

7th Ballymena (ALL SAINTS) SCOUT GROUP  
CHARITY REG NUMBER: NIC103861  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 1st APRIL 2023 - 31st MARCH 2024

- Our organisation is based at:

All Saints Parish Centre, Cushendall Road, Ballymena, Co. Antrim, BT43 6HA

- Our current charity trustees are:

1. Marcus Cooper (Treasurer)
2. Mari O'Hagan (Secretary)
3. Caitrin Kincaid (Chairperson)

- Our governing document is:

The Royal Charter of the Scout Association 4th January 1912, as amended by supplemental charters dated 28/03/1949, 18/02/1959, 05/05/1967 and 19/07/1991

- Purposes of our charity:

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

- Public and Private Benefit of our charity:

THE TRUSTEES HAVE HAD REGARD TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION'S PUBLIC BENEFIT REQUIREMENT STATUTORY GUIDANCE

1. The benefit which flows from our purpose is that young people are empowered to make a positive contribution to society through being engaged and supported in their personal development, including physically, intellectually, socially and spiritually.

2. This benefit is demonstrated through Scouting making a positive impact in our communities; preparing young people to be active citizens; embracing and contributing to social change; being as diverse as the communities in which we operate. These are evidenced by feedback from our beneficiaries and the wider community.

3. There is no harm arising from our purposes. Scouting operates within a framework of safety to enable young people to take part in adventurous activities safely.

4. Scouting's beneficiaries are children and young people.

5. The only private benefit from this purpose is that Adult Volunteers are trained to deliver the programme, but this is incidental and necessary because it is needed to operate in today's society, when working with young people.

- Main activities to further purposes for public benefit:

Scouting actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

- Main achievements in the year: (Leader's Report)

Group Scout Leader's Report

See full report below

- Review of our charity's financial position as at March 31st 2024:

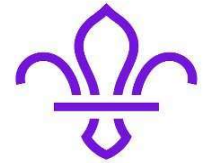
Our funds are in a healthy state and we do not have any debts or funds in material deficit.

We do not currently have a reserves policy but collect subscriptions on a regular basis in order to satisfy contingencies and anticipated regular expenses.

*Eugene Neeson* - Group Scout Leader

*Marcus Cooper* - Treasurer

DATE: 11/09/2024



## BEAVER COLONY REPORT

*A very active year*

- At maximum numbers (18)
- District Easter Hike
- Visit to Fire Station
- Canoeing with the Cubs
- Waterfowl Park Clean-up
- Trip to Rose Park Farm
- Pantomime with entire Scout Group



## CUB PACK REPORT

### *A very active year*

- At maximum numbers (24) the full year, 8 Cubs moved to Scouts
- Participation in all District events – Quiz, District Hike, Football, Archery, Unihockey, Orienteering, District Flag (Scout Skills Competition)
- We won the Orienteering and District Quiz for 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row!!! 😊😊😊
- Trips by train (Cubs favourite transport!) to SSE Arena for Ice Hockey
- BIG Catch-up on badges, still making up for lost Covid time
- Priority to get everyone the Chief Scout's Silver Award whilst moving to Scouts
- District Cub Camp at Crawfordsburn
- Pantomime with the entire Scout Group
  
- We won District Pack of the Year!!!!



## SCOUT TROOP REPORT

New section leader, record numbers of young people

- Pioneering - knots and lashings
- Static canoe camp
- Outdoor cooking
- Hiking and orienteering
- Train trip to Ulster Museum
- Mourne weekend trip
- Crebilly environmental project
- Surf night Portstewart
- Canoe expedition - Newferry - Portglenone-Portna- Movanager
- Slemish hike



## EXPLORER SCOUT REPORT

### Massive Growth!

- 23 Explorer Scouts – largest ever, biggest in the District
- Running a distinct separate section from the Scout section
- Summer Camp – jointly with Scouts was a great success
- Continue to offer the President's Award / Duke of Edinburgh Programme
- First Silver DofE 😊
- Ballyhornan weekend – Warm weekend in September
- Lots of preparation for France 2024



## GROUP SCOUT LEADER REPORT

### Another year of maximum numbers (April 2023 –March 2024)

- Very high retention rate, hardly anyone leaving
- All sections running engaging and varied programmes
- Continued success with grant applications
- Despite limited Fundraising, Finances in a healthy state
- Continued support from Parish & Parish Centre
- Continued Support from Slemish District
- We bought a minibus!

### Points for improvement

- 22 Children 6yo+ on the waiting list to join, 7 under 6's "booking" their place
- Demands put on some leaders are still excessive - Several leaders still double/triple jobbing – contributing to leader burn-out
- Focus on ensuring young people get the badges they've earned



# GROUP SCOUT LEADER REPORT

## Group Scout Leader

Eugene Neeson

### Beaver Section Leader

Danuta Smolinska

### Cub Section Leader

Eugene Neeson

### Scout Section Leader

Frances Gribben

### Explorer Section Leader

Marcus Cooper

### Assistant Leaders

Claire Hau  
Aedan Loughran  
Cormac Butler

### Assistant Leaders

Rita Shannon  
Aleksandra Baczkowska  
Ryan Goodier  
Aedan Loughran  
Maria Cooper

### Assistant Leaders

Rita Shannon  
Martin McNeill  
Paul Westwood  
Liam Shannon  
Cormac Butler  
Aedan Loughran  
Bartek Delas

### Assistant Leaders

Elizabeth Savory  
Lisa Doherty

### Parent Helpers

Stephanie Vajda



## RUNNING THE GROUP - OCCASIONAL HELPERS

We are not a youth club – nobody gets paid, everything we do is voluntary

25 Occasional Helpers registered on Compass

- Can help with any activities, or just be in the hall to achieve adult/yp ratios
- Registered on Compass, mandatory AccessNI check
- Online training Modules – Safety & Safeguarding
- WhatsApp Group for our pool of helpers

Points for improvement

- 22 Children 6yo+ on the waiting list to join, 7 under 6's "booking" their place
- Starting a Squirrel section?
- Demands put on some leaders are still excessive - Several leaders still double/triple jobbing
- Focus on ensuring young people get the badges they've earned



## GROUP SCOUT LEADER REPORT

### My Wish List

- Find a person with management, organisational & communication skills to take over as Group Scout Leader
- Recruit assistant leaders for all sections so leaders don't have to double job
- Recruit more young leaders (Duke of Ed / President's Award)
- Add more parents to the list of Occasional helpers
- Be able to offer scouting to every young person who wants to join All Saints Scout Group

**REMEMBER – All leaders are volunteers, giving up their time freely**

**THANKS TO ALL PARENTS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT**