



PITSFORD SCOUT GROUP 2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Annual General Meeting

13 July 2023





Agenda for the Annual General Meeting for Pitsford Scout Group 2023
Thursday 13th July 6.30pm at Pitsford Sportsfield

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of 2022 AGM
4. Approval of Scout Leaders Report
5. Approval of Treasurer's Report and Accounts
6. Approve of Group Scout Leader's nomination of Group Chair
7. Approve of Group Scout Leader's nomination of the Group Executive Committee
8. Election of Officers:
 - a. Group Administrator
 - b. Group Treasurer
9. Appoint a Group Auditor
10. Election of the Group Executive committee as members of the Group Council
11. Comments by the District Commissioner
12. Closing Remarks by the Chair
13. Date of the next AGM tba

Group Chair's Report

As I write this, I can't believe another year has flown by! As Chairperson it is always a privilege to see, hear and when I can participate in this amazing Scout Group.

As volunteers all the leaders work extremely hard, to put together an exciting, fun and challenging programme every week for our young people, but the highlight for this last year 3/22-3/23 must be the much-anticipated return of camps since the pandemic. The cubs had a brilliant weekend at Spotley (the first-time camping for some!) and the Scouts had an activity filled summer camp to Norfolk. Camps take an awful lot of planning and preparation but are one of the key elements of Scouting. A huge thankyou to Georgina and all the leaders and volunteers that make such events possible and to Tony for making sure they run smoothly financially.

You maybe aware that the Scout movement in the UK is undergoing a journey currently to make the volunteering side of Scouting more accessible to all adults, parents, carers, grandparents.....

New roles are being created to encourage more adults to get involved. You don't need to attend weekly meetings to get involved (although weekly help is always appreciated 😊). Helping to organise the Christmas Fayre, assisting with fundraising or drying tents after a particularly wet camp are great ways to support the group. If you would like to be involved, or have a specific skill or talent to offer, please do get in touch you will be most welcome.

Please take time to browse through the Facebook page over the summer as it is a great record of all the activities undertaken. On behalf of the Executive committee, I thank you all for attending tonight and wish you all a very happy and enjoyable summer.

Janet Wilkins, Group Chair

Group Scout Leaders Report

Some of my Highlights for this past year

We held our first St Georges Day event out of doors which went very well indeed and for our AGM at the Sportsfield everyone brought a picnic which was well attended on a beautiful evening. A great atmosphere and fun for everyone.

We held a Group Activity Day at the end of term which was to celebrate the 15th anniversary of our Group. It was a hot day but great fun was had by everyone all day with lots of activities and ending in the favourite water activity.



At the end of the Autumn term we held a Christmas fayre at the Village Hall in aid of Outspan School in Uganda and the Scout Group. A huge thank you for everyone who helped and supported the event again this was well attended and a lovely atmosphere.

Tony and I returned to Uganda in February, It had been 4 years since we last visited and it was wonderful to return.

I thoroughly enjoyed showing the pupils some craftwork, reading stories and bringing the letters back for the Scout Group. The fundraising is a continuing task as they need to complete the building of the hall at the Primary School.



I finish this report as I celebrate 55 years of being a Scout Leader. I feel it is time to stand down and hand over to someone younger. What a great time I have had over 55 years so many challenges and adventures. I have always enjoyed the camping, hikes and backwoods cooking. I helped to run three International Jamborees in Northamptonshire, I was part of the team of 56 participants going to Uganda for the first time in 1997 that has honestly changed my life. It is so rewarding to visit the Country and see it developing over the last 26 years. Since that first visit Tony and I have revisited many, many times and it was wonderful to take with us Explorer Scouts and Leaders from Pitsford and Spratton to name a few. I was very honoured to receive the highest award for Scouting from the Chief Scout, the Silver Wolf, to meet him and go to Windsor Castle. It was a great honour to be asked in 2006 to start up a Scout Group in Pitsford with Boughton and the Bramptons. We named the Group Pitsford because there was a Scout Group here many years ago. We opened in January 2007, the same year as we were celebrating 100 years of Scouting. Pitsford Scout Group has gone from strength to strength always with full sections and a wonderful team of Leaders.

I can't thank you enough for all the support, teamwork and friendship I have gained over the years. Scouting is a wonderful organisation giving young people skills for life. I urge you to think about lending a hand, it doesn't have to be every week but the Scout Section particularly needs another Leader as the section is growing.

Thank you to my husband Tony for all his support and for the role of Treasurer for the Group. A lot of time goes in to this task. Thank you to the Executive Committee for all your support especially Janet. I won't be going far away as I would like to be the Group administrator working from home.

Georgina Miles, Group Scout Leader



The opening of the Scout Group by the then County Commissioner John Simmons



During the year the Beavers have worked on several Challenge Awards and Activity Badges.

The start of the Summer Term was the St George's Day event which went very well and we renewed our Beaver Promise. New Beavers joined us the following week and we had 'Get to know you' games using the parachute which everyone enjoyed. A Brixworth fire engine came to the Sportsfield for everyone to have a look at and talk to the, firefighters which was enjoyable. The Beavers built bug hotels in the hedges and had fun revisiting to see if any guests had arrived. Camp craft, Navigation badges and My Outdoor Challenge Award were tackled with compass work, packing a rucksack, map reading, tracking signs, blindfold trail, tents and knots. We had a joint Beaver and Cub night with den building in the woods which was very much enjoyed and had a hike from Brixworth Country Park back to Pitsford.

We resumed in September for the Autumn Term and started work on the International Badge and My World Challenge Award, talking about peace and kindness, Photography. They then did some creative work for the My Creative Challenge award with salt dough shapes and for Christmas made some rice snowmen out of socks which looked amazing. The Beavers gained the Photographers badge by taking photos of different objects to spell 'Beavers'. We took the Beavers to visit Pitsford Church ahead of the Remembrance Day Parade, they found the Church very interesting. Thank you to Oscar for carrying the flag for the Parade so well.

We all had great fun at the Christmas Fayre and ended our term with a Christmas Party at the Village Hall when Father Christmas came to visit.

In the Spring Term we continued with the International Badge and My World Challenge Award by celebrating the Chinese New Year, Burns night and learning about Georgina's forthcoming trip to Uganda. The Beavers were asked to fill a match box with as many small items as they could and to be sponsored for each item. This raised £55.00 which was great. The Beavers also wrote letters for Georgina to take to Outspan School. We made mini pancakes and decorated them, celebrated World Book day and made models out of junk recycling materials for the builders badge. We also joined Holcot and Walgrave Beaver Colony for a 'Drive Through Movie' afternoon where the Beavers designed and made some amazing car creations, then the Beavers sat in them with some popcorn to watch a movie.

We ended the term with an Easter egg hunt which is always fun around the quarry.

A big thank you to my ABSL's Claire and Emma and Constance and Samuel who are invaluable Young Leaders

Nicola Cebak, Beaver Scout Leader



During the Summer Term 2022 the Cubs had a circus night, a mini Olympics night, and a den building joint night with the Beavers. We also hiked some of the Brampton Valley Way, did some bug hunting and had a go at archery at the John Lowther Activity Centre.

We had our first post-covid Cub camp at Spotley Woods, a medieval themed weekend with space hopper jousting, fire lighting and a blindfold trail, none of the Cubs had camped with us before and were very brave! The Cubs earned their Athletic, Entertainers, and Pioneer badges and completed Our Skills, Outdoor and Adventure Challenge Awards.

In the Autumn Term the Cubs had a "Día De las Muertos" themed Halloween night with piñatas and sugar skulls, we had an astronomy night at Brixworth Country Park and a spy night with a special guest from Bletchley Park. We held another camp, a sixer/ seconder camp, learning first aid, pioneering (and conker collecting) skills. We commemorated Remembrance Day with our annual parade and had a night celebrating Hanukah. We also played our favourite game, COMMANDOS, again first time in over two years, before finishing the year at Sixfields with bowling and pizza. During this term we worked on our International, Astronomy and Scientist badges as well as Our World and Our Skill Challenge Awards

In the Spring Term we celebrated World Book Day and Chinese New Year, played an amazing night of Human Hungry Hippos and learnt about the Green Cross Code. We had a night learning about our connection with Outspan School in Uganda and wrote letters to the school children which Georgina took with her in March and brought back letters of replies for us. In February, we had a Cub day at John Lowther Activity Centre, where we had fun on the challenge course, practised our fire lighting skills and made ice cream cone s'mores. During this term we worked on the 'YouShape' Award as well as the Book Readers, Artist, Road safety and Navigator badges and our Teamwork, Team leader and Our World Challenge Award

Congratulations to Olivia, Amelie, Arthur, Lucy and Jude for gaining their Chief Scout Silver Award the year. As always I would like to say a big THANK YOU to all the Cubs for coming, you all do so well with aining your badges and developing your confidence! Thanks also needs to go to our parents for their ongoing support.

Of course a big thank you goes to my ACSL's Sue, Rebecca, Jas and Young Explorer s Scout Leader , Sophie and Georgina for all your hard work, strength and support, I know I always say this, but I really couldn't do any of this without you! 😊

Vicky Toone, Cub Scout Leader



Many Congratulations to Samuel who received his Chief Scouts Gold Award and moved on to Brixworth Explorer Scouts but is also helping as a Young Leader with the Beaver Colony.

he Scouts helped run a fundraising evening at our St George's Day event at the beginning of the Summer term running a cake stall, cover jars and serving tea and coffees raising £207.00 towards camp .

We had an interesting visit from Brixworth Fire fighters who brought their engine for everyone to look at, a joint night with the Cubs which went well. We also covered First Aid and Camp skills

We took 9 of our Scouts and 12 from Finedon camping to Wells-next-the-Sea over the May Spring holiday enjoying crabbing, a boat ride to see the seals, time on the beach and doing a hike. Everyone had a great time.

In the Autumn term the Scouts visited the Wellingborough and District food bank, taking donations from all sections with us, learning about what they do and helping make up food parcels for people to collect . The Scouts covered map reading and compass skills. The Remembrance Parade and service was well represented which is always a pleasure to see. Georgina and Rebecca came to talk to the Scouts about the connection we have with Outspan School Bwaise Uganda, we wrote letters for Georgina to take to the School .We had an evening at Overstone Scout Ground where we did some fire lighting and cooked cowboy stew.

In the Spring Term the Scouts did some model making using florist wire, making Mexican tin art and we have had several visits from our local PCSO and Police Officer, learning about their different uniforms and the work they might do each day. We held a Ready Steady Cook night which is always good fun and we have had several problem solving games .The Scouts also have been learning about navigation, and orienteering and went on a hike from Pitsford to Moulton

During the year the Scouts have received their Creative Challenge, World Challenge, Skills challenge Outdoor Challenge Awards and 4 Scouts completed their Expedition Challenge Awards along with their D of E Bronze Expedition.

Also they have worked hard and earned their Activity badges in Fire safety, Navigation, Orienteering, My Faith and Chef badges

A huge thank you to Sue my ASL for her invaluable support and to Lucy who has been a great help as a Young Leader

Brenda Faulkner, Scout Leader



GROUP TREASURER'S REPORT

When I prepared my report for the AGM 12 months ago as Scouting had just about returned to normal after the pandemic I was looking forward to a rather busier 2022/23. Always be careful what you wish for! It has been a busy year with camps, activities and subscriptions keeping your Treasurer on his toes and judging by the activity in recent weeks the year ahead promises more of the same.

Where is Pitsford Scout Group financially? I am pleased to say that the recovery that I predicted in my last report has continued and we are close to being able to replenish our reserves in order to get those back to pre-pandemic levels. Our aim has always been to have sufficient reserves to pay two year's Capitation – the contribution that the Group has to pay to District, County and Headquarters which in March 2023 totalled £3190.00 equivalent to £58.00 per head – and I anticipate that we will be able to return our reserves to that level in the next few months. The value of having such reserves was only too apparent during the pandemic when our income was much reduced but we continued to be able to meet all our outgoings.

What does this mean for the parents? I think that I can safely say that we will not be looking to increase subscriptions in the next 12 months. Thank you to all those who pay promptly and save us the trouble of having to send out reminders. Thank you also to all those who have completed Gift Aid forms as the Gift Aid that we can then claim from HMRC is an invaluable addition to the Group's income.

What lies ahead? I have no doubt that the Leaders will be planning more activities and camps which will keep your Treasurer busy in the months to come. That may well mean that you receive requests for more payments but I am sure that in terms of value for money the experiences that your young people get in Scouting are second to none.

Finally my thanks to James Bellamy for his help with the Accounts.

Tony Miles, Group Treasurer

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Pitsford Scout Group
Receipts and Payments Account
for the year from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	Unrestricted funds	
	£	£
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Membership Subscriptions	5,529	4,477
Less : Membership subscriptions paid on	3,190	2,793
Net membership subscriptions retained	2,339	1,684
Donations, legacies and similar income	91	78
Legacies	-	-
Gift Aid	722	114
Other similar income	-	-
Sub total	3,152	1,876
Grants		
Maintenance grant	-	-
Other grants	-	-
Sub total	0	0
Fundraising (gross)		
Camp and activity fees	3,405	2,369
Other fundraising activities	6,924	583
Sub total	10,329	2,952
Investment Income		
Bank interest	13	1
Building Society interest	-	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	-	-
Property Rent Income	-	-
Other investment Income	-	-
Sub total	13	1
Total Gross Income	13,494	4,829
Asset and investment sales etc	0	0
Total receipts	13,494	4,829

	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2022 £
Payments		
Charitable Payments		
Youth programme and activities	-	-
Adult support and training	-	-
Rent	-	-
Water and sewerage	-	-
Electricity and gas	-	-
Insurance	145	125
Repairs and renewals	-	-
Materials and equipment	502	47
Printing and photocopying	20	-
Contribution to camp costs	-	-
Uniforms and badges	1,292	1,120
AGM and trustee expenses	-	-
Scout Jamboree	-	-
Section Expenses	5,514	1,994
Contribution to New Pavilion	-	-
Sub total	7,472	3,286
Fundraising expenses		
Other fundraising costs	8,571	375
Sub total	8,571	375
Total Gross Expenditure	16,043	3,661
Asset and investment purchases etc	0	0
Total payments	16,043	3,661
Net of receipts/(payments)	-2,550	1,168
Cash funds last year end	9,174	8,006
Cash funds this year end	£6,622	£9,174

Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees of the Pitsford Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the Group for the year ended 31 March 2023

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Scrutineer

As the Group's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that neither the audit nor the independent examination requirements of the Charities Act 1993 apply. It is my responsibility without carrying out an audit or independent examination to scrutinise the accounts and report to you.

Basis of Scrutineer's Statement

In accordance with the directions given in the Group's constitution, I have scrutinised the records and the accounts set out on pages 1 and 2.

Scrutineer's Statement


In my opinion the accounts are in accordance with the records produced to me and comply with the constitution.

James Bellamy
10 Wellingborough Road
Mears Ashby
Northampton
NN6 0DZ

28 May 2023

CHIEF SCOUT AWARD

ROLL OF HONOUR 2022-2023

		
Bronze Award Beaver section	Silver Award Cub Section	Gold Award Scout Section
Toby Wadsworth Brodie Smith Edie Wadsworth	Kian Hancock Caleb Holmes Oliver Cebak Toby Wadsworth Olivia Passchier Amelie Wells Arthur Boddington Lucy Chaloner Jude Simson Isaac Kyriakides	Samuel Palmer Jessica Butcher





Our thanks for the continuing support from
Blue Skies Holdings
Royal British Legion Pitsford Branch.
Wells-Design



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TO OUR
ADVENTURE...**

www.pitsfordscouts.com