

## 1<sup>st</sup> Billingshurst Scout Group & The Billingshurst Scouts & Guides Executive Management Committee

### Annual Report and Financial Statement For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

<i>Contents:</i>	Annual Report	1- 3
	Report of the independent examiner & Statement of financial activities for: <b>1<sup>st</sup> Billingshurst Scout Group</b>	4--5
	Report of the independent examiner & Statement of financial activities for: <b>Billingshurst Scouts &amp; Guides</b>	6- 7
	<b>Report of the 1st Billingshurst Scout Group Activities</b>	<b>8-12</b>
	<b>Report of the Billingshurst Rainbows &amp; Brownies Activities</b>	<b>12-14</b>
<i>Address:</i>	Billingshurst Scout & Headquarters Lower Station Road Billingshurst West Sussex RH14 9SU	
<i>Chairman:</i>	Glyn Pullen	
<i>Independent Examiner:</i>	Sue Gatland Treasurer Billingshurst Family Church	
<i>Bankers;</i>	Barclays	

#### **Our Aims and purposes:**

Scouts actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. In partnership with adults, young people take part in fun indoor and outdoor activities. They learn by doing, by sharing in spiritual reflection and by taking responsibility. They make choices, undertake new and challenging activities, and they live their Scout Promise. Scouts'

#### **Objectives and Activities:**

The Group operates within a partnership agreement between Scouts and Guides to facilitate sharing of premises and equipment plus joint activities as appropriate.

As such the purpose of the Group is to make available full Scout and Guide programs for young people in the Billingshurst area in accordance with the Scout Association Policy Organisation and rules (POR) and the Girl Guiding UK POR.

As a member of the Scout Association the Scout Group shares its purpose of promoting the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national, and international communities. The Scout Method provides an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law, which is guided by trained volunteer leaders.

As a member of Girl Guiding UK, the Guide Group shares its purpose of enabling girls and young women to fulfill their potential and to take an active and responsible role in society through its distinctive, stimulating, and enjoyable programme of activities delivered by trained volunteer leaders.

Group members meet regularly and enjoy a varied and structured programme of training, education and guided activities designed to meet this purpose. The Group welcomes members from all kinds of backgrounds. It is open to every boy, girl, young man, or woman, regardless of race, faith, or personal circumstance.

The trustees follow POR and Guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. No trustee receives any financial reward other than recovery of necessary expenses.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The composition of the Scout Group encompasses Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts and Scouts and the Guide Group encompasses Rainbows, Brownies, and Guides. Reliable performance in line with training programs are maintained and progress measured by the attainment of badges and awards.

Jointly we were able to work together for the benefit of our young people, with both Petworth Park Camp weekend, and The Billingshurst Show& Carnival being our main annual fund raiser. Everyone enjoyed getting back to our normal events following 2 years of the COVID Pandemic.

### **Financial Review:**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Billingshurst Scout Group**

Total receipts £31,131.35 - Total payments £33,296.08

This resulted in a net payment over receipts of (£2,164.73)

Funds held in the bank at year end = £22,825.69

#### **Billingshurst Scouts & guides joint group venture**

Total receipts £12,991.58 - Total payments £12,807.60

This resulted in net income over payments of £183.98.

Total funds held in the bank at year end £15,405.18.

The trustees have identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, please see reserves policy.

Systems are reviewed on an on-going basis to mitigate adverse financial exposure.

The accounts are drawn up on the receipts and payments basis, which remains consistent with previous years.

### **Reserves Policy**

It is the Scout & Guide Executive policy to maintain a balance equating to approximately 6 months' worth of payments as a contingency against any unforeseen situations.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Group is a trust established under rules, which are consistent with all other Scout and Guide Groups.

Trustees appointed in accordance with POR.

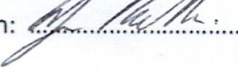
There are no funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

**Reference and Administrative details**

Charity Name: 1<sup>st</sup> Billingshurst Scout Group.  
Registered Charity Number 305886 Address:

1<sup>st</sup> Billingshurst Scout Head Quarters  
Lower Station Road  
Billingshurst  
RH14 9SU

Name	Office held (if any)	Dates of service (if not for full year)
Glyn Pullen	Charman	
Clare Collyer	Secretary	
Sandra Duck	Treasurer	
Zoe Jenkins	Group Scout Leader	
Natalie Evans	Guide Leader	
Linda Lyons	Trustee	
Allan Brown	Trustee	
Pat Homer	Trustee	
Carinna Brown	Trustee	
Alexander Morris	Trustee	

Approved by Scout & Guide Executive (Trustees) on:  .....  
and signed on their behalf by:

08.09.2023.

Glyn Pullen  
Chairman



**1st Billingshurst Scout Group Annual Summary Of Accounts 2022-2023  
Balance Sheet**

1st April 2021- 31st March 2022		1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023	
Balance across the group b/fwd.	<u>£ 20,982.79</u>	Balance across the group B/F	<u>£ 24,990.42</u>
<b>Income</b>			
Subs received (all sections)	£ 12,866.00	Subs received (all sections)	£ 12,562.00
Gift Aid	£ 2,616.89	Gift Aid	£ 1,316.88
Donations / Grants	£ 444.24	Donations / Grants	£ 458.20
Fund raising	£ -	Fund raising	£ -
Activities & Trips	£ 4,091.50	Activities & Trips	£ 3,674.48
Camps & Sleepovers	£ 10,747.30	Camps & Sleepovers	£ 12,256.06
Badge Receipts	£ 19.50	Badge Receipts	£ 13.10
Sundry Receipts	£ 143.50	Sundry Receipts	£ 815.43
Misc.	£ -	Misc.	£ -
Uniform	£ 97.50	Uniform	£ 25.20
		Equipment Hire	£ 10.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u><b>£ 31,026.43</b></u>	<b>Total Income</b>	<u><b>£ 31,131.35</b></u>
Gross Income including balance b/fwd	<u><b>£ 52,009.22</b></u>	Gross Income including balance b/fwd	<u><b>£ 56,121.77</b></u>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Annual Membership (capitation) (2021-22)	£ 7,198.00	Annual Membership (capitation) (2022/23)	£ 7,380.00
Hut Levy	£ 630.00	Hut Levy	£ 720.00
Activities & Trips	£ 6,848.93	Activities & Trips	£ 8,241.03
Camping / Sleepovers	£ 7,949.28	Camping / Sleepovers	£ 11,735.41
Craft Materials	£ 404.24	Craft Materials	£ 349.02
Equipment	£ 1,418.75	Equipment	£ 1,311.94
Fund raising	£ -	Fund Raising	£ 41.16
Donations and Gifts	£ 39.99	Donations and Gifts	£ 81.70
Uniform/ Scarves	£ 365.80	Uniform/ Scarves	£ 287.55
Training	£ 50.00	Training	£ 448.63
Badges	£ 1,488.71	Badges	£ 1,469.90
Sundry Payments	£ 390.02	Sundry Payments	£ 970.84
Website	£ 287.58	Website	£ 258.90
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u><b>£ 27,071.30</b></u>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u><b>£ 33,296.08</b></u>
<b>Bank statements and accounts reconciled across the group 31.03.2022</b>	<u><b>£ 24,990.42</b></u>	<b>Bank statements and accounts reconciled across the group 31.03.2023</b>	<u><b>£ 22,825.69</b></u>
Annual net surplus / deficit	<u><b>£ 3,955.13</b></u>	Annual net surplus / deficit	<u><b>-£ 2,164.73</b></u>

<b>Bank Reconciliation</b>	
Balance c/f	£ 22,825.69
Cheques not cashed	£ -
Income not paid into bank	£ -
<b>Bank Reconciliation with all 7 Bank Accounts - Agreed 31.03.2023</b>	<u><b>£ 22,825.69</b></u>

Notes to the accounts,

**Sundry receipts and payments - Arun Scouts financed activities for other sections initially and then refunded back to them.**

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

### 1<sup>st</sup> Billingshurst Scout Group Accounts

I report on the accounts of the Group/ for the year ended .31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes set out on pages.....

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

#### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

#### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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

#### Independent Examiner's statement

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

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

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

Name: Sue Gatland,

Qualification: Treasurer, Billingshurst Family Church

Address: 2 Frenches Mead, Billingshurst, RH14 9LF

Date: 8/7/23

## Income and Expenditure Account Summary 1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023

1st April 2021- 31st March 2022

	£ 21,202.74
<b>Fund Raising</b>	
50 Club	£ 150.00
Bag Packing (Gift Aid)	£ -
Christmas Post 2021-22	£ 121.90
Fireworks - Refreshments	£ -
HDC COVID Grants X 2	£ -
Christmas Fayre	£ -
Billingshurst Show 2019 income	£ -
Easy Fund raising	£ 186.88
Recycled Stamps	£ 53.85
Hire of Equipment	£ -
<b>Total Fundraising</b>	<b>£ 512.63</b>

<b>Other Income</b>	
Hire of Scout Hut	£ 2,132.50
Hut Levy	£ 945.00
Misc./Sundry	£ -
Uniform / Scarves	£ 238.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£ 3,828.13</b>

 Gross Income including balance b/fwd. **£ 25,030.87**
**Activity Costs**

Fireworks	£ -
Prizes for 50 Club	£ 130.00
Lottery Licence	£ 20.00
Xmas Fayre	£ -
<b>Activities Total</b>	<b>£ 150.00</b>

**Hut Costs**

COVID PPE and Cleaning	£ 100.48	
Cleaning	£ 961.38	
Electricity	£ 1,330.00	
Equipment	£ 229.99	
Buildings and Contents Ins	£ 1,068.99	
Personal Act Ins Non Members	£ 42.00	
Admin costs	£ 37.99	
Hut Repairs & Maintenance	£ 1,207.83	including cost of bench
Rates	£ 49.00	
Water Rates	£ 181.77	
Gas	£ 49.99	
Wi-Fi (Mi-Fi system)	£ 186.75	

**Hut Expenses Total** **£ 5,446.17**
**General Costs**

Sundries (Remembrance Wreaths)	£ 153.75
Transport (camps etc.)	£ -
Uniform / Scarves	£ 383.75
Donations & Gifts	£ 28.00
<b>General Expenses Total</b>	<b>£ 565.50</b>

 Hut Improvements **£ 3,648.00**
**Total Expenses** **£ 9,809.67**

 Closing balance 31.03.2022 c/wd **£ 15,221.20**

 Annual surplus / deficit **-£ 5,981.54**
**Notes to the accounts**

Hut Improvements Designated Funds	£ 352.00	
General Funds for S & G's	£ 14,869.20	
<b>Total Funds agreed with bank 31.03.2022</b>	<b>£ 15,221.20</b>	<b>Year End</b>

1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023

Balance B/F	£ 15,221.20
<b>Fund Raising</b>	
50 Club	£ -
Bag Packing (Gift Aid)	£ -
Christmas Post 2022-23	£ -
Fireworks - refreshments	£ -
Donations & Grants	£ 2,005.00
Christmas Fayre	£ 94.50
Billingshurst Show 2022 income	£ 7,500.00
Easy Fund raising	£ 232.20
Recycled Stamps	£ 88.88
Hire of Equipment	£ -
<b>Total Fundraising</b>	<b>£ 9,920.58</b>

<b>Other Income</b>	
Hire of Scout Hut	£ 1,430.00
Hut Levy	£ 1,285.00
Misc./Sundry	£ -
Uniform / Scarves	£ 356.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£ 12,991.58</b>

 Gross Income including balance b/fwd. **£ 28,212.78**
**Activity Costs**

Fireworks	£ -
Prizes for 50 Club	£ 65.00
Lottery Licence	£ 20.00
Xmas Fayre	£ -
<b>Activities Total</b>	<b>£ 85.00</b>

**Hut Costs**

COVID PPE and Cleaning	£ -
Cleaning	£ 954.16
Electricity	£ 3,334.31
Equipment	£ 1,413.35
Buildings and Contents Ins	£ 1,223.74
Personal Act Ins. Non Members	£ 52.00
Admin costs	£ 413.94
Maintenance, repairs and improvements	£ 228.57
Rates	£ 146.10
Water Rates	£ 1,346.04
Gas	£ 199.96
Wi-Fi (Mi-Fi system)	£ 187.46

**Hut Expenses Total** **£ 9,499.63**
**General Costs**

Sundries (Remembrance Wreaths)	£ 273.99
Health & Safety (First Aid Supplies)	£ 3.98
Uniform / Scarves	£ 164.00
Donations / Gifts	£ 1,600.00
<b>General Expenses Total</b>	<b>£ 2,041.97</b>

 Hut Improvements **£ 1,181.00**
**Total Expenses** **£ 12,807.60**

 Closing balance 31.03.23 c/fwd. **£ 15,405.18**

 Annual surplus / deficit **£ 183.98**
**Notes to the accounts**

Hut Improvements Designated Funds	£ -	
General Funds for S & G's	£ 15,405.18	
<b>Total Funds available in bank at - 31.03.23</b>	<b>£ 15,405.18</b>	<b>Year End</b>

<b>Bank Reconciliation</b>	
Balance c/f	£ 15,405.18
Payment not processed through bank	£ -
	£ -
Receipt no processed through bank	£ -
<b>agreed - 31.03.23 - Financial Year End</b>	<b>£ 15,405.18</b>

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

### Billingshurst Scouts & Girl Guide Association

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Name: SUE GATLAND

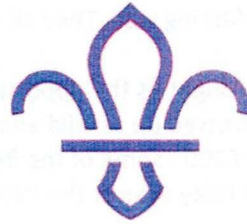
Qualification: Treasurer, Billingshurst Family Church

Address: 2 Frenches mead, Billingshurst, RH14 9LF.

Date: 7/7/23

# Scouts

## 1st Billingshurst



As a group, this year, we have welcomed new leaders, and hope to continue to allow more young people of the ever-increasing village to join Scouting.

There are currently have over 140 young people within the group, with a further 20 on the waiting list for Beavers, 22 waiting to join Cubs and 10 who'd like to join Scouts.

*Zoë Jenkins*

*Group Scout Leader – 1<sup>st</sup> Billingshurst*

[gsl@1stbillingshurst.org.uk](mailto:gsl@1stbillingshurst.org.uk)

### Beavers: Cedars Report by Carrie Tucker

Cedars Beavers runs on a Tuesday evening 5pm - 6.15pm. As at the end of March we had 17 Beavers aged between 6 – 8 years.

Monicka continues as Section Leader and Carrie continues as Assistant Leader. We have a regular parent helper Angela for the majority of the year, and we have now been joined by Sharon who was previously a Beaver Leader. Parents are also stepping up to help out when we need it. We have four young leaders Lucybelle, Jasmine, Zach and Ben helping us out who are doing an excellent job and are an asset to the colony. Monicka will be stepping down as Beaver Leader at the end of the summer term and a new leader will need to be found to assist Carrie.

We have had a busy year at Cedars with lots of activities which not only educate the Beavers but help them work towards their badges.

During the Summer we were able to get outside as much as possible. We had a mini sports day and the Beavers learnt all about Health and Fitness. We were lucky enough to have the police come to visit us who told us all about the work they do, we did fingerprints, and the Beavers all got to sit in the police car and hear the siren. We also had a visit from the Billingshurst warden who told us all about the work they do around the community. We visited the elderly residents of Osmond Court; the Beavers were amazing and chatted away to the residents before we played some bird bingo and sang them a song. We had a cycling session where the Beavers all brought their bikes along and learnt about bike safety. We spent some time in Station Gardens with Stuart Sexton learning all about the different trees and plants in the garden. The Beavers all made bug hotels and we finished the term with a mini hike / mini beast hunt and a campfire at Nowhurst.

7 of our Beavers attended the St George's Day event at Parham Park where they represented Cedars Beavers amazingly. They all enjoyed the activity afternoon after the ceremony. We also had our sleep over in May - we did lots of fun activities including gardening, mini hike for the Explorer badge, archery, crafts, knots and lots of games. The Beavers helped set up all the tents and had a movie evening before heading to their tents after a jam-packed day. We have another sleepover planned for October.

7 of our Beavers attended Go Beavers 2022, we had an amazing day which they absolutely loved. The Beavers got to participate in a variety of activities including bungee trampoline, cave bus, circus skills, grass sledging, tunnels, low ropes, nightline and bouldering wall. They all embraced the activities and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The Billingshurst show brought us the opportunity to get the Beavers painting in preparation for the carnival. We made a safari jeep and dressed up as wild animals for the parade through Billingshurst. Cedars ran the teddy tombola stall and raised £200 - some of the Beavers came and helped on the stall and did a fantastic job. We also took part in the obstacle relay against the Rainbows.

We also had the opportunity to do some canoeing at Moor Farm in Petworth. A fantastic time was had by all and even some of the brave ones jumped in the lake. To finish the term, we went aboard the Supeta yacht in Shoreham which was a fantastic day and all the Beavers took a turn to steer the yacht.

During the Autumn term we did some pond dipping, the fire engine came to visit, and we completed another hike. The young leaders ran a science session, and the Beavers earned their experiment badge completing different experiments set by the Young Leaders. We had a great Halloween session where we did some Halloween crafts, made slime and decorated Halloween biscuits. Our amazing animal world came to visit and brought in a few of the animals they have rescued, the Beavers learn all about the great work they do and got to hold some of the animals. We attended the remembrance parade and service, and the Beavers were amazing during the parade. We went back to Osmond Court again and presented the residents with the poppy crafts the Beavers had made. The Beavers brought their teddies in to help them complete their first aid badge and we completed the Communicator badge by learning morse code. We finished the Autumn term with Clip and Climb and a Christmas party.

In the Spring term we completed the international badge, the Beavers learnt about Scouting in other countries, how to say hello and goodbye in other languages and tried some international food. For Chinese New Year we learnt about the Chinese zodiac and performed a dragon dance. To earn the photography badge, we asked the Beavers to take 10 photos at home and we all looked at them on the big screen. We worked towards the cook badge by making pancakes on Pancake Day and also learnt about a balanced diet and health and safety in the kitchen. We ran a Beavers go talent session where the Beavers showcased some of their talents. The Beavers earned their Air Activity level 1 badge in a session organised by the Young Leaders. The Beavers completed a sponsored hike and raised £300 for the Guide Dogs for the blind and the following week we were visited by John and his guide dog Miles, the Beavers learnt what it is like to be visually impaired and how Miles helps John. To finish the Spring term, we had a party with Magic Steve following a log chew and the Beavers coming up with some ideas on what they wanted to do during the term.

7 of our Beavers came to the sleepover at the hut in the Spring term where the Beavers did lots of activities towards their challenge badges including knots, hike, den making, archery, bug hotels, crafts and lots of teamwork games. They all helped to put up tents and took turns to do the washing and drying up.

As our older Beavers move up to cubs, we have seen more young Beavers joining the colony and we have a good split of girls and boys.

We have worked very hard as a colony this year and lots of badges have been earned. We plan our programme around the Beavers earning badges and ultimately towards earning their Chief Scout Bronze award.

Between April 2022 and March 2023 8 Beavers were awarded their Chief Scout Bronze award. We have awarded 203 activity / stage badges and 44 Challenge badges.

It's been another fun jam-packed year so far and we look forward to the summer term.

## Beavers: Oaklands Report by Nicky Greenfield

Oaklands Beavers meet on a Monday evening 5.15pm until 6.30pm. The Colony has 20 Beavers age 6-8 attending. We have a strong leadership team with 4 Leaders (Laura Parker, Tracey Parker, Nicky Greenfield and Angela Marks). We also have a regular DBS parent Helper (Lewis Doe) and 2 Young Leaders (Martha Hollis and Connor Marks). The support of a large Leadership team enables the Leaders to divide up the planning of the weekly meetings with the Young Leaders also taking an active role in organising activities for the Beavers.

We have had a busy year with lots of varied activities inside and outside the Hut. The Beavers had 2 Sleepovers at the Hut, attended Go Beavers and St Georges Day. We took part in the Billingshurst Show procession and the Beavers all helped run the stall.

The Beavers have worked towards quite a few different badges, including their air Activities level 1 and learning about travelling on an aeroplane with a member of Cabin Crew coming to talk to us. We were also lucky enough to have a visit from a Police Dog Handler who brought 2 Sniffer Dogs to show us their skills. The Beavers went and learnt about Gardening too.

We have also been out and visited the local Fire station, Clip and Climb, and a local Church for the Faith Badge. 11 Beavers were awarded their Bronze Chief Scout Award, and a total of 264 badges were awarded between April 2022 and March 2023.

In the Summer Term of 2023, we have continued to have a varied programme with Cycling at Jubilee Fields, being creative making Ice cream Sundaes, and earning their Safety Badge. We have also had joint meetings with the Billingshurst Rainbows and Wisborough Green Beavers, who also joined us for our sleepover this year.

Thanks to all the Leadership team and Leaders from other sections that have helped us out over the year providing fun activities for our Colony.

## Cubs: Dauxwood Report by Tracy Evans

Dauxwood Cubs have enjoyed another fun year of activities, and learning new skills. We have had various camps including sixer survival camp, where the Cubs make their own shelters and sleep in them, our annual Christmas sleepover, where our lovely parents cooked us a full Christmas dinner, and our back to basics camp near Lancing College (aka Hogwarts!), where Cubs cooked all meals on open fires, and we went up to Lancing College Farm and learnt about the animals, plant life, and even saw the annual bird tracking survey people who showed us how they track various birds in the area.

We as leaders, try to produce a balanced programme of traditional Scouting and new experiences. So we have done everything from backwards cooking, knots and pioneering, fire lighting, and wide games, to water sports, making ice cream Sundaes with Moo Scoops, and visiting Ninja Warrior for our Easter treat. We also very much enjoyed the Scout and Guide Christmas Carols at St Marys Church.

A number of our Cubs (past and present) were involved with our biannual Gangshow held at the conference and Community centre in February. They started rehearsing in October, so this involved a lot of commitment and learning new things. It was a great show, and we are looking forward to the next one already!

We are very proud leaders to have around 95% of our Cubs achieve their Chief Scout Silver Award, which is the highest award that a Cub can gain. Well done to all of our Cubs who have achieved theirs this year.

We have also recruited 2 new leaders, Mark and Gayle, who are already very much involved with all the planning and fun of Cub life. We are looking forward to what the future brings.

Dauxwood Cubs meet every Wednesday evening throughout School term time.

## Cubs: Parbrook Report by Sam Waters

This year we have welcomed Ruan Groenewald to the Leadership team, with Monicka Frisby stepping down after 4 years of volunteering with Parbrook Cubs. We have now increased to 28 Cubs which makes for a very full-on evening.

Activities this year have included our now traditional visit from the Billingshurst Branch of the Royal British Legion where we help count the Poppy Appeal money from the local area, this year's total was again well over £1,000. We've had a series of evenings where the Cubs rotated round Shooting, Archery and Cooking activities each week, we've also been Raft Building and Orienteering. We've had evenings covering Deaf Awareness Week, Purim, British Science Week, Fire Safety, Road Safety and Safer Internet Day.

We came second in this year's Carnival procession at the Billingshurst Show by turning Akela's car into a Space Shuttle. We've just had a two-night Camp at Beacon Hill in Colgate.

In September, we will have a team entered into the Supreme Box Kart Championships at Goodwood, one of only two teams from West Sussex.

## Scouts: Arun Report by Stuart Sexton

We've had another strong and successful 12 months at Arun Troop since the last AGM.

Firstly, we've maintained our strong position in terms of numbers, and currently have 34 Scouts on the books, with an expectation of staying at around this figure for the coming year, and unfortunately unable to accept any more Scouts for now since we are at capacity.

Our leadership team has been consolidated, and we have grown collectively allowing us to provide a rounded and expansive experience for the Scouts, with Stuart, Peter and Alex forming the core of the leadership team. Alex Message has continued to join us regularly as an occasional helper (though has no desire to become any more than this), and

Laura has also continued to support evenings and events where requested. We have also seen some involvement with other adults with particular vocations in the community, who have allowed us to provide further variation in the programme. Stuart, Peter and Alex have all obtained Nights Away Permits, and Alex and Stuart have also obtained shooting qualifications.

Last summer we had our first full week-long camp in over five years – a fantastic week in the New Forest at Ferny Crofts Scout Camp site. We managed to fit in a huge amount of onsite activities, including tomahawks, cave bus, climbing, abseiling, go-karts, pioneering, pizza making, volleyball, crazy golf, orienteering, quizzes, archery, and lots of campfires. We also squeezed in a trip to Beaulieu, a hike and a swim. Everyone had an amazing week, and we will definitely be going back again at some point!

Following on from this, we've managed to squeeze in a further six nights away events within the last 12 months – the Monopoly Run was attended by 30 Scouts with an overnight stay in the hut, a two-night Winter Camp at Small Dole near Henfield, another Petworth Park camp attended by 29 Scouts, where we made ourselves known to the entire site with our Campfires and Scones, a two day Autumn camp to the National Air Rifle Championships at Bisley for 12 Scouts (plus a few Explorers), an overnight yachting experience on the Supeta Yacht in Shoreham for 9 Scouts, and finally a set of overnight expeditions (some walking, some cycling) for 12 of our oldest Scouts unaccompanied (but supervised!) to Nowhurst Guide site.

Other events in the last 12 months have included rifle shooting, a day out to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, a Summer Cookout (for 44 people!), a fantastic visit to Scouts the Musical, bulb planting at the Weald and the very challenging Downsman Hike (in which we almost got a team to finish this year... maybe next year!).

Our Programme has been eclectic throughout the year, including tomahawks, tent pitching, rafting, wide games, tennis ball trebuchets, talent shows, bag designing, swimming, indoor caving, shooting, archery, ecology & climate impact, assault course, ice cream sundae making, WWI display, campfire cooking, first aid, and lots of hikes to cover just some of the activities which we have planned and carried out.

Finally in terms of badge progress, I am really pleased to be able to confirm that we have celebrated two more Scouts achieving their Chief Scouts Gold Awards so far this year, with hopefully a few more to come in the remainder of 2023!

## **Scouts:** Downlands Report by Allan Brown

What a fantastic 12 months we've had at Downlands Scout Troop since the last AGM.

Summer term 22 saw Downlands attending PPC 2022 which was an amazing weekend with lots of adventurous activities. We had a Mechanics evening over at PD motors, where they showed us how to change lights check fluid levels, replace a wheel, completing the mechanics badge.

Drugs and alcohol awareness have also been taught by Ali and how they affect us. We also had a visit by 2 police dogs who demonstrated their searching and restraining techniques. This was really enjoyed by the Scouts. We have also been learning how to read maps, learning about local knowledge of the area and learning how What 3 Words can be used for helping people who are lost and assisting the emergency services in finding them. We practised First aid in the hut with some of the scouts doing mock ups of accident scenarios, we had a little quiz to see what they knew and the process of calling 999/112 in emergencies depending on location. We have also been getting practice with shooting and archery and the older Scouts had a go with the cross bow. Baking cookies and making chocolate campfires went down well.

Autumn term 22 started with a quiz run by a couple of Scouts who were leaving for Explorers. The patrol leaders planned and ran a camp at Crawley district site. The Scouts went on a rescue mission to track and find a fake body and return it to the Scout hut on a stretcher. They did a challenge night in preparation for the Halloween hike. We went climbing at Midhurst.

Spring term 23 saw us invest 4 new Scouts into Downlands at the start of the term and 5 at the end of term. 4 of the Scouts took part in rehearsals and then performed at the Billingshurst Gang show. We have been cooking, practicing our pioneering, worked on the artist badge and created cars from recycling and raced them in the hut. Monopoly Run was attended by 9 scouts and was a great day out for scouts and leaders alike, it was finished with a meal in London.

1 of our Scouts has achieved their Chief Scout Gold Award after a lot of hard work. We have had quite a few new scouts join the troop meaning our numbers have risen to 18 Scouts.



## **RAINBOWS REPORT March 2022 – March 2023**

This year has been another busy year with lots of visits including Clip & Climb, always a favourite with our girls, Warnham Nature Reserve for Pond Dipping, a District World Thinking Day Event, and a visit by Reptylers, where the girls got to learn about and hold various reptiles.

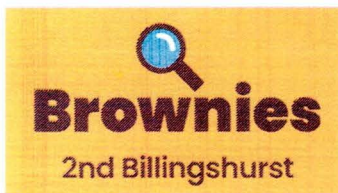
We have focused on our community this year with a visit from the Community Wardens who helped us with some litter picking at Station Road Gardens. We also had our annual Carol Singing at Osmund Court with the Brownies. This is a lovely afternoon where the girls have a chance to chat to the residents while providing some Christmas merriment. The girls also attended the annual Remembrance Parade for which, as leaders we are always so proud. We also raised some money for Children in Need with the girls decorating and cakes to their family and friends.

We have done a lot of Program work this year and we have 3 girls who have achieved their silver awards and all 3 are now hoping to complete their Gold award in the next term. Some of the Rainbows were also involved in the Gang Show which was a great success.

Sadly, we struggled with volunteers this year and at one point had to go down to fortnightly meetings and reduced our numbers to 16. We were helped by the Beavers who kindly ran a joint evening for us which was greatly enjoyed by all. Luckily, we have now recruited a further 2 leaders and are back to 22 girls and 4 leaders.

We also said goodbye to Vi Davies in March this year after she stepped down from Rainbows after numerous years of service, she continues with Brownies so we still get to see her.

We are looking forward to the year ahead with excitement now we are fully supported and have some sleepovers and an exciting program planned for the Autumn/Winter term.



## AGM Report April 2022 to March 2023

We have been doing a lot of UMA'S and Skill Builder's during this year 2022 / 2023. This is so the girls work toward getting their Theam awards, also bronze, silver and gold badges. The girls also work on badges at home which also goes towards these badges. The girls bring in for us all to admire.

We understand that craft isn't for every, so we try to make this as much fun as possible. Using junk materials, the girls made a Monster.

We took the Brownies to learn rules of playing cricket at Jubilee Fields. They all had a great time with a few girls signing up for the course.

We had a party for the Queens Jubilee we all wore some thing red, white and blue.

Kia arranged swimming at Horsham Pavilions, this was part of her Adult Leadership.

We attended a District BBQ at Champs Hill joined with Rainbows and Guides. The Brownies all had a great time joining with younger and older girls in other units.

Rainbows joint Brownies at Osmond Court for Carol singing as we do every year residents also join in. We get drinks and a kit-kat. There is the opportunity for the girls to meet some of the lovely residents. A few of the Trefoil Gilde also join us.

Our Christmas party also goes down well with games chosen by the girls. Kia dresses up as Mother Christmas.

We had Brick Bus in Brownies. It is all about Lego. The Brownies made Lego cars then they pushed their cars down a ramp which the Lego man has made If it didn't go that far they add more or take pieces off. The object was to see who's went the furthest. Leaders also took part. There was a prise for the car that went the furthest. Everyone was given a bag of Lego to take home. They had a choose of two.

As I mentioned earlier Kia is working towards her Adult Leadership, she hopes to finish this year by September. She is a valued leader already; she does all our emails out to parents also the termly programs.

Kia lets parents know the badges that they need to work on at home, so their daughter get the badge they need.

I also must give a huge thank you to all other leaders who give up their valuable time.

Vi Davis

Leader