 31980 |
| 5940 | | 27293 | 8151 |
| DONATIONS | | | |
| | Scout shop | 6000 | 0 |
| OTHER INCOME | | | |
| 600 | Capitation refund | 425 | 390 |
| | CAF Donation | 0 | 250 |
| | Legacy from estate of John Mann | 0 | |
| | Less paid to groups | 0 | 27923 |
| | Car Parking income | 410 | 0 |
| 6540 | | 34128 | 36714 |
| CAMP/ACTIVITY ACCOUNT | | | |
| | District Camps | 11521 | 4874 |
| | District Events/Activities | 7567 | 2717 |
| | Scout Summer Camp | 7300 | 5840 |
| | Water Activities | 220 | 6660 |
| | | 26608 | 20091 |
| INVESTMENT INCOME | | | |
| | Scout Association Investment | 9 | 4 |
| | | 9 | 4 |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 60745 | 56809 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

| BUDGET | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|--------------|-------|
| | £ | £ |
| 1180 Trustees Expenses | 630 | 447 |
| 1370 Section Expenses | 558 | 120 |
| | | |
| OTHER EXPENSES | | |
| 1200 St George's Day | 0 | 1972 |
| 500 Training | 348 | 105 |
| 140 General Insurance & Water Activity Equipment | 1091 | 710 |
| 300 Hire of Rooms | 20 | 40 |
| 1000 General Expenses | 0 | 167 |
| Independent Examination fee | 570 | 450 |
| District Website | 1200 | 0 |
| Grants for World Jamboree | 1515 | 2000 |
| 6540 | 5932 | 6011 |
| | | |
| CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| District Camps | 12230 | 4816 |
| District Events/Activities | 9792 | 1850 |
| Water Activities | 604 | 7802 |
| Summer Camp | 6400 | 5187 |
| Summer Camp deposit | 0 | 1150 |
| | 29026 | 20805 |
| | | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 34958 | 26816 |
| | | |
| 0 Income over Expenses | 25787 | 29993 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------|
| Fixed Assets | 0 | 0 |
| Current Assets - Cash at Bank | 127071 | *101284 |
| Liabilities - Storage Creditor | 1600 | 1600 |
| Accruals | | 570 |
| Deferred Income | 39253 | 12816 |

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 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 since been withdrawn.

I 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.

 15/7/24

L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 305673

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

31 March 2024

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024

Executive Committee and Trustees

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Acting District Commissioner | A Millburn |
| District Chairman | Vacant |
| District Treasurer | M Golston |
| District Secretary | Vacant |
| DDC Scouts | L Foster - Green |
| DDC Scouts | S Williams |
| DESC | R Butler |
| Committee | A Chilestone |
| | P Hunt |
| | A Wade |

| | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Bankers | Barclays |
| | Buttermarket |
| | Bury St Edmunds |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Independent Examiner's | Lovewell Blake LLP |
| | Hillside Business Park |
| | Bury St Edmunds |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Registered Charity Number | 305673 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

| BUDGET | | 2024 | 2023 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| | | £ | £ |
| | Membership subscription | 64693 | 40131 |
| | Less (Paid out) | 37400 | 31980 |
| 5940 | | 27293 | 8151 |
| | | | |
| DONATIONS | | | |
| | Scout shop | 6000 | 0 |
| | | | |
| OTHER INCOME | | | |
| 600 | Capitation refund | 425 | 390 |
| | CAF Donation | 0 | 250 |
| | Legacy from estate of John Mann | 0 | |
| | Less paid to groups | 0 | 27923 |
| | Car Parking income | 410 | 0 |
| 6540 | | 34128 | 36714 |
| | | | |
| CAMP/ACTIVITY ACCOUNT | | | |
| | District Camps | 11521 | 4874 |
| | District Events/Activities | 7567 | 2717 |
| | Scout Summer Camp | 7300 | 5840 |
| | Water Activities | 220 | 6660 |
| | | 26608 | 20091 |
| | | | |
| INVESTMENT INCOME | | | |
| | Scout Association Investment | 9 | 4 |
| | | 9 | 4 |
| | | | |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 60745 | 56809 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

| BUDGET | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|--------------|-------|
| | £ | £ |
| 1180 Trustees Expenses | 630 | 447 |
| 1370 Section Expenses | 558 | 120 |
| OTHER EXPENSES | | |
| 1200 St George's Day | 0 | 1972 |
| 500 Training | 348 | 105 |
| 140 General Insurance & Water Activity Equipment | 1091 | 710 |
| 300 Hire of Rooms | 20 | 40 |
| 1000 General Expenses | 0 | 167 |
| Independent Examination fee | 570 | 450 |
| District Website | 1200 | 0 |
| Grants for World Jamboree | 1515 | 2000 |
| 6540 | 5932 | 6011 |
| CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| District Camps | 12230 | 4816 |
| District Events/Activities | 9792 | 1850 |
| Water Activities | 604 | 7802 |
| Summer Camp | 6400 | 5187 |
| Summer Camp deposit | 0 | 1150 |
| | 29026 | 20805 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 34958 | 26816 |
| 0 Income over Expenses | 25787 | 29993 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
BALANCES AT THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

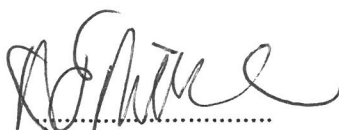
| | | |
|--|---------------|---------|
| BARCLAY GENERAL ACCOUNT | 2024 | 2023 |
| Receipts | 34128 | 36714 |
| Payments | 5932 | 6011 |
| | 28196 | 30703 |
| BARCLAY CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| Receipts | 26608 | 20091 |
| Payments | 29026 | 20805 |
| | -2418 | -714 |
| SCOUT ASSOCIATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT -Interest | 9 | 4 |
| | 25787 | 29993 |
| TOTAL | | |
| CASH AT BANK & OTHER FUNDS B/F | 101284 | *71291 |
| CASH AT BANK & OTHER FUNDS C/F | 127071 | *101284 |
| MONETARY ASSETS | | |
| Barclay Community Account | 100051 | *70874 |
| Barclay Camp Account | 27020 | 29437 |
| Scout Association Investment Account | 0 | 973 |
| (This account was closed by the Scout Association on 12/05/23 and money transferred to our Barclay Community Account) | | |
| | 127071 | *101284 |

Figures marked * are increased by £20 because a cheque was never presented.

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved on behalf of the Trustees on~~27.04~~.....~~June~~ 2024

Signed A Millburn
 Acting District Commissioner

M.J.Golston
District Treasurer




BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------|
| Fixed Assets | 0 | 0 |
| Current Assets - Cash at Bank | 127071 | *101284 |
| Liabilities - Storage Creditor | 1600 | 1600 |
| Accruals | | 570 |
| Deferred Income | 39253 | 12816 |

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 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 since been withdrawn.

I 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.

 15/7/24

L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 305673

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

31 March 2024

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024

Executive Committee and Trustees

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Acting District Commissioner | A Millburn |
| District Chairman | Vacant |
| District Treasurer | M Golston |
| District Secretary | Vacant |
| DDC Scouts | L Foster - Green |
| DDC Scouts | S Williams |
| DESC | R Butler |
| Committee | A Chilestone |
| | P Hunt |
| | A Wade |

| | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Bankers | Barclays |
| | Buttermarket |
| | Bury St Edmunds |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Independent Examiner's | Lovewell Blake LLP |
| | Hillside Business Park |
| | Bury St Edmunds |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Registered Charity Number | 305673 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

| BUDGET | | 2024 | 2023 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| | | £ | £ |
| | Membership subscription | 64693 | 40131 |
| | Less (Paid out) | 37400 | 31980 |
| 5940 | | 27293 | 8151 |
| DONATIONS | | | |
| | Scout shop | 6000 | 0 |
| OTHER INCOME | | | |
| 600 | Capitation refund | 425 | 390 |
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| | District Camps | 11521 | 4874 |
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| | Scout Association Investment | 9 | 4 |
| | | 9 | 4 |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 60745 | 56809 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

| BUDGET | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|--------------|-------|
| | £ | £ |
| 1180 Trustees Expenses | 630 | 447 |
| 1370 Section Expenses | 558 | 120 |
| OTHER EXPENSES | | |
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| 500 Training | 348 | 105 |
| 140 General Insurance & Water Activity Equipment | 1091 | 710 |
| 300 Hire of Rooms | 20 | 40 |
| 1000 General Expenses | 0 | 167 |
| Independent Examination fee | 570 | 450 |
| District Website | 1200 | 0 |
| Grants for World Jamboree | 1515 | 2000 |
| 6540 | 5932 | 6011 |
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| | 29026 | 20805 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 34958 | 26816 |
| 0 Income over Expenses | 25787 | 29993 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
BALANCES AT THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

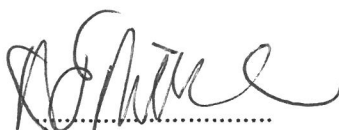
| | | |
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| | 28196 | 30703 |
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| (This account was closed by the Scout Association on 12/05/23 and money transferred to our Barclay Community Account) | | |
| | 127071 | *101284 |

Figures marked * are increased by £20 because a cheque was never presented.

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved on behalf of the Trustees on~~27.04~~.....~~June~~ 2024

Signed A Millburn
 Acting District Commissioner

M.J.Golston
District Treasurer




BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------|
| Fixed Assets | 0 | 0 |
| Current Assets - Cash at Bank | 127071 | *101284 |
| Liabilities - Storage Creditor | 1600 | 1600 |
| Accruals | | 570 |
| Deferred Income | 39253 | 12816 |

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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Independent examiner's statement

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

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I 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.

 15/7/24

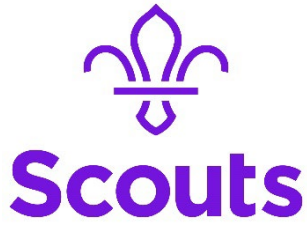
L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales - Charity number 305673

Accounts



***Bury St Edmunds
District Scout Council***

Squirrels

Annual Review 2022/23

BEAVERS

***1st Brandon Scout HQ
15 June 2023***

cubs

7.30 pm

SCOUTS

Charity number 305673

www.burystedmundsscouts.org.uk

EXPLORERS

network



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Agenda

1. Welcome – Chair / DC
2. Opening Reflection – DC
3. Apologies for absence
4. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Review held on 16th June 2022
5. Receive and approve the Annual Reports of the District contained in the 2022/2023 Review Booklet
 - a) District Commissioner's Report
 - b) Section and Activity Reports
 - c) Group Reports
6. District Treasurer – District Accounts for 2022/2023
7. Appointment of Auditor
– Resolution: To authorise the District Executive to appoint the Auditor
8. Elections for the Year 2023/2024
 - a) Approval of the District Commissioner's nomination of District Chairman
– Lee Holman
 - b) Election of District Secretary
– there are no candidates at the time of going to print
 - c) Election of District Treasurer
– Mike Golston
 - d) Noting of the District Commissioner's nominations to the District Executive Committee
– None
 - e) Election of Members to the District Executive Committee
– Alan Chilestone, Amanda Wade.
 - f) Election of District Representative to the Suffolk County Scout Council
– to be announced
9. Presentation of Awards.
10. County Commissioner: Howard Blackett (or his representative)

Vote of thanks and close of business

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Minutes of The District Annual Review

16th June 2022 – Constable Cabin, Bradfield

1. Welcome – Chair / DC

Lee welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Paul introduced Howard our new County Commissioner. Howard introduced himself, he has little scouting experience but is learning from everyone he meets. His first impression of Suffolk is very positive. Young People doing lots of activities and dedicated adults providing the activities. The Adults are important as they provide the scouting for the young people.

2. Opening Reflection

Paul's reflection was that today, what scouting provides has hit home. Paul's son moved out today, and Paul feels scouting has given him the skill sets to make his way in life.

Paul always talks about scouts, and what he does. Many people still have an outdated view of scouting, and we must change this perception by talking about scouting whenever we can. We all love scouting, so tell people how much you enjoy it, and hopefully you will attract the new adults.

He thanked all who contribute, whether scouters or lay members.

3. Apologies for Absence

49 apologies were received prior to the meeting – see separate list.

4. Approval of The Minutes of The Annual Review held on 1st July 2021

The minutes were agreed as accurate and approved. Proposed by Graham Mackie, seconded by Margaret Chilestone.

5. Receive and approve the Annual Reports of the District, contained in the 2020/2021 Review Booklet.

- a) District Commissioner's Report.
- b) Section and Activity Reports.
- c) Group Reports.

The reports in the book were noted by the meeting.

Graham Mackie was pleased to see how active groups were, particularly Brandon. Tony told the meeting how they re-engaged with the community, and made improvements to their HQ during Covid.

6. District Treasurer – District Accounts for 2021/2022

The District Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2022 were presented by Mike Golston, District Treasurer and appear in the Annual Review booklet. They are currently with the auditor. Covid has had an effect on this accounting period, with less happening, However, it is starting to get busy again. Mike asked that money is submitted before the camps. Please advise Mike if you have paid by BACS.

He also reminded GSLs to get their treasurers to submit their accounts into him promptly.

Graham Mackie asked why the Britannia accounts had been closed down. These were reserves that Mike inherited from the previous treasurer. The Britannia asked us to close

them as they were "Too Small". When the Barclays mandates are sorted, he will arrange for the funds to be placed in a suitable account.

Approval of the Accounts was proposed by Barbara Ruthven, seconded by Andy Webber. All were in favour.

7. Appointment of Auditor

Mike proposed we continue to use Lovewell Blake as auditors. This was seconded by Ruth Nunn and approved by the meeting.

8. Elections for the Year 2020/2021

- a) Approval of the District Commissioner's nomination of District Chairman
The DC nominated Lee Holman. This was approved by the meeting.
- b) Election of District Secretary
There were no candidates.
- c) Election of District Treasurer
Mike Golston was proposed by Alan Chilstone, seconded by Gordon Biden and elected unanimously,
- d) Noting of the District Commissioner's nominations to the District Executive Committee
No nominations by the D.C.
- e) Election of Members to the District Executive Committee
Barbara Ruthven, Alan Chilstone, John Pitcher and Amanda Wade agreed to stand for another year. This was proposed by Graham Mackie, seconded by Cat Williams. They were duly elected.
- f) Election of District Representative to the Suffolk County Scout Council
Lucy King, has agreed take on this role if she is available. Proposed by Keri John, seconded by Kevin Drane and duly elected.

9. Presentation of Awards, including The Lesley Biden Award for the year 2021/2022.

The D.C presented various awards to leaders.

The Lesley Biden Award has been awarded to 1st Brandon. The group stands out because not only has it changed County and districts, it has recovered and rebuilt from a low point, even before Covid, and is now flourishing.

10. The County Commissioner – Howard Blackett.

To add to his earlier comments, Howard encouraged GSLs to make sure that adults are keeping up with their mandatory training. He does not like having to suspend people for this reason, but will do so if it becomes necessary. Alan reminded GSL's, that he sends out monthly reminders.

Howard is looking to make some new appointments, in particular a County Youth Commissioner. He would be pleased to talk to anyone who may be interested.

The National Skills for Life plan has been updated since Covid. This is a national strategy, and will work down to County and District Strategies. He aims to keep the County strategy brief and to the point.

The aim is to grow scouting to pre Covid levels. In Suffolk, we are doing well. There is an aim to get 50% of all section members achieving the appropriate Chief Scout awards, along with a big drive for inclusivity and diversity.

HQ want to make the volunteer experience more user friendly, with training easier to access.

Howard concluded by thanking members for all they do for Scouting in Bury St Edmunds.

11. Vote of thanks and close of business

Paul thanked all for attending.

Chris Richardson advised the meeting that Martin Brooks has taken over as booking secretary for Bradfield. He will soon be sending out any outstanding bills.

Chris also highlighted the improvements at the site, including a Cresta Run which is under construction.

Bradfield are also looking for Volunteers to help refurbish the toilets and building at Lunney Lodge.

Chris also reminded the meeting that the scout shop is looking for more volunteers to help serve.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

District Commissioner

Welcome all.

As I reach 17 months in the role of DC I ponder on what has worked well and what has not. As with all things in life, it's a mix of the good and the bad, the enjoyable and the less so. Much work happens behind the scenes of everyday Scouting and the past 17 months has certainly opened my eyes to the efforts that are made, largely unnoticed and unappreciated, to ensure those delivering Scouting at the frontline have the best opportunity to do so. My thanks go out to those people, the committee members, the grass cutters, the cooks on camp, the mum and dad taxi drivers, the wives and husbands with missing partners who are off on another weekend of Scouting. Thank you all for letting us Scout.

As Covid becomes a regular part of life we find ourselves getting back to more normal activities over the past 12 months, and Scouting has been no different. Big camps like Suffolk Punch 2022 showed us the youngsters still had an appetite for proper Scouting. The census figures this year show we have more young people than ever involved in Scouting in our district and still we have waiting lists. The need for Scouting has never been greater with the young people in our society coming out of Covid years with reduced social skills and anxiousness driven by isolation being a real factor in their lives. Scouting can help these youngsters, we can make a real difference in their lives.

While the census shows some groups are indeed thriving, others are struggling just to continue to exist. Volunteers have evaporated over the past two years following Covid and the cost of living issues we all face. The District team is now in place and beginning to support these and all groups. The next 12 months will see a new district web site and online presence to attract people to our teams and support those already there. Gilwell are changing the training we need to do, simplifying it and reducing the burden it places on us all. As part of this change we will all get new role names aimed at making it easier for new volunteers to understand our structure. The main aim of these changes is to make it easier to volunteer in Scouting, easier to get involved and easier to make a difference in the lives of our young people today.

Paul Hunt
District Commissioner

District Beaver Scout Report

Beaver colonies have had a busy year for District events!

In September we held our postponed District Camp at Bradfield, 7 colonies and 65 Beavers had a great time taking part in activities such as archery, climbing wall, air rifle and the cave.

The end of November saw the start of our Christmas celebrations with a Beaveree held at Thurston New Green. 93 Beavers spent the afternoon making Christmas craft, playing xmas bingo and decorating food tins which were then donated to local food banks.

In January, colonies met at Bury Bowl over a 3-day period for our annual Bowling competition, well done to Thurston who won the trophy (again).

March saw the return of the Beaver sleepover at Hallowtree, where 74 Beavers enjoyed an overnight sleepover and took part in lots of activities such as assault course, cooking, grass sledges and tracking. The weather looked a little iffy a few days before but was kind to us on the day.

In May, 5 colonies met for a hike around Brandon Country Park. We walked 3.5 miles to complete a Hikes staged badge.

We are now preparing for our District Beaver camp which we are holding at Hallowtree. 9 colonies will take part and Beavers will enjoy a weekend of fun activities.

In July, we have a water activities day planned at Lackford lakes, This will give the beavers a chance to earn a Time on Water badge and learn about water safety whilst having fun.

We were pleased to see the return of 6th Bury Beavers who I am sure will enjoy taking part in lots of upcoming District events.

We have an exciting programme planned for 2023/2024 with lots of event already booked and confirmed, lets hope the weather is as good to us as it has been this year!

Thank you to all the leaders and volunteers who always amaze me with their energy and commitment to providing great opportunities for the Beaver in BSE.

Wendy Barnes
ADC (Beaver Scouts)

District Cub Scout Report

The Cub section is still increasing in numbers throughout all our groups. it is hard to think that writing this last year we were coming out of a global pandemic and how much scouting has gone back to the way it was before.

Our Cubs packs are providing great programs to all young people and taking on activities within their communities to showcase scouting, especially in this coronation year. Cubs from Mildenhall, Lakenheath, Red Lodge and Brandon took part in a Coronation Games, and Cubs from Ixworth, Thurston and Great Barton took part in a Joint Rounders Match.

We also seen groups run joint evenings together which is helping with our ever-increasing amount of silver awards being presented to the cubs. Last year we also had the Cubs water activity day with lovely sunshine with lots of laughing when they knocked me in to the water. This year we ran the Bowling competition, and this was won by Cubs from Lakenheath. We had the return of the District cub quiz which Great Barton won.

We are running a District camp this year at Two Mile bottom in Thetford where we will be joined by 8 cub packs out of our 11 for a weekend full of activities. And then the return of the Cubs water Activity Day this year.

And we look forward to more activities to comes throughout the year.

Ashley Thorne
ADC (Cub Scouts)

District Scouts Report

The Scouts' year of District events kicked off in April with a new event The monopoly Run, using various locations all over Bury, Scouts had to go from point to point, as in the game of monopoly certain points are worth more than others and so a fair distance was covered to get the best points score.

This was followed in May by the District Air Rifle and Archery camp, where nearly 100 Scouts descended upon Bradfield for a weekend of fierce but friendly competition, interspersed with bases running skills workshops and a variety of fun games.



The next major event was to be our Summer Camp in August to the counties Suffolk Punch camp at the Norfolk Show ground 11th till 15th August, attended by Scouts and Explores and Beavers and Cubs visiting over the weekend and a good time was had by one and all, the Scouts took part in Abseiling, Areal runway, Low ropes, crafts, clay pidgeon shooting, Archery and lots of other activity's enough to keep everyone extremely bust from dawn to dusk then .

In the evening, there was a disco and live music which was very well attended, and the acts were excellent.



Whilst all this was going on the Water Activities Team and CMAT had been training Scouts and in Kayaks, Hillwalking and climbing and over the year had reached a good standard, ready to take part in various adventures.

In October we held a beginner's camp at Bradfield, this was to enable those Scouts who were new to Scout camping to gain experience without the hustle and bussell of some of the bigger camps again this was well attended with about 25 Scout who seemed to have a great time.

The District Dodge Ball Challenge was held in November at Bury Leisure Centre and saw teams from across the district compete. Admittedly, some were more talented than others, but an afternoon of skill and sportsmanship ensued and good fun was had by all.

As the year ends and everyone's thoughts turn to Christmas the Scouts have their annual 10 pin bowling competition , which is always very well attended and great fun.

And into 2023

2023 started with the planning, organising and meetings with Culford School with the plan to start 1st Culford Scout Group in September, plans are well under way, Leaders have been recruited and the School Governors are fully onboard, all they need now is some Young People, and all will be good to go.

Our first event of the year in February was the Scouts and Explorer Quiz. Our very own DC Paul Hunt supplied the questions, whilst Thurston chippy produced a chip supper to round off the evening. Teams arrived from all over the district. We heard some strange answers to some of the questions and some even stranger team names, but everyone had a great time.

In March we had a Patrol camping competition, not one of our best attended events, but I except this to change of the years as Troops gain experience.

Several of these regular events now enjoy attendance approaching 100 Scouts and are growing year by year, which can be taken not only as a sign of the strength of Scouting in our District, but also as a testimony to the work and dedication of the leaders. It should be noted that this interesting and enjoyable programme would not be possible without the help of Scout leaders throughout the District, each of whom take responsibility for organising certain events and put in a great deal of time and effort into both their own projects and into bringing their Scouts to the other events.

Steve Williams
DDC

District Explorer Scouts Report

The District Sections are still going strong thanks to the commitment of the leaders and with just over 50 Explorers numbers have remained stable, and with many scouts are looking to move onto Explorer/Young Leader Sections soon we can look forward to building a stronger Explorer District.

District events have continued with Suffolk Punch, a bowls evening, Monopoly run round Bury and the District Archery camp. Later this year I am hoping that we can get involved with JOTI (jamboree on the internet) and see what happens around the world.

The CMAT Scotland Expedition last summer was a success with over 50 scouts and explorers participating, CMAT continues to provide adventurous activities for the county.

In a few weeks five Explorers and a Leader will be attending the 25th World Scout Jamboree in South Korea, this has involved many preparation meetings and fund raising events, good luck and can't wait to hear stories of the adventure.

The county wide Duke of Edinburgh expedition option has been continued and a number of Silver and Bronze awards have been received and a number of Gold awards are now starting.

The Covid pause to normal Scouting has ended and units are starting to rediscover district events and get out and about more. But encouraging young people to get back into exploring all Scouting can offer will need the involvement and support of everyone.

Bob Butler
District Explorer Scout Commissioner

District Scout Active Support Unit

Barbara Ruthven has stepped down as Unit Manager, so no report is available. We thank Barbara for her work whilst she was manager.

She has been given an open invitation to visit any scouting event.

District Water Activities

WOW!!! What an exciting, productive and busy year we have had. First and most importantly I need to say thank you to Jon Mann and his family who left the district a sum of money in his will, of which Water Activities was very generously given £5000 to spend (it has now all been spent).

We have brought eight new Kayaks and airbags, new air bags for our other kayaks, replaced all of our old and worn Buoyancy aids, completely gutted and re-configured our storage container at Mildenhall to fit all the new kit and we now have an emergency kit made up for those hopefully long expeditions we have in the planning (hopefully it will never be used)

For us leaders it has been a busy year as well as quite a few of us needed permit renewal which was accomplished in the summer, and we had an Explorer, who at the age of 14 gained 3 permits last year, Bell Boating, Kayaking and Rafting, well done!!! We also had a Foundation, Safety and Rescue Course completed as well as some leaders working towards British Canoeing Coach Courses in Stand Up Paddle Boarding, Canoe and Kayak, and in May we had a British Canoeing Paddlesport Instructor Course running with an Explorers from our district completing.

As for our normal activities our Kayak course was again nearly full and a great deal of fun was had on the water over the summer by everyone, we even managed to get everyone down the big slide at Mildenhall which we were very surprised about, we must have had a lot of dare devils with us last year. The SUP taster sessions we ran were a great hit and were sold out very quick, we even had a waiting list, we have the same this year so are thinking we need to have this as a bigger event in the coming years, more to follow!!

At Lackford we had our usual Beaver and Cub Day which all went well and I think we had over a hundred beavers on the water and about 90 cubs, a great success, the weather was also good to us and as you can imagine everyone ended up soaking wet and with smiles on their faces, you couldn't ask for anything better.

The evenings were very busy as well, with the majority of groups and sections getting on the water at one time or the other, however this was awkward for the leaders due to other commitments and the popularity of it made some of us think we were living at Lackford and we did not know if we were coming or going, so this year we have limited the evenings to a Friday as this is the day when most of the leaders are free, and it makes us able to organise ourselves better.

We hope to see you all on the water soon, and can't wait to get you all wet.

The Water Activities Team
Bury District Scouts.

Appointments Secretary Report

Applications for Adult Appointments have been steady throughout the year, gradually increasing as the year progressed. There were a total of 293 applications made. This includes those new to our District, but also changes of role, cancellations and DBS renewals. Applications for new leadership roles have been greater than the number cancelled which is positive. This has been helped in part by the opening of the first Squirrel Dreys in the District. As last year, the number of OHs have dropped, in part as prior to the pandemic, several groups held family camps but have not restarted these events.

| Net Change in membership | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Year | Leaders & Assistants | Occasional Helpers | Others (eg Exec/Admin) | Total |
| 2018/19 | 1 | 55 | -7 | 49 |
| 2019/20 | 9 | 42 | 4 | 55 |
| 2020/21 | -18 | -38 | -5 | -61 |
| 2021/22 | 27 | -27 | -7 | -7 |
| 2022/23 | 12 | -30 | 6 | -12 |

The Appointments Panel meets every month, with extra meetings being added when required. We have continued to meet at The Scout Shop, which provides a less intimidating atmosphere for the candidate than the formal setting previously used. I have been trialing Hybrid meetings for those that have difficulty attending face to face, which have proved successful. The panel considered 10 Appointment Reviews, but there are still more outstanding and this backlog needs clearing.

Can I please remind you that any adult staying overnight, including parents, need to have a DBS clearance, so will need to apply for at least an OH role in good time. Ideally these applications should be with me two months before the event, as it can take that time to process the DBS. Leaving it until the last minute, a week before the camp, risks the disclosure not being issued and you losing the helper needed for camp. The same applies for parents at family camps. Some applications are taking longer to get through at the moment so please allow plenty of time.

I continue to send GSLs and Line managers monthly updates for those due an Appointment review or DBS renewal. This system seems to work well, but please keep an eye on the review dates. I also email GSLs annually (on a rolling basis) with a list of OHs in their group. I would also ask that when you receive this, you act on it and return to me as quickly as possible, so that I can cancel those no longer required. So far, in 2023, I have emailed 7 groups but only 3 have replied.

As always, please may I ask that you ensure all applications are correctly completed. Regular errors to watch out for, are not including middle names where full name is asked for, not recording all the characters of a driving licence number, bills out of date or they were in date when checked but out of date by the time I get them to process, only year of address or name change entered rather than month & year. The majority are on the correct form, but if unsure, check the District website, where you will find not only the forms, but our role descriptions. Please use these as they are in plain English and easier for a new leader to understand. All applications for leader roles, should be accompanied by a signed, Role Description. I would also ask that applications are sent to me as soon as possible. I have recently seen cases where the applicant has signed the form, and had the ID checked, but it takes another month or more to reach me.

To conclude, may I thank all the members of the Appointments Advisory Committee for the support they give to me, the D.C. and Scouting in Bury.

Alan Chilestone
Appointments Secretary

Local Training Report

Leader training is now recovering after the Pandemic. Face to Face training courses at County are now being provided again, along with Zoom sessions. Although the number of courses available are restricted, with more reliance being placed on workbooks. I will circulate course dates as soon as possible by email to those who I believe require them, but details will also be published on the DC Bury St Edmunds Facebook page.

I am indebted to Denise King, who continues to present Module 10A&B (First response) for the district. We have been holding courses not only at weekends but also over two evenings to provide more flexibility. We have now reached a point that there is a lull in leaders requiring renewal, as courses stopped for about 18 months during Covid. However, there will be a major logjam of renewals come November 2024, so I may be asking leaders to consider renewing early in order to spread the load. This is also a good time for new leaders to get their Module 10A/B completed.

The current system of completing Getting Started has now settled in, and I have introduced new procedures to remind those who have not completed this in a timely manner. Getting Started MUST be completed within 5 months of the appointment start date shown on Compass. There is no leeway on this. We do not want to have to restrict the roles of new leaders, but if training is not complete, this is very likely.

We are keeping on top of mandatory Ongoing Learning, Safety and Safeguarding, which now is renewed every 3 years, and is completed online. All Leaders, SAS and Executive Members must keep these up to date. If they expire, the member risks being suspended. This is not an idle threat as one person in the District was suspended, and it can take a while to be reinstated. I have a system of reminding members when these are due, along with monthly updates to GSLs and line managers. We are again almost 100% compliant.

Congratulations to all who have achieved their Wood Badges this year. A total of 9 were awarded during the year. This was down on last year, but on a par with pre pandemic.

A major update to the training scheme is promised soon, but we are still awaiting confirmed details. As soon as I know, I will let GSLs, Line Managers and TAs know.

Can you give some time to help with training? We have a good, dedicated team of Training Advisers who are prepared to put themselves out to help new leaders achieve their Wood Badges. However, we desperately need to add to their number so as to spread the workload. So, if you hold a Wood Badge and feel you could offer your help, please contact me.

I would like to thank all who give up their time to support the training of adults in the District. Especially the trainers who have organised modules, my team of Training Advisers, without whom none of the validations could take place, wood badge holders who provide witness statements and last, but not least, Margaret, whose constant support enables me to continue enjoying scouting.

However, I feel the time has come for me to step back from the training role. I have been looking after The District in this respect for well over 10 years, so I think it is now a good time to pass the mantle on. This will allow me to concentrate on my other role as District Appointments Secretary. I have told Jenny Roe (CTM) who is my line manager for this role, that I hope to see the changes through, but as these keep being pushed back, that might not happen. This is a County Appointment but I am sure they would appreciate a willing volunteer. I will be on hand to guide any new LTM as they take over.

Alan Chilestone
(Local Training Manager)

1st Bury St Edmunds (Mayor's Own) Scout Group

Group. The past year we have had lots of fun both as a group and as sections. As a group we ran the first proper group camp we have had since losing most of the core members of the leadership team. The camp went well but did highlight a few issues, the need for a more communication between leaders also the need for a few more helpers on camps. This summer we are planning another group camp so hopefully we have learnt a lot since the last group camp, and it will be a greater success. We also went to see 'The Jungle Book' as a group after our cub section were invited by another group. All the children and adults had a great time The Theatre Royal were very accommodating, and we even got to meet one of the cast members as they were thrilled to see us sat in the audience.

As a group we held a fun day to celebrate the King's Coronation. The event went fantastically well, with all the families welcome, it was a great way to get to know the young members families.

Upcoming, we are booked to go to High Altitude trampoline for a sleepover where we can sleep on the trampolines. We have run this event before and it went very well. Everyone is looking forward to it.

Beavers. Beavers have had 3 nights away over the past year, 1 of which was a 1st Bury Christmas camp. The Beavers have been able to have a go at archery, axe throwing and air rifles as well as visiting a local vet and the fire station. We are also part of the Bury in Bloom project with crafty foxes for the 3rd time. Membership is full, with a waiting list.

Cubs. Cubs have been going well. We welcomed 2 new leaders this year unfortunately this has raised some leadership issues with the change in dynamic. I hope to have this issue sorted very soon. They held a camp that went well with the hope to do a couple more this year. The cubs did a great job litter picking around a local area, where they received lots of praise. 1st Bury cubs were invited to join 6th Bury for an evening of kite flying, which the cubs made the week before. They also enjoyed a night with the scouts doing pioneering. Numbers are increasing and they are retaining more members.

Scouts. The scout section is running well, however, we are running quite low on numbers, but with Cubs retaining more members this should increase over the next 6 months. We have been out on a few 1 night camps. We have completed a camp where the scouts hiked 11.5km to Bradfield before camping for the night. It went very well with all but 1 of the scouts completing the hike with no issues.

The scouts are also looking forward to the upcoming district event at 'The Playground'.

Executive committee. We have had lots of change in the committee over the last year or so, most recently with a change of treasurer. It has been a bit of a challenge for everyone to get to grips with their roles, but I think we are now all moving in the right direction.

Andrew Lambell
Group Scout Leader

6th Bury St Edmunds Scout Group

Since the last AGM the 6th Bury St Edmunds Scout Group has met the challenges of delivering a full program to all sections, which the leaders and the group executive have worked hard to support. I would like to extend my thanks to all the 6th Bury St Edmunds leaders and executive members who's hard work make it possible for the Group to run Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

In the last term we have been able to restart our Beaver section. Our strong recruitment campaign has resulted in us recruiting both Adult and young leaders for the section. The section is now growing rapidly and will soon be at capacity.

Our Cub Pack is currently full, and we now have small waiting list, this is a strong testament to the leaders who are delivering a varied and popular program. We have had some leader changes, but the section has remained stable.

The Scout section is growing rapidly and will continue to grow with the number of Cubs due to come up to the section. This will keep the troop running at or near capacity and for the first time we are having to consider a waiting list.

With all the strong growth in sections our biggest challenge is numbers of young people with all section heading to capacity we may have to start looking at running second sections to spread the numbers. To do this we would face the challenge of recruiting enough leaders to run all these new nights. Couple this with looking at starting a Squirrels section and we could be in for a very busy year.

We have continued to work on Hardwick to slowly improve the site. With the regular maintenance program in place we now use the site throughout the year. The site is available for use by other group please contact me for details.

Giles Lillistone
Assistant Group Scout Leader

1st Brandon Scout Group

At the Scout District AGM, 1st Brandon Scout Group were presented with the District (Bury St Edmunds) trophy 2022. This is for a Scout group that had shown great Scouting spirit, growth in both adults and young people for the past year.

This past year scouting 1st Brandon has continued to grow.

The HQ has continued to be upgraded with work to make the HQ Disable friendly. So new doors have been installed and ramps will follow.

We are currently still working on replacing our aging camping equipment and have replaced tents, cookware, tables, chairs, marquee and lots more.

Beavers are now up to consistently 20 with more on the books, Cubs have a base of 24 and the Scouts are now 16, having lost a number to the youth club and external forces.

Both the Beavers and Scouts have had camps within the Group's headquarters and the Beavers have managed a second away from the HQ.

Cubs have one in the planning stage which we hope to fit in before the summer break and intend to attend the district Camp. The scouts have had a camp at Bradfield and one at the HQ an expedition Greenfield camp is in the pipeline.

So far this year the group has awarded Bronze Chief Scouts awards and hope to be awarding Silver and Gold in the not too distant future (At the AGM).

Young people are continuing to move up and are staying which is excellent. This surpasses all our expectations!!

We now have a core of adult leaders and section assistants who help at a single section or more.

Some of these have expressed an interest in becoming Full Leaders in the future and we will support them if they choose too. This past year we have said goodbye to some of the leaders and have managed to replace them and even add to our pool.

Thank you! Too all Parents for supporting us and allowing the group to develop to its full potential.

A big thank you to all the Leaders, Young People, Adults and of cause Exec members who have played a part in making 1st Brandon a success.

We have a long way to go still but the future will be Scouting at its best for 1st Brandon Scout Group.

Yours in Scouting
Wontolla (Tony Millburn)
Group Scout Leader

Great Barton Scout Group

We are now still only running 1 section for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and until we have more leaders we will not return to 2 sections for each.

Many Thanks to Ruth and Clare from Ixworth who have run Beavers all year while Debbie is recovering and hopefully now returning to lead Beavers.

We are planning an AGM BBQ one evening at the beginning of Scouts on 15th June and hopefully will recruit a few to the executive/trustee committee as we need a new Treasurer and Secretary along with several other trustees.

The plans for a new hut are almost ready to submit to planning. The existing hut is looking rather neglected and we have arranged a work party on Saturday 10th June.

Discovery Explorers are regularly meeting at the hut every other Friday and hopefully we will be able to work together.

John Pitcher
Group Scout Leader

1st Honington (RAF) Scout Group

Last AGM saw a fantastic response to our appeal to rebuild our Executive Committee, having lost all members of the executive committee, having thinned out over lockdown. A full complement, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary were appointed along with 5 executive members. These are now heavily involved with improving group conditions and preparing a Funday for our AGM on June 24th.

All three sections continue to provide excellent scouting to both our local RAF community as well as surrounding villages. Using our funds, we have planned, and are planning additional events to our usual programme. This includes a trip to the Imperial War Museum in London for our scouts, with them travelling across London in patrols. To include a meal out and, obviously, the trip home again! Our Cubs are planning a possible trip to Duxford and Beavers are working on a plan.

Beavers have been attending District camps and had fun at the Coronation event. Cubs have been camping and hiking and had two entries into the bowling final. Scouts have also been camping and hiking whilst learning to navigate and also did the District night hike.

Our young leaders have been busy supporting all sections with one even running sessions on Air Activities for other groups (for a small donation of course!).

We continue to keep our ties to RAF Honington and once again have a good relationship with the new Station Commander. Whilst many of our contacts within the RAF moved on recently (as is frequently the case!), we are making new links and their support is greatly appreciated and we have been invited again to the annual Formal Reception which brings the local community together. A little awkward the first time we did this, eight years ago, but now we use it as a great way of networking new help within the RAF. It is also a great chance to get dressed up!

We are certainly looking forward to continued adventures and are Planning our next big adventure. Watch this space!

Martin Brooks
Group Scout Leader

1st Horringer Scout Group

Horringer are pretty much at full capacity in the Cubs and Scouts. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to find any additional leader support which means we still don't have a Beaver section up and running but we keep trying! We are about to embark on a big promotional effort to get some leaders on board in all sections as well as parents on board to get our ailing Exec running properly again too.

We took our Cubs and Scouts to Hautbois Activity Centre in Norwich for the second year in a row in the Autumn of last year. We go for 2 nights so the travel time to here makes it close enough to home that a weekend is doable. The Cubs and Scouts love the activities on offer - paddle boarding, sit-on kayaks, climbing and abseiling were the chosen ones this time – and of course we have the added bonus of our very own Akela Chil for the Saturday night campfire!



Despite being relatively new, our HQ has taken a hit courtesy of both lockdown and our general rural location. We've had Hornets and Rats to deal with including the fallout from their escapades – think nibbled pipes, rotten floors from the leaks and consequently no toilets or running water!! Add in failed heating and hot water tank and there you have it!! Honestly you couldn't make it up however we are nearly there with one toilet now fully functional. A new boiler for some hot water is next and hopefully some new heating before the next Winter!!

The Cubs plus about half of the Scouts attended Legoland in November '22, it's always a great day out and ours love it. We went on bonfire night so we could see the Legoland fireworks.

In November, the Group were all invited to attend a preview evening of the Ickworth Park Light Nights Trail within the estate. One of the many perks of being a NT tenant! I'm not sure having all Cubs and Scouts there at the same time was quite as relaxing as they hoped but at least we prepared them for the hoards due over the coming weeks!!

The Group was also invited to attend the Christmas Carol Service held in the church on the Ickworth Park Estate. The Cubs played a very active role in the service with readings, prayers and sketches. It's a beautiful setting.



SCOUTS

Scout numbers are good albeit young. We have one leader, one assistant leader, a sectional assistant and one young leader. Our Scout section are an outside Troop and having Ickworth Park on our doorstep definitely benefits us with regards to outside based activities. We have attended District Winter Camp and Patrol Camp already this year and, as I write this, are preparing for Archery and Air Rifle Camp this coming weekend. We also have a water activities evening planned at Lackford Lakes later this term.

CUBS

Cub numbers are also good despite the lack of a feed from Beavers. We have one leader, one assistant leader plus two other regular adults along with 3 Young Leaders and a temporary DofE helper too. The Cubs had to move out of the HQ to Hargrave Village Hall for half a term whilst we were without toilets so we were a little bit up in the air before Easter but we're all back to normal now! The Cubs also have an evening of water activities at Lackford coming up later this term.

Cat Williams
Group Scout Leader



1st Ixworth Scout Group

The year started with the group attending St George's Parade, the first one since Covid Lockdown. It was well attended & was lovely to see the public out watching the Parade.

Throughout the year, the 3 sections have had a busy time doing varied activities, ranging from crafts to learning about using axes & saws safely.

Over the past year, overall, all 3 sections have gained 36 challenge badges, 30 activity badges & 112 staged badges, with 2 Chief Scout Gold awards being gained. With several of the members very close in achieving bronze & silver awards. Well done to everyone who worked hard to achieve these badges.

The beavers had a camp at Bradfield Park campsite with Red Lodge & Honington in June. Apart from the terrific thunderstorm, as the beavers were settling down to sleep, everyone thoroughly enjoyed their first camp.

Our Sixer & Seconders, joined 1st & 3rd Stowmarket sixer & seconders to a camp in their Scout hut. They worked well together & the theme was Leadership. We are planning to repeat this again later in the year.

All sections have attended District events over the past year, ranging from Sleepovers, Bowling, Camps, water activities & a Beaverree.

In August, our scouts attended the County camp, Suffolk Punch, with the beavers & cubs joining in the activities for a day. It gave a chance for the young members to see how big Scouting is.

We have also joined in with our community in Ixworth. During half term, the cubs cleaned the War Memorial ready for Remembrance Sunday & the beavers cleaned inside the Church. We joined the villagers in the Parade to our Village Church, where we took up half of the Parade. The beavers & cubs made scarecrows for the Village trail. Raksha had a campsite on her front lawn!!!!

In December, we held our first Group Christingle Service in the Church. Parents & families were invited. Karen, our Vicar, dressed up as a Christingle & had everyone on tender hooks, as she kept getting close to the candles.

Our numbers have been up & down over the year. Scouts sent several up to Explorers, but these were replaced by cubs immediately. We have had a long waiting list for beavers but now that has gone down rapidly. I am sure the list will again grow!!!

I would like to congratulate Clare (Chil) & Craig for gaining their Wood Badge, which are to be presented to them. It was a lot of hard work & commitment, especially working towards the badge during Covid.

I would like to thank the Group Exec members for their support to the group, the leaders who do so much to give an exciting & active programme, our young leaders for helping at each week's meetings & parents for their support. Finally, a huge thank you to the beavers, cubs & scouts for their enthusiasm & enjoyment at our meetings.

We look forward to another exciting year ahead.

Ruth Nunn
Group Scout Leader

1st Lakenheath Scout Group

GSL

I am proud to have some fantastic leaders at Lakenheath, we work as a 'well oiled cog' all happy to help each other in different sections when needed. This provides a consistent, well-rounded programme for all Scouts and makes the 'moving up' process so much smoother for the young people as they already know their new leaders.

The same is true for the scouts, who work amazingly well together when mixing sections. This is evident when we hold group activities such as the Activity Camp in October at Bradfield Campsite where the older Scouts were confident in assisting the younger Squirrel and Beaver sections and offering them moral support to try new activities.

We have at least 2 eager Young Leaders per section now, who also all do their best to assist in weekly meetings and offer support to the younger scouts.

In May, we celebrated the Coronation at a joint event with red Lodge, Mildenhall and Brandon for all sections, this was a wonderful day and an opportunity to meet other scouts.

Squirrel Scouts

In February, we celebrated our first birthday with a party. Our first year has been a great success with numbers increased to 17.

Squirrels have had so much fun meeting new friends, earning badges and learning new skills. This year we have started to learn the technique of Angel throws, visited the RSPB, learned some first aid and all about Diwalil.

In June, we are taking part in the 'Big Day Out' at Suffolk Owl Sanctuary

We have awarded our first Chief Acorn Badges to the Squirrels moving up to Beavers.

Beaver Scouts

This year Beavers have made Christmas cakes, took part in remembrance parade, completed hikes, nights away and first aid staged badges.

We have enjoyed lots of District events and was proud that one of our Beavers won the highest score award at Bowling.

We learned about Baden Powell and Fair Trade and are looking forward to District Camp.

12 Chief Scout awards have been handed out this year.

Cub Scouts

We were pleased to welcome a new ASCL who has been a great asset to our team, aswell as 2 YL. Due to this we have been able to increase our members.

This year cubs have taken part in the Remembrance parade, Kings Coronation event and district events.

They have learned new skills such as pioneering, canoeing and air rifle and have been on overnight camps. They are looking forward to a visit to the local fire station and the RSPB.

Scouts

One of our old scouts came back as a section assistant this year and our scout numbers are increasing. We were pleased to have won the District Air Rifle & Archery competition, all our practise paid off.

Scouts have had a great time making box ovens, bug boxes and penny can stoves. We attended Suffolk Punch and District camps.

Now summer is here, we are looking forward to spending time on water in canoes and on SUP.

Wendy Barnes
Group Scout Leader

Mildenhall Scout Group

The Beaver colony has grown over the last year as we have had parents join as leaders enabling us to provide more spaces for Beavers. Our colony also now has a young leader who is a great asset. Since May last year the Beavers have enjoyed various activities on a Monday night including science experiments, building fires, roasting giant marshmallows, archery, making royal tiffin, catapults and taskmaster. PC Rich has paid us a visit and we all had our fingerprints taken. The Beavers made comic book costumes including masks and capes which they wore to a themed evening.

Beavers also attended Group Camp at Mildenhall and District Beaver Camp at Bradfield near Bury, which was very exciting for our first-time campers. We had a fabulous time at Lackford Lakes in July experiencing time on the water. The Beavers very much enjoyed the Pantomime they attended in Mildenhall in February.

The Cub pack has grown since the previous AGM now having 23 young people with 5 more due to move up from the Beaver section, and two new assistant leaders. We currently have one young leader who is an invaluable asset. One of our young leaders has now turned 18 (Baloo) and has just become a section assistant.

Since the last AGM 264 badges have been awarded, including 8 Chief Scout silver awards. Cubs and the leaders have had campfires, done backwards cooking, scavenger hunts, archery, air rifle shooting, tomahawk throwing, first aid, shelter building, rafting, the International badge which included newspaper modelling and food tasting, we made community Christmas cards for members of the community that help others receiving special thanks from the police and Mabbs Hall.

Outside of pack meetings, Cubs have completed a sleepover in the HQ with various activities being completed, water activities at Lackford Lake, trying out bell boats and stand-up paddle boarding on a mega SUP (paddling round the lake avoiding the crocodile!) The Cubs, working in their sixes, have been making plans for the activities they want to do in the year ahead.

The Scout Troop has 24 members, and the leadership team has just welcomed a new assistant leader. Throughout the year many of our older scouts have moved on, continuing with Explorers and returning to help as YLs in the younger sections. We now have a relatively young troop, which continues to grow and has a good mix of males and females. We are lucky with the facilities we have at our disposal, so can enjoy time out on the water in the warmer months. We offer archery, air rifles, axe throwing and catapults, and of course the firm favourites, cooking and campfires.

Working together in their patrols they have competed against one another in activities such as navigation, pioneering, wide games and den building. Mildenhall Scouts are always well represented at district events with high numbers attending the various camps and activities which is great and again shows the enthusiasm that our troop has for scouting.

Leigh Foster-Green
Group Scout Leader

1st Red Lodge Scout Group

The Group continues to be very active taking part in group activities, district activities as well as events in the community.

Our current numbers in all sections are high, a testament again to the leadership teams and the planning of fun programmes each week. We have considerable waiting lists for the 2 younger sections and a few for Cubs and Scouts too. Young members are successfully transferring onto the next sections at the appropriate age. Following the Group's AGM last year when we spoke about the desire to develop a Squirrel Scout section for 4 – 6 year olds. 2 parents volunteered to be leaders for the new section and in October last year the Drey officially opened with 8 Squirrels. This increased to 10 by November. Having recruited a 3rd adult, we increased numbers to 15 in January and with the possibility of a 4th volunteer we can maybe go to a maximum of 20 in the near future. We look forward to some of the older Squirrels moving on to Beavers when they are 6 this autumn.

It's good to see sections working together from time to time. In December, Beavers and Cubs held a joint Christmas sleepover, a great success. There have been several events when the group has been altogether for activities, Litter picking in the village, the village Remembrance Service and Parade, the Group camp fire and more recently the Coronation fun games with 3 other local groups. It is very rewarding to see the sections working together and even more so seeing the Squirrels joining in with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts for some events.

Unfortunately, due to the extra bank holiday in May and other events already planned, we were unable to hold our annual family camp this year, but we vow to make next year's bigger and even better.

Our most pressing problem throughout the group in the last 12 months has been to recruit new adult volunteers particularly for Beavers and Scouts. With just 3 adults in the Beaver section until recently, we have had to rely on the parent rota to be able to have the correct ratio of adults for activities. Not only have we been asking parents to become regular volunteers, but have also advertised within the community, unfortunately with minimum success. Our activities at the recent Coronation Fun day in the village were targeted at attracting adult volunteering and we are hoping we have had some degree of success and will hopefully be appointing at least 2 more adults. BUT this will only just fill a few gaps.

Unfortunately we are no further forward with our quest to secure a piece of land within the village for Scouting, where we can safely meet and do traditional outdoor activities, such as fire lighting, cooking on fires, saw and axe skills etc. Currently we can only do this if we travel to a Scout site elsewhere. The local landowner has shown us a piece of land on the edge of the boundary of the village development plan, he thinks may be suitable for our use. But things move very slowly with regards to planning permission within the proposed village development plan. The Group Trustee Board continue to lobby for success.

My thanks to everyone involved in the Group, Leaders whatever their role, Young Leaders, Group Trustees and Parents for all their support and help throughout the year. And most importantly of all, our Squirrels, Cubs and Scouts whose enjoyment and development make everything so worthwhile.

Margaret Chilstone
Group Scout Leader

1st Thurston Scout Group

We currently have 80 members and are very close to pre-Covid levels - a few spaces currently remain in Scouts. We currently have no-one on our Want-to-Join/Missing Out List for Beavers, Cubs or Scouts, however as families with children already in Scouting move into the village they will take priority over those brand-new to Scouting. We are unable to manage a Squirrels Drey at present. We also currently have 5 Young Leaders (14-18 year olds) working across the Group. It is lovely to know that our young people don't want to leave us when they reach 14.

During the year May 2022 – April 2023 we awarded nearly 1,000 badges across the Group.

Group events:

In Summer Term 2022 we attended the first Woolpit Steam Rally since Covid. We managed to remember how to pitch our tents and had 29 youth members camping for and 8 Beavers helping on the gate on the Sunday. It was a busy weekend and we were rewarded with a donation of £1,000 from the Woolpit Steam Committee.

We held our End of Term Family BBQ on the hottest day of the year. The sweltering temperatures meant that we stayed out of the sun within the New Green Centre.

Family Archery & Air Rifles sessions were held during the summer holidays. Without Steve Taylor, Ian Taylor, John Johnson & Keith Hutchens giving their time this would not have been possible.

'Suffolk Punch' happened in August. Two parents took out Occasional Helper roles and were then able to come along to help at the Fun Day for Cubs. We were able to try out new activities – the Tomahawk throwing went down a storm! The Scouts and Explorers camped there for 5 days, as part of BSE District. They tried Scuba diving and Clay Pigeon Shooting for the first time.

Autumn Term started with our Church-to-Church Sponsored Walk which had been organised for the weekend after HM The Queen sadly passed away. We decided to still go ahead with this event and walked from St Peter's Church in Thurston to Holy Innocents Church in Great Barton wearing black ribbons to show our respect. We raised £781 which was split 50/50 between our funds and the Brain Tumour Charity (a Charity close to our hearts for whom we had been raising funds throughout the year). We shall be doing the return journey this year!

We held a Family Beetle Night Fundraiser in October half term.

Remembrance Sunday arrived. I was unfortunately admitted to Hospital on the Friday and therefore unable to run this event. Many thanks to John Johnson & Keith Hutchens for stepping in and managing this event in my absence. I was able to watch the Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph on the TV for the very first time. I stood beside my Hospital bed for the two minutes silence just as the Consultant arrived – she had to wait!

Our Family Christingle Service was well attended and we were able to donate a cheque for £754.01 to The Brain Tumour Charity. We also donated some toiletries and pre-loved children's games to those in temporary accommodation and in need, displayed a 'Pantomime' themed Christmas Tree in St Peter's Church and helped to 'flood' Thurston and the surrounding villages with Angels.

Spring Term ended at Planet Laser with our End of Term Group Event. All our members had the opportunity of having 2 sessions running around the maze with laser guns, followed by the moving up ceremonies. 74 Members (& some Leaders) entered the maze for a bit of end of term fun during the course of the evening.

On St George's Day, Thurston met as a Group at New Green Centre and renewed our promises there, where we also gave parents some information regarding our planned Summer Camp. We also recently helped the Church during the Coronation Weekend by providing and running a teddy bear zip line from the tower, raising funds for their Children's Corner and the Youth Prayer Space.

Summer term has now started – At the time of writing this report I am finalising and looking forward to Woolpit Steam Rally (our main Group fundraiser) in June, an End of Term Group BBQ in July, Family Archery and Air Rifles sessions during the summer holidays and our 2-night Family Camp at the beginning of September. We will also be 'hosting' 2 children coming from Texas to stay with their grandparents for 3 months.

Finances:

On setting the Membership Fees for 2023, the Executive Committee decided not to increase them. In fact, we took the unprecedented decision to reduce the annual fees by £15 due to the current economic climate.

We received nearly £1,000 in grant monies in order to purchase several new tents (some of which have replaced some damaged tents) and we have now increased the number of tents that we have within the Group. We also received £10,000 of a Legacy to help towards a Scout Hut of our own – we currently have 2 potential plots of land in our sights.

Thank you to our Treasurer Lorna Freeman for looking after our finances for us and reminding me when I have forgotten to pass my receipts over!

Leadership

In September we gained Kate Parnum, who took on the role of Beaver Leader. This enabled Phil Hellier to stand down as acting Section Leader – however Phil continued in the background and provided handover and advice. Kate has grabbed the role with both hands and is doing a marvellous job with the Beaver Programme utilising the guidance/advice from other Thurston Leaders as well as the other Beaver Leaders within the BSE District.

We also gained two fully trained Assistant Scout Leaders: Charlie Rutter, who had taken a break from his previous Scout Group after moving away and decided to restart his Scouting journey with us, and Michelle Fountain who has moved into the village and will be transferring from Red Lodge Group.

A massive **THANK YOU** to all of Thurston's Leaders and Executive Committee (current & past) for all of their support throughout the year. I couldn't have done it without them.

Melanie Johnson
Group Scout Leader

No report was received from the following Group:

1st Sendat

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023

Executive Committee and Trustees

**District Commissioner
District Chairman
District Treasurer
Committee**

**P Hunt
L Holman
M Golston
A Chilestone
R Butler
J Pitcher
B Ruthven
A Wade**

Bankers

**Barclays
Buttermarket
Bury St Edmunds**

Independent Examiner's

**Lovewell Blake LLP
Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds**

Registered Charity Number

305673

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

| BUDGET | | 2023 | 2022 |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| | | £ | £ |
| Membership subscription | | 40131 | 29070 |
| Less (Paid out) | | 31980 | 20857 |
| 5940 | | 8151 | 8213 |
| | | | |
| DONATIONS | | | |
| Scout shop | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | |
| OTHER INCOME | | | |
| 600 | Capitation refund | 390 | 257 |
| | CAF Dodation | 250 | 0 |
| | Legacy from estate of John Mann | | 0 |
| | Less paid to groups | | |
| | | 27923 | |
| 6540 | | 36714 | 8470 |
| | | | |
| CAMP/ACTIVITY ACCOUNT | | | |
| | District Camps | 4874 | 0 |
| | District Events/Activities | 2717 | 0 |
| | Suffolk Punch '22 | 5840 | 0 |
| | Water Activities | 6660 | 1585 |
| | | 20091 | 1585 |
| | | | |
| INVESTMENT INCOME | | | |
| | Building Society (Accounts Closed) | 0 | 7 |
| | Scout Association Investment | 4 | 7 |
| | | 4 | 14 |
| | | | |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 56805 | 10069 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

| BUDGET | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|------------------|----------|
| | £ | £ |
| 1180 Trustees Expenses | 447 | 481 |
| 1370 Section Expenses | 120 | 382 |
| OTHER EXPENSES | | |
| 1200 St George's Day | 1972 | 0 |
| 500 Training | 105 | 90 |
| 140 General Insurance & Water Activity Equipment | 710 | 293 |
| 300 Hire of Rooms | 40 | 60 |
| Capitation Rebates | 0 | 610 |
| 1000 General Expenses | 167 | 87 |
| Independent Examination fee | 450 | 390 |
| Donations - Bradfield Park Campsite | 0 | 1000 |
| DC's retirement gift | 0 | 214 |
| Grants for World Jamboree | 2000 | 0 |
| 6540 | 6011 | 3607 |
| CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| District Camps | 4816 | 50 |
| District Events/Activities | 1850 | 10 |
| Water Activities | 7802 | 300 |
| Suffolk Punch '22 | 5187 | 0 |
| Summer Camp '23 Deposit | 1150 | 0 |
| | 20805 | 360 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 26816 | 3967 |
| 0 Income over Expenses | 29989 | 6102 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
BALANCES AT THE YEAR ENDED 31st March 2023

| | | |
|---|---------------|-------|
| BARCLAY GENERAL ACCOUNT | 2023 | 2022 |
| Receipts | 36714 | 8470 |
| Payments | 6011 | 3607 |
| | 30703 | 4863 |
| BARCLAY CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| Receipts | 20091 | 1585 |
| Payments | 20805 | 360 |
| | -714 | 1225 |
| BRITANNIA GENERAL ACCOUNT - Account Closed - Interest | 0 | 3 |
| BRITANNIA EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT - Account Closed - Interest | 0 | 4 |
| SCOUT ASSOCIATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT -Interest | 4 | 7 |
| | 29993 | 1185 |
| TOTAL | | |
| CASH AT BANK & OTHER FUNDS B/F | 71271 | 65169 |
| CASH AT BANK & OTHER FUNDS C/F | 101264 | 71271 |
| MONETARY ASSETS | | |
| Barclay Community Account | 70854 | 40150 |
| Barclay Camp Account | 29432 | 30152 |
| Scout Association Investment Account | 973 | 969 |
| | 101264 | 71271 |

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved on behalf of the Trustees on2023

Signed P.Hunt
District Commissioner

M.J.Golston
District Treasurer

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BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------|
| Fixed Assets | | 0 |
| Current Assets - Cash at Bank | 101264 | 71271 |
| Liabilities - Storage Creditor | 1600 | 1600 |
| Accruals | | 432 |
| Deferred Income | 12816 | 6750 |

Note: The Accounts are currently with the Auditors for checking

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

31 March 2023

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023

Executive Committee and Trustees

**District Commissioner
District Chairman
District Treasurer
Committee**

**P Hunt
L Holman
M Golston
A Chilestone
R Butler
J Pitcher
B Ruthven
A Wade**

Bankers

**Barclays
Buttermarket
Bury St Edmunds**

Independent Examiner's

**Lovewell Blake LLP
Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds**

Registered Charity Number

305673

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

| BUDGET | | 2023 | 2022 |
|--------|------------------------------------|--------------|--------|
| | | £ | £ |
| | Membership subscription | 40131 | 29070 |
| | Less (Paid out) | 31980 | 20857 |
| 5940 | | 8151 | 8213 |
| | | | |
| | DONATIONS | | |
| | Scout shop | 0 | 0 |
| | | | |
| | OTHER INCOME | | |
| 600 | Capitation refund | 390 | 257 |
| | CAF Donation | 250 | 0 |
| | Legacy from estate of John Mann | | 102923 |
| | Less paid to groups | | 75000 |
| 6540 | | 27923 | 0 |
| | | 36714 | 8470 |
| | | | |
| | CAMP/ACTIVITY ACCOUNT | | |
| | District Camps | 4874 | 0 |
| | District Events/Activities | 2717 | 0 |
| | Suffolk Punch '22 | 5840 | 0 |
| | Water Activities | 6660 | 1585 |
| | | 20091 | 1585 |
| | | | |
| | INVESTMENT INCOME | | |
| | Building Society (Accounts Closed) | 0 | 7 |
| | Scout Association Investment | 4 | 7 |
| | | 4 | 14 |
| | | | |
| | TOTAL INCOME | 56809 | 10069 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

| BUDGET | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|------------------|----------|
| | £ | £ |
| 1180 Trustees Expenses | 447 | 481 |
| 1370 Section Expenses | 120 | 382 |
| OTHER EXPENSES | | |
| 1200 St George's Day | 1972 | 0 |
| 500 Training | 105 | 90 |
| 140 General Insurance & Water Activity Equipment | 710 | 293 |
| 300 Hire of Rooms | 40 | 60 |
| Capitation Rebates | 0 | 610 |
| 1000 General Expenses | 167 | 87 |
| Independent Examination fee | 450 | 390 |
| Donations - Bradfield Park Campsite | 0 | 1000 |
| DC's retirement gift | 0 | 214 |
| Grants for World Jamboree | 2000 | 0 |
| 6540 | 6011 | 3607 |
| CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| District Camps | 4816 | 50 |
| District Events/Activities | 1850 | 10 |
| Water Activities | 7802 | 300 |
| Suffolk Punch '22 | 5187 | 0 |
| Summer Camp '23 Deposit | 1150 | 0 |
| | 20805 | 360 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 26816 | 3967 |
| 0 Income over Expenses | 29993 | 6102 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
BALANCES AT THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

| | | |
|---|---------------|-------|
| BARCLAY GENERAL ACCOUNT | 2023 | 2022 |
| Receipts | 36714 | 8470 |
| Payments | 6011 | 3607 |
| | 30703 | 4863 |
| BARCLAY CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| Receipts | 20091 | 1585 |
| Payments | 20805 | 360 |
| | -714 | 1225 |
| BRITANNIA GENERAL ACCOUNT - Account Closed - Interest | 0 | 3 |
| BRITANNIA EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT - Account Closed - Interest | 0 | 4 |
| SCOUT ASSOCIATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT -Interest | 4 | 7 |
| | 29993 | 1185 |
| TOTAL | | |
| CASH AT BANK & OTHER FUNDS B/F | 71271 | 65169 |
| CASH AT BANK & OTHER FUNDS C/F | 101264 | 71271 |
| MONETARY ASSETS | | |
| Barclay Community Account | 70854 | 40150 |
| Barclay Camp Account | 29437 | 30152 |
| Scout Association Investment Account | 973 | 969 |
| | 101264 | 71271 |

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved on behalf of the Trustees on 15th June 2023

Signed P.Hunt
District Commissioner

M.J.Golston
District Treasurer




BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Fixed Assets | 0 | 0 |
| Current Assets - Cash at Bank | 101264 | 71271 |
| Liabilities - Storage Creditor | 1600 | 1600 |
| Accruals | 570 | 432 |
| Deferred Income | 12816 | 6750 |

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Year ended 31 March 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 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 since been withdrawn.

I 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.

 20/9/23

L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

31 March 2023

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023

Executive Committee and Trustees

**District Commissioner
District Chairman
District Treasurer
Committee**

**P Hunt
L Holman
M Golston
A Chilestone
R Butler
J Pitcher
B Ruthven
A Wade**

Bankers

**Barclays
Buttermarket
Bury St Edmunds**

Independent Examiner's

**Lovewell Blake LLP
Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds**

Registered Charity Number

305673

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

| BUDGET | | 2023 | 2022 |
|--------|------------------------------------|--------------|--------|
| | | £ | £ |
| | Membership subscription | 40131 | 29070 |
| | Less (Paid out) | 31980 | 20857 |
| 5940 | | 8151 | 8213 |
| | DONATIONS | | |
| | Scout shop | 0 | 0 |
| | OTHER INCOME | | |
| 600 | Capitation refund | 390 | 257 |
| | CAF Donation | 250 | 0 |
| | Legacy from estate of John Mann | | 102923 |
| | Less paid to groups | | 75000 |
| 6540 | | 27923 | 0 |
| | | 36714 | 8470 |
| | CAMP/ACTIVITY ACCOUNT | | |
| | District Camps | 4874 | 0 |
| | District Events/Activities | 2717 | 0 |
| | Suffolk Punch '22 | 5840 | 0 |
| | Water Activities | 6660 | 1585 |
| | | 20091 | 1585 |
| | INVESTMENT INCOME | | |
| | Building Society (Accounts Closed) | 0 | 7 |
| | Scout Association Investment | 4 | 7 |
| | | 4 | 14 |
| | TOTAL INCOME | 56809 | 10069 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

| BUDGET | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|------------------|----------|
| | £ | £ |
| 1180 Trustees Expenses | 447 | 481 |
| 1370 Section Expenses | 120 | 382 |
| OTHER EXPENSES | | |
| 1200 St George's Day | 1972 | 0 |
| 500 Training | 105 | 90 |
| 140 General Insurance & Water Activity Equipment | 710 | 293 |
| 300 Hire of Rooms | 40 | 60 |
| Capitation Rebates | 0 | 610 |
| 1000 General Expenses | 167 | 87 |
| Independent Examination fee | 450 | 390 |
| Donations - Bradfield Park Campsite | 0 | 1000 |
| DC's retirement gift | 0 | 214 |
| Grants for World Jamboree | 2000 | 0 |
| 6540 | 6011 | 3607 |
| CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| District Camps | 4816 | 50 |
| District Events/Activities | 1850 | 10 |
| Water Activities | 7802 | 300 |
| Suffolk Punch '22 | 5187 | 0 |
| Summer Camp '23 Deposit | 1150 | 0 |
| | 20805 | 360 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 26816 | 3967 |
| 0 Income over Expenses | 29993 | 6102 |

BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
BALANCES AT THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

| | | |
|---|---------------|-------|
| BARCLAY GENERAL ACCOUNT | 2023 | 2022 |
| Receipts | 36714 | 8470 |
| Payments | 6011 | 3607 |
| | 30703 | 4863 |
| BARCLAY CAMP ACCOUNT | | |
| Receipts | 20091 | 1585 |
| Payments | 20805 | 360 |
| | -714 | 1225 |
| BRITANNIA GENERAL ACCOUNT - Account Closed - Interest | 0 | 3 |
| BRITANNIA EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT - Account Closed - Interest | 0 | 4 |
| SCOUT ASSOCIATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT -Interest | 4 | 7 |
| | 29993 | 1185 |
| TOTAL | | |
| CASH AT BANK & OTHER FUNDS B/F | 71271 | 65169 |
| CASH AT BANK & OTHER FUNDS C/F | 101264 | 71271 |
| MONETARY ASSETS | | |
| Barclay Community Account | 70854 | 40150 |
| Barclay Camp Account | 29437 | 30152 |
| Scout Association Investment Account | 973 | 969 |
| | 101264 | 71271 |

The above accounts and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved on behalf of the Trustees on 15th June 2023

Signed P.Hunt
District Commissioner

M.J.Golston
District Treasurer




BURY ST EDMUNDS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Fixed Assets | 0 | 0 |
| Current Assets - Cash at Bank | 101264 | 71271 |
| Liabilities - Storage Creditor | 1600 | 1600 |
| Accruals | 570 | 432 |
| Deferred Income | 12816 | 6750 |

Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bury St Edmunds District Scout Council

Year ended 31 March 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared the accounts (financial statements) in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 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 since been withdrawn.

I 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.

 20/9/23

L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA