

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520239

Details

Other names 5TH SALE AND ASHTON SCOUT GROUP

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1967-07-10

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

Contact

Address Woodbourne Road Scout Hut
Woodbourne Road
Sale
M33 3TQ

Phone 0161

Activities

Objects: UNIT OF THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION

Activities: Scout Group

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SALE
- Trafford

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£50,045	£53,320	-	-
2023-12-31	£37,422	£54,141	-	-
2022-12-31	£43,653	£40,318	-	-
2021-12-31	£53,607	£33,010	-	-
2020-12-31	£44,795	£36,618	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Christine Dorothy Gleaves		2024-06-15
Colin Lea		2024-06-15
David Patrick Hannigan		2020-10-06
Jennifer Ann Dootson		2020-10-06
Peter Tranter		2024-06-15
Rachel Lyttle		2020-10-06
Rosalind Bryan		2015-01-01

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520239

Accounts

Sale Central Scout Group

Trustees Annual Report and Annual Return

for financial year 01/01/2024 - 31/12/2024



AGM 22nd June 2025
HQ Registration No. S10016779
Registered Charity No. 520239
Web – <https://salecentral.org.uk>



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AGM Agenda

- 1) Introduction and Welcome
- 2) Apologies for absence
- 3) Governance Items
 - a) Approval of the minutes of the previous AGM
 - b) Adopt the model constitution for a Group in POR chapter 5
 - c) Note the Group's Financial year is 1st January to 31st December.
 - d) Approve appointed and community members of the Group Scout Council
 - e) Agree the maximum number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
 - f) Agree the quorum for future meetings of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM)
- 4) Review of the Previous Year
 - g) Group Lead Volunteer's review of the past 12 months
 - h) District Lead Volunteer's remarks
 - i) Receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board, including the annual statement of accounts
- 5) Make Appointments
 - j) [If required] Appoint the Group Chair, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board
 - k) [If required] Appoint the Group Treasurer, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board
 - l) [If required] Appoint members of the Group Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board
 - m) [If required] (Re-)appoint Group President and/or Vice Presidents
 - n) Appoint the Independent Examiner
- 6) District Lead Volunteer – Presentations
- 7) Closing Remarks

Group Chair's Report

In a world of technological change, economic challenges and political uncertainties, Sale Central Scout Group remains reassuringly familiar. The Scout camps, the ever changing weekly activities and the hundreds of badges earned by all the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts act as a great counter to the endless screen time and other issues that young people face on a daily basis. The famous Scout motto "Be Prepared" is certainly needed as much now as it has ever been.

Our leaders have done an outstanding job in 2024 in planning and delivering a varied programme. Some of the highlights were the Olympics themed group camp for all sections, the Remembrance Day parade and the St. George's Day event. A special thanks to everyone who took part.

On the financial side, our new treasurer, Pete, joined half way through the year and has made an immediate contribution by making some important process changes to keep the finances in excellent order. Thanks for your diligence and commitment.

With two scout huts to look after, there is always a longlist of maintenance jobs to be completed. We're lucky to have Colin as our Quartermaster who has again done a tremendous job on keeping our supplies and buildings well maintained to serve us in the future.

Thinking about our volunteers - both leaders and trustees - the chance to give back to young people in the local area, undergo free training, make new friends and be an active part of the local community are some of the benefits to taking part in Scouts. A recent study also found that volunteering can add years to your life. It can even be useful in your working life, as you can use the skills and experiences from scouting to advance your own career.

We're urgently looking for new people to get involved - not just leaders - but people who can help with administration, fundraising and maintenance too. Scouting is a real team effort and every role has a part to play. The trustee board meets around 4 times per year and we need some new members, and the leader/parent helper roles are term time based for 1-2 hours per week.

Can you spare some time to make a change? Speak to any of the leaders or trustees at Sale Central to find out more.

Finally, I'd like to thank Dave for the exceptional leadership and support that he has shown over the last year. The support from the local District is also very much appreciated in helping to manage risks and provide opportunities for our Scouts such as the Gang Show. Also, my thanks to all our section leaders, young leaders, Trustee Board members, parent helpers and not forgetting the Scouts themselves - whose energy and enthusiasm are the reason we exist.

Gavin Stark

Group Chair

Group Scout Leader's Report

Thank You

It is with immense pleasure that I present the Group Scout Leader's Annual Report for the Scouting year 2024. As I reflect on another incredibly busy and rewarding year, my overriding feeling is one of profound gratitude. Therefore, I want to begin this report by extending several massive thank you's, in no particular order, to the individuals and groups who are the very backbone of our Scouting community.

Firstly, to **our members** – the fantastic boys and girls who consistently turn up each week, usually smart, almost always polite, and often bubbling with enthusiasm. You are, quite simply, the fundamental reason why we Scout. Your energy, your curiosity, and your willingness to give it a go ... that is what inspires us all.

To **our members' parents and guardians**, your trust, your support, and your commitment to getting your children to meetings and events is invaluable. Without your partnership, much of what we achieve would simply not be possible.

We are also incredibly grateful to **our supporters outside of the group**. Foremost of which are those (also volunteers) at District and County level who are rarely seen in daylight, they provide a higher level of governance in order to keep groups like ours on the straight and narrow. Whether you've helped with fundraising, provided resources, or offered your expertise, your contributions, often unseen, have made a significant difference to our ability to deliver a vibrant Scouting programme.

A huge thank you goes to **our Board of Trustees**, again, often unseen and un-thanked but it is your dedication to the governance and strategic direction of our Group, ensuring we operate effectively and responsibly, providing the essential framework for all our activities.

And finally, but by no means least, to **our Frontline Volunteers** – our dedicated leaders, assistant leaders, section assistants, and occasional helpers. Your tireless efforts, creativity, and passion are what truly bring Scouting to life for our young people every single week. You are the heart and soul of our Group and yet you are so few in number, I really cannot stress to all Parents out there, just how much these people do. Due to a lack of adult volunteers, many of our existing volunteers hold multiple roles, doubling or even tripling their volunteering workload.

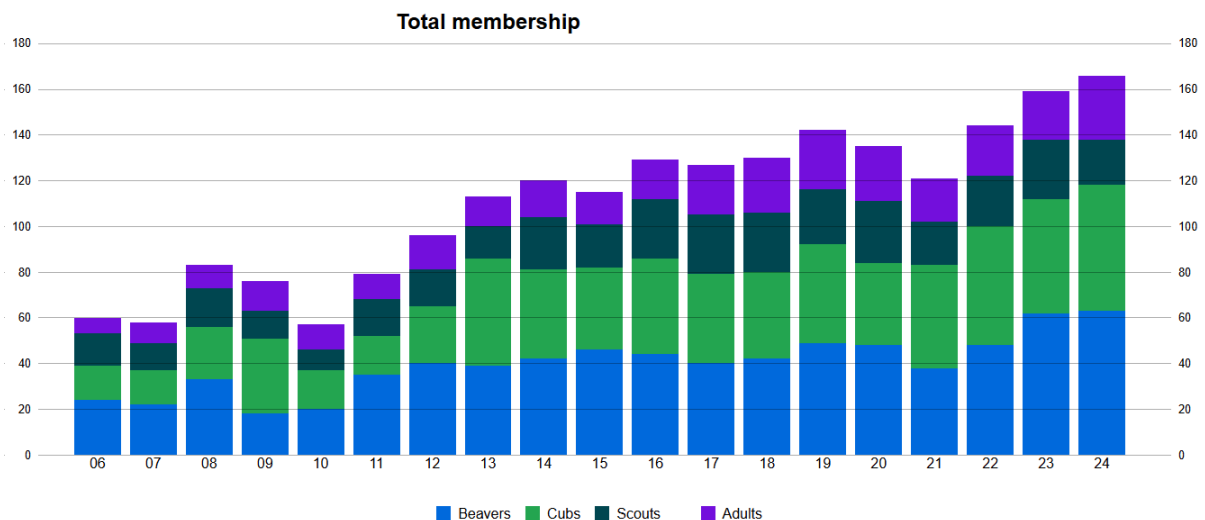
Appeal

This brings me quite nicely onto my regular appeal, as you've seen, our Group thrives on the dedication of our volunteers, and the vibrant programme we offer your children is a direct result of their commitment. However, like all voluntary organisations, we are constantly seeking new energy and ideas to keep pace with the growing enthusiasm of our young people. We understand that everyone has busy lives, but we genuinely

believe that a little help from many hands can make a huge difference. By parents offering even a small amount of their time – whether it's an hour a month helping at a meeting, assisting with an event, or sharing a particular skill – we can distribute the workload more effectively, ensuring no single individual feels overwhelmed and that the burden on our core leadership team is lessened.

We invite you to consider how you might be able to contribute to the success of our Scout Group. Perhaps you have a specific skill you could share for a one-off session, or you might be able to help with administrative tasks, fundraising, or even just setting up or packing away equipment occasionally. The more parents who feel able to step forward and offer their services, the less will be needed from each individual, and the more robust and exciting our programme will become for all our young people. If you're curious about how you might get involved, please don't hesitate to speak to any of our leaders; we'd be delighted to chat about the various ways you could help enrich the Scouting experience for your children and their friends.

The graph below clearly illustrates the evolution of our group, there is rarely attrition between Beavers and Cubs and though some typically exists as young people move into Key Stage 3 education, it is clear that we are on the cusp of needing an additional Scout Troop.



Our Beaver Colonies and our Cub packs are running at capacity, and we are now being forced to close our waiting lists as there is simply no chance of a young person reaching the top and finding their way into Scouting at Sale Central.

The simple reason why we cannot accommodate a new Troop, or a new Pack is the number of adult volunteers has hardly changed in a decade, people move on, and new people step forward but that has only enabled us to maintain the status quo.

Another growing concern is what happens to our Scouts when they reach the age of 14? Our District desperately needs more Explorer Units to accommodate our 14–18-year-olds, Explorers are often the Adult Volunteers of tomorrow ... yet in the current climate, we have just 3 Explorer units being fed by 8 Scout Troops across the District, Sale Central no longer sponsors an Explorer Unit as we previously did because ... you guessed it ... a lack of Adult Volunteers, therefore, when it comes time for our

Scouts to move on to Explorers, they are joining waiting lists for Explorer Units sponsored by other groups.

2024 ... a year of variety

Winter 2024

Whilst reviewing the year, one thing that struck me was the variety of activities our Leaders delivered from educational and developmental games, health and fitness, traditional celebrations, scientific activities, night hikes, cooking, painting, knot skills, birdbox construction, making sock puppets, litter picking, international celebrations, candle making, first aid, reptile study, navigation, communications, and problem solving ... and that was just in the Winter term.

Spring/Summer 2024

Add to this camping skills, engineering, bike rides, canoeing, recycling, football, gardening, astronomy, music, meditation, performing, DIY, Animal Care, Nature walks, making damper and toasting marshmallows, backwoods cooking, supermarket sweep, Household skills, Knife, Axe and Saw skills, Trapping & Snaring (survival), shelter building, pioneering, pulleys and gear, building and then launching cardboard canoes, and my personal favourite was taking our Scouts Scuba Diving in the Spring/Summer Term. Mix in various camps by all sections and of course, who can forget our famous Olympic Family Camp at Dunham Park Scout Camp.

Autumn 2024

The variety of activities didn't stop when we returned after the summer holidays with endangered species, kite making, computer skills, green-cross code, photography, Ice-cream, fire safety, book reading, money skills, sledging at Chill FactorE, disability awareness, local knowledge, Christmas crafts, Roman armour, Expedition planning, Balearic slingshots, fire starting, foodbank shopping, Chariot racing, Warhammer painting and gaming ...

Unbelievable year run by incredible leaders for amazing young people ... come and join the fun, it really is as much fun for adult volunteers as it is for the young people ... honest ... Scouts Honour 🍀

(Whoops ... I have rambled on a bit)

Yours in Scouting

Dave Hannigan

Proud Group Scout Leader

Sale Central Amazing Scout Group

Group Treasurer’s Report

Sale Central Scout Group Income and Expenditure Account		
Year to 31 December	2024	2023
	£	£
Income		
Donation	5,700.00	200.00
Events	4,985.54	5,244.80
Events - Beavers	1,440.00	1,183.57
Events - Cubs	885.00	632.70
Events - Scouts	40.00	0.00
Fundraising	1,391.99	170.97
Grant	6,740.67	0.00
Hut Hire - Raglan Road	4,925.00	10,048.20
Hut Hire - Woodbourne Road	5,590.00	5,201.50
Membership Fees	18,160.94	14,740.40
Refund	186.38	0.00
	50,045.52	37,422.14
Expense		
Activity Equipment	193.53	354.83
Admin	116.37	80.00
Badges	2,793.74	2,000.74
Bank Fees	196.32	738.44
Bursary Payment	17.00	0.00
Camping Equipment	479.85	360.35
Charitable Donation	10.00	0.00
Events	6,374.36	5,140.65
Events - Beavers	583.78	2,404.03
Events - Cubs	108.95	1,303.17
Events - Scouts	276.50	438.28
Group Equipment	139.00	0.00
Insurance	2,548.79	3,893.99
Meetings	0.00	42.02
Meetings - Beavers	732.11	1,079.48
Meetings - Cubs	940.38	1,225.48
Meetings - Scouts	454.70	120.08
Membership Costs	7,853.50	7,649.04
Refund	0.00	114.92
Rent	975.00	0.00
Training	543.62	218.30
Utilities	23,711.06	22,368.33
Venue Maintenance	4,272.10	4,609.43
	53,320.66	54,141.56
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	-3,275.14	-16,719.42
Depreciation	0.00	0.00
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	-3,275.14	-16,719.42

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

Charities Commission Ref: 520239

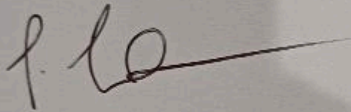
ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

Total Income for Period: £50,045.52

Total Expenditure for Period: £53,320.66

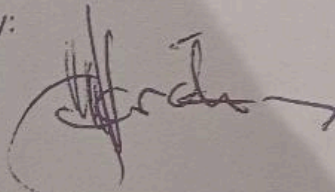
Operating Deficit: -£3,275.14

Prepared by:



Peter Tranter, Group Treasurer

Review/Scrutinised by:



Michael Harding, District Treasurer

I have examined and confirmed the above figures from the bank accounts, working documents and other records of payments that were made available.

Chetham Beaver Colony Section Report

First, I would like to say a huge Thank you to Chethams Leader team and the parents who signed up on the Rota. Without them your child wouldn't have been able to have the fun packed programme we did and earn the badges that you all love sewing on.

So, what did 2024 look like for Chethams?

Looking back at OSM, we had a busy year.

We worked on lots of activity badges, Health and fitness, Cooking, Camp craft, International, Space are just a few of them. We made sure we had some staged badges in there as well like our Hikes, Time on Water.

We worked on our Challenge badges such as World, Skills, Teamwork, and Personal challenge. These badges gave Chethams the opportunity to go and visit some different places. Such as our nights at Grip Adventure for a paddle, or a hike round sale water park or scaling the walls at Rock over Climb.

There were a couple of group events that we took part in, Gang show, St Georges day, Remembrance Day as well as Our Family Camp.

We joined up with Howard and Pankhurst for a joint Beaver camp at Dunham. A chance for us to come together, have fun, make memories and get extremely wet!

It's only when you look back you realize how much you have done, the fun that they have had, and hopefully memories made. All the above goes towards them earning their Chief Scout Bronze award, the highest badge a Beaver can achieve. This year we had 4 Beavers presented with it. BRAVO to them.

YiS

Rainbow (Emma) on behalf of the Chethams Leader team

Howard Beaver Colony Section Report

2024 saw the newly invested Leaders (Willow, Badger, Ratty & Toad) go it alone with Howard Beavers, following the amazing support they had from Rainbow before Christmas. The year kicked off with Beavers working towards their Cook Activity badge, with the highlight being making some yummy Welsh Cakes. Before the half term was over, they also did a night hike and some pottery painting at Bean & Brush.

After half term, cold and wet evenings saw us spend time indoors making up fun games and getting a visit from Stuart of SAMES at Walton Park Trains with his beautiful model steam engine. After the Easter weekend the sun was shining so the Beavers brought in their bikes and scooters to learn about how to perform maintenance on them, before a quick spin around Walton Park. And Walton Park was also the location for a litter pick one evening. We finished the term with a fantastic trip to Grip Adventure's Cave and a paddle down the canal.

Summer term moved our focus to completing their Space Activity badge, we learnt lots about our solar system and star constellations, but the highlight was building and launching our own bottle rockets in Walton Park – with the pressurised water rockets working better than vinegar and bicarb. Before we headed off for the summer break, we took a trip to Dunham Scout camp to learn all about camping and have lots of fun!



In September, Dunham Scout camp also became the location of our Beaver Camp, which was attended by all the Sale Central Scout Group Beaver Colonies. It was a great weekend of camp skills, cooking and laughter – with our young members enjoying every moment and doing a great job sleeping in tents together.

When we returned to Raglan Road Scout Hut in the Autumn, we became very creative - building hotels for bugs and designing and constructing our own kites. But it was the Beavers Got Talent Show

in October that really allowed our colony to show off all their hidden talents... from magic to karate, football skills to comedy, and of course a lot of singing! It was an amazing night and perfect end before half term. After half term we had a visit from John to learn all about photography - taking us through everything from a pin-hole camera to the latest tech - and showing us some incredible snaps. Christmas time saw us build some more great crafts, before joining with Pankhurst and Chetham for the end of year Beavers Christmas party!!

Reflecting on my “first whole year” as a Beaver Scout Leader, it has truly been amazing. It has been great fun each week to look at new skills and knowledge with our young members – and play lots of challenging games. I also enjoy spending time with my fellow volunteer leaders too – Matt, Steve & Bev – we couldn’t ask for a better team.

Although I have a busy career and family life, it turns out that I do have the time to help nearly every week, and it’s very rewarding to be supporting the Scouting movement and our local community. The Sale Central Scout group is made up of an incredible bunch of people, all very supportive and lots of fun. Thank you to them all for everything they do. And a massive thank you to all the parents who have helped out over the year at our meetings!

Regards

James Cottle - Toad

Howard Beaver Leader

Pankhurst Beaver Colony Section Report

Pankhurst welcomed five new Beavers in January 2024. We worked on a variety of badges – Skills, Adventure and Outdoors challenge badges plus Faith and Safety badges. These saw us learn about the Green Cross Code and we built and painted bird houses. We supported members of Sale Central in February when we went to watch the 60th Sale Gang Show. We had our own show at Beavers when everyone made sock puppets and then performed for us, also ticking off some of our Creative badge. As part of our Faith badge, we visited the Buddhist Temple in Old Trafford as well. In March we completed a litter pick at Worthington Park, covering parts of our World, Adventure and Explore badges and finished the term with an Easter themed evening.

April saw us gain Tom as a new Young Leader and our existing Young Leader Caitlin ran a Space themed night. We worked on our Gardener and Book Reader badges and also had a number of Beavers attending the St George's Day Parade. Gwyn, a Safety Educational Officer from the RNLI, visited us in May to talk about water safety and the Beavers enjoyed trying on the safety outfits and posing for photos.



In June we were putting up tents in our lodges and after an extremely loud meeting where we worked on our musician badge, we ended the month with a meditation evening. Some members of Pankhurst and their parents attended Family Camp at Dunham, and all showed how very competitive they are. The results of our planting seeds back in April for our Gardener badge were brought in and shown in July and we also went canoeing and had a trip to Sale Water Park. As we finished for the Summer, we said goodbye to our original Hawkeye as he hung up his Scouting shirt as a leader to concentrate on his role as Group Treasurer, although we know we can count on him when we need an extra pair of hands. Lightning has also stepped back a little due to other commitments but again, we know she's there if we need her.

A joint Beaver Camp in September was the start of the new term, where the rain ended the fun unfortunately. Rusty and Hawkeye (the new one) became leaders and were thrown in at the deep end with the camp and thankfully it hasn't put them off. Back at our weekly meetings we worked on our Skills, Outdoors and Teamwork challenge badges and also the Cook, Safety and Creative badges. The Beavers painted some large wall art with a Halloween theme, and it was used at the Halloween event at Raglan Road. Again, Pankhurst were well represented at the Remembrance Parade in November and were so

respectful and quiet which made all the leaders very proud. Later in November everyone had an amazing evening at the Chill Factor and worked towards their Snowsports badge. They finished this and other badges in December before finishing the term with a Christmas Movie Night. Some members of Pankhurst also helped out at poppy selling and the Tesco fundraising bag pack during this term as well.

Six Beavers achieved their Chief Scout's Bronze Award in 2024, a great achievement showing all the effort they have put into their journey through Beavers.

I would like to take the opportunity now to thank the rest of the leader team, past and present – Hawkeye (Pete), Lightning, Echo, Rusty, Hawkeye (Iraklis), Caitlin and Tom for everything they do. Can I also say a huge thank you to the parents who regularly help at Beaver meetings and camps, and I would encourage any other parents who would like to help to let us know. Pankhurst Beavers, as always, remains full, with a lengthy waiting list so we're obviously doing something right.

Ros Bryan {Bobtail}, Beaver Scout Leader

Kilvert Cub Pack Section Report

The Cubs started 2024 with a games night and went on to work on their Scientist and Emergency Aid badges. We all enjoyed an art night at Bean & Brush in Sale, as requested by the Cubs at a pack forum. In February some of the Cubs and leaders went to watch the Sale Gang Show at the Waterside in Sale, with our very own Jacob being one of the amazing performers. We covered Chinese New Year with the International badge and also worked on our Personal Safety badge. Candle making had also been a request at a pack forum, so we did that activity in March. We finished the term with a film night.



In April the Cubs performed a Talent Show, with parents coming to watch – we saw jokes, magic, a variety of instruments played and also some mind reading! A number of Kilvert Cubs took part in the St George's Day Parade in Worthington Park again too. We worked on our Outdoors badge in May, putting the tents up over at the park and made holders for our Playstation and Xbox controllers in our DIY badge. In June we went on a nature walk and a hike round Sale Water Park and also did some backwoods cooking at the hut, making dampers and marshmallows.

A number of the Cubs and their families attended the Family Camp at Dunham as well. July was a very active month covering some of our challenge badges with our sports day, canoeing and cycling for our Cyclist badge. At the end of the summer term, we said goodbye and good luck to Shere Khan (Saorsa) as she was off to university in the September and King Louis also had to step back due to college taking up a lot of her time. Mowgli also decided it was time for her to concentrate on other things and escaped a big goodbye by

telling us during the summer holidays. Toad, from Howard Beavers, joined us this term and he's been a fantastic addition to the leader team at Cubs.

September started with a pack forum and games, and we completed our Disability Awareness badge – writing our names in Braille and also by finger spelling, plus some great artwork made by using only our feet. Cub Mudder was in October and Kilvert entered a team again this year – they finished an amazing 9th out of 48 teams.



Badge work in October included Local Knowledge and we also had a quiz night. Tiger Lily, one of our Young Leaders, ran an evening sewing Halloween craft with the Cubs – small soft pumpkin and ghost toys. Over the Autumn term Hathi, another Young Leader at Kilvert, covered the Chef badge with the Cubs as part of her Young Leader Award. A number of Kilvert Cubs took part in Remembrance Parade in November. We worked on several more badges over the rest of the term – Communicator, International and Astronomer and for the final two meetings of the term we made Christmas crafts and had a Christmas party. Baloo stepped down from weekly duties as a leader as we finished for the holidays but assured us that we could call on him if we needed extra help in the future.

Three Cubs achieved their Chief Scout's Silver Award this year, well done to all of them.

Now to say a massive thank you to all of the many leaders and Young Leaders we have/had at Cubs – Bobtail, Toad, Baloo, Mowgli, Shere Khan (Saorsa), Hathi, Tiger Lily and King Louis. Also, a big thank you to the parents that have helped at various events and evenings when we needed another pair of hands, your support is very much appreciated.

Kilvert Cubs remains full which is great to see. Another fantastic year.

Ronnie Bryan (Bagheera), Cub Scout Leader

Parker Cub Pack Section Report

Another busy year for Parker cubs, 2024 started with Cubs having a visit from our 4-legged friends and learning about how dogs are trained as assistance dogs and how they are important to people's day to day life's. This was followed by a visit the following week from the reptiles which included snakes (so glad I was on the other side of the world that night) The cubs also learnt about lunar new year and tasted Chinese food, one of the Cub mums kindly came in and spoke with the Cubs and did some activities with them.

Other activities included Easter egg hunt and shelter building at Dunham, walks around Lymn dam, priory woods and sale water park. Night hike and conker picking. We held a skills night where the cubs learnt all about circuits, by making a circuit board, they also learnt how to measure and cut wood, how to iron their neckers and change a light bulb.

The Cubs also enjoyed visits to Sharston recycling centre, bean and brush, litter picking, they also had a visit to sale Tesco store where they worked with a £12 per Six budget and had to price up items, then buy items that could be put into the food bank at the end of the night.

Other activities included grip adventure, Halloween party, Christmas party, bonfire party and first aid.

Cubs also attended district and county activities such as St Georges day event, Remembrance Day parade, Gang show (1 Cub in the show), sadly we couldn't get a team together for Cub Mudder, although one Cub kindly stepped in to help 1st Buddha's Light Cub pack as they were one short.

I would like to thank Zoe for continued support throughout 2024 and so glad that you forgave me for leaving you for 3 weeks in January, the young leaders for all your help, kai for being a great help and being there week in, week out.

Also, Emma and Colin for helping with the parties and stepping in when I was away. Emma, I promise I will try not to make it 3 weeks next time

Akela (Rachel)

Scout Troop Section Report

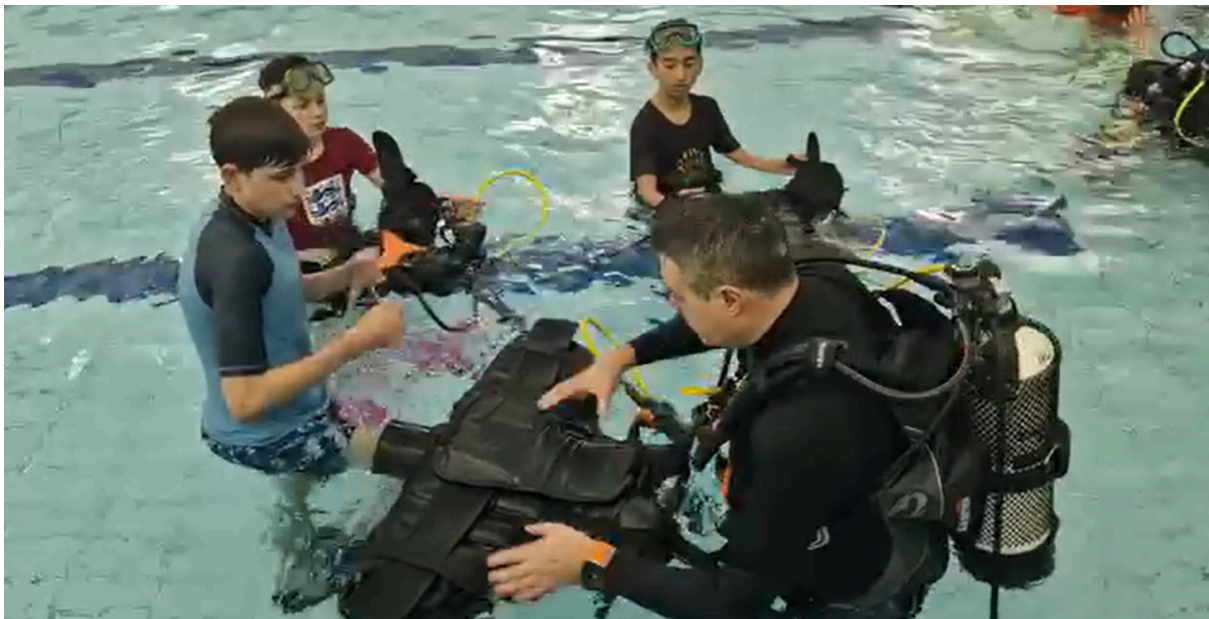
We started Jan '24 with our usual Troop Forum allowing the Scouts to have some input into the program and what was to be included.

The Creative Badge and some First Aid re-cap kicked off the year along with our annual Pancake Evening.

This was followed by some Navigation Skills in preparation for the upcoming hike and the scouts learning about different forms of communication with all helped them prepare for our Task Master themed activity night.

After easter we covered our Skills badge, and then the Scouts got prepared in case there is ever a Zombie apocalypse, practicing Knife, Axe and Saw Safety leading us nicely into various evenings revolving around Camp Gadgets and tools, traps and snaring and the very important skills of erecting a tent and basic map reading and navigation. We also tried to make our own Balearic slings a very tricky process!

We were lucky enough to be able to have the opportunity to participate in a SCUBA Diving taster session. The Scouts were all excited to be able to experience something so different. They all enjoyed it so much so that two of the scouts ended up going on a PADI course!



We held a Saturday hike to Dunham from Sale where the scouts could put their navigation skills to the test. We also put our pioneering skills to the test by making our own trebuchets! The Scouts make their own cardboard canoes and then tested them on the water at Dunham. There were a lot of giggles and some rather wet scouts. We ended the evening with s'mores rounds the campfire.

After summer we revisited the cardboard skills by making roman armour in preparation for Chariot Camp. Chariot camp is an annual camp where Scouts from across the County get together to race each other around an assault course in homemade chariot at Bispham Hall Scout Estate, with one Scout getting the pleasure of being the jockey on the chariot. There was a lot of giggles, the Scouts came back very muddy and very tired! Seeing as it was the

first time for several years that we had participated the Scouts did Sale Central proud. We are hoping to build on this experience in 2025 when we hopefully attend again.

The older scouts also took this time to prepare for their upcoming expedition. Thinking about where their expedition would be, the type of transport they were going to us and their plan for food. More about this in the 2026 report!

We also thought of those people who may need extra help at Christmas time discussing a food bank and how it works and why people may need to make use of them, followed with a trip to Tesco's to buy items for the local food bank.

The last few weeks of the term were spent playing Warhammer and painting models for the game. We rounded off the year with a Bowling trip for our Christmas Outing.

Other major outings throughout the year included:

- Gang Show
- St Georges Day Parade
- Olympic Family Camp
- Canoeing with Grip Adventure
- Remembrance Parade

With regard to the members themselves, we have had an average attendance of about 20 scouts and a solid 4 Leaders most weeks.

We have seen some older scouts move on; new members move up from Cubs and even brand-new members fresh to Scouting altogether.

Overall, a great year and with the steady support of the Leader Team, I feel we have set a great foundation on which to build and continue what we do best!

Report compiled by Matt and Jennie

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520239

Accounts



Sale Central Scout Group

Annual Group Report

1st Jan 2023 - 31st Dec 2023

AGM Agenda - Sale Central Scout Group Trustee Board (Registered Charity 520239)

Dunham Massey Scout Camp, Saturday 15th June
2024 , 5.30pm

1. Introduction

- a. Welcome [GS](#)
- b. Apologies for absence
- c. Approval of the minutes of the previous AGM [GS](#)

2. Governance Items

- a. Adopt a model constitution for groups in [POR chapter 5](#) as our Constitution. [GS](#)
- b. Note our Financial year is 1st Jan to 31st Dec. [GS](#)
- c. Agree the maximum number of Trustee Board Members [GS](#)
- d. Agree the Quorum for Trustee Board Meetings. [GS](#)

3. Review of the Year

- a. Presentation of the Annual Report for 2023 [GS](#)
- b. Presentation of draft accounts [GS](#)
- c. Group Chairman's remarks [GS](#)
- d. Lead Volunteer's remarks [DH](#)

4. Appointments

- a. Appoint the Group Chairman [DH](#)
- b. Appoint the Group Treasurer [GS](#)
- c. Appoint members of the Group Trustee Board [GS](#)
- d. Appoint rep. to the District Scout Council [GS](#)

5. District Commissioner

Group Chairman's Report

I've been involved with the Group for five years now, and it's always great to see how the different Scout Sections continue to grow and prosper each year despite the many challenges faced by individuals and the country as a whole.

The efforts of the volunteers and parents make the group what it is today, which is one of the biggest youth organisations in Trafford. Over 100 members take part in our sessions each week.

Sale Central Scout Group has been very active in 2023, organising several section camps, a group barbecue and a very popular family camp at Waddecar in the forest of Bowland to name just a few. The group also joined with other Scout groups within Sale for the annual Remembrance Day parade in Worthington Park and the Gang Show at Waterside Arts Centre.

Our members have enjoyed some great outings, interviewed many official visitors to the Scout Huts and participated in numerous activities, which together help to prepare the young people of Sale with skills for life - which is the ultimate mission for Scouting.

The group has welcomed some additional volunteers during 2023, which is necessary for the group to continue functioning properly. Without the timely participation of more parents at the Raglan Rd hut, there was a very real possibility that a section would have closed down. A special thanks to Emma who helped to coordinate a new team of volunteers at very short notice.

We still urgently need new leaders to volunteer at all sections within the Sale Central Scout Group. The benefits of volunteering at Scouts and helping our young people to develop new skills is seen as a really valuable skill set in many workplaces. Volunteers also enjoy friendships, learn life skills such as first aid, receive discounts and have their Scouting expenses covered.

Our treasurer of several years, Tina, stepped down at the end of 2023. We thank Tina for her diligence and support. With a new treasurer joining the group shortly, the accounts have been completed by the interim treasurer and leader team. The impact of the rise in utility prices had a negative impact on finances, coupled with a reduction in rental income and grant income. Several measures have been taken to remedy the situation going forward.

Behind the scenes, there have been some changes to the way that the national Scout movement is managed, to make it more open to new members and the wider community. These measures will be adopted by the Sale Central Scout Group going forward.

Gavin Stark, Group Chairman

Lead Volunteer's Report

2023 was the time when Scouting started to find its feet again following the turmoil of Covid, Virtual Scouting was a distant memory for many of our members and completely alien to some of our younger members. Young people were returning to Scouting in droves, absence had made the heart grow fonder for our young members, unfortunately, this wasn't the case for some of our adult volunteers who had either found the whole concept of virtual Scouting to be something that they could not add value to, or they had simply become burned out trying to reinvent Scouting over Zoom.

Sale Central were not alone in this, but the recent closure of 9th Sale due to them being evicted from their fantastic HQ in order that their landlord could sell the land for development, had a knock-on effect throughout the district, sections in all remaining groups were running at capacity by overworked volunteers, recruitment of new volunteers was an absolute necessity in 2023, if we wanted to maintain our growth whilst accommodating our existing member base.

Every year, we submit our Scouting numbers to the Scout Association, and the figures submitted covering the previous year had shown that Sale Central was a popular choice for new members and those looking to transfer, this is almost entirely due to our amazing team of volunteers, from the executive committee who work behind the scenes, ensuring that we have everything that we need to keep Scouting fun and engaging, and also our amazing uniformed Leaders who just keep delivering a programme of activities at such a high level. To all those volunteers, from the bottom of my heart, I want to personally thank you, it saddens me so much that the process to gain official recognition of outstanding service, from the Scout Association is so convoluted, because in my opinion, every volunteer who kept Scouting alive through such a tricky period as Covid, and who then went on, not just maintaining the status quo, but in pushing the envelope even further than ever before, deserves a medal.

Before I attempt to review the year, I would like to say a very special and heartfelt "Thank You" to our Leader Team in particular, I will not name individuals but some of our leaders have gone through so much turmoil in their personal lives, issues that impact many of us in our lives but for which we may take a week or two off work in order that we can come to terms with the consequences, but their dedication to their Sections and to the greater Group has been incredible in as much that many people may not be aware of the personal heartbreak that the individual is going through. Family should always come before volunteering and yet for some, volunteering offers an escape from the trials and tribulations of their "other life". To each of them, whether 2023 has been a good year or a bad year in your personal life, on behalf of the young people who simply look up to you as their Scouting Leader, ignorant of the fact that you may be having the worst day of your life ... Thank You.

In February, we re-started something that was once a common tradition in Scouting, we made Founders Day (February 22nd) a day when all our sections would pose for a Colony, Pack or Troop photograph to celebrate and commemorate our days in Scouting, it is certainly something that every young person should be proud to be involved with.

Some of our members demonstrated their talent in the Sale and District Gang Show at the Sale Waterside Theatre, from personal experience, I can vouch for the effort required but also the amazing reward that being a part of the last remaining annual gang show in Greater Manchester gives ... long may it continue to provide so much entertainment to so many people, so I would again like to offer my personal thanks to all those who took part and did both themselves and Sale Central proud.

Sale Central Scout Group Annual Group Report 2023

Following the success of our brilliant Family Camp at Bispham Hall Scout Estate in 2022, we announced that Family Camp 2023 was being planned, originally for Forest Camp (Sandiway), though this was later changed to Wonderful Waddecar (more about Family Camp later).

April saw the District parade for St Georges Day, for those, like myself, who like to visualise the impact of Scouting (and Guiding) on our local community, the St Georges Day Parade around Worthington Park is a great barometer, and to see the impact of Sale Central members on those gathered, remains one of my proudest memories of 2023, some of our volunteers even found the energy to run our s'mores stall in the fete that followed the parade.

It was by St Georges Day that we had to close applications for Family Camp 23 due to the incredible uptake ... we had set a very high bar in 2022, the pressure was now on to maintain.

May brought the coronation of King Charles III and also the news that our Group Treasurer, Tina, who has been a great help to the group for the past couple of years was moving out of the area and would be relinquishing her role, my personal thanks go to Tina who had stepped up to the plate upon her retirement as a School admin manager during a few years ago.

At the end of May, we held a group Barbeque at Woodbourne Road, the idea of the Group Barbeque is to give Parents the opportunity to actually meet and socialise with the volunteers and to understand that the only difference between them is the preparedness of the volunteers to give up some of their time for the good of the community.

I have volunteered my time with Beavers, Scouts, and Explorers, but never Cubs ... that situation was rectified at the start of June when I joined our two Cub packs on camp at Dunham ... Cubs are awesome, even more so when you don't see them every week.

In July, Beavers from all three of our colonies enjoyed a fabulous day out at Crocky Trail, for me personally this was the first event of an incredibly busy month (20 days) of activities and events with various sections of many groups ... just another illustration of the shortage of adult volunteers and the impact it has on those who do volunteer.

After the long summer break, Scouting finally resumed in September with one of the first events being our long-awaited Pirate themed Family Camp at Waddecar with something like 190 people to cater for and keep entertained in a safe environment. So many people put in so much work to make this happen, it really is such a testament to their dedication to Scouting that events like this become reality, I get such a feeling of immense pride even being associated with these heroes in neckers, and when you then see the joy that events like this bring to so many people, it makes all the hard work worthwhile ... our Family Campers are amazing, for some, this might be their first time sleeping in a tent, spending time with like minded adults who they may not have met before, the unifying factor for both volunteers and parents is the absolute enjoyment that our members have on such big events, especially with Mum or Dad being there, not just watching but taking part in whatever crazy event is running at the time ... Family camps generate a feeling of togetherness like no other event in our calendar. If you were at Waddecar in September of 2023 ... Thank You, for your patience, for your time, for your buy-in and for your support in helping us to achieve something so special to all our members.

Another massive event in September that impacted me personally was the intake of new volunteers, particularly at Howard Beavers, the colony was in dire need of new leaders and

Sale Central Scout Group Annual Group Report 2023

in Willow, Badger, Toad and Ratty, we got four great new Leaders who took to it like ducks to water, enabling 'Silly Dave' to move over to helping out at Scouts whilst leaving Sunshine to provide the continuity at Howard Beavers. Huge Thanks go to Bev, James, Matthew, and Steve, you smashed it out of the park, and to Rainbow, in particular, for mentoring them through the transition.

November always starts off in poignant fashion with Remembrance Parade, in the weeks running up to the parade, Scouting and Guiding again get together to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and as always, Members and Parents from Sale Central were the backbone of our support, this is a cause that means an awful lot to me personally and once again, I would like to thank all those people who gave up their time to support the appeal.

As for the parade itself, the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts of Sale Central did themselves and scouting proud, it is never easy standing respectfully still for a long period of time, this year the service was impacted by the cold and rain ... and yet respect was maintained throughout, Thank You all.

2023 drew to it's inevitable conclusion with the usual flurry of pre-Christmas events and activities, overall, the year has been a great success, it is still frustrating to think that there are thousands of young people locally, on waiting lists to join Scouting, if we doubled our current number of volunteers, it probably would still not be enough, but we could at least make a huge difference to some of those young people who just want to enjoy what we all enjoy.

I have saved my final Thank You for even more volunteers who are not directly associated with Sale Central, our District team and our County team ... as a non-Scouter, it is often surprising to learn just how many Adult Volunteers give up so much of their own time just to provide 90 minutes of Scouting time to our children each week, as Groups go, Sale Central is quite large, but we couldn't do much without the army of volunteers that many Parents never even get to see, and that certainly includes everyone at District level and at County level.

Yours In Scouting.

Dave Hannigan

Group Scout Leader

Sale Central Scout Group

Sale Central Scout Group
Annual Group Report 2023

Treasurer's Report

Our previous treasurer stepped down at the end of 2023 after many years of service, so these accounts are presented by our interim treasurer. We have identified a new treasurer who has agreed to accept the role going forward.

The finances for the group were notably weaker than in previous years. This is mostly down to the reduction in income from the Woodbourne rentals to external groups and a significant increase in utility costs, due to the war in Ukraine and the impact on gas prices globally. Over the next accounting period, we expect the energy prices paid by the group to have reduced.

Several additional measures have been taken already to balance the accounts going forward. These include an application for Gift-Aid, increases in hut rental charges, increased membership fees and several new grant funding applications. We are also actively encouraging hut users to reduce energy consumption and looking at options to remotely monitor energy usage.

The final accounts for 2023 are included on the following pages.

Sale Central Scout Group Income and Expenditure Account			Sale Central Scout Group Balance Sheet		
Year to 31 December	2023	2022	Year to 31 December	2023	2022
	£	£		£	£
Income			Current Assets		
Donation	200.00	0.00	Community Account	20,745.53	36,503.17
Events	5,244.80	3,535.59	Business Account	19,066.62	20,652.57
Events - Beavers	1,183.57	0.00	Stripe Expense Account	624.17	0.00
Events - Cubs	632.70	0.00		40,436.32	57,155.74
Fundraising	170.97	3,477.05			
Hut Hire - Raglan Road	10,048.20	6,906.00	Fixed Assets		
Hut Hire - Woodbourne Road	5,201.50	12,599.78	Woodbourne Road Hut	265,000.00	265,000.00
Membership Fees	14,740.40	15,385.52	Raglan Road Hut	0.00	0.00
Trailer sale	0.00	1,750.00	Equipment and Furniture	13,000.00	13,000.00
	37,422.14	43,653.94		278,000.00	278,000.00
Expense			Total Assets	318,436.32	335,155.74
Activity Equipment	354.83	0.00	Liabilities	0.00	0.00
Admin	80.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
Badges	2,000.74	2,543.37	Total Liabilities	0.00	0.00
Bank Fees	738.44	0.00			
Camping Equipment	360.35	0.00		318,436.32	335,155.74
Charitable Donation	0.00	0.00	Accumulated Fund brought forward	335,155.74	331,820.00
Events	5,140.65	7,926.98	Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	-16,719.42	3,335.74
Events - Beavers	2,404.03	0.00	Audit correction	0.00	0.00
Events - Cubs	1,303.17	0.00	Accumulated Funds carried forward	318,436.32	335,155.74
Events - Scouts	438.28	0.00			
Insurance	3,893.99	3,551.34			
Fire Safety	0.00	50.00			
Meetings	42.02	0.00			
Meetings - Beavers	1,079.48	0.00			
Meetings - Cubs	1,225.48	0.00			
Meetings - Scouts	120.08	0.00			
Membership Costs	7,649.04	6,150.00			
Miscellaneous	0.00	1,256.70			
Other expenses	0.00	5,969.50			
Refund	114.92	0.00			
Training	218.30	0.00			
Utilities	22,368.33	12,258.73			
Venue Maintenance	4,609.43	611.58			
	54,141.56	40,318.20			
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	-16,719.42	3,335.74			
Depreciation	0.00	0.00			
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	-16,719.42	3,335.74			

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

Charities Commission Ref: 520239

ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023

Total Income for Period: £37,422.14

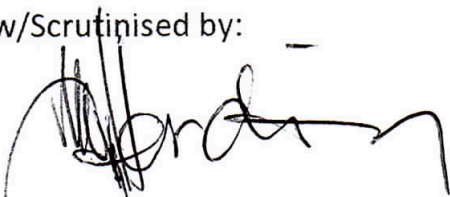
Total Expenditure for Period: £54,141.56

Operating Deficit: **-£16,719.42**

Prepared by:

Peter Tranter, Group Treasurer

Review/Scrutinised by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Harding', is written over a circular stamp or seal.

Michael Harding, District Treasurer

I have examined and confirmed the above figures from the bank accounts, working documents and other records of payments that were made available.

Quartermaster's Report

Looking back over 2023, there were many projects to improve the experience of people using the huts, both members and visitors.

One of the main projects to start in 2023 was the complete renovation and refurbishment of the previous storage room at the back of Woodbourne Road Scout Hut. The goal is to create a welcoming space that can be used for a range of different activities.

Chetham Beaver Leaders Report

Looking back over 2023, I realised how much Chethams actually did and how much they had achieved. Not just in badge work but how they had grown as a colony and as individuals not just in height but in confidence as well.

January to April saw Chethams attend the panto with the group, Celebrate Burns night, sampling some traditional Scottish food and drink Celebrate our 1st Birthday with a pirate themed sleepover. This was the first nights away Chethams took part in. We also attended the St Georges day parade. We were busy with badge work as well, covering Staged badges such as Emergency aid 1, Our challenge badges and activity badges. We welcomed two new leaders to the team Bubbles, and our young leader Chatter who isn't a stranger to Sale Central. He started off as a beaver with us and moved up through the group.

May to July was busy again, Bubbles led her first full night with the photography badge, we learned about the green cross code and put it into practice with a little walk around the area. As the nights were lighter we made use of the garden for our activities which is always a hit with the Beavers. We attended the Crocky Trail with Howard and Pankhurst Colonies which was a fantastic day out organised by Hawkeye and Lightning from Pankhurst. We also had our 1st joint Beaver camp at Dunham Park Scout camp. Where Bubbles gained her nights away permit which is a fantastic achievement. Our last night was on the water with Grip Adventure where we gained more time on the water. We said goodbye to Chip who decided to hang up his necker for a little while.

September to December started off with our 2nd family camp at Waddecar Scout Camp. We covered our Money skills badge, Community impact badge, we had a visit from the vet and worked on our animal friend badge. We had the AA come to visit us. We didn't let the dark nights stop us in adventurous activities and had a night paddle with head torches! Some of our Beavers gave up time out of their weekend to help sell poppies for the poppy appeal and we took part in the Remembrance Parade, I will say how very proud of them we are as a leader team on this event as it was the wettest parade in a long time and they were all amazing. We invested Malak and Keeo into the group as leaders of Chethams. We had another special moment for one of our leaders as Bubbles was awarded her Wood Badge. Finally we ended the year with a very noisy joint christmas party with Howard Beavers, and our first six Chief Scout Bronze awards were presented by ACC Beavers Tom Dutton.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the leader team for their time, enthusiasm and dedication to Chethams. Also a huge thank you to the parents for your continued support through the year. I don't think you realise how much you help us as a team. One last thing before I sign off, A Beige leader shirt suits everyone. What size are you?

Emma Spragg (Rainbow)

BSL Chethams

Howard Beaver Leaders Report

For reasons which may be apparent to those in the know, 2023 was a crucial year for Howard Beavers, in a nutshell, Tictac, Sunshine and I had been running the colony for a number of years with Tictac the Beaver Scout Leader, Sunshine as the Assistant Scout Leader and me as Daft Dave who disrupted all the meetings. Due to Covid, Tictac's primary form of income had been closed down, though she had very successfully transitioned into a new job in a local School. This gave her the confidence to apply for a role with much more responsibility, which she was offered and accepted, the downside was that she could not reliably be available for Beaver meetings, without Tictac, Sunshine and I would need to rely on Parental support to run meetings but this too became unsustainable, Howard Beavers needed an injection of new blood and I am delighted to say that was exactly what we got (and some) after we returned after the Summer break.

Therefore, this report will be broken into two distinct periods of Before Summer and After Summer.

Before Summer

We welcomed in the new year with a Log Chew, a meeting whereby all the Beavers get together and say what they would like to achieve in Beavers 2023. We got some great ideas and soon set about working towards the Skills Challenge Award, the Creative Activity badge, the International Activity badge and the Personal Challenge Award, We also got together with other sections of the Group to visit the Sale Waterside Theatre where Sale Nomads were presenting "Jack and the Beanstalk", unbeknown to us, one of our Beavers who got up on stage at the end of the performance would soon be back on that very stage for another "epic" performance.

In February, we again visited the Waterside Theatre, this time to watch the 58th Sale Scout and Guide Gang Show ... oh how we laughed at the... wait ... isn't that our very own Ethan up there?

In April, many of our Beavers joined the rest of the group to attend the St Georges Day Parade at Worthington Park ... such a great illustration of the strength of Scouting in Sale & District.

We continued working on our Camp Craft Activity Badge by practising putting up some tents, we then went on a visit to Dunham Park Scout Camp which for some of us was a great insight into what lies ahead for us on our Scouting journey. In May we also celebrated the coronation of King Charles III with our very own Coronation Party.

We took part in a mini hike in which we learned some interesting facts about the Bridgewater Canal.

One of the highlights of the final half term before the summer break was when we got raided by the Police ... Well not quite raided but we had a brilliant visit by Sergeant Rob Anderson and Sergeant Nathan Moghaddam who even brought a Tactical Response Unit to our hut. Beavers learned so much about Police work and we even got to try on some of the uniform.

Sale Central Scout Group Annual Group Report 2023

In July, we joined our fellow Beavers from Chetham and Pankhurst to go on a brilliant day out to the Crocky Trail, we also made Dampers, we learned all about Road Safety and we had a brilliant time at GRIP Adventure canoeing on the Bridgewater Canal.

Also in July, we joined our other Beaver Colonies for a camp at Dunham Park Scout Camp ... it was the most fun ever and for some was their first night away from Mum and/or Dad.

As we went into the Summer Break, we were unsure whether Howard Beavers would be able to continue ...

After Summer

Some of our Beavers joined the Sale Central family camp at Waddecar to round off the summer. Rainbow kindly agreed to take on the leadership of Howard Beavers until Christmas, in addition to running Chethams and her other scouting roles. During the first half term, the Beavers worked towards their Community Impact badge, doing a great job carrying out a litter pick in Walton Park. They also spent time on their Money Skills badge.

Behind the scenes, 4 new leaders had been drafted and we made our debut at the beginning of November -Badger, Toad, Ratty and Willow joining the ever-faithful Sunshine. We divided the Beavers into Lodges and spent our first few sessions completing the Teamwork Challenge Badge. This involved all sorts from egg drop, crab football, building marshmallow & spaghetti towers, and an indoor snowball fight. The Beavers also showed amazing teamwork when we joined GRIP Adventure for a canoe session in the dark!

We began December with a session of Christmas crafts and our last session of the year was a very festive, very noisy party with Chetham Beavers. We had amazing dance moves, real snow and a visit from Mr Claus himself! Our eldest member was also presented her Chief Scouts Bronze award by ACC Beavers Tom Dutton, as she prepared to move up to Cubs in the new year.

Our first half term as Leaders has been a learning curve full of fun, energy and (a little bit of) chaos. I couldn't have asked for a better bunch of co-leaders. We'd like to thank all the other Sale Central leaders that have given their time to help us out, especially Rainbow for all the great advice. Thank you also to all the parents who have volunteered, we wouldn't be able to continue without the additional help, especially when it comes to getting outdoors. Please speak to one of us if you could consider joining us as a Leader in the future, it's not as difficult/daunting as you may think, if I can do it anyone can!

Bev Anderson (Willow)

Howard Beaver Leader

Pankhurst Beaver Leaders Report

Four new Beavers were welcomed to Pankhurst in January 2023 and we started back with our usual games evening. Badges worked on that month were Health and Fitness, Hobbies and Collector. Some of the Beavers joined others from Sale Central at the Waterside in Sale to watch the pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk that month too. Another trip to the theatre in February to watch Sale Gang Show 2023 and see some of Sale Central's very own performers. We made pancakes on tin cans and also did some parts of our Camp Craft and Communicator badges too. March saw a number of visitors – Bricklands Lego Club ran a workshop for us, a lady called Lesley from 'Hearing Dogs for Deaf People' came in with her dog Abney and we also had some helpers coming in to do some Irish dancing with the Beavers for St Patrick's Day.

During April and May we worked on our Faith, Digital Citizen, Photographer and Gardener badges and also had a coronation themed evening. The Beavers and Leaders proudly took part in the St George's Day Parade in Worthington Park. Woodbourne Scout Hut was transformed in May for a Space Sleepover with the Beavers – a packed weekend of non-stop activities and games which everyone enjoyed. You could say it was out of this world!!

June and July saw more badge work – Money Skills, Emergency Aid and Air Activities and some outdoor evenings at Sale Water Park and canoeing with Gripadventure in Sale. Before the Summer term ended we went on a Beaver Day Out to Crocky Trail with the two other Sale Central Beaver colonies and a Beaver Camp at Dunham Massey Scout Camp. Over the term the Beavers had been collecting twenty pence coins in Smarties tubes and voted for the charity of their choice to donate the money to – they picked Ronald McDonald House and raised £104 for this great cause.

Some of the Beavers went on Family Camp in September, unfortunately not all the Leaders could make it AGAIN! Several more parts of the Camp Craft and Outdoors challenge badges were worked on as well. We welcomed Malakai to Pankhurst to do his volunteering for his Duke of Edinburgh. In October we also worked on our Disability Awareness, Safety, Personal challenge, and Creative badges. A local PCSO came to visit us in November and talked to the children about keeping safe and we also worked on our Cook badge and had an evening of activities and games to celebrate St Andrew's Day. Pankhurst Beavers were well represented at Remembrance Parade in Sale too in November. After a number of evening meetings, camps and days out with us as a parent helper, Echo put on a uniform and was invested as an adult Leader by his son Ronan. Caitlin also joined us as a Young Leader as part of her Young Leader Award. We finished the term off with Christmas themed crafts followed by a Christmas party.

Over the course of 2023 we very proudly awarded eight Chief Scout Bronze awards to some very enthusiastic young people.

Can I take this opportunity to thank the rest of the leader team – Hawkeye, Lightning, Echo, Malakai and Caitlin – for everything they do for the Beavers. It really is a team effort and we could not do it without the help of the parent volunteers too. A massive thank you to all the parents that have helped out when asked this year too. We still have a long waiting list and are always on the lookout for more leaders so please do not be shy in stepping forward!

Ros Bryan (Bobtail), Beaver Scout Leader

Kilvert Cub Leaders Report

January saw us working on our Artist and Book Reader badges, as well as a trip to watch a pantomime in Sale. In February there was lots of entertainment as the Cubs had a 'Cubs Got Talent' evening – vocal and instrumental groups, jokes and sports skills and the parents came to watch. Two of our Cubs, Jacob and Fabien also showed their performing skills as they took part in Sale Gang Show 2023, and I even ended up on the stage as part of one of the sketches! We had some visitors to Cubs in March – Dylan's Reptile Time with lots of different creatures to look at and have the chance to hold, a Taekwondo taster session and we also got to help make bug hotels for Walton Park with the Friends of Walton Park. Some of the Cubs even got to plant a tree that had been purchased with money they had raised previously by taking part in a sponsored event with Cubs. Akela organised a Backwoods Cooking sleepover at the Woodbourne Road Hut in March as well.

In April the Cubs and Leaders took part in the St George's Day Parade in Sale. We also worked on our World Faiths badge and did a litter pick at Walton Park. Badges we covered in May were Disability Awareness, Air Activities and Backwoods Cooking and we had an evening at Dunham Scout Camp doing fire lighting and backwoods cooking. We made use of the grassed area at the park and practised putting the tents up and down. This was just in time for the Cub Camp I organised in June as part of my Nights Away qualification. We continued with the outdoors theme and had a 'sports day' at the park in June and also did some shelter building, preparing for a hike and worked on our Navigator badge. We went to Sale Water Park for a hike in July and covered some of our Naturalist badge. The last two weeks of that term were canoeing and a 'No Mowgli Party' as she jetted off around the world on her holidays.

Family Camp was in September where a number of our Cubs attended and had a great time with their families. Lottie joined us in September to cover part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award and brought her dad Gary back with her as a Leader, we knew he would not be able to stay away! My daughter Ruby (Hathi) also joined us as a Young Leader as part of her Young Leader Award. A number of our challenge badges had sections ticked off in September and the artistic side of our Cubs was shown in October when they made different items out of paracord and Halloween themed things out of clay. These covered parts of the Artist badge. We had two teams take part in Cub Mudder 2023 at Bispham – they were brilliant and came in 4th and 7th places, a very respectable result out of the fifty plus teams that entered. Two local PCSOs came to visit in November, and we also had an evening of climbing at Rock Up near the Trafford Centre. The badges we worked on were Home Safety, Environmental Conservation and we had a pack forum and did some problem solving and team building activities. Some of the Cubs and Leaders took part in the Remembrance Parade too. In December we covered part of the International badge and finished off the term with Christmas crafts and a party.

During 2023 we were very pleased to be able to award six of our Cubs with their Chief Scout's Silver Award – a fantastic achievement.

Can I thank all of the leader team – Bobtail, Baloo, Mowgli, Shere Khan, Akela, King Louis, Hathi, Gary and Lottie for all they do for Cubs and a big thank you to the parents for their support too.

Ronnie Bryan (Bagheera), Cub Scout Leader

Parker Cub Leaders Report

Parker cubs had another busy year in 2023, cubs worked towards both challenge badges as well as activity badges, 10 silver awards gained.

The cubs enjoyed varied activities ranging from team building and teamwork to crafts, cubs also did tent work. The cubs also enjoyed a scavenger hunt around sale water park, a chip shop hike, den making and easter egg hunt at Dunham scout camp.

Other activities included a visit to the Bean and Brush, Tea party for the king's coronation, sponsored silence for the PDSA, £200 raised (note to self-need to do more) The cubs also enjoyed fire lighting, cooking, map reading. Local walks, and litter picks.

The cubs continue to enjoy attending canoeing with grip adventure, the year finished with a film and Santa night at GRIPAdventure thanks Glen for making this happen.

Parker cubs attended both district and county events, these included cub mudder, cub canoe comp, Gang show, (one cub took part in the show) St George's day parade and Remembrance Day parade.

Thank you to Zoe for your continued support over 2023, and to Emma who covered me when I was away with work. A huge thankyou to the parents who have helped on the parent rota.

Rachel (Akela)

Scout Leaders Report

The beginning of 2023 the leadership team of Sale Scouts was re-assessing with Matt and Colin being the only uniformed leaders, by the end of the year I am pleased to say that we welcomed Jennie and Kes as uniformed leaders with the additional temporary support of Dave as well.

Sale Central scouts did a variety of activities this year. We looked at improving our navigation skills and tent skills which the Scouts used well on the successful but wet camp we did in June which involved a hike on the Saturday. Ask your Scout about the Scouts who slept in the flooded tent!

We also looked at our World badge and welcomed a guest speaker who had ties with a school in Moldova. The Scouts all sent letters and were eagerly awaiting replies. Sadly we didn't get as many letters back as we hoped, however we learnt a lot about a different country and how culture and amenities can be so varied across the world. We then looked a bit close at home when Matt led a history walk around Sale, learning about JP joules and also the aeroplane crash at Walton Park.

The Scouts also concentrated on their chef badge this year with a small group of them each week planning and cooking a meal for their group. They were lucky enough to partake in sausage and mash, curry, and a creamy pasta dish. Sadly, they didn't want to share with the leaders! They took it in turn to do the cooking while the other scouts looked at knife skills, fire skills and pioneering skills with some varied and sometimes interesting structures being built.

The Scouts also worked on their first aid skills learning CPR, the recovery position, bandage skills all about treating hyperthermia and hypothermia and how to treat burns. All these skills are good to have but ones you hope never to use!

The Scouts also worked on their skills badges with many of them completing chores at home, such as cleaning the toilet and also ironing their shirts ready for Remembrance Day, as part of this we ran the bleep test which definitely knackered the Scouts out everyone put a lot of effort into it and tried their best which is always great to see. As well as helping at home we also successfully completed a litter pick at Walton Park learning to put something back into our community.

We ended the year with a night canoe at Grip adventure, which was certainly an adventure that all the Scouts loved!

As always, we joined in with District and Group events, it was lovely to be involved in the St Georges parade which is always a lovely day with the parade and then the stalls and fair afterwards. We attended the Gang Show where there was a lot of laughter. And the more sombre occasion of Remembrance Day, as always, the Scouts did us proud showing the respect for armed forces both present and past all over the world even though the weather was challenging.

As always, we want to thank the Leaders and parents for the support this past year. We are looking forward to 2024 with a camp planned and Chariot racing also further developing our navigation, survival and hiking skills.

**Kindly produced by Jennie Dootson
On Behalf of the Scout leader team.**

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520239

Accounts

Sale Central Scout Group Annual Report 01/01/2022 – 31/12/2022



The Annual General Meeting of the Sale Central Trustee Board will be held during the Group Family Camp at Waddecar Scout Activity Centre, Preston PR3 2EU.

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Apologies for absence
3. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting of the previous AGM.
4. Presentation of the Annual Report and Accounts

Members of the Group Executive Committee will be available to answer questions.

5. Approval of the Lead Volunteer's nomination of the Group Chair
6. Election of the Group Secretary
7. Election of the Group Treasurer
8. Election of members of the Group Scout Council to the Trustee Board
9. Approval of the Lead Volunteer's nomination of members of the Trustee Board

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Group Chairman's Report

Sale Central Scouts Group is back to being busy again - with many new children joining the group in 2022 and a new section opening.

The hard work and dedication of everyone involved in running the weekly sessions is the same as ever. Although it's worth noting that our area is unusual in that very few parents are now taking part in scouting. This is a shame, as there are many personal and professional advantages to volunteering with the Sale Central Scout Group. Giving back to the local community, learning new things, gaining experience and enjoying charity worker discounts are just a few.

The finances for the group have remained steady and I thank Tina and Ros for their continued involvement in running this.

A special thank-you to Colin, our Quartermaster, who has overseen a complete upgrade of both huts over the last 4 years or so, with new roofs, new floors, toilets and lighting to name just a few. Your hard work will make sure that both Scout Huts are in good shape for many years to come.

From looking through the different section reports, the creativity and enthusiasm of the leaders is clear. Scouting is definitely a window to the world with special events celebrated such as Burns night, 4th July, St George's Day and Remembrance Day. Visits to fire stations, Buddhist temples and canoe trips make the activities come to life in a way that the children can enjoy and remember.

Thanks to everyone who has supported the Group in 2022!

Gavin Stark

Group Chairman

Sale Central Scout Group

Group Treasurers Report

The Scout Group finances are in good health. However, the cost of utilities more than doubled during the year, which has had an impact on the money available to fund scouting activities.

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

Charities Commission Ref: 520239

ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2022

Total Income for Period: £43,945

Total Expenditure for Peri £40,317

Operating Surplus: £3,628

Prepared by:

Kristina Hammond, Group Treasurer

Income			Current Assets			
Membership Fees	£15,385.52	£14,674.00	Community Account	£ 36,503.17	£ 32,591.23	
Raglan Road Rentals	£ 6,906.00	£ 4,330.00	Business Account	£ 20,652.57	£ 21,228.77	
Woodbourne Road Rentals	£12,599.78	£ 7,230.00				£ 53,820.00
Trips/Events	£ 3,535.59	£ -	Fixed Assets			
Other Funding/Donations	£ 3,477.05	£ 4,868.00	Woodbourne Road Hut	£ 265,000.00	£ 265,000.00	
Trailer	£ 1,750.00	£ -	Raglan Road Hut	£ -	£ -	
Utility Overpayment Rebate	£ -	£ 251.00	Equipment and Furniture	£ 13,000.00	£ 13,000.00	
Trafford MBC grants	£ -	£22,253.00				£ 278,000.00
	£43,653.94	£53,606.00		£ 278,000.00		£ 278,000.00
			Total Assets	£ 335,155.74		£ 331,820.00
Expenditure			Liabilities			
Capitation	£ 6,150.00	£ 4,996.00		£ -	£ -	£ -
Water	£ 3,152.08	£ 3,018.00				
Insurance	£ 3,551.34	£ 3,476.00				
Gas & Electricity	£ 9,106.65	£ 4,552.00	Total Liabilities	£ -		£ -
Fire Safety	£ 50.00	£ -				
Badges/Trophies	£ 2,543.37	£ 1,001.00	Accumulated Funds brought forward	£ 331,820.00		£ 311,301.00
Hut Maintenance	£ 611.58	£ 7,591.00	Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	£ 3,335.74		£ 20,596.00
Trips, events & activities	£ 7,926.98	£ 2,388.00	Audit correction	£ -		-£ 77.00
Misc	£ 1,256.70	£ 110.00	Accumulated Funds carried forward	£ 335,155.74		£ 331,820.00
Ground Rent Raglan Hut		£ 350.00				
Other Expenses	£ 5,969.50	£ 5,528.00				
	£40,318.20	£33,010.00				
			Notes:			
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	£ 3,335.74	£20,596.00	Value of Woodbourne Hut based on insured sum			
Depreciation	£ -	£ -	Value of Raglan Hut set to zero as long term lease only			
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	£ 3,335.74	£20,596.00	Value of equipment and furniture based on insured sums			
			No Gift Aid was claimed in 2022			
			Woodbourne Hut rentals is a net sum. Some cleaning and gardening fees were deducted direct from cash rental payments.			

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

Charities Commission Ref: 520239

ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2022

Total Income for Period: £ 43,653.94

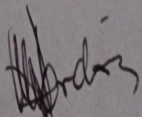
Total Expenditure for Period: £ 40,318.20

Operating Surplus: £ 3,335.74

Prepared by:

Kristina Hammond, Group Treasurer

Review/Scrutinised by:

 7/2/24

Michael Harding, District Treasurer

I have examined and confirmed the above figures from the bank accounts, working documents and other records of payments that were made available.

Group Scout Leaders Report

2022, the year that we truly began our recovery from the scourge of Covid-19, the demand for Scouting had grown throughout the “Lockdown Years” though sadly the same could not be said for Adult Volunteering with many pre-Covid volunteers no longer being available post-Covid.

However, with the incredible dedication of our remaining volunteers, we somehow managed to not only maintain our existing provision but to actually increase it with the opening in February 2022 of Chetham Beavers. Sale Central had already emerged from Covid as the largest group in Sale & District and with our new Beaver Colony, were likely to maintain their position for a few years to come ... but that is highly dependent upon Parents stepping forward ... Leaders in Scouting are not always born Leaders, they usually become Parents first.

Scouting in the District was still finding its feet, unfortunately our St Georges Day Parade was cancelled once again, but that didn't stop many other events taking place including a number of County run events. Our sections are also really pleased to take advantage of some of the brilliant offerings locally, none more so than our friends at GRIP Adventure who offer both water-based activities and land-based activities.

I am incredibly humbled to be the Group Scout Leader at Sale Central because I really feel that we make a difference in our local community and this was never more evidently portrayed than when we held our Family Camp in September of 2022, coming just one day after the death of our Patron Queen Elizabeth II, we gathered at Bispham Hall Scout Estate, feeling rather uneasy at having fun during a period of national mourning, however as I am sure the late Queen would have wanted, fun was combined with respect resulting in the most fantastic “Group” camp in many years.

As the year drew to a close, Sale Central were once more, superbly represented at the Town's Remembrance Day Parade.

Words fail me when I look around me at the fantastic volunteers that make Scouting happen at Sale Central, and in turn, I look at the happy, confident, and skilful young people who make up our membership ... it really brings it home to me why we do, what we do. Many people assume that our amazing Leaders have been doing things for so long that they are

irreplaceable and as much as I would never want to have to replace any one of them, they are all feeling the strain of being relied upon so heavily.

Leaders in Scouting are simply the guardians of the Group ... Your Group, run for Your Sons and Daughters in Your Community ... We value your support but now need more than just that.

We are rapidly approaching Leader Burn Out, Leaders with busy personal lives, their own family issues and the right to say enough is enough ... but they don't, because to do so would result in a particular section no longer able to run, which in turn would impact dozens of young people and their families too ... all the while, those same families look upon those same Leaders and say "they do such a good job" or "I couldn't do what they do".

We must be realistic, for over a hundred years, Scouting has survived only by the number of Parents who have stepped forward as volunteers and yet lately, we have been getting fewer and fewer Parents stepping forward, I genuinely fear for some of our sections. This is not just a Sale Central issue, my own volunteering with multiple groups shows no sign of abating and so it is with great reluctance that I must now force the issue by tendering my resignation as Group Scout Leader of Sale Central, this will enable me to focus on front line Scouting issues for a little while until I ultimately step back from those too.

Several other uniformed Leaders will also be stepping back in the year ahead and the impact of this will be felt unless we already have new volunteers trained up and ready to hit the ground running.

I am sorry to end my notes on such a serious point.

Yours in Scouting

Dave Hannigan

Group Scout Leader

Sale Central Scout Group.

Section Reports – Chetham Beavers



We opened Chetham Beavers in February this year and welcomed 15 new little blue ninjas to the Sale Central family.

Our 1st badges were the membership badge and Teamwork, the perfect badges to start their scouting journey.

It's been a busy 11 months for badge work, we have covered activity badges such as Faith, Health & Fitness, Disability, experiment plus more.

Challenge badges include, Teamwork, Outdoors, Skills

Staged badges have been worked on such as Time on water, nights away and 1st aid.

All the fun has not just been in the hut, we've explored Dunham Scout Camp, visited the Adventure Cave, and had a trip to a fire station. All these visits go towards badges as well.

We've started to learn new practical skills such as putting up tents, lighting fires and tying knots and preparing food.

Chethams also took part in the Sale & District remembrance parade, we were incredibly proud of them. To ask them to parade and stand in silence isn't the most natural behaviour for our ninjas. However, being the stars, they are they did.

We ended our year with a Christmas party, thank you to Col our Scout leader for providing the entertainment.

I would like to end by saying Thank you to all our amazing families that support us. Without your help we wouldn't be able to have the fun we have.

Emma (Rainbow)

Chetham Beaver Scout Leader

Section Reports – Pankhurst Beavers



January 2022 saw us welcome three new Beavers to Pankhurst and we had a log chew and games evening for our first meeting of the new year. Later that month we worked on our Cook badge and celebrated Burns night with traditional Scottish food and games. In February we tried a variety of Chinese foods as part of our Chinese New Year celebrations and we also continued with the Cook badge, along with the Air Activities and Community Impact badges. Lightning sent the ideas that the Beavers had to help climate control to the local MP Mike Kane and later in the year had a reply from his office. The rest of the term saw us work on our Disability Awareness and Faith badges, some Easter activities and we finished the term with a trip to Total Ninja.

At the start of April Pankhurst Beavers, along with other Beaver colonies from our county, went on the Beavers Go Bananas trip to Blackpool Zoo for a day out. After the Easter holidays we worked on our Teamwork and Skills challenge badges. May saw visits to the Buddhist Temple in Old Trafford and also to Sale Fire Station and we concentrated on the Outdoors challenge, Builder, and international badges. In June we did a local walk to visit the grave of Richard Pankhurst, the husband of Emmeline Pankhurst as she is the person that our Beaver colony was named after – we combined this walk with the Explore and Navigator badges. A number of the Beavers attended the County Beaver and Cub Camp in July at Bispham Hall Scout Estate and had an amazing time judging by all the great photos that were put on the Group Facebook page. Other badges that we worked on for the rest of the term included Skills, Teamwork, Adventure and Personal challenge and Health and Fitness. We ended the term with a visit to the Adventure Cave in Sale to do canoeing.

September started with a nature walk around Sale Water Park where I think the Beavers favourite activity sheet was the 'spot the different types of animal poo' one! We carried on the animal theme by having a visit at the hut from Dylan's Reptile Time who we had seen on Zoom the previous year. The Beavers and Leaders took turns to hold a variety of creatures, some of

us even braving the tarantula and snakes! Some of the Beavers attended Family Camp with their parents and siblings, again at Bispham. We had a number of Beavers attending the Remembrance Parade in November which was lovely to see. The remainder of the term was taken up with lots more badge work – Experiment, Global Issues, Cook, Safety, Digital Maker, Space and World and Skills challenge. Christmas crafts were made, and we had a Christmas party and the Beavers brought in donations of festive treats to make up three hampers that we donated to the Trussell Trust Foodbank in Altrincham.

Over the year we were extremely pleased to be able to present Chief Scout Bronze Awards to eight hard working Beavers.

I would like to take this opportunity, once again, to thank all of the parents that helped out at meetings and events in 2022. We really appreciate your support, and we will continue to try and persuade you to join us as Leaders! A big thank you to Hawkeye, Lightning, and Bubbles from me for everything you did in 2022. We still have an ever-growing waiting list, so we are obviously doing something right!

Ros Bryan (Bobtail), Beaver Scout Leader

Section Reports – Kilvert Cubs



Kilvert Cubs had a fun packed 2022, working on lots of badges and taking part in competitions and camps.

Our first term saw the return of Akela. Her Wednesday evenings had not been the same since she left so she decided to come back and join us. We covered a number of badges – Fire Safety, Global Issues, World Faiths, International and DIY. As part of our international badge everyone tried a variety of Chinese foods as part of the Chinese New Year celebrations. The Cubs showed us their dance moves one evening in March and we had another evening at Sale Fire Station. Everyone had a great evening at Total Ninja to finish the first term of the year.

In April we started the meetings with an evening of activities for the Skills Challenge badge before working on Home Safety, Gardener, World Faiths, Air Activities, Hobbies, Athletics and Outdoors Challenge badges over the rest of the summer term. Our World Faiths badge saw us visit the Buddhist Temple in Old Trafford. The Cubs enjoyed another evening at the Adventure Cave in Sale taking part in kayaking as well. Kilvert entered a team in the Canoeing Competition before the Summer holidays, unfortunately we did not win but everyone had a great time. Some of our Cubs also took part in the County Beaver and Cub Camp in July at Bispham Hall. One of our Occasional Helpers Gary stepped down from helping every week with his son moving up to Scouts, but we know we can still count on him for those times we do need another pair of hands.

We started September off with a new Young Leader joining us – King Louis. Some of our Cubs and their families took part in the Eggstreme Family Camp. Lots more badges were earned – Artist, Scientist, Communicator, Astronomer, World and Skills Challenge badges. In October we had a team of Cubs enter the Cub Mudder Competition – they were all amazing and had a great time at Bispham. I took part in my Nights Away training, ready for a Cub Camp in 2023. A number of Cubs paraded on Remembrance Sunday. Christmas crafts and a Christmas party finished off the year.

The leader team was very proud of the Cubs that achieved their Chief Scout's Silver Award in 2022 – seven in total, well done to all of them.

I would like to take this chance to thank all of the leader team at Kilvert – Bobtail, Baloo, Mowgli, Akela, Gary, Shere Khan and King Louis for all their hard work over 2022.

Ronnie Bryan (Bagheera), Cub Scout Leader

Section Reports – Parker Cubs



During 2022 Parker Cubs had another busy year, with lots of activities and badges awarded. Cub's activities included keep fit nights, problem solving, teamwork, healthy eating, map reading, learning country dancing, attended a karate session at Sale Grammar School, Easter egg hunt, craft nights, including a trip to the bean and brush. Cubs enjoyed a 'I'm a Cub Scout get me out of here' themed night. The Cubs also enjoyed a 'Come Dine with Me' themed night. The Cubs also enjoyed evening litter picking.

Cubs paid a visit to Altrincham fire station, Buddha Temple where they attended a service for Buddha's birthday and had a tour around the Temple, the Cubs also celebrated Chinese New Year where they tried Chinese food and learnt new games. The Cubs enjoyed a tea party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Cubs also enjoyed Christmas disco, 90's themed party and Halloween party.

Cubs attended both county and district events, these included county camp, cub mudder, day of excellence, (not sure why I didn't move to Bispham camp site) district canoeing comp, Remembrance Day parade.

Sadly, we lost Emma back to Beavers, but welcomed Zoe to the cub team, thank you Zoe for all your help and support during 2022, a huge thank you to all the parents who have helped on the parent rota, thank you to Daniel, for his help and support prior to his exams, and a big thank you to Leah, Josie and Conner the young leaders you have all been stars.

Rachel (Akela) – Parker Cub Scout Leader

Section Reports – Scouts

SCOUTS

We started Jan '22 with Map reading/navigation skills, some Basic First Aid and 4 Weeks where the scout patrols planned and ran their own meetings for the rest of the Troop.

A fun week for closing at Easter with plenty of chocolate and sweets closed the first term.

After Easter we covered our chef badge, tents, visited the recycling centre, had a night dedicated to America and the 4th July, a night hike and 2 canoeing outings with Grip Adventure.

After a long deserved break over the summer we came back refreshed and ready to start the new year.

A night of silly little ice breaker games to help us get to know all the new faces followed by a fantastic family camp.

Worked towards our astronomer badge, did some Oktoberfest (German) style cooking and then we took part in a split session at Grip Adventure where half did the climbing wall and the other half had a go at indoor archery.

We signed the year off by taking the scouts to Crazy Golf in the Trafford Centre followed by a Mcd's happy meal.

A fun packed year that I hope everyone enjoyed.

In regards to the members themselves, we started 2022 with 18 scouts and 4 leaders

By the time we hit Christmas '22 we had 31 Scouts, 2 Leaders and 1 consistent parent helper.

Thankfully as '23 has progressed our scout numbers have never gone over 35, our 1 consistent parent helper has joined us by putting on a shirt and a second parent who is already a leader has come in to help as well. More

recently another parent (still to get them into a shirt) has been an invaluable help week in week out.

Considering this time last year I was struggling to see how we could manage such a large number of scouts, with the added help from new leaders, current leaders and new blood we have the beginnings of a great leader team. But as I'm sure you have heard many times, more is needed.

Especially with our long term plan (still on the back burner) of splitting the scout section between Woodbourne and Raglan. We have enough scouts to do this, just not enough leaders.

This of course will be an ongoing discussion but I'm hoping that between our parent rota and this camp, we may have lit the spark in some of you to come on board and get stuck in.

Matthew Darke – Scout Leader

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520239

Accounts

Sale Central Scout Group



Annual Report 2021



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**The Annual General Meeting will be held during the Group Family Camp
at Bispham Hall Scout Estate, Crank Rd, Billinge WN5 7DT on Sunday
11th September 2022 at 12.15pm**

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Apologies for absence

3. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting of the previous AGM.

4. Presentation of the annual report and Accounts

Members of the Group Executive Committee will be available to answer questions.

5. Approval of the Group Scout Leader's nomination of the Group Chair

6. Election of the Group Secretary

7. Election of the Group Treasurer

8. Election of members of the Group Scout Council to the Group Executive Committee

9. Approval of the Group Scout Leader's nomination of members of the Group Executive Committee



Group Chair's Report

This was another unusual year for Scouting in Sale. Covid-19 loomed over a large part of the year and many changes were needed to ensure that the individual groups were able to resume meeting face to face. Thanks to everyone involved in completing risk assessments, updating signage and ensuring that social distancing took place. Without this important work, the Group would not have been able to continue as before.

As the restrictions were eventually eased, the popularity of the face to face weekly meetings was soon back to normal levels. Long waiting lists for every section soon resumed and volunteers generously gave their time and energy.

The different groups continued to put on a wide range of fun activities and events, from canoeing to go-karting. Many hundreds of badges were awarded throughout the year to recognise the individual efforts of each and every member to develop and learn new skills.

The section leaders were very keen to get back to holding events and the October half-term provided a great opportunity to have the first Group wide event for nearly two years. The Halloween themed event saw Woodbourne Road Scout Hut converted into a spooky maze and a giant marquee put together for a number of stalls and disco.

It was especially pleasing to see the important fundraising work undertaken for other deserving charities such as the Poppy Appeal, RNLI, Trussell Trust and the Friends of Walton Park.

From a financial standpoint, the Group was able to make a surplus. This was mainly due to continued parental support, Covid-19 grants and corporate donations such as the Co-Operative Community Fund.

In order to provide support to any members in financial need, a bursary fund was created to help with the costs of uniforms, subscriptions and camps to those that needed it. This was generously funded by Glancy Fawcett and Arnold Clark.

A special thanks to Colin who spent many hours maintaining the two huts to a very high level, in addition to his role as a section leader.

Thanks to everyone involved with Sale Central Scouts that allowed the Group to thrive, including all the leaders, the volunteers, the Group Scout Leader, the parent helpers, the Exec Committee and the District Committee.

Gavin Stark

Group Chairman



Group Treasurer's Report

Sale Central Scouts - Annual Accounts 2021

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

Charities Commission Ref: 520239

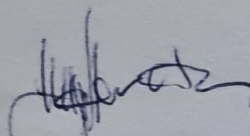
ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2021

Total Income for Period:	£53,607.00
Total Expenditure for Period:	£33,010.00
Operating Surplus:	£20,597.00

Prepared by:

Kristina Hammond, Group Treasurer

Review/Scrutinised by:

 12/10/22

Michael Harding, District Treasurer

I have examined and confirmed only the figures available from the bank accounts provided.
No other records of receipts and payments were available.



Sale Central Scout Group
Accounts for Year : 1 Jan 2021 to 31 Dec 2021

Receipts and Payments (£)

	2021	2020	2019
	£	£	£
Income			
Subs	14,674	9,473	13,094
Raglan Hut Rental	4,330	5,627	7,219
Woodbourne Hut Rental	7,230	5,721	9,091
Trips/event income	0	0	4,420
Bag pack	0	0	734
Gift Aid Relief	0	0	0
Utility overpayment rebate	251	0	322
Co-op Grant for Hut refurbishment	0	0	8,238
Other fundraising/donations	4,868	22,660	0
Insurance refund	0	1,314	0
Trafford MBC grants	22,253		
TOTAL INCOME	53,606	44,795	43,118
Expenditure			
Capitation	4,996	5,254	5,368
Water	3,018	3,106	2,144
Gas & Electricity	4,552	5,647	5,842
Insurances	3,476	4,545	3,311
Fire safety	0	30	84
Trips, events & activities	2,388	271	6,866
Other expenses	5,528	1,537	155
Maintenance and Refurb to Huts	7,591	15,878	15,843
Poppy Appeal donation	110	0	0
New tents	0	0	0
Ground rent Raglan Hut	350	350	350
Badges	1,001		
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	33,010	36,618	39,963
SURPLUS	20,596	8,177	3,155

Notes

The £22,253 grants item was comprised of UK government start-up post-COVID grants accessed via Trafford MBC
No Gift Aid claim was made in 2021. Six annual Gift Aid claims will be made in 2022
Woodbourne Hut rentals is a net sum. Some cleaning and gardening fees were deducted direct from cash rental payments.

Statement of Assets & Liabilities (as at 31 Dec 2021) (£)

Cash Funds	£
Cash in Bank	53,820
Other monetary assets	
Gift Aid Claim	12,200
Investment Assets	
None	0
Non monetary assets	
Woodbourne Road Hut	265,000
Raglan Road Hut	0
Equipment & Furniture	13,000
Liabilities	
None	0

Notes:

Gift aid income - 2015 to 2020 subs @ 75% eligible
Value of Woodbourne Hut based on insured sum
Value of Raglan huts set to zero as long term lease only
Value of equipment and furniture based on insured sums



Group Scout Leader's Report

Scouting Year: 1st January 2021 – 31st December 2021

After 9 months of practically no Scouting whatsoever, 2021 was set to be an even more challenging year than 2020 had been. The false dawns of December 2020, when it looked like we may finally be permitted to restart real Scouting had only demoralised a beleaguered volunteer force even more so when we were again forced into virtual Scouting at the start of 2021

Rather than the adult volunteers supporting the young people, the situation had become reversed, it was only the fact that so many young people were attending Zoom meetings that some Leaders didn't throw in the towel.

Having tasted real Scouting, albeit 'socially distanced Scouting' and to then have it ripped from under our noses proved too much for some, there was now a genuine fear that when/If we ever returned to Face-to-Face meetings, we would not have sufficient volunteers to accommodate the need.

It wasn't until April that we were able to realise that young people were coming back to Scouting in their droves, at a rate that far surpassed the pre-pandemic levels, yet our volunteer team had been reduced to such an extent that, despite being allowed to resume Scouting in some form, sections were forced to remain virtual, simply due to insufficient volunteers.

Remaining volunteers were pulling double and triple shifts to give some semblance of normality whilst the latest strain of Covid was ravaging both the paid and voluntary workforce.

However, as Spring turned into Summer, the Scouting programme started to reseed itself, a number of Parents threw their hat in the ring and the next generation of Leaders joined the stalwarts and Scouting began to happen again.

Even during the Summer break, there was no certainty that we wouldn't be forced into lockdown again, and if we had been, then in my humble opinion, Scouting as we had known it in pre-pandemic times would not have returned for many years, our volunteers were simply exhausted, I cannot stress enough how difficult it is, even for trained professionals, to re-invent a programme, originally designed for the great outdoors ... and make it still work on a phone, tablet or computer screen.

Even when able to meet up Face-to-Face, to run activities at a "social distance" demands incredible creativity and painstaking diligence ... if I didn't know and appreciate the amazing team of volunteers before 2021, then I certainly got to know them throughout 2021 and if I had it within my power to bestow a medal of honour onto each of them, then it still would not reflect the level of respect that I have for each of them.

Never to be outdone, our members, the young people for whom we "do what we do", just flooded back into Scouting. We met some young people who we had never physically met before, despite speaking to some of them online for nearly 18 months, week in, week out. We had new members who were hungry to learn, unfortunately we had some empty spaces too, young people who had seen sports clubs and suchlike, return to "normal" way ahead of Scouting, what normal, Footy mad Cub wouldn't go for a kick-about with friends as opposed to more screen time?

No doubt our Group Treasurers report will reflect that, financially, the Group didn't suffer during the pandemic, despite the loss of our major source of income. The majority of Parents generously agreed to continue paying subs despite the fact that we could only offer online meetings in return, I cannot thank those Parents enough for their show of faith in what we were striving to achieve. Along with this generosity, we also received grants from local government to replace lost revenue from being



able to rent out our premises. We had minimal running costs and very few camps, this enabled us to plough some much-needed funding into our building maintenance, which, although much of it was carried out by our awesome building manager Colin, we were also able to ensure that local businesses were able to find some much-needed work.

Due to the extreme circumstances, my much-needed departure from the role of Group Scout Leader simply did not happen. We are still very thin on the ground from a volunteer perspective, and I genuinely fear that the impact of my departure may prove to be the straw that breaks the camel's back, so, although my departure is not cancelled, it is postponed for the time being.

I would like to finish this report on a very positive note; as a group, Sale Central Scout Group has survived a most challenging time, not just in our short history, but in the history of Scouting, the movement has rarely suffered a period whereby we could not offer our *raison d'être*. Even during the dark days of two World Wars, Scouting and Scouts could at least make a positive contribution to society, yet during 2020 and 2021, we could do nothing other than to act responsibly by staying at home, which ironically is what Scouting is designed to discourage.

Scouting should not have been able to survive the pandemic, we were like fish during a drought and I have no doubt whatsoever that had it not been for some amazing individuals, who, had their own concerns and their own fears, managed to reinvent Scouting despite all the lakes and rivers running dry, I am not sure that we could have survived if the drought continued, but it didn't and because of the efforts of our volunteers, when the rains did arrive, there were still fish in the sea ... and not just a few fish ...

Sale Central emerged from the Pandemic as the biggest group in the District, and we continue to grow into 2022, we are even bigger than we were in pre-pandemic times and that is entirely due to our volunteers, not just those who you bump into at Section meetings but also the unsung heroes who work behind the scenes, our Executive Committee and those who work at District, County and even at National level ... ordinary men and women who have ordinary lives and who may work 9 to 5 before transforming into Scouting Superheroes and this is why I say to you all, no matter what you can offer Scouting, it will be gratefully received because without People like you, me and all the adults you see in Scouting ... our young people simply would not have the opportunities that Scouting offers ... and we need more.

Yours in Scouting

Dave Hannigan

Group Scout leader

Sale Central Scout Group.



Quartermaster's report

We have had to replace a few of our tents this year as they had been well used over the years and had signs of wear and as the group still is getting bigger all the time we needed to buy more, we bought some tables for camping trips as the hut is being used and they need tables as well, we have been doing a lot of maintenance on the cookers tents and general equipment .

Woodbourne hut

The hut has seen a vast make over during the last 18 months with new toilets, new electrics and a complete paint of the hall and areas. The main hall floor has been sanded, repaired and varnished, we have had a new security light fitted to the main door with a sensor for when leaving the building, general maintenance is ongoing and as the grounds .

Next 12 months we need to change a number of fence panels around the grounds

Raglan rd

The main hall has had paint-over, new ceiling tiles in areas were needed and a full rewire. Security lights fitted building for when leaving building in the dark nights

We do need to arrange two work days one at raglan and one at Woodbourne

Yours in scouting
Colin



Sale Central (Pankhurst) Beavers (Woodbourne Road)

We started our 2021 Beaver meetings on Zoom, where we covered Faith, Global Issues and Safety activity badges. As well as these we worked on our Teamwork and Outdoors Challenge badges. One of the highlights of Zoom for the Beavers was a visit from 'Dylan's Reptile Time' where we were introduced to a frog, snake, bearded dragon, skink and many others. One of our parents made a Powerpoint for Chinese New Year which we shared and enjoyed.

The Beavers took part in a sponsored cooking event in aid of The Trussell Trust Foodbank in Altrincham this term too and they raised an amazing £330. With this we spent £65.60 on food items they specifically needed and donated the other £264.40 as a bank transfer to them.

After the Easter holidays we had a couple of Zoom meetings and then the moment we had all been waiting for – BACK TO FACE TO FACE MEETINGS! We finally met our newest Beavers in person as we had only seen them on a screen. Our last Zoom meeting saw us building bird houses and decorating them and our first meeting back at the hut included an obstacle race. With some restrictions still in place we had to socially distance ourselves for all our activities which took a bit more planning but we achieved it. We covered the Gardener, Book Reader, Health and Fitness and Experiment activity badges and had a very competitive Mini Football Tournament. We finished the term with a visit to the Adventure Cave to take part in bouldering and archery.

Over the course of this term we were very proud to award seven Beavers with their Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

In September we had more new Beavers join and it was the start of Lightning's Scouting journey. She joined us to demonstrate first aid to cover the Emergency Aid badge and she hasn't looked back since.

We covered our Cook, Money Skills, Creative and Photographer badges and worked on our Skills Challenge badge. It was lovely to be able to take part in the Remembrance Day Parade again and the Beavers did us proud.

The Beavers took part in their second fundraising event of the year this term too. They all had a tube of Smarties to eat and then fill the empty tube with as many 20p coins as they could. They voted on which charity this should be for and raised a brilliant £110.50 which was donated to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

The term finished with a Christmas party and the eagerly awaited end of term giving out of badges.

Can I say a big thank you to the parents that helped at meetings in 2021, all the leaders really do appreciate it. Also a huge thank you from me to Hawkeye, Lightning, Keo and Bubbles – we may not all be able to make every meeting but we all ensure that Thursday evenings are enjoyable for our young people. By the number of Beavers we have and the size of our waiting list I would say we are doing a pretty good job!

Ros Bryan (Bobtail), Beaver Scout Leader



Sale Central (Howard) Beavers (Raglan Road)

2021 was an awful year and yet 2021 was so fulfilling. Of course, we were right in the middle of the pandemic and so we were still not allowed to meet face to face for the first part of the year.

We started 2021 in much the same way as we ended 2020, trying to convert the usual Beaver programme over to an online equivalent, whilst keeping it fun and engaging for our Beavers.

The Beavers themselves made it very easy, because they would log on, week in, week out, with such enthusiasm. Many of them, we had never met face-to-face and yet they were like old friends.

During January, we tackled online Navigation covering some quite advanced map reading skills, we also covered communications and food ... but mostly we just chatted with each other ensuring that nobody felt alone and that everybody still had plenty to look forward to.

Even when we were permitted to run socially distanced activities, confidence was not high with the Beavers or the Leaders and so we continued with our online offering, including Disability awareness, and a couple of really great cooking sessions where the Beavers first made a cake in a mug followed the next week by making the most amazing looking pizza's.

It wasn't until June that we got together in person, how strange it was to meet some who had been Beavers for 15 months, who we had never met, it was so lovely though to see those who went to different schools getting along so well because they knew each other through online meeting.

We took advantage of the summer freedom and held as many meetings outdoors as possible including working on our local knowledge badge.

Team working played a huge part in the final term along with finishing off our "Disability awareness" badge, we covered off the new Money badge in one evening, we worked on our Environment badge and our Health & Fitness badge too, we finished off the year with a Movie night where we watched Home Alone.

Probably my proudest moment of the year though was the Remembrance parade, seeing our amazing colony so well turned out and respectfully commemorating those who had fallen during past wars.

Along with Sunshine (Ciara) and Dave, we had some much-appreciated help from a number of Parents during 2021. I don't think anybody would have chosen to meet on Zoom as much as we did, and yet those weekly calls were very special times where I think we helped the Beavers, and the Beavers certainly helped the Leaders to get through some very dark times.

Thank You all

TicTac (Keri)



Sale Central Parker Cub Pack

Parker cubs returned face to face in April 21, where they adapted well to the new way of face-to-face meetings. Activities ranged from teamwork, problem solving, back to basic scouting skills such as map reading learning knots, pioneering and tomahawk throwing. They also covered first aid, gardening and athletics badges, The cubs spent a morning at Dunham where they learnt fire lighting as well as shelter building and played wide games. They also spent time on the water doing canoeing with GRIP Adventure, pack forums held regularly for the cubs to help plan meetings as part of the you shape badge. The cubs also learned how to change light bulbs, lay tables, and iron neckers. The cubs also covered international nights such as St Andrews night when they had a highlands games night. The cubs also had craft nights. This is just to name a few of the activities

The cubs attended a joint cub camp in October with Raglan cubs.as this was the first camp we had done since returning from lock down the cubs only did one night, they covered tomahawk throwing, Archery, fire lighting Para cording, shooting, shelter building, campfire

The cubs have attended group events as well as district events these have included Halloween spooktacular, Remembrance Day parade, one if the cubs helped lay the poppy reef on behalf of the district. Some of the cubs represented the group by selling poppies around Sale. As part of the Remembrance Day the cubs learnt about how scouts played a part in the war effort.

The year ended with a Christmas disco in which they enjoyed playing traditional party games, thanks to Colin for a fantastic night even though I still need to get revenge for finishing the night with the crazy frog song.

I Would like to Thank Emma for all your help and support over the year. And to all the parents who helped on the parent Rota, without the support i could not have run. A huge thank you to Daniel for all his help and support as a young leader, even though he made me feel old by turning 18. Thanks to Ros and Pete for covering on nights when we were short on leaders, and for Dave for being on the other end of the phone when needed.

Looking forward to the next 12 months of new cub adventures and challenges.

Yours in Scouting

Akela (Rachel)



Sale Central Kilvert Cub Pack

The first half of 2021 remained on Zoom for the Kilvert Cubs. We covered a number of badges – Home Safety, Personal Safety, Road Safety, Local Knowledge and Entertainer. We also did some origami, played Taskmaster and Charades and made mini rafts.

Face to face meetings returned at the end of June and we made use of Walton Park for our first two Cubs sessions. Before meeting in person again we covered our Chef and Collector badges on Zoom. We finished the Summer term with a canoeing session at the Adventure Cave.

One Cub was awarded their Chief Scout's Silver Award this term.

It was at this point that Akela handed over the keys and the job of Section Leader to me when she moved away for her work.

When we started back in September Bobtail from Woodbourne Pankhurst Beavers joined us as a leader and shortly after that Mowgli and Baloo became uniformed leaders too. Shere Khan joined us in November as a Young Leader as well.

October saw a number of Kilvert Cubs and leaders go to a long awaited Cub Camp at Dunham and in November we paraded for Remembrance Day.

Some of our Cubs took part in a sponsored event this term. They stopped using games consoles, the Internet, etc for a week to do their bit to help the environment. They raised £343 and this will be buying some new trees to be planted in Walton Park, this being done through the Friends of Walton Park.

Over this term we worked on our Navigator, Personal Challenge, World Challenge, Outdoor Challenge and Emergency Aid badges. We also had a talent show and parents were invited in to take part in a quiz with the Cubs. We finished off with Christmas games, crafts and a Christmas movie night.

Can I take this opportunity to thank Bobtail, Baloo, Mowgli, Akela, Gary and Shere Khan for everything they have done at Cubs in 2021.

Ronnie Bryan (Bagheera), Cub Scout Leader



Sale Central Scouts Section

Going back to June 2021 we only had 19 members. This was partly due to some of the older scouts moving on, some members genuinely leaving due to lack of interest through a combination of us holding so many Zoom Meetings and starting basic face to face which, some families were understandably cautious about.

However, We were the first section to go back to Face to Face meetings so we ran activities according to those rules. These few meetings were quite simple to allow us to stay within covid rules of social distancing and limiting the sharing of equipment. But as the year progressed the restrictions were relaxed enough allowing us to move into more interesting meetings.

Fast forward to September '21, we managed such meetings as, Fire Station Visit, Bike Ride, Photography badge, Teamwork challenge, Personal Challenge, DIY Badge and then we finished the year by going Bowling... all in all, a great term to peak interest and start rebuilding numbers.

As a leader Team have hit another speed bump. We haven't seen Rob in ages & David Chan, who has been brilliant in helping with the Scouts over the past few years, has unfortunately had to take step back as his is starting his Masters Degree, couple that with a family and full time work, he just can't commit to Scouts for the time being but has told us that he will return after his degree so fingers crossed there.

This now means that Scouts is run solely by myself and Colin. However, on a brighter note, Pete and Jennie have already kindly agreed to come on board as Parental helpers and have already sat in on their first Scout Planning Meeting. So massive thanks to you both.

Massive thanks to Colin for everything he does, Big thanks to David and best wishes for his Degree. Let's hope we can keep this momentum going for the future.

Matt Darke

Scout Leader



SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520239

Accounts

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP**

**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR
JANUARY 2020 - DECEMBER 2020**



30TH OCTOBER 2021

At 5.45pm

Woodbourne Road Scout Hut, Sale

Agenda

1. **Chair's Welcome and Apologies for Absence**
2. **Minutes of the last AGM - Approval**
3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
4. **Chair's Report**
5. **Group Scout Leader's Report**
6. **Section Reports**
 - a. Beavers
 - b. Cubs
 - c. Scouts
 - d. Quartermaster
7. **Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the Accounts**
8. **GSL's Nominations for:**
 - a. Group Chair
 - b. Members of the Group Executive Committee
9. **Election of:**
 - a. Members of the Group Executive Committee
 - b. Group Secretary
 - c. Group Treasurer
 - d. Group Scrutineer
10. **Agree Quorum for Group Scout Council, Group Exec and Sub-Committees**
11. **Agree the number of members that may be elected to the Group Executive**
12. **Adopt the Constitution of the Group**
13. **District Representative**
14. **Any Other Business**

Thank you for joining us this evening!

Chair's Report

What a year 2020 was! It is probably one of the most challenging years that the group has faced in a generation, but the way that the leaders adapted and faced up to the unique situation was amazing to witness.

At a time when some schools were struggling to adapt to a new set of circumstances, all the Sale Central groups were able to move quickly online and create a new programme from scratch to inspire and challenge young minds. It wasn't easy and a new set of skills was needed by the leaders, who were able to successfully rise to the occasion. A highlight of the first lockdown was the virtual camp, complete with a campfire and songs from Dave via Zoom to tents in gardens and living rooms all over Sale.

With the enforced lockdown underway, it was the perfect opportunity to undertake some important structural improvements to both of the scout huts, including an electrical rewiring, kitchen improvements and the installation of LED lighting, all expertly overseen by Colin.

Some of the highlights of the year were the Scouts who still managed to earn hundreds of badges in 2020 from home, especially those who won their Chief Scouts Awards.

The group made a small financial surplus last year. We received a large grant from the Co-Op Community Fund and another grant from Trafford Council. This allowed for the group to continue the activities in spite of everything that happened.

I want to take this time to thank all the volunteers, the Scout leaders, the parent helpers, the Exec committee members and the District committee for all their hard work and devotion that make the Scout group a success. A special thanks to Dave Hannigan for all the additional administration work required this year, completing numerous risk assessments, updating payment records and making the spaces Covid secure.

The group is always looking for extra volunteers, and anyone who wants to give something back to the community will find it a very rewarding activity.

Gavin Stark
Group Chair

Treasurer's Report

SALE CENTRAL SCOUT GROUP

Charities Commission Ref : 520239

ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2020

Total Income for Period = £44,795.00

Total Expenditure for Period = £36,618.00

Operating Surplus = +£8,177.00

Prepared by:



Darren Wisler, Group Treasurer

Review/Scrutinised by:



Paul Atkinson, Independent Accountant

Sale Central Scout Group											
Accounts for Year : 1 Jan 2020 to 31 Dec 2020											
Receipts and Payments (£)						Statement of Assets & Liabilities (as at 31 Dec 2020) (£)					
	2020		2019								
Income	£		£			Cash Funds	£				
Subs	9,473		13,094			Cash in Bank	33,301				
Raglan Hut Rental	5,627		7,219			Other monetary assets					
Woodbourne Hut Rental	5,721		9,091			Gift Aid Claim	12,200				
Trips/event income	0		4,420			Investment Assets					
Bag pack	0		734			None	0				
Gift Aid Relief	0		0			Non monetary assets					
Water Rate overpayment rebate	0		322			Woodbourne Road Hut	265,000				
Co-op Grant for Hut refurbishment	0		8,238			Raglan Road Hut	0				
Other fundraising/donations	22,660		0			Equipment & Furniture	13,000				
Insurance refund	1,314		0			Liabilities					
						None	0				
TOTAL INCOME	44,795		43,118			Notes:					
Expenditure	£		£			<i>Gift aid income - 2015 to 2020 subs @ 75% eligible</i>					
Capitation	5,254		5,368			<i>Value of Woodbourne Hut based on insured sum</i>					
Water	3,106		2,144			<i>Value of Raglan huts set to zero as long term lease only</i>					
Gas & Electricity	5,647		5,842			<i>Value of equipment and furniture based on insured sums</i>					
Insurances	4,545		3,311								
Fire safety	30		84								
Trips, events & activities	271		6,866								
Other expenses	1,537		155								
Maintenance and Refurb to Huts	15,878		15,843								
Francis House donation	0		0								
New tents	0		0								
Ground rent Raglan Hut	350		350								
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	36,618		39,963								
SURPLUS	8,177		3,155								
Notes											
<i>The £22,660 grants item was in large part comprised of £22,000 of UK government COVID support grants accessed via Trafford MBC</i>											
<i>No Gift Aid claim was made in 2020. Six annual Gift Aid claims will be made in 2021.</i>											
<i>Woodbourne Hut rentals is a net sum. Some cleaning and gardening fees were deducted direct from cash rental payments.</i>											

There was a small surplus of approx £8K which is in large part down to the parents keeping up subs payments through COVID (Subs of £9.4k) and grant support of approx £22K.

On the expenditure side, we managed to have another good year on hut maintenance – keeping up the momentum from 2019 with a number of big projects.

Darren Wisner
Group Treasurer

Group Scout Leader's Report (2020)

I have no doubt that had I been writing this report on the 1st January 2020, I could not have predicted the impact that Covid-19 was about to have on Scouting, the Country or the World.

We had heard reports of an infectious condition in a province of China, but we had heard similar things in the past.

2020 started in a similar vein to how 2019 had ended, we took things for granted, Scouting was how Scouting had been for the majority of the 112 years that had preceded 2020.

The Younger Sections enjoyed a Pantomime at the Waterside Theatre.

We had a swimming gala in which Raglan Road Beavers managed a very creditable joint 3rd place overall and Woodbourne Cubs continued their incredible winning streak from Cub Mudder 2019 to being crowned Joint Winners overall in the Cub section swimming races.

We had our annual trip to the Sale & District Gang Show, now back at the Waterside.

Beavers had an awesome Harry Potter themed Sleepover.

And then ...

It is far too easy to take negatives out of the remainder of the year ... Scouting was put on hold on the 16th March 2020 but it was only going to be for a month or so right?

2020 was our 15th Year as Sale Central Scout Group, we had plans for a great Family Camp to celebrate our 15th Birthday, we continued with our plans, this was simply too big to miss.

As March turned into April which rolled into May, it was becoming quite obvious that normal was being redefined, meetings were being held on something called Zoom, virtual meetings where everyone had a 3 inch by 2 inch piece of screen and could be muted en-masse at the click of a button.

People look at me like I am mad when I tell them what hard work this was ... to take a programme of an organisation whose big Unique Selling Point is “Put away your devices and get outdoors” and to turn that programme into something that resembled “Don’t go outdoors, stay in with a device and remember to have fun” ... if all we had to do was redesign the programme, it would be asking the impossible but to then ask our Leaders to actually deliver that programme, to be enthusiastic about something that none of us signed up for. Some of our Leaders couldn’t even use a calculator in 2019 and here we were, asking them to write, produce and present their own interactive TV shows.

In the outside world, May apparently became June and apparently the Sun was warm ... and our highly anticipated Family camp ... became a virtual Family Camp ... and it was BRILLIANT.

Leaders lead sessions for all age groups, Parents were now accustomed to sitting close by got front and centre, we had numerous virtual activities throughout the day, virtually camped in our gardens or our sheds or our bathrooms, we had a virtual campfire with what can only be described as a virtual synch-along (due to Zoom lag, each song actually sounded like an argument) ... but it was simply wonderful and lifted the spirits of everyone involved. It wasn’t what we had planned, but deprivation made us appreciate what we were missing ... and if I ever get old 😊 that is what I will take away from 2020 ... that we learned to appreciate what we previously took for granted.

Our Leaders were now getting cocky ... “No, you can’t have a live satellite link to Australia.”, “No, the Group will not invest in 30 Virtual reality Headsets.”, “No, there is no such thing as a Gastroscopy Badge.”

Usually, the School holidays would save us and give us time to recharge our batteries, but some sections even held drop-in sessions throughout the (so called) “Break”.

September brought a chink of light, the local readiness level changed from Red to Amber meaning that with conditions, we could stand outside within earshot of each other, Covid was very much still out there but were Parents, Young People and Leaders prepared to risk it?

Our overall response made me very proud, we weren’t prepared to risk furthering the spread of Covid-19, many of our Leaders work in Schools and with vulnerable Children ...

no matter how great the urge, safety prevailed, and our virtual meetings continued throughout the year.

I cannot close without giving a special mention, first of all to those young people who stuck with us throughout, without your attendance, Leaders would not have continued despite being so far out of their comfort zone. Some Young People simply could not cope with Virtual Scouting, that is completely understandable ... Neither could many “old” people.

Some of the biggest heroes to come out of 2020 from a Scouting perspective were the Parents of our Members, sitting patiently through another Scavenger hunt game or another Quiz, often getting involved and occasionally getting quite uppity when getting a question wrong 😊

The biggest thing that I think we took from 2020 was the confirmation that we are a community, we all did so many things for the good of our collective young people, we offered Parents a subscription holiday ... I think revenue from subscriptions actually increased which is absolutely amazing ... obviously the group lost an awful amount of revenue from the hiring of our premises, but this was countered by some very generous grants from local government and others.

Obviously, the Covid story doesn't end there, tune in to next year's AGM for the next instalment of Scouting versus Covid-19.

I feel very humbled to have been the Group Scout Leader of such a great group throughout what has undoubtedly been their most challenging year ... I am so very proud to say that Covid-19 gave it its best shot ... and we owned it.

Thank You to so many people who made that happen, from our ever supportive Executive Committee lead by Gavin, Jennie and Tina to the most amazing set of uniformed leaders Colin, Matt, David, Rob, Rachel, Emma, Rebecca, Ronnie, Ros, Pete, Kerryann, Hannah, Keri and Ciara and not forgetting our fantastic Young Leaders Isaac and Daniel and two ladies who you rarely hear about but who are critical cogs in the machine ... Mary and Nadine.

In light of my pride, it may seem a strange time to mention that I am stepping down as Group Scout Leader, it really has been a privilege to serve the group as GSL, however, my appointment was only ever intended to be a short term measure.

My passion and my strength has always been on the front line, delivering activities for young people, this conflicts with the role of GSL and due to a shortage of volunteers, I feel that my time can be better served leading activities as opposed to leading leaders.

Sale Central is desperate for adult volunteers to lighten the load on those who currently volunteer, the more people that step forward, the lighter the load for everybody ... so, even if you can only offer to manage hut bookings or help out with occasional maintenance tasks, or just be that extra set of adult eyes and ears once a month, you would be as appreciated as those who run the front lines or who keep the group running on the Exec committee.

Volunteers are merely the custodians of the group, the group belongs to the young people and their supportive families ... but without those volunteers stepping forward ... the group cannot continue to exist.

I will be maintaining my role until a suitable replacement can be found or until the Easter break (whichever comes first).

Dave Hannigan

Group Scout Leader

Beavers - Section Reports



Raglan Road Beavers -Section Report 2020

It is quite incredible to look back through our Online Scout Manager as to what we were doing and with whom.

Our typical Tuesday night attendance was around 20-22 Beavers, ably overseen by Tictac (Keri), Sunshine (Ciara) and Keeo (Dylan) with occasional help from Rainbow (Emma) and Dave.

Initial activities included celebrating Burns night as part of our International Badge, we also did Air Activities and Communication Skills.

We also attended a Pantomime at the Waterside Theatre along with Cubs and Beavers from other sections of the group, we took part in (and came joint third in) the District Swimming Gala, we attended the Sale & District Gang Show, again at the Waterside Theatre and probably the highlight of the year for those involved, we held a Harry Potter Sleepover at the Woodbourne Road Hut.

2020 was building into the most fantastic year ... until it potentially came grinding to a halt in mid-March with the announcement that all Face-to-Face activities were suspended until further notice.

Raglan Road Beavers swiftly moved over onto Virtual Meetings via Zoom, initially it was a novelty and so attendance was only slightly impacted by the change, however as the initial month rolled into 2 months, 3 months, 4 months ... attendance dropped.

Contrary to popular belief, many young people did not want "Screen time", they wanted to be out there doing things, having fun ... Thankfully, we had a core group of Beavers who attended just about every virtual meeting, we even had some new Beavers come on board ... who had never met the rest of the Colony Face to Face and yet were just as much a part of this amazing group of young people.

Our online activities were created on the fly or on the day of the meeting, however we became adept at engaging our amazing attendees with whatever we came up with, as the term continued virtually, we realised that we would need to start delivering programme again as there is no badge for playing Animal Tiles or Scavenger hunting.

Whatever we set before our Beavers, they did it with enthusiasm, always supported by their ever-patient Parents who must have often laughed at the online antics but who were there for their son or daughter.

In June, the group celebrated its 15th Birthday, we had planned a Family Camp to take place at Tatton Scout Camp. Lockdown wasn't going to stop us and so the camp was moved to a Virtual Camp, Beavers were camping in their gardens or their sitting rooms or just turning their beds into dens, Leaders from across the group took it in turn to run activities and young people could drop in or drop out of any activity, as is tradition, the camp finished with a virtual campfire ... Zoom certainly does not lend itself to synchronised singing (my excuse).

September rolled along and the much-anticipated return to Face-to-Face simply did not happen. We focussed more on badgework during the new term. First Aid online is not an easy subject, but our Beavers grasped it in a heartbeat, teamworking, Worship, International all took some of our time ... the highlight of the year for me and for many of the parents of those in attendance would have to be an online rendition of "Last Christmas" which we captured on video ... it was truly emotional.

My big take-away from 2020 will undoubtedly be the sense of community that surrounds this group, everybody was suffering, whether that be Parents facing financial hardship or

concern over the social and educational impact on their children or the young people themselves who, by the end of 2020 had spent the best part of 9 months apart from their friends, away from “Normal” ... for Adults, 9 months is an awfully long time, to somebody who is 6 or 7 ... it is almost an eternity.

But we didn't allow it to beat us, we made best use of what we had, we couldn't have played our part without the superhuman efforts of Parents. We definitely came out of 2020 even stronger (as a community) than we went into it.

Written on Behalf of Tictac

Dave Hannigan

(Daft Dave to our Beavers)

WOODBOURNE BEAVERS 2020

When I sat down to write this report, I was unsure of what else happened other than Zoom in 2020 but when I looked back some amazing memories were made.

We started the year with visits to a panto and Gang Show, along with Raglan Beavers and then our unforgettable Harry Potter sleepover. We also entered a team in the swimming gala.

Also, in the first term of the year we covered several activity badges – Book Reader, International and Communicator and the staged badge Air Activities. Alongside these we worked on various parts of our Teamwork, Skills and Adventure challenge badges. This term also saw four Beavers achieving the Bronze Award.

Then life changed for everyone, and we all got used to Zoom meetings – while trying to still cover badge work we had the job of making the online meetings fun for the Beavers and many a game of bingo and numerous scavenger hunts were had. Malak was the chief quiz maker. The majority of our Beavers remained with us online which was great to see. Some of our Beavers took part in the virtual camps held in April and June and all had a fun time. Beavers and Leaders clapped for the NHS on their doorsteps too.

We ran a few online meetings during the summer holidays to keep in touch with the Beavers and July saw four more Beavers being awarded their Bronze Awards, albeit socially distanced on their doorsteps.

September saw new Beavers starting their Scouting journey and for me personally my step up to being Section Leader at Woodbourne Beavers and Rainbow's transfer to being Assistant Leader at Woodbourne Cubs.

That term we covered parts of our Creative badge and our Collector badge, while also working on sections of our Skills challenge badge. We had an online visitor telling us about their job in our community as part of one of these badges. Remembrance Day was also marked at home with both Beavers and Leaders in uniform in their gardens.

Many badges were delivered by hand to the Beavers and we were very proud of them still managing to achieve all that they did, under the very unusual circumstances. Along with badges various packs were dropped off to cover Christmas activities and a number of prizes for our Lodge competition – Willow the reigning champions at the moment. We finished 2020 with two more Beavers achieving their Bronze Award, bringing the total for our colony this year to 10 awards.

Can I take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the parents who supported us in this very unusual year and continue to do so. None of us were experts on Zoom but by working together I would say we achieved a pretty amazing year.

I would also like to thank Hawkeye, Keeo and Bubbles and our Young Leader Malak for the support they have given to me personally in my newest role and to all of the fantastic young people who join us on a Thursday evening.

Ros Bryan, Beaver Scout Leader

Cubs - Section Report



RAGLAN CUBS 2020

Raglan Cubs had a busy 2020 in spite of lockdowns. We started the year with a visit to a pantomime and we entered a team in the annual swimming gala. Over the first term of the year we covered the Chef badge, Fire Safety badge, Entertainer badge and Scientist badge and also parts of the Teamwork, Skills, Adventure and Outdoor challenge badges. We were also lucky enough to have Policeman Bob visit us.

April saw a camp at home and work on the Personal challenge badge with our first Zoom meeting at the end of the month. From May to July on Zoom we had games nights, bingo, who am I, Scategories and quizzes. The badges covered that term were Hobbies, Gardening, Navigation and First Aid and sections of the Skills, World, Teamwork and Adventure challenge badges. We also took part in a virtual camp in June.

In the last term of the year we made armpit fudge, a cake in a mug and tried to get an egg into a bottle! Badge work for this part of 2020 was on Disability Awareness, Astronomer and Home Safety, alongside work on our World, Skills, Teamwork and Adventure challenge badges.

Over 2020 three Cubs achieved their Chief Scout's Silver Award before going up to Scouts.

A big thank you to all the parents who supported the Leaders and Cubs over this year, especially while we were on Zoom.

Ronnie Bryan, Cub Scout Leader

PARKER CUBS AGM REPORT 2021

Cubs Started the 2020 programme at full speed, attending the pantomime at Sale Waterside with the Beavers, soon after we were taking part in the district swimming gala, where they came joint 1st. Then not long after that it was another district event, Cubs cooking competition.

It looked as though we were going to have a fun packed year then lockdown happened. We went into lockdown as the Cubs finished their last face to face meeting in March 2020.

After a few weeks of waiting the Cub leader team had to step out of their comfort zone and embrace Zoom. This started off by playing games such as bingo, scout fortunes as well as scavenger hunts. Then we realised that zoom was not going away soon so we started on badge work.

Badges covered were activity badges such as the Astronomer, world faith, my faith, chef, artist, home safety, communicator; they also covered challenge badges such as the skills challenge and world challenge.

We arranged for a couple of guest speakers while on zoom to cover the artist badge and world challenge, world faith and my faith. Some of the cubs worked on badges at home, such as the cyclist badge, gardener, collector.

The cubs also joined in the virtual group camp at home. Not what we had planned but a welcome distraction, not sure virtual campfires work though!!

Towards the end of the year, we covered Remembrance Day, Diwali where we made Diya holders and some cubs shared how they celebrate Diwali with their families.

Our last meeting of a very strange year was Christingle night.

Considering we were on zoom we averaged about 18 Cubs. Sadly, we lost some cubs, virtual scouting wasn't for them. On the positive side we had beavers move up, and cubs who joined us from enquiries.

I would like to thank both Emma's for their support while we were on zoom, and to the parents who became leaders while we were on zoom. Without your support the Cubs wouldn't have achieved what they did through lockdown.

Looking forward to the next adventures of cubs now that we have returned back to face to face.

Rachel Lyttle

Section Leader - Cub Scouts

Scouts - Section Report

SCOUTS

Scout Program 2020

With a full complement of Scouts, 2020 was shaping up to be a fantastic year!

Not only was this year going to be our 15th Birthday, it also marked my 10 Years as a Leader with Sale Central.

As part of the prep towards our 15th Birthday Camp, we filled our first term back by starting our Skills, World and Personal Challenge Awards. We even had time to do some cooking, a night hike and some maintenance nights where we got out, checked and re-folded some of our tents.

Then came the Lock Down...and no Camp :(

We struggled to get ourselves up and running with a program that could be run via Zoom, but a program that would keep the Scouts interested and engaged.

Luckily I like a good Powerpoint Presentation... So, starting in September and running up until the end of 2020, we used these to their full potential.

Navigation, Construction, Cooking, Survival, Craft, Chef, Guest Speakers, Entertainers, Quizzes, and a whole range of games!

Unfortunately, between their time with us ending and simply because we were on Zoom so much, we went from over 20 Scouts to a consistent group of just 6. Some of them missing their last camp with us!

Thankfully, the new year brought us new Scouts moving up from Cubs and we were the first section to venture back to Face to Face Meetings. I am happy to say that between getting back outside with a small camp, a hike, canoeing, pioneering, axe throwing and a trip to Go Karting we are now back up to a Troop of 20 Scouts with many more on the way from Cubs.

As great as this is, it does highlight our need for new Leaders/Parent Helpers. We are averaging 2-3 Leaders per week which is just about manageable with our current numbers, but with more and more cubs, our long term goals that were set out nearly two years ago of opening up a second Scout Group at Raglan Rd need to be re-visited. But in order to do this... The number of adult Leaders we have needs to double.

I really hope this is something we can push as a group as I have no doubt the Scout Section will continue to thrive as we have no concerns over numbers, both current or future and having two Scout Groups adds the extra benefit of us being able to join forces for larger troop events, allowing more and more friendships and greater experiences to had by all.

Thanks to all the Leaders for all the time that they give and for the help they have given me in keeping the Scout Section going during one of our hardest years!

Matt

Quartermasters Report

Even though the groups were not meeting in person for much of the year, there is always a long backlist of jobs to be undertaken at both of the huts.

Some of the main projects undertaken in 2020 were:

- Installation of new smoke and fire alarm system at Woodbourne hut
- Re-furb of ladies toilets at Woodbourne hut and installation of new pipework
- Complete repainting of the Woodbourne hut
- New garage doors installed at Raglan Rd Hut after a break in
- Replacement of 30 ceiling tiles at Raglan Rd
- Repainting the back walls at Raglan Rd
- Retiling of the kitchen at Raglan Rd