

6th Horsham Scout Group Trustees' Annual Report

for the period:

26th May 2021 to 8th May 2022



6th Horsham Scout Group is sponsored by
London Road Methodist Church

6th Horsham Scout Group

Trustees' Annual Report for the period: 26th May 2021 to 8th May 2022

Reference and Administration Details

Group Registration Number with the Scout Association: 45350

Charity Registration Number: XR25145

The Group operates from, and is sponsored by: London Road Methodist Church

41 London Road

Horsham

West Sussex

RH12 1AN

Phone: 01403 240714

Email: office@lrmchorsham.org

Names of the charity trustees are:

Name	Office	Dates (if not for whole year)
Ex-Officio trustees:		
Martin Cummings	Group Chairman	
Ann Williams	Group Secretary	
Martin Brogan	Group Treasurer	To 8 th May 2022 then Vince Mitchell
David Casey	Group Scout Leader	To 8 th May 2022 then Tim Aveline
Michael Reeves	Scout Troop Leader	
Andrew King	Cub Pack Leader	
Christine Makin	Beaver Colony Leader	
Colin Coventry	London Road Church Representative	
Martin Savage	Web Site, DBS and GDPR Officer	
Elected trustees:		
Caroline O'Leary	Scouts Parents Representative	
Debbie Whitlock	Cubs Parents Representative	
	Beaver Parents Representative	

Group funds are held by: HSBC Bank, West Street, Horsham.

Group Accounts for 2021-2022 have been independently examined by: Vince Mitchell

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Achievements and Performance



After a tough couple of years things are getting back to something nearing normality with the sections. We are all still being hit by both young people and leaders getting covid but we have managed to run face to face meetings again - inside as well as outside. All the sections have been catching up on their badge-work and providing a varied and interesting programme.

The group is currently seeing a change in leadership in certain areas. After 10 years as Group Scout Leader (GSL) it is time for me to step down from that role. I was hoping to take a step back and become an Assistant Cub Scout Leader but Andy King started a new job in the autumn which meant he had to move away so I have stepped up to the Cub Leader role for the time being. Andy's enthusiasm, energy and seemingly bottomless pool of ideas will be missed. It is not always easy to find someone to take over as GSL so we are very lucky to have Tim Aveline take on the role. Tim has a son in the Scout Troop with another joining soon. We are looking forward to Tim's contribution to the group. We will also, shortly, be saying goodbye to Marty Brogan who has been our treasurer for many years now and we thank him for all his help and support over the years. Marty's successor is Vince Mitchell who was the treasurer for the Horsham Scout District so Marty can be sure he is passing on the responsibility to a safe pair of hands.

Each Section, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have submitted their own reports and you will see what marvellous job they have done in getting the numbers of young people in their sections back up to the levels before the pandemic levels. Please take time to read the reports submitted by each of the group's sections. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the section leaders, Christine and Mike as well as assistant leaders, sectional assistants and parent helpers in all they do. I also wish to thank Martin Cummings, our group chair and the rest of our executive team for all their support.

David Casey - Group Scout Leader (outgoing)

What better place to return to Scouting after a 29 year absence than 6th Horsham! My own journey started back in 1986 when, as young and impressionable Beaver my world opened up to the experiences, friendships and adventures of Scouting.

I was quite apprehensive when first asked to consider the Group Scout Leader role. However, the passion shown by the Section Leaders, the support and warm welcome I've received from the Executive and District teams has quickly turned that initial trepidation into full blown excitement for the year ahead.

It's been great to read about the activities and achievements in each section leaders report from the last year. I echo David's message and thank the all the volunteers in providing the children in our section their own experiences, friendships and adventures.

Tim Aveline - Group Scout Leader (Designate)

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2021 started with another Covid lockdown. Beavers continued over Zoom with activities including art, cooking, and exercise. We held a promise ceremony for new starters and some Beavers completed their Health and Fitness badge. At the end of March, we were very pleased to be able to meet outdoors in person at Owlbeech Woods. It was great to see each other, play games and have an Easter Egg hunt using maps.

The Summer term held a new milestone for 6th Horsham Beavers – every meeting was outdoors. Learning and using map skills at several of those meetings, Beavers earned their Navigator (1) badge. We had an incident circuit in Horsham park so that Beavers could learn how to respond to different emergencies. The park was also a great location to complete the cyclist badge and support our community by holding a litter pick.

At the campsite we made s'mores, found out how to make fires, learned about Scouting values, hunted for mini beasts, made natural pictures, played games and sang songs. On a warm summer's day, we played wet games involving buckets, sponges and lots of laughter.

In the Autumn we continued outside as long as possible. The Group invested in some tents for Beavers to use at our sleepovers rather than borrowing as we have in the past. Practising putting up tents at the campsite was a perfect activity on the Monday before our sleepover.

The 2021 sleepover was well attended and was held in Gummy's for the first time during my tenure. It was exciting to be at the campsite and be able to use the new facilities. I'm not just talking about the new shower and toilet block! We now have an indoor caving system which we booked for Beavers to use the morning after their sleepover.

During the busy Autumn term we worked on the new Money Skills badge. Beavers were encouraged to save something – not necessarily money – and to keep track of their income and outgoings. Another aspect of the badge is to consider the difference between what we need, want and what can be shared or donated.

We were sad to say goodbye to Toby and Hannah as they left at Christmas when their sons moved up to Cubs. Jay Amon has stepped up and is a calm and regular presence, recently showing us his skills in the kitchen. Young Leader – Alex Tanner – joined in the Autumn has been very helpful during meetings and in planning.

With Ethan Reeves starting Beavers in the Autumn, our Scout leader Mike has been roped in as an occasional member of the Beavers team. Amongst other things, Mike has helped with the sleepover, making campfires and covering the history of money and jobs for our money skills badge.

After Christmas we were joined by Laura Evans and Billie Worsey as sectional assistants. They have both been great already, Billie stepped in to lead the meeting when I was off with Covid, and Laura has an unending supply of exciting ideas for Beavers.

Our Group Scout Leader - David Casey - has been a huge support both at meetings and over the phone, always willing to share the wealth of his Scouting experience.

Christine Makin – Beaver Scout Leader

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The last 12 months have been quite a roller coaster for the Cub Pack. At the start we were still in lock-down so the only way to meet was through zoom. Andy King did a sterling job coming up with different activities for the Cubs. When we were able to get back to face to face meetings they were only allowed outdoors, then indoors with restricted numbers and now we are back to some sort of normality albeit with extra hygiene precautions.

In the autumn I started helping Andy with Cubs with the view of taking up an assistant's role however Andy changed jobs which has taken him away from the area so I am currently taking on the leadership role.

Since getting back to face-to-face meetings Andy worked hard to get the pack to its traditional customs and traditions and I am carrying on his good work. We currently have 20 Cubs in the pack and over the past year we have taken them through some traditional scouting skills such as map reading, hiking, knots – where we practised by lashing breadsticks together with strawberry laces (yum!) - and campfire singing! As well as these skills the Cubs have looking at astronomy, first aid, problem solving challenges, team building and an evening hike over Denne Hill. For our Christmas party we met at the campsite where the trees were decorated with lights and we cooked chips on the campfire!

We are now preparing to go on the District Cub camp in May and looking forward to more adventures in the coming year.

I would like to extend my thanks to Andy King as he managed to do a fantastic job keeping the Cub Pack going through a very difficult period. I would also like to mention the help I have had from Nick as well as the parents who have also come along on a Friday evening.

All the fun activities are made possible by the leaders, helpers, parents and Group Exec who support us and deserve much thanks for their combined efforts.

David Casey – Acting Cub Scout Leader



The Scout group meets on Thursday nights in the Wesley Hall during term time. The age range is from 10½ to 14.

We continued to have really strong numbers, which is great to see after what has been a challenging couple of years in so many ways. We currently have three uniformed leaders, myself, Alan Turnbull and Matt Duffin. Jordan Biggin continues as a regular helper. We currently also have great support from parents who are happy to help out as and when required.

Following Scout Association guidelines throughout, after Easter last year we were able to begin a more normal and regular programme. We feel we have found a new love for the outdoors and have continued since with a heavy outdoor programme.

Each term we hold a 'Patrol Leaders Council' which allows our older Scouts to contribute to the programme and help come up with new ideas. They welcome being involved and it helps us keep them engaged.

This year we have spent a lot of time at Colgate campsite and realised just how fortunate we are to have this space. We have spent many evenings clearing and improving our area. We created extra fire areas, cleared a second area to put tents on and we have renovated and installed a wood burning stove. Food is always a firm favourite at the campsite. We have cooked campfire pizzas, nachos, chocolate fondue and for Christmas we even managed pigs in blankets.

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In October half term we ran a survival camp, our first time under canvas since 2019. Despite the storm that consumed that weekend, the rain, wind and cold could not ruin it for anyone. For many Scouts this was the first time they had camped and for others the first 'proper wash out' camp.

During last summer a new above ground caving system was installed at the campsite, open for all to use. This is enclosed and in complete darkness, allowing Scouts to experience all manner of twists and turns they may find in real caves. While camping we had a go and all had great fun (an hour in the dry was also welcome).

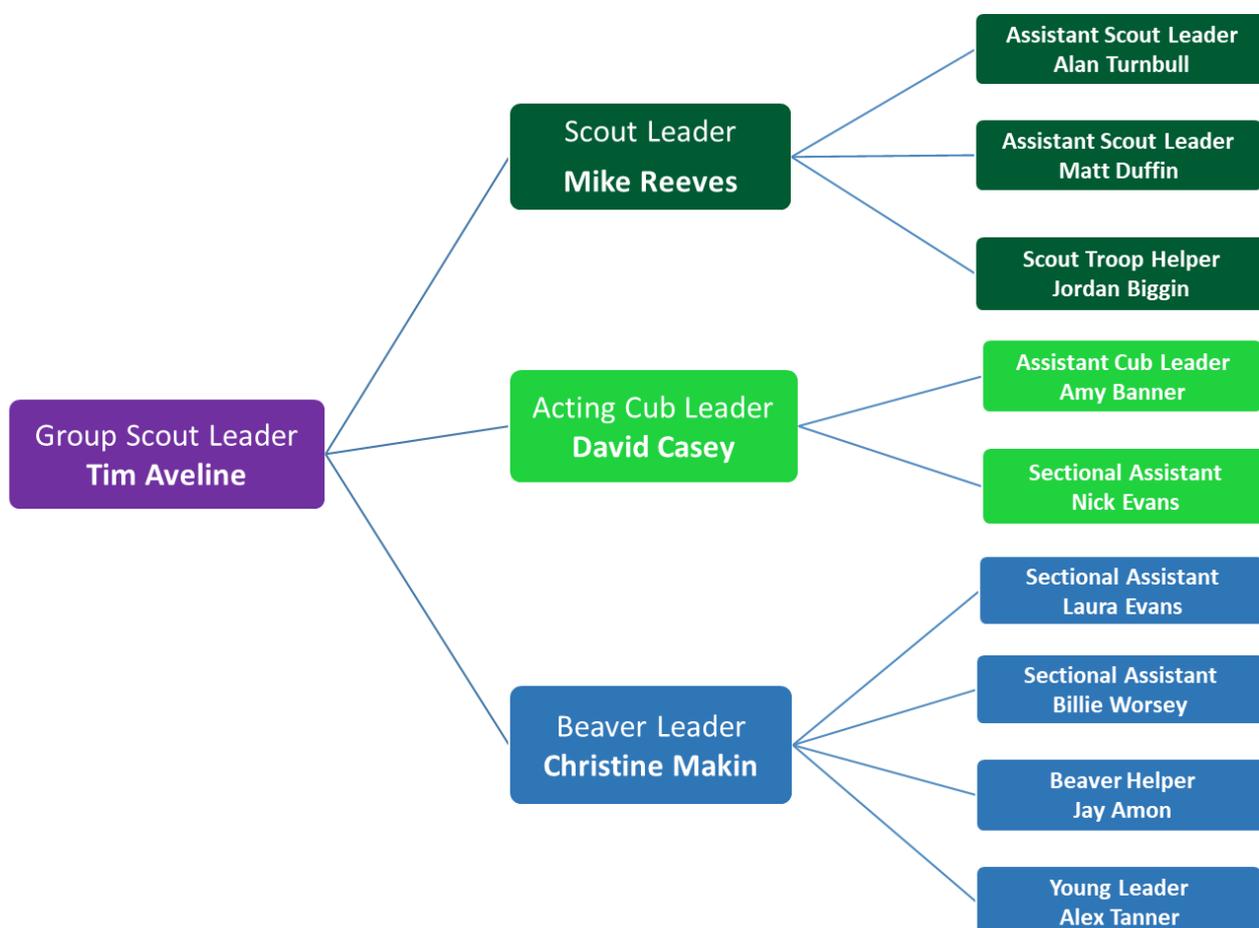
In November we joined up with HSBC to support the making of 1000 remembrance poppies in aid of the Poppy Factory. The Poppy Factory supports veterans in rehabilitation by helping them back into work. The Scouts enjoyed listening about the charity and we found out that little fingers are much better than the leaders 'fat thumbs'. We raised £80 for the charity.

We completed several badges this year, including navigation by taking part in several orienteering courses, model maker by hosting a Warhammer evening and camp cook. We spent an evening at Clip and Climb recently, this will go towards part of the climbing badge which we hope to complete this summer.

It has been a busy year and great to be back doing what we all love. As always a massive thank you to all the leaders, exec committee, parents and Scouts for all of their support, enthusiasm and resilience this year.

Mike Reeves – Scout Leader

6th Horsham Leadership Team



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6th Horsham Executive Committee



Structure Governance and 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. The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leaders, individual section leaders and parent's representation. The Executive Committee meets at least three times each year.

Members of the Executive Committee have all completed 'Essential Information for Executive Committee' training (module 1 or 1e).

This Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader and other leaders in meeting the responsibilities of their appointments and is responsible for:

- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;

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- The insurance of persons, property and equipment
- Liaison with London Road Methodist Church as our sponsoring body
- Group public occasions
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required
- Appointing group administrators and advisors other than those who are elected.

Risk Management

The Group Executive Committee has identified the primary risks to which the Group is exposed, these are regularly reviewed and mitigated as follows:

- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group, through the capitation fees, contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk assessments are undertaken before all activities and experienced past leaders are on-hand to advise.
- Inappropriate behaviour towards young people. All adults involved with the Group are subject to a DBS check. Leaders are required to undertake Scout Association training in safeguarding.
- Damage to buildings, property and equipment. The Group has a documented sponsorship agreement with London Road Methodist Church that provides, maintains and insures the buildings and equipment that the Group uses. The Group is very grateful for this support and makes a donation to the church each year.
- Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The Executive Committee reviews the value of subscriptions each year and organises fund raising events from time to time as required. The Group's policy on reserves is to hold an amount of money sufficient to support a rolling programme of equipment renewal and the week-by-week operating costs of the sections for a year, if income were to fall to the level of our expected payment commitments to The Scout Association (i.e. capitation).
- Insufficient number of leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. The Group is most grateful for all the efforts of its leaders and volunteers. Parents are always encouraged to get involved in whatever way they can. Most are pleasantly surprised at how much they enjoy it.
- Mismanagement or financial loss. The Group reviews its financial position at every meeting and requires two signatories for each payment from the bank account.
- Breach of privacy. The Group has appointed a data protection officer and follows The Scout Association guidance regarding the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Objectives and Activities

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.

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- 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 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
- make and live by their Promise.

To deliver these objectives we seek to provide:

- A regular programme of meetings, during term times, for scouts, cubs and beavers to include both indoor and outdoor activities and learning experiences
- Nights away experiences in each section including camps for scouts and cubs, and sleepovers for beavers
- Participation in District organised events where possible
- Supporting London Road Methodist Church by encouraging members of all sections and their families to attend parade services.

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

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Financial Review

Receipts and Payments Account Summary for the year ended 31 March 2022:

	2021 / 22	2020 / 21
	Unrestricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Membership subscriptions	4,724	1,331
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National / County / Area / District)	3,422	2,655
Net membership subscriptions retained	1,302	- 1,324
Donation	741	760
Legacies		
Gift Aid	579	169
Other similar income		54
Sub total	2,622	- 341
Fundraising (gross)		
Activities	395	15
Other fundraising activities	-	-
Sub total	395	15
Investment Income		
Bank Interest	0	3
Sub total	0	3
Total Gross Income	3,017	- 323
Asset and investment sales, etc		
Total Receipts	3,017	- 323

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Payments

	2021 / 22 Unrestricted Funds £	2020 / 21 Unrestricted Funds £
Payments		
Charitable Payments	-	0
Youth programme and activities	969	238
Adult support and training	-	-
Rent	500	1,000
Insurance	42	42
Repairs and Renewals	-	-
Materials and equipment	240	118
Uniforms	271	93
Other cost detail 1	-	-
Sub total	2,023	1,491
Fundraising expenses		
Sub total	0	0
Total Payments	2,023	1,491
Net of receipts/(payments)	994	- 1,814
Cash funds this year end	10,649	9,655

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Receipts and Payments Account Summary for April to March 2022

	This Year General Fund	This Year Activity Fund	This Year Equipment Fund	This Year Total	Last Year Total
Total Receipts for the year (breakdown overleaf)	£ 5,544	£ 395	£ 500	£ 6,439	£ 2,332
Total Payments for the year (breakdown overleaf)	£ 4,585	£ 619	£ 240	£ 5,445	£ 4,146
Net Receipts /(Payments) for the year	£ 958	(£ 224)	£ 260	£ 994	(£ 1,814)
Transfers between funds	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Net movement for the year	£ 958	(£ 224)	£ 260	£ 994	(£ 1,814)
Cash, bank and similar funds brought forward	£ 2,407	£ 3,322	£ 3,926	£ 9,655	£ 11,469
Cash, bank and similar funds carried forward	£ 3,365	£ 3,097	£ 4,186	£ 10,649	£ 9,655

	This Year General Fund	This Year Activity Fund	This Year Equipment Fund	This Year Total	Last Year Total
Monetary Assets					
<i>Bank Current Account (less uncleared cheques)</i>				£ 3,911.5	£ 3,657.9
<i>Bank Deposit Account</i>				£ 6,737.6	£ 5,997.0
<i>Cash in Hand</i>				£ 0.0	£ 0.0
Liabilities due within one year					
<i>Cheques not cleared</i>				£ 0.0	£ 0.0

Notes:

Subs	£ 4,724
Giftaid	£ 579

At the end of the year the operational reserve stood at £6,463 having already paid our annual dues to the Scout Association and our regular donation to the church for use of the premises. If parents have any questions about subs please contact the relevant section leader. We are fortunate compared to some groups in that we do not have property maintenance responsibilities and should be in a good position to restart indoor activities when this becomes possible.

Our equipment reserve stands at £4,186. Based on our last assessment we believe this amount to be sufficient to meet a rolling programme of equipment renewal. We review that assessment from time to time to ensure that it continues to be adequate.

The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks.

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Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Name	Role	Signature	Date
Martin Cummings	Group Chairman		
Martin Brogan	Group Treasurer		

This report was formally presented to the Scout Group AGM on 8th May 2022.