

Scouts



AGM
SPECIAL

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2nd Orpington

2nd.orp.org.uk

#SkillsForLife

 /2nd Orpington Scout Group

2nd Sight

Issue 1: Summer 2022

Welcome...

Since our last AGM, which was held via Zoom, a lot has changed at 2nd Orpington

Karen Smurthwaite has stepped down as our GSL so I would like that to take this opportunity to thank her for all the work and time that she had committed to the group over the years. Karen is still involved with scouting as she is a District training advisor and is a member of the Executive Team.

Scouts was run with the help of all the other Leaders to prevent the section from closing. In January we recruited a new Leader, Becca. Becca has done a great job and she is being helped by George from Wolves.

In saying that Becca has had some fantastic news..... She is expecting her 1st child in November, so we are in the hunt for a new leader again

We have a new Treasurer, Tim Birse has taken the role after Sean stepped down and we also have a new Chair, John Whitney.

We have fully resumed Face-to-face Scouting and with great planning from our leaders we have returned to camps and other exciting opportunities.

Our sections have continued to provide an exciting program that has kept our members engaged.

We have a great reputation within Orpington and as a result our numbers have flourished, on the same time last year.

Leaders continue to inspire and provide innovative and challenging programmes each week, and I am continually thankful to them for all their hard work and effort.

All in all, an exceptional year for an exceptional group of adults and young people...bring on 2023!

Mark Hudson, GSL

Sections Update

BEAVERS

We have 20 Beavers..

We have learnt a lot over the last year from how to keep ourselves safe on the roads, how to light a fire safely also some emergency first aid. We had fun with indoor archery making kites and we even learnt about money and earning interest with chocolate coins.

We have made bunting for our jubilee party and sent pictures to The Queen

We can't wait for what exciting, fun things we learn over the next year.

We currently have 14 members 7 girls and 7 boys.

We have had a lot of fun activity's over the last year with activity's like music history with real gramophone, mad hatter tea party, bat walk with bat detectors, tag active and low ropes just to name a few.

I would like to thank all the leaders at Disney. Mick, Sam and our young leader Sarah. We could not run without all your hard work and commitment.

cubs

We have 28 Cubs and With the Wolves we have enjoyed 2 camps

since the Covid restrictions were lifted.

Various activities have been away from the hut to get our Cubs outside again 24 Cubs, 9 girls and 15 boys 4 leaders Plenty of badges covered and we are all having fun

SCOUTS

19 scouts. We have 3 scouts to be invested. We are working on the outside badges for this term with activities such as pioneering, camp gadgets, tent building and fire building. Some Scouts are going to the International Chamboree in August

The parents have offered positive feedback about the scouts enjoying the nights and having a good time.

EXPLORERS

We have 12 Explorers and we have covered some pioneering and various other badge work.

Some Scout joined us for our week on the Narrow boats in the Midlands We made Floaty Boat and made some how too video to share with the other section and generally have had fun.

We are participating in the Bromley District Challenge



Welcome to our Annual General Meeting

GSL's Report

I was very honoured to take the role of Group Scout Leader when Karen stepped down in November. With Orpington being a large group, I was under no illusions of some of the challenges ahead.

My first task was to recruit a new leader for the Scouts. Thankfully I was able to complete this task with a new leader being in place for the start of the January term, I'm sure you will all join me in welcoming Becca.

I am still amazed that the other leaders were still happy to offer support whilst Becca settled into her new role and well as fulfilling their own roles to a high standard. It shows what a strong leader team we have at 2nd that keeps the scouting ethos.

We must not forget that as a group we are very much exposed and are desperate for new leaders

Well done goes to the following for earning the highest Award within their sections

Marley Peyto – Chief Scout Bronze Award

Haydn Kenny – Chief Scout Bronze

Award

Samuel McCann – Chief Scout Bronze Award

Indigo McKenzie – Chief Scout Bronze Award

Tommy Stother – Chief Scout Silver Award

There has also been 531 Activity, staged and challenge badges issued this last year

Now that we are very close to the normality of pre covid I would like to grow the group, not only for members but also for the family.

I would like to have more events that the family can attend so we can have a real family community at 2nd Orpington

Mark

Chair's Report

This role was vacant until earlier this year when John Whitney committed to become the new Chair.

I think it is not only commendable that our Leaders adjusted programmes to keep our young people engaged and put in the extra effort for the Group to remain active, but that our young people have adjusted so well to the changes.

I would like to thank all the Leaders and Young Leaders for the time effort and commitment you have all given.

I have some ideas and potential projects that I feel will benefit the group. But firstly, we do need to build the Executive team. Ideally, we want at least one parent/carer/grandparent from each section

The Executive role is important for many reasons from compliance to

fund raising.

Although Leaders are part of the Executive, I would like to take that responsibility off the leaders so they can concentrate on providing the brilliant programs and camps that give our members great life skills and memories.

The Group remains financially stable which is largely due to the massive effort put into securing some grants by our Treasurer. Our numbers have remained positive.

So once again thank you to all the Leaders, young people and parents who make 2nd Orpington so great.

John

Governance & Management

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association ("POR").

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee. The structure and methods of appointment of members for the Committee is set out in POR. As charity trustees Committee members are responsible for complying with

legislation applicable to charities, including the requirement to keep proper accounts.

Members of the Committee complete 'Essential Information for Executive Committee' training within the first 5 months of joining the committee.

This Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in running the Group. The detailed duties of the Committee are set out in POR

Risk Management

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group and the Unit are exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to equipment. The Group has insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. The group has the benefit of a strong quartermaster team that maintains our equipment to a high standard.
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities. Members are insured by the Scouts national personal accident insurance, and Leaders are covered by indemnity insurance.

Reduced income from fund raising. When operating its full programme, the Group relies on income from subscriptions and fund-raising. The absence of significant fund-raising income in the last two years has not been an issue because of the reduced programme. The Committee could raise the subscriptions to increase the income to the group.

Shortage of Executive Committee members. The function of the Executive Committee is to support the Leaders in running attractive activities for young people, and to relieve them of administrative tasks. Without this support, the increased pressure on Leaders could lead them to decide that they no longer wish to continue to volunteer, resulting in the following risk materialising.

- Reduction or loss of leaders. The Group and the Unit are reliant on volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section or, in the worst-case scenario, the closure of the Group.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group and the Unit provide activities for young people aged 6 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section or, in the worst-case scenario the closure of the Group. The loss of one age-group is likely to knock on into older sections as the natural source of recruits dries up.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

The Group's policy is to maintain unrestricted general funds which cover at least six months unrestricted expenditure to ensure that the Group can fulfil its operational and management obligations. This figure

excludes expenditure on activities that are directly financed by fees charged to participants. Reserves at 31st March 2022 were in excess of amounts required by the reserves policy for reasons discussed below

Treasurer's Report

The numbers and much of the text in this report have been taken from the Group's draft accounts.

The formal Report and Accounts is currently being audited and will be available when the audit is complete.

We will send all parents/carers and members a note of the results of the audit when it is complete by an email through OSM.

Youth membership numbers reported in the Scouts' national census on 31st January 2022 were 92 in the Group, and 9 in the Unit, compared to 83 and 11 respectively in the previous year. The Group did not suffer the membership drop in 2021 that many groups saw as the result of the pandemic.

Our numbers held up because of the quality of the on-line offering that we were able to provide.

The Group and the Unit meet the

Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

For both the Group and the Unit, face to face Scouting activities have restarted steadily through this accounting period following the relaxation of Covid 19 restrictions. Since the start of the academic year in September, almost all meetings have been held face to face.

The Cubs and the Explorers went on overnight camps and activities starting in September.

As fewer events could be organised, the reduced programme, particularly in the normally active summer term, has impacted both income and expenditure.

In addition to activities for our own young people, we have continued to support other causes.

In January we participated in the national campaign to “Plant a Tree for the Jubilee” by providing 600 beech seedlings, tree guards and stakes to complete the hedge round All Saints’

Churchyard. As well as the trees, we also provided a great deal of manpower (young-person-power) to plant them. This was an enjoyable activity for all and a real benefit to the community.

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.

Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate 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
- make and live by their Promise.

Public Benefit

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Financial Statements

Receipts and Payments account and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st March 2022

	2nd Orpington £	Explorer Scouts £	Total 2022 £	2nd Orpington £	Explorer Scouts £	Total 2021 £
<u>Receipts</u>						
Subscriptions	7,694	208	7,902	5,735	109	5,844
less membership fees paid	-4,131	0	-4,131	-3,986	0	-3,986
	3,563	208	3,771	1,749	109	1,858
Gift Aid tax relief	3,248	0	3,248	0	0	0
Grants and Donations	11,776	0	11,776	20,210	35	20,245
Events and activities	4,145	1,182	5,327	958	0	958
Hall lettings	5,775	0	5,775	2,635	0	2,635
Fund Raising	140	0	140	278	0	278
Equipment hire and sale	401	0	401	11	0	11
Interest and dividends	3	0	3	3	0	3
Total Receipts	29,051	1,390	30,441	25,844	144	25,988
<u>Payments</u>						
Equipment purchased	197	0	197	726	0	726
Equipment maintenance	140	0	140	0	0	0
Insurance	1,715	0	1,715	2,231	0	2,231
Fund raising costs	66	0	66	35	0	35
Charitable donations	568	0	568	0	0	0
Events and activities	3,803	502	4,305	290	115	405
Meeting costs	1,313	76	1,389	946	12	958
Badges and uniform	1,255	15	1,270	0	0	0
Administration expenses	97	20	117	86	0	86
Rates	128	0	128	-1,918	0	-1,918
Utilities	1,264	0	1,264	1,245	0	1,245
Hall & grounds maintenance	3,768	0	3,768	2,252	0	2,252
Total payments	14,314	613	14,927	5,893	127	6,020
Net Operating Income	14,737	777	15,514	19,951	17	19,968
Fund brought forward	39,288	7,250	46,538	19,337	7,233	26,570
Cash Funds at 31 March	54,025	8,027	62,052	39,288	7,250	46,538
<u>Represented by:</u>						
Main current account	12,169	0	12,169	25,422	0	25,422
Section Current accounts	1,185	8,019	9,204	1,107	7,170	8,277
Deposit account	40,654	0	40,654	12,751	0	12,751
Cash balances	17	8	25	8	80	88
	54,025	8,027	62,052	39,288	7,250	46,538

