

**EPSOM
AIR SCOUTS
2021
ANNUAL
REPORT**





Scouts

**8th/14th Epsom
Air Scouts**

(St Barnabas and St Joseph's)

AIR SCOUT GROUP





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THE GROUP PRAYER

Almighty God, who has joined us together
in the fellowship of this Group,
help us to think fairly, do things bravely,
act kindly and to live cleanly.

Bless us in body and soul and give us
strength

to keep our three-fold promise
so that by the lives we live,
we make the lives of others happy.

Amen.





THE GROUP'S DETAILS

Epsom Air Scout Group is a branch of the "Scout Association" formed under Royal Charter. It operates under the Association's "Policy, Organisation and Rules". The Group is a Trust established under its rules that are common to all Groups and Districts. The Group's registration number is 12678.

SCOUT ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS:

Scout Association's Headquarters, Gilwell Park, Bury Road, Chingford, London, E4 7QW. Tel: 08453 001818.

GROUP HEADQUARTERS:

Concorde Hall, The Footpath, Horton Hill, Epsom, KT19 8SR.

Tel: 01372 742502.

Web site <http://www.epsomairscouts.org>.

GROUP CONTACT:

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GROUP BANKERS:

Barclays Bank plc. 82 High Street, Epsom, KT19 8BS. Tel: 01372 853000.

Lloyds Bank plc. 64 High Street, Epsom, KT19 8AT. Tel: 01372 743711.

CAF, 25 Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4JQ. Tel: 0300 012 3456.

GROUP INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

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THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION

THE PURPOSE OF SCOUTING

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

THE VALUES OF SCOUTING

As Scouts, we are guided by these values:

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

THE SCOUT METHOD

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

- Enjoy what they are doing and have fun;
- Take part in activities indoors and outdoors;
- Learn by doing;
- Share in spiritual reflection;
- Take responsibility and make choices;
- Undertake new and challenging activities; and
- Make and live by their Promise.

THE SCOUT PROMISE

On my honour, I promise that I will do my best to do my duty to God (to uphold Scout values) and to the Queen (the country in which I now live), to help other people and to keep the Scout Law.

THE LAW

- 1 - A Scout is to be trusted.
- 2 - A Scout is loyal.
- 3 - A Scout is friendly and considerate.
- 4 - A Scout belongs to the worldwide family of Scouts.
- 5 - A Scout has courage in all difficulties.
- 6 - A Scout makes good use of time and is careful of possessions and property.
- 7 - A Scout has self-respect and respect for others.





The Group admits members primarily from Epsom although some members come from further afield, particularly where there is no other Air Scout Group available. Although a small subscription is charged for membership, this covers no more than the immediate running costs of the Group and at less than £150 does not unduly restrict membership. The Group endeavours to obtain grants for those who could not otherwise afford to take part.



(No Beaver Scouts were hurt in the making of this Zoom picture.)





OUR GROUP STRUCTURE

The Group has responsibility for four youth Sections divided by age. In rising order, they are the Beaver Scouts, the Cub Scouts, the Scouts and the Explorer Scouts. Each Section has an adult leader and they have assistant leaders. Each Section runs its own activities and keeps its own accounts with an appointed treasurer assisting.

A Group Scout Leader unifies the four Sections of the Group. He or she is responsible for all activities of the Group.

All interested parties in the Group are entitled to form the Group in Council. These people meet regularly once a year at the annual general meeting and they elect an Executive Committee to act as Trustees and managers of the Group. The Group Scout Leader appoints the Chairman of the Group in Council who also chairs the Executive. Fundraising and Group support is organised by this committee in response to the demands placed on it by the Scouters who act in common through a further committee chaired by the Group Scout Leader.











THE TEAM

LEADERS IN THE GROUP

- Group Scout Leader (GSL)**
Luke Jennings
- Ass. Group Scout Leader (AGSL)**
Graham Bailey
Howard Park
- Beaver Scout Leader (BSL)**
Pippa Del Nevo
- Assistant Beaver Scout Leader**
(Bob Clarke)
- Beaver Scout Helper**
Toby Grant
- Cub Scout Leader (CSL)**
James Merry
- Assistant Cub Scout Leaders**
Ethel Merry
Bob Clarke
- Cub Scout Helpers**
(Pippa Del Nevo)
- Scout Leader (SL)**
Paul Dawson
- Assistant Scout Leaders**
Caroline Pearce
Sarah Holroyd
- Explorer Scout Leader (ESL)**
Jay Haughton
- Explorer Scout Helper**
Sara Dawson

GROUP EXECUTIVE

- Ex-Officio
- GSL (Luke Jennings) 
- AGSL (Howard Park) 
- (Graham Bailey) 
- Nominated**
- BSL (Pippa Del Nevo) 
- CSL (James Merry) 
- SL (Paul Dawson) 
- Chairman Chris Walker
- Secretary Alison Sizer
- Treasurer Justin Manly
- FRIENDS**
- 100 Club (Howard Park)
- Troop Helper Richard Denyer (ADC)
- Camp Helpers (Sarah Dawson)
Theresa Park
(Chris Walker)
- Gift Aid John Mortimer
- Group Friends Geoff Whitehead
John Hughes ADC
- Chaplains Canon William Davern
- Cleaners Rebecca McGhee
Sam McGhee
- Examiner Sundry Sundaran
- Legal Advisors Teddy Totman
John Flood
- Editor (Howard Park)
- Proof Reader Christine Turner

Leaders on Group Executive are marked 

(Where we mention a person a second time, we bracket their name in one instance.)





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GROUP SCOUT LEADER



Luke Jennings

Wow what a year it has been and not what anyone could have predicted. United Kingdom Scouting has had to change almost overnight and I am proud as to how quickly our Group has adapted and risen to the challenge.

Going from face to face Scouting to online and keeping all ages of Scouts fully engaged is no mean feat and given the number of people who come back week after week it just shows how well it has worked.

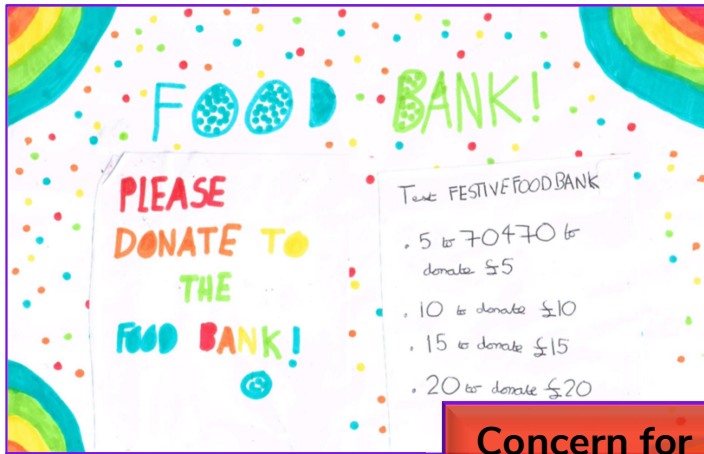
Some Scouts have attended online meetings for months without ever having actually met other Scouts face to face and the numbers that return each week across all sections speak volumes of how successful all the hard work has been.

Keeping a wide variety of activities is the key to this and sessions have includes County Cub Online Challenges, at home camping and hikes, fundraising, celebrating national holidays and festivals, quizzes, external talks and escape rooms to name but a few along with learning a whole host of new skills.



Zoom Challenges





Concern for Others



As most people know we have a pre-school in our building that brings in a regular income to our Group and we have been working hard supporting them through the pandemic where they have had to remain open for the school children of key workers. We have successfully applied for Government grants,

which has helped the pre-school keep running and are working with them to ensure the building is safe for our eventual return.



Home Camping





Our executive team works diligently behind the scenes ensuring the Group runs smoothly, the premises and buildings are kept safe, the finances are in order and providing support to the Section Leaders. I would like to extend my thanks also to Howard and Paul for pulling together our annual accounts this year. We now have a new treasurer, Justin, and welcome him on board to help as part of the Group Executive.



The quick transition to online meetings has needed some innovative thinking and our Group has risen to the challenge with some amazing leaders who have ensured Scouting has not only continued but thrived – well done team.

We are at the point of being able to return face to face Scouting and it has been greatly missed by all.

Do enjoy reading all about the details in the following reports.



Luke Jennings
Group Scout Leader





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BEAVER SCOUT LEADER



How to keep a Colony of 6 to 8 year olds entertained online was the question, as we went into the reporting year of 2020/21 and the country was very firmly 'locked down'. It became clear that Scouting, as we knew it, would not happen for some time to come and so, with some trepidation, particularly around the technology, we started Beaver Scout Zoom sessions.

What soon became apparent was that I was dealing with a remarkable group of young people. Whilst a few Beaver Scouts were unable to make the transition to online meetings (some of those preferring to undertake independent badge work at home) we maintained a core of 15 to 18 Beaver Scouts logging in each week. Active games had always been one of their favourite hall-based activities but it was quite the opposite that we could offer now. Preparation for sessions was time consuming and each week, before we started, I was filled with doubt about whether more than a couple would turn up or how they would stay engaged. Yet week after week, a long list of names would present in the Zoom waiting room and a screen full of smiling faces would pop-up to greet us.

To keep up 'the standards' as best as we could, the Beaver Scouts made flags and we started each session with a different Beaver Scout raising their flag. Some were simply on a stick but we had one elaborately on a pulley going up the stairs. Most Zoom calls would start with an update on who had a new wobbly or lost tooth and we were treated to many an on-screen close-up of new gaps. All our sessions finished with the lowering of the flag and our Group Prayer.

Connection issues, feedback, battery fails and background noise - we





had them all at some point in the year. The 'mute all' button was useful but only when we had all learned to unmute ourselves again to. 'Disable participant annotation' was in use frequently - although we did enjoy Pictionary - sending topics to draw via the chat and then using the white board. Eventually, we even had Beaver Scouts voting using the poll facility of Zoom.



A programme of badge work and games was devised and the Beaver Scouts triumphed in their resilience, their love of learning new things and just having fun. In the summer months, we made a video montage of a water bucket challenge, which was great fun.

Through the year we learned about and celebrated significant dates including St George's Day, the 75th Anniversary of VE day, Harvest Festival, November the 5th and Guy Fawkes, Remembrance Day, Burn's Night (we even hunted for haggis), the Chinese New Year and St Patrick's Day (with some leprechaun racing). The latter three days are celebrated by some of our families and it was lovely to have them contribute to our meetings with their plans and celebrations. The Beaver Scouts also joined in with the national "Clap for Carers" outside their homes, wearing their uniform.

Throughout lockdown we have encouraged the Beaver Scouts to contribute and shape our sessions demonstrating their leadership skills, and many have devised games to keep us entertained. One Beaver





Scout expertly 'hosted' almost the entire meeting instructing us through an online art lesson.

The Beaver Scouts have learned traditional Scouting Skills such as tracking, map and compass work and knots online. Grid references became a key part of many Zoom games; we are now absolute experts at going 'along the corridor and up the stairs' (my thanks to Sarah Holroyd for her assistance with developing some of these games). Teamwork, code cracking and problem-solving skills have been used frequently in the various escape rooms we have tackled including one meeting that was completely taken over by swashbucklers, as we tackled a pirate themed escape room.



We have undertaken a variety of badge work including science experiments, joint baking sessions with the Cub Scouts and "Grow Cook Enjoy". The Yule Log was a particular chocolate overloaded highlight of our programme. The Beaver Scouts have worked on their Emergency Aid badge including what to do at the scene of an accident and we have had sessions on Fair Trade and the Epsom Food Bank, to which many of the Beaver Scouts made donations.

Activities which got the children moving continued to be popular and we adapted versions of Captain's Coming and the Bean Game as well as charades. Treasure hunts were always popular with the children

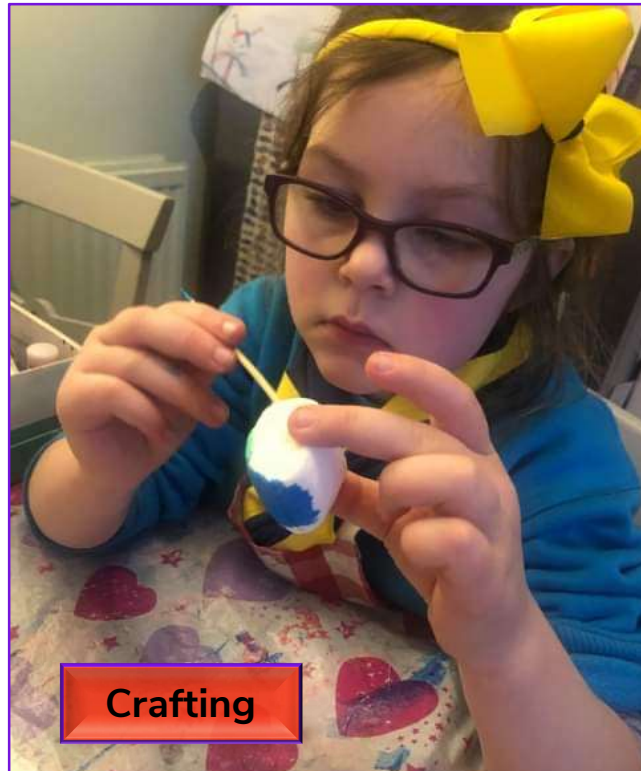




sent off to find things from around the house – with dad's socks being waved at the screen when they were sent to get something smelly! Some new games were well suited to online provision and we enjoyed 'Mr Stand and Mr Sit' as well as endless games of themed Dobble card games.

We made balloon powered Lego cars, paper cup gliders, sock bottle bubble blowers and had Lego building challenges. At Christmas the children made crafts and they created beautiful cards, along with promises to perform kind deeds, for Mother's Day.

Various online Camps have been attended such as The Great Indoors Weekender, Surrey Roar and Winter Camp. Many of the Beaver Scouts achieved the Scout Association's new badge, The Great Indoors, and some joined in with Walk to the Moon. Together



with Beaver Scout Colonies from all over Epsom and Ewell, we enjoyed a District 'camp' and the children were thoroughly entertained by an online magician. Many of the Beaver Scouts made dens to sleep in for one camp or another, either in their garden or their homes and were able to achieve a Nights Away Badge.

Badge Nights had to be carefully planned to get the badges to Beaver Scouts in advance. This either involved delivering to the young people's homes – when of course this was allowed – as there were times when the instruction from the Government was to 'stay at home' or to only make essential journeys. Squeals of delight were heard behind front doors as envelopes marked "Beaver Scout Badges – Do not open until Wednesday" were pushed through letter boxes. At other times badges





were posted out to the Beaver Scouts.



Christmas Sleepover

An incredible two hundred and eighteen badges were presented during lockdown that included six Chief Scout's Bronze Awards. We were delighted to welcome the District Commissioner and Assistant District Commissioner (Beaver Scouts) to the presentation of some of these badges. We invested seven new Beaver Scouts online with siblings and parents placing the scarves around the Beaver Scout's neck that, in its own way, was very special. Hopefully, it will become rather unusual (and a bit of a talking point) to say you were invested into Scouting or you received your Bronze Award online. We have run a total of 42 online meetings.



Zooming Makes You Hungry

Parents have been truly remarkable in their support. They have needed





to be on hand to help with technology and they have supported cooking in their own kitchens and no doubt tidied up after our treasure hunts. They have provided whatever random resources we have requested from week to week. I truly hope that, as the parents have observed and supported their young people over this year, they might continue to do this in person as we move forward, in whatever capacity they can manage. Parents we need you...

Joining us since Christmas, our new young leader, Jay (Toby) has been a regular contributor to our meetings. Having been a Beaver Scout himself and progressed through the sections, he is now keen to 'give back' to the Colony. He has undertaken his Young Leader Training



online and has been a great support with the technology and running games with the Beaver Scouts.

Finally, huge thanks go to Bagheera (Bob Clarke) who has, like us all, been on a steep Zoom learning curve but has logged in every week in support of our sessions, running bingo games, providing prizes and sharing his knowledge. Perhaps a favourite was when he made a sandwich following the exact instructions from the Beaver Scouts.





Needless to say, the whole tub of butter was put on the bread! Without him, our meetings simply would not have been possible (or as much fun).

I conclude this report fervently hoping that we look back on this year as unique and never to be repeated but I also hope it is not forgotten. We demonstrated that Scouting can happen in a variety of ways. It was a year in which so many things ground to a halt – children did not go to school, families could not meet grandparents and, at times, exercise outside the home was limited to just once a day but Beaver Scouts was a constant for the young people. It did not stop and the children continued to meet, learn and flourish together whilst apart.

Pippa Del Nevo
Beaver Scout Leader





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CUB SCOUT LEADER



James Merry

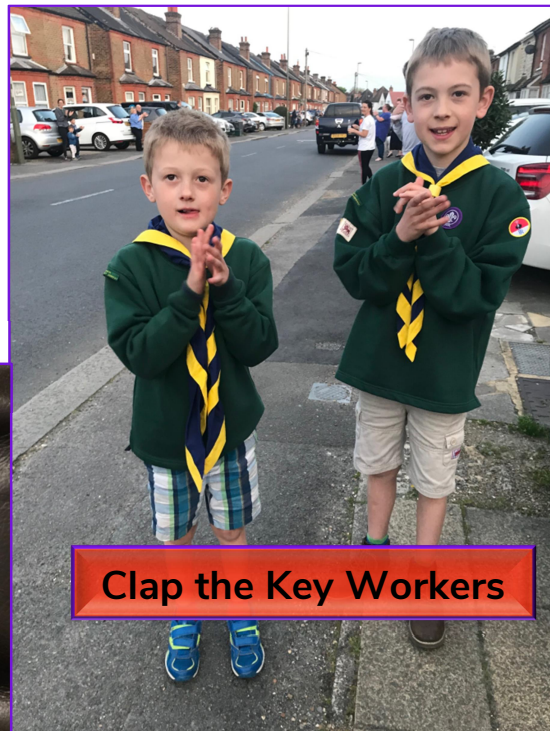
In last year's report, Akela made mention of changes to the leadership of the Cub Scout Pack and spoke of the premature end to the year brought on by the spread of COVID-19. These past twelve months have seen the Pack leadership go through more changes behind the scenes and face some of the biggest challenges we have probably ever faced.

The global pandemic continued over from the previous year and left us unable to hold face-to-face meetings. A number of different ways of meeting were considered but, to begin with, the Cub Scout Leaders sent out a weekly email containing things for the Cub Scouts to do, badge work ideas, posters to download and colour in. None of us thought that the situation would last as long as it did and our initial low-key approach seemed to be the way forward.

The Cub Scouts took part in several Surrey County Cub Online Challenges and produced some excellent 'Thank You' posters for all sorts of key workers. Some of the Cub Scouts took part in the 'Hike to the Moon' fundraiser, some produced woggles for 'Shere Khan's Woggle Challenge' and many stood on



Woggles



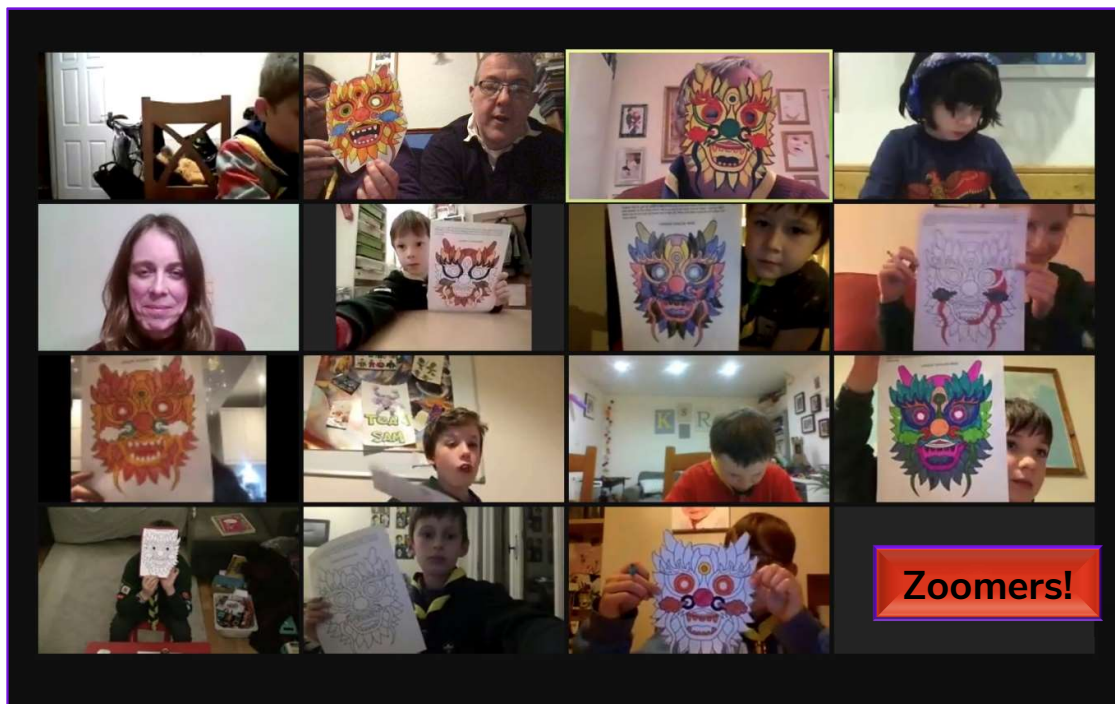
Clap the Key Workers





their doorstep in uniform on St George's Day to 'Clap for Carers'. The badge work email provided lots of ideas for badges that the Cub Scouts could complete at home, with plenty of photographs generated to post on the Group's Facebook page.

Spring turned into summer and it was becoming clear that the lockdown was going to last a lot longer and we would need to start doing things differently. Zoom became the latest 'buzz-word' and once the Scout Association had provided us with a version with enhanced security, the Cub Scout Leaders embraced the new technology! It has



been a very steep learning curve, with the Cub Scouts often way ahead of us because they use the system far more often than we do. The Cub Scout Leaders have basically taught themselves how to use Zoom from scratch and it has not been easy but it has been worth it. Using the online meeting platform has allowed us to actually interact properly with the young people and despite a slow start, we get most of our Cub Scouts attending every meeting.

We have had a massive variety of meetings, including celebrating Christmas, Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year and Jewish New Year for Trees (Tu Bishvat). We have covered some Scouting skills, including Saints Days, compass points and map skills and a 'Desert Island'

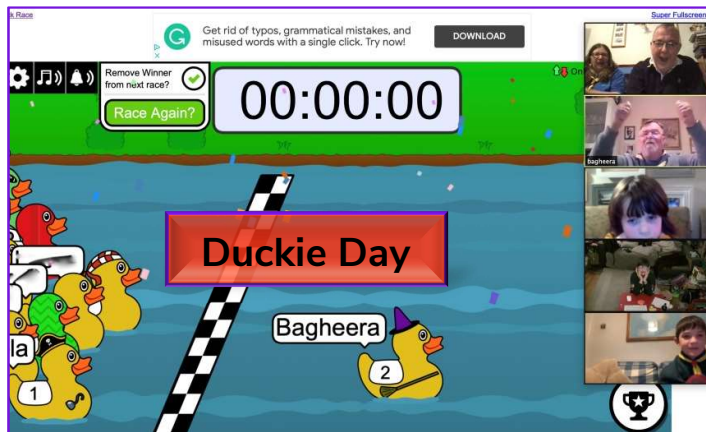




survival-type exercise run by Bagheera. We had several goes at origami, making animal heads and a flower that blossomed in water for Tu Bishvat. The Cub Scouts have dazzled us with their blindfolded drawing skills, with pictures of snowmen, hearts, oxen and cats and excelled themselves drawing sea monsters, where the adding of extra tentacles, eyes, etc. was determined by the roll of a dice. At Christmas the Cub Scouts made their own Christmas cards, some tree decorations and homemade Christmas crackers, complete with jokes supplied by Shere Khan (groan). We have had several quizzes, including a Disney film and music quiz, an 'Irish or not Irish' quiz, a 'wood or not wood' quiz, a quiz on famous cats, when we celebrated St Gertrude's Day (the patron saint of cats) and not forgetting our very



Card Crafting



Duckie Day

popular "True or False" quizzes, with regular appearances by William Shakespeare. We showcased the Cub Scouts' collections of rubber ducks for National Rubber Duckie Day that also saw the Cub Pack having a

virtual duck race, which turned out to be a complete hoot, or should that be a complete quack? (Check out www.onlinestopwatch.com for details).





Using Zoom has meant that we had to find ways of playing games in a very different way. Obviously, ball games will not work but some of our old favourites, such as 'Heads or Tails', that we play at the end of meetings, have transferred well. We have also discovered some new games and activities that work really well online, such as a version of the television gameshow 'Play Your Cards Right'.

We have had two joint Zoom cooking evenings with the Beaver Scouts, which were run for us by Jayne McGhee, from 'Grow, Cook, Enjoy', with



the Cub Scouts producing some rather splendid yule logs and chocolate brownies.





We have even managed to perform some online investitures, welcoming Robyn, Alex, Kieran, Bosco and Joshua into the Pack. Online investitures do feel a bit strange but they are all good fun.



Probably my favourite Zoom meeting of the year was one of our earlier meetings where I took the Cub Pack on a virtual tour of Oxford Circus

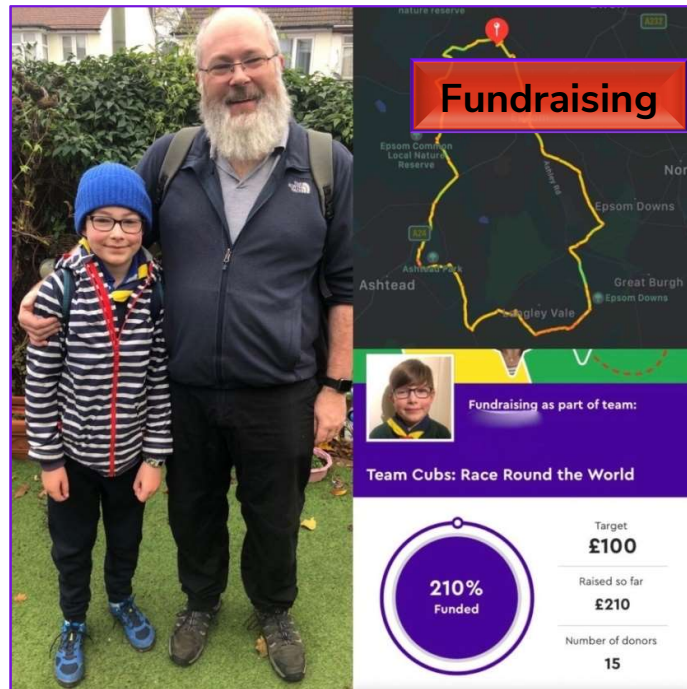


Underground station. My colleagues (and bosses!) were very accommodating and I was able to show the Cub Scouts the station control room, escalators, platforms and several trains during the tour.





One thing that some of the Cub Scouts took part in that was not online was the Scout Association's fundraising event – "Race Around the World". This had the Cub Scouts walking, running or cycling any distance to raise money for Scout Groups in financial difficulty because of the pandemic. One of our Cub Scouts, Lucas, walked an impressive fourteen miles and raised well over £200! Well done, Lucas!



We finished the year off with a grand online badge presentation evening where we presented a whole heap of badges, having sent them out in the post prior to the meeting. The badges even arrived in gold envelopes like all the top awards ceremonies! We also invested a couple more brand-new Cub Scouts so welcome to Arlo and Luca.

I mentioned at the beginning of my report that the Cub Pack has seen some more changes behind the scenes and it is another leadership change, that took place in September last year. Akela decided that she wanted to focus on the running of the weekly meetings and have less to do with the administration side of things so I have taken over as the 'official' Section Leader but to keep some consistency for the Cub Scouts, Akela and I will continue to keep our Cub Scout Leader names, even if our behind-the-scenes roles have changed.





It only remains for me to thank the Leader Team of Akela (Ethel), Bagheera (Bob), and Baloo (Pippa) for all the help, support and effort they have given over the last difficult twelve months. I also need to thank the parents and Cub Scouts who have stuck with us during what has certainly been a different year for the Cub Pack. Hopefully next year's report will contain a lot more stories of the 'out' in



Ethel Merry



Mini Flag

Scouting and I can retire my hand-made miniature indoor flag pole!

James Merry
 Shere Khan
 Cub Scout Leader

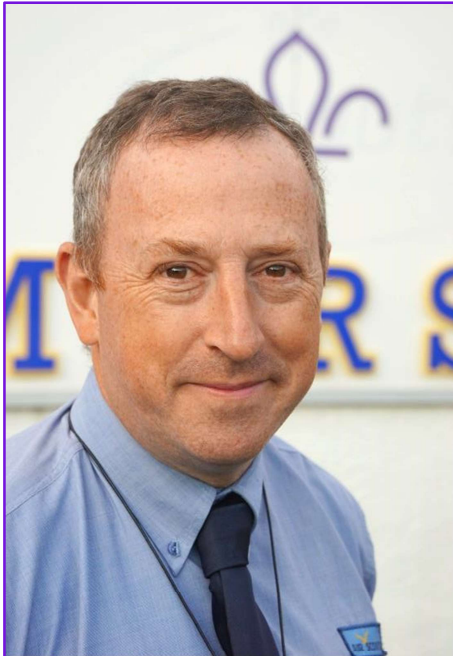


James on Zoom





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCOUT LEADER



No sooner do you finish one year's report then I am getting asked to write the next one. However, over the past fifteen years of writing the Scout Troop Report never have I had to write one that concerns such an extraordinary year as the one we have just had?

from other Troops in the District for the St George's Day promise led by our District Commissioner, Karl Nicholas.

Scout Camp - Boidier Hurst 2021

After over a year of uncertainty, Epsom 8th/14th Scouts finally made it to Boidier Hurst for our long-awaited Summer Camp of 2021.

Scouts and Leaders assembled together on a rainy Saturday in July to set up camp and begin our week of fun and activities. Coronavirus was not going to stop us this time and neither was the weather!

Although we were caught in rain and storms and some Scouts had leaking tents, we still managed to complete lots of activities including archery, team building, high wires, hikes, wide games, wood carving and pioneering skills. The activities brought out the competitive side of some Scouts and other Scouts really faced their fears.

The theme for our food for the week was Food from Around the





World and we enjoyed trying lots of new foods, for example, the sweet jalebi. Each patrol had the responsibility of cooking their own food each day and everyone helped. One evening, we had to rely on our fire building skills to cook our meal.

The week ended with our Beach Party Night. The weather tried to stop us but we partied inside the marquee and everyone had a great time dressing up in their party clothes (including hula skirts!) and enjoyed party food and the highlight of the evening - the Talent Show! There was comedy, dancing and acting and lots of laughter. We all feel very lucky to have shared this time together.

Our Monday night online meetings hosted by Zoom became part of a regular weekly occurrence in place of our normal meetings. We initially ran two Zoom calls; one from 7.30 pm to 8.30 pm for three patrols and then a further meeting from 8.30 pm to 9.15 pm for the other three patrols. We ran activities such as mapping skills, quizzes, escape rooms, created a code of conduct and took a virtual tour around the world. We had some amazing guest speakers from the Xplore Space Team at the Science Discovery Centre who talked to the Scouts about satellites and the United Kingdom space programme and one of the Senior pharmacists from Epsom Racecourse Vaccination Hub who gave us an excellent talk on how the centre worked and the logistics of vaccinating up to 1500 people per day.





Camping became a big part of our Scouting lockdown as we challenged Scouts to go and build a den indoors or, if they had a tent, to put it up in their garden and sleep outdoors for a night. I have to say, as leaders, we were somewhat taken aback by the response and how many Scouts took up the challenge and went off to build dens in the lounge or get their family tent out of the loft. On the



back of this, we decided to set some more challenges such as baking a cake, doing a good deed, helping out around the house, changing a lightbulb, putting on the washing and hanging it out. All of the challenges were met with pictures from parents of Scouts doing what we expected, their best.

Surrey Scouts took up the mantle and ran a virtual online summer camp called ROAR for all Scouts in the county. It was excellent to see the Scouts join in and get involved.

At the start of the new term in September we had hoped that we might get back to face to face meeting. However, both Scouting and government restrictions only allowed us to meet with fifteen Scouts at a time. Having a troop of forty-five meant that this would not be possible, so we carried on with the online meetings, but now decided to involve all Scouts and run one meeting. Our Monday night meeting saw us





with an average turnout of thirty-three Scouts at each meeting, which was fantastic. This included some new members and some of our Cub Scouts that had moved up from the Cub Pack.

We got more and more used to running the virtual meetings and started to introduce “break-out” rooms so patrols could go off and work on tasks in a virtual room. Jayne McGhee, one of mothers and the lady behind “Grow Cook Enjoy”, treated the Scouts to an online cookery class making Singapore noodles that went down well as did the noodles. My thanks go to Jayne for all her efforts.



At Christmas we teamed up with the Epsom and Ewell Food Bank to support people in the district that were less fortunate than others. We set the Scouts a task of possibly going without a treat or something they did not need and instead spending the money on an item of food from a list supplied by the foodbank as part of their Christmas hamper appeal. In addition to this, we asked Scouts to pass the word onto friends and family to help get support. The feedback was that the

appeal was so successful they had to find more storage space for the volume of items donated.



As part of the festive build-up we had Jayne back to show Scouts how to make a Yule Log. Instead of a Christmas party we would have had in Concorde Hall, we held one online. Caroline was in charge of a scavenger hunt, which involved Scouts collecting various random items including a parent to





come and wave to us online!

After Christmas and in the early part of 2021, the Scout Association ran a virtual winter camp, which was supported with its online television channel. There were hourly challenges and lots of fun home activities. It was excellent and all the Scouts who participated enjoyed themselves.

The Scout Association has been a huge support to Groups and set up a badge scheme called the Great Indoors Badge. All of our Scouts have been busy working towards it and I hope sometime soon to have the pleasure of presenting them with their badges.

As I write this, we have started to meet back Face to Face, albeit outdoors only, having secured Little Acres, Epsom and Ewell Guide campsite near Horton Country Park for our Monday night meetings. We have had one meeting but sadly, due the appalling poor weather, we have had to cancel two and hold online meetings instead.



At the start of this report I mentioned how we had become resilient and had learnt to adapt. We found a way to continue Scouting. Our Scouts joined in and worked through the technology glitches then laughed when my online game of hide and seek did not quite go to plan. We shared our pictures of our family celebrating the VE day anniversary, and we all became familiar with being online in our homes and not having had a haircut for three months or even longer. We started each meeting with flag break and ended it with the Group prayer but, above all, we just got on with it.

On a personal note it was the end of an era for me. My son, Alastair, finally came of age where he had to move on to Explorer Scouts and for





the first time for almost eight years I no longer have a son in the Troop. However, I do now have a son as an Assistant Scout Leader as Dominic joins the Troop. Welcome Dominic.



My congratulations go to Charlie Walker, Phoebe Medcalf and Alastair Dawson for getting their Chief Scout's Gold Award, the highest Scout achievement.

My grateful thanks goes, as always, to the leadership team of

Caroline, Sarah and Pippa and to Richard Denyer who is regularly there as a support to us all. To Luke, Howard, Chris and the rest of the Group Executive Committee I send my thanks for their support and guidance. I would like to say thank you to Henry the outgoing Treasurer and welcome Justin, our new treasurer.

Looking forward, I hope in my next report we can tell you about the amazing year we have had back in Scouting and the adventures we have experienced.

Paul Dawson
Scout Leader





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXPLORER SCOUT LEADER



I do not think anyone could have predicted the lifestyle changes we have all had to make over the past year. Huge sacrifices have been made that have affected us all in some way, shape or form. I am sure this time last year we all thought that this would all blow over in a couple of months but here we are. We move forward and we remain positive that we can all be back and enjoying Scouts like we used to and it has been sorely missed.

As Explorer Scouts it has been essential that we have meetings of some kind in the interim and as much as it would have been great to have face to face meetings, external factors have prevented this. Therefore, we have had to be inventive with our online meetings, which for the most part have been enjoyable and successful.

I have been mindful of the amount of time the Unit would have been spending looking at screens in their everyday life and so felt it necessary not to have too many Zoom meetings every week.

We have enjoyed activities such as quizzes (which for most of us has become a normal part of our week). We have done a couple of cooking activities, virtual escape rooms and general games.

As you can imagine Scouting and organising Scouting activities can be difficult without being able to be hands on and practical especially for the age group of the Unit. We will continue to run activities with this in mind until such time as we get back to face to face meetings (hopefully by June).

As we look forward to getting back to that scenario, our leaders will endeavour to arrange many activities, including camps and outings and





catch up on the experiences and extra-curricular education that has been so sorely missed.

Jay Houghton
Explorer Scout Leader





THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE 100 CLUB TREASURER

The year started with 52 members holding 131 shares and ended the year with 48 members holding 118 shares. In the year we took in £1,513 and paid out over half in prize money.

The following members won 100 Club prizes:

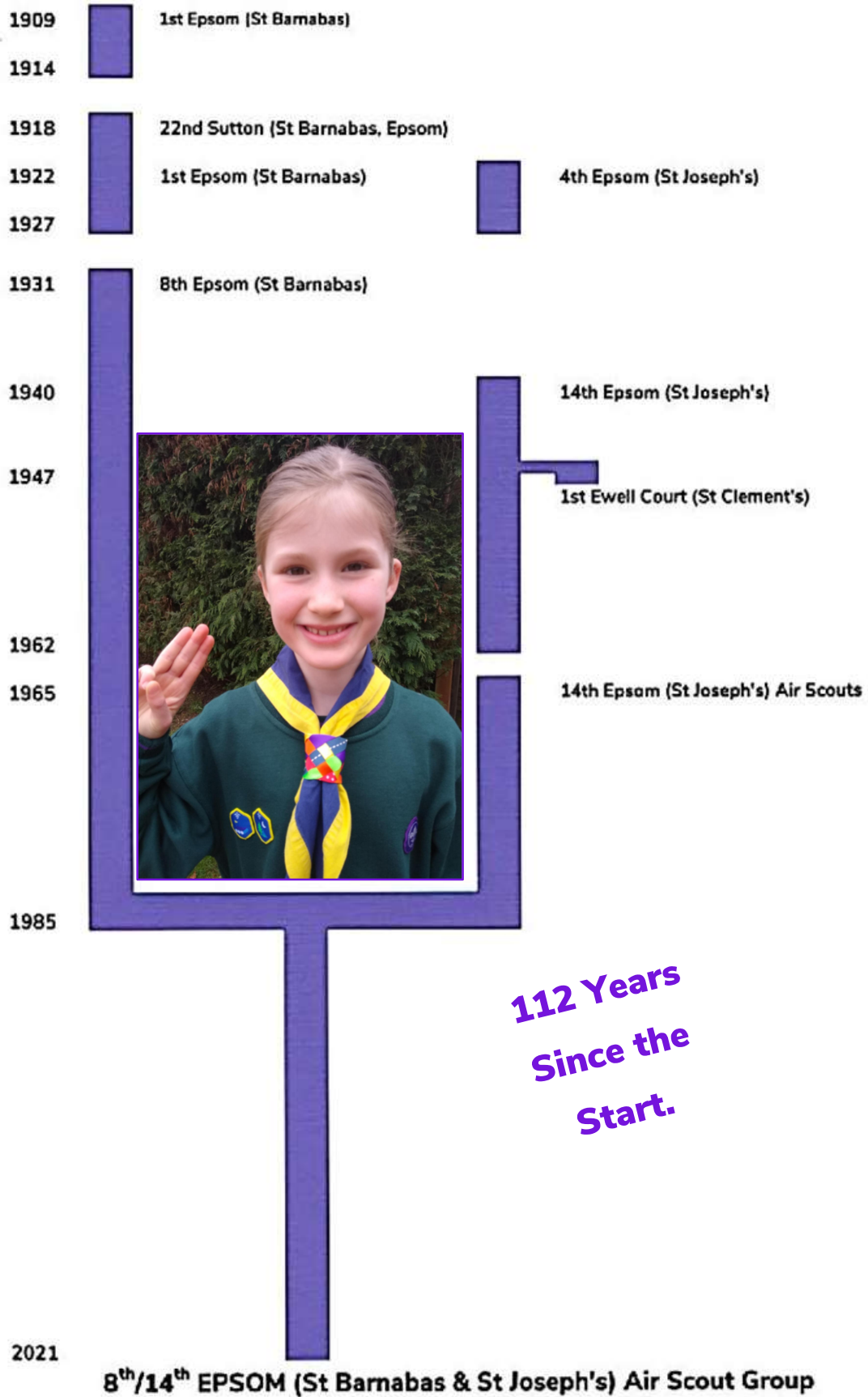
April	S Hannan		
May	W Dawson	J McGhee	P A Smith
June	F Simpson	R Hines	C Turner
July	Ken Lauder		
August	C Allison	J Trigo	D Villa Clark
September	H Park	C Coventry	R Denyer
October	D Coleby		
November	A Spalding	H Park	L Clark
December	D Cardamone	M Sydenham	J Trigo
January	A Potter		
February	A Spalding	L Clark	D Cardamone
March	J Smart	S Hopkinson	D Villa Clark

Howard Park
100 Club Treasurer





CHRONOLOGY





A FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Our traditional reporting pattern for our annual accounts has been that, following the end of the financial year at the end of March, we have prepared our accounts, had them examined and then presented at the AGM in the June, something we are obliged to do before the end of the following January. Unfortunately, at the end of the 2018/19 financial year we were delayed by not having an examiner available and then by the eventual volunteer examiner being overwhelmed with work so that we were not able to hold our AGM for that financial year until the December of 2019. As a result we determined that we would obtain the services of professional auditors for the following year's examination. However, at the end of the 2019/20 Covid had arrived and we found it difficult to meet to prepare the accounts. The Charity Commissioners granted us an extension beyond the follow January and, in the end, we were able to hold our AGM in March 2021.

However, for this report for the year 2020/21, again using a professional auditor to examine our accounts, we are back in line with holding our AGM in the summer.

The pandemic has altered many things during the reporting year with our income going down twenty per cent but our outgoings cut by sixty-six per cent. The pre-school was required to continue as it provided a service to key workers' children but not in such numbers so as to make their business viable so we subsidised their licence fee by over ten thousand pounds. However, the Government provided us with grants through the Borough Council that more than offset this loss.

As the Sections were not in a position to provide face to face Scouting, the individual Section Leaders waived the collection of membership fees

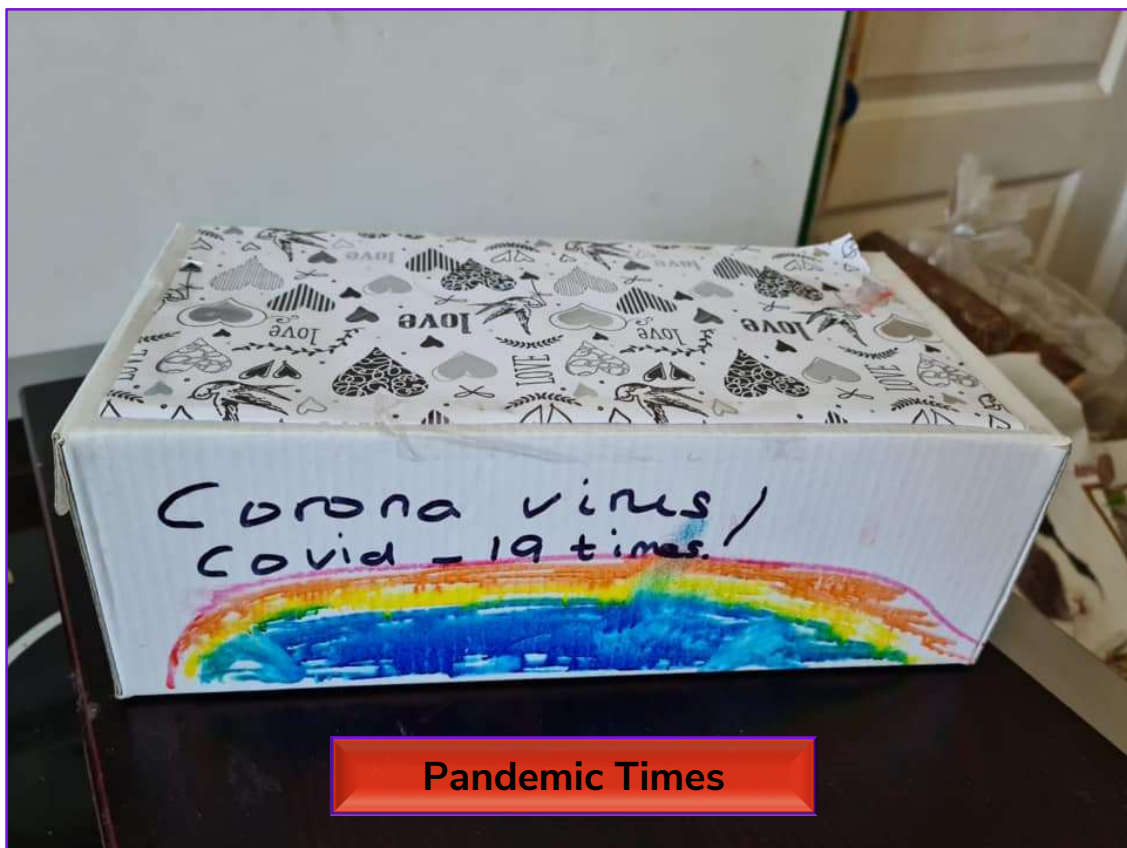




for two or three terms and, in the case of the Scouts, some collected fees were returned to parents. However, in the case of the Beaver Scouts some of last year's membership fees, held in the On Line Scout Manager application, were unexpectedly released in the current year so they appear in this year's accounts. As the Sections had not collected anything like the usual amount of membership fees that they traditionally pass on up the Movement, the Group stepped in and paid this "Capitation" fee for them as the Group is financially strong with adequate reserves.

Since January this year, I have prepared the accounts for 2019/20 and for 2020/21 for examination by the professional auditors with the active help of Paul Dawson for which I wish to express my appreciation for his accuracy and drive. As they say, "always ask a busy man".

Howard Park
Assistant Group Scout Leader





THE ACCOUNTS





INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

to the Trustees of 8th/14th Epsom (St. Barnabas and St. Joseph's) Air Scout Group.

I report on the accounts of the 8th/14th Epsom (St Barnabas and St Joseph's) Air Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on the accompanying pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Examiner.

The Air Scout Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act, 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act)
- To follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by The Charity Commissioners (under Section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act) and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43 (7)(b) of the 1993 Act. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the 1993 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the 1993 Act and the Regulations have not been met, or
- (2) which in my opinion, attention should be drawn to, in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statement to be reached.

Sundry A. Sundaran ACA, FCCA

Independent Examiner

Brooks & Co

9 Cheam Road, Ewell

Epsom

KT17 1SP

18 June 2021



**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

for the year ended 31 March 2021

		Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total	2020
Income & Expenditure	Notes				
Income:					
Membership Fees	2	-	£4,523.30	£4,523.30	£10,833.41
Bank interest		-	£62.87	£62.87	£389.55
Donations and grants	3	-	£25,978.59	£25,978.59	£17,382.03
Activities	4	-	£1,005.00	£1,005.00	£10,944.77
Fundraising	5	-	£1,879.57	£1,879.57	£2,771.66
Total income		£0.00	£33,449.33	£33,449.33	£42,321.42
Direct Charitable Expenditure					
Capitation	2	-	£3,638.25	£3,638.25	£5,475.50
Insurance		-	£835.08	£835.08	£445.09
Building Maintenance and Repairs		-	£729.42	£729.42	£8,154.05
Energy		-	£5,145.02	£5,145.02	£5,690.61
Lease		-	£182.00	£182.00	£182.00
Telephone & Internet		-	£435.09	£435.09	£424.80
Cleaning and Refuse		-	£1,744.00	£1,744.00	£3,340.89
Copyright and Royalties		-	£595.22	£595.22	£471.70
Training		-	£0.00	£0.00	£65.86
Bank Charges		-	£69.00	£69.00	£50.00
Accountancy		-	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	£1,440.00
Miscellaneous		-	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Depreciation		£5,917.00	£0.00	£5,917.00	£5,918.04
		£5,917.00	£14,573.08	£20,490.08	£31,658.54
Other Expenditure:					
Activities	4	-	£1,413.48	£1,413.48	£21,295.99
Fund Raising	5	-	£1,378.55	£1,378.55	£1,217.79
Membership Fees	2	-	£750.00	£750.00	£0.00
			£3,542.03	£3,542.03	£22,513.78
Total Expenditure		£5,917.00	£18,115.11	£24,032.11	£54,172.32
Net (expenditure)/income for the year		(£5,917.00)	£15,334.22	£9,417.22	(£11,850.90)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Fund balances brought forward			£179,742.52	£179,742.52	£191,593.42
Fund balances carried forward	9		£189,159.74	£189,159.74	£179,742.52





BALANCE SHEET

at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
Fixed Assets	6	£28,158.29	£34,075.29
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	£194.67	£654.00
Cash at bank and in hand	Appendix 1	£162,059.72	£146,782.73
		<u>£162,254.39</u>	<u>£147,436.73</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	8	£1,252.94	£1,769.50
Net current assets		<u>£161,001.45</u>	<u>£145,667.23</u>
Net assets		<u><u>£189,159.74</u></u>	<u><u>£179,742.52</u></u>

represented by

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

General purposes fund	9	£189,159.74	£179,742.52
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Restricted

Building project	9	-	-
		<u>£189,159.74</u>	<u>£179,742.52</u>



**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

at 31 March 2021

1. Accounting policies**Accounting convention**

In accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines, the accounts have been prepared under a receipts and payments method.

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the costs of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold Land and Buildings	- over the period of the lease
Fixtures & Fittings	- over seven years

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment, if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

Leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Cash flow statement

The Air Scout Group has taken advantage of exemptions under the provisions of Financial Reporting Standard No. 1 (revised) for small companies and not prepared a cash flow statement.

Grants

Grants in respect of capital expenditure are credited to a deferred income account and are released to income over the expected useful lives of the relevant assets by equal annual instalments.

Grants of a revenue nature are credited to income to match them with the expenditure to which they relate.

2. Membership

	Capitation	Membership Fees	Net	2020
Beaver Scouts	£708.75	£1,115.38	£406.63	£1,100.00
Cub Scouts	£661.50	£195.00	(£466.50)	£2,080.00
Scouts	£1,653.75	** £1,354.30	(£299.45)	£1,864.08
Explorer Scouts	£614.25	£346.40	(£267.85)	£1,629.83
Capitation Rebate				£94.00
Sub Total	£3,638.25	£3,011.08	(£627.17)	£6,767.91
Section Levy	* £1,710.00		(£1,710.00)	(£1,410.00)
Recovered Income Tax		£1,512.22	£1,512.22	
Returned fees			(£750)	
	£5,348.25	£4,523.30	(£1,574.95)	£5,357.91

The Section Levy is an internal charge to the Sections based on an agreed formula to contribute towards the costs for the running of Concorde Hall and other associated Group costs. This internal charge is levied on the Sections at the same time as the collection of Capitation based on the annual census returns. The money for the Section Levy is merely moved from Section bank accounts to the Group bank account. Due to the pandemic the Sections collected less Membership fees so the Group paid the Capitation but collected the levy.

*Includes the Scout Sections' £555 of levy deferred from 2019/2020. ** The Scout Section returned £750.00 to the parents.





NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2021

3. Donations and Grants	2021	2020
Pre School	£3,850.08	£14,959.20
Other Hall Hire	£115.00	£2,361.92
Grants	£20,808.00	£0.00
Donations	£1,205.51	£60.91
	£25,978.59	£17,382.03

4. Activities

	Organiser's Costs	Proceeds	Net	Net
<u>GROUP</u>				
Group AGM	-	-	-	(£268.00)
Camping Equipment	-	-	-	-
Activities and District Events	-	-	-	(£1,495.00)
<u>BEAVER SCOUTS</u>				
Camp	-	-	-	(£1.25)
Activities	£488.91	£345.00	(£143.91)	(£254.38)
Uniform	£72.14	£0.00	(£72.14)	£144.00
<u>CUB SCOUTS</u>				
Camp	-	-	-	£230.49
Activities	£276.77	£0.00	(£276.77)	(£563.37)
Uniform	-	-	-	-
<u>SCOUTS</u>				
Camps (Not Summer)	-	-	-	(£580.72)
Summer Camp	-	-	-	(£4,168.46)
Flying	-	-	-	-
Activities	£475.66	£0.00	(£475.66)	(£3,499.45)
Equipment	-	-	-	-
Uniform	-	-	-	-
<u>EXPLORER SCOUTS</u>				
Uniform	-	-	-	-
Activities	£100.00	£0.00	(£100.00)	(£39.58)
Camp	£0.00	£660.00	£660.00	£539.50
Explorers' Jamboree	-	-	-	(£395.00)
Leaders' Expenses	-	-	-	-
	£1,413.48	£1,005.00	(£408.48)	(£10,351.22)



**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

at 31 March 2021

5. Fundraising

	Organiser's Costs	Proceeds	Net	2020
<u>Internal Fundraising</u>				
100 Club	£865.00	£1,766.00	£901.00	£659.50
Lord Mayor's Show	-	-	-	£505.70
<u>External Fundraising</u>				
<u>Cub Scouts</u>				
Rianna's Fund	£513.55	£0.00	(£513.55)	£388.67
Other Donations	£0.00	£113.57	£113.57	£0.00
	<u>£1,378.55</u>	<u>£1,879.57</u>	<u>£501.02</u>	<u>£1,553.87</u>

6. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Leasehold buildings	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
Cost:			
At 1 April 2020	£145,070.29	£23,332.93	£168,403.22
Depreciation:			
At 1 April 2020	£110,995.00	£23,332.93	£134,327.93
Charge for the year	£5,917.00	£0.00	£5,917.00
At 31 March 2021	<u>£116,912.00</u>	<u>£23,332.93</u>	<u>£140,244.93</u>
Net book amount:			
At 31 March 2021	<u>£28,158.29</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£28,158.29</u>
At 1 April 2020	<u>£34,075.29</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£34,075.29</u>

7. Debtors

	2021	2020
Payments and accrued income	<u>£194.67</u>	<u>£654</u>

8. Creditors:-

amounts falling due within the one year

	2021	2020
Accruals	£1,200.00	£1,440.00
Other Creditors	52.94	£329.50
Accruals and deferred income	<u>£1,252.94</u>	<u>£1,769.50</u>





NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 March 2021

9. Summary of Net Assets by Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
	General purposes	Building Project	Total
Fixed Assets	£28,158.29		£28,158.29
Net Current Assets	£161,001.45		£161,001.45
Net Assets	<u>£189,159.74</u>	<u></u>	<u>£189,159.74</u>

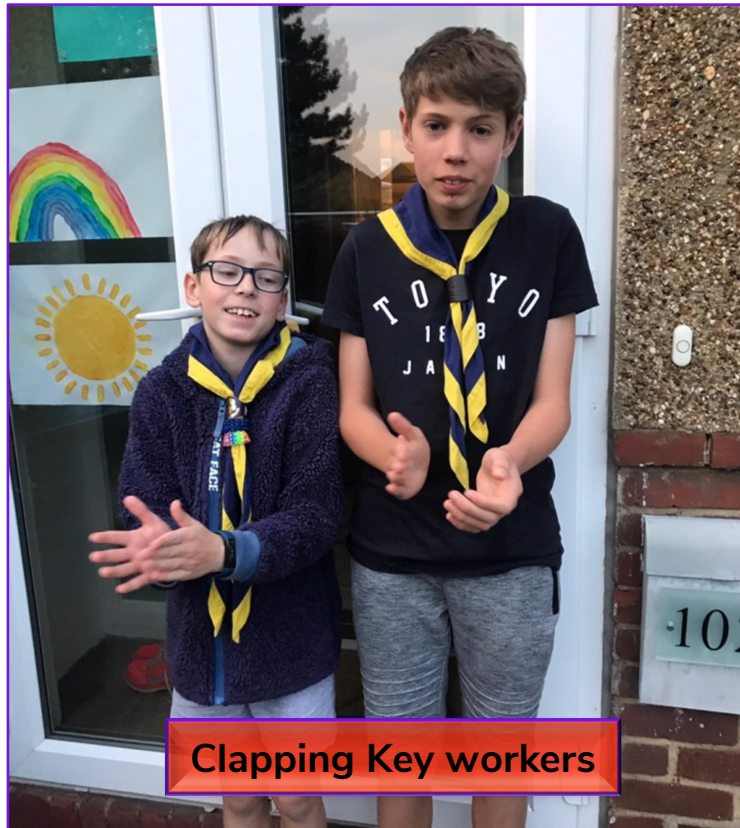
10. Other Financial Commitments

At 31 March 2019, the charity had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	Land and buildings	
	2021	2020
Operating leases which expire more than five years	£182.00	£182.00

11. Trustees' Expenses

There were no Trustee expenses during the year (2020 £ nil).



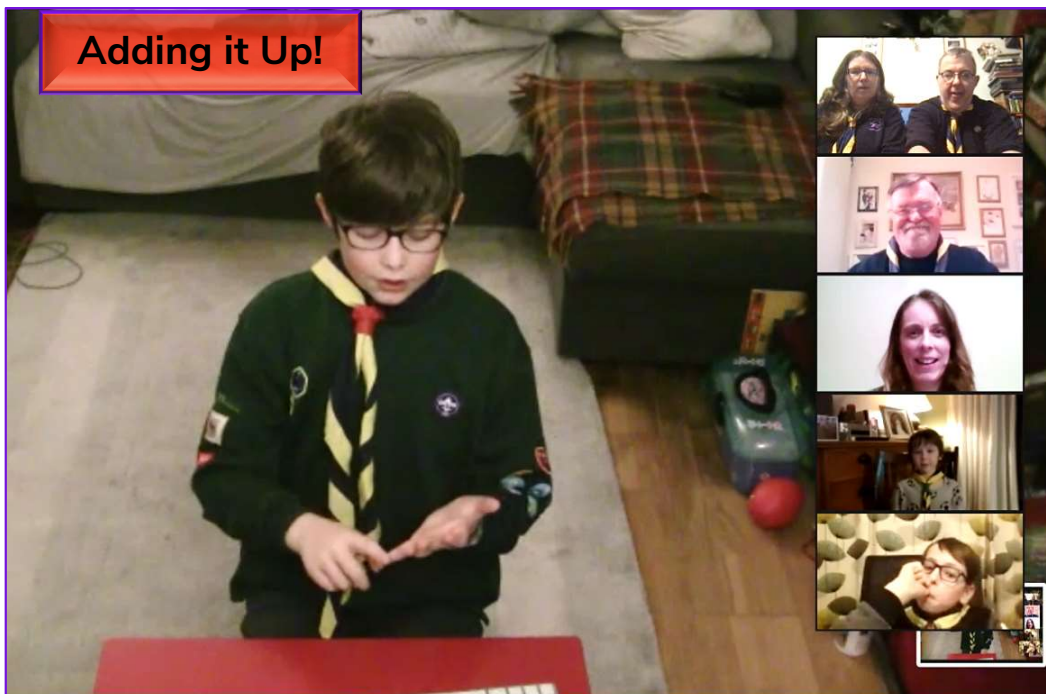


Year Ended 31 March 2021

Bank and Cash

Appendix I

	2021	2020
<u>GROUP</u>		
Bank savings account	£80,088.93	£80,026.06
Bank current account	£17,575.93	£2,018.63
CAF Bank	£50,881.00	£50,950.00
	<u>£148,545.86</u>	<u>£132,994.69</u>
<u>BEAVER Scouts</u>		
Bank current account	£3,520.20	£2,730.42
<u>CUB Scouts</u>		
Bank current account	£2,041.39	£2,703.14
<u>SCOUTS</u>		
Bank current account	£142.02	£2,094.13
<u>EXPLORER Scouts</u>		
	£3,859.97	£3,034.57
<u>100 CLUB</u>		
Bank current account	£3,950.28	£3,302.28
	<u><u>£162,059.72</u></u>	<u><u>£146,859.23</u></u>





THE DISTRICT SCOUT SHOP

Located at 22 The Broadway, Stoneleigh, KT17 2HU, and our freshly refurbished District Scout Shop supplies uniform and Scouting and Guiding accessories for young people throughout Epsom and Ewell and neighbouring Districts. In addition, the shop stocks a large range of camping equipment, badges, books, craft materials, trophies and gifts. The shop can supply or order all of the items available at Scout Store, with a significant share of the profit being reinvested back into local Scout Groups and the District.

The shop is open at the following times: Monday 2-5 pm; Wednesday 2-7 pm and Saturday 9.30-12 noon

A team of volunteers led by Joyce Nicholas runs the shop. You can contact Joyce and the team by calling 020 8001 6856. You can also place orders directly by emailing epsomandewellscoutshop@aol.com.



